

Ensuring Food Security in the Republic of Uzbekistan Under Modern Conditions: Problems and Solutions

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Abstract: This article is presented on the basis of scientific evidence on the origin of the imbalances of demand and disturbance of hunting products in the world. The issue of malnutrition is shown in the example of Uzbekistan.

Key words: Food, security, supply, export, import, agreement.

Standardization by the state in the field of ensuring the quality and safety of food products includes requirements for the quality and safety of food products, conditions for its production, preparation, purchase, processing, delivery, storage, transportation and sale. , veterinary, veterinary-sanitary rules and norms, phytosanitary norms, rules and hygiene norms, state standards, technical conditions.

Food safety is one of the most urgent tasks facing the countries of the world. The UN also says today that it is time to completely change the approach to food production and distribution. After all, in an ideal situation, agriculture, forestry and fisheries are capable of providing everyone with food and creating a source of income for people, as in the brochure. Moreover, in such a case, both agriculture will be developed in the interests of people, and the implementation of environmental protection measures will be ensured. Why is such a prestigious organization that serves the well-being and future of humanity promoting the idea of renewing views on this matter?

The reason is that today's indifference to nature, increasing anthropogenic impact on it, wastefulness, the growing difference in the food balance between developed and developing countries, and climate change are causing a number of negative factors. Our treasures, fresh water, oceans, forests, biological diversity are decreasing rapidly, land fertility is decreasing and soil is degrading.

As a result, according to the UN, 815 million of the world's population is starving, and by 2050 this number will increase to 2 billion. Reaches a person. 12.9 percent of them live in developing countries. 45% of deaths among children under the age of five are caused by malnutrition. Currently, every year 3.1 children die because of this.

In addition, one out of every four children on our planet is stunted for their age. 66 million people of school age. boys and girls come to classes involuntarily hungry. 23 million of them live in Africa.

Another side of the matter. Agriculture is the world's largest employer. Today, 40 percent of Kurrai's population earns their living through this industry. It is a major source of income and employment for families in impoverished villages. In developing countries, five million smallholder farms, mostly dryland, provide 80 percent of food. Therefore, investing in this area will increase the country's ability to supply products to local and foreign markets, as well as ensure food security for the population.

Recently, another initiative in the field was launched by the UN. That is, a global campaign to combat food waste was announced. This also serves food safety. According to the information of the Organization for the Environment (UNEP) of this structure, 1.3 bln. Tons of food products are thrown away.

According to the statistics of the organization, every year in the world about four billion. tons of food is produced, which if used and distributed wisely, would actually reach all the people of the planet. Due to factors like the above, prices are rising in the world food markets. The world financial and economic crisis observed in the last ten years caused this problem to become acute. Its complications are still felt.

After all, food security represents the ability of the country's population to provide itself with such basic products. It also means getting rid of excessive dependence on food imports.

When will the government's food security policy work? When the levels of production and import are rationally harmonized, guaranteed opportunities for the population are created, international pragmatic cooperation is developed, and food reserves that are periodically renewed are aimed at.

Therefore, the issue of food safety is a guarantee of ensuring the independence, socio-economic and political stability of Uzbekistan as well as all other countries. This problem has not lost its relevance in our country. At the same time, the demand for food products is increasing, and the per capita consumption is increasing due to the growth of the population.

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Consequently, in the last three years, the approach to ensuring food safety, increasing the quality of agricultural products and export potential in our country has completely changed, and has been turned into a priority direction of state policy.

It is known that agriculture is the leading sector of the economy in Uzbekistan. It employs 3.6 million people, that is, 27% of the employed in the economy. The sector's share in GDP is 32%, while the land used in the sector occupies 45% of the territory of the republic. At present, more than 180 types of agricultural and food products are exported to more than 80 countries. Another noteworthy point is that the cluster method of production in agriculture has been introduced and is gaining popularity. This is confirmed by the fact that 62% of the agricultural land is covered by cotton and textiles, 8% by livestock and 7.5% by fruit and vegetable production.

Among these, there are a number of unused opportunities for further development of the sector, increase in farmers' income, food security and sustainable use of natural resources. The Decree of the Head of State dated January 16, 2018 "On measures to further ensure the food security of the country" and the strategy for the development of Uzbekistan's agriculture for 2020-2030, which is currently being developed, are relevant from this point of view.

For example, the strategy states that the share of undernourished people in Uzbekistan as of 2018 is 6.3 percent. Reducing this share to 5 percent by 2021, to 3 percent by 2025, and to zero by 2030 is set as a priority. So what to do about it?

It's no secret that there are still a number of problems in our country, such as regulation of export-import operations, obstacles in the import of food products that are in great demand, unhealthy competition, monopolization of imported products by some economic entities, artificial increase in prices, and the occurrence of shortages. .

It is natural that such situations seriously damage the working environment in the field, the country's investment opportunities and its reputation in the world market. Therefore, the implementation of the above Decree will allow filling the markets of our country with quality, cheap and safe food, strengthening the purchasing opportunities of the population, and developing a healthy competitive environment.

It is known to many that some economic entities were given a number of individual customs, tax and other benefits and preferences for importing food products from abroad. As a result, billions of state funds were spent. But this practice did not justify itself. The import of food products has been turned into a monopoly by some entities. Imported sugar, vegetable oil and other food products, instead of increasing and decreasing in price in the domestic market, became the opposite. According to the decree, from February 1, 2018, all benefits and preferences for the import of food products were canceled. In the end, consumer goods are sold in the commodity exchanges of the republic. Also, a license is not required for selling (buying) in open electronic trading of exchanges. The previous requirement for a wholesale trade license to have a statutory fund of at least 3,500 times the minimum wage and 1,200 times the amount of money has also been abolished.

The import of the above products is carried out through the electronic trading system of commodity exchanges and foreign exchanges at the expense of the funds of the fund for the stabilization of prices in the domestic consumer market. Purchase of food products, savings income and expenses are announced on a single portal. So, the trade of food products imported from abroad is carried out transparently. Most importantly, on the basis of this Decree, the legislative and regulatory framework in the field is being improved. In short, all the problems and artificial problems related to reducing the price of food products in the country, ensuring their quality and safety, putting an end to speculation, eliminating bureaucracy, and establishing regular communication and cooperation with foreign investors and partners are being put to an end.

In particular, if the projects envisaged in the field of hydropower by the neighboring countries are implemented and the water supply is reduced accordingly, it is required to introduce drip irrigation in irrigated lands in 2025 to compensate for the water shortage. This requires a large investment, of course. But it should not be forgotten that drip irrigation allows reducing to a certain extent the volume of applied mineral fertilizers. This helped to reduce the cost of food grown and to solve the problem of land degradation. Hence, productivity and profit from additional volumes of food production will also increase.

At the same time, it is also important to encourage the introduction of modern agro-technologies, to create an efficient system of purchasing and preparing, distributing, processing and selling agricultural food products in order to solve the problems of increasing the yield of agricultural products and productivity in animal husbandry. In particular, it is necessary to create a mechanism that provides food products throughout the year and reduces seasonal price fluctuations. From this point of view, the application of effective methods of preservation of fresh and processed food products is the demand of the time. Therefore, by 2025, it is aimed to transfer Uzbekistan to the group of countries with higher than average income. This leads to a corresponding change in lifestyle, behavioral patterns, and diet. Taking this into account, it will be necessary to ensure the increase in the share of processed food products for several goods. In addition, the introduction of food standards and norms (including the presence of trace elements and necessary nutrients, control of harmful substances, various additives, dyes, flavors, emulsifiers, control of compliance with preparation, transportation technologies), as well as control over the quality of food it is necessary to further develop the mechanism. In order to improve the diet of the population, it is necessary to spread the necessary information about healthy nutrition, and in this regard, it is necessary to increase the activity of medical institutions. Already, as the President noted, "Strengthening the health of our people, establishing a healthy lifestyle is a vitally important issue for us. I repeat, if we ensure peace and health, we will achieve everything else. The goal of agricultural reforms is to ensure food security and increase people's well-being, along with economic benefits. We must never forget this."

The summary is as follows:

- ✓ to further strengthen the legislation aimed at ensuring the productive and efficient use of land and water resources in agriculture, to achieve a higher share of food products in the composition of agricultural products;
- ✓ Improvement of the water use system in order to grow agricultural food products in the necessary volumes.

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