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ROAD SAFETY TRENDS IN UZBEKISTAN 2015 – 2021

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Abstract:

Road safety has always been under special attention of the government of Uzbekistan. Since 1991, when Uzbekistan became independent, more than 100 laws and regulations have been adopted related to road safety, traffic rules, training and education, vehicle inspection, insurance, etc. It is recognized that there are common legal frameworks, road design standards, vehicle design specifications and road safety management frameworks. As in many countries, the question arises whether these documents correspond to modern standards and how these laws are implemented in practice.

Keywords

Introduction

Currently in Uzbekistan there is no legally approved list of road safety performance indicators and statistical characteristics/trends that should be regularly collected and monitored.

Along with its own financial resources, Uzbekistan uses various types of foreign resources, such as bilateral loans from some countries and international banks and development institutions. In the early years government agencies are trying to attract foreign direct investment in infrastructure projects and on the basis of public-private partnerships. The main agency for communication with foreign investors and international development agencies is the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In accordance with Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 5643 dated January 28, 2019, its main task is to manage the work to attract foreign investment, implement effective interaction with international economic and financial institutions, foreign state financial organizations on a bilateral and multilateral basis.

Several projects are currently underway to improve road infrastructure, supported by various international development agencies.

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Table 1.

Project Description	Expected completion date	International organization	Amount, million US dollars
Reconstruction of the public road A-380 Guzar-Bukhara-Nukus-Beineu with a length of 87 km (228-315 km)	2020 - 2023	Asian Development Bank	150.0
Reconstruction of 240 km (964-1204 km) of the public road A-380 Guzar-Bukhara-Nukus-Beyneu	2021 - 2025	Asian Development Bank	274.2
A-380 “Guzor-Bukhoro-Nukus-Beineu” car 150 – 228 km Kisini reconstruction kilish	2021 - 2025	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank	165 . 5
Rehabilitation of 376 km of local roads in three regions.	2019 - 2022	The World Bank	90.0
Reconstruction of 35 km of highway 4P87 Guzar-Chim-Kokdala	2014 - 2022	Saudi Development Fund and Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development	51.0

Several projects are under consideration:

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is considering the possibility of financing the reconstruction of 157 km of the M 37 Samarkand-Bukhara-Turkmenbashi road at a project cost of 300 million US dollars.
- The Indian Export-Import Bank (India EXIM Bank) is negotiating with the Government of Uzbekistan on the construction of a new 198-kilometer highway 4P60 “Uchkuduk-border of the Republic of Kazakhstan” at a cost of about 257 . 4 million US dollars.

A feasibility study for the reconstruction of 60 km of the M-39 Almaty-Bishkek-Tashkent-Shakhrisabz-Termiz highway (1255-1315 km) worth $165 million, which will be financed by the IDB, is at the final stage.

There was no automobile industry in Uzbekistan during the Soviet period. The first car production plant was created in 1996. Currently, there are three main automobile companies producing vehicles: GM Uzbekistan (passenger cars), MAN Auto-Uzbekistan (trucks and heavy-duty special equipment), SamKochAvto (buses, trucks and heavy-duty special equipment). In addition, the government is considering the production of electric passenger vehicles and buses.

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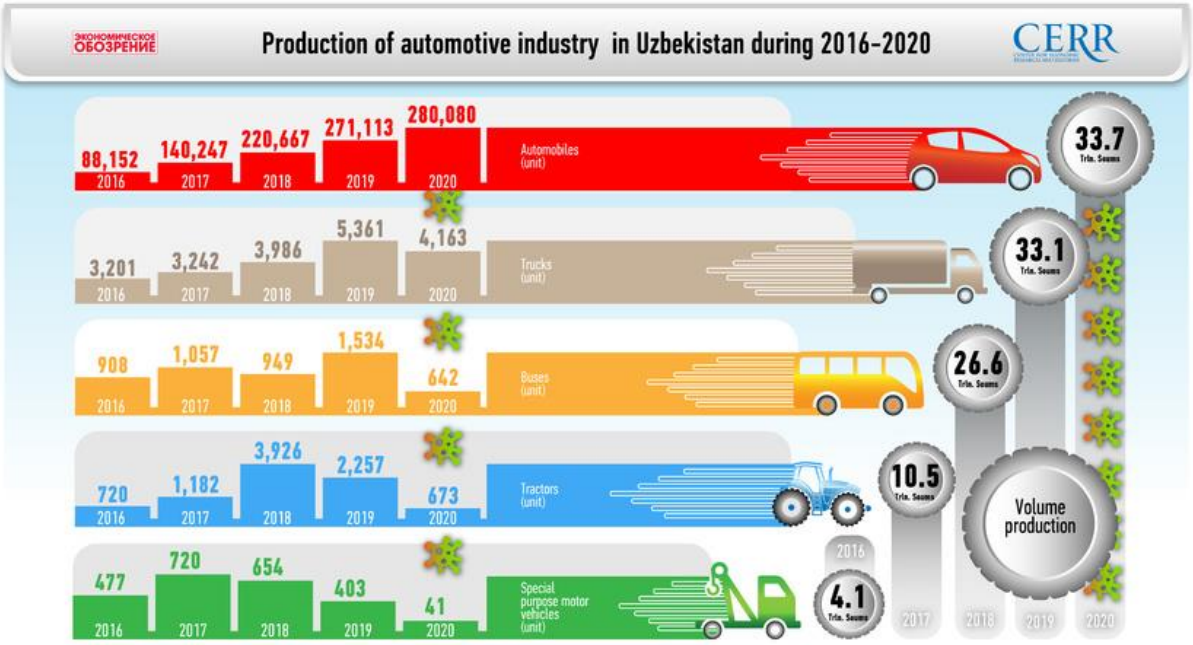

Figure 1 . Automotive production in Uzbekistan in 2016-2020.

Uzbekistan acceded to the Agreement on the Introduction of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts That May Be Mounted and/or Used on Wheeled Vehicles of June 25, 1998 in 2018 and the Convention on Road Traffic of November 8, 1968 in 1995. The categorization of vehicles complies with the requirements of UN legal documents. According to the Law on Road Safety, the Ministry of Internal Affairs is the responsible authority for registering vehicles and maintaining a fleet register. By January 1, 2022 in There are 3,821,869 registered vehicles in Uzbekistan. Its number has increased by 250% between 2001 and 2021. The average annual fleet growth during this period is about 5.2%. Since 2019 it has been 8.4%.

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