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Article



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THE MAIN ISSUES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF COTTON AND TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Abstract: The article describes measures to improve the cotton and textile industry and production of our Republic, to develop the production of ready-made products from seeds. Also, measures to be taken to further strengthen the health of the textile sector, systems to be introduced to support farms and clusters, activities and tasks of institutes and scientific centers are discussed. Also, it presents vast opportunities given to manufacturers and exporters of finished products, the funds allocated to them and attracted by them, as well as the intended goals and tasks for personnel training and improvement of their qualifications.

Key words: cotton, seed, agriculture, agrotechnology, value addition, cluster, infrastructure, brand, industry, accreditation, institution, dual education.

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Introduction

Our country's agriculture, especially cotton, has a great potential for creating a systematic chain for the production of ready-made products from seeds. For this, our state is taking all necessary measures. In order to use and implement these opportunities, on March 6, 2020, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan issued Decree No. the decision has been made. ¹World practice shows that the only way to achieve high productivity is to effectively use the advanced achievements of science and wide application of modern agrotechnology, with a deep study of climatic conditions in the regions.

The introduction of a new system of activity in the agrarian network, the cluster method, began to

bear its results today. In this way, continuous research is being carried out on further improvement of this system, production of agricultural products, deep processing of raw materials.

A lot of results are being achieved, but they are still not in line with the intended goals. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the ongoing work, to pay attention to the factors that encourage it.

At the video selector meeting, the head of state emphasized the importance of urgent tasks in the field of increasing the volume of cotton production at the expense of science-based seed breeding and agrotechnologies and increasing the export of textile products based on deep processing of cotton.

¹On March 6, 2020 by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan
"On measures to introduce market principles in the cotton industry"
No. PQ-4633 decision.

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Numerous projects have been done and changed in the field of textiles in terms of economic development and added value, utilization of our resources and analysis of our capabilities. This is definitely the first step. In order to continue such work, it is necessary to analyze the experiences of the world community in depth and think about what we should do and what we should pay attention to. In order to find a solution to this problem, it is necessary to deepen the processing and efficient use of land based on innovation and science.

Currently, the first goal of further development of the industry is to increase the yield and volume of cotton by at least 30% through science-based seed production and agro-technology as well as to provide employment and to find a market and export.

The second is to at least double the export of cotton processing industry. This is a great opportunity and resource for our economy. Textiles are a low-cost and more profitable industry than gold. For this reason, the cluster system was fully introduced by our state in textiles.

Today, 100 percent processing of cotton fiber has been started. Five years ago, this figure was 40 percent.

In order to support the industry, our state has allocated more than 23 trillion soums of preferential funds to textile clusters in the last three years. In addition, about 7 trillion soums were transferred from the clusters' own accounts, and as a result, 350 large factories were put into operation, the production volume increased fivefold, and exports increased fourfold to 3 billion dollars.

Today, the fiber processing capacity has reached 1 million 300 thousand tons. If there is enough raw cotton, this figure can be increased to 300,000 tons.

In the next five years, this need will increase by another 600,000 tons. Of this, 300,000 tons are artificial cotton fibers, and 300,000 tons of cotton fibers are needed. Although the cotton fields of the Turkish state are 2 times less than ours, they produce almost the same amount of fiber. In Turkey, an average of 1.5 tons of fiber is obtained from 1 hectare, in our country this figure is 750 kg. This indicates that science and modern technologies have not been introduced in this field to date.

At present, the total yarn recycling rate is 23 percent. Of this, 4% in Navoi, 5% in Kashkadarya, 8% in Surkhandarya, 9% in Karakalpakstan, which in turn shows that 9 billion dollars are lost annually. If all the conditions are created for the clusters, given opportunities and proper work organized, it is possible to increase the number of jobs in textiles from the current 400,000 to 1 million.

It is planned to introduce a new system for increasing cotton productivity. The formation of the "Cotton Council" under the leadership of the Ministry of Innovative Development under the President is planned to eliminate the deficiencies in seed production, tillage, fertilization, and irrigation. Each year, the council determines the breeding and planting of high-yielding and early maturing varieties for each cluster. Also, the work, events and suggestions are made to the President every month by the Council.

At the same time, it is expected that a scientific center will be established under the Council and funds in the amount of 10 billion soums will be allocated annually. Within a year, all clusters will start and work on "Polytex" cluster experiments located in the Saykhun Obad district. In this cluster, he established a scientific center consisting of seed production, a laboratory of soil analysis and a meteorological station. Also, five new varieties of cotton are developed and supplied to neighboring districts and for export. As a result, the yield of cotton in the cluster increases by 3 centners every year, and it is planned to get 40 centners this year.²

By the end of the year:

Firstly, each cluster should include seed production, seed analysis and biolaboratories, seed processing workshops, and establish seed production and agrotechnological factories of the cotton breeding institute and genomics center in Andijan, Bukhara, and Surkhondarya regions on the basis of public-private partnership;

Secondly, by the end of the year, analyzing the productivity of each cluster, developing a map of land areas, taking measures to increase productivity;

Thirdly, the tasks of using resource-saving technologies of irrigation of all clusters were determined.

In the last two years, drip irrigation was introduced in 169,000 hectares of cotton fields. At the same time, it is planned to introduce drip irrigation on 160,000 hectares by the end of the year, and on the same number of cotton fields next year.

A new electronic portal created and launched by our state will include all suppliers, and a system for evaluating the price and quality of services of the proposed water-saving technologies will be introduced. Farmers and clusters are given the opportunity to choose the most favorable conditions and prices. It is expected that the amount of subsidy allocated per hectare will be increased if the closed pipe irrigation system is introduced by the cluster or farmers instead of drip irrigation.

This year, 105 million cubic meters of water were saved and an additional 60,000 tons of harvest

²Decision No. PQ-179 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of March 25, 2022 "On measures to increase soil

fertility and productivity in cotton fields, to support the introduction of new irrigation technologies"

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was achieved due to laser leveling on 200,000 hectares of cotton fields.

Fourthly, the legal guarantees of cluster activities were strengthened and it was forbidden for governors to interfere in the internal affairs of clusters. As a result, industry, jobs, exports and income will increase in the district.

The establishment of the Republican commission for the systematic organization of deep processing of cotton raw material and yarn was established. Its main task is to plan and ensure the preservation of the 9 billion dollars that are currently being lost. In addition, separate industrial zones will be established and all conditions will be created for manufacturers of ready-made products. It is expected that 40 billion soums will be allocated from the budget for these projects and construction of water treatment facilities and other infrastructures will be made this year. Also, until the end of the year, the task of attracting 500 million dollars for bringing the equipment of manufacturers to the newly established industrial zones and lending them was assigned.

The boycott of Uzbek cotton was canceled, foreign brands and large companies signed contracts worth 50 million dollars to cooperate with local enterprises, and 30 Uzbek manufacturers took their products to international exhibitions.

Further support the export operations, the introduced systems will be further expanded, and the export agency will allocate 5 million dollars of working capital to the exporting enterprises based on the volume of production. That is, from the day of the enterprise's export, it is possible to receive a loan in the amount of 80 percent of the letter of credit by the banks serving it.

The export agency will allocate 50 million dollars to the production of these products, and it is planned to allocate 100 million dollars to the export agency from the budget to provide the enterprises exporting finished products with working capital.

Up to 10% subsidy will be given to exporters of dyed knitted fabric and gauze, special air flights will be launched based on orders for the delivery of finished products to foreign brands. The tasks of manufacturing fittings and accessories necessary for brands have been defined.

Regarding the issue of personnel training in the field, the institute of textile and light industry and the Uzbekistan-Korea textile technopark will work on the basis of the integrated system, and a dual education system will be introduced from the new academic year.

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