

China's Priorities for Agricultural Development and Rural Revitalization

During the 14th Five-Year-Plan (2021-2025) Period

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The Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee was held on 26-29 October in Beijing. The Plenary Session adopted the CPC Central Committee's Proposals for the Formulation of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives through the Year 2035.

The roles of innovation, real economy, a strong domestic market, rural vitalization and green development were underscored for China's growth in the next 15 years.

This issue of SAIN Information Sheet highlights China's vision in the next 15 years, the key tasks for the social and economic development, as well as the priorities for agricultural development and rural revitalization in the next five years.

The Vision 2035

The Plenary Session proposed a set of long-range objectives for China to basically achieve socialist modernization by 2035. These are:

- China's economic and technological strength, and composite national strength will increase significantly.
- New industrialization, informalization, urbanization, and agricultural modernization will be basically achieved.
- The modernization of China's governance system and governance capability will be basically achieved.
- China will become a strong country in culture, education, talent, sports and health;
- Eco-friendly ways of work and life will be advanced to cover all areas of society. Carbon emission will steadily decline after reaching a peak, and there will be a fundamental improvement in the environment with the goal of building a Beautiful China basically reached;
- The opening-up will reach a new stage with substantial growth of the country's strengths for participating in international economic cooperation and competition;
- The per capita GDP will reach the level of moderately developed countries;

- The implementation of the Peaceful China initiative will be promoted to a higher level;
- People will lead a better life, and more notable and substantial progress will be achieved in promoting well-rounded human development and achieving common prosperity for everyone.

The 12 Key Tasks of the 14th Five-Year Plan

The Plenary Session outlined the major economic and social development tasks for the next five years, these are:

Technological innovation

Technology independence and self-reliance. Strengthen national strategic technology strength, enhance technological innovation capacity of enterprises, vitalise innovation by talents and improve the mechanism and system for technological innovation.

Industry development

Focus on the real economy. Improve the modernisation of industrial chains and supply chains, develop strategic emerging industries, accelerate the development of modern service sector, coordinate and advance infrastructure construction, and accelerate digitalisation.

Domestic market

Take the expansion of domestic demand as the strategic base. Facilitate the internal circulation, promote internal and external dual circulation, stimulate consumption in all aspects and expand the investment.

Deepening reform

Improve the basic socialist economic system. Vitalise all kinds of market players, improve macroeconomic governance, build modern taxation and financial systems, establish high-standard market system and accelerate the transformation of government functions.

Agricultural development and rural revitalisation

Improve the quality, efficiency and competitiveness of agriculture, implement rural construction, deepen rural reform and integrate poverty alleviation and rural revitalisation.

Regional development

Develop a new layout for national land and space development and protection, promote coordinated regional development and push forward people-centred new urbanisation.

Cultural construction

Enhance social etiquette and civility, improve public cultural services, and build a perfect modern cultural industry system.

Green development

Promote all-round green transformation of economic and social development. Accelerate green and low-carbon development, continually improve the environment, enhance the quality and stability of the ecosystem and comprehensively enhance the resource utilisation efficiency.

Opening-up

Stick to opening-up on a larger scale, in wider areas and at a deeper level. Build a higher-level open economic system, advance high-quality development of “One Belt and One Road”, and proactively participate in the reform of the global economic governance system.

Social construction

Increase income, strengthen the employment priority policy, build a high-quality education system, improve the multi-layer social security system, fully promote the construction of a healthy China, actively cope with population ageing, strengthen and innovate social governance.

Safe development

Build a national security shield. Enhance the construction of the national security system and ability, ensure national economic security, protect the safety of life, and maintain social stability and security.

National defence

Enhance the quality and efficiency of national defences and military modernization, promote simultaneously improvement of national defence and economic strengths.

Priorities for Agricultural Development and Rural Revitalization

During the 14th Five year Plan period, China will take the "three rural" issues (agriculture, rural areas and farmers) as the top priority work, fully implement the rural revitalization strategy.

The proposed agricultural and rural development agendas include:

Improve agricultural quality, efficiency and competitiveness

- Meet the nation and people's requirements, ensure national food security, and improve the agricultural support and protection system;
- Strictly protect the arable land, improve and upgrade land quality, water conservancy facilities, technology and facilities, seed varieties, animal epidemic prevention, crop pest prevention and control systems, and smart agriculture;
- Strengthen green-oriented and standard-lead development, quality and safety supervision, and build agricultural modernization demonstration zones;
- Improve incentive systems for grain production;
- Advance agricultural supply-side reform;
- Ensure the supply of important agricultural products such as grain, cotton, oil, sugar, and meat, and enhance the ability to regulate purchasing and storage;
- Carry out food-saving actions;
- Develop county economy, promote the integrated development of primary, secondary and tertiary industries in rural areas.

Carry out rural development initiatives

- Prioritise the rural modernization;
- Strengthen service capacity of towns and villages, protect traditional villages;
- Improve rural infrastructure such as water, electricity, roads, gas, communications, and logistics, improve the quality of rural housing construction;
- Promote rural toilet renovation, domestic garbage treatment and sewage treatment, improve the rural living environment.

Deepen rural reforms

- Promote the urban-rural integrated development, enhance the vitality of agricultural and rural development;
- Accelerate the formation of new agricultural business entities such as farmer cooperatives and family farms, improve the specialized agricultural social service system;
- Deepen the reform of the rural collective property rights system and develop a new type of rural collective economy;

- Improve the rural financial service system and developing agricultural insurance.

Effectively connect poverty alleviation and rural revitalization

- Establish assistance mechanisms for low-income population in rural areas and underdeveloped areas;
- Improve the monitoring and assistance mechanisms for preventing return to poverty;
- Improve the rural social security and assistance system.

[For further information, please refer the full document in Chinese:

http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/2020-11/03/content_5556991.htm]

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