
THE ROLE OF EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR AGENCIES IN THE REGULATION OF MIGRATION IN UZBEKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

As a result of comprehensive reforms implemented in Uzbekistan within the framework of the Action Strategy and the Concept of Administrative Reforms, the powers of public administration and government have been reconsidered. In particular, its powers in regulating migration have been further expanded to address the problems in this area. This article provides a legal analysis of the activities and powers of the system of labor bodies in the legal regulation of migration, including the Ministry of Employment and Labor, the Agency for External Labor Migration, and offers recommendations for improving the powers of some of these bodies.

KEYWORDS: *Population Migration, Migration Regulation, Employment And Labor Relations Bodies, Powers, Labor Migrant, Foreign Specialists, Social And Legal Protection.*

INTRODUCTION

Most of the emigrants are from CIS countries. For example, according to the results of the monitoring of the socio-economic situation in the Russian Federation conducted by experts of the Russian Academy of National Economy and Civil Service under the President of the Russian Federation (hereinafter - the RF), the majority of foreigners entering the Russian Federation are citizens of CIS countries. In particular, as of August 1, 2019, 8.9 million people came to Russia from the CIS countries. (83% of all foreign nationals, 97% of labor migrants). Of these, 2.2 million citizens of Uzbekistan, or 25% (an increase of 1% compared to 2018). It was observed that labor migration increased mainly due to three countries - Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan [4, 40-41].

In the research of economists, the main factors are the absence of visa restrictions, the presence of historical ties, and knowledge of the language and the location of the connection of countries [5, 116].

These indicators show the relevance of the study of the institutional framework for ensuring safe, orderly and legal labor migration in the world. Indeed, all states have the right to set their own policies in managing labor migration. International labor norms and other international instruments should play an important role as guiding principles in ensuring the coherence, effectiveness and fairness of this policy [6].

The activities of labor bodies play an important role in the management and legal regulation of labor migration. Because the main part of this industry is labor migration. In turn, it is natural that the labor authorities are directly involved in protecting the rights and legitimate interests of migrant workers.

THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

It is known that the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan is

responsible for regulating labor migration in the country and pursuing a unified state policy in this regard. In the regulation of labor migration, the Ministry works in the following areas:

- First:-** Analyzes the processes of labor migration, identifies the causes and factors of external labor migration;
- Secondly:-** Develops proposals to improve the regulatory framework in the field of external labor migration, assists in the employment of citizens returning from labor migration;
- Third:-** Participates in the development of proposals for the development and improvement of effective mechanisms for cooperation in the field of labor and employment with international organizations and foreign countries in establishing and strengthening international cooperation in the field of labor migration;
- Fourthly:-** In accordance with the established procedure, cooperate with the International Labor Organization and other international organizations on labor and employment issues and take appropriate measures in the interests of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- Fifth:-** Prepares materials explaining the essence of the legislation in the field of labor, employment, labor protection and labor migration on the issues of conducting a broad awareness-raising campaign among the population and employers on labor rights and labor protection, and among the population, including the media. distributes through tools and the Internet;
- Sixth:-** On issues of legal and social protection of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan in employment abroad, their repatriation, employment abroad, as well as the issuance of permits for foreign labor and certificates for the right to work in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan cooperates with the competent authorities of foreign countries on issues of employment of citizens abroad and the regulation of their labor rights;
- Seventh:-** Participates in the development and implementation of international cooperation projects in the field of labor migration.

It should be noted that the Ministry, at the expense of the Fund for Support and Protection of the Rights and Interests of Citizens Working Abroad, was subjected to pressure, forced and abused labor, violated labor and other rights, was in a difficult financial situation. Provides legal and social protection to citizens who do not have identity documents, no means of subsistence, as well as facilitates their return to the Republic of Uzbekistan and conducts initial coordination with candidates for employment abroad [7].

As we have seen, the Ministry, along with the protection of the rights and legitimate interests of citizens of Uzbekistan involved in labor migration, ensures the legality of their labor activity, i.e. the organization of their work.

In this case, the Agency for External Labor Migration is the competent body of the Ministry for the regulation of labor migration of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan and their organized employment abroad. In turn, the Agency carries out its activities on employment of citizens of the republic outside the country, based on international legal norms and rules, taking into account the national interests of the republic and the interests of foreign citizens with the status of legal entities in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

For example, on December 13, 2012, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Employment and Labor of the Republic of Korea signed a Memorandum of Understanding on sending workers to the Republic of Korea under the

employment permit system. According to it, a system of employment permits has been introduced for citizens of Uzbekistan who have passed special tests by studying the language before going to work in the Republic of Korea. This, in turn, will help our citizens to adapt more quickly and effectively in a foreign country.

- First:-** To assist citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan in exercising their rights to work abroad through effective selection, training, adaptation and effective management and control of employment abroad;
- Secondly:-** A comprehensive analysis of external labor migration, on this basis to develop proposals to improve the regulatory framework, assistance in employment of citizens returning from labor migration;
- Third:-** Participation in the development and implementation of international cooperation projects in the field of labor migration, cooperation with the competent authorities of foreign countries on the regulation of employment of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan abroad and ensuring their labor rights;
- Fourthly:-** To perform the functions of the working body of the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan on employment of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan abroad and control over their activities, accreditation of legal entities engaged in certification of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan going abroad for employment;
- Fifthly:-** Issuance of permits to legal entities to attract foreign labor and certificates entitling foreign citizens to work in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as keeping records of foreign citizens working in the Republic of Uzbekistan [8].

According to the External Migration Agency, in 2019, 13,458 citizens were employed abroad, of which 10,247 were employed through the agency. However, we can see that this figure has slightly decreased in the situation associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, i.e. in 2020, 10,272 citizens were employed abroad, of which 9,558 were employed through civil agencies. The majority of citizens employed abroad are in the Russian Federation, with 7,876 jobs. In the two-year data we can see that the contribution of the agency in the employment of citizens in foreign countries is not less than 90 percent.

Reintegration of persons returning from labor migration is one of the important activities of the Foreign Labor Agency. In particular, training of business skills and foreign languages in order to ensure the employment or employment of persons returning from labor migration, registered as unemployed by the territorial labor authorities; expenditures related to vocational training, retraining and advanced training are carried out at the expense of the State Fund for Employment Promotion in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated August 11, 2020 No PD-4804.

In the reintegration of persons returning from labor migration, the Foreign Labor Agency provides subsidies to organizations that employ more than the minimum number of people in need, to support entrepreneurial initiatives of persons from labor migration and for similar purposes [10].

In addition, through the information system “Single Register of Social Protection”, those who are recognized as low-income family members and return to work temporarily abroad are provided with a subsidy of up to 10 times the basic calculation to cover the following costs at the expense of the State Fund for Employment. In particular, payment of rent for buildings and structures leased during the first three months from the date of registration as an individual entrepreneur or state registration of small enterprises and micro-firms; basics of entrepreneurship and financial literacy; making payments under the insurance policy provided as collateral for the loan. According to the

External Migration Agency, 60,122 of our labor migrants were assisted abroad in 2019, compared to 141,302 in 2020 [11].

CONCLUSION

Based on the above, ensuring the protection of the rights and interests of citizens traveling abroad to work in our country, providing them with the necessary legal, social, information and advisory assistance and financial support will remain a priority of Uzbekistan's medium-term state migration policy. The role of employment and labor relations bodies in their implementation is invaluable.

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