

## ACTIVITIES OF INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES IN THE KASHKADARYA REGION AND THEIR SPECIFIC FEATURES

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**Abstract:** This article provides a scientific analysis of the stages of development of industrial enterprises operating in the Kashkadarya region, their territorial location, production directions, and specific features. The study highlights the role of regional industry in the economy, the activities of large and medium-sized enterprises, the use of natural resources, production efficiency, investment processes, and the factors influencing the development of industrial infrastructure in the region. It also substantiates the impact of industrial enterprises on socio-economic development, their role in ensuring employment, and the processes of modern modernization.

**Keywords:** Kashkadarya region, industrial enterprises, production activity, regional economy, industrial infrastructure, investment, modernization, natural resources, economic development, employment, production efficiency.

**Introduction.** During the years referred to as the “period of stagnation” in the Soviet era, as in the rest of Uzbekistan, increased attention was paid in the Kashkadarya region to the development of production and industry, and new industrial enterprises, factories, and combines began to be commissioned.

In 1979–1980, 12 large industrial enterprises were put into operation in Kashkadarya. The Shahrizabz cotton-cleaning and canning plants and the Karshi oil plant were reconstructed and renovated. Two hundred technological innovations were introduced into production, and 62 new products were mastered. A total of 275 million soums were spent to improve the material well-being of the population. People’s incomes increased by 322 million soums. Eleven thousand families moved into new houses. In rural areas, 7,500 apartments were gasified. New air routes from Karshi airport to Leningrad, Orenburg, Dushanbe, Andijan, and Urgench were opened. Construction of new air terminals and airports began in Karshi and Shahrizabz. The second stage of the gas purification workshop at the Mubarak gas sulfur extraction plant was commissioned. In addition, the first stage of the largest Shurtan gas complex in the republic, as well as the Beshkent and Nishon cotton-cleaning plants and the Koson oil extraction plant, were launched[1].

The power of tractors serving agriculture in Kashkadarya reached 1 million 55 thousand horsepower. In 1979–1980, cotton growers of Kashkadarya delivered 1 million 120 thousand tons of cotton to the state, which was 87 thousand tons more than planned. Workers of the Karshi and Shahrizabz districts achieved an average yield of 40.5 centners per hectare. Cotton growers of Kitab district obtained 38 centners per hectare, those of Kamashi district 37 centners, and those of Yakkabag district 36 centners. In 1980 alone, Kashkadarya delivered 584 thousand tons of cotton to the state, which was 40 thousand tons above the plan. They also succeeded in delivering 100 thousand tons of valuable fine-fiber cotton to the state[2].

At the same time, in 1980, 11 farms and 368 cotton-growing brigades in Kashkadarya failed to fulfill the state plan for cotton procurement. In four districts and 22 farms of the region, yields were below 25 centners per hectare. Attention was also paid to the development of horticulture, fruit growing, melon cultivation, and viticulture. Twelve specialized fruit and vegetable state farms were established. Ten livestock complexes were commissioned. Construction continued on



a duck-breeding complex in the Koson, Karshi, Dehkanabad, and Chiroqchi districts, as well as a large poultry complex in the Kamashi district capable of supplying 12 thousand tons of meat annually[3].

On March 12, 1980, in connection with the development of the Karshi desert, the Tallimarjon district was established. Its administrative center became the town of Tallimarjon, founded in 1964 as the first settlement of desert developers and granted city status on March 26, 1976[4].

By 1981, 176 thousand hectares of new land had been developed in the Karshi desert. On the basis of these newly developed lands, 96 new farms were established, and their central settlements were built. Roads were laid to the farm centers. Much of the road network between the central settlements and newly constructed field shelters was asphalted, while the remaining sections were leveled with gravel.

Automobile roads and regular bus services were established to all district centers and farms of the Kashkadarya region. More than half of those working in rural areas had higher or specialized secondary education. At that time, there were 25 thousand mechanizers in rural areas, five times more than in 1965. In 1982, Kashkadarya produced 590 thousand tons of cotton, which was 15 times more than in 1940. Of this, 230 thousand tons were grown by desert developers. Two hundred thousand tons of vegetables and melons were sold to the state. Over the next ten years (1972–1982), farmers of the region produced and sold 5 million 300 thousand tons of cotton to the state.

By 1981, the Tallimarjon reservoir, with a capacity of 1.5 billion cubic meters, had been constructed and put into operation. This was an important step in solving the problem of providing drinking water to the farms established in the Karshi desert and to the population of the Tallimarjon, Nishon, Karshi, Usmon Yusupov, Bahoriston, Koson, and Mubarak districts.

Taking into account the large reserves of gas fields discovered as a result of geological exploration around the Tallimarjon reservoir, the construction of the Tallimarjon State District Power Plant (GRES), the largest in Central Asia, began in 1981 by decision of the central government. The capacity of the Tallimarjon GRES was planned at 3 million 200 thousand kW, with four power units of 800 thousand kW each. The total projected cost of the Tallimarjon GRES was 500 million soums[6]. The government of Uzbekistan set the task of accelerating the construction of this large facility essential for the national economy. It also emphasized the need to intensify the construction of a new settlement, Nuriston, for the builders to live and work. According to a government resolution, in October 1982 the “Tallimarjon GRES Construction Directorate” was established.

In 1982, seven units were installed at pumping station No. 7 on the Karshi Main Canal. A drainage channel from Sultontog to the Amu Darya was constructed. The Tallimarjon–Nishon water pipeline was built, providing drinking water to the populations of the Tallimarjon and Nishon districts. A plant producing 400 thousand square meters of gypsum products annually and a capsule pumping station at the initial section of the Karshi Main Canal were also constructed.

Farmers of Kashkadarya delivered 621 thousand tons of cotton to the state in 1983. Only the Tallimarjon district of Kashkadarya failed to fulfill the cotton procurement plan. In 1983, the production of fine-fiber cotton varieties in Kashkadarya increased significantly. The plan for selling silk cotton to the state was exceeded.

In 1983, farmers of Kashkadarya supplied 37.7 thousand tons of meat, 227.3 thousand tons of milk, and 120.4 million eggs. In the same year, 18.8 thousand hectares of new irrigated land were put into operation. A total of 358.6 thousand square meters of housing, 2,274 new comfortable apartments, and individual houses were constructed. Housing conditions were improved for more than 29 thousand people[7].



In 1983, a dairy plant in Karshi, a furniture factory in Shahrisabz, and a bakery in Bahoriston were built and commissioned. Construction continued on a branch of the textile combine in Kitab and Shahrisabz, a branch of the Karshi textile factory in Bahoriston, a poultry complex in Kamashi, and the Tallimarjon reservoir. In addition, 1,940 km of collector-drainage networks and 847 km of concrete channels were completed. A total of 780 km of power transmission lines and 320 km of concrete road surfaces were laid[8].

In 1983, the retail turnover of state and cooperative trade in Kashkadarya amounted to 828.9 million soums and increased by 68.3 million soums in comparable prices compared to the previous year. Significant achievements were made in organizing trade services and public catering for the population of Nishon district. In 1983, 37 shops, 8 kiosks, 5 mobile shops, 1 department store, 6 canteens, 10 buffets, 8 gas booths, 5 samsa production units, and 17 public catering establishments operated under the district consumer society to provide services to the population.

Public catering enterprises under the management of the Nishon district consumer society fulfilled their eight-month plan in 1983 by 356.0 thousand soums instead of the planned 330.0 thousand soums, i.e., 107.8 percent. Public catering institutions under ORS-5 workers' supply services fulfilled their eight-month plan by 324.8 thousand soums instead of 288 thousand soums, i.e., 112.8 percent[9]. At the same time, the services provided by the Nishon district consumer society and ORS-5 workers' supply staff in trade and public catering did not fully meet the required standards.

However, the requirements imposed by the central government—fulfilling plans at any cost and “overfulfilling socialist obligations”—led Kashkadarya farmers to implement production targets hastily, through exaggeration and misreporting. Due to limited capacity to meet these demands, in 1983 one district, 19 farms, and 860 brigades in Kashkadarya failed to fulfill the cotton procurement plan, and 25 thousand tons less cotton than planned were delivered to the state.

On February 2, 1984, Normo‘min Turolov was elected First Secretary of the Kashkadarya Regional Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan. During his leadership, the practice of imposing prison sentences intensified.

Most of the state plans for 1984 were not fulfilled in the Kashkadarya region. In that year, the retail turnover of state and cooperative trade in Kashkadarya amounted to 838.6 million soums, increasing by 9.7 million soums compared to 1983, but the annual plan for turnover was not fulfilled. A crisis situation emerged in the region. Only 338.1 thousand tons of cotton were delivered to the state. If on January 1, 1984, there were 1 million 600.8 thousand sheep and goats in Kashkadarya, by January 1, 1985 this number had decreased to 1 million 497.7 thousand[10].

In 1984–1985, the so-called “cotton affair” and “Uzbek affair” intensified in Kashkadarya, and investigations began against farm managers, leading specialists, expedition agents, chief accountants, cashiers, department heads, directors of cotton plants, and employees of cotton procurement points in many parts of the region. In 1984, it was revealed that 94 thousand sheep that did not actually exist had been falsely recorded on farms in Kashkadarya. By January 1985, compared to January 1984, the number of cattle had decreased by 4,400 and the number of sheep and goats by 39 thousand[11].

The situation that emerged in Kashkadarya in 1985 did not allow workers, collective farmers, and managers to effectively perform their duties. Conditions of intolerance toward absenteeism and low-quality production were not created. Working time was not used efficiently, and staff turnover increased significantly. The activities of the regional leadership in the socio-economic sphere were not organized satisfactorily. While some workers labored diligently, others received wages without productive work. Farm managers and local party organizations failed to provide adequate and fair leadership. As a result, it became impossible to fulfill the production plans set by the state.



In 1985, Kashkadarya's industry operated below the required level, and 14 out of 98 industrial enterprises failed to meet their plans[12]. In that year, cotton growers of Kashkadarya delivered 434.4 thousand tons of raw cotton to the state, including 106.3 thousand tons of fine-fiber cotton. Although the region failed to meet the state cotton procurement plan in 1985, it delivered 96.3 thousand tons more cotton than in 1984[13].

In addition, workers of Kashkadarya delivered to the state 159.1 thousand tons of grain, 7.0 thousand tons of potatoes, 136.0 thousand tons of vegetables, 48.2 thousand tons of melons, 38.4 thousand tons of fruits, and 53.6 thousand tons of grapes, as well as 29.7 thousand tons of meat, 51.8 thousand tons of dairy products, and 72.5 million eggs. The state allocated 287.5 million soums to the agro-industrial sector of the region. In 1985, 453 million soums were spent on capital construction. A total of 17.1 thousand hectares of new land were developed, and irrigation was restored on 16.2 thousand hectares.

In conclusion, it can be stated that in the first half of the 1980s significant changes occurred in the industrial and production sectors of the Kashkadarya region. New industrial enterprises, factories, plants, and combines were built and put into operation, which made a positive contribution to the development of industry and production in the region. However, despite these positive changes, it must be acknowledged that the industrial and production sectors of Kashkadarya did not develop evenly. As in the entire Uzbek SSR, many errors and shortcomings were committed in the process of fulfilling "socialist obligations," which later affected the development of industry and production in the region.

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