

## ISSUES OF IMPROVING THE FUNCTIONING OF THE PENSION SYSTEM AND SOCIAL PROTECTION IN UZBEKISTAN

**Manzura Abdurakhmanova\***; **Fotima Mamatkulova\*\***

\*Associate Professor,  
Fergana State University,  
Fergana City, UZBEKISTAN

\*\*Master Student,  
Fergana State University,  
Fergana City, UZBEKISTAN  
Email id: abdurakhmanova\_m@mail.ru

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### ABSTRACT

*Social Protection of the population in Uzbekistan is one of the continuous priorities in the program of economic reforms and is a priority at all stages of reforms. A strong social protection policy is being pursued by the state in building a socially oriented market economy in the country. A strong social policy is one of the leading principles of Uzbekistan's path to independence and development. One of the most important forms of social protection of the population is pension provision.*

*The formation and functioning of the pension system in accordance with the level of the national economy allows the financial provision of the population of retirement age and plays an important role in the development of society in the socio-economic, political and financial and budgetary spheres and is one of the issues of global importance today.*

*The article examines the activities of the pension system and issues of social protection in Uzbekistan socially and scientifically.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Social Protection, Civil Society, Socially Oriented Market Economy, Pension System, Pension Provision, Social And Material Protection Of The Population.*

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### INTRODUCTION

Social protection is a set of legal, economic, social measures that ensure the social and material protection of the population of the country in a broad sense and are decided in society. In other words, it refers to the care of the state and society about citizens in need of support due to age, health, social status, inadequate provision of means of subsistence.

In a developed democratic society, the functions of social protection are assumed by the state. It should be noted that this issue has also become one of the priorities in Uzbekistan. That is, a strong social protection policy is being pursued by the state in building a socially oriented market economy in our country. Consequently, a strong social policy is the leading principle of the development of Uzbekistan.

## MAIN PART

Over the years, the legal basis of Social Protection has been created and strengthened in us. These principles were guaranteed and reflected in the laws adopted in the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. A guarantee of income generation was created in the country. Unemployment problems are being solved.

The establishment of ministries of Economic Development and poverty reduction and support of the neighborhood and family at the initiative of the head of state, as well as the fact that the appeal to the Oliy Majlis was brought to the agenda as an urgent issue awaiting a solution to the reduction of poverty in our country, testifies to the consistent continuation of After all, poverty as a socio-economic phenomenon is interpreted as the consequence of the use of material and intangible benefits in the process of economic development, as well as inequality in the distribution of income. Even in the Declaration adopted by the UN in the year when humanity set foot in the new millennium, it is not in vain to end poverty and hunger as the first goal.

## DEGREE OF STUDY OF THE SUBJECT

The social protection system is valid in different countries depending on such factors as the level of economic development, democratic development and its compliance with the interests of the population, the level of social policy.

Sh.Khamdamov believes: “a person during his life is at risk of developing conditions that affect his health and, as a result, lead to the loss of his salary, which is his main source of income. These conditions include: morbidity, old age, disability, loss of breadwinner, etc. There is not always an opportunity to independently combat these conditions. They are directly related to the active activity of the individual and will not depend on the desire and will of individual individuals. At the same time, they directly affect the social stability of society. That is why the state, taking on a certain responsibility in the occurrence of this situation, forms a system of social support through the appointment of state pensions, social benefits and services”[1].

Social protection of the population in our country is one of the continuous priorities in the program of economic reforms. That is, it is among the tasks that are considered priority at all stages of reform. Strong social policy is one of the leading principles of the development path of our country. Therefore, within the framework of a social protection policy aimed at honoring human dignity, it is of particular importance to improve the pension system, to regularly increase the amount of pensions.

The National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan states that “pensions are regular and, as a rule, lifelong payments to citizens in cases established by law by the state or other subjects”[2]. This definition also has a common feature, and it will be necessary to clarify the phrase “in cases established by law” in the definition. In the “Explanatory Dictionary of the Uzbek language” it is noted: “pension - money, pension, which is constantly given to them by the state in order to financially provide people who are old, have lost their ability to work, have served for a long year, have lost their breadwinner”[3].

Special attention in the development strategy of the new Uzbekistan is paid to improving the state pension system and ensuring a consistent increase in citizens' pension amounts in accordance with the country's economic indicators.

“In particular, the rule is being strictly implemented to increase the amount of the base calculation for calculating the pension, not to require excessive documentation from citizens in the pension provision. On the basis of interagency electronic information exchange, the pension assignment system is being improved”[4].

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The law “on the introduction of amendments to the law of the Republic of Uzbekistan” state pension provision of citizens” was developed in order to carry out the implementation of the tasks set in the above strategy. The law provides that from January 1, 2023, the maximum amount of wages for calculating the pension will be increased from ten to twelve times the base amount for calculating the pension.

The wage limit, which is taken into account when calculating the pension, was increased from 1 October 2007 to 8 times, and then 12 years later-from January 1, 2019 to 10 times. And this law is established from January 1 to January 12, 2023. In the implementation of the activities provided for in accordance with the law, in addition to the pension fund, more than 1.5 trillion soums are required.

According to statistics, the number of recipients of pensions and benefits in our country is approaching almost four million people, and their share in the population is 11%. From this it can be seen that the balance of industry figures is high and is growing from year to year. This, in turn, requires further improvement of the pension system, an end to formalism and paperwork in this regard, that is, the reduction of documents related to the appointment of a pension, the introduction of advanced information technologies into the industry.

It is no exaggeration to say that the decree of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 5102 “on measures to simplify the process of assigning state pensions to citizens and further improve the system of delivery of pensions and benefits”, adopted on May 4, 2021, became significant precisely with the solution to such issues as the above[5]. A significant aspect is that in this decision, citizens were given a lot of relief related to the payment of pensions and social benefits, delivery, so that now citizens cannot wander around the office for retirement, collecting documents from around the world. He does not wait for days in line to receive his pension and retirement money. Now only a passport or ID card is required to draw up pension documents[6].

In particular, according to the decision, from January 1, 2022, the payment of pensions, social benefits, compensations and other payments is made every three years by a commercial bank and other specialized organizations selected on the basis of a tender held separately by Regions. And since July 1, 2022, when appointing state pensions, the requirement of Citizens for documents on length of service, wages, training in higher educational institutions and the period of military service is canceled, and the appointment of state pensions is carried out on the basis of electronic data included in the interdepartmental software and hardware Complex “Unified Labor national system”. In the future, citizens will be given the opportunity to make a pension on the basis of their electronic appeals, without coming to the pension departments. Another important aspect, by decision, was the approval of the “roadmap” for the introduction of an automated system for the appointment and payment of state pensions to citizens. According to him, the data of former workers who worked in ministries, departments and enterprises on wages and the period of military service are fully formed in the “unified national system of Labor”. At the same time, a

mechanism is introduced for automatic sending of electronic data of citizens moving abroad for permanent residence to the “pension” information system.

It should be noted that the adoption of this decision was the next important step towards eliminating the agony of citizens, timely delivery of pensions and benefits, the introduction of a healthy competitive environment and modern standards in this direction[7]. After all, it is one of the main tasks of today to support our elderly people, who have received great service to the country and the people, who are the creators of today's full life, the population layer in need of social protection, to ensure their comfortable and hassle-free implementation of their rights to receive Social Security.

These changes indicate, first of all, a clear manifestation of social protection in our country, aimed at material and moral support of citizens who receive age, disability pensions, as well as pensions for the loss of a breadwinner who is assigned to orphans.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, The New Order introduced by law is an expression of efforts to strengthen the principles of social justice, increase the interest of the population to work productively and receive more remuneration, and promote its active participation in the reform and development of the economy of our country, as well as further increase the material well-being of citizens receiving pensions.

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