

Thinking on Targeted Poverty Alleviation from the Perspective of Politics and Economy

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Abstract: In the process of China's development, "Targeted Poverty Alleviation" is one of the key measures to achieve a moderately prosperous society in China, which plays an important role in China's socialist construction. The following is a brief analysis on the targeted poverty alleviation from the perspective of economics and its theoretical basis. Then, the theoretical basis of targeted poverty alleviation from the perspective of economics in objects and ways and use of funds and efficiency of poverty alleviation was analyzed. Finally, the thinking on application of targeted poverty alleviation is put forward.

Introduction

In different periods of social development, the goal of poverty alleviation has never been changed. In the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the focus on efficiency is not the only goal to pursue, the fairness of distribution also affects the formation of social stability, so social resources must be redistributed. Since the 1980s, China has noticed that rapid economic development has aggravated economic imbalance and launched poverty alleviation campaign to narrow the gap between the rich and the poor. However, the drawbacks of extensive poverty alleviation make poverty alleviation activities inefficient and unable to adapt to the development of the times. In the context of the new normal of the economy and the supply-side structural reform, targeted poverty alleviation has emerged. By the end of 2013, there were 82.49 million poor people in China. After years of plans in poverty reduction, China is still confronting grim situation in poverty alleviation [1]. "Targeted poverty alleviation" is consistent with the basic fact of poverty in China at the present stage. In the current stage of China's anti-poverty work, poverty alleviation must be targeted.

1. Economic Interpretation on Targeted Poverty Alleviation

At present, different scholars hold different views on the causes of poverty. Some scholars believe that the existence of poverty was caused by various reasons, but generally speaking, it is the possession of resources that determines the stock of income level, which is followed by endowment based "education level" opportunity and other opportunities in the later period that determine the increase of income. Because of the information inequality, people's ability to obtain resources is different, which leads to the difference of ability in wealth creation. From this perspective, poverty alleviation can be regarded as a special national public good. Although the most direct beneficiaries of poverty alleviation policies are the poor, the elimination of poverty is endowed with a more lasting and positive significance for social development. The vicious circle theory of poverty explains the root cause of poverty -- The low income of poor people leads to their low saving ability, so that they are unable to make investment, expand reproduction and improve production efficiency, which results in low income. At the present stage, China's economy has entered a state of "new normal", and people's quality of life has been gradually improved. The rapid economic development requires a stable social environment [2]. Therefore, targeted poverty alleviation and narrowing of the gap between the rich and the poor will become a major driving force to further promote the

economy.

2. The Theoretical Basis for Targeted Poverty Alleviation

2.1 Targeted Objects in Poverty Alleviation

The key to effectively allocate the limited resources among the poor is to accurately identify the poor households in the real sense. The current poverty alleviation work is made with focuses on eliminating absolute poverty, while less effort were given on relative poverty. Marx pointed out that the "absolute poverty" of the proletariat begins when the means of production are deprived and labour becomes the only commodity. The backward development and limited resources in poverty-stricken areas is the key lagging factors restricting the local economic development. Identifying the types of poverty is conducive to the targeted and systematic adoption of poverty alleviation policies [3]. And according to the dialectic of productive forces and relations of production in Capital, the precision of poverty alleviation should be based on a perfect audit mechanism. The targeted objects in poverty alleviation should entail the effective identification of poor households and the withdrawal mechanism for poor households. In the process of operation, the ubiquitous information asymmetry greatly reduces the efficiency of targeted poverty alleviation, which not only leads to the waste of social resources and the increase of poverty alleviation costs, but also confuses the identification of poor households. The accurate identification of the object in poverty alleviation is in line with the research method of Marx's political economy, so that the empirical method adopted proves to be precise. As for the anti-poverty in the transition period in China, we should, on the one hand, to proceed from the reality and fully investigate and understand the distribution, proportion and scale of poor people in urban and rural area to conduct the targeted poverty alleviation plans and to scientifically grasp the transformation regularity of poverty. On the other hand, practice is the only criterion for testing truth.[4] The theoretical results of poverty alleviation policies must be repeatedly tested and constantly revised in the practice of poverty alleviation, so as to maximize the benefits of poverty alleviation.

2.2 Targeted Project Arrangement

The ultimate meaning of poverty alleviation is not purely on temporary "blood transfusion", but to pay more attention to the initiative "blood-making" of poor households and lead them to achieve poverty alleviation independently. Since 1986, the extensive poverty alleviation failed to be made with corresponding result in a targeted manner, and there lacked supervision on the flow of money and such direct "blood transfusion" failed to guide the poor in an initiative manner. Long-term granted assistance gave rise to the anaclysis of the poor to government and the society, which was not practically significant for the poverty alleviation of the poor in the true sense. The poverty in the backward areas is mainly caused for the closed environment, the insensitivity to information, and the lack of cultural knowledge and the poor households failed to have a sufficient understanding of changing living conditions. This requires that the main body of poverty alleviation should give certain guidance to the poor households in poverty alleviation, create employment opportunities in poor areas, offer certain environment to encourage the poor households to be self-sufficient, and realize independent poverty alleviation.[5] Therefore, poverty alleviation should be conducted with attention to the transformation of the way of poverty alleviation and put poverty alleviation into practice.

2.3 Targeted Use of Funds

Targeted use of funds can be achieved with requirements on optimal allocation of funds. By "optimisation", we mean putting money where it needs to go. The main body of poverty alleviation must make practical use of funds, and non-public fund flows are likely to breed corruption [6]. Therefore, the use of poverty alleviation funds should be open and transparent, and poverty alleviation should be put into practice. The imperfect exit mechanism will result in the area that has been lifted out of poverty still enjoying the national poverty alleviation resources, making the

poverty alleviation resources "misallocated" and inefficient use. As for shortcomings of extensive poverty alleviation. Projects, funds, effects in poverty alleviation and assessment management are refined and used to the poor households in poverty alleviation, so as to highlight the main status of the poor population in management. [7]

2.4 Targeted Effectiveness in Poverty Alleviation

To study the effect of poverty alleviation policy, we should analyze it comprehensively from the perspective of economics and sociology. Since the financial investment to poor households and the construction of facilities in poor areas fail to show huge benefits in a short period of time, analysis on cost-benefit alone cannot measure the ultimate effect of poverty alleviation policies. Poverty alleviation in the new era is to help the poor with wisdom and aspirations, rather than just "giving fish and not teaching them how to fish". The ultimate goal is to improve the skill level of the poor people and equip them with the functions of self-blood making and blood transfusion. The focus of poverty alleviation should be on the long-term benefits brought by "blood making" based poverty alleviation, and judge whether poverty alleviation can guide the poor families to realize their own initiative. [8] The reduction of the poor population can effectively reduce the cost of social friction, narrow the gap between the rich and the poor, and thus stabilizing the social environment. Moreover, the inclusion of poor households in the industrial chain is conducive to the economic structural adjustment of the whole country.

3. Thinking on Targeted Poverty Alleviation in Practice

3.1 Putting People First and Promoting Development through Reform

The improvement of the quality of life of the poor is the basis for guaranteeing the rights of the people. We should strive to ensure that both high quality and high quality are maintained, that investment and consumption are in harmony, and that economic growth is consistent to the improvement of the system. At present, a major problem facing poverty alleviation work is the shortage of talent resources in rural areas. Spiritual poverty is more terrible than material poverty. Without ideological guidance, there will no direction for the poor to forge ahead. Backwardness of human resources is an important cause of economic backwardness. The lack of human capital greatly restricts the development space of rural economy. Therefore, the introduction of talents and the improvement of cultural level exert a profound impact on poverty alleviation. Through education based poverty alleviation and talent introduction, the poverty-stricken area can be provided with necessary scientific and technological knowledge while improving the level of culture and education in poor areas, so as to promote the initiative of poor groups to create wealth.

3.2 Establishment of a Poverty Alleviation System and Improvement of Poverty Alleviation Mechanisms

The transformation of targeted poverty alleviation is born in accordance with the times. To ensure the maximum effectiveness of targeted poverty alleviation, it is necessary to strengthen the identification of poor households and the implementation of exit mechanism of poverty alleviation. Accurate identification of poor households facilitates the effective allocation of resources, and strict exit mechanism ensures that poverty alleviation work truly achieves the benefits in poverty alleviation.[9] As the information in backward areas is relatively closed and people have limited access to information, the main body for poverty alleviation should strengthen the dissemination of information to make up for the lack of access to information in backward areas. In addition, poverty alleviation is not the social welfare limited to the poor groups, but it can promote the development of the whole society, and a sound social participation mechanism can further advance the implementation of targeted poverty alleviation. Firstly, we should initially improve the existing policies and norms of social management in institutional development. Secondly, to conduct innovation in management system, and finally establish a new pattern of poverty alleviation management suitable for the current economic environment and social environment. The main body

in poverty alleviation should pay attention to its guiding role, encourage the poor group to go out of the limitation, expand innovation to form an effective innovation-driven management mechanism. With the goal of attracting wisdom and gathering strength, we will set up internal and external cooperation mechanisms to promote the comprehensive development of agriculture.

3.3 To Ensure Adequate Efforts for Targeted Poverty Alleviation

The concept of targeted poverty alleviation is "co-construction and sharing and common prosperity", and the thought of shared development by Marx and Engels provides the theoretical basis and guidance for the practice of targeted poverty alleviation. The economic benefits brought by poverty alleviation affect the development of the whole society, which are closely related to people in the society. Therefore, market subjects, social organizations and individuals should be encouraged to participate in poverty alleviation and development, and the cooperation for poverty alleviation in various regions should be increased. In terms of capital input, we should innovate the financial poverty alleviation credit input mechanism, and financial funds are encouraged to be invested in poverty alleviation and development, and draw lessons from the financial poverty alleviation mechanism with remarkable achievements in poverty alleviation work. [10]

3.4 Improvement of Efficiency of the Allocation of Poverty Alleviation Resources

The effect of poverty alleviation not only depends on the amount of investment, but also is affected by factors such as the proportion, structure and efficiency of resource input. Therefore, precise control should be carried out in the process of poverty alleviation to promote the most scientific investment of resources and maximize the benefits obtained. The plan should be scientific, which integrated the advantages of resources in poor areas to improve the utilization rate of idle resources. Besides, the poverty alleviation industries based on local advantages can be established. After the supply is satisfied, the main body for poverty alleviation should further do a good job in the accurate docking of poverty alleviation resources with the object and project of poverty alleviation.

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