

Summary of General Office of the State Council Published Opinions on Transferring Agricultural Production Models

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Background

In recent years, China's grain output continued to grow, with an increase in farmer's incomes. Agriculture and rural economy have developed rapidly with great achievement, which provided powerful support for healthy and continuous development of the economy and society. Currently, China's economy has stepped into the stage of new normal, and the development of agriculture was faced with new challenges, such as the ceiling effect of agro-product prices, an increase in production costs and constraints in resources and environment, which forced the country to transfer its agricultural development model. In July 2015, the general office of the State Council issued an opinion on transferring agricultural production model.

Guiding ideology

The country would fully implement the spirits reached at the 18th CPC National Congress, and the second Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee, as well as the third and fourth plenary sessions. The Party Central Committee and the State Council regarded the transition of agricultural development model as the fundamental method to push forward agricultural modernization at present and in the future. They made the development of various kinds of agricultural management at appropriate size as a core, and focused on the construction of modern agricultural management system, production system and industrial system. They expected to enhance agriculture in the aspects of quantity, quality and efficiency rather than only an increase in quality. They hoped to rely more on scientific innovation and rural labors' quality, rather than simply relying on material elements. The country also intended to develop in a sustainable way rather than in an extensive operation featuring resources consumption, in order to explore a modern agricultural development way which is environmental friendly featuring high efficiency, product safety, resources conservation.

Basic principles

The country made the improvement of grain production as a premise, regarding the improvement of quality and efficiency as the main duties and put the sustainable development as the main job contents. With an emphasis on reform and innovation as the fundamental motivation, it also upheld the respect of farmers' dominant role as the basic rules.

Major objectives

By 2020, the country hopes to make active progress in transforming agricultural development models, with rapid development of various kinds of moderate-scale agricultural management,

steady improvement of agricultural comprehensive production capability, step by step optimization of industrial structure, utilization of agricultural resources, protection of ecological environment, and improvement of material and technical equipment. Also, the continuous growth of farmers' income provides an important support for comprehensive building of a moderately prosperous society. By 2030, the country is expected to make outstanding achievements in transferring agricultural development models, with agro-products having good quality and safety, agricultural resources utilization achieving high efficiency, and the production area having a sound ecological environment.

Major tasks

The first one is to accelerate the construction of high-standard farmlands, to strengthen the protection of cultivated lands, to promote the building of grain production bases, and to improve grain production capacity and the security level of grain safety. The second one is to nurture and develop new type of agricultural management bodies, to promote various kinds of moderate-size agricultural management, to develop the industrialization of agriculture, to make innovation in the management methods of agriculture, and to extend the industrial chains. The third one is to promote crop rotation, intercropping and relay intercropping, to encourage the development of circular agriculture featuring the integration of planting and breeding, to develop the herbivorous animal husbandry, to promote the structural adjustment of agriculture, and to achieve a coordinated development of planting and breeding. The fourth one is to develop water-saving agriculture, to launch projects featuring zero-growth of fertilizer and pesticide, and to improve the utilization of agricultural waste and the efficiency of resource utilization in order to fight against non-point source pollution of agriculture. The fifth one is to enhance innovation in agricultural science and technology, to facilitate the reform of the seed industry, to promote agricultural production mechanization as well as to accelerate the development of agricultural informatization. The country will also nurture and train new types of professional farmers, to strengthen agricultural scientific innovation and to improve the equipment and farmers' quality. The sixth one is to promote agricultural standardized production comprehensively, to improve the brand building of agriculture, to enhance the monitoring capability on agro-product safety and quality as well as to improve the quality and safety of agro-products. The seventh one is to promote international capacity cooperation, to strengthen regulation and control on agro-product trade, and to coordinate resources at the market both at home and abroad.

All departments throughout the country paid much attention to the document. Based on their responsibilities and division of labor, they have implemented the opinion and strengthened reform and innovation, so as to achieve an active progress in promoting the transition of agricultural development model. The first one is to optimize industrial distribution and to promote a balanced development. The second is to push forward the development of both production and management to improve the quality and safety. The third is to promote the integration of the primary, secondary and tertiary industries, and to improve the industrial chains and value chains. The fourth is to promote innovation in science and management system to motivate new impetus. The fifth is to strengthen protection resources and environment to promote a sustainable development of agriculture. The major emphasis of future jobs includes improving agricultural subsidy policies, optimizing pricing mechanism of agro-products, accelerating innovation on financial and insurance policies, and pushing forward innovation on agricultural scientific mechanisms.

REFERENCE

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