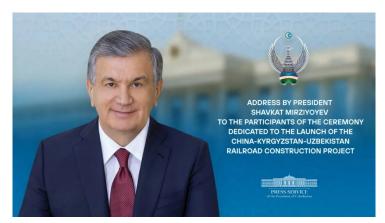


President Mirziyoyev Highlights Milestone in Regional Connectivity



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Tashkent, December 27, 2024 – President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan addressed participants at the inauguration ceremony of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway construction, describing it as a historic milestone in regional cooperation.

President Mirziyoyev noted that the agreement for this strategic project was finalized just six months ago, and technical preparations have been swiftly completed. The railway will serve as a

vital new transportation corridor, connecting Central Asia with China through the shortest overland route, while supporting the goals of the Belt and Road Initiative.

The project, spanning Kashgar, Torugart, Makmal, Jalal-Abad, and Andijan, includes 20 stations, 42 bridges, and 25 tunnels, alongside modern logistics infrastructure such as warehouses and terminals. Advanced technologies and high environmental standards will ensure efficient operations.

With an estimated annual freight capacity of 15 million tons, the railway will significantly reduce delivery distances and times for goods traveling between China and Europe. Future plans include integrating this corridor with the Trans-Afghan route, further enhancing connectivity between Central and South Asia.

President Mirziyoyev emphasized the economic benefits of the project, which will create tens of thousands of jobs and hundreds of new enterprises, while unlocking Central Asia's transit potential. It is also expected to foster cultural exchange, revive the historic Silk Road, and strengthen ties among participating nations.

Uzbekistan is committed to actively contributing to all stages of the project, utilizing its technical and intellectual resources. President Mirziyoyev expressed confidence that the railway would symbolize friendship, progress, and regional unity, thanking all engineers and workers involved.

He concluded by extending New Year greetings and wishing success to those shaping this shared vision for the region's future.