

The history of commerce development in the city of Lezha

In the year 1990 in the city of Lezha in the frame of centralized commerce, functioned the centralized economic enterprises (NTAN), that delivered the service of commerce in the city. They belonged to the chain of alimentary enterprise, building enterprise, gathering enterprise, etc.

The Commercial enterprise of different articles administered the commercialization of goods in detail and managed these units:

• Industrial articles trading	8
• Bakeries	6
• Groceries	13
• Commerce of meat and farm products	8
• Sweets, refreshing	2
• Non alimentary	26
• Restaurants	4
• Bar – buffet	12
• Popular kitchens	8
• Depots	8

In total there were 95 commercial units and depots, from these 87 were units of commercialization in detail. The services activity was made by the Communal & housing Enterprise, with the departments of shoe producing and repairing etc.

In June 1990 the Council of Ministers decided to pass these enterprises in self-financing trading units and their payments was made in percentage of results taken by the difference between income and expenditure, including the consumption of energy and water. The amortization of accessories and buildings was not calculated. With this method was worked up to June of 1991, when the Council of Ministers decided for the start of privatization procedure by first offering to current employees.

The following units were privatized first: the popular kitchen in center, restaurant "11 January", the bar at the train station, ice cream in center, the bars in "Gurra" and at the old bridge, barracks of fruits - vegetables at "11 January" and DMD store.

This period was the beginning of gradual privatization and the beginning of a market economy. After the elections of 22 March 1992 the Meksi democratic government made the decisions no. 362, 363, 364 in May - June 1992, where near the enterprises

were set up a privatization commission who operated in preparing the implementation of privatization as set by DCM, with defined forms and send to the National Privatization Agency, which had branches at the district level.

Registration of business was done by the court on any subject, and the structure of financial police began functioning.

Since 1994, the Tax Department was established at the district level and financial police was included in the structure of the Tax Department.

In the period from September to December 1992 were privatized the Trade Units in detail, excluding Hotel "Liss" who was organized in the form of a Comercial Unit. The privatization of this object was concluded after the 1995.

So we have the data for the privatizations up to 31.12.1992: trade units 86, services 43 and we have 15 more units open by private entrepreneurship. The free popular market (bazaar) opened at the "Skenderbeg" quarter.

After the local elections of the 1992 were created the LGU, and Lezha was to be governed at the local level by the Municipality of Lezha. The city of Lezha served also as district, region and prefecture center. In the Municipality was built the Local Tax & Market Management Directory.

The central Government, having care about the comercialisation of the main food products, created the Trading Enterprise for the Food Products which managed 12 most important food and non-alimentary products having the function of the gross trade for the supply of good to the privatized units of trade in detail. This was also encouraging for these new units, in a way that the free initiative and the competition must have the right freedom.

In the years 1993 and later, the business started to have its importance being the promoter ogf development. The consolidation of businesses and its expansion, the creation of commercial trade companies, had a good impact in the economic development of the city of Lezha, making it one of the fastest developing cities. This was accompanied by an unimaginable demographic growth from year to year. Today the population of the city of Lezha has quadrupled since the nineties. In the meantime there was also a development and evolution of the economic legislation.

The statiostics of many years are not really exact because in the 1997 there was an economic crisis, in a national level, as a results of the fall of the pyramidal schemes, the businesses lost part of its capital and many units went bankrupt.

The exact statistics were created by the Tax Directory in the Municipality from the year 2000 and ongoing, with the effective registers of business by highlighting every tax and tariff.

A good panorama for the development of business gives this table:

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years	incomes			Investments				Nr i bussineses			no. of families that are treated with economic aid
	Total	small business	large business	Plan	total of investments	income from tax&tariffs	from state budget and donations	Total	small	large	
2000	17,986	14,831	3,155	10,000	25,551	3,546	22,005	287	236	51	1,100
2001	20,392	15,978	4,414	12,500	56,305	4,636	51,669	306	253	53	907
2002	23,414	12,870	10,544	15,000	53,168	3,129	50,039	320	265	55	810
2003	82,089	53,229	28,860	15,000	77,784	3,766	74,018	347	280	67	786
2004	99,885	67,373	32,512	25,000	72,454	20,251	52,203	392	322	70	713
2005	105,175	66,075	39,100	20,000	43,801	17,890	25,911	457	380	77	680
2006	139,140	68,658	70,482	67,105	64,794	31,835	32,959	557	440	117	599
2007	90,371	64,721	25,650	81,000	81,580	28,723	52,857	656	531	125	552
2008	120,515	74,365	46,150	76,981	102,730	44,695	58,035	811	674	137	548
2009	122,751	72,114	50,637	90,141	103,806	32,806	71,000	993	837	156	535
2010	127,330	67,810	59,520	77,800	190,526	22,813	167,713	976	757	219	542
2011	186,550	105,550	81,000	107,016	217,902	107,016	110,886	947	759	188	545

Until 31.12.2006 the local tax on the small enterprises was gathered by the Regional Tax Department and was then turned to the Municipality. This Department was playing the role of the tax agent. Meanwhile the Tax Directory in the Municipality followed the other taxes and tariffs. From January 2007 this duty was passed to the local government in the frame of decentralization.

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