

Supplementary Notice from the Central Committee of the CCP on Standards and Methods for Handling Industrial and Commercial Households During the "Five-Anti" Campaign

(March 12, 1952)

To all Central Bureaus, and to be forwarded to sub-bureaus, provincial, municipal, and regional Party committees (with direct transmission to Shandong, Qingdao, Nanjing, South China, Yunnan, and Xinjiang):

The standards and methods for handling industrial and commercial households during the "Five-Anti" movement, as proposed by the Beijing Municipal Committee and approved by the Central Committee on March 5, have been repeatedly discussed with the various Central Bureaus, and further deliberated within the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and the Government Administration Council. They have been officially released to the public today.

Compared with previously issued documents, aside from purely textual adjustments, the current public version makes the following modifications—balancing the principle of uniformity with the need for local adaptability:

1. Deletion of Certain Conditions:

- In the category of *basically law-abiding households* (Category B), the condition “meritorious reporting” has been removed.
- In the category of *semi-law-abiding and semi-illegal households* (Category A), the requirement for “complete confession” has also been deleted.
- These leniencies aim to help cities with a relatively high proportion of violators to win over the vast majority and reduce the scope of punitive measures.
- Especially in Category B, where the total illegal gains might exceed 2 million yuan, if the case is minor compared to the general local violations—for instance, less than 6 million yuan in Wuhan (which had previously calculated offenses over two to three years, now limited to just 1951), or under 10 million yuan in Shanghai—the case may still be classified as “basically law-abiding.”

2. Adjustment of Exemption Threshold:

- The threshold for exempting the return of illegal gains by “basically law-abiding households” has been raised from 1 million to 2 million yuan, to facilitate the swift resolution of the majority of cases and to avoid or reduce difficulties for these households—many of which are independent craftsmen or family-run businesses.
- In cases where the amount is under 2 million yuan but the circumstances are considered relatively serious (e.g., in Chongqing), partial restitution may be required.
- Illegal gains *exceeding* 2 million yuan (as in Shanghai or Wuhan) should still be returned to underscore the seriousness of the matter.
- This compromise ensures that in cities like Wuhan or Shanghai, more than 50% of all industrial and commercial households can still be classified as “law-abiding” or “basically law-abiding,” while still requiring restitution for large amounts. This approach has already received agreement from Central South and East China regions in phone calls on the 10th and 11th.

3. Redefinition of Serious Violations:

- For Category A (serious violators), the previous threshold of illegal gains “exceeding 2 million yuan” has been replaced with the phrase “relatively large amount.”
- This change introduces a qualitative distinction from the semi-law-abiding category and allows more flexibility for local enforcement.

4. Implementation Requirement:

- All localities must implement this document in conjunction with the spirit of the *People’s Daily* editorial dated March 12, in order to achieve a thorough victory in the “Five-Anti” struggle.

Central Committee

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