

Business Law - The Basis for The Development of Light Industry

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Received: 31 December 2025; **Accepted:** 23 January 2026; **Published:** 28 February 2026

Abstract: This article analyzes the development of entrepreneurial activity in the light industry, the legal framework for supporting entrepreneurs, and the economic efficiency of guaranteeing the rights and freedoms of business entities. The role of legal guarantees established in the new Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and relevant legislation in the activities of light industry enterprises is highlighted. Proposals are also made to reduce administrative barriers and improve the investment climate.

Keywords: Light industry, business law, legal guarantees, private property, inviolability of private property, investment climate, clique system, free economy, administrative barriers.

Introduction: Light industry is a strategic sector of Uzbekistan's economy, playing a crucial role in increasing the state's export potential and ensuring public employment. Today, the development of the light industry depends not only on modern technologies but also on the legal environment created for business entities and the level of their legal protection. Only when entrepreneurs feel that their rights and freedoms are strictly guaranteed by the state will they strive to make long-term investments and implement innovations.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Today, light industry serves as a strategic sector of Uzbekistan's economy and a primary driver for ensuring public employment. A number of legal scholars and economists have conducted extensive research on the development of this field. S.S. Gulyamov states that guaranteeing entrepreneurial rights and creating favorable conditions for business owners form the foundation of sectoral growth. Q.X. Abdurahmonov emphasizes that investment activity is measured not only by tax incentives but also by the immunity of property rights. He stresses that entrepreneurs must be certain that their assets are protected regardless of administrative changes. A. Sattorov analyzes the economic and legal aspects of the

cluster system and its significance within the light industry.

METHODOLOGY

In this study, Uzbekistan's potential and opportunities in the light industry were analyzed. The rights and freedoms of the sector's entities, along with the norms established in legislative acts and local regulations, were examined using methods such as surveys, interviews, observation, comparative analysis, and expert assessment.

RESULTS

Constitutional and Legal Foundations of Entrepreneurial Rights and Freedoms. The primary goal of the reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan is to create a highly favorable environment for conducting business activities. In the newly revised Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the rights and freedoms of business entities have been fundamentally strengthened.

"Entrepreneurs are entitled to carry out any activity not prohibited by law, to independently choose the direction of their activities, and to earn unlimited income from entrepreneurship" [1]. This norm guarantees freedom of choice for light industry enterprises at all stages, ranging from the procurement of raw materials to the export of finished products.

The newly revised Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the supreme legal instrument that solidifies the principles of a free market economy in the country. For sectors where the private sector prevails, such as light industry, these legal foundations determine the stability of operations.

Article 65 of the Constitution stipulates that the State shall create conditions for the development of market relations and fair competition, and guarantee the freedom of economic activity, entrepreneurship, and labor, taking into account the priority of consumer rights. This grants entrepreneurs not only the right of ownership but also the right to free disposal of their assets.

"One of the most significant changes is reflected in Article 67: "The state shall ensure a favorable investment and business climate. Entrepreneurs have the right to carry out any activity in accordance with the legislation and to independently choose the directions of their activities. Within the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the unity of economic space, and the free movement of goods, services, labor resources, and financial funds are guaranteed. Monopolistic activity is regulated and restricted by law".

This norm guarantees freedom of choice for light industry enterprises at all stages, ranging from the procurement of raw materials to the export of finished products. The inviolability of entrepreneurs' income, in turn, creates a legal foundation for reinvesting foreign exchange earnings and profits. The inviolability of private property and its significance in the light industry. The acquisition of high-tech equipment for light industry enterprises requires substantial capital. In such circumstances, the issue of property inviolability is considered paramount.

As the legal scholar S.S. Gulyamov stated: "The stability of property rights determines the entrepreneur's confidence in the future. If the state does not fully guarantee the inviolability of private property, it is impossible to speak of innovative development" [5].

"The establishment of clusters in the light industry, where land plots and production facilities are provided to entrepreneurs through long-term leases or as private property, has further strengthened their legal status.

As the economist Q.X. Abdurahmonov noted: "Investment activity is measured not only by tax incentives but also by the inviolability of property rights. An entrepreneur must be certain that their assets are protected regardless of administrative changes". In practice, this principle implies the following: Protection of equipment: it is prohibited to unjustifiably seize or restrict the use of textile

production lines worth millions of dollars."

Land rights: For clusters, land is the primary means of production. The unjustified withdrawal of land by local municipalities is restricted, and any damages must be compensated at market value.

Intellectual Property: Designs and brand logos are an entrepreneur's intangible assets. Failure to protect them undermines competitiveness.

Reducing Administrative Pressure and Limiting State Interference. In recent years, the procedures for inspecting entrepreneurs in the light industry sector have been fundamentally reformed. According to the Law "On Guarantees of the Freedom of Entrepreneurial Activity," state bodies do not have the right to interfere in the internal economic activities of an entrepreneur. It states: "State bodies, other bodies, and their officials are not entitled to interfere in the activities of business entities carried out in accordance with the legislation" [2]. In the light industry, this principle is particularly important in the processes of product standardization and certification. The reduction of excessive bureaucracy leads to a decrease in production costs and an increase in competitiveness in foreign markets.

In the light industry, there are numerous technical regulations, such as TR TS 017/2011. Freedom of entrepreneurship requires limiting the unjustified interference of state bodies in this process.

As the legal scholar S.S. Gulyamov stated: "Constitutional guarantees elevate the entrepreneur in relations with state bodies from the position of a "weak party" to the level of an "equal partner"."

Currently, inspections are carried out based on a "risk analysis" system. This allows business entities in the light industry sector to remain free from excessive bureaucracy and focus their attention on product quality and exports.

The Cluster System and Freedom of Contractual Relations. A unique feature of Uzbekistan's light industry is the existence of cotton-textile clusters. The relationship between the cluster and the farmer must be based on mutually beneficial contracts rather than command-and-control methods. As our President Sh.M. Mirziyoyev noted in his speeches: "We must remove all obstacles and barriers to the development of entrepreneurship and clear the path for entrepreneurs. This is the highest priority of state policy."

Contractual freedom allows clusters to diversify their product range based on market conditions and operate according to global market prices.

Intellectual Property Protection: The Foundation of an Innovative Industry. Fashion and design are integral

parts of the light industry. Every new garment model or fabric pattern is considered an object of intellectual property. Entrepreneurs must receive legal assistance from the state regarding the registration and protection of their brands. Uzbekistan's membership in the "GSP+" system imposes on light industry enterprises not only rights but also the obligation to comply with international standards (labor rights, environmental protection). The entrepreneur's freedom in applying these international norms, coupled with state support in this process, expands the export geography of the sector.

CONCLUSION

To ensure the development of the light industry by guaranteeing entrepreneurs' rights, the following measures are proposed:

Strengthening Judicial Protection: Expanding the application of the "presumption of innocence of the entrepreneur" precedent in disputes between business entities and state bodies.

Digital Protection: Implementing full oversight of inspections through the "Unified State Control" information system and increasing liability for illegal interference.

Export Freedom: Further simplifying the "Green Corridor" system in customs and logistics processes.

In conclusion, legal guarantees serve as the "immune system" of the light industry, protecting the sector from external and internal risks while ensuring sustainable economic growth.

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