

Human capital is the main priority of social and economic modernisation in Kazakhstan

Social sphere is an indicator of stability in a state. A state which pays much attention to it is provider of balanced and humane policy. The present Address of the President of Kazakhstan entitled “Social and Economic Modernisation is a Main Vector of Development in Kazakhstan” is a document confirming the core idea of the need to take care of ordinary people during post-crisis period. Content of the Address clearly defines the area of development for 2012. Working on such social problems as qualitative growth of human capital, providing employment opportunities to working-age population, care for the health of the nation and many others are evidences of targeted policy of the state in this sphere.

Implementation of the programme for expedited industrial and innovation development depends on human recourses. At first, it is related to the fact that a new type of economic growth exists in the world policy. It is based on using knowledge and innovations as the most important recourses of moving forward. To enter the world market Kazakhstan should respond to indicators of its demands. This process will be implemented more successfully if we use its results. Orientation on the need to move to the economy of knowledge will allow speeding up the process of economic modernisation based on new industrial technologies.

Statistical indexes of most countries demonstrate a positive effect of investments to education and science. Thus, in general the national wealth of various countries up to 5% consists of natural recourses, and 18% of productive capacity. Knowledge and ability to use it plays the crucial role (77%). Recognising this, the state pays much attention to education of professionals affecting competitiveness of Kazakhstan during post-crisis period. Education and science have to provide the youth with knowledge and skill to use it in the process of social adaptation and further professional development.

This explains why in 2012 the state allocates 1.2 trillion tenge to the educational system which modernisation can be implemented only if modern methodologies and technologies are included into the educational process, pedagogical staff is highly qualified and independent system of qualification exists. At the same time, new condition for education of working young people by means of mechanisms of partnership between private and governmental sectors, subsidisation of travel and living allowances for youth from rural areas and low-income families, improvement of dormitories should be established. These effective mechanisms will allow improving professional in industrial sphere, agriculture and so on.

Transition to a new system of management of professional and technical education has started. The Government established the Kasip Kor Holding. Innovative methods to prepare specialists on the basis of experience of such countries as Norway and Singapore will be implemented there.

The Address notes an important role of education of scientific staff which influences active introduction of innovative discoveries into production. It is not an occasion that the Address focuses on the need to create the conditions for pedagogues of secondary school and institutions of higher education which affect qualification characteristics of future professionals. Solvation of this practical problem will allow associating human recourses with effective employment of people, permanent demand for workers with appropriate salary.

Youth is a mobile part of a society which actively absorbs innovations in the sphere of education and technology. At the same time, youth is the most vulnerable social group which is exposed to risks. It is connected with limited years of service and lack of work experience. Thus, for example, during the crisis of the 1990s when market institutes just emerged and financial

structures started functioning in the country unemployment among young people increased sharply. In 1999 unemployment reached 3.9% of the working population, including 28.9% of young people.

Taking into account these figures in 2001 the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan adopted a law “On Employment of Population” in which youth was one of targeting groups. Implementation of this law resulted in declining of the level of unemployment from 19.1% to 12.1% in 2006 and to 7.4 in 2008. In the period of economic crisis the Government undertook all expenditures related to support of young workers.

In 2011 the level of unemployment among youth in the world reached its historical maximum. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO) it was 13% of the working population. In Kazakhstan it was 0.6% [2]. The rate is the evidence of active position of our state in the sphere of employment of young people. Focus of young generation both solves existing social problems and contributes to accumulation of professionals and new ideas in labour market.

Qualification of people depends on their education which contributes to technological development. Education market should be full of professionals and provide them with the opportunities to realise their potential. Therefore, investments to education and science support improvement of technological processes.

Under the conditions of expedited industrial and innovation development in the country, establishment of new forms of interaction between industry and science is a core element of solving those tasks of education and science. The need is explained by the fact that there was a low level of activity of companies working in the sphere of technological innovations during post-crisis 2006-2007.

The total cost of technological innovations in 2009 was 61050.92 million tenge which was less than in 2007-2008. The largest share in innovative projects consisted of financial assets of companies (85.3%), foreign investments – 8.3% and republican budget – 4.9%. The main types of activities of those companies were introduction of new technologies, equipment and materials - 54%, scientific and publishing activity – 11%, engineering – 5.3%, participation in scientific programmes – 2.9%.

Most industrial facilities having implemented technological innovations operated in Almaty (32.5%), Karagandy region (15.8%), Zhambyl region (6.6%) and Aktobe region (5.7%) [3]. Development of mechanism of using scientific achievements will help to improve labour productivity which will contribute to growth of competitiveness of economy.

The need for professionals will be the main criteria in this process. This is the core element of implementation of new technologies. Therefore, human resources have to become a central element in implemented policy of social modernisation during post-crisis development.

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A.M. Auanasova,

Chief Researcher,

Department of History and Industrial and Innovative Development and Ethnic and Social Processes,

Institute of History of State,

Committee on Science, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan