

Farmers Blindly Flowing into Cities Should Return to the Countryside

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Since the Spring Festival this year, a large number of farmers have blindly flowed into cities in many areas. According to statistics from the beginning of this month, more than 50,000 farmers have newly flowed from rural areas into several major cities; many more are currently moving along transportation lines. This has not only increased the difficulties of urban work and transportation but also seriously hindered the current spring farming production. Local Party and government leaders must attach great importance to this issue, earnestly implement the instructions of the State Council of the Central People's Government on dissuading farmers from blindly flowing into cities, and quickly take appropriate measures to stop the development of this phenomenon.

The arbitrary recruitment of workers from rural areas by some construction companies is one of the important reasons for this phenomenon. Therefore, we must strengthen the planning of labor mobilization and utilization and correct the phenomenon of unplanned and unorganized activities. Our country's construction period has already begun, and the need to absorb labor from rural areas to participate in economic construction will undoubtedly gradually increase. It is natural that many rural cadres and farmers, especially young farmers, are willing to come to the cities to participate in the country's industrial construction. However, we should recognize that the country's economic construction must be carried out in a planned and organized manner; it is impossible to absorb a large amount of labor all at once. At the same time, the utilization and mobilization of labor must also be planned and organized. All industrial and mining enterprises and construction units should accurately calculate the number of workers they need and submit this information to the local labor administration department for unified allocation. County, district, and township governments should patiently explain to farmers preparing to move to cities that blindly migrating to the city is neither beneficial to the country nor to themselves, and advise them to focus on developing production at home.

We should educate county and district cadres and the vast number of farmers to understand the correct relationship between industry and agriculture and oppose one-sided views that neglect or belittle agricultural production. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, in its instructions to Party committees at all levels regarding spring plowing, stated: "In order to meet the needs of the continuous development of our country's industrial production, we must simultaneously and continuously further improve the level of agricultural production, and we must never remain stagnant at the existing level. In the midst of the high tide of industrial construction, any view that neglects agricultural production is one-sided and erroneous." Of course, significant agricultural development requires the leadership and support of industry; but industrial development also needs the support of agriculture. In national economic construction, the importance of agriculture is by no means less than in the past; on the contrary, cities and industries increasingly require large quantities of commodity grain and industrial raw materials, and larger markets. Therefore, we must continue to give full play to the farmers' enthusiasm for production and further develop agricultural production.

We should educate farmers to actively utilize the potential of surplus rural labor, develop diversified rural economies, construct small-scale water conservancy projects, improve farming techniques, improve land and soil, plant trees, develop animal husbandry, and, where conditions permit, engage in various marketable sideline production. To this end, it is necessary to help farmers open up markets for local specialties and appropriately adjust the prices of agricultural products, sideline products, and local specialties. Within the limits of national financial resources, we should systematically construct roads, dredge waterways, and build large-scale water conservancy projects.

These projects can accommodate a large number of rural laborers and are directly related to the interests of farmers; however, it is essential to appropriately improve working conditions for these projects. Furthermore, we must correctly implement the various policies of the Party and the People's Government, especially resolutely correcting any behavior that disrespects farmers' private property rights, improving the working methods and style of rural cadres, and effectively rectifying the "five excesses" phenomenon (excessive labor, excessive labor, excessive work, and excessive social responsibility), so that farmers can truly focus on production and district and village cadres are capable of leading production. These are all necessary measures to stabilize farmers' production sentiment and enable them to focus on rural production.

For farmers who have already blindly migrated to cities, we should handle this matter properly and cautiously, in accordance with the State Council's instructions to dissuade them from this indiscriminate migration. Except for those genuinely needed by industrial and mining enterprises and construction companies, the local government's labor and civil affairs departments should mobilize them to return to their hometowns. The Party committees of all cities should provide unified leadership for this work. All personnel freely recruited by industrial and mining enterprises but not currently needed should be handled by the respective units; and they should work with the county, district, and township governments that originally introduced these farmers to the cities to devise appropriate methods to welcome them home. Rural Party members, Youth League members, village cadres, and veterans and demobilized soldiers already employed in rural areas who have blindly migrated to cities should set an example and return to their hometowns as soon as possible to lead spring planting. Spring planting has already begun in many areas, and time is pressing; a few more days of delay could affect the year's harvest. All rural cadres and farmers who should return home should no longer hesitate and should quickly return to the glorious agricultural production front and their rural work posts.