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Prospects of Ensuring Regional Economic Security through Industrial Production Development

Olimov Maksudjon Komiljon ugli
Associate Professor, PhD, Tashkent state university of economics

A B S T R A C T
This article outlines the ideas of ensuring the country's economic security and its main factors. One of the main factors ensuring economic security is to focus on the industrial potential and production of the country and its regions. Also, indicators of industrial production of the Republic of Uzbekistan and its regions were studied and analyzed.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Economic security is an important component of the national security system, because the economy is the basis of sustainable development of the country, regions, society, individual life, and the country as a whole.

The national security of any country is characterized by its potential, specific characteristics, the country's geopolitical position, and the nature of its international relations. The competitiveness of the national economy plays an important role in ensuring the national security of the state. There are no countries in the world that are completely self-sufficient. Some of them have large natural resources, while others develop innovative technologies.

The economic security of the country and its regions is a complex and multifactorial system that is the material basis for the formation of other components of national security.

By the beginning of the 21st century, new trends appeared in the world economy that were not characteristic of previous periods of human development. The meaning and character of the economy has changed radically.

The economic situation in the world market has become complicated, the nature of economic relations between countries has changed radically. Economic competition is becoming increasingly intense and brutal.

Currently, economic security affects not only the entire country, but also each region or individual. Economic instability and crisis can have negative consequences for any region, family or individual.

In such a situation, the issue of introducing mechanisms that ensure the regular improvement of the economy of our country, carefully defining the tasks related to sustainable economic development is gaining urgent importance.

If there were no external and internal threats to the national and regional economy for the state, the need for economic security would not exist. The main factors of the country's economic security are its geographical location, natural resources, industrial and agricultural potential, the level of socio-demographic development, and the quality of state administration.

In fact, the determination of the mechanism of ensuring the economic security of the country and its regions on the basis of the analysis of the main sector indicators is of urgent importance today. In this article, industrial production capacity was considered as one of the important factors of ensuring the economic security of the country and its regions. Also, recommendations were developed to ensure economic security of the country and its regions through the development of industrial production.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Economic security problems are relatively new in Uzbekistan and many foreign economies. They have become relevant in recent years, and many foreign scientists are studying them in their works.

Afonsev S.A.[1] defines economic security as "A set of conditions and factors that ensure the independence of the economy, its stability, the possibility of continuous renewal and improvement".

Senchagov V.K.[2] considers economic security to be the willingness and ability of government institutions to create mechanisms for the development of the domestic economy, the realization and protection of national interests in the provision of socio-political stability of society.

Also, for a comprehensive study of the research problem discussed in this article, various statistical data, legal documents, electronic resources and works of several authors such as Kuznetsova E.I.[3], Radyukova Y.U.[4], Davydenko I.V.[5] were used.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodological basis of the research is a systematic approach, which made it possible to study the research problem in detail. In the process of this research, general scientific and special methods of research were used: dialectical methods, methods of economic process analysis, comparative and statistical analysis methods. Depending on the goals and tasks, these methods were used at different stages of learning.

IV. ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In turn, ensuring the stable growth of the economy in the country and its regions and ensuring the economic security of the regions depends on a number of factors (Fig. 1).



Figure 1. Factors ensuring economic security of country and its regions[6]

[1] Afonsev S.A. Discussion Problems of the Concept of National Economic Security. Russia XXI, 2, 2011.
[2] Senchagov V.K. Economic Security of Russia. General Course: Textbook (3rd ed.,revised and amended). Moscow: BINOM. Laboratory. 2015, p. 815.
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[6] Prepared by author.

As can be seen from the above picture, industrial production and its structure have a special place among the factors of ensuring the economic security of the country and its regions. Therefore, we can assess the economic security situation of that region by analyzing the indicators of regional industrial production volume and its composition.

Uzbekistan is a rapidly developing country. This sector of the economy employs more than a million workers and accounts for 40% of production. The sector's share in the formation of the country's gross domestic product is 35 percent.

Leading industries: cotton ginning, machine building, textile, gas, precious metals, electronics, tool making, oil refining, automotive and agricultural products processing. Other sectors, including chemical and petrochemical, energy, metallurgy, construction materials and light industry, are developing rapidly.

Deep structural changes have begun in energy, oil and gas industry, geology, transport, road construction, agriculture and water management, drinking water, heat supply and other fields. Modernization and competitiveness improvement programs are being implemented in 12 leading industries.

Table 1. Main indicators of industry of Republic of Uzbekistan[7]

Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Industrial production volume, bln. soum	97598,2	111869,4	148816,0	235340,7	322535,8	368740,2	456056,1	553265,0	658991,7	880198,5
Index of physical volume of industrial production, % compared to last year	105,3	105,4	105,2	110,8	105,0	100,9	108,8	105,3	106,3	106,5

If we pay attention to the statistics of the last ten years, in 2024, industrial products in the amount of more than 880 trillion soums were produced by the enterprises of the republic, and compared to 2023, the physical volume index of industrial production was 106,5 percent. According to the contribution of the industry producing the largest share in the structure of industrial production, its share in the total industrial production was 83 percent.

Table 2. Growth rates of industrial production by main types of economic activity[8]

Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Index of physical volume of industrial production, %	105,3	105,4	105,2	110,8	105,0	100,9	108,8	105,3	106,3	106,5
Mining and open pit operations	102,9	100,8	117,6	126,5	99,4	78,0	110,8	101,9	99,5	103,9
Manufacturing industry	105,9	106,7	104,2	107,9	106,6	107,9	108,3	105,4	107,4	107,0
Electricity, gas, steam supply and air conditioning	105,1	103,6	95,5	103,1	105,1	106,8	111,8	113,5	109,5	105,7

[7] Prepared by author based on the data of National statistics committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan
[8] Prepared by author based on the data of National statistics committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Total industrial production is the main factor of the growth of physical volume, mining and open-pit mining – 103,9 percent, manufacturing (processing) industry – 107 percent, and electricity, gas, steam supply and air conditioning – an increase of 105,7 percent was observed.

Table 3. Growth indicators of the composition of the manufacturing industry[9]

Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Volume of industrial production	**105,3**	**105,4**	**105,2**	**110,8**	**105,0**	**100,9**	**108,8**	**105,3**	**106,3**	**106,5**
Manufacturing industry	**105,9**	**106,7**	**104,2**	**107,9**	**106,6**	**107,9**	**108,3**	**105,4**	**107,4**	**107,0**
Manufacture of food products	113,2	109,8	90,3	98,5	110,9	108,6	104,2	106,0	107,0	105,6
Beverage production	116,1	101,9	97,9	111,0	112,7	105,7	118,0	115,7	106,4	96,0
Manufacture of textiles	110,5	109,0	100,5	107,4	105,3	117,4	119,5	109,9	106,4	111,2
Manufacture of wearing apparel	111,5	108,9	110,5	103,3	108,7	107,2	118,7	105,8	112,7	107,1
Manufacture of leather and related products	117,0	116,8	111,2	94,6	78,0	97,4	103,9	104,3	105,9	103,2
Manufacture of wooden and cork products, (except furniture), products made of straw and plaiting materials	115,0	113,3	104,1	156,0	85,3	88,1	129,2	104,2	96,0	128,0
Manufacture of paper and paper products	116,1	142,2	104,2	104,5	111,6	106,4	115,4	114,6	110,3	121,0
Printing and Playback of Recorded Materials	115,2	134,4	106,3	96,2	98,1	76,3	127,8	140,5	84,9	93,1
Manufacture of chemical products	107,5	132,7	94,0	97,2	102,3	107,6	107,0	98,1	96,7	102,8
Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and preparations	123,0	127,4	109,4	103,3	108,5	118,9	144,5	89,9	102,5	97,2
Manufacture of rubber and plastic products	98,0	113,2	118,0	123,5	92,3	109,7	101,3	98,8	107,3	122,6
Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	104,0	111,0	110,6	111,6	104,5	105,9	108,6	96,8	112,0	118,6
Metallurgical industry	102,5	98,2	107,2	102,2	106,7	107,7	108,1	104,4	106,6	106,4
Manufacture of fabricated metal	120,3	108,5	145,3	105,4	106,7	118,8	120,5	102,2	106,7	82,9

[9] Prepared by author based on the data of National statistics committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

products, except machinery and equipment										
Manufacture of computers, electronic and optical products	101,0	78,1	174,5	118,8	142,8	172,0	138,4	85,8	78,1	87,7
Manufacture of other transport equipment	89,9	94,8	102,4	115,4	120,7	102,5	108,8	105,4	99,3	126,1
Furniture manufacture	110,0	122,6	97,9	107,9	112,5	90,2	114,0	101,8	103,2	128,1
Manufacture of other finished products	120,1	125,0	88,6	96,4	109,9	110,3	109,7	95,5	115,8	130,4
Repair and installation of machinery and equipment	102,5	88,1	103,3	94,0	101,2	100,9	122,3	101,4	114,0	146,1

As can be seen from the above table, growth rates are observed in about 20 branches of the manufacturing industry. Among the sectors that have achieved high growth rates are Repair and installation of machinery and equipment – 146,1 percent, Furniture manufacture – 128,1 percent, Manufacture of wooden and cork products, (except furniture), products made of straw and plaiting materials – 128 percent, Manufacture of rubber and plastic products – 122,6 percent.

Industrial production in the region serves to increase the level of income. The creation of employment opportunities leads to an increase in household income, which helps to improve the standard of living of citizens and families. An increase in income levels also leads to an increase in consumer spending, which helps stimulate economic growth. Another significant benefit of industrial production is the development of infrastructure in the area. Industrial growth requires infrastructure development such as roads, airports, and ports that help improve the overall connectivity of the region. The development of infrastructure not only helps the growth of industry, but also helps to improve the quality of life of the people of the region. Industrial production also leads to the cultivation of skilled personnel in the region. The growth of the industry requires a range of skills and experiences, leading to the development of a skilled workforce. Developing a skilled workforce can help attract new industries to a region, as companies are more likely to invest in areas with a skilled workforce.

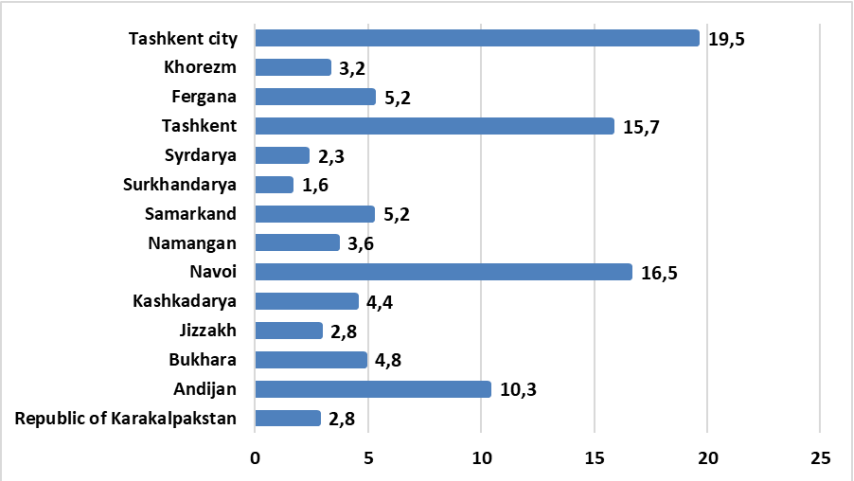

Figure 2. The share of regions in the structure of the republic's industrial production, in percent as of 2024[10]

[10] Prepared by author based on the data of National statistics committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

As of 2024, Tashkent city (19,5 percent), Navoi (16,5 percent), Tashkent region (15,7 percent) and Andijan (10,3 percent) regions have the largest share in the production of industrial products of the Republic. Syrdarya (2,3 percent) and Surkhandarya (1,6 percent) region are the regions with the lowest share in the industrial output of the republic.

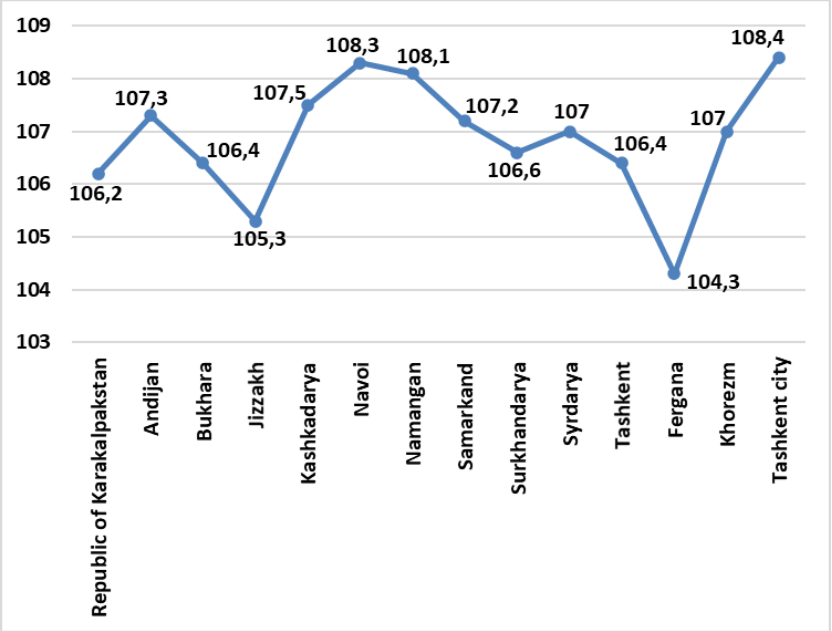

Figure 3. Growth rates of industrial production by region, as of 2024 (in percent compared to last year)[11]

The consistent implementation of measures to increase the industrial potential of the regions has led to a regular increase in industrial production in most regions of the republic. In particular, the regions with high industrial production growth rates in 2024 are Tashkent city – 108,4 percent, Navoi region – 108,3 percent and Namangan region – 108,1 percent. The lowest growth rate was observed in Fergana region – 104,3 percent.

In addition to economic benefits, industrial production in the region also contributes to social development in the region. Industrial growth leads to an increase in social amenities such as schools, hospitals, and community centers, which help improve the overall quality of life for the region's residents. Industrial production can foster innovation in the region by stimulating research and development and creating opportunities for collaboration between businesses, universities and academic institutions. This can lead to the development of new products and technologies, which can further support regional development. Industrial production can help the development of industrial clusters in the region, which can create synergies between enterprises and support the growth of related industries. This can lead to increased competitiveness and innovation and further support regional development.

V. CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

The economic security of the country and its territories is a system consisting of interrelated and complementary elements (components), and the level of economic security depends on the security of each of its components.

According to the received research data, one of the main factors of protecting the economic security of Uzbekistan is the increase of industrial production, at the same time activation of the investment process and the use of technological innovations.

We believe that it is appropriate to implement the following measures in order to effectively implement the adopted programs for the socio-economic development of the regions, to develop and improve the mechanism for ensuring the economic security of the regions:

[11] Prepared by author based on the data of National statistics committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

- formation of a system of selection of republican and regional programs for the development of regions and justification of their implementation, and the formation of a queue;
- improvement of the implementation mechanism of republican and regional programs, increasing the responsibilities of local governments and relevant ministries for this purpose;
- strengthening the regional aspects of state programs for the development of economic sectors;
- organization of monitoring of regional aspects of network programs;
- development and approval of forecast indicators based on in-depth study and consideration of areas and network capabilities, reserves;
- to strengthen strict control over the implementation of programs, to create a control system.

On the other hand, the essence of the economic policy of the state in the medium-term perspective is to strengthen the industrial potential of the country in order to encourage economically efficient production, to provide the basis for the implementation of social programs and state tasks in the social sphere. The economic growth of the country and its social stability directly depend on improving the competitiveness of the market relations of state entities, increasing the social security and well-being of the population, financing the priority directions of the development of scientific-technical and production potential, as a result of which it helps to ensure economic development and economic security of our republic.

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