

The Central Committee Approves Comrade Luo Ruiqing's "Report on the Situation of the Labour Reform Production Meeting"

Date: 1951-6-25 Author: [To be confirmed]

All central bureaus and branches, provincial, municipal, and district party committees report to the Central Financial and Economic Commission and the Central Public Ministry:

The Central Committee approved Comrade Luo Ruiqing's report on June 24 and urged all central bureaus, sub-bureaus, provincial, municipal, and district party committees to handle the methods for handling prisoners participating in production as proposed in this report, and to implement them promptly.

Central

June 25, 1951

Chairman and Central Committee:

To effectively and quickly resolve the issue of XX million prisoners participating in production, on June 22, together with the Ministry of Finance and Water Resources, we held a labor reform meeting attended by responsible cadres from the public security and finance departments of East China, Central South, Northwest, Hebei, Pingyuan, and other regions. Personnel from the Huai River and Yellow River management projects, as well as officials from the Central Ministry of Heavy Industry and the Ministry of Railways, also attended. After this relatively thorough investigation, the current situation is as follows:

1. The original plan to deploy XX thousand people for Huai River management (half in East China and half in Central South) is indeed very difficult. The main points are: (1) This year's Huai River management project was fully completed by July, and this year's funds have been exhausted. If we are to carry out the planned projects for the next year, we must divert funds from next year. Even so, the vast majority of projects had to be completed after the rainy season (some in October and some didn't even start until the end of the year). During this break, tens of thousands of prisoners were still just sitting idly by. (2) Concentrating XX thousand people in a short period is very difficult. There are few prisoners in the project area, so most have to be transferred from other provinces and regions, making transport a major challenge. Centralized management and command is another major challenge. There were also housing issues, requiring a large number of cadres and armed forces to guard and manage them, which were difficult to properly resolve.
2. Originally planned to invest in Tianjin and Shipbuilding into the sea?? The situation is similar to the above. Only XX million workers originally scheduled to participate in the Yellow River Project are not a big problem.
3. The original plan for Yunnan, Jiangxi, and Guangdong to procure non-ferrous metals could accommodate XX million units, but in reality, only Yunnan can barely accommodate them? A thousand, the rest were completely missed.
4. The original plan was to have XX million railway workers involved, which was not a major issue. Accordingly, the original plan to centralize XX ten thousand prisoners and transfer them from the central government must be changed. Because this change means the entire labor reform plan must be altered accordingly. After discussion, the decision is as follows:

(1) In water conservancy, the original plan was to invest XX thousand people, but now it has been changed to XX ten thousand people, with plans to manage the Huai River for XX million (East China XX million, Henan XX ten-thousand) and the Yellow River for XX million (Shandong XX, Henan XX, Plain XX).

(2) Railway Aspect XX. Ji Chengyu Road XX (southwest exit), Tianlan Road XX million (northwest exit XX ten-thousand, Zhongnan exit XX ten-thousand), Zhengtai Road XX (Shanxi exit).

(3) Southwest Highway XX, Yunnan Gejiu Tin Mine XX, Southwest Find Other Routes to Invest in Central Project XX.

In total, XX people from East China, XX from Central South, XX from Southwest China, XX from Northwest China, XX from North China, totaling XX people, are allocated and used by the central government, and are to be covered from the construction costs of each respective project. All of the above items are approved by attendees from various regions and by heads of water conservancy, railway, heavy industry, and other departments. Therefore, for this XX person, all major administrative regions and provinces should immediately prepare and negotiate contracts with the relevant engineering authorities to proceed. In principle, the standard for treatment for convicts should not be lower than that of employed laborers. To ensure prisoners have enough to eat, except for shed fees, which should be paid by the engineering agency, other setup and transportation costs were borne by the major administrative regions from the entire labor reform budget. During seasonal breaks, the central government will allocate certain prison ration subsidies according to circumstances. Generally, the allowance for Tianlan Road offenders is 3 months, for Zhengtai Road and the Yellow River Control worker subsidy is one and a half to two months, and for Huai River Control offender work subsidy is 1 month.

In addition, large numbers of prisoners undergoing on-site labor reform at the four levels of large administrative regions, provinces, specialties, and counties have many options and options. However, the actual number of labor reform prisoners nationwide is nearly XX million. According to the prescribed standards and central government funds, if reimbursed and recovered accordingly, the prison rations and production funds for XX people originally planned for various projects must also be paid from central government funds, making the difficulties even greater. Given the current financial difficulties and the inability to increase the budget, the only way to solve this problem is to lower the previously stipulated supply standard. That is, the standard for one agency staff member must be changed to support three prisoners (previously stipulated that those in county-level labor reform would support three inmates, and those at all levels above the county would support two inmates). The production fund was changed to an average of XX ten thousand yuan per inmate (previously stipulated that the production fund for each inmate at all levels above the county level was XX ten thousand yuan), and the supply for labor reform cadres would still follow the original regulation at XX million yuan per person every six months. In principle, according to this standard, including the funds for repairing supervision rooms, it was agreed to allocate XX billion yuan from Central South China, XX billion from East China, XX billion from Southwest China, XX billion from Northwest China, and XX billion from North China (distributed by the Central Provincial Government's portion to each province), with all major administrative regions responsible for the total contract. If the funds were slightly insufficient, they could only be supplemented by local finances. At the same time, the Ministry of Finance should allocate as much as possible at the first time, so that the lower authorities can allocate and adjust the budget within this very tight budget. The allocation of the above funds has obtained approval from the Ministry of Finance and the heads of the finance and public security ministries of major administrative regions.

Regarding prisoner labor reform organizations, after careful consideration and research, it is currently overly concentrated and extremely difficult. This meeting decided that it would still be best to operate mostly scattered across various provinces (regions), prefectures, and counties, totaling three levels, that is, roughly following the proposal of the East China Bureau.

This task was urgent. After discussion, comrades from various regions expressed confidence in completing the task. However, regarding the above issues, there were several important amendments and changes to the resolution of the Third National Public Security Conference on organizing nationwide labor reform for prisoners, which must be submitted to the central government for approval. If the Central Committee agrees to the decision of this meeting, it will be forwarded to all central bureaus, sub-bureaus, provincial party committees, district party committees, and the Central Finance Committee, so that relevant departments can be urged to implement accordingly. Is this appropriate? Please advise.

Luo Ruiqing, June 24, 1951