

**LABOR PROTECTION PROBLEMS IN LIGHT INDUSTRY ENTERPRISES AND METHODS OF ELIMINATING THEM****Dehqonov Oyatillo Mansurbek o'g'li**

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e-mail: [oyatillodekhanov@gmail.com](mailto:oyatillodekhanov@gmail.com)**Abstract**

This article analyzes the current state of the occupational safety system in light industry enterprises of Uzbekistan, the main problems in this field, and effective methods for their elimination. The study examines factors negatively affecting occupational safety in light industry enterprises, including the technical obsolescence of production equipment, insufficient ventilation systems, lack of knowledge and skills of employees in occupational safety, low culture of using personal protective equipment, and incomplete compliance with ergonomic requirements. Based on statistical data related to occupational safety in Uzbekistan, the number of industrial accidents and their causes were analyzed. According to the results of the study, it is substantiated that improving occupational safety in light industry enterprises requires the introduction of modern technologies, the organization of regular safety training sessions, the formation of a management system based on international standards, and the use of digital monitoring tools. The proposals developed in the article contribute to creating safe working conditions in light industry enterprises, reducing occupational diseases and accidents, as well as increasing the production efficiency of enterprises.

**Keywords:** occupational safety, light industry, labor safety, accidents, occupational diseases, technical safety, sanitation and hygiene, production efficiency, safety monitoring.

**Introduction**

In the context of globalization, light industry is considered one of the most important and rapidly developing sectors of the economy. This sector plays a significant role in ensuring economic growth, increasing export potential, creating new jobs, and supporting employment of the population. In Uzbekistan as well, light industry, particularly the textile and garment industry, is being consistently developed as one of the priority sectors of the economy. In recent years, large-scale reforms have been implemented in this field aimed at modernizing production capacities, expanding export volumes, and entering international markets.

However, alongside the rapid development of light industry enterprises, issues related to occupational safety and industrial safety have also become increasingly important. This is due to the complexity of production processes in this sector, the extensive use of mechanical equipment, exposure to dust, high temperatures, noise, and chemical substances, as well as prolonged static working conditions, all of which may negatively affect workers' health. Statistical data from the labor market of Uzbekistan also confirms the relevance of this issue. The fact that the number of industrial accidents occurring in production enterprises has remained relatively stable in recent years indicates the need for further improvement of the occupational safety system. In particular, in light industry enterprises, the continuation of technical safety violations non-compliance with safety rules, insufficient development of a safety culture regarding the use of protective equipment, and an inadequate level of employee preparedness in occupational safety are among the main causes of this problem. International experience shows that effective occupational safety management systems not only ensure the safety of employees in enterprises but also contribute to increasing production efficiency, improving product quality, and supporting the sustainable development of enterprises. Therefore, in developed countries, digital monitoring

systems, automated control tools, and international standards are widely used in ensuring occupational safety. The aim of this article is to identify existing problems in the field of occupational safety in light industry enterprises of Uzbekistan, analyze the factors of their occurrence, and develop effective methods for their elimination. The research tasks include studying the main risk factors in light industry enterprises, conducting a statistical analysis of the current state of occupational safety, and developing practical recommendations. The results of the study contribute to improving the occupational safety system in light industry enterprises, reducing the number of industrial accidents, and creating safe working conditions.

### **Main part**

#### Current state of occupational safety in light industry enterprises of Uzbekistan

Light industry is considered one of the strategic sectors of the economy of Uzbekistan and plays an important role in increasing export potential, ensuring employment, and diversifying industrial production. In particular, textile and garment enterprises account for a significant share of the country's industrial output. In recent years, the establishment of new enterprises, the introduction of modern technologies, and the increase in production volumes have been observed in this sector. However, the growth of production rates has also increased the demand for occupational safety requirements.

Although a number of regulatory and legal documents have been adopted in the country to ensure occupational safety, in practice, full compliance with these requirements is not observed in some enterprises. In particular, in certain light industry enterprises, the level of compliance with safety rules is low, technical equipment is not regularly maintained, and safe working conditions for employees are not fully ensured.

According to statistical data, the share of light industry enterprises in industrial accidents in Uzbekistan remains significant. This indicates the need to further improve the mechanisms for organizing occupational safety in this sector.

#### Main occupational safety problems in light industry enterprises

A number of factors negatively affecting occupational safety exist in light industry enterprises. First, the technical obsolescence of production equipment is one of the most pressing problems. In many enterprises, sewing machines, weaving looms, and pressing equipment that have been used for many years do not fully meet safety requirements. Second, unsatisfactory sanitary and hygienic conditions in production workshops are observed. In textile enterprises, the spread of cotton dust, artificial fiber particles, and dye chemicals in the air negatively affects employees' respiratory systems. As a result, bronchitis, allergic diseases, and chronic respiratory illnesses may occur. Third, there are problems related to ventilation and microclimate. High temperature, humidity, and insufficient air circulation in workshops lead to rapid fatigue of workers, decreased productivity, and worsening health conditions. Fourth, the level of occupational safety knowledge among employees is in some cases insufficient. Safety training sessions are often conducted superficially, and insufficient attention is paid to developing practical skills, which limits employees' ability to act correctly in emergency situations. Fifth, weak compliance with the use of personal protective equipment is also a serious issue. Failure to use respirators, protective gloves, safety glasses, and special clothing poses a risk to workers' health.

#### Causes of occupational safety problems

These problems arise due to several factors.

First of all, in some enterprises, insufficient allocation of financial resources for occupational safety is observed. Management often prioritizes increasing production volume, while investments in safety measures are considered secondary. In addition, ineffective internal control systems also worsen the situation. If workplace monitoring is weak, potential hazards are not identified in time. Furthermore, the lack of safety culture among employees is another important reason. In some cases, workers neglect safety rules in order to speed up production processes.

Effective methods for eliminating the problems

Methods for improving the occupational safety system in light industry enterprises

To improve the occupational safety system in light industry enterprises, a number of practical measures should be implemented.

First, it is necessary to modernize production equipment. Modern automated equipment not only increases production efficiency but also ensures the safety of employees.

Second, regular occupational safety training sessions should be organized in enterprises. Employees should acquire the ability to act correctly in emergency situations through practical training in addition to theoretical knowledge. Third, it is required to introduce effective ventilation systems in production workshops, install air purification filters, and continuously monitor microclimatic indicators. Fourth, it is advisable to implement international occupational safety standards in enterprises. In particular, the implementation of the ISO 45001 standard contributes to improving the safety management system. Fifth, the use of digital monitoring systems is of great importance. Sensor-based monitoring tools make it possible to track the technical condition of equipment in real time and activate automatic warning systems in case of danger.

## Conclusion

The results of the conducted research show that the effective organization of occupational safety in light industry enterprises of Uzbekistan is important not only for protecting the life and health of employees but also for ensuring economic efficiency and sustainable development of enterprises. In a situation where the share of the light industry sector in the national economy is increasing, strict compliance with safety requirements in production processes remains one of the most important issues. The analysis identified the main problems related to occupational safety in light industry enterprises, such as the technical obsolescence of production equipment, incomplete compliance with sanitary and hygienic requirements, insufficient ventilation systems, low level of employees' knowledge and skills in occupational safety, and weak discipline in the use of personal protective equipment. These factors lead to industrial accidents, occupational diseases, and reduced labor productivity. It was also found that insufficient financial resources, weak internal control mechanisms, lack of safety culture, and shortage of qualified specialists are important factors contributing to these problems. To eliminate these issues, it is necessary to modernize production equipment, introduce modern digital monitoring systems, continuously improve employee qualifications, improve sanitary and hygienic conditions, and implement international occupational safety standards in practice. In particular, improving the occupational safety management system based on international standards such as ISO 45001 will help create a safe working environment in enterprises.

In conclusion, the consistent implementation of comprehensive measures aimed at improving occupational safety in light industry enterprises is an essential condition for reducing production risks, protecting workers' health, increasing the competitiveness of enterprises, and

ensuring the sustainable development of Uzbekistan's light industry. Therefore, the development of the occupational safety system should be carried out through the effective cooperation of government bodies, enterprise management, and employees.

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