

Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Working Hard on Priority Areas of Issues Related to Agriculture, Rural Residents and Rural Areas to Build a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects as Scheduled

2 January 2020

Since the 19th CPC National Congress, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) has made a series of major plans and a raft of policies and initiatives for poverty alleviation and the implementation of the strategy of rural revitalization. The reform and development of agriculture and rural areas testify that the policies and guidelines made by the CPC Central Committee are completely right, so they should be carried forward for a time to come.

By 2020, China will finish the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects and win the battle against poverty. To achieve the two goals, the CPC Central Committee holds that we must tackle the last barriers to poverty alleviation and strengthen weak spots of agriculture, rural residents and rural areas. Rural living standards are the measure of success in our drive toward moderate prosperity in China. How the poverty alleviation and the building of a moderately prosperous society are going largely depends on the achievements on issues related to agriculture, rural residents and rural areas. The whole Party must fully recognize the significance of the above issues, make relentless and reinforced efforts to resolutely achieve the first centennial goal.

The overall requirements for the work on issues related to agriculture, rural residents and rural areas are upholding the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, comprehensively implementing the guidelines of the 19th CPC National Congress, the second, third and fourth plenary sessions of the 19th CPC Central Committee, practicing the principles of the Central Economic Work Conference, following the benchmarks of a moderately prosperous society in all respects, focusing on the implementation of policies, pulling all efforts together to reduce poverty and make up for pronounced weak spots in issues related to agriculture, rural residents and rural areas for the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects, continuously enabling steady yields and sufficient supply of agricultural products and increasing farmer residents' income, advancing high-quality agricultural development, maintaining social harmony and stability in rural areas, creating a stronger sense of gain, of happiness and of security in rural residents, and ensuring the key task of poverty alleviation is achieved, and a moderately prosperous society in all respects is built in rural areas in parallel.



I. Winning Battle Against Poverty

1. The tasks of poverty alleviation should be fully fulfilled. Given that the majority of impoverished people have been lifted out of poverty, decisive achievements have been secured in poverty alleviation and the final but critical stage of the combat has set in. Targeted poverty alleviation should be upheld and more robust and precise measures should be taken to see that poor populations have access to compulsory education, basic medical services, and safe housing, and clean drinking water, while making sure that they have no worry about food and clothing, and ensure that those still struggling with poverty are lifted out of poverty as scheduled. Priority should be given to destitute areas, such as Tibet, the four southern administrative prefectures of Xinjiang, Tibetan areas of Qinghai, Sichuan, Yunnan and Gansu, Linxia Prefecture, Liangshan Prefecture and Nujiang Prefecture, and efforts should be focused on prominent issues and weak links, and policy implementation. For counties and administrative villages in destitute areas with a large number of impoverished people, high poverty incidence, and great challenges of poverty reduction, the best talents should be pulled together to render strong support, and supervise poverty reduction efforts in designated villages. For impoverished groups with special needs, comprehensive social security policies, including subsistence allowances, medical insurance, endowment insurance, relief and support systems for people living in dire poverty, and temporary assistance should be put in place meticulously to ensure all eligible people receive support. Financial budgets at all levels ought to continue to increase special funds for poverty alleviation, and the new funds in the central financial budget ought to be largely spent on the aforementioned destitute areas. Supporting policies, such as linking the increase in land used for urban construction with the decrease in land used for rural construction and micro-credit for poverty alleviation should be optimized. Efforts to promote poverty alleviation through Party building ought to be advanced.

2. The achievements of poverty alleviation should be consolidated to prevent people from slipping back into poverty. Local governments ought to conduct all-round screening of people lifted out of poverty, scrupulously check loopholes and remedy weakness, root out concerns one by one, and delist the households lifted out of poverty. Experience and practices of all regions should be summed up and promoted. Sound monitoring and alert mechanisms should be set up to enable stronger dynamic monitoring on impoverished households lifted out of poverty yet still in unstable conditions and those who lead a poor life but are not yet qualified for subsistence allowances, ensure people reduced to poverty again and the newly poor receive timely support, and consolidate the achievements of poverty alleviation through institutional guarantees. Poverty should also be reduced through agricultural industrialization, boosting employment and consumption, and follow-up support for impoverished people who have relocated from inhospitable areas. The project of returning farmland to forests and grassland ought to be expanded in poverty-stricken areas. More efforts ought to be spent in helping people increase confidence and ability to enrich themselves.

3. Sound examination and inspection should be conducted and publicity should follow. Poverty exit should be strictly controlled with rigorous exit standards and procedures. The manipulation of numbers and falsification in poverty alleviation should be firmly ended to see that the results of poverty alleviation stand the test of history. Regular



supervision and guidance should be reinforced to identify issues promptly and urge relevant parties to make corrections. Poverty alleviation censuses should be carried out. Earnest efforts should be made to promote poverty alleviation, fully display the ambitious practice of poverty alleviation in the new era, comprehensively promote the historical achievements of poverty alleviation, profoundly reveal the institutional advantage underpinning these marvelous achievements, and tell a vivid story of China's poverty reduction efforts to the world.

4. The overall poverty alleviation policy should be kept stable. Poverty-stricken counties lifted out of poverty remain responsible for the task and subject to relevant policies and supervision and keep enjoying support. The fulfillment of responsibilities for poverty alleviation should be strengthened through carrying forward major support policies for poverty-stricken counties, increasing the collaboration on poverty alleviation between the eastern and western regions, stepping up pairing assistance, support for targeted poor areas and non governmental participation in combating poverty, retaining poverty alleviation teams and building up primary-level capacity in helping the poor. Ongoing efforts ought to be made to combat corruption and inappropriate ethical conduct when reducing poverty. For counties lifted out of poverty steadily, all provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) may properly allocate special poverty alleviation funds based on actual local conditions to support impoverished populations in non-destitute counties and villages.

5. Studies on how to advance poverty reduction work should be conducted. China's poverty status will experience substantial changes, when the tasks of poverty alleviation are fulfilled, and the priority of the work will shift to addressing relative poverty with regular efforts in place of intensive efforts. Efforts ought to be made to explore the establishment of long-standing mechanisms to address relative poverty and advance the steady transition of poverty reduction strategies and framework. The top-level design of how to address relative poverty should be strengthened and incorporated into the strategy of rural revitalization in a coordinated manner. The development of opinions about the alignment of poverty alleviation and the implementation of the strategy of rural revitalization should be sped up.

II. Working Faster to Remedy Weak Links in Rural Infrastructure and Public Services for the Goal of Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects

6. The building of public infrastructure in rural areas ought to be strengthened. Efforts should be made to enhance the quality and coverage of the demonstration project of properly building, managing, maintaining and running rural highways with demonstration projects launched at the provincial and municipal levels. While developing asphalt highways and providing access to buses to well-prepared administrative villages, efforts should be made to steadily advance the development of asphalt highways in natural villages (groups). Highway development and renovation in villages should be supported. In the tax and fee reform of the transfer payment of refined oil, support for highway maintenance in rural areas should be intensified. The legislation of rural highway regulations should be accelerated. The security management of rural highway traffic should be strengthened. The scheme for grid upgrading and renovation in Tibet, the four southern administrative districts of Xinjiang,



Tibetan areas of Qinghai, Sichuan, Yunnan and Gansu, Linxia Prefecture, Liangshan Prefecture and Nujiang Prefecture and border villages ought to be followed through. Universal access to fiber optical network and 4G mobile communications network should be given to administrative villages. The responsibility for the management and maintenance of public infrastructure in rural areas should be implemented, and the cost thus incurred by local governments ought to be included in government budgets. Sound village planning should be conducted.

7. Water supply in rural areas should be enhanced. The task of further enhancing drinking water safety in rural areas should be fully completed. The development of rural drinking water infrastructure should be coordinated to promote large-scale water supply projects in relatively densely populated areas. Areas in good conditions should extend urban water pipe networks to rural areas for increased integration of urban and rural water supply. Increasing central financial budget ought to be offered as subsidies to the repair and maintenance of rural drinking water safety projects in the central and western regions, and rural areas of former central Soviet areas. The protection of sources of drinking water in rural areas should be ramped up and robust water quality monitoring should be conducted.

8. Robust measures should be taken to improve rural living environments. Classified rural toilet revolution should be pushed forward. Specifically, well-conditioned suburban areas in eastern, central and western cities ought to basically complete the renovation of sanitary toilets with hazard-free treatment of feces in rural areas, whereas other areas should identify targets based on actual local conditions. Local governments ought to adopt feasible technology and models of toilet renovation and verify their feasibility through trial programs prior to widespread extension. The control of rural household waste should be exercised with pilot programs of local waste classification and reduction from the source. The tiered control of rural domestic sewage should be exercised with a priority on that in villages and towns, and key villages. Measures should be taken to tackle rural black odorous water and support rural residents to carry out clean and green village campaigns with a view to a beautiful home. Where conditions permit, subsidies should be given to support the repair and maintenance of public infrastructure in rural living environments.

9. The quality of rural education ought to be boosted. Boarding schools in rural areas should be improved and the layout of small schools in these areas should be coordinated to improve education conditions and quality. Rural teachers should be trained more. The scheme of unified management of teachers and principals by county-level governments in the public compulsory education system should be widely promoted. Plans ought to be devised to dispatch teachers from county-level schools to rural schools. The policy that the average income of primary and middle school teachers should be no less than or higher than that of local civil servants should be put in place. Teachers working in rural schools should enjoy favorable policies in the evaluation and approval of professional titles. If eligible, these teachers should be incorporated into local government housing support systems. Ongoing efforts ought to be made to carry out the special campaign of controlling the dropout rate of students subject to compulsory education in rural areas based on the results already achieved in compulsory education. The supply of admission quota should be increased to ensure children traveling with their parents, who are rural migrant workers, have access to



education. Greater attention should be paid to rural preschool education, and measures should be taken to increase the supply of inclusive preschool education resources through multiple channels. The education for people with special needs in rural areas ought to be stepped up. More efforts should be devoted to enhancing the capacity of teachers in central and western rural areas for the standard national spoken and written language and reinforcing mandarin learning among preschoolers in poverty-stricken areas. The enrollment scale of vocational schools in rural areas should be expanded with enhanced quality.

10. Healthcare services for rural communities should be bolstered. Efforts ought to be made to develop high-quality county-level hospitals, advance the building of standard township health centers, and renovate and boost village clinics, closing gaps in healthcare services. Steady progress ought to be secured in the building of a tight community of township healthcare systems. The cultivation of rural doctors should be strengthened, and the recruitment procedures of medical graduates with a bachelor's degree or above, or qualified general practitioners (GP) having received standard training from residents should be simplified moderately. For fresh college medical graduates who find jobs in the central and western regions, and remote rural areas with harsh conditions, compensations for their college tuitions and state student loans ought to be granted. Local governments are allowed to capitalize on existing officially budgeted posts at primary-level health institutions, and township health centers may prioritize eligible village doctors in recruitment. The primary-level disease prevention and control teams should be expanded to prevent critical illness and infectious diseases. The cervical and breast cancer screening of women prone to these diseases ought to be covered by basic public healthcare services.

11. Social security in rural areas ought to be strengthened. The financial subsidy for basic medical insurance for urban and rural residents and standards of individual's contributions should be lifted moderately. The services in basic medical insurance for urban and rural residents, critical illness insurance and medical assistance should be improved, and one-stop services, one-window transactions, single settlement should be implemented at prefecture-level cities. The dynamic precision management of recipients of subsistence allowances in rural areas should be strengthened, and social relief, including subsistence allowances should be boosted in an appropriate manner. Care service systems for left-behind children, women and senior citizens in rural areas should be improved. Measures ought to be taken to develop support communities for the elderly in rural areas and day care centers of various forms. The care services for senior citizens with disabilities and the heavily handicapped should be enhanced.

12. Public cultural services in rural areas should be improved. Efforts should be made to extend basic public cultural services to rural areas and expand the coverage of rural cultural projects for benefit of the people. Urban literary and art troupes and workers are encouraged to deliver cultural performances in rural areas on a regular basis. Rural cultural talents should be trained to support the development of rural literary and art troupes, help inheritors of rural intangible cultural heritage and folk artisans train pupils and pass on their craftsmanship, and foster excellent Chinese opera, cultures of ethnic minorities and folk culture. Towns (villages) with historical and cultural heritage, traditional villages, villages inhabited by ethnic groups, traditional architecture, heritage of agricultural culture, and precious ancient trees should be subject to sound



preservation. Brilliant Chinese harvest festivals themed on “Celebrating Harvest and Embracing Moderately Prosperous Society” should be organized.

13. Prominent environmental challenges in rural areas should be addressed. Vigorous efforts ought to be spent on the conversion of livestock and poultry wastes into resources, and feces treatment facilities should be put in place on large-scale farms. The campaign of pesticide and fertilizer reduction should be pushed forward. The pollution caused by agricultural films ought to be tackled more rigorously, and the comprehensive utilization of crop straw should be promoted. Year-long fishing bans should be imposed in key waters of the Yangtze River, and steady progress should be captured in fishermen’s withdrawal from the river. Measures ought to be taken to promote effective governance models for the protection of black soils, tackle gully erosion, and launch a protective farming action plan for black soils in the northeast. Efforts ought to be made to steadily push forward the management, control, restoration of soil pollution in agricultural land, and follow-up utilization. The comprehensive control of underground water over-extraction in northern China should be pushed forward. Pilot programs of integrated control of rural river systems ought to be launched.

III. Ensuring Valid Supply of Key Agricultural Products and Enabling Continuous Increase of Farmer’s Income

14. Grain output should be kept stable. Food security is always top state issue. Stability should be the top priority of grain production, including stable policy, areas and yields. The evaluation of the governor accountability system for food security should be strengthened, and the sown areas and yields of grain across all provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government) should remain stable in 2020. Agricultural subsidy policy ought to be further improved. The minimum purchase price policy for rice and wheat should be readjusted and improved to ensure that the basic earnings of rural residents are stable. Pilot programs of full cost insurance and income insurance for rice, wheat and corn should be pushed forward. Stronger support for the promotion of high-yield varieties of soybeans and corn, and the new planting techniques of soybean intercropping should be given. Spodoptera frugiperda and other serious plant diseases and pests should be tackled, and unified prevention and control, outsourcing of farmland and land custody, among other service models should be promoted. Greater rewards should be given to counties with large yields of grain, and priority ought to be given to them regarding the allocation of land quota for the processing of agricultural products. These counties should be supported to conduct cross-province allocation and use of new cultivated land indexes for high-standard farmland, and the revenue gained through the allocation should be spent on the development of high-standard farmland according to relevant regulations. The high-quality grain project should be advanced. The replacement of grain crop with feed crop cultivation should be expanded in the agriculture and pasture interlaced zone (APIZ) in the north, coupled with the integration of planting and animal husbandry. The target price policy of Xinjiang cotton ought to be enhanced. Measures should be taken to expand diversified import channels and increase the import of agricultural products in line with domestic demand. The export of superior agricultural products should be



expanded. Comprehensive special campaigns on anti-smuggling of agricultural products should be advanced.

15. Pig farming should be resumed at a faster pace. Ensuring the steady output and supply of live pigs is a pivotal task in economic terms, which calls for comprehensive measures to see that live pig output basically approaches the normal level of previous years by the end of 2020. Provincial governments ought to assume the overall responsibility, and the mayor accountability system for the “Vegetable Basket Project” should be meticulously implemented. County-level governments should work harder to ensure the fulfilment of responsibilities and guarantee sufficient pork supply. Production increase should be combined with the prevention and control of epidemics. Standard large-scale live pork farming should be promoted. Epidemic prevention services for small and medium-sized rural residents of free-range pig farming ought to be strengthened, and stable feed production ought to be ensured. Various policies and measures in support of live pig farming should be rigorously implemented, and bottlenecks like environmental impact assessment (EIA), land use and credit should be removed as soon as possible. The expansion of areas where farming is restricted or prohibited without prior permission, and phenomena like “pig-free city” or “pig-free county” should be tackled. The reporting system and prevention and control measures for African swine fever (ASF) should be strictly implemented, and the research and development (R&D) of vaccines should be accelerated. More efforts should be devoted to developing systems for the prevention of animal epidemics, putting personnel in charge of epidemic prevention and funds in place, and implementing special recruitment plans for the prevention of animal epidemics in counties with large live pig output. Measures ought to be taken to guide pig slaughtering and processing to move closer to centralized farming zones to gradually cut the long-distance transportation of live pigs and push for the shift from the transportation of live pigs to pork. Market monitoring and regulation should be strengthened to ensure sufficient pork supply with reasonable price, crack down on behaviors disrupting the market order, and promptly activate a mechanism where social relief and guarantee standards are linked to price surges. Support ought to be given to the production of dairy products, livestock, beef and mutton, and the optimization of meat consumption structure. Green and healthy aquaculture should be promoted, and the construction and management reform in fishing ports should be reinforced.

16. The development of modern agricultural facilities ought to be strengthened. A group of major modern agricultural investment projects ought to be devised in advance and implemented as soon as possible to effectively increase agricultural investment. The development of high-standard farmland should be accelerated centering on food production functional areas and protection areas for the production of key agricultural products with development plans, justified investment standards and sound construction, inspection, supervision and examination mechanisms to ensure effective development. Subsequent support facilities and water conservation renovation at medium and large-sized irrigation areas should follow as scheduled to bolster flood control and drought relief, and water conservation in agriculture. A group of major water conservancy projects and support facilities should be delivered as soon as possible, and upfront work of subsequent projects of the South-to-North Water Diversion Project ought to be accelerated. The project of cold chain logistics facilities for the storage and



preservation of agricultural products should be launched. The coordinated planning, tiered layout and standard formulation of such cold chain logistics should be strengthened. The construction of a range of key cold chain logistics bases should be budgeted by the central government. The government supports family farms, rural residents' cooperatives, supply and marketing cooperatives, postal and express delivery enterprises and leading enterprises of agricultural industrialization to build facilities for sorting and packaging, refrigeration and preservation, storage and transportation and primary processing. If preservation and storage facilities are built in rural areas, the electricity price is the same with that of agricultural production. Efforts should be made to develop big data centers for agriculture and rural areas based on existing resources, and speed up the application of modern information technology to agriculture, such as the Internet of Things (IoT), big data, block chains, artificial intelligence (AI), 5G mobile communications network, and smart meteorology. Pilot programs of national digital villages should be launched.

17. We should develop rural industries that can enrich rural residents. We should encourage local governments to develop characteristic full-scale agricultural industry chains based on their resource advantages, establish a sound mechanism for rural residents to share the value-added benefits from these industrial chains, foster competitive industrial clusters, and promote the integration of primary, secondary and tertiary industries in rural areas. We should speed up the establishment of modern agricultural industrial parks at the national, provincial, municipal and county levels, support the development of demonstration parks for rural industrial integration, and build high-quality innovation and entrepreneurship bases in rural areas. We should foster new types of agricultural businesses such as family farms and rural residents' cooperatives and agricultural industrialization conglomerates, which allows small rural residents to be participate in agricultural industrial chains through contract farming, bonus sharing and trust services. We will continue to optimize the agricultural structure, strengthen the certification and management of green foods, organic products and agricultural products with geographical indications (GI), cultivate local agricultural product brands, and increase the supply of high-quality green agricultural products. We should effectively develop rural markets, give rural areas greater access to e-commerce, help supply and marketing cooperatives and postal and express delivery enterprises to expand their logistics network in rural areas, build more e-commerce service sites in villages, and make it smoother for agricultural products to be delivered to urban areas and industrial products to rural areas. In the meanwhile, we should strengthen the supervision on the quality and safety of agricultural products and foods in the whole process, put in place a sound traceability system to ensure food safety. We should also encourage industrial and commercial entities to enter rural markets, while protecting the legitimate rights and interests of these entrepreneurs. We should classify and collect statistics on agriculture and relevant industries and strengthen corresponding accounting, in a bid to comprehensively and accurately reflect the value of the entire industrial chain including the production, processing, logistics, marketing and services of agricultural products.

18. We should stabilize the employment for rural migrant workers. To do so, we should implement supporting policies including tax and fee reduction for enterprises involved, work harder to subsidize enterprises which offer stable jobs, relax the conditions for



enterprises without laying off workers in the previous year to apply for subsidy, and increase the subsidy standard for migrant workers to upgrade their skills. If losing their jobs, migrant workers may register as unemployed at their permanent residence, after which they will be provided with equal public employment services. We should introduce and implement regulations to guarantee payments of wages to rural migrant workers. Specifically, we should first focus on projects invested by the government and construction projects to investigate if rural migrant workers are paid as they should be and blacklist enterprises defaulting on wages of rural migrant workers, together other measures to eradicate wage defaults. We should provide training in domestic services, nursing care for the elderly, hospital care, catering and cooking, e-commerce, etc. to create regional brands of labor services. Local governments are encouraged to set up public-welfare posts such as village cleaners, plumbers, road maintainers and forest guards. We should carry out a pilot program of occupational accident compensation for employees of new-format businesses. We should also advance the initiative to cultivate innovators and entrepreneurs in rural areas and incorporate rural migrant workers who return home to start business into the scope of one-time entrepreneurship subsidy.

IV. Improving Rural Primary-Level Governance

19. We ought to give full play to the leading role of the Party organization. The Party's rural primary-level organizations lay the foundation for the Party to conduct activities and push through relevant missions in rural areas. Therefore, we should conscientiously implement the "Regulations on the Work of Rural Grass-roots organizations of the Communist Party of China", organize the people to develop rural industries to enhance the strength of collective economy and enrich the people. We should mobilize the people to participate in rural governance and enhance their sense of ownership to maintain harmony and stability in rural areas; we should educate and guide the people to get rid of outmoded conventions and promote the public order and decent customs to make rural areas more culturally-advanced. We should keep close ties with the people and improve the ability to serve the people so that they stand in solidarity with the Party, which can consolidate the Party's ruling foundation in rural areas. We should put into full effect the filing management system for secretaries of primary-level Party organizations at the village level and Party committees at the county level, establish a mechanism for county-level Party committees to regularly review the performance of members of villages' Party branches and villager committees, continuously rectify the weak and inertia practices of Party organizations at the village level, and ensure the Party organizations play a leading role in all organizations in rural areas. We should tighten the monitoring and management of village-level Party branch secretaries, set up a sound monitoring mechanism for village affairs led by the organization departments of the CPC at all levels and supported by the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs with reinforced guidance, in a way to realize that every proposal is discussed by the village-level Party branches, villager committees, Party members and villager representatives and that the results of both the resolution and the practice are disclosed. We should strengthen discipline inspections at the primary level in rural areas. To this end, we should enhance the communication and cooperation and leverage the synergy between primary-level discipline inspection organizations and village affair supervision committees to render joint supervision. Meanwhile, we should



double our efforts to attract young rural residents to join the Party. Chief Secretaries should be sent to serve poor villages, villages with inertia and villages with weak collective economy. We should also see that there are sufficient funds for village-level organizations and improve the mechanism of encouraging village leadership to start their own businesses. We should select the best cadres to assume office of township leadership, especially secretaries of township Party committees. We should also organize publicity-oriented lectures about how to listen to the Party, feel the grace of the Party and follow the Party in rural areas.

20. We should improve the rural governance system. We should stick to coordination and collaboration between counties and villages, promote primary-level governance and services, and allocate more resources to towns and villages to improve the efficacy of rural governance. As frontline headquarters, local county-level governments should strengthen their overall planning, ensure leaders take up responsibilities, focus on primary-level work, and enhance the professional skills of the people. We should designate a county-level leader and an official in charge of a department directly under the local county-level government to oversee the work of each village. Villages and towns are service centers for agricultural affairs. We should strengthen management service, and establish a sound and unified management service platform involving examination and approval, services, and law enforcement, with a view to achieving one-stop services. We should also recruit more personnel to improve living environments, homestead management, collective property management, livelihood security, and social services in rural areas. Administrative villages are the basic units of governance, which requires them to strengthen self-management, self-service, self-education and self-supervision, improve the primary-level democratic system and rules of villages, in a bid to advance institutionalized, regulated and standardized self-governance of villagers. We should develop pilot and demonstration programs of rural governance systems featuring the integration of self-governance, rule of law, and rule of morality, and promote typical innovative cases in rural governance. The importance of family traditions and manners should also be brought into full play in rural governance.

21. We should mediate villager quarrels and resolve their disputes. Specifically, we should draw on and update the experience of Fengqiao Town, Zhejiang Province, which excels at the management of the public order to better mediate people's disputes, to see to it that minor disputes are tackled within villages and major ones within towns and that disputes do not spread to higher-level bodies. We should provide rural residents with unimpeded channels to express their demands and properly and timely handle their reasonable demands. We should continue to crack down on behaviors that harm the interests of rural residents, and properly address conflicts in land contracting, land expropriation and resettlement projects, wages of rural migrant workers and environmental pollution. We should institute a system where leading cadres, especially municipal- and county-level cadres have to visit primary-level communities regularly to actively respond to unsolved complaints. We should also offer diverse legal services like "one legal adviser for one village". For major decisions to be made which are vital to the very interests of rural residents and may risk social stability, prior risk assessment should be conducted.



22. We should make rural areas safer. It requires us to further combat local mafia, crack down on crimes and other violations such as appropriating rural collective property and funds in support of poverty alleviation and agricultural development, and infringing on the rights of rural women and children, advance anti-corruption campaigns including battling against primary-level minor cases of corruption, and establish a long-term mechanism to prevent and punish local bullies. We will manage religious affairs in rural areas in accordance with the law, stop illegal religious activities, prevent cults from infiltrating into rural areas, and curb the spread of superstition. To enhance public security in rural areas, we should improve grid management and services. Moreover, we should tackle counterfeit and poor-quality foods and crack down on the production and sales of counterfeit and poor-quality agricultural supplies. We should also strengthen the capacity of rural communities for disaster prevention and mitigation. All safety hazards in rural areas should be checked and removed.

V. To Strengthen Measures to Remedy Weak spots in Rural Areas

23. We should prioritize investment in agriculture, rural residents, and rural areas. Specifically, we ought to increase the investment from central and local financial budget. The budget of the central government should allocate more funds to agriculture and rural areas, to ensure that the financial investment can be used to improve the weak spots of agriculture, rural areas, and rural residents in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects. Local governments should employ part of the general bond spending to support eligible relocations of poor populations from inhospitable areas and rural revitalization projects. All local governments should steadily expand the issuance of special bonds in favor of rural revitalization. Relevant central and provincial-level departments should optimize the usage structure of agricultural funds according to shore up weak spots. In accordance with the requirement that the money raised from rural areas should be spent there, we ought to promptly issue guidelines on adjusting and improving the use range of land transfer revenue and further increasing its usage in agriculture and rural areas. We should adjust and improve the scope of subsidies for purchasing agricultural machinery and grant greater autonomy to provincial-level departments. We also need to examine new policies following the expiration of the current compensation policy for the protection grassland ecosystems. We should strengthen positive incentives for the credit for agriculture, rural residents and rural areas with monetary, taxation and regulatory policies, offer low-cost loans, improve risk tolerance, and optimize targeted bonus and subsidy measures. For financial institutions with legal persons or businesses in their counties, we should appropriately expand the re-loans for rural residents and micro and small-sized enterprises. We should deepen the reform of rural credit cooperatives and keep their status as the legal person at the county level unchanged. We should also strengthen evaluation and guidance so as to appropriately lift the loan-to-deposit ratio in counties with excessive capital outflow. We encourage commercial banks to issue special bonds for agriculture, rural residents and rural areas, and micro and small-sized enterprises. We should put in place preferential lending and tax policies for rural households. Eligible family farms and other new types of agricultural businesses may enjoy loan and tax relief for micro and small-sized enterprises, according to relevant regulations. A reasonable term of agricultural loans should be set to match the agricultural production



cycle. The national agricultural credit guarantee system should come into play and guarantee business targeting new types of agricultural businesses should be expanded. We will improve the mortgage financing of greenhouses, breeding pens, large agricultural machinery and land management rights in accordance with relevant laws and regulations. We should steadily expand the pilot program of inclusive financial reform in rural areas, encourage local governments to carry out credit rating of rural households at the county level and micro and small-sized enterprises, speed up the building of an inclusive financial service system that works both online and offline, where risks are shared by banks, insurers and guarantees, and introduce more sustainable inclusive financial products, which are free of mortgage or guarantee with low interest rates. We ought to put into effect the subsidy for agricultural insurance premium and urge insurers to settle claims in full and on time. We should also improve the “insurance + futures” pilot program and continue to promote the listing of futures and options of agricultural products.

24. We should address the difficulties in land use in rural areas. The redline for the protection of cultivated land and permanent basic farmland should be upheld. We will improve the policy system of land use for rural industrial development, clarify types of land use and modes of land supply, and conduct classified management. The support facilities such as refrigeration and preservation, air-drying storage, agricultural machinery warehouses, sorting and packaging, waste disposal, management and guard rooms, etc. built in conjunction with planting or breeding farms should be incorporated into the management of agricultural land, and the upper limit of the area of land occupied by support facilities should be reasonably determined according to the actual production. Farmland can be used to accommodate agricultural facilities. We ought to strengthen the supervision of land for agricultural facilities and strictly prohibit non-agricultural business in the name of land for agricultural facilities. We will carry out a pilot project to comprehensively regulate rural land and optimize the layout of agricultural production, living and ecological areas. In conformity with the spatial planning of land, the collectively-owned land parcels in rural areas saved through village renovation and land leveling will first be used for rural industrial projects. In the new spatial planning of land at the county and township levels, not less than 10 percent of land should be used for construction to guarantee sufficient land for rural industrial development. When making the annual land use plan at the provincial level, at least five percent of the land should be allocated to key industries and projects in rural areas. Rural collectively-owned land for construction may be used for the development of rural industries through rural residents’ buy-in or renting. In accordance with the requirements for delegating power, streamlining administration and optimizing government services, we should comprehensively check the approval of collectively-owned land for construction in rural areas, streamline approval procedures, and delegate the power to approve land-use plans. We need to push forward the reform of integrating multiple approval procedures into one and multiple certificates into one. We should also work faster to issue policies and guidelines on supporting land use in the integration of primary, secondary and tertiary industries in rural areas.

25. We should encourage talents to contribute to the development of rural areas. We ought to train more talents informed of and fond of agriculture and take root in rural areas, and promote the application of more technological outcomes to agriculture. We



should make it easier for all kinds of talents' to make a difference in rural areas and encourage college students, former servicemen and entrepreneurs to start their own businesses in rural areas. We need to holistically integrate and utilize resources such as agricultural broadcasting universities, agricultural research institutes, agricultural-related universities and colleges, and leading agricultural enterprises to build a high-quality education and training system for rural residents at a faster pace. We should implement a system to coordinate personnel training and recruitment within counties. Specifically, we should mobilize urban researchers, engineers, planners, architects, teachers and doctors to serve the rural areas in an orderly manner. In principle, teachers in urban primary and high schools and urban doctors should have served rural primary-level communities for at least one year before they can attain senior professional titles. In the meantime, we need to improve the setting of agricultural disciplines and majors in universities and colleges, and explore the mode of recruiting high school graduates who apply for agricultural disciplines where talents are urgently needed in advance. The guidelines on attracting talents to rural areas should be introduced as soon as possible.

26. We should reinforce the supporting role of science and technology (S&T) in agriculture. We need to make more breakthroughs in key agricultural technologies and launch a number of major S&T projects, in a bid to claim the S&T high ground. We should strengthen the R&D of agricultural biotechnology, vigorously carry out independent innovation projects in the seed industry, kick off the national project for the protection and utilization of agricultural germplasm resources, and enhance the Nanfan Scientific and Research Breeding Base in Sanya, Hainan Province. We ought to speed up the R&D and application of medium and large-sized, intelligent and multi-purpose agricultural machinery to help adapt farmland in hilly and mountainous areas to mechanical planting. We should advance the system of sending special technicians to serve rural areas and expand the special technician team. In addition, we ought to reinforce the modern agricultural technology system with long-term and stable support, expand the scope of characteristic agricultural products, and apply technologies to every link of the whole agricultural industry chain. We should work harder to build agricultural S&T innovation centers, national agricultural high-tech industry demonstration zones and national agricultural S&T parks, among other innovation platforms and bases. We should work faster to develop a modern meteorology service system to facilitate agricultural development.

27. We should work hard on key reform tasks in rural areas. Specifically, we ought to improve the basic rural management system by extending the second-round pilot program of land contracting for another 30 years upon expiration, based on which we need to devise specific measures for the extension of contracts. We should develop appropriately scaled agricultural operations of various forms and improve the agricultural social service system for small rural households. We will build a system for the marketization of for-profit rural collective construction land. We should strengthen the management of rural homesteads, reinforce the supervision of township approval of house building in rural areas, and prevent excessive land occupation. Moreover, we will secure steady progress in the registration and certificate issuance of the right to use rural homesteads. With homesteads' ownership and eligibility, and the right to use homesteads separated, we will further the pilot reform of the rural homestead system. We ought to press ahead with the reform of the rural collective property right system,



and steadily advance the identification of collective members, quantification of collective property converted to shares, reform for joint-stock cooperative systems, and registration and coding of collective economic organizations. We will explore more ways to develop rural collective economy and step up the management of collective property. We should press ahead with the comprehensive reform of supply and marketing cooperatives, making them better serve rural residents. We ought to accelerate the reform of land reclamation, state-owned forests and farms, the collective forest right system, the grassland contracting system and agricultural water price. We should also deepen reform in comprehensive agricultural administrative law enforcement and improve the law enforcement system and capability.

The key to giving a good performance in agriculture, rural residents and rural areas rests with the Party. Party committees and governments at all levels should delve into and implement General Secretary Xi's remarks on these three respects, comprehensively practice the principles of the fourth plenary session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, attach greater importance to institutional building and governance capacity building in agriculture, rural areas and rural areas, keep basic rural policies stable, and improve the institutional and policy frameworks of agriculture, rural residents and rural areas in the new era. We should earnestly implement the "Regulations of the Communist Party of China on Rural Work" and strengthen the Party's all-round leadership over agriculture, rural residents and rural areas. We should prioritize the development of agriculture and rural areas and make clear the responsibilities of secretaries at the provincial, municipal, county, township, and village levels in rural vitalization. Party secretaries at the county level should focus on meeting the requirements for agriculture, rural residents and rural areas. In addition, we ought to improve primary-level Party organizations in rural areas, bring up professional rural service personnel who have a profound knowledge of agriculture, love our rural areas, and care about rural residents, and increase the pay package of cadres working in rural areas. We ought to work in light of local conditions of rural areas, respect the will of rural residents, and do our best to address urgent matters one by one. At the same time, we should resolutely avoid formalism and bureaucracy, and prevent simplified and rigid implementation of policies. The central government will attach great importance to the implementation of policies for agriculture, rural residents and rural areas since the 19th CPC National Congress in inspections.

Let us rally even closer around the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi at its core. We ought to shore up confidence, stay enterprising and work hard, in a bid to win the tough battle against poverty, make up for the weak spots in agriculture, rural residents and rural areas at a faster pace, and make due contributions to the successful building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects and achieving the first centennial goal!

