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# WOMEN'S ISSUE IN UZBEKISTAN (USING THE EXAMPLE OF THE SOVIET PERIOD AND THE YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE)

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## Abstract

This article provides a comparative analysis of the state policy towards women in Uzbekistan during the years of independence and the example of the Soviet period. The state policy on the treatment of women in the years of independence was comparatively analyzed on the basis of the legal and regulatory documents adopted in this direction.

**Keywords** Women, Soviet era, years of independence, state policy, issue of attitude to women, comparative analysis, action.

## INTRODUCTION

In the history of Uzbekistan, the attitude towards women and the women's movement in the Soviet period, the study of the essence, evolution and current state of the women's movement is of current importance from the point of view of historiography. It is the comparative analysis of state policies regarding the treatment of women during the Soviet period and the years of independence that allows us to understand the colonial nature of Soviet policies.

Social development and political processes cannot be assessed without taking into account the participation of women, who make up more than half of the country's population. The increase in social activity of the population is especially

evident in the women's movement. Because this social group reacts to the most pressing events in society through its gender characteristics and is a gender capable of translating its civic initiatives into reality. Representatives of the women's movement defend not only their own interests, but also the positions of low-income segments of the population that are important for the country and society as a whole - children and old-age pensioners. The women's movement developed in modern society is an integral part of the political process, and the integration of women into organizations gives this social group the opportunity to participate in important political decisions. The women's movement reflects not only a wide range of issues directly related to the

status of women, i.e. their role and place in various spheres of society, economic and political interests, but also general social patterns, including prospects for the development of society and the development of civil society in the country.

## **METHODS**

The research work is illuminated on the basis of generally accepted historical methods - historicity, comparative logical analysis, consistency, principles of impartiality, in which the history of the women's movement in Uzbekistan, government policies related to the treatment of women are comparatively analyzed. using the example of the Soviet period and the years of independence.

The issue of treatment of women in Uzbekistan has been reflected in the studies of a number of historians. Also, almost all areas of social sciences, such as economics, philosophy and law, studied the position of women and the colonial nature of the attitude of the Soviet government towards women [1].

This issue was dealt with by such foreign researchers as A. Benningsen, L. K. Chantal, A. Alleg and American researchers Rudolf Broda, political commentator Louis Fischer, journalist Anna Louise Strong, political scientist Barbara Jankar, Marianne Kampf and others [2].

## **RESEARCH RESULTS**

Due to the fact that the assessment given by the Councils to the social activities of women was based on an almost illegal basis, it is necessary to study this period more deeply and give it a truthful assessment. Because it is important to study the essence of colonialism from a scientific point of view, comparing the Soviet attitude towards women with the attention paid to women in our country today.

According to the researchers' findings, there are

three main stages in the Soviet state's policy towards women:

1. 1917-1930 years. During this period, although ensuring the "freedom" of women and equal rights with men was declared the official ideological task of the Soviet state, increasing the role of women's labor in production became the most important. Because due to the shortage of labor in the region, the goal was set to use female labor as cheap labor and thereby achieve productive use of the natural resources of Uzbekistan. Therefore, women's participation in social production was considered the main factor determining their social status.

In addition, at this time, the principle of equality of men and women in the family sphere was introduced into the Soviet laws, and in December 1917, two decrees "On Civil Marriage" and "On Annulment of Marriage" were issued. These documents legalized civil marriage and equalized the rights of husband and wife in solving divorce issues [3]. At the first meeting of Eastern women's organizers, which took place on April 5-7, 1921, such issues as "Decree on Freedom of Divorce", "Decree on Marriage Age and Height"[4] were on the agenda. In June 1921, the Central Executive Committee of the Soviets of the Turkestan ASSR passed a decree prohibiting the marriage of underage girls and polygamy, and the abolition of adultery. The age of marriage was set at 16 years instead of 9 years in Sharia[5]. Chapter 10 of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR is "On the fight against old-age abuses in the family and domestic life", and it is defined as buying a bride[6]. Also, in 1928, the III session of the MIQ adopted a new law on marriage for the Uzbek SSR. According to it, the age of teenage boys to enter into marriage is 18, and the age of girls is 16. At the same time, the marriage had to be built on the basis of the consent of both parties. It is prohibited by law for a couple to enter into a second marriage without

legal separation from the first marriage. It was established that both spouses have equal rights in the matter of divorce [7]. This is a positive aspect of the law. Weeks and even days of the fight against "fat and polygamy" were set and events were held. Also, in one of the decisions they issued, there was a clause: "Divorce cases should be considered no later than one week"[8]. Because, during the "Attack" period, the courts received a lot of divorce petitions, they were dissatisfied with the forced marriage, relying on the new laws of the Soviets, such as the above-mentioned marriage of underage girls and polygamy, the prohibition of marriage without the consent of girls, the abolition of marriage, and their elderly were women who wanted to divorce their husbands. As a result, the policy of the Soviet government in matters of family and marriage caused the destruction of thousands of families, the wandering of children between their parents, the popularization of marriages, the devaluation of the family and the loss of its social status, and the punishment of women who applied for it by their husbands, fathers or brothers. [9]. Because the traditional way of life for centuries ensured the privileged position of men in the family. The revolutionary changes of the Bolsheviks in the matter of family and marriage, which came in violently, first of all had a severe impact on the men, but pushed the women towards an unimaginable "bright life". This led to women being deprived of their true happiness, the family. Also, as a result of women's activity within the family being condemned and not valued as a type of social work, the family became a household job separated from its social status.

The next important direction of the Soviet program for the liberation of women was to ensure the political equality of men and women. In the first Soviet Constitution of 1918, women were given the right to vote and be elected to public positions along with men[10]. From this

period, the implementation of party-administrative quotas for the participation of women in public and state administration offices began. Since the "problem of women's liberation" occupied a special place in the socio-political life of the 20s, a whole system was developed to "liberate" indigenous women and "ensure their equal rights" with men in all aspects. That is, ideological and production factors influencing women's activities were established. The main directions of work carried out among women can be classified as follows [11]:

- firstly, campaigning and propaganda activities carried out through rallies, "ceremonial" celebration of March 8, material and moral stimulation;
- secondly, the organizational and educational work carried out through the held sessions, plenums, conferences, mass meetings, slyots and congresses;
- thirdly, various organized competitions, specially organized brigades and units, specially organized "social tugs" to set a personal example and become a role model in order to artificially accelerate labor productivity, social activities related to holding special working days, weekly, monthly, contests, hashars - practical works;
- fourthly, specially organized training and professional development courses, various circles, campaign points, socio-political and technical works reflecting slogans and appeals.

The purpose of using women's labor as much as possible and "productively" was hidden at the basis of the events, and these events served to educate a whole new generation of women who want to actively participate in society on an equal basis with men, not the family[12].

In order to increase the "social activity" of women

of local nationality, the All-Uzbekistan congress of peasant women (March, 1925), twice the council of heads of women's departments (April, October, 1925), working among women the All-Uzbekistan Council of Employees (1925, August), regional councils of this category of employees, the 1st Tashkent Conference of female students (April 1926), the II Council of Central Asian Women's Clubs and Red Corner Employees (April 1926) and other events were held[13]. From March 1925 to March 1926, the number of women's clubs increased from 11 to 32, and the number of members increased from 920 to 3000[14]. However, the center was not satisfied with these measures and demanded more intensity, stressing that "the process of reconstruction of social consciousness does not correspond to the needs of socialist construction" among women in the society. In particular, due to the need to strengthen the material and economic base of the Soviet government, the involvement of local women in the production process, that is, in the labor front, was strengthened. The "Attack" campaign, which was carried out in 2 stages, had these goals in mind. The first was the period of "preparation" from September 1926 to February 1927, and the second was the period of "minting" that lasted from March 1927 to 1932. On May 8, 1929, at the III Congress of the Soviets of the Uzbek SSR, the issue of "more involvement of women in the work of building a socialist society" was discussed. This accelerated the involvement of women in social production. The involvement of women in jobs that do not match their physical capabilities was specially promoted.

In particular, the opinions of Dr. Michael James Erdman, curator of Turkish and Turkic language collections of the British Library, published in 2017 based on the research of independent analyst Zainab Muhammad-Dost, Master of International Relations of the University of Westminster in London, Great Britain, regarding

the "New Way" magazine kept in the library's archives are evidence of this. The magazine is a monthly publication for women and girls in Uzbekistan, published by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan in 1926-1927, printed in the old Persian-Arabic script, the analysis provided information about the contents of four issues of the magazine. The author writes: "Although the magazine was not used to inform women and girls about pedagogical innovations, it was intended to expand their horizons far beyond the traditional domestic sphere. The magazine featured articles on European women's participation in unfeminine occupations, and photographs of women with smiling, uncovered faces and heads, operating machinery and laying bricks.' At the same time, Uzbek working women are presented in a special way. That is, "picture 15 shows a group of middle-aged Uzbek silk-weaving women, all but one of them have a headscarf, but none of them is using a machine," the researcher writes. Another picture, according to M. Erdmann, shows the state of modernly dressed young graduates watching a scientific experiment, reflecting the spirit of hope for the future. The author writes about "expectations" because "the realities of Central Asian women were, of course, not as bright and progressive as Moscow and local Communist Party cadres put forward."

The Soviet government and the Communist Party, using all forms and methods of the administrative-command system, tried to attract local women to the socio-political front, filling the ranks of the party with them, and trying to reach their supporters in the construction of the "new socialist society". As a result, the socio-political consciousness and activity of Uzbek women increased to a certain extent. An attempt was made to artificially spread the patriotism and nationalistic feelings inherent in the nature of Uzbek women to the territory called the Union, and the policy aimed at not forming their political

and legal consciousness did not allow the awakening of the innate needs necessary to realize the national identity and fight for independence.

2. 1930-1960 years. At this stage, great changes took place in the concept of the policy of the Soviet state in the field of ensuring women's equal rights.

By the 1930s, as a result of the unscientific conclusion that the "women's issue has been resolved", the activities of the women's department were terminated by the decision of the Central Committee of the CPSU(b) on January 5 [15]. In the decision, it is emphasized that the tasks of the women's departments have been transferred to the faction committee and its departments, and it is turned into a special sector[16]. Sectors are entrusted with the task of scientific and practical strengthening of the conclusion that the Soviet government and the Communist Party have "solved the women's issue". In 1930, *Kommunistka* and in 1934, the publication of magazines *New Way* was stopped. All women's work is under the responsibility of the Labor and Welfare Commissions. The commission consisted of more than 100 members across the republic, and they were far from being able to carry out the large volume of work entrusted to the commission. Therefore, in May 1930, the commissions were transformed into the executive committees of the republic, region, city and locality of the union, and in 1932, they were terminated as a body that had fulfilled its mission[17]. In fact, the reason for this process is that the Soviet government and the communist party involved women in social production under the slogan of "economic liberation", turned them into the main productive force of society by using their labor as a cheap labor force, achieving their goal and increasing their social and political activity. the women who went to fight for their rights, were increasingly dissatisfied with the

policy of the authoritarian regime towards them. During these years, as a result of the formation of the idea of social protectionism, women turned from the subject of state policy into its object. This ultimately re-established the patriarchal system in relation to women.

3. 1960-1991 years. During this period, the Soviet state could not finish many of the issues it had set before itself regarding the emancipation of women. In particular, the idea of generalization of the household is one of them. In addition, plans for public catering and building enterprises were not regularly implemented, and there was a lack of places in pre-school children's institutions. There were no significant changes in the division of family responsibilities - women carried a double burden as before. In the field of production, women still played secondary roles. In party reports, a patriarchal approach to assessing the status of women began to be heard more and more. Although the democratic processes that began in the mid-1980s did not make a drastic change in the issue of women's equal rights, as a result of the "Reconstruction" policy, the need to develop a new methodological approach to the assessment of women's movement was justified. But this issue could not be fully resolved. Because the continued rule of the communist ideology, the preservation of the autocratic system would not allow this.

In general, the leaders of the Soviet government worked on the issue of attitude to the place of Uzbek women in the socio-economic and cultural life of the society, relying on measures based on revolutionary changes, administrative-command policy, and approached the place and role of women in society from the point of view of classism. Especially as a result of the fact that women's activity within the family was not appreciated as a type of social work, the family was separated from its social status.



In the years of independence, the following 2 historical stages can be identified based on the content of the legal and regulatory documents adopted on the issue of treatment of women in the state policy of Uzbekistan:

The first stage - 1991-2016. It is known that during this period, in accordance with the order of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated March 1, 1991, the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan was established as a public institution at the Termiz conference on December 27[19]. The committee played an important role in increasing the socio-political activity of women and supporting their initiatives. In order to improve the activity of the committee, many Presidential Decrees[20] and "Concept on women's issues in the Republic of Uzbekistan"[21] were developed.

Measures aimed at strengthening the role of women in society in the State programs announced in the country in a certain social direction served to increase the position of women [22]. In particular, in the 1999 "Year of Women", special attention was paid to increasing the political and economic activity of women, as well as to their social support[23]. In accordance with the Presidential Decree dated June 10, 1999 "On supporting proposals for the establishment of the Zulfiya State Award", the State Award named after Zulfiya was established[24]. The Regulation on this state award was adopted[25]. Since 2000, the activities of talented girls contributing to the development of literature, art, science and culture have been encouraged. The number of laureates of this award was 283 in 2000-2018[26], and this figure was 423 in 2023[27].

At this stage, women's participation in state and community management and decision-making processes, social and political activity increased. In 1999, the share of women among the deputies of the Oliy Majlis was 9.4 percent[28], while in

1994 this figure was 6 percent[29]. Since 2004, in accordance with Articles 70 and 91 of the Election Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as a result of the determination that the number of women should be at least thirty percent of the total number of candidates for deputy from a political party, at the end of the elections of deputies of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis and local councils held on December 22, 2019, 48 women were elected in the lower house of the Parliament. female (32%) deputies, 24 female (24%) senators work in the upper chamber. 247 (30%) of the newly elected deputies to the Dzhokorg Council, People's Deputies of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and the Tashkent city councils, 1,422 (25%) women are working in the district and city councils. Thanks to such results, the Parliament of Uzbekistan has risen to the 37th place among 190 national parliaments in the world in terms of the number of female deputies. However, this indicator was in 128th place in 2014.

The second stage - within the framework of the Action Strategy of 5 priority directions for the further development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the years 2017-2023, and the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan, which is its logical continuation, current problems in the socio-economic and cultural spheres are rooted in the state policy on women's issues. caused reforms. In the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-4749, "increasing the social and political activity of women, strengthening their position in state and community management, ensuring the employment of women and daughters of vocational college graduates, involving them in business activities, strengthening the foundations of the family tasks such as "strengthening" were defined. At this stage, the decree and decisions of the President dedicated to women's issues became important in bringing the effectiveness of

work in this direction to a new stage[30]. In the decree, many measures aimed at strengthening the socio-political activity of women, ensuring their legal interests, realizing their abilities and potential, strengthening the institution of the family, and protecting motherhood and childhood were defined. On the basis of the decree, from April 1, 2018, instead of the position of adviser to citizens' assemblies on religious enlightenment and spiritual and moral education, the relevant state units were transferred to the structure of district (city) women's committees, and while maintaining the procedure of financing from local budget funds, work with women and spiritual development in families - it was decided to introduce the position of a specialist in strengthening moral values, one such specialist in each neighborhood, and two in neighborhoods with more than 2000 families. The inclusion of these clauses in the decree made it a task to seriously study women's problems[31].

In particular, 1 decree, 2 decisions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 6 decisions and 4 orders of the government were adopted to support women in 2017-2019[32]. On the basis of these documents, the Women's Committee and its regional departments, whose capabilities were previously limited and their activities weakened, were established on a completely new basis. They were given additional powers and opportunities, and necessary conditions were created for their effective operation. In all regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 208 divisions of the Women's Committee, about 42,000 primary organizations operated[33]. Public associations "Women Lawyers", "Science and Women", "Creative Women", "Entrepreneurial Women", "Women and Health", and "Honorary Women" were established under the regional branches of the Women's Committee. The "Woman of the Year" and "Ibratli oila" contests were held. "Dignified

Woman" badge was established for women who are socially active in the life of society, who have been contributing to the development of the country, who are doing exemplary work in protecting motherhood and childhood, and educating young people in the spirit of patriotism, and on March 8, 2019, "International Women 260 women were awarded with this award on the eve of the "Girls' Attitude" holiday. In 2021, 297 women won this award[34].

In 2019, as a result of the deepening and development of democratic reforms and the improvement of the principles of an open civil society, more than 40 legal and regulatory measures aimed at protecting women from various oppression and violence, eliminating all types of discrimination and ensuring the free development of the individual, which is one of the most important socio-cultural tasks documents, in particular, new laws "On guarantees of equal rights and opportunities for women and men", "On protection of women from oppression and violence" and "On protection of reproductive health of citizens"[35]. In Uzbekistan, priority is given to the issue of gender equality, and protection of women from various forms of oppression and violence has become one of the important directions of state policy. Uzbekistan has joined international agreements that provide for legal, social and economic protection of women from all forms of discrimination and harassment. Additions and changes were made to the Labor Code and other related normative legal documents aimed at reducing the areas of professional activity prohibited for women, and eliminating gender-asymmetric provisions in the legislation. In particular, efforts to protect women from various oppressions and violence, to ensure their rights and legal interests in this regard, to satisfy them in social life, and in general to create a healthy environment for women in the family, play an important role in the implementation of

related documents.

Also, the Strategy of Actions on five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021, the development strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026, the National Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Human Rights, the strategy of achieving gender equality in Uzbekistan until 2030, national goals and objectives in the field of sustainable development its adoption fundamentally strengthened the legal foundations of this field and serves to establish the relevant systematic activity.

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According to the Law "On Protection of Women from Harassment and Violence" announced in September 2019, the regulation "On Issuing, Ensuring Execution and Monitoring of Protection Warrants for Women Victims of Harassment and Violence" was approved. According to this regulation, the protection warrant is a document that has the appropriate series and number, is kept strictly accountable, and is a document for recording the restrictions imposed only on persons who have committed oppression and violence or are prone to commit it" [36].

Such measures express the important directions of the state policy towards women, ensuring gender equality, women's rights and interests, providing socio-legal, medical, psychological and material assistance to women in need. According to the Women's Committee, in 2019, about a

thousand women suffered from domestic violence. The leadership of the committee stated that this figure does not reflect the real situation, because not all women who are oppressed openly speak about it. In 2020, 966 protection warrants were issued to women in the city of Tashkent alone. Of these, 850 women were subjected to domestic violence, 813 cases were due to family disagreements, 69 cases were due to lack of financial resources, 45 cases were due to jealousy, and 40 cases were due to the interference of a third person in the family (mother-in-law, mother-in-law, returning sisters). A warrant has been issued. 556 of these violences were caused by the pressure caused by a spouse, that is, a man, 54 by a mother-in-law, 46 by daughters-in-law against their sisters-in-law, and 310 by other persons against women. Of these, 423 warrants were issued for physical, 8 sexual, 13 economic, and 664 mental violence. Issuance of protection orders serves to preserve the sanctity of the family, prevent children from becoming living orphans and its negative consequences[37]. As a logical continuation of the work in this regard, in order to fundamentally improve the institutional and legal foundations of the reliable protection of the rights, freedoms and legal interests of women and children from oppression and violence, "In connection with the further improvement of the system of reliable protection of the rights, freedoms and legal interests of women and children On April 11, 2023, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. ORQ-829 "On Amendments and Additions to Certain Legislative Documents of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted. This new law does not establish proportional sanctions for criminal acts affecting the rights of women and children in the practice of law enforcement, there are no legal guarantees to protect women from harassment and violence, the validity period of a warrant providing state protection to a person affected by harassment and



violence (thirty days) ) solve a number of problems related to the reliable protection of women's rights, freedoms and legal interests, such as the fact that it does not allow to ensure adequate protection of women's rights and legal interests, and the fact that fines are imposed as a punishment for non-payment of alimony causes more financial difficulties serves [38].

The adoption of Presidential Decree No. PF-5938 dated February 18, 2020 "On measures to improve the socio-spiritual environment in society, further support the neighborhood institution, and bring the system of work with family and women to a new level" is the rationale of the work in this regard. was continued[39]. This document has become very important in order to support the social activity of women, to strengthen their position in society, to strengthen the guarantees of protection of their rights and legal interests. On the basis of the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the organization of the activities of the Ministry of Neighborhood and Family Support of the Republic of Uzbekistan" No. PQ-4602 of February 18, 2020 [40], to ensure the effective implementation of the state policy on the support of women, their rights and legal protection of interests, increasing the role and activity in the country's socio-political life, guaranteeing equal rights and opportunities for women and men was defined as one of the main tasks of the Ministry. As a result of the reforms carried out to increase the role of women in state administration, the position of adviser on women's issues was introduced to regional, city and district governors. The Republican Women's Public Council was established in order to increase the role and influence of women in society and create new opportunities for them. The activities of local women's councils were led by the governors' advisers on these issues. While putting forward the proposal to establish a women's council, the president made it clear that

the increase in the standard of living of the society depends on women[41].

Decree No. PF-60 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated January 28, 2022 "On the development strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026" was adopted. Ensuring the legal rights and interests of women, increasing their economic, social and political activity is one of the important directions of the development strategy of New Uzbekistan[42]. The 69th goal of Uzbekistan's development strategy, which is called "Equity social policy, development of human capital", is aimed at supporting women and ensuring their active participation in society[43].

On March 1, 2022, the head of state defined a new system of women's support at the video selector, which was held under the chairmanship of President Sh. The State Committee for Family and Women was established in Uzbekistan. The chairman of the new Committee is also the Deputy Prime Minister and a member of the Senate. Regional, district and city heads of the committee will be deputy mayors. The new committee manages the Women's Support Fund and the Women's Notebook fund itself[44].

On March 7, 2022, the Decree No. PF-87 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to further accelerate work on systematic support of families and women and girls" was adopted[45]. In accordance with this Decree, a number of privileges aimed at protecting the interests of women were defined. In particular: the national program for increasing the activity of women in all aspects of the country's economic, political and social life in 2022-2026 was approved. In accordance with the "Program for increasing the activity of women in public administration" of women, organizing special training courses for the training of women leaders at the Academy of Public Administration

and training at least 100 women every year; By January 1, 2024, the share of women among the employees of the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Alleviation, the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Finance and the State Tax Committee and organizations within their system should be increased to at least 30%, all state bodies and organizations, the state share in the authorized capital of 50 to appoint at least 1 deputy head of the organizations and organizations in their system from among women, where this requirement is not considered mandatory when the head of the relevant organization is appointed from among women or if there is only one deputy[46]. After all, as the head of state noted: "It is no secret that order, justice, honesty, and culture are high in places where women work and lead. Therefore, every ministry, state company, bank and other agencies will train women in their system to be leaders in one or two years and appoint at least 1 female deputy"[47]. Today, about 1,400 women are working in leadership positions in the system of state and public organizations of the republic[48].

The position of women's activist in the neighborhood was established instead of the deputy chairman of the citizens' assembly for family, women and social-spiritual issues. From May 1, 2022, the monthly salary of a female activist in a neighborhood with up to 500 households will be 3.5 times the minimum wage (2 million 877 thousand soums). This is stated in the decision of the President of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev "On organizing the activities of the State Committee for Family and Women". According to the decision, candidates for the positions of women's activists in the neighborhoods will be recruited on the basis of open competitions. Candidates who have experience of working with families and women, who have set an example with their personal

qualities, selfless and loyal candidates will be appointed to this position. A women's officer is responsible for working with women's issues and their concerns. From May 1, 2022, the monthly salary of a female activist in the neighborhood will be determined in proportion to the number of households in the neighborhood to which she is attached as follows:

- in a neighborhood with up to 500 households - in the amount of 3.5 times the minimum wage (2 million 877 thousand soums);
- in the neighborhood with the number of households from 501 to 1,000 - in the amount of 4 times the minimum wage (3 million 288 thousand soums);
- in a neighborhood with more than 1,000 households - in the amount of 4.5 times the minimum wage (3 million 699 thousand soums).

The decision also established a department of supervision over the implementation of legislation in the areas of ensuring the rights of women and protecting them from oppression and violence within the structure of the General Prosecutor's Office.

According to the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-14 dated January 25, 2023, the Family and Women's Committee has been functioning as part of the Poverty Reduction and Employment Committee until January 2024.

By the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 21, 2023 No. PF-208 "On additional measures to improve the activities of the Family and Women's Committee", the Family and Women's Committee was transferred from the Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Employment to the Cabinet of Ministers.

In order to effectively organize the activities of the committee, the post of Deputy Prime Minister - Chairman of the Family and Women's Committee was introduced in the Cabinet of Ministers.

Also appointed and dismissed in agreement with the Chairman of the Committee:

Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan - Chairman of the Family and Women's Committee of the Republic of Karakalpakstan;

the position of deputy mayors of regions and Tashkent city - heads of family and women's departments of regions and Tashkent city;

the position of district (city) deputy mayors - heads of district (city) family and women's departments was introduced.

Also, on the basis of the Research Institute of Family and Women, the Research Institute of Family and Gender was established.

On December 21, 2023, Presidential Decree No. PQ-401 "On additional measures to strengthen families and increase the activity of women" was adopted.

According to the decision, the requirement to increase the share of women among management staff to 30% by 2030 will be applied to the formation of executive bodies of state enterprises, including the board of directors and supervisory boards.

From February 1, 2024:

vocational training courses involving experienced homemakers and craftsmen are organized in educational organizations in order to establish, develop, improve and provide methodological support for women who are starting a new business in the field of homemaking and handicrafts;

expenses related to vocational training of women in the fields of home economics and handicrafts are financed from the funds of the State Target Fund for Family and Women's Support within the framework of the approved cost estimate.

In this case, the state covers 70% of the training

costs for each female graduate trained in a profession in educational organizations, but not more than 5 times the BHM.

"Unemployed women" module will be created on the basis of the "Khotin-qizlar.uz" platform and will be integrated into the information systems of ministries and agencies.

Until March 1, 2024, electronic software will be developed that will allow the evaluation of participants in open contests held among non-governmental educational organizations under the "Best Vocational Training Program", and this contest will be held every year from 2025. After the state registration of unemployed women as a business entity for the production and sale of modern national costumes, the first 3-month rent of the building and structure will be covered by the Fund for Involvement of the Population in Entrepreneurship from January 1, 2024 in the amount of up to 10 times the BHM. From January 1, 2024: citizens' own on the basis of women's paid public works

In general, due to the great opportunities and conditions created for women in the country by the initiative of the head of the state, women are actively participating in the life of the state and society. The implemented state policy creates ample opportunities for women to ensure their rights and freedoms, for their intellectual and spiritual growth, and for fulfilling their professional and family obligations in a harmonious manner. The participation of women in the decision-making process affecting the life of the country has increased significantly. As a result, their share in management areas reached 35%, 35% in entrepreneurship, 44% in political parties, and 49% in higher education. The social status of women in the family and society is increasing.

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