An important factor in the realisation of the NPPT is that the government has made a priority of financing education. To finance the NPPT, the government provides 36% of the National budget of the republic or 11% of GNP. Expenditure in 1998 was 8.1% of GNP, in 1999 – 9.6%, in 2000 -11%, and in 2001-11.6%.

Special mechanisms and conditions of forming republican and local budget, financing education at macro and micro levels were worked out and are being realized. The process of formulating the budget begins at the level of the institute, school, lyceum, college, university, which propose their budget needs to corresponding executive bodies on a local level (Hokimiyats – finance and planning departments) and further. Directions of a more rational use of budget funds were defined at a micro level by strengthening budget disciplines, improving the movement of funds in higher education establishments with the help of a two-level system of centralized and decentralized financial management of educational establishments.

II.12 Sources of information

While analysing the reform process, measures were taken to liquidate shortcomings in the process of realisation of the government programs, including the NPPT. Information sources, effectiveness of selection, analysis and distribution of statistical and other information is very important here. The existing system of data selection can be divided into 3 blocks:

a) statistical information including network indicators  
b) information on execution of government orders  
c) data concerning aims and others.

The structure, forms and mechanisms of statistical reports; objects of statistical information; network indicators, etc. are being processed.

II.13 Monitoring and evaluation of reforms

The character of activities set and being undertaken on the realisation of the NPPT required organising permanent monitoring in the republic as to whether the laws were being executed. For these purposes and conformity to the activities in realisation of the NPPT undertaking monitoring was assigned to the Republican Commission on execution of the NPPT and the organizational structure of the monitoring system was approved in the republic by a Presidential decree (6th October, 1997). The principal working group for monitoring education reforms (HWG) and the territorial working group for monitoring reforms (TWG) have been established. The structure, forms and mechanisms of monitoring indicators; objects and beneficiaries of monitoring process, etc. have been clearly defined and are functioning.

Part III Special actions in the framework of perspective directions of reforms

III.1 Preschool education

There are more than 7,000 preschool establishments in the republic at present visited by 650,000 children, i.e. 20% of all children in Uzbekistan. Intensive work is being carried out on extending a network of non-formal educational groups with a minimum number of children (7-10 people) and conditions of home groups ensuring emotional healthiness and psychological security of children. Groups on preparing children for school have also been opened in mahallas, preschool establishments, schools and other establishments. The number of non-governmental preschool establishments is growing. 37 preschool children establishments were privatised in a short time. The Republican public organization “Farzandim – jigarbandim” (literally ‘my child is my kidney!’ [‘my child is my soul’]) has been organized in accordance with the Decree No 68 of the Cabinet of Ministers on 5th February, 2001. Regional branches have been organized in 6 regions.
The main purpose of public organizations is teaching young parents skills and knowledge in the field of education, developing children and preparing them for study at school. Besides, in all seven public organizations work is being carried out on preparing children from poor families for school that don’t go to preschool establishments. There is a plan on developing state preschool establishments. The forecasted numbers are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>In 2003</th>
<th>In 2004</th>
<th>In 2005</th>
<th>In 2006</th>
<th>In 2007</th>
<th>In 2008</th>
<th>In 2009</th>
<th>In 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>654500</td>
<td>658400</td>
<td>671400</td>
<td>684800</td>
<td>698400</td>
<td>712200</td>
<td>726200</td>
<td>740600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III.2 Providing equal access to compulsory education

On the basis of the NPPT 12-years of compulsory education is being introduced step by step in Uzbekistan – it covers 9 years of general secondary education and 3 years of secondary special, professional education. The general secondary education is carried out in 2 stages of education in common secondary schools: primary education (1-4 classes), general secondary education (1-11 classes). The secondary special and professional education is carried out in academic lyceums and professional colleges.

**Primary education** is directed at forming the bases of literacy, knowledge and skills necessary for obtaining general secondary education. Children of 6-7 years old are accepted into the first class at school.

**General secondary education** gives the necessary amount of knowledge, develops skills of independent thinking, organizational abilities and practical experience, and promotes professional primary orientation and choice of the following stage of education. Specialized schools are being set up to develop the abilities and talents of children. Everybody has the right to get **secondary special, professional education** on the basis of general secondary education and voluntarily select a direction of education in academic lyceums or professional colleges.

**Academic lyceums** and **professional colleges** provide secondary special, professional education granting the right and being a basis for work on an obtained profession or continuation of education at the next stage. The state education standards have been created and are being introduced (adopted by the Decree No390 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on August 16, 1999), defining necessary requirements for quality preparedness and qualification of learners, their cultural and moral level. A new generation of textbooks, methodological manuals and instructional materials are also being created.

Stage by stage the introduction of a multi-score rating system of the students’ educational preparedness assessment is being implemented. International relations are being extended and strengthened, real measures are being taken to assist international donor organizations and funds in training personnel, and also attracting foreign investments in the sphere of education in the republic.

The full transition to compulsory general secondary and secondary special, professional education, and also to differentiated teaching is being carried out, taking into consideration the level and skills of students.

Strengthening the material, technical and information basis of educational establishments will proceed by 2005; the education process will be supplied with high-quality educational literature and advanced pedagogical technologies. The continuous education system will also be upgraded with new technologies.

Further consolidation of the resource, personnel and information basis of educational establishments, fully supplying the education process with the newest educational-methodological establishments and advanced pedagogical technologies will be conducted till