



**THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN
TO THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
MISSIONS TO THE EUROPEAN UNION AND NATO**

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ECONOMY

Estimated cost of textile techno-park in Tashkent is US\$15m

A preliminary cost of the project on construction of educational-research textile techno-park in Tashkent estimated at US\$15 million, director of Korea Institute of Textile Technology Pak Yong Hwang said on 16 December.

He said that the resources will be used to construction and assembly works, purchase and installation of equipment, as well as training of personnel.

It is expected that the project will be implemented till the end of 2017. Currently, the Uzbek and Korea sides work over the feasibility study. It is expected that construction-assembly works will be started in March 2016.

The Korean side developed design of high technological three and five floor administration building with office premises, as well as two floor building with basement for experimental production with use of energy saving technologies, equipped with solar batteries. Total area of the park will be over 10,000 square meters.

According to the plan, the educational classes, conference halls, exhibition premises, labs, offices and other objects will be located on the third floor with total area of 4,000 square meters. Experimental-scientific lab at the area of over 1,500 square meters will be located in the second floor, which will be equipped with weaving, knitting, dyeing and finishing, sewing equipment.

It is planned to create hothouse on the roofs of the 5-storey building and a garden with a grassy surface. The building will be constructed with use of modern high-tech, construction and decoration designs. Attached to the building area will be covered with decorative high-strength plates, decorated with green areas and fountains.

Uzbekistan expects that the volume of exports of textile and ready garments will grow by 5% year-on-year in 2015.

According to preliminary data of Uzbekyengilsanoat, the volume of exports of textile and ready garments will grow by 5% year-on-year in 2015 and exceed US\$1 billion.

Uzbekyengilsanoat (Uzbek Light Industry) recalled that volume of exports of textile and ready garments was about US\$8 million in 1994.

The industry increased exports of semi-finished products and other textile products by 10% and textile products with high added value - 19%.

This year, light industry enterprises started to export new products, including modal and mixed yarn, new types of finished garment products.

Currently, major importers of light industry products of Uzbekistan are China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkey, a number of states of the European Union. Overall, the enterprises in the industry are exported to almost 45 countries.

(Source: UzDaily.com)

INVESTMENTS

“O‘zbekiston Temir Yo‘llari”: Iron Agreements

O‘zbekiston Temir Yo‘llari (Uzbekistan Railways) company ranked among the noticeable players at the recent International Investment Forum in Tashkent. During the event, the company signed memorandums of understanding and contracts for almost \$53 million.

Several projects on the basis of the Tashkent Mechanical Plant promise to become the most interesting areas of cooperation with foreign investors. It is planned to implement 38 projects in four areas, including 14 projects for the production of freight and passenger cars, cold stores and containers, component parts. Most importantly, the production facilities will be provided with tax and customs privileges by January 1, 2018.

Powered by the memorandums, the plant will implement investment projects on the establishment of production of electric motors with asynchronous traction jointly with the French company of Alstom, as well as on the upgrade, rehabilitation and production of truck cranes and mechanisms together with Teichmann Group.

Working groups on the implementation of investment projects have been already shaped to develop design estimates, the reconstruct buildings and structures, connect them to engineering and transport communications, and prepare documents for signing agreements on the establishment of joint ventures in 2016.

It is expected that the new Alstom production will specialize in the production of engines for different types of rolling stock, including electric and diesel locomotives, suburban and diesel trains. They will use a technology that has not yet been introduced to the CIS markets. It will reduce the cost of service, simplify the production cycle and increase the energy efficiency of rolling stock.

The cooperation with the German Teichmann Group is regarded as highly important in the context of the growing transit capacity of Uzbek Railways owing to the construction of a new transport corridor from China to Europe via Kamchik pass. Experts note that container traffic will significantly increase with the commissioning of the Angren-Pop road, and domestic logistics centers need to get ready for that and upgrade all of its special equipment.

Two new Talgo high-speed trains will arrive in Uzbekistan in the near future. The contract on their purchase was signed at the forum.

“Unlike the previous trains, the new ones will have two passenger cars more. The new train of the two locomotives, 10 passenger cars and a dining car will carry 287 passengers. The expansion of railway electrification and increase of the number of high-speed trains will allow arranging passenger transportation at a high level not only in Tashkent, Samarkand and Karshi, but also in other regions,” said the Head of Uzbekistan Railways High-Speed Traffic and Operation Department, Olim Kurbonov.

During the forum, Uzbekistan also signed a memorandum of understanding with China’s XCMG for the purchase of 44.4% stake of the Urgench Excavator Plant. As of today, Uzbekistan Railways specialists have established information exchange with Chinese investors. (Source: «Uzbekistan Today» newspaper)

SPORT

Bektemir Melikuziev named best Asian boxer of 2015

The Asian Boxing Confederation named Bektemir Melikuziev of Uzbekistan as the Best Asian Elite Man Boxer of the Year.

Bektemir Melikuziev was born in 1996 and will be turning to 20 only next year but his performance delivered for him this important title. Following his gold medal in the 2014 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships and in the Nanjing 2014 Youth Olympic Games he joined to the elite age group.

The 19-year-old Uzbek boxer won the gold medal at the Strandja Memorial Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria which was his first main international elite tournament and a strong competition. Melikuziev eliminated Kazakhstan’s AIBA World Champion Zhanibek Alimkhanuly in the quarter-final of the ASBC Asian Confederation Boxing Championships in Bangkok and achieved finally the top of the podium in Thailand.

The Uzbek teenager won four fights at the Doha 2015 AIBA World Boxing Championships and secured a valuable silver medal in the most important event of the year. Melikuziev has already qualified to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games where he is among the gold medal favourites of the Middleweight class (75 kg).

At the same time, the Best Asian Coach of the year went to Rustam Saidov of Uzbekistan. Saidov was gold medallist at the 1999 Asian Boxing Championships in Tashkent

and he was bronze medallist at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games as a boxer of the Super Heavyweight class (+91 kg).

The 37-year-old former boxer is now an experienced coach in Uzbekistan who showed his skills are world class in this area as well. Uzbekistan delivered sensational year in 2015, their national team won gold medals in the most important events during the preparation to the major goals.

Rustam Saidov's team continued the excellent winning series at the ASBC Asian Confederation Boxing Championships in Bangkok achieving nine medals including two gold. The Uzbek team took record number of six medals at the Doha 2015 AIBA World Boxing Championships which was the success also of their coaching squad.

(Source: UzDaily.com)

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