

## EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN IN JAPAN



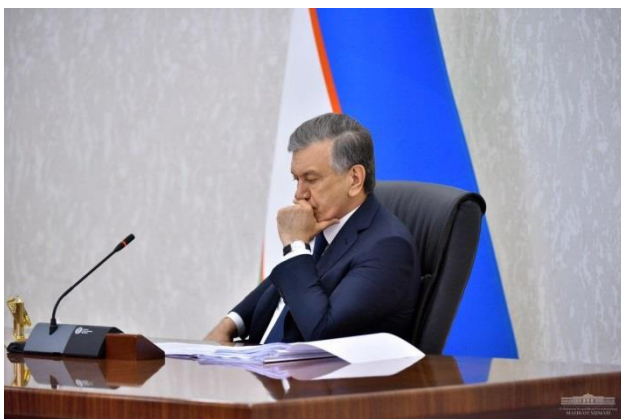
### INFORMATION BULLETIN

#### **Project implementation criteria defined**

On May 26, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev chaired a videoconference on investment issues.

The progress of implementation of the Investment Program for January-April of the current year was analyzed and measures to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of forecast indicators, including the commissioning of large production facilities, social facilities and infrastructure, were discussed.

The investment program **for 2020 includes more than 3 thousand projects**, the implementation of which involves the development of capital investments in the amount of 235 trillion UZS, **including foreign direct investments worth \$7 billion**.



Special attention was paid to objects of the social sphere and infrastructure. It was indicated that the implementation of 38 such projects in Samarkand region, 89 in Tashkent and 41 projects in Khorezm region is progressing slowly.

The Ministry of Housing and Communal Services and the Ministry of Water Resources were instructed **to speed up the construction of facilities financed from the Anti-Crisis Fund**.

On May 26, a resolution of the President was adopted to expand the production of non-ferrous and precious metals at Almalyk Mining and Metallurgical Plant. According to the document, the construction of copper processing plants and metallurgical complexes will allow **to triple the production of copper and gold, increase the production of copper, gold and silver to 400 thousand, 50 and 270 tons**, respectively.

At the meeting it was emphasized that the jewelry and electrical industries should take advantage of this by multiplying production volumes and the number of jobs.

It is known that taking into account the current situation, 450 billion UZS included in the Investment Program were redirected from the construction of facilities, which can be postponed, to other purposes. In particular, **150 billion**

**UZS were allocated for development of 40 thousand hectares of land and creation of 80 thousand permanent jobs.**

At the meeting, it was noted that the leaders of each industry and regions should again consider budget-financed investment projects and optimize costs.

“Before implementing a project, we should find answers to questions such as: does this facility correspond to the interests of the region, will it bring real benefits to the local population, how many people will be employed”, said Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

The importance of the speedy implementation of international standards was noted. Starting next year, **all the process – from design to commissioning of large facilities at the expense of the budget – will be carried out in accordance with international standards.** The restrictions on allocation of funds for design will also be lifted.

This year, 34 percent of direct investment from abroad falls on the oil and gas, energy, mining and metallurgical sectors, 52 percent – on regional projects. At the same time, it was noted that **there is the possibility of a multiple increase in foreign investment in the electrical, chemical and food industries.**

The Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction has been tasked with developing separate approaches to **actively attracting investments in information technology, the jewelry, chemical, electrical industries, higher education and healthcare.**

In general, as it was noted at the meeting, the approach to attracting direct investment should be changed, support for domestic investors should be expanded.

**Preferences granted only to foreign investors will now apply to local private investors.** For example, if the latter starts a project worth more than \$25 million, external engineering and communications networks will be built at the expense of the budget.



At the meeting, in the context of industries and regions, the potential risks of non-development of foreign investment due to a pandemic were considered. It was noted that on the basis of studying the prospects of such projects, they can be postponed or replaced with new ones.

The level of disbursement of funds for 98 projects financed by loans from international financial institutions has been criticized. Instruction was given to fix the problems as soon as possible and speed up the implementation of projects.

Within the framework of the Investment Program, this year it is planned to launch 206 large projects. There is a risk that 39 of them will not be implemented on time. The main part is in the energy, textile, electrical and transport sectors, as well as in Navoi, Namangan, Syrdarya and Fergana regions.

The President noted that as a result of implementing these projects, thousands of jobs will appear, import-substituting and export-oriented products will be produced. Corresponding instructions were given.

Special attention at the meeting was devoted to issues of increasing investment in small projects aimed at increasing household incomes.

For example, **in Andijan, projects were developed for a total amount of \$40 million, providing for the organization of 7 clusters on horticulture, livestock, poultry based on home-based cooperation of more than 9 thousand residents.** Instructions were given to create a similar system in other densely populated regions, taking into account this experience.

70 investment projects worth 320 billion UZS were developed in Tamdyn district, 83 projects worth 660 billion UZS in Pakhtachi. To implement them, **it is planned to create industrial zones in the territories of Pakhtachi district and Tamdyn district, adjacent to the city of Navoi, with the city of Zarafshan.**

### **President exchanges views with people**

During the visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev to Sergeli district of Tashkent, a meeting with managers and residents of district was held.



“Today I came here to find out what concerns our people in the current difficult situation caused by the coronavirus pandemic and to discuss together what else needs to be done to improve their lives”, said the Head of the state.

Investment projects, developed for Sergeli district, were considered.

This year **it is planned to implement here 61 investment projects worth 1.8 trillion UZS and create more than 5 thousand jobs.**

**22 projects involving foreign investment worth \$83 million** will be also implemented.

For example, **Tashkent Pipe Plant together with Chinese partners will launch the production of 500 thousand tons of sheet metal per year.** This year, \$85 million will be invested in this project.

Due to narrowing the Chirchik riverbed to 65-80 meters on its 16-kilometer section, a reserve of 565 hectares of land will be created in Bektemir and Sergeli districts. It will be possible to create 160 thousand new jobs by implementing new investment projects here. Responsible persons were instructed to work out this issue in detail.

The Head of the state noted the need for developing small businesses, increasing employment and reducing poverty by supporting initiatives of the population.



A number of projects are being implemented to develop transport and utility infrastructure. In particular, Uzbekistan Railways is building Sergeli overground subway with a length of 7 kilometers and a cost of \$83 million. The task was set to put this line into operation in September 2020.

Instructions were given to improve sewer and heat networks, modernize centralized heating by converting it to a closed system.

## **New Eco Park opens in Sergeli district**

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev visited a new Eco Park in Sergeli district.

During the visit to Uchtepa district on May 21, 2019, the Head of the state instructed **to create more parks in districts of Tashkent and expand conditions for people's recreation.**

Thus, **Flowers Garden Park** is created in Sergeli district with a total area of 10 hectares, including a 5-hectare garden and a 5-hectare modern flower center.

The Park has **more than 6 thousand ornamental trees of 30 species, including magnolia, photinia, black pine, spruce, Crimson King maple and others, as well as more than 60 thousand shrubs of 20 species.** Restaurants and shops are available.

**200 jobs are created** in culture and recreation center built in cooperation with Turkey's Natural Peyzaj company. Qualified agronomists and entomologists were involved.

The Head of the state got acquainted with conditions created in the park, examined decorative trees and flower shops.



## Export: Namangan cherries are in great demand in South Korea



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According to Uzbekoziqovqatholding company, **17.8 tons of sweet cherry grown in Namangan region were delivered to South Korea's Incheon city.**

Uzbek cherries are sold in this country through wholesale and retail chains.

## High yield from silkworm cocoons

Fergana silkworm breeders have completed silkworm cocoons harvesting plan in the region.

**More than 177 tons of silkworm grains were grown** in the district. Each box yielded more than 58 kilograms.

Besharik silkworm breeders, who have a great experience, harvested qualitative yield.

**3 200 boxes of silkworm grains were grown this year.** Labor contracts

were signed with 171 farms and 177 home-based workers. More than 3 thousand



people are involved in seasonal work.

## Another 11 patients recover in Karakalpakstan and Samarkand



According to the Ministry of Health, additionally 11 patients recovered in Karakalpakstan and Samarkand from COVID-19.

The total number of people recovered from COVID-19 in Uzbekistan has reached 2837.

As of May 31, the number of coronavirus infected in Uzbekistan has reached 3583 (+29) people, the Ministry of Health reports.

2837 (+54) people have fully recovered from the virus.