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Each week, significant economic activities and developments occur across various sectors in Afghanistan. The Afghanistan's Economic Development Newsletter covers these important and latest economic activities and advancements.

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ASSISTANCE WITH IMPROVED SEEDS AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Agriculture is considered the backbone and a fundamental pillar of Afghanistan's economy. Any support provided to this sector can have a direct impact on food security and income generation in the country. According to local officials in Balkh, Uzbekistan has donated 40 metric tons of improved agricultural seeds

to Afghanistan, including cotton, rice, and vegetable seeds, which have arrived in the country through Hairatan.

Compared to traditional seeds, improved seeds provide higher yields and greater resistance to climate conditions and diseases. Such seeds are regarded as highly

important for the modernization of agricultural production. According to officials, these newly imported seeds will be distributed to farmers in various provinces of the country, which is expected to have a practical impact on the development of agriculture.

An increase in agricultural yields boosts the supply of food products for domestic markets and reduces the need for imports. Moreover, when the quality of agricultural products improves, opportunities for exports also increase. In addition, farmers' incomes rise, which contributes to strengthening the rural economy.

The use of improved seeds is considered a fundamental step toward further strengthening Afghanistan's agricultural sector. If such cooperation continues and improved seeds are used properly, Afghanistan's rural economy and agricultural products are expected to witness significant progress.



USD 700 MILLION INVESTMENT IN BALKH AND SIGNS OF INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

Balkh is considered one of Afghanistan's key commercial and

industrial centers. According to local officials, the level of investment in

the province has increased significantly in recent times. Over the past year, more than USD 700 million has been invested in various productive and economic sectors in the province.

These investments have been made in iron production, agriculture, food processing, and other economic sectors. Investment across various sectors indicates that investment in Balkh is not limited to a single area, but rather covers diverse segments of the productive economy.

The improvement of the business environment, access to domestic and regional markets, and growing confidence among traders are considered key factors behind this change. The concentration of



investment in Balkh sends a message that favorable opportunities for trade and industry exist there. As a result of these investments, employment opportunities in Balkh have increased and the income levels of citizens have improved.

Furthermore, with the growth of domestic production, the need for imports is decreasing, which is considered positive news for the country's trade balance. Officials of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan have sought to provide

the necessary facilities for traders and industrialists in the country, as creating favorable conditions is highly important for economic growth and attracting investment.

GARMENT EXPORTS FROM HERAT AND THE GROWTH OF SMALL INDUSTRIES

A significant step has been taken in Herat toward the growth of Afghanistan's exports. The first export shipment of women's and children's garments from the province has been sent to Iraq. The shipment is valued at approximately USD 100,000 and includes 20,000 sets of clothing.

According to garment producers in Herat, the exported clothes were manufactured using high-quality materials and standard designs. They also stated that larger

agreements for exporting Herat-made garments to Iraqi markets are expected to be implemented in the near future.

Quality and innovation are essential requirements for competing in international markets, and they guarantee the sustainability of exports. If Afghan traders and industrialists seek to secure a lasting position and remain competitive in global markets, it is necessary for them to pay close attention to quality, innovation, and design. Small

industries such as the production of clothing, footwear, and bags are major sources of employment, as they can create significant job opportunities with relatively low investment.

Herat has earned a reputation as an industrial hub in western Afghanistan, and in recent years many Afghan industrialists have invested there. The Islamic Emirate has called on both domestic and foreign investors to invest in Afghanistan and has pledged that the necessary facilities and support required for investment will be provided by the Islamic Emirate authorities.

