Problems of Development of Tourism Infrastructure in The Republic Of Uzbekistan After Pandemid

Rakhimov Zafar Odilovich¹
Ismailov Najmiddin ²

Email: Zafar_r80@mail.ru, Najmiddin2004@rambler.ru

Received 10th February 2021, Accepted 21th February 2021, Online 27th March 2021

¹Samarkand Institute of Economics and Service Associate Professor
²Senior Lecturer, Samarkand State Institute of Architecture and Construction.

ABSTRACT: The article states that in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is causing great damage to the countries and peoples of the world, the Uzbek government and its leadership are actively pursuing statistical measures to develop the tourism industry. At the same time, the issues of developing tourism infrastructure after the pandemic were raised.

Keywords: pandemic, tourism, tourism infrastructure, domestic tourism, tourist flow, tourism services, hotel, national economy.

Introduction

To date, the COVID-19 pandemic has hit the tourism industry hardest. UNWTO estimates that international tourism could be reduced by 30% worldwide. At the same time, UNWTO reminded that in the past crisis, the tourism industry has made a significant contribution to mitigating the crisis. It is obvious that an important factor in mitigating the current economic crisis is to pursue a coordinated policy in the field of tourism.

The sharp increase in quarantine measures in the Republic of Uzbekistan during the pandemic has had a negative impact on the tourism industry, as in other countries around the world.

The decline in the flow of tourists to Uzbekistan and its complete cessation have led to a reduction in exports of tourism services. The suspension of flights from the second half of March 2020 has led to a reduction in the flow of foreign tourists to our country, and the closure of all border checkpoints from
April 1 has led to a complete cessation of the flow of tourists. As a result, the number of tourists visiting Uzbekistan in the first half of 2020 amounted to 1.21 million, which is 2.5 times lower than the same period in 2019 (3.03 million). In turn, the volume of exports of tourism services amounted to 203.8 mln. USD, which is 2.5 times lower than in the same period of 2019 (590.5 mln.).

The cessation of the influx of tourists to Uzbekistan has led to a sharp decline in the activity of the tourism industry. In particular, in the first half of 2020, all the requirements of tourists were canceled, and in the second half of the year, almost half of the proposals were canceled. Tour operators and accommodation services suffered from 100 million to 1 billion soums. As a result of the damage, the entrepreneurs stopped their activities. In particular, 63% of accommodation services and more than 80% of tour operators were forced to suspend their operations, as well as reduce the number of employees.

A number of measures have been taken to mitigate the negative effects of the coronavirus pandemic in the industry and to support businesses in the field of tourism. Including:

- the tax burden on entrepreneurs has been reduced;
- Deferred loan repayments;
- Supporting the abolition of financial and economic audits, the abolition of tax arrears.

If we take into account the strong negative impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the tourism industry compared to other sectors of the economy, its consequences will have a long-term impact.

Material and methods.

In the study, the issues of post-pandemic development of the state were covered on the basis of systematic, logical, functional analysis, comparative, statistical analysis methods.

The following analytical data confirms this: the number of tourists visiting the country by the end of 2020 will reach 2.8 million, 2.4 times more than in 2019 (6.7 million people), exports amounted to 466.3 million. It is expected to be 2.8 times lower than in 2019 ($1.301 million). In turn, according to some analytical forecasts, in 2021 it is predicted that the negative indicators will remain the same as in 2019.

The above negatives require strategic planning in the field of tourism. During the pandemic, the government has developed a number of measures to support the tourism industry. In particular, according to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On urgent measures to support the tourism sector to reduce the negative impact of the coronavirus pandemic" dated May 28, 2020, PF-6002 Funds from the Anti-Crisis Fund under the Ministry of Finance will not be withdrawn from the Fund if they are not used during the reporting year, and will continue to be used to develop tourism in the future.

Results.

In accordance with the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 19, 2020 "On additional measures for the development of tourism in strict compliance with the requirements of the enhanced sanitary-epidemiological safety regime."

Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 433 of July 10, 2020 "On measures to create favorable conditions for the restoration and development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan."

It should be noted that, in conjunction with the adopted legal documents, it is advisable to carry out a number of activities to bring the industry to the level of crisis and ensure sustainable development. In particular:
a) to continue the development of tourism and related infrastructure, one of the main conditions for sustainable tourism is the establishment of tourism zones and clusters, reorganization of their activities (management, planning, design of tourism zones, attraction of investments).

b) one of the main directions of sustainable and urgent development of tourism in the context of a pandemic should be the development of new marketing strategies, in which safe travel through Uzbekistan should be one of the key elements;

c) diversification of tourist services on the basis of specialization of regional housing production, taking into account the tourism potential of the regions;

d) increase the number of state and non-state educational institutions training personnel in the field of tourism, the implementation of international educational standards and the involvement of international experts in the field of tourism, in order to ensure a shortage of personnel in the field of tourism and their competitiveness in the world market. required.

Discussion.

In his Address to the Oliy Majlis of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev dated December 29, 2020, he said, “We will continue consistent reforms in the development of tourism in 2021. In particular, special attention will be paid to the development of pilgrimage tourism and domestic tourism. In addition, 1 trillion soums will be allocated from the budget for the improvement of land, water and road infrastructure around tourism facilities.

If we consider the development of tourism infrastructure in Uzbekistan only in the case of Samarkand region and the city, the changes in this area will be enough to draw the appropriate conclusions. Samarkand city and region is one of the regions with the largest tourist potential in the country. Now the task of creating the infrastructure necessary for the development of tourism is becoming a priority. This need is also related to the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers on November 24, 2018 "On additional measures to accelerate the development of the hotel business in the Republic of Uzbekistan." In order to ensure the implementation of this decision, the decision of the governor on November 29, 2018 was announced. This document sets out a number of tasks for the development of this sector in our region.

Very large organizational measures are being taken to fulfill this important task. In this regard, the Samarkand regional government has launched the construction and reconstruction of the world's fastest-growing modern hotel, which can be managed in an integrated system under the internationally recognized brand "Best Western".

The company currently has 34 world-class hotels in Germany, Austria, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic. Plaza Hotelgroup GmbH was founded in 2002. The company, which supplies products for the construction of modern hotels around the world under the brand "Best Western", has great potential and opportunities in Europe.

The German company plans to invest $ 100 million in Uzbekistan in the hotel industry. It is planned to build 8 to 4 star hotels in 3-5 years and put them into operation. The arrival of the Best Western brand in Uzbekistan will expand the opportunities for the development of tourism in our country, the construction of modern hotels and a high level of service to tourists.

Another large German company, RIMC Hotels and Resorts, which has extensive international experience in the field of hotels and their management, is also interested in Samarkand and is taking appropriate organizational measures to build modern hotels.
In addition to Germany, the company currently has hotels in Austria, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, China and many other countries. The peculiarity of the company is that in each area there is a hotel in the style of the place. Special attention is paid to the laws of the region, the mentality of the people, the traditions of the nation.

**Conclusion.**

The rapid development of the country's economy has always been a topical issue. Achieving such results involves the implementation of complex tasks. In particular, the rapid development of domestic and foreign tourism in the country, the development of an industrial complex that has a significant impact on the development of the national economy, the development of small and medium-sized businesses in agriculture, more agricultural exports. This year's coronavirus pandemic is having a negative impact on the sustainable development of the national economy. A positive solution to this problem is of both economic and social significance.

**Acknowledgement.**

Efforts are being made to ensure the availability of existing hotels and to establish an effective booking system, to promote the services provided and to train hotel staff in line with these measures. These measures also require the development of marketing to further develop the activities of hotels.

**References:**