

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China issued a notice on the "Resolution on Organizing the Labour Reform of Prisoners in the Country" of the Third National Public Security Conference

Date:1951-5-22

Central bureaus, major military regions, and sub-bureaus, provincial and municipal party committees, prefectural party committees, county party committees, local military regions, public security departments at all levels, and party groups of people's governments at all levels above the county:

The resolution of the Third National Public Security Conference on the organization of labour reform of prisoners nationwide is hereby sent to you. The central government approved this resolution, and I hope you will follow it.

Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, May 22

Resolution on the organization of national labour reform of prisoners

(Adopted by the Third National Public Security Conference on May 15, 1951)

At present, there are more than one million counter-revolutionary and ordinary prisoners detained throughout the country, which is a large labour force. In order to rehabilitate these prisoners, to solve the difficulties of prisons, and to prevent prisoners sentenced from sitting idle to eat, it is necessary to immediately start formulating a comprehensive plan and organize labour reform work in accordance with the principle of combining punishment and rehabilitation, and in accordance with the needs of various constructions throughout the country. All prisoners with working conditions should be forced to participate. The specific plan is hereby decided as follows:

A. The organization and management of labour rehabilitation of prisoners shall be the responsibility of five levels: county level, special agency level, provincial and municipal level, large administrative region level, and central level.

B. The labour reform team should basically be divided into the following four types according to the length of their sentence:

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

(2) Prisoners sentenced to two to five years in prison are generally managed by special offices. However, if necessary, it can also be called by the provincial government or above.

(3) Prisoners sentenced to imprisonment of not less than two years or more than one year should, in principle, participate in various labours in their own city or county, and should not be transferred to distant places, which will cause labour and loss of wealth.

(4) Prisoners sentenced to less than one year's imprisonment may be subject to mass control under the consent of the local people and the plaintiffs, and may engage in public works or work for military dependents, orphans, widows, the elderly, and the weak, and do odd jobs. In principle, such prisoners should support themselves and not receive prisoner rations.

C. The above-mentioned production teams should be organized according to the production situation and needs of the production they are engaged in. The production team above the special area can generally be a team of 100 people, with a captain and instructor. 1,000 people are a large team, with a captain and instructor. All prisoners engaged in labour reform should be forced to work by military control methods. Any prisoner shall absolutely obey and shall not disobey.

D. Cadres of labour reform teams above the special office shall be assigned by the party committees at that level according to 3% to 5% of the total number of prisoners. This cadre can be composed of the Veterans Army and local and public security cadres as the backbone and absorb some new and old intellectuals. Their supply shall be based on the treatment of military cadres and the guardianship of the armed forces, and shall be allocated by each military region in accordance with the principle of one hundred prisoners being equipped with an armed squad.

E. Regarding the allocation and funding of the number of labour reform teams:

(1) Those that fall within the scope of the central plan, including 230,000 people for water conservancy projects, 50,000 for railway projects, and 60,000 for tin, tungsten and other mineral production, for a total of 340,000 people, shall be formulated by the competent departments and implemented in cooperation with the large administrative regions and provincial governments of the areas where the above projects are located.

This labour reform team is mainly used to replace migrant workers. The competent departments shall allocate the funds originally employed by migrant workers to the competent authorities for labour reform, and the central government shall not allocate additional funds.

(2) For the funds of other labour reform teams above the special office, in the first year, the production fund of 500,000 yuan for each prisoner and the supply standard for the staff of half of the supply-based organs shall be allocated by the central government (the estimated number is about 200,000). In the second year, it should be fully or partially self-sufficient.

(3) Labour reform teams below the county level and other prisoners shall still be provided at the standard equivalent to one-third of the staff of the supply-based organs. If necessary, the provincial government may issue a small amount of production funds at the discretion of the county. cadres and guardian armed forces will not be increased (if each county can organize 100 prisoners to work, there will be about 200,000 people).

(4) All existing labour reform workers should be expanded on the original basis. The required funds shall be estimated by the superior to which they belong according to the specific situation.

The distribution of the number of counties, special district, and provincial level offenders shall be determined by the large administrative region.

Prisoners who have participated in labour should be given appropriate political, ideological, cultural education, and necessary health and medical work, and appropriate and strict spiritual and material rewards and punishments should be given according to the quality of their labour and political performance, and the maximum reward and punishment should be commuted or increased. The regulations are separate.

In order to quickly and effectively organize labour reform work, special management institutions should be established in public security departments at all levels. Large administrative regions, provinces and cities have labour reform management offices (20 to 30 people in each office, divided into three departments: education, management, and production), special departments at the first

level (5 to 10 people), and county units (2 to 3 people). Such cadres shall be allocated by the local party committee from the aforementioned proportion of 5% or from the original number of cadres in the county. Within the governments at or above the provincial level, the relevant departments should jointly organize the labour reform steering committee to strengthen the leadership of the labour reform work.