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Issue Article

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STAGES OF INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW UZBEKISTAN

Abstract: *The article discusses the tasks and tasks set by the head of our country for the implementation of the Innovative Development Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2022-2026. Also, the implementation mechanisms, goals, and plans of our country in the production sectors and industries are described. At the same time, the article highlights the achievements and results achieved as a result of the work carried out in 2019-2021. Development of remote areas of our republic in an innovative manner, mechanisms for training personnel with new knowledge and skills, and issues aimed at the well-being, peace and sustainable development of the people have been widely disclosed.*

Key words: *Uzbekistan, innovation, strategy, economy, technology, ecosystem, infrastructure, spin-off, outsourcing, driver, company, modernization.*

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Introduction

The head of our state issued a decree on the approval of the Innovative Development Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2022-2026 and the decision on organizational measures to implement the "Innovative Development Strategy in 2022-2026" aimed at ensuring the implementation of the tasks specified in this document and creating the necessary legal and material basis for this.

With this decree and decision, a mechanism that radically renews the innovation environment is being introduced in our country.

As a result of the implementation of the strategy of innovative development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2019-2021, great progress was made in the provision and promotion of innovative and technological development in economic sectors and social spheres, including agriculture, energy, construction, education, health care.

In particular, compared to 2015, Uzbekistan rose to 36 place in the Global Innovation Index. The amount of annual funds allocated from the state budget to the fields of innovation and science has reached 1.5 trillion soums, and the number of special institutions for financing innovative activities has increased to 28 in the last four years. In 2018, there were 6.5 thousand people, and in 2022 it was 10,800; that is, it increased by 1.5 times. However, the existing numbers and indicators do not correspond to the great scientific potential of our country. In order to achieve higher results, it is necessary to commercialize scientific and innovative developments in the real sector of the economy, to strengthen cooperation between science, education and industry.

The decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the approval of the "Innovative Development Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2022-2026" is more significant as it covers a number of such issues.

The decision of the head of our state on organizational measures for the implementation of the strategy of innovative development in 2022-2026 is aimed at ensuring the implementation of the tasks specified in this decree and creating the necessary legal and material base for this.

Today, the above-mentioned strategy has become the need of times to determine new strategic directions for the implementation of innovative development, innovative technologies, and most importantly, our economy, and in this regard, it is aimed at continuing and strengthening the steps we have taken in previous years, and organizing work in new directions.

In the previous strategy, one of the main issues was aimed at the development of human capital, increasing the intellectual potential of human capital, and one of the great things that have been done in recent years in this regard is the development of the innovation ecosystem. But they are not enough and require further continuation of the above-mentioned work, and the main direction of the new strategy is innovation, setting new goals based on the principle of a new workplace. The head of our state decided that every person living in our republic should see an innovation today; that is, they should feel and enjoy these innovations today, not tomorrow or ten years from now.

In order to ensure the implementation of the documents, 224 projects worth 206 billion soums were formed in cooperation with the relevant ministries and agencies, a total of 1751 innovative projects in the region, industry and universities, scientific organizations, and 2507 jobs in the region. In addition, driver projects were developed, which provided for serial production of 26 6.6 trillion soums worth of 6.6 trillion soums, and 176 types of innovative products worth 33 trillion soums to be implemented in economic sectors of 26 sectoral organizations, which are set to produce scientific and innovative products.

It is planned to have an innovative component in modernization and development programs in geology, fuel energy, chemistry, transport, agriculture, light industry sectors, which are the main driver sectors of the economic sectors of our republic. As a result of the implementation of these innovative projects, a number of new types of innovative products will appear in our country. For example, transparent wood, high-purity copper, high-resistance coke, linium powder, placarded coil, industrial robots and new modern electric cars will be produced. Also, as a result of these projects, 8,000 megawatt solar and wind power plants will be put into operation in our republic.

The great news of the documents is that spin-off enterprises specializing in the production of scientific and innovative products will be established, which will commercialize the created scientific innovations and technologies.

A spin-off enterprise is the creation of a separate company as a spin-off by separating it from a scientific institute to expand the service that it is currently provided or the service that is in demand. For example, there may be demand for some type of service once a year in a scientific institute, or three to four times a year in higher education institutions, but it is necessary to organize a spin-off service on the basis of outsourcing rather than providing each of them separately. These companies will contribute to the development of our economy in the future, for instance, new types of services will provide an opportunity to create new national brands and train personnel in the fields of pharmaceuticals, agriculture, oil and gas, medicine, construction, and seed production.

Today, there are 159 higher education institutions operating in our Republic, and later they will determine their direction, and through spin-off companies, each higher education institution will have their own financial management and funds. This means that it will pave the way for conducting scientific research work by HEIs, building and re-equipping laboratories, sending young scientists and students to foreign ITIs and HEIs for internships, training and studies.

At the same time, if we look at the new system of network region, university, scientific organization, which will be introduced for the production of scientific and innovative products, we notice that network organizations will develop a portfolio of needs for innovation and submit it to the Ministry of Innovative Development. Governments choose a scientific organization or university in order to provide a scientific solution to network problems in the regions. Funds projects developed on the basis of the 1+1 principle together with scientific organizations and university network organizations. The production of the Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade organizes the reproduction of successfully mastered innovative products on the market and serial production on an industrial scale. The exact role and responsibility of each organization participating in the process are defined.

As for the financial resources of the system, a completely new system of innovation financing is being introduced. That is, a fund to support innovative activities will be opened in network organizations. Funds of up to 10% of profits before paying profit tax are allocated to this fund. The appropriate deputy prime minister will monitor the timely allocation of funds to the fund and accept the reports of the relevant officials.

Therefore, this decree and decision can be called a mechanism that radically renews the innovation environment.

The first goal in this strategy is to:

a) to create fundamentally innovative projects that will radically change, directly contribute to the development of our economy, regions, industries, and create jobs for new personnel by introducing innovations in the most remote areas, together with the development of our science, scientific and innovative infrastructures;

b) the second is to adapt the above-mentioned radically innovative projects to the market and thereby create a cycle turning them into effective innovations that generate capital; that is, they create funds, which will bring universal results.

Currently, due to the positive indicators of 13 innovative regions in our country, they will be doubled; 28 districts and cities will be transformed into innovative regions, and 226 innovative projects worth 204 billion soums will be implemented. As a result, it is planned to create 268 types of innovative products with added value and new jobs. The position of the deputy mayor for innovative development issues will be introduced in the structure of hokims of these regions.

Based on the President's order, in order to improve the ranking of our country in the "Global Innovation Index", the Republican Council for Working with International Ratings and Indexes is tasked with developing a plan of measures for 2022-2026 and entering it into international databases. The Decree approved the "Roadmap" for the implementation of the Innovative Development Strategy in the next year and a half. It includes measures such as patenting and commercialization of innovations created on the basis of appropriate financing with property owners, giving local scientific organizations the right to directly sign contracts with state organizations on the development and implementation of innovative products.

Through this document, a number of opportunities have been added to the "Inno" educational and industrial technology park located in the "Student Town". The implementation of projects that have a high probability of gaining a major role in our society every day is given the status of residency in innovative strata, developments, and certain privileges are given to it when it receives this residency status.

This is due to the fact that in many cases there is no market for innovative products; that is, there is no demand for the newly introduced product, or the demand needs to exist. It is during this period that the norms adopted by the decision will be of great importance. This means that products can be introduced into our lives faster.

According to preliminary calculations, as a result of the implementation of the strategy, the number of innovative activity subjects at the Republic level increased from 613 to 2250; the number of innovative activity infrastructure objects tripled; the number of new jobs created as a result of innovative entrepreneurship increased fourfold, and the number of new innovative developments as a result of commercialization in domestic and foreign markets doubled.

If we look at the cross-section of regions, the number of local industrial enterprises engaged in technological innovations has increased from the current 92 to 600; the number of new technologies created in the region has increased from the current 69 to 384; the number of patents registered annually in the region has increased to 184, and the number of scientific projects implemented in cooperation with foreign organizations has increased to 183; the number of innovative startups will be increased from 210 to 1437.

In conclusion, the introduction of innovations in all sectors and industries will serve to increase new production capacities, create new opportunities for the scientific potential of our people, especially young people and create thousands of new jobs, which results in increase of the economic power of our country.

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