

## **Public Education in Uzbekistan History of Formation and Development**

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**Annotation:** The article analyzes scientific-historical analysis of the existing problems in the system of public education in Uzbekistan and the implementation of reforms and measures taken in the framework of the National Program for Personnel Training in 1997-2009, using archival documents and scientific sources.

**Key words:** National program, education, youth, reforms, teachers, material and technical base, textbooks.

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Our independence required the restoration and further enrichment of our rich and great spirituality and national values, the formation of a national education system, the achievement of world standards on the basis of its harmonization with the requirements of the time.

The most important stage in the process of education reform is the fact that school education has become an integral part of the system of continuous education, as well as many shortcomings and problems accumulated in this period. This was especially evident in the lack of material and technical base of the schools, and the situation in the countryside was very narrow.

Therefore, in order to overcome serious problems related to the problems of school education, strengthening their material and technical basis and forming a unified system of continuous education, and for the successful implementation of the future stages of the National Program for Personnel Training on February 19, 2004 the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Measures for the Preparation of the State Nationwide Program for the Development of School Education for 2004-2009" [1, p. 48-56.] was issued.

The following five priority tasks have been identified in the preparation and implementation of the nationwide program. These are:

- overhaul and reconstruction of secondary school buildings and engineering and communication infrastructure;
- equipping schools with modern teaching and laboratory equipment, computer equipment, textbooks and teaching materials;
- Improvement of educational standards and curricula;
- provision of general education schools with qualified pedagogical staff, creation of effective system of training, retraining and upgrading of teachers, strengthening of their labor incentives;
- strengthening of the sports base and the development of sports in secondary schools.

Under this nation-wide program, short-term, 6 major project institutes in Uzbekistan:

A total of 2418 standard projects, technical and economic calculations and project models have been developed by *UzLITTI*, *Toshaharloyiha*, *Uzshakharsozlik*, *Uzdavlatibloyiha*, *AOOT*, *Uzqishloqloyiha* and *Uzsuvqurilishloyiha*. Also, in cooperation with the *Uzdavarkhitektqurilish* and the design institutes, a project-estimate documentation has been prepared for capital reconstruction and newly constructed schools in 2004-2009 [2, p.42-47].

While studying and analyzing the status of general education schools on the basis of the order, 6872 out of 9727 generalized schools were in emergency condition, and 40% of the existing school buildings were adapted, and more than 28% of the students read in two or three shifts, so there was made a list of schools and non-completed facilities which need capital and current repairs.

The country's government emphasized the importance of promoting long-term development of school education, in terms of nation, society and the state, all of which needed to be thoroughly, accurately and systematically organized [3, p. 1-2].

The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of May 21, 2004 "On the State Nationwide Program for the Development of School Education for 2004-2009" [4, p. 230-236] and Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of July 9, 2004 "On Measures for Realization of the State Nationwide Program for the Development of School Education for 2004-2009" [5, p. 85-112] are exactly what these goals have been.

## Public Education in Uzbekistan History of Formation and Development

According to the five-year plan, 8,476 of 9,727 existing schools have been set up to build, capitalize and repair the old school buildings, and improve the conditions for the education of more than 3 million pupils as a result of the reform [6, p.26].

As a result of efforts undertaken by the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the further deepening of the educational reforms based on the State Nationwide Program, positive results have been achieved in the first years. In particular, by the end of 2004, 430 schools were renovated in the republic. The state budget for these works 13.6 billion UZS soums were used. 142 school furniture was upgraded, schools with drinking water were reduced from 70% to 80%, gasified schools from 52.8% to 59.7%, telephone network to schools from 48% to 59%, the schools connected to the wastewater system increased from 43% to 49% [7, p.51].

In the same year a special "State Acceptance Commission" was set up under the Cabinet of Ministers and the quality of newly constructed and capital reconstructed education facilities was monitored.

Looking at the chronology of the nationwide program implementation, by 2005, the construction and repair works were completed in 1099 schools for 524319 pupils, of which 55 were newly constructed, 284 were capital reconstructed, 438 capital and 322 repaired. For this purpose, the "School Education Fund" has allocated 104.1 billion UZS soums were spent. There are also 311 professions, 380 drawings, 388 chemistry and biology, 638 physics, 693 lingaphone, 986 computer classes, 128 chemistry and 194 biological laboratories, 219 kitchens, 613 sports and 238 clothing exchange rooms were provided with educational and technical equipment and other essential items. There were purchased 99915 a full set of pupils' desk, 7849 class boards, 7589 teacher's tables and 9365 chairs, 21105 bookshelves, 15,364 wardrobes and 2017 other necessary furniture to equip 11804 administrative-methodological and classrooms. All this has been financed by the state for 41,910 billion UZS soums was allocated [8, p.40-44].

The implementation of the the nationwide program has already begun to give results in the regions of the country. In 2005, only 22 schools were renovated in Kashkadarya region, 25 of them were reconstructed and 39 schools were repaired. Charity funds have been allocated by *Shurtangazkimyo* (gas factory) and *Gazkimyochi* (gas factory) for 478 million UZS soums [9, p.7-15].

In Namangan region, 16 schools were repaired in 2005 alone. For this purpose, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has allocated 619 million UZS soums to finance projects, 298 UZS million soums for educational equipment and 156 million UZS soums for computer equipment was allocated by our government [10, p.11-18].

In 2005, five new schools were built in Tashkent region and for these purposes 1, 364 billion were spent. For the reconstruction of 39 schools 7,139 billion UZS soums, 2,437 billion UZS soums for major overhaul of 37 schools, for current repair of 11 schools – 202,650 million UZS soums were used. In addition, on the initiative of the governor of Tashkent region, a total of \$ 233,264 million UZS soums was allocated for current repairs of schools [11, p.20-29].

For the purpose of social protection of pupils, the government of the Republic 590087 pupils enrolled in the first class of the 2004-2005 school year has allocated 10,988 billion UZS soums for 590087 pupils, in the case of delivery of winter clothes to 709546 children and 12 types of study instruments and 1-9 grades of low-income families, 713832 sets of clothing were handed over to those in need of social protection in 2005-2006 academic year. In 2005, charity organizations carried out construction and repair works worth 596 million UZS soums in orphanages. The sponsorships for these institutions were sponsored by sponsors for the period from 2005 to 2007 totaling 37,670 billion UZS soums of sports equipment, soft and solid furniture were delivered [12, p.21-28].

In the Republic of Karakalpakstan, in 2006, 7 out of 100 planned schools were reconstructed, 36 schools were renovated, 32 schools were repaired, and 25 schools were repaired, of which 17.1 billion UZS soums were spent [13, p.85-112].

According to the analysis, in 2006 the number of newly constructed schools increased by 7 in 2006, the number of capital reconstructed schools increased by 102 and the number of capital repairs was 92. The total amount of 54.1 billion UZS soums was spent on the national program for the period from 2004-2006 to more than 350 types of school equipment.

By the end of 2007 more than 50% of the tasks set out in the Nationwide Program were implemented. In particular, in 2004-2007, 4669 secondary schools were built and repaired, 215 new school buildings were built, 1174 schools were capital reconstructed, 2074 schools were repaired and 1216 schools were repaired. The total amount of 600.7 billion UZS soums was spent by the School Education Fund. Of the 4669 educational institutions, 3768 (80.6%) were in rural areas, 120 (2.6%) in mountainous areas difficult to reach, and 781 (16.8%) in urban areas. As a result of these reforms, the gap between rural and urban schools has diminished. Also, by 2007, 1606 schools were equipped with modern computer classes. Computerization was financed at the expense of budgetary funds totaling 8.4 billion UZS soums and \$ 23.6 million at the expense of credit resources.

We see that in 2008, the objectives of the nationwide program were consistently continued. In particular, 70 new school buildings were built, 583 were capital reconstructed, and 792 buildings and structures were capital renovated and 416 were repaired. "School Education Fund" provided 138 billion UZS soums to equip 1881 schools.

The last plan of the national program for 2009 included secondary schools in 1957, of which 66 were newly built, 710 were overhauled, 754 were overhauled and 427 were overhauled.

In the last year of implementation of the nationwide program for 2009 1957 general education schools were included, 66 of which were reconstructed, 710 capital reconstructed, 754 capital renovated and 427 renovated.

## Public Education in Uzbekistan History of Formation and Development

A total of 437.2 billion UZS soums was allocated for these purposes, and also, 19.8 million US dollars was disbursed through foreign investment (Saudi Fund for Development and OPEC) for the construction of 28 new schools. In 2009, the Year of Rural Development and Improvement, a special attention was paid to the construction and repair of schools in rural areas. 1606 (82.2%) of the 1957 schools repaired and newly built in the nationwide program were in rural areas and 89 (4.5%) in difficult to get areas.

The broad involvement of foreign investments into the education sector played an important role in the development of fundamental reforms, which are being implemented in line with the tasks of the National Program. The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Measures to Establish Extra-Budgetary School Education Fund" of June 7, 2004 [14, p.14-21] has given broader access to this area.

Based on the preferential loan of the Islamic Development Bank, 15 new general education schools with a total area of 5355 pupils were built in 2004-2009 according to the project "Construction and equipping of secondary schools in the Republic of Uzbekistan".

In the promising investment program of the Ministry of Public Education, in cooperation with the Asian Development Bank, the Education Development Development (2003-2007, 39 million US dollars) project [15, p.72-83] the repair and maintenance of 15 remote training resource centers and 70 remote training centers, as well as repairs and equipping of 150 schools with repairs and equipment within the project have been completed [16, p.2-13].

Also, in cooperation with the People's Republic of China, "Construction and equipping general education schools" (2005-2006, 28 million US dollars), "Equipping general secondary schools with modern computer classes" (2005-2007, 19 million US dollars loan, 1 million US dollars grant) project, in cooperation with the World Bank, "Informatization and Computerization of Basic Schools" (2006-2007, 7 million US dollars) and as a result of the Asian Development Bank's "Provision of Laboratory and Computer Equipment for General Education Schools" (12 million US dollars for 2006-2009), 5278 schools were fully and partially modernized in 2004-2009 [17, p.5-13].

Besides, with the help of the World Bank, over 1,000 schools have been involved in the implementation of the second phase of the project "Development of school education" (40 million US dollars in 2007-2010), and small grants have also been allocated. In 2004, a total of 1 million US dollars was provided by the government of Japan under the "Social Benefit Program". 14 small grants agreements were signed and funds were spent for construction and repair of schools and provision of modern educational and technical equipment. Also, the Austrian Embassy allocated 2.5 thousand US dollars for the development of the material and technical base of the Piskent district of Tashkent region, in 2008 the German Embassy provided 200 modern computers for secondary schools. As a result of cooperation between the educational institutions of Uzbekistan and the Republic of South Korea, in the 2007-2008 academic year, the Department of Education of Seoul provided 600 computers to 30 general education schools in Tashkent [18, p. 85-112.]. Such positive changes were the result of the ongoing reforms of the National Program and the Nationwide Program.

Before the program was adopted, 9727 general education schools were available in the country, and by the end of 2009 the number of general education schools in Uzbekistan reached 9773. Additionally, 47 new school buildings for 14,997 pupils were constructed, capital rehabilitation of 30 school buildings for 14424 pupils, 95 existing buildings and facilities for 58,532 pupils, and 230 schools for 132620 pupils were repaired. The total 402 schools for 220,573 students were rebuilt and repaired.

For 2004-2009, "School Education Fund" and "the Children's Sports Development Fund" under the Ministry of Public Education provided a total of 6626 secondary schools (45.1% or 4386 more than in 2004) for the strengthening of the sports base and the development of sports in general education schools' gyms were renovated and reconstructed.

During the period under review, if we calculate the results of the work carried out in the country on the basis of the state national program for the development of school education, we see that the main priorities identified in the program were strengthened in the material and technical base of schools.

In particular, construction works were carried out in 8501 schools with a capacity of more than 3 million pupils for the overhaul and reconstruction of buildings and engineering and communication infrastructure. In addition, 351 new school buildings with 1,166.40 pupils were constructed, 2470 school buildings and engineering and communication infrastructure for 850,951 pupils were completely reconstructed, 3607 schools with a total capacity of 2,044,582 were capitalized and 2072 of them were repaired. 1326 (16%) of these restored schools are located in urban areas, 6887 (81%) are in rural areas, and 287 (3%) are difficult places to get.

Based on the findings of the research, it should be noted that, thanks to the attention of our state schools, new schools were built and repaired, their material and technical base was strengthened. In particular, about 1.5 trillion UZS soums were spent for the State National Program for the Development of School Education in 2004-2009 [19, p.1-2]. Priority tasks outlined in this program have been of great importance in the deepening of the educational reforms in our country. And most importantly, the conditions of secondary schools in the country, covering most of the country's young people, have been improved, and secondary schools have reached the level of world-class educational institutions.

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