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ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS ACTIVITIES IN COMPETITIVE CONDITIONS

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ABSTRACT

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The article presents scientific conclusions and recommendations for assessing the state of development of small business and private entrepreneurship and the factors affecting it, socio-economic aspects of the development of the industry and structural changes.

KEYWORDS: *Small Business, Entrepreneurship, Statistical Analysis, Creation Rate, Export Potential, Statistical Methods, Statistical Evaluation.*

INTRODUCTION

Further liberalization and deepening of economic reforms in Uzbekistan, the development of small business entities is of great importance. Because in the context of the pandemic, the development of small business, the formation of an ownership class, the filling of markets with consumer goods, the creation of a competitive environment, and the elimination of unemployment are among the main priority tasks facing the country . Therefore, in the context of the pandemic, entrepreneurship, including small business activities and their effectiveness are considered one of the important factors in ensuring employment and increasing incomes in the regions of our country, increasing export potential, and ensuring sustainable socio-economic development.

ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE ON THE TOPIC

Entrepreneurship, in a broad sense, is considered as a mental activity based on personal interest, aimed at achieving the goal set before the subject, carried out with his direct participation based on his personal factors, related to tasks ranging from running a household to producing and selling products and providing services. In a narrow sense, entrepreneurial activity only represents the processes of product production at various levels of the economic sphere, that is, entrepreneurship[1].
forming a component of human resources, and small businesses and private entrepreneurial structures provide mobility to large-scale production.

In his time, A. Smith defined an entrepreneur as follows: “An entrepreneur is a person who has capital and assumes the risk of doing business.” According to J.B. Say, an entrepreneur is an economic agent who combines the factors of production or directs economic resources from areas of low productivity and profitability to areas of high productivity and profitability [8].

K. Mc.Connell and S. Bruler consider entrepreneurship as an important type of activity, the basis of which are continuous conditions and requirements. *First,* the entrepreneur combines the factors of production in the process of producing goods and services and acts as a “catalyst”. *Second,* in the process of doing business, he takes on such a difficult task as making decisions. *Third,* the entrepreneur is an organizing person who seeks to introduce new production technologies and produce new products. *Fourth*, the entrepreneur is a person who takes risks. He takes risks not only with his own property, time, labor, but also with the funds contributed by his partners and shareholders [9].believes that entrepreneurship as a specific system of activity has a number of advantages . These advantages are freedom to choose the direction and methods of work, making independent decisions, making a profit, responsibility for the decisions made, etc. According to LIAbalkin, a sufficiently developed market economy is the basis for the development of entrepreneurship [10].

According to Professor X.PAbulqosimov, "entrepreneurship is one of the directions for realizing human goals and increasing activity" [11].

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY, ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

Since the first days of independence, special attention has been paid to the development and support of small business and private entrepreneurship in our republic . In this regard, a number of laws, Presidential Decrees, Cabinet of Ministers' resolutions and other regulatory and legal documents related to the development of the sector have been adopted, which have a positive impact on the development of the entrepreneurship sector [5,6]. In particular, the “Development Strategy of the New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026” of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated January 28, 2022 .... priority tasks such as ensuring the stability of the national economy and supporting and developing the private sector have been identified [2]. In ensuring the implementation of these priority tasks , comprehensive support for small businesses and private entrepreneurship in the regions of our republic and ensuring their sustainable development are of great importance.

Especially in the current pandemic, the role of small business and private entrepreneurship in the development of the national and regional economy is becoming increasingly important. This sector is taking a leading position in filling the domestic market, satisfying the material needs of the population for products and services, and supporting exports.

According to statistical analyses, Syrdarya region subjects also make a worthy contribution to the development of small business in our republic. Today, the permanent population of the region is 1 million 410.5 thousand people, of which the number of labor resources is 773.8 thousand people (57.5 percent), the number of economically active population is 600.1 thousand people (42.5 percent), and the number of people employed in the economy is 534.0 thousand people (37.8 percent) [3].

Along with the growth of the permanent population in the region, the number of people employed in the economy is also growing. For example, in 2016, the growth rate of the population employed in the economy in the region was 103.0 percent compared to the previous year, while in 2020 this figure was 99.6 percent.

A comparative analysis of 2016–2025 shows that during this period **,** significant structural changes occurred in the labor market and employment indicators in Syrdarya region. While in 2016 the number of people employed in the economy showed a relatively stable growth trend, by 2020 this growth rate had slowed down (99.6 percent). By 2025, it can be assessed that the employment level will recover and the relative growth trend will increase due to the expansion of small business and private entrepreneurship, the development of the service sector and industrial sectors.

In our opinion, one of the main indicators in the labor market is the unemployment of the working-age population.

If we analyze the Syrdarya region, the number of unemployed people in 2016 amounted to 26,000 people, and by 2025, a trend of stabilization or decline in the unemployment rate was observed as a result of state programs, new investment projects, and support for small businesses in the labor market.

In 2020, the composition of the population employed in regional enterprises and organizations by level of education was as follows: 33.3 percent had higher education, 57.4 percent had secondary specialized education, and 9.3 percent had secondary and incomplete secondary education. By 2025, an increase in the share of specialists with higher education and a decrease in the share of medium and low-skilled labor in the labor market was observed, which is associated with the modernization of the economy and innovative development processes.

The above data reflect the dynamics of the development of industry, agriculture, construction and services for 2019–2024. The results of the analysis show that growth across sectors of the economy is uneven, but there is an overall positive trend.

The industrial sector showed the most rapid growth rates during the analyzed period. In 2019, the volume of industrial products amounted to 2,519 billion soums, while by 2024 this figure reached 20,065 billion soums. In particular, in 2024, a sharp increase in the volume of industry was observed, which means a several-fold increase compared to the previous year. This is explained by the implementation of large investment projects in industrial production and the expansion of production capacities.

The agricultural sector has a relatively stable and consistent growth trend. The volume of agricultural products, which amounted to 7,605 billion soums in 2019, reached 14,789 billion soums in 2024. This indicates that the agricultural sector has remained an important sector that ensures sustainable development of the economy during this period.

the construction sector in some years, there is a general growth trend. In particular, a decrease in the volume of construction was noted in 2021, but since 2022, stable growth in the sector has resumed and reached 4,117 billion soums in 2024. This is due to increased infrastructure projects and investment activity.

Services industry will grow rapidly in 2023–2024 developed . In 2019, 1,643 billion soum organization reached services volume 7,888 billion in 2024 in soums arrived , one how many equal increased . Especially in 2023 services in the field sharp jump observed , this digital services , trade and service networks expansion with explained .

In general Overall , in the region's economy during 2019–2024 structural changes face that gave shows . Industry and services of the sectors intense development economic development is the key to the drivers turned if , village farm stability provider network as important place occupying remains .

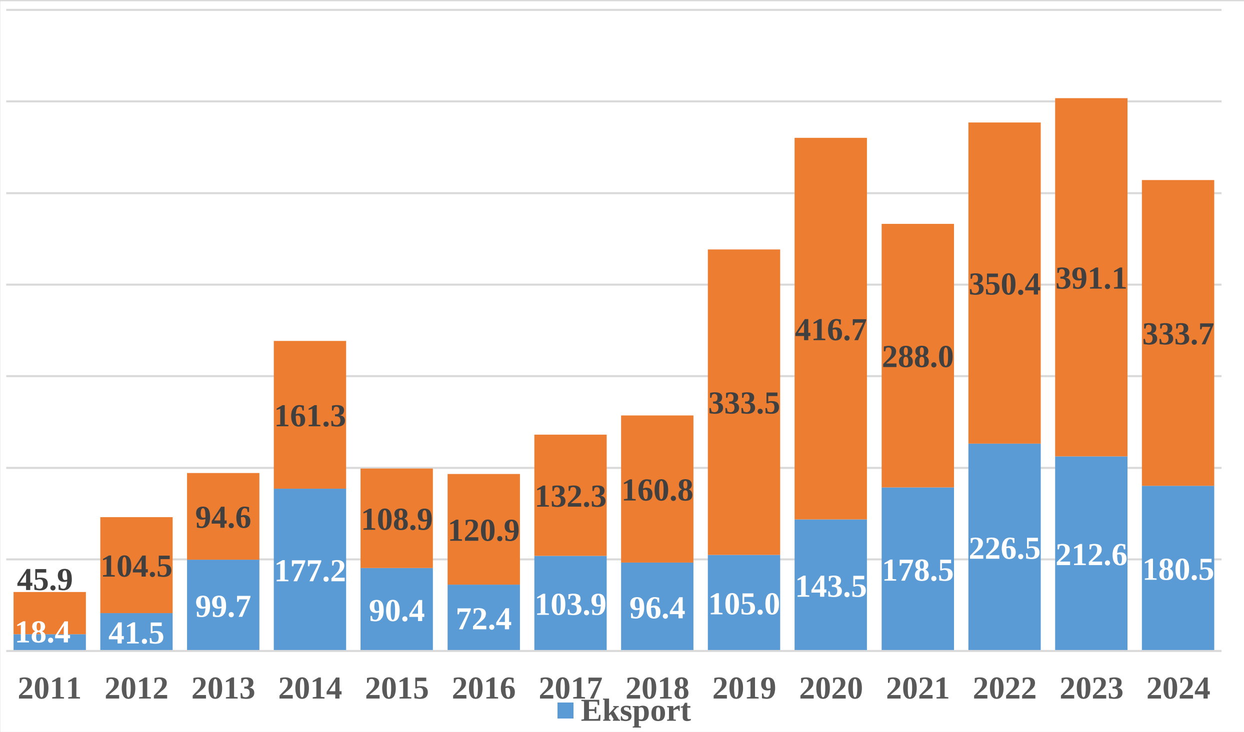

Figure 2. Export of small businesses and private entrepreneurship in Syrdarya region and import volume, mln . US dollars [1].

The data presented in the graph above reflects the dynamics of export and import volumes, which are the main indicators of foreign trade activity, for the period 2010–2024. The results of the analysis show that during this period, despite significant fluctuations in foreign trade volumes, a general growth trend has formed.

In 2012–2014, there was a rapid growth in export volumes, reaching 177.2 units in 2014. This period is explained by the expansion of export potential and increased opportunities for entering foreign markets. In 2015–2018, export volumes were relatively unstable, with declines recorded in some years. However, in 2019–2022, export volumes again entered a phase of stable growth, reaching their highest level in 2022 at 226.5 units. In 2023–2024, a slight decrease in export volumes was observed, reaching 180.5 units in 2024.

Import volumes grew much faster than exports during the period under analysis. Import volumes, which amounted to 39.1 units in 2010, reached 104.5 units in 2012, and 161.3 units in 2014. The sharp increase in import volumes in 2019–2020 is especially noteworthy, reaching 333.5 units in 2019 and 416.7 units in 2020. This situation internal demand increase , investment goods and technological equipment import expansion with Import volume in 2021 shrunk although , in 2022–2024 again high at the level preserved remaining . Export and between imports ratio analysis this shows that many Import volume in years export from the size high is external trade on balance negative difference there is Especially in 2019–2024 this difference sharply, imports high at a pace growth external trade to the balance pressure strengthened .

In general in general, statistical data external trade in the activity export potential step by step exceed is increasing, but the volume of imports relatively faster growth as a result external trade balance diversification to do and export encouragement necessity the existence shows . THIS because , high added to value has products export expansion and import replacement clicker working to release develop economic politics priority from directions one to be necessary .

From the above come export size variable to be despite the general trend growth tendency manifestation will . big growth in 2013–2014 record done is , this in the period export volume from 99.7 to 177.2 million to unity This indicator is global and internal economic conditions , as well as currency courses and goods prices change with interpretation possible . The import volume is also known at the level variable especially in 2015 and 2019 noticeable vibrations observed . Statistical correlation analysis export and between imports correlation at 0.68 showed , that is export size increase with the majority of imports in cases growth tendency showed .

External trade balance sheet change – export and import difference – periods according to uncertainty save For example , in 2014–2015 export sharp growth with import growth slow to be external trade balance positive towards changed . Average annual growth pace statistic methods using when calculated , export size for import volume in the range of 8–10% for and at the level of 6–7% This is external . trade of activity stable growth shows , but variability index height noticeable economic and external political to factors related that it is indicates . Dynamic analysis (trend and seasonal components) that shows that the external trade volumes partially seasonal to vibrations yes , but far term tendency positive . THIS with together , 2020–2021 pandemic impact and global prices change statistic in terms of import and export volumes temporary to decrease take arrived .

[1] *www.stat.uz official site information based on author development .*

Statistical analysis results country external trade activity stable growth to the trend has that , but significantly variability and external to factors dependency the existence shows . export size to import relatively more stable and faster growing progress , external trade balance sheet variability reduce for strategic measures the necessity indicates .

2010–2024 between our country external trade indicators — export and import volumes — statistical analysis results noticeable variability shows , but according to the general trend stable growth dynamics available . export volume in 2013–2014 sharp growing , 99.7 million 177.2 million from the unit up to unity enough , this and global conditions and internal economic reforms Import volumes are also variable . to be despite , export with solid positive dependency (correlation ≈ 0.68)

These trends government economic of the policy export promotion , sales obstacles reduction , as well as services and industry export to expand focused on reflection In particular , the government To the WTO joining process acceleration , export processes simplification , monopolies restriction and competition increase according to measures done is increasing , this and trade liberalization strengthens and external trade potential increases.

External trade statistics the country's global integration , economic diversification and market freedom reinforcement to their goals service is doing — this and the government current economic policy with complete suitable is coming .

These indicators , in their own in turn employment to the level impact does and this because of Syrdarya in the province employment level statistic analysis we did (picture 3)

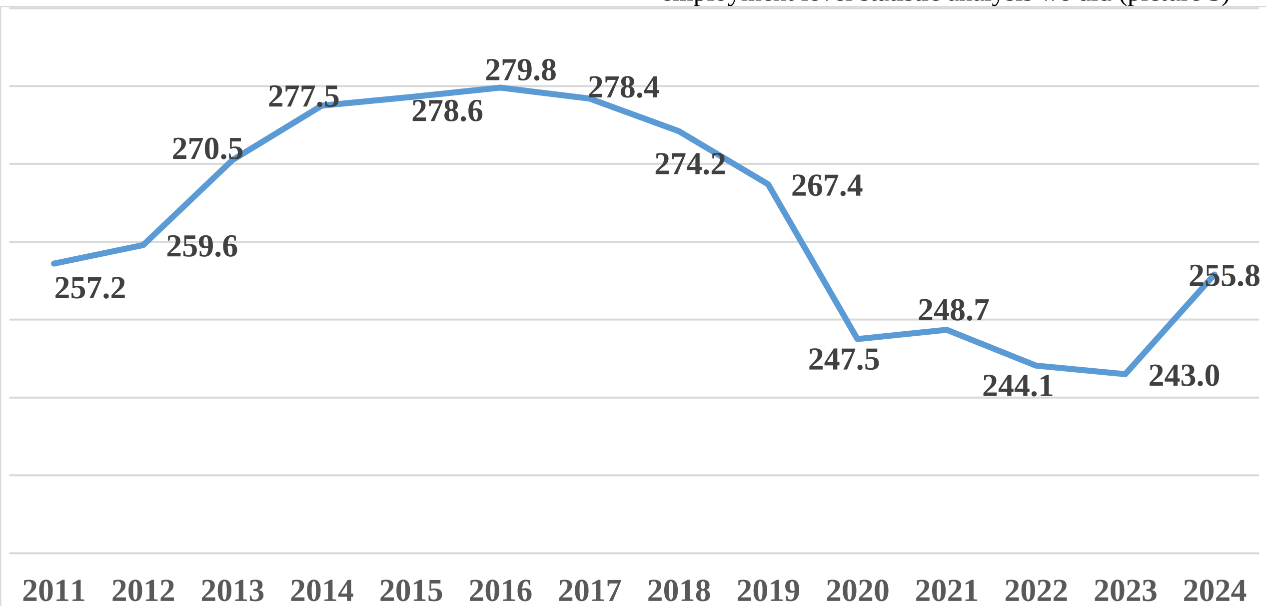

Figure 3. Employment of small businesses and private entrepreneurship in Syrdarya region level , thousand person[2]

The data presented in the graph above reflects the main trends in employment in the Syrdarya region for the period 2011–2024. The results of the analysis show that during this period, there are significant fluctuations in the number of employed people, as well as periods of general stability and growth-decline.

In 2011, employment amounted to 257.2 thousand people, and in 2012 it increased slightly to 259.6 thousand people. In 2013–2016, employment increased significantly, reaching a peak of 279.8 thousand people in 2016. This period is explained by the steady growth of employment, expansion of economic activity, and increased opportunities in the labor market.

In 2017–2022 and employment amount decrease the way received 278.4 thousand in 2017 per person in 2022 244.1 thousand up to a person decreased . Especially in 2020 sharp decrease – 247.5 thousand 19.9 thousand per person to someone to fall – perhaps COVID -19 pandemic , economic obstacles and labor migration increase with depends .

In 2023–2024 small recovery Observed : employment from 243 thousand to 255.8 thousand up to a person increased . This period economic stability , new work of places creation and labor market recovery with explained . Employment and annual changes analysis this shows that in 2011–2016 work with of employment growth , 2017–2022 decline , in 2023–2024 and recovery These trends are observed labor in the market cyclical changes , economic conditions , demographics factors and global pandemic such as external factors with depends .

Employment indicators stable growth pace manifestation In 2011 , 257.2 thousand someone organization reached Employment in 2016 was 279.8 thousand to someone reached. This growth labor in the market opportunities, economic activity expansion and demographic growth with is explained. Work with employment decrease pace Shown: 278.4 thousand 244.1 thousand per person. Especially in 2020 sharp decrease –

[2] *www.stat.uz official site information based on author development .*

19.9 thousand from 247.5 thousand to someone fall – COVID-19 pandemic, economic obstacles and labor migration with Depends . Employment indicators recovery pace Shown : 255.8 thousand out of 243 thousand up to a person increase labor market stabilization and new work places of creation positive the impact indicates . In 2011–2016 annual growth pace 3–4% on average, 2017–2022 decrease rate of 2–3%, in 2023–2024 recovery pace positive was .

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the above, we recommend the following suggestions for further development of the small business sector in Syrdarya region and its territories. Namely:

1. Increasing the production efficiency of regional small business entities due to innovative factors ; focusing small business activities in districts and cities more on the production of consumer goods; reducing differences in the development of regional business entities between districts and cities ;

2. It is necessary to support and encourage export-oriented production in the small business sector in the region. To this end, it is necessary to develop special "Uzbek foreign trade houses" that can successfully sell goods and services of small business entities in foreign markets , implement an international quality management system , increase the competitiveness of goods and services , and develop measures to increase the efficiency of transportation services for exported goods ;

3. It is necessary to develop clear goals and strategies for the effective organization of innovative development in the small business sector. In this regard, it is advisable to identify integral indicators of the innovative development of small business entities and determine forecast indicators for the future.

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