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THE IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM INDUSTRY IN UZBEKISTAN

Abstract: Tourism – is not only a great joy for people who are mad about travelling but also one of the most important key of factor of developing the economy of the country. Most countries are paying more attention to tourism a lot than ever. Because they are getting excited from the results of regarding tourism as one of the most effective developing key factors of economy. We can take Dubai as an example. United Arab Emirates is not getting tired of saying that after the oil sources have finished, this city will feed the country and provide the huge amount of touristic flow to the city. Tourism is a significant source of revenue in Dubai, and it is an important component of the government's goal to maintain the inflow of foreign currency into the emirates. This sector contributed around \$41 billion to the GDP in 2017, accounting for 4.6 percent of overall GDP, and supported approximately 570,000 jobs, accounting for 4.8 percent of total employment in the country. Over the period 2007-2017, the sector's contribution to the gross domestic product increased by 138 percent. In this article I would like to show the importance of tourism industry in the development of Uzbekistan's economy and want to provide the effective ways of increasing the role private sector in this field.

Keywords: Tourism industry , development , touristic flow, annual income, goal-oriented tourism, joy-oriented tourism, age groups, high priority goals.

Introduction:

Decree of the President of Uzbekistan dated December 2, 2016 “On measures to ensure accelerated development of the tourism industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan” defines the main tasks and priorities of the state policy in the sphere of tourism, including giving for tourism the status of a strategic sector of the economy and making this industry a powerful tool for sustainable development.

The adopted Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of August 16, 2017 “On priority measures for the development of tourism for 2018-2019” is considered a logical continuation of the state policy pursued by the country's leadership in the sphere of tourism and is aimed at maximizing favor with the creation of a comfortable economic, administrative and legal environment for the accelerated development of the tourism industry, expanding the economic potential of the regions and their revenue base, organizing new jobs, increasing the tour east streams to the republic, as well as active and integrated promotion of the national tourist product in world markets.

According to available data, for the first half of 2017, 118 business entities started operating, 60 of them rendering hotel services and 58 providing tourist services. In January-June 2017, the main indicators of the tourism sector exceeded the parameters achieved by the results of the same period of the previous year, incl. the growth rate of export of tourist services for the first half of 2017 amounted to 113.5%.

The tourism sector has already received an assessment of the attractiveness due to benefits and preferences granted to entrepreneurs. This is the result of the attention that the state pays for the development and formation of a qualitative environment for the further development of the sphere. For these purposes, a number of privileges and preferences for business entities in the sphere are envisaged. In particular: for 5 years from the payment of corporate income tax, land tax and property tax, as well as a single tax payment of legal entities, business entities were released upon entering into operation

hotels and motels of at least 4 stars certified in accordance with the established procedure; legal entities are exempted from payment of customs duties (except for customs clearance fees) for imported equipment, machinery, components, spare parts and materials not produced in the Republic of Uzbekistan for the construction and reconstruction of hotels and motels, according to the lists approved according to established order; released when importing into the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan from the import customs duty and value-added tax, buses intended for the transportation of 30 people or more, including the driver corresponding to the standard of Euro 3 or more.

In addition, by the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of August 16, were released until January 1, 2022: hotels – from payment of a single social payment of the payroll fund of qualified foreign specialists, attracted as management personnel; income of qualified foreign specialists invited as hotel management personnel – from the payment of personal income tax.

Relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and India in the field of tourism are conducted on the basis of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Government of the Republic of India on cooperation in the field of tourism dated 06.07.2015, which provides for multilateral cooperation of the two countries in the field of tourism.

Economic Impact:

In 2019, the tourism sector generated \$1.3 billion, a 30% increase compared to 2018. Over 260,000 people are employed in the tourism sector. The inflow of funds into the country significantly impacts the economic, social, and cultural life, enhancing the well-being of the population. In Uzbekistan, every sector and direction is given special attention, as they contribute significantly to the country's economic development and improvement of the standard of living. Tourism, as a major part of the service industry, involves traveling to places outside one's usual environment for purposes such as leisure, business, or learning about other cultures. This study used the objective method of scientific knowledge to reveal the importance of tourism in Uzbekistan's economic development, analyzing the stages of tourism development logically. Methodologically, the laws and decisions related to tourism expenses were considered. Uzbekistan has a rich cultural heritage, numerous historical and archaeological sites, a favorable natural climate, and a variety of landscapes. Despite this potential, the country did not fully and effectively utilize these opportunities for many years. However, the acceptance of various tourism related documents by the President of Uzbekistan indicates a high level of attention to the development of tourism. These documents address existing issues in the sector and set priorities for increasing tourism potential, with numerous incentives provided for developing domestic tourism. Significant steps have been taken to enhance the tourism sector, including the introduction of various reforms and legal frameworks. For example, the decision "On additional measures for the accelerated development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PQ-5611) was adopted on January 5, 2019, and the new edition of the law "On Tourism." Additionally, the decree "On measures to further develop the tourism sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PF-5781) was adopted on August 13, 2020. These reforms aim to develop youth tourism, with specific target indicators set for 2020-2025, such as increasing the number of foreign young tourists from 1.3 million in 2020 to 3.3 million in 2023, and the number of young domestic tourists from 8.1 million in 2020 to 13.6 million in 2023. Economically, the tourism sector generated \$1.3 billion in 2019, a 30% increase compared to 2018. Over 260,000 people are employed in the tourism sector, and the inflow of funds into the country significantly impacts the economic, social, and cultural life, enhancing the well-being of the population. The importance of

tourism in improving the living standards of the population and positioning the country on international stage cannot be overstated.

Conclusion:

Tourism plays a crucial role in the economic development of Uzbekistan, improving the living standards of the population, and positioning the country on the international stage. To further promote tourism, various measures are being taken, including broadcasting programs that showcase Uzbekistan's tourism potential, providing subsidies and incentives, and engaging ambassadors and compatriots abroad in promoting national values. This study emphasizes the substantial influence of tourism on the economic progress of Uzbekistan, emphasizing its contribution to strengthening the country's economic growth, elevating living standards, and preserving cultural heritage. The sector's growth has been accelerated by key reforms, such as the implementation of the decision "On additional measures for the accelerated development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PQ-5611) and the decree "On measures to further develop the tourism sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PF-5781). The purpose of these legislative measures is to enhance young tourism, with ambitious goals established to augment the number of both international and domestic tourists by 2025. The economic consequences are significant, as demonstrated by the tourism industry producing \$1.3 billion in 2019 and employing over 260,000 workers. The influx of funding has had a beneficial impact on the socio-economic and cultural landscape of the country. The report proposes that by making ongoing investments in tourism infrastructure, implementing focused marketing methods, and offering incentives, Uzbekistan can solidify its status as a top-tier tourist destination. Subsequent studies should investigate the enduring viability of these changes and the capacity of future tourist trends, such as eco-tourism and digital tourism, to broaden and fortify Uzbekistan's tourism offerings.

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