SOME ASPECTS OF REGULATING THE MIGRATION POLICY IN UZBEKISTAN IN THE CONDITIONS OF ECONOMY LIBERALIZATION

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Abstract

The development of migration mobility of titular population is currently restrained owing to certain circumstances, particularly due to difficulties resulted from transition to market affairs. The fall of the intensity of migration of titular population is also affected by other reasons related to modern realities of transition period: (1) complication and difficulty of migration ties with CIS republics which primarily supported the migration exchange of population for the last years; (2) reorientation of potential migrants to remote foreign counties with strong organizational-legal, financial and language barriers in realization of migration goals; (3) the decrease of interest of rural population in migration to cities; (4) the change of migration purposes and migration behaviour of local population due to particularities of transition economy. Russia gradually looses its previous position as an attractive country. Meanwhile is still a main migration partner for Russian-speakers that comprise annually 70% share of migration outflow from Uzbekistan.

Keywords: Migration Policy, Economy Liberalizations

MAIN PART

The character of contemporary migration of the population of Uzbekistan has changed largely. There are territorial shifts of migration ties and new tendencies that positively and negatively get developed. Migration situation is determined by totality and effectiveness of migration flows. There are quantitative and qualitative changes in contemporary migration but, in general, migration situation in Uzbekistan is relatively stable and its changes are appropriate with economic and political reforms that took place during the ages.

To ensure state regulation and control labour migration in the republic since 1993 functioned the Agency on labour migrants under the Ministry of labour and social protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan that was reorganized in 2001 into the Agency on external labour migration. The agency is the only state body entitled to provide abroad employment assistance for the citizens of Uzbekistan. Besides internal affairs bodies also have certain impact on labour migration regulation who are entitled to give permission for citizens to leave the country. However given the right of citizens for free movement ensured by law this impact on migration flows is insignificant.

In Uzbekistan that experienced various migration movements for the last 10 years migration sometimes covered up to 10% of population growth of the country, and during other years exceeded this increase. During the second half of 90s external migration processes on effectiveness equalled to the degrees of 80s. In contemporary world the extent of external migration has largely expanded. Now many European and overseas countries joined across the orbit of migration ties of the population of Uzbekistan.

It is required to carry out international migration processes management and regulation activities in contemporary Uzbekistan that could be done in the following ways: (1) it is necessary form a state body on population migration management. Now there is no any state body that would regulate...
migration matters, like a ‘migration service’ or ‘population migration office’ and so on, (2) perfection of migration legislation. There are certain laws and legislative acts adopted at state level in Uzbekistan that regulate certain matters of population migration. But it is not enough. It is necessary to adopt Law on population migration. Laws of this type exist in number of CIS countries. There already exist project law on migration in Uzbekistan, yet it is crucial to bring it to its logical end, (3) one of the elements of migration policy should be cooperation with citizens who left the country, integration into political, economic and social life, adaptation to new life conditions in places, (4) it is also necessary to adopt law on refugees. It is possible to get official status of refugee and to support at state level non-voluntary migrants provided there is a law on refugee, and (5) cooperation of CIS countries on population migration issues. CIS states realize the necessity to create international legal basis and framing out interstate policy to solve problems on migration. Several states have bilateral agreements on these issues. An agreement to create an intergovernmental fund for these purposes as well as to simplify organizational procedures of labour migration in the territory of state-participants has been signed by many CIS counties, yet these important interstate documents have not been ratified in many counties.

The main trends in the expansion of export of labor force are: (a) increasing the competitiveness of citizens in the international labor-market. In this connection, the realization of National programme on personnel training providing for a mandatory professional education of youth will ensure necessary basis for the growth of competitiveness of Uzbek citizens in the international labor-markets. At the same time, it is necessary to take measures on “nostrification” of diplomas of education institutions of Uzbekistan abroad. And possibly to consider establishing a special fund for training and job placement of Uzbek citizens abroad, which on a permanent basis will provide educational-training programmes on increasing the competitiveness of labor resources of Uzbekistan, (b) institutional development. To create a legislation basis, whereby an intermediate activity on job placement of Uzbek citizens abroad is carried out by juridical persons-residents of the Republic of Uzbekistan. It is necessary to maintain a high level of state regulation of procedures of export of labor force from Uzbekistan by means of licensing of given activity category issued by an authorized state organ. To expand the authorities of state organs on the questions of job placement of citizens abroad. Particularly, to grant economic state bodies (ministries, agencies, state corporations) a right to conclude direct contracts on the export of labor force to foreign companies with whom there are established partnership agreements. It is necessary to work out systems of benefits and preferences on the promotion of import of means of production and equipment by migrant workers to the Republic of Uzbekistan. It is necessary to improve and unify the procedure of issuing licensing documents and entry and exit visas for Uzbek citizens related to their work abroad, and (c) development of international cooperation in the field of export of labor force. For the expansion of export of labor force and ensuring guaranteed observance of the rights of working migrants, there is necessary to be a direct interest on the side of state contractors receiving labor force. In this connection, it is reasonable to conclude interstate agreements with the importer state governments of labor force. Besides, a promising means of development of export of labor force is a conclusion of partnership agreements between state institutions authorized to carry out activity on the export of labor force. In the return of highly qualified personnel an important role is attached to the establishment of high-technology centers of innovative industry and scientific-research centers. They are powerful magnets for the mobilization of qualified labor. The nationals per se are more and more becoming international. It seems to be urgent to work out the international level the Code of conduct, which would limit ruinous methods of mobilization of qualified labor force from the developing countries. There is a need for a peculiar social contract on the level of state-subjects of qualified labor force markets. An international labor exchange is an integral and important part of international economic relations and one of the most effective forms at that. In contrast to the other forms, an
international labor exchange is a non-standard and perhaps thus a little-studied direction of an external economic activity.

Finally, there should be found a reasonable balance between toughening controlling measures and licensing procedure for the working migrants.

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