

## Resolution on Organizing the National Reform of Prisoners through Labor

May 22, 1951

At present, the number of counter-revolutionary prisoners and ordinary prisoners in custody across the country has exceeded one million, which is a large labor force. In order to reform these prisoners, in order to solve the difficulties in prisons, and in order to prevent prisoners sentenced to prison from eating and drinking, we must immediately start to formulate a comprehensive plan and organize labor reform work in accordance with the principle of combining punishment and reform and adapting to the needs of various constructions throughout the country. All prisoners with working conditions should be forced to participate. It is hereby decided that the specific plans are as follows:

A. The organization and management of prisoners' reform through labor should be divided into five levels: the county level, the agency level, the provincial and municipal level, the administrative district level, and the central level.

B. The reform-through-labor teams are basically divided into the following four categories according to the length of their sentences:

(1) Prisoners sentenced to more than five years in prison shall form a labor brigade. Governments at or above the provincial level are responsible for management, and are mobilized at any time according to the needs of national construction to engage in large-scale water conservancy, road construction, land reclamation, mining and other production undertakings.

(2) Prisoners sentenced to two to five years in prison shall generally be managed by a special agency. However, when necessary, it can also be called by the provincial government.

(3) Prisoners sentenced to less than two years and more than one year in prison shall, in principle, participate in various labors in this city or county, and should not be transferred to distant places, which will cause labor and loss of money to the people.

(4) Prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one year may, subject to the consent of the local people and the plaintiff, be handed over to the masses for control, to engage in public works, or to work for military relatives, orphans, widows, old and weak, and odd jobs. Such prisoners should, in principle, support themselves and not receive prison food.

C. The above-mentioned production teams should be prepared according to the production situation and needs they are engaged in. The production team above the special area can generally be a team of 100 people, with a captain and an instructor. Thousands of people form a large team, with a team leader and a trainer. All prisoners engaged in reform through labor should be subject to military control and forced labor. Any prisoner should absolutely obey and not disobey.

D. The cadres of reform-through-labor teams at or above the designated level shall be allocated by the party committees at the corresponding level according to 3% to 5% of the total number of prisoners. This cadre can be composed of veterans and local and public security cadres and some old and new intellectuals as the backbone. Its supply should be based on the treatment of army cadres,

and the guards should be armed, and should be deployed by each military region in accordance with the principle of equipping one squad with one hundred prisoners.

E. Regarding the distribution and funding of the number of reform-through-labor teams:

(1) Those within the scope of the central plan, including 230,000 people for water conservancy projects, 50,000 people for railway projects, and 60,000 people for tin, tungsten and other mine production, totaling 340,000 people. The large administrative region and the provincial government in the area where the project is located shall implement it.

This labor reform team is mainly used to replace migrant workers. Each competent department shall allocate the original funds for employing migrant workers to the competent authority of labor reform for use, and the central government will not allocate additional funds. (2) The funds for other reform-through-labor teams above the designated level, for the first year, the production fund for each prisoner, 500,000 and the supply standard for half of the staff of the supply system, shall be allocated by the central government (the estimated number is about 200,000). The second year should be fully or mostly self-sufficient.

(3) The reform-through-labor teams and other prisoners below the county level shall still be supplied at a rate equivalent to one-third of the staff of the supply-system organs. When necessary, the county can also be used as a unit, and the provincial government shall issue a small amount of production funds at the discretion of the provincial government. The number of cadres and guardians will not be increased (if each county can organize 100 prisoners to engage in labor, there will be about 200,000 people).

(4) Those who already have reform-through-labor workers should expand on the original basis. The required funds shall be estimated separately by the superiors and according to the specific circumstances.

The distribution of the number of prisoners at the county, prefectural and provincial levels shall be determined by the Greater Administrative Region.

Prisoners who have participated in labor should be given appropriate political, ideological, cultural education and necessary health care work, appropriate and strict spiritual and material rewards and punishments should be given according to their labor and political performance, and Commutation and increase of sentences are the highest reward and punishment. Its regulations are stipulated separately.

G. In order to organize the work of reform through labor quickly and effectively, special management agencies should be added in the public security departments at all levels. Large administrative regions, provinces and large cities shall set up labor reform management offices (20 to 30 persons in each office, divided into three divisions of education, management and production), special departments shall have first-level divisions (five to ten persons), and counties shall set up units (two to ten persons). three). Such cadres shall be allocated by the local party committee from within the aforementioned 5% ratio, or from the original cadre quota in the county. Within the governments at and above the provincial level, relevant departments should jointly organize a steering committee for reform through labor to strengthen leadership over the reform through labor.