Solution to Strengthen the Industrialization and Modernization in Hanoi, Vietnam

Pham Van Tan (PhD.)
University of Transport Technology

Abstract:
This industrialization and modernization process of Hanoi – Vietnam capital city, has achieved many significant results, contributed greatly in the industrialization and modernization process of the whole country. However, there remains some accountable difficulties and challenges. This paper would attempt to provide a comprehensive analysis and recommendation accordingly for Hanoi to strengthen the industrialization and modernization process, thus building a more civilized and beautiful Capital city.

Key words: industrialization, modernization, human resources, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Introduction:
Industrialization and modernization are the major and consistent guidelines of Vietnam Communist Party and State, aiming to: “Build our country into an industrialized country with modern material and technical foundations and sustainable economic structure, progressive production process, highly developed human resources, high standard in material and spiritual lifestyle, strong national defense and security, enriched citizens, strong country and the fair and balanced society.”[4, p.81], and “soon turn our country into an industrialized country towards modernity” [6, p.76]. Industrialization and modernization in Hanoi - the capital city - plays a very important role in the industrialization and modernization of the whole country. As the capital, the “heart” of the whole country, Hanoi develops not only for its own sake but also for the whole country.

“Hanoi for the whole country, the whole country for Hanoi”. The Party Central Committee affirmed: “Building and developing Hanoi Capital to deserve its role as a national political-administrative center, a major center of culture, science, education, economics and international transactions, a driving force for development of the Red River Delta region and the whole country; with comprehensive and sustainable socio-economic development, people's material and spiritual life has been increasingly improved, political and social stability, national defense and security have been further strengthened, the political system is getting more and more strong”[1]. Resolution of the XVI Congress of Party Committee in Hanoi affirmed: “Mobilizing all resources, promoting comprehensively and synchronously the renovation process of industrialization, modernization, constructing the capital city to become more and more beautiful, civilized and modern.” [7, p.153-154].

Since the process of industrializing and modernizing the capital, Hanoi City has gained many important achievements. Economic growth is progressive year after year, in specific, Hanoi saw an increase from 7.12% (2017) [2, p.8] to 7.37% (2018) [3, p.7]. Living standard has been significantly improved as Hanoian's income per
capita ranks among the highest in the country, reaching US$4,080/person (2018) - 1.12 times higher than in 2015 [3, p.674]. The economic structure has also shifted in a positive direction, in which the proportion of the service industry has led the way, reaching over 50% of the city's GDP. Moreover, industrialization and modernization of suburban rural areas have been strongly promoted in association with building new rural areas.

However, besides the achievements, industrialization and modernization of the Capital are also limited and inadequate. In spite of many positive changes, it has not met the requirements, not yet utilized all potential, advantages and strengths of the Capital, and has not really created a qualitative change. Indeed, the industrialization and modernization of rural agriculture in the city is still slow, failing to meet the requirements of development. In addition, high economic growth has not really sustainable in technical infrastructure, especially transport infrastructure has not kept up with the development. Meanwhile, planning and urban management in many aspects is limited, the socio-cultural development has not met the increasing requirements of industrialization and modernization process. As for foreign affairs, Hanoi has not focused in development cooperation aiming to be a driving force of development. As mentioned above, Hanoi has not yet maximized its capital in science and technology application in production and efficiency enhancement, especially with high quality human resources, to invest on development.

The aforementioned limitations have made the industrialization and modernization of Hanoi not yet achieve the desired results, not commensurate with the potential and position as the Capital. In the new context, in order to accelerate the process of industrialization and modernization, to build the Capital more and more civilized and modern, worthy of the beliefs and expectations of its citizen and Vietnam as a whole, Hanoi city needs to pay more attention to the following solutions:

**Firstly, developing high quality human resources**

The XI National Congress of the Party affirmed: “Developing and improving the quality of human resources, especially high-quality human resources, is one of the decisive factors for the rapid and sustainable development of our country”[5, p. 41]. The XVI Congress of Party Committee in Hanoi also determined to: “Focus on training and improving the quality of human resources, especially high-quality human resources in order to meet the requirements of industrialization, modernization and international integration” [7, p. 103], which is one of Hanoi’s three breakthrough developing missions in the coming years. Without or lack of high-quality human resources, it is very difficult for Hanoi to accelerate the process of industrialization, modernization and thrive to be the driving force for the key northern economy as well as the national economy.

Therefore, the development of high quality human resources in Hanoi is essential. Developing high-quality human resources will create a high-quality workforce for Hanoi to meet the requirements of economic development, technological innovation, and advanced labor productivity, increasing gray matter capital, knowledge and competitiveness of Hanoi's production. Moreover, the development of high-quality human resources will directly promotes scientific and technological advances, thus contribute greatly to the Capital's economic development; a contingent of high-skilled laborers and experts is produced, all capable of international integration, modern scientific and technological achievements implementation. Thanks to this, the Capital would accelerate the process of industrialization and modernization.

Over the years, Hanoi City has focused on developing high quality human resources, implementing many projects to improve the quality; establishing training mechanism through high-skilled staff, issuing many policies to attract and respect talents. However, as the Hanoi Municipal Committee pointed out: “The quality of training high-quality human resources has not yet met the market requirements.” [8, p. 121] Considering to develop high-quality human resources to accelerate the process of industrialization and modernization of the Capital, Hanoi needs to implement many solutions, including the following solutions:

**Firstly, to further shift the economic structure towards service-industry-agriculture, build a knowledge economy, strongly develop industries that require high levels of knowledge and technology such as hi-tech agriculture, information technology, high-tech industrial products and vocational training. The economic restructuring towards service-industry-agriculture, construction and development of the knowledge-based economy**
is not only consistent with the potential and position of the capital, but more importantly it will create attraction and motivation for the development of high quality human resources in Hanoi. Indeed, a knowledge economy would accompany with high-level human resource, as high quality human resource would help develop a knowledge economy.

Secondly, to renovate and improve the quality of education and training of the Capital, in which it is necessary to attach importance to improve teaching methods, renewing contents of training programs, and raising the quality of teachers and ducational management staff at all levels. Along with that, Hanoi needs to improve its policy mechanism in order to strengthen and diversify investment sources for education and training, of which the city's financial investment is very important. Currently, although Hanoi has spent over 15% of the recurrent budget for education, this ratio is not sustainable and needed to be reviewed. Hanoi should also calculate and reduce some long-term and large-scale investment projects from the city's budget that have not seen high efficiency as expected as we have seen in some recent works, to increase investment in education and training. Investment in education - training is an investment in people, which always brings the highest efficiency and benefits.

Third, to take advantage of the potential of research institutes, universities and colleges in the area in training and developing human resources, especially high-quality human resources for the Capital. Hanoi has the potential and advantages in human resource training, as it is home to many academics, universities, colleges, research institutes, many scientists, teachers, intellectuals in all fields. However, Hanoi has not yet built and established appropriate and effective mechanisms and policies for them in training human resources, thus, the issue of training and developing human resources, especially high-quality human resources, has not been “absorbed” into these institutes. On the other hand, these research institutes, universities and colleges are also lacking in quality and practical training, not yet proactively offering a training program for human resources, especially high-quality human resources for the Capital. Therefore, Hanoi needs to develop appropriate mechanisms and policies to take advantage of this intellectual capital, whose formulation must necessarily involve the participation of scientists in research institutes, universities and colleges located in the City.

Fourthly, to renovate and drastically implement policies that attract and utilize talents. To attract talents, first of all, Hanoi must promote individual responsibility, namely the role and responsibility of the heads of agencies and units in human resources, attaching competency within recruitment process, thereby improving the quality of recruitment, attracting and selecting people who are highly capable and qualified to meet job requirements. Talented users, first of all, must be good at using people, respect their talents, so that talented people have the opportunity to devote their talents. In addition, Hanoi needs to have specific regulations on incentives for talented people, in which accordingly, salary and incentives for talented people must ensure their lives at a comfortable level compared to the standards of other social classes, their income should be secured with people with the same qualifications and capacity working in the private sector; policies should support high quality living conditions for housing and necessary working facilities.

Along with the material incentives, Hanoi needs to attach importance to creating an enabling working environment, that is, a friendly, transparent and democratic place to ensure that talented people have autonomy, personally responsibility, freedom of expression and experience. In addition, there should be the attention and closeness from management leaders; policies of acknowledgement and rewards of the contributions of talented people. A truly democratic, friendly working environment, encouraging creativity, openness to devotion and renovation, high mobility in their career are the decisive factors to attract and retain talented people.

Secondly, promote international integration.

Industrialization and modernization in the trend of globalization takes place in the industrial revolution 4.0, hence, international integration is necessary. Speeding up international integration has become one of the most important driving forces for socio-economic development, it helps promoting the competitiveness of the economy, expanding markets, boosting exports and utilizing investment capital, technology, knowledge, management experience and other resources. Moreover, promoting national integration is also important for the development of human resources,
especially high quality human resources - one of the three strategic breakthroughs for the industrialization and modernization process as mentioned before, creating more jobs, improving people's life standard. As the gateway for international exchange and integration, in recent years, Hanoi's international integration has achieved important results, contributing to consolidating and creating a harmonious environment, utilizing international resources to promote industrialization and modernization of the capital; strengthening internal resources, and improving the international position and prestige of the Capital.

However, the international integration process, especially the economic integration of Hanoi, still has some limitations, inadequacies, not commensurate with the position and role of the Capital. To turn this process to be an important driving force for socio-economic development, thus accelerating the process of industrialization and modernization of the Capital, and hit its target sooner than planned, Hanoi has to pay attention to the following issues:

Firstly, to enhance the promotion and marketing of the city's image, people and culture to international friends in various forms: Promoting cultural exchanges, tourism, excelling in the reception of international domestic tourists, strengthening international diplomacy, etc. The image of Hanoi in the eyes of foreigners should be consistently and truly a beautiful, friendly, and respectful image to show that Vietnam is ready and open to exchange and cooperate.

Secondly, to proactively enhance the expansion of economic, cultural, scientific and educational relationships with major economic centers, capitals and major cities of countries around the world. Along with that, Hanoi needs to create a favorable international environment right in the capital area, creating conditions for domestic and foreign organizations and individuals to integrate quickly and effectively into socio-economic activities of the Capital, the country and the world.

Thirdly, to build synchronous and modern infrastructure, mainly focusing on transportation and telecommunications and information technology infrastructure, to create favorable conditions for investors; creating and improving the reliability level, building a favorable and open investment environment, spreading red carpets to welcome investors. As the infrastructure is synchronous, modern, the investment environment is favorable and welcome, Hanoi will surely attract many large and strong potential investors.

Fourthly, while promoting investment attraction, Hanoi also needs to favor best investors, technology options, resolutely not selecting outdated and endangered technologies that could cause harm to Vietnam's people and environment. Along with the process of international integration and attracting investors, Hanoi needs to pay attention to building, protecting and preserving the cultural identity of Hanoi people: "To integrate but not to dissolve".

Fifthly, to train workers in the period of integration with a strong political stance, true loyalty to the country, to the people, to be sensitive to changing situation, to proactively integrate into the world, to handle dialectical relationship between internal and external factors, to acquire knowledge, experience and power of the world to enrich their own; have good practical experience, sacrifice immediate benefits for the sake of global, long-term interests, skilled in "immutable" as well as "improvisation" in the context of the ever-changing, sometimes unpredictable, international situation.

Thirdly, develop science - technology.

Science and technology are the driving force of the industrialization and modernization of the country. As science and technology are developed and applied in practice, it would contribute to labor productivity, economical use of material, product quality improvement, innovation of new products, thereby increasing competitiveness, expanding markets, promoting growth and economic development. Moreover, science and technology also provide knowledge, information and materials for education - training to improve the quality of human resources. Therefore, in order to accelerate the process of industrialization and modernization, it is impossible to neglect the importance of the development of science and technology. In recent years, Hanoi City has paid attention and invested in scientific and technological development in service for industrialization, modernization, construction and development of the Capital. However, in fact, the science and technology of the development Capital is not commensurate with the inherent potential and advantages, not yet creating a breakthrough to meet the development requirements of the Capital. In order to utilize the
city's science and technology to develop commensurate with its potential and become an important driving force for the city's rapid and sustainable development, thus bringing the industrialization and modernization of the Capital to its destination, Hanoi should consider the following solutions:

Firstly, it is necessary to set up a fund for scientific and technological development investment. This fund is formed from many sources, from the city's human resources, social benefit, technology transfer activities, etc. Hanoi also needs to revise any ineffective investment projects' funding in exchange to invest for science and technology.

Secondly, Hanoi should concentrate resources to build a number of key national research and laboratories up to regional and international standards. These facilities and laboratories will be home to technology research, innovation and application of the Capital. Since the Renovation period, Hanoi has had many luxurious restaurants and hotels, but looking back on the city today, no proper scientific research facilities have been built to commensurate with the position of the Capital.

Thirdly, specific mechanisms and policies should be planned and imposed to attract and utilize domestic talents, especially young talents. The mechanisms based on the current coefficient and salary scale should be review and revise to create the best working conditions for local talents to dedicate their talents and intelligence to Capital and country.

Fourthly, it is necessary to have mechanisms and policies to utilize the very strong scientific and technological capital of central scientific institutions, facilities, universities and colleges located in the City. Hanoi should collaborate with central scientific agencies, research institutes, universities, and research colleges to propose major scientific and technological solutions for the Capital's construction and development.

Fifthly, Hanoi should be open and eager to absorb scientific and technological achievements of advanced countries. In the current strong global competition, no one can sell us the best technology, therefore, Hanoi also needs to attach great importance to improving and training scientific staff of the Capital so that they can acquire new knowledge, create innovative research and master new scientific and technological achievements for development.

References:

1. Political Department (2011), Resolution No. 11-NQ/TW of January 6, 2011 on directions and solutions for Hanoi's development, 2011-2020 period.
2. Hanoi City Statistical Office (2018), Hanoi City Statistical Yearbook 2017, Publisher. Statistical.
3. Hanoi City Statistical Office (2019), Hanoi City Statistical Yearbook 2018, Publisher. Statistical.
4. Vietnam Communist Party (1996), Official document of the VII National Congress, National Political Publishing House.
5. Vietnam Communist Party (2011), Official document of the XI National Congress, National Political Publishing House.
6. Vietnam Communist Party (2016), Official document of the XII National Congress, Central Office of The Party.
7. Hanoi Party Committee (2016), Official document of the XVI Congress of Hanoi Party Committee, National Political Publishing House.
8. Hanoi Party Committee (2015), Summary of 09 full-course program of Executive Committee of City Party Committee, Course XV, and tenure 2010 - 2015, Internal circulated documents.