

Ensuring Women's Social Rights is a Factor in Poverty Reduction

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ABSTRACT

The article analyzes the need to improve guarantees of women's rights to education, labor and social protection as a factor in reducing poverty, simplifying the procedure for granting benefits to women, as well as the relevance of introducing a procedure for assessing leaders on women's issues.

KEYWORDS: *social rights of women, the right to education, the right to work, social protection, legal guarantees, gender equality, poverty, civil society institutions, public control, efficiency, assessment, transparency.*

Introduction

Ensuring the rights and interests of women, improving working and living conditions, protecting of motherhood and childhood are the priorities of state policy in our country. Today, 49% of the country's population are women, and about 64% of them comprises under 30 years old. The issue of women, who make up almost half of the population, is as current as ever.

In order to ensure the employment of women, show in practice the full realization of their aspirations and abilities, assist thoroughly to women who are in need of social protection and who are in difficult social situations, improve their living conditions and guide to various skills, "Women's Book", "Youth Book", "Iron Book " has been introduced and their problems are being solved. In particular, about 585,000 women were employed and more than 36,000 women were trained by profession in 2020. 433,000 women were included in the "Women's Book" on the basis of 9 criteria, and an electronic database was formed properly.

Today, about 1,400 women hold leadership positions at the national and regional levels, and more than 43,000 at district and city levels. Furthermore, out of 150 deputies who were elected to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan, 48 or 32% are women. Also, in the Senate, the figure was about 25 percent. Because of those results, the parliament of Uzbekistan has risen to 37th place among 190 national parliaments in the world in terms of the number of women deputies.

Methods and materials

The Institute for Gender Equality has been effectively introduced to ensure equal rights and opportunities for women and men in all areas. In order to protect them from various pressures and violence, a protection order has been put into practice and strengthened the guarantees of protection their rights' and interests'. Also, having been recognized the existence of poverty among certain layers of the population, reforms are being implemented to reduce it in recent years. In particular, since 2017, the correspondence departments in most universities have been established in various specialties. This form of education allows young women to pursue higher education without interfering with child care and other family responsibilities. The increase of women in higher education plays an important role in their employment. Ensuring the employment of women is an important factor of reducing their poverty.

While 4-5 million, namely 12-15% of the country's population lives in poverty that is largely due to women. This means that their daily income does not exceed 10-13 thousand soums. The majority of the poor are women. As per the research in this field, a low-income family ordinarily consists of 7 people, the average age of the parents is over 50 years and they did not study higher education. In particular, 11% of couples in low-income families are unemployed, while in 93% of cases they have no higher education degree and only 24% have secondary education degree. In order to overcome current problems, measures are being taken to improve the guarantees of women's right to education.

Results and discussion

20 normative legal acts on the protection of women's rights and interests, which includes 2 laws, 6 presidential decrees and resolutions, more than 15 normative legal acts has been adopted in our country.

June 23, 2020 – in accordance with the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the procedure for women to enter higher education institutions on the basis of additional grants was approved. In the 2020/2021 academic year, an additional 4%, namely 940 quotas of the state grants for higher educational institutions for women were allocated and in the 2021/2022 academic year, additional 2,000 quotas were allocated to the state grant-based admission rate for women.

Also, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan № DP-5020 of March 5, 2021, needy girls who have lost their parents or one of them, single women without a breadwinner and who were enrolled to public higher education institutions from the 2021/2022 academic year on a basic payment-contract are taught at the expense of local public authorities and state higher education institutions. In this case, tuition fees are paid annually by khokimiyats for 100 women at the expense of additional sources of the local budget, by financially stable state higher education institutions at the expense of extra-budgetary funds of state higher education institutions for up to 50 women.

Ensuring women's social rights is a key factor ranging from poverty reduction, health, education to building a healthy society which is directed into supporting social protection and well-being of them. The most important means of poverty reduction is the guarantee of the right to education and the right to work. The creation of equal opportunities for men and women in education, career choice, promotion, equal protection of their rights also play an important role in strengthening the socio-political activity of women.

Also, as per the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan № DP-5020 of March 5, 2021, in order to increase the level of housing for women, in 2021 to provide women who are included in the "Women's Book", "Youth Book" and "Iron Book" with housing, for the payment of down payments on mortgage loans and the purchase of social housing - 10 billion soums, for provision with housing woman who has lost his father or who are being looked after by a single mother and who are in need of housing –5 billion soums is allocated.

Conclusion

In short, ensuring the social rights of women, giving privileges by state, creating adequate conditions for their education play an important role in strengthening the position of women in social life and reducing their poverty.

Based on the aforementioned analysis, we put forward the following proposals to ensure the social rights of women:

First, simplifying the procedures of the inclusion of women in the "Women's Book", "Youth Book" and "Iron Book" with the involvement of civil society institutions in order to ensure openness and

transparency of this process;

secondly, monitoring the evaluation of the effectiveness of the activities of deputy heads of public administration on women's issues in the field;

third, involving the public control in order to ensure transparency in the allocation of subsidies for the purchase of housing and pay them the down payment on mortgage loans to provide women with housing from local budgets.

fourth, putting regularly into practice reports about measures which are being taken to ensure the social rights of women regularly by the competent authority, in particular, giving recommendation letters to women for participating in the competition and it is advisable to make the information about the payment of tuition fees within the framework of admission indicators based on state grants publicly available.