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TRANSLATIONS ON NORTH VIETNAM

No. 1660

Hoc TAP, No. 1, 1975



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MOVING FORWARD TO COMPLETE THE TASK OF ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT AND MAKE NORTH VIETNAM STRONG IN EVERY RESPECT

Hanoi HOC TAP in Vietnamese No 1, Jan 75 pp 1-11

[Text] Over the past 2 years, developing the spirit of stalwart revolutionary struggle, all of our people have continued to achieve strong and steady progress in advancing the revolutionary undertaking. The people of South Vietnam have scored and are scoring new victories in the struggle against the U.S. imperialists and the Nguyen Van Thieu clique to protect, consolidate and develop the gains of the revolution. In North Vietnam, by implementing the resolution of the 22d plenum of the party central committee, our people have recorded important achievements in their economic reconstruction and development and cultural development, thus increasing the strength of socialism.

In 1974, on the agricultural production front, we recorded the highest annual paddy output ever; paddy output surpassed the 1974 planned norm by 8 percent and increased 21.4 percent compared to 1973. On the entire cultivated area in the Red River Delta, we averaged about 6 tons of paddy per hectare where two rice crops were transplanted. This success has opened up great prospects for solving the grain problem in our country. The campaign to reorganize production and gradually improve agricultural management in coordination with the implementation of the high-level agricultural cooperative statutes, which has been launched among a number of districts and cooperatives, has been welcomed and responded to by millions of our farmers and cooperative members.

In industrial, small industry and handicraft production, the coal, electricity, fertilizer, brick, tile and salt production sectors surpassed the state plan. A number of production installations completed their plans for quantity and quality and turned out many new kinds of goods. A number of sectors reached the prewar level of labor productivity. The value of industrial and handicraft output in 1974 exceeded the planned norms by 4 percent and increased by more than 15 percent compared to 1973.

In capital construction, efforts were concentrated on building key projects, such as power plants; on developing coal mining and fertilizer production;

on building or expanding textile mills, and so forth. A number of important projects were completely restored. The number of workers in the construction sector increased rapidly. Professional skills were improved, many innovations were developed to accelerate construction.

In communications and transportation, many planned norms for the receipt and transportation of imported goods and the transportation of coal and timber were met or surpassed, thereby positively contributing to economic restoration and the stabilization of the people's life, the volume of goods transported in 1974 increased 30 percent compared to 1973 and 60 percent compared to 1964.

The rather significant increase in the value of export goods and the sources of export goods within the country, the completion of the monetary plan, and so forth, represent some of the new efforts made by the commercial and financial sectors.

After 2 years of restoring and developing the economy, especially in 1974, the economic situation in the north has improved and the 1974 state plan has been satisfactorily implemented in many respects, especially in agricultural production and some industrial and communications and transportation sectors. At the same time, the education, public health, culture, information and sports sectors have quickly normalized their activities and are making new progress. We have struggled and are struggling against illegitimate and illegal business activities, the vandalism of state and collective property and disturbances in economic management and public order. The emulation movement to engage in production labor and diligently and economically build socialism has been launched in many production installations and units. More progress has been made in implementing labor discipline and protecting socialist property. These initial achievements are eloquent proof of the correctness of our party's leadership, the superiority of our regime and the great strength of our people.

Through the realities of the economic reconstruction and development over the past 2 years, our party and people have perceived more clearly many problems arising from the development of the socialist economy, such as problems related to organizing and launching the emulation movement to engage in productive labor and economically build socialism among the masses. The timely resolutions promulgated by the party, such as the resolution of the 22d party plenum, political bureau resolution No. 228, and directives no's. 208 and 209 of the party secretariat, have been enthusiastically responded to by the people. Obviously, the correct line and policies of the party, with which the people are thoroughly imbued, have developed the latter's great material strength, this is a firm guarantee for success in the days to come.

However, over the past 2 years, state agencies have made slow progress in management. Many important systems and policies have not been studied and promulgated, such as the planning system, the system of management by sectors in coordination with the system of management by territorial divisions,

the system of compulsory labor, the system of responsibility in management of materials and equipment, the system of directors of industrial enterprises, and regulations on the management of agricultural production and land. Planning work still leaves much to be desired. Planned norms are implemented at one's convenience regardless of the situation and conditions.

The leadership of economic tasks has been lax; the leadership and management of production and business has been incompetent, impractical and for form's sake; and proper attention has not been paid to the economic returns from each job. The problem of poor discipline in management has not been resolutely overcome. It is noteworthy that a number of sectors and localities have made no revolutionary progress according to the spirit of the resolution passed by the 22d party plenum. They are not decisive or resolute in strengthening economic management or in the implementation of other functions of the proletarian dictatorial state. A number of localities have not displayed initiative in the purchase of grain, agricultural products and foodstuffs. The tendency to rely on others is still widespread. In a number of sectors and localities, the sense of responsibility has not been fully developed; as a result, no progress has been made in carrying out important tasks.

These shortcomings have adversely affected the development of the people's sense of collective ownership and limited, to a certain degree, the results obtained. Therefore, in the days ahead, we must strive to overcome these shortcomings in order to achieve new, even greater successes.

The year 1975 is replete with important events marking new developments in our country's revolution.

In the north, this year will bring the period of economic restoration to an end and mark the start of preparations for the second 5-year plan (1976-1980) which is designed to actively build the material and technical bases of socialism and further accelerate socialist industrialization.

In South Vietnam after a period of resolute struggle against U.S. imperialism and its henchmen and for the implementation the Paris Agreement on Vietnam and the protection and building the liberated zone, the revolutionary movement has undergone new and important developments and is continuously and vigorously advancing to complete the national democratic revolution.

The year 1975 is the year in which we will celebrate the 45th founding anniversary of the Lao Dong Party on 3 February, the 85th anniversary of President Ho's birth on 19 May, and the 30th anniversary of the founding of the DRV. We must work to insure that the celebration of these three important anniversaries will actively contribute to improving the political and ideological standards of party cadres and members and strengthen confidence in the party's leadership, the resolve to overcome difficulties and accomplish tasks and the will to actively work for the successful implementation of the

resolutions of the 21st, 22d and 23d party plenums, thereby initiating a seeing revolutionary movement to step up emulation, work, production and socialist construction in an economical way, endeavor to complete the 1975 state plan, and fulfill our obligations to the southern revolution as well as our international obligations to the revolutions in Laos and Cambodia.

The year 1975 is also the year in which the people of North Vietnam will elect the fifth National Assembly.

These facts make 1974 a year of extremely important political significance. Fully conscious of their responsibility for the revolutionary cause in the entire country and their international duties, the people of North Vietnam must make extraordinary efforts to successfully accomplish the tasks set forth by the 22d party plenum for 1974 and 1975, namely: "quickly heal the wounds of war, make every effort to carry out economic rehabilitation and economic and cultural development, continue to build the material and technical base of socialism, consolidate the socialist production relations in every aspect, stabilize the economy and people's life, consolidate the national defense system, and strive to support the southern compatriots' revolutionary struggle and the building of the liberated zone."

All economic work in 1975 must concentrate on three main objectives, namely:

1. To mobilize and organize the social work force to take part in production and construction with high revolutionary spirit; make full use of every economic potential; step up production and help society as a whole, all economic sectors and all economic units attain or exceed the highest production norms reached in 1965 and 1971; struggle to rapidly increase social production and national income from production, maintain social consumption funds, increase the accumulation of capital from the economy itself, and fulfill our obligation to the heroic south.
2. To take a step forward in consolidating the perfecting socialist production relations in both the state-owned and collective sectors and resolutely overcome the negative phenomena in economic and social life.
3. To strengthen the leadership and management of the state, readjust economic management from the central to the basic levels, and solve immediate problems while actively preparing for long-term economic and cultural development plans.

The main tasks of the 1975 state plan are:

1. To strive to exploit all potentials of the economy, step up production and practice economy.
2. To fundamentally complete the tasks of postwar economic rehabilitation, vigorously develop the production force and gradually reorganize the economic structure in the advance from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production.

3. To make positive progress in organizing the life of the people, particularly manual and office workers.
4. To gradually reduce the great imbalances in the national economy.
5. To guarantee the needs of national defense and support the revolutionary struggle and the building of the liberated zone of the southern patriots.
6. To make every necessary preparation for the 5-year plan (1976-1980).

In 1975 we must struggle to increase the gross social product by 19.6 percent over 1974, national income from production by 19.5 percent, total industrial output value by 22 percent, total agricultural output value by 8.6 percent, total capital construction investment by 41.5 percent, the volume of goods transported in the country by 22 percent, total goods traffic in the organized market by 18 percent, the value of exports by 30 percent, budget receipts by 11.1 percent, social labor productivity by 14 percent, the enrollment of youths to be trained as workers by 19 percent, the enrollment of pupils in colleges and vocational middle schools by 14 percent, and the number of students enrolled at the beginning of the school year in general schools by 4 percent.

In industry, the main objectives in 1975 are to struggle to complete the restoration of installations ravaged by the war; accelerate production and the building of machine, iron and steel, electricity, coal, construction materials, and fertilizer sectors; make positive efforts to create a source of raw materials, supplies and spare parts in the country to support and provide equipment for various economic sectors and agriculture in particular; and seek every means to increase the volume of consumer goods and meet the requirements of the people's life and export requirements. The development of local industries (including small industries and handicrafts) is designed to provide raw materials to various sectors, especially those utilizing local raw materials and discarded materials, such as fishery sector and those sectors producing salt, wood, wheat flour, salted vegetables, earthenware, glassware, boneware, oysterware, rattan, bamboo and rush articles, jute carpets, construction materials, ordinary farm tools, and so forth.

In agriculture, we must endeavor to implement the party secretariat's directive on the reorganization of production and the gradual improvement of agricultural management, gradually advance agriculture from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production, and create new material and technical bases for agriculture so as to better solve the problems in the relations and balance between farming and livestock production and between the production of rice and secondary crops and the production of industrial crops, thereby creating a new position from which agriculture can advance and become a steady basis for industrial development. We must better manage

the use of ricefields, strive to put wasteland and fallow fields under cultivation, step up land reclamation, vigorously develop the improvement of farmland water conservancy networks, insure the supply of goods breeders and seeds, and strive to increase the amount of land under cultivation. We must accelerate the intensive cultivation of rice and pay special attention to the production, purchase, collection, processing and consumption of secondary crops in order to increase food production. Attention must also be paid to cultivating vegetables and beans of various types. We must rationally utilize land and the grain allocated for livestock production, consolidate the breeder-selection system, properly select breeders, improve veterinary activities, and step up the raising of hogs, buffaloes, oxen and poultry. We must expand the amount of area under the cultivation of industrial crops and build and consolidate areas for the specialized cultivation of industrial crops, supplying sufficient working tools, nitrogenous, phosphorous and potassium fertilizers, and lime in a timely and concentrated manner is very necessary to achieve high yields.

The communications and transportation sector must insure the prompt and adequate transportation of goods for production and construction; increase the capacity to transport exported and imported goods, coal, wood, fertilizer and construction materials; and pay attention to properly meeting the requirements of transportation along the main communications lines.

In capital construction, we must concentrate our efforts on completing unfinished restoration and construction projects and start building a number of new projects according to plan so as to maintain the rate and organization of construction in the coming years. We must closely manage the projects that are under deadlines in order to concentrate on the main projects which must be completed urgently, especially the projects serving production, housing, schools, worker schools, and so forth.

The internal trade sector must increase the purchase of goods, create sources of goods, closely manage and utilize and distribute goods, properly and in the most effective manner possible; on the other hand, it must resolutely restrict the free market and expand the socialist market, improve the organization of management and trading operations, and serve production and the people's life better.

Because the requirements for developing production and accelerating construction and the volume of imported goods have increased rapidly, export activities are of a great significance. It is necessary to seek all measures to quickly increase the volume of exports and improve production, the delivery of products and the policies on prices and consumption so that the state can control the source of exports and agricultural products more closely.

In 1975, it is necessary to achieve more obvious progress in solving the problems concerning the living standard of the people, especially manual workers and civil servants, properly organize the system of food supply, provide better breakfasts for workers and improve the welfare of the grave shift.

Regarding labor activities, it is necessary to employ the existing labor force better. On the basis of developing production and construction, it is necessary to organize those persons who are working in the cities, students who have left school or who are of working age, the troops who are transferred to the production sector, and wounded soldiers to participate in production and other work. It is necessary to recruit sufficient workers for national defense installations and economic sectors, and pay full attention to training technical workers and cadres for the 1976-1980 5-year plan. Localities, sectors, and installations must meet and surpass the advanced labor productivity norms that were achieved before the war.

In preparation for the 1976-1980 5-year plan and the 1976 plan, it is necessary to build the bases for formulating plans (fixing norms and prices, studying various specialized subjects, investigation, planning, designing and so forth), make positive preparations for building important projects, and train technical cadres and workers.

The aforesaid major economic tasks require that all of us make new progress in our understanding and thinking and exert greater effort in the management of economic and social affairs.

To insure the successful implementation of the economic tasks set forth by the party, all of us must display the thoroughly revolutionary spirit of the working class and a high sense of responsibility to the people's common revolutionary cause which consists mainly of being determined to achieve socialist industrialization, the principal task of the transitional period. We must resolutely struggle against all deviations, such as the lack of a sense of responsibility, the failure to scrupulously implement norms and plans assigned by one's superiors, the lack of a positive, active spirit in the implementation of plans, the failure to actively fulfill the task of purchasing agricultural products and foodstuffs, the failure to deliver products according to the plan while freely setting separate standards for one's own locality governing the use of foodstuffs, standards which are at variance with common policies and systems, the failure to actively struggle against the theft of socialist property and the disruption of the social order, and the failure to actively manage labor, manage the markets, etc. We should criticize all thoughts of seeking leisure and fearing hardship in carrying out the economic tasks or of concentrating only on the selfish interests of one's own sector, locality or unit while neglecting one's obligations toward the entire country.

In view of the situation and task of the revolution, all the thoughts and sentiments of our cadres, party members and people must turn toward increasingly accelerating production and construction, because they form the material basis for the success of our revolutionary cause. We must establish the correct relationship between capital accumulation and consumption so as to have capital for socialist industrialization and we must put industrial and agricultural products under the control of the state to meet

the imperative demands of the country. All manifestations of parochialism and regionalism are alien to the unified, planned and statelike nature of socialist economic construction. With a high sense of voluntariness, everyone must work diligently, live a simple life and strive to contribute to the best of our ability to socialist construction in the north and the struggle to achieve independence and democracy in the south.

In carrying out the economic task for 1975 we must display the thoroughgoing revolutionary spirit of resolutely and valiantly fulfilling all tasks. Whatever our position may be, we must be imbued with the spirit of self-reliance, because it is the foundation on which our revolutionary enthusiasm and the will to struggle valiantly and persistently are built, and our intelligence and creativeness are developed in overcoming difficulties and fulfilling our tasks.

The fulfillment of the 1975 economic task and the preparations for the coming years require, together with the development of the production force, the active and vigorous consolidation and improvement of the socialist production relationship in both the state-owned and collective economic sectors while continuing the socialist reform of those engaged in individual economic activities and continuing to overcome the negative phenomena in economic and social life. Agricultural cooperatives in particular must strengthen and improve the system of ownership of the means of production, recover illegally occupied land, collectivize pieces of land exceeding the 5 percent limit, and recover public debts. They should promote the study of the cooperative statutes, hold congresses of collective farmers at the various levels, launch emulation productive labor movements in rural areas, reorganize agricultural production and improve agricultural management with a view to gradually advancing agriculture to large-scale socialist production.

The management of state and economic affairs must be improved. It is necessary to systematize planning and improve planning. The systems of inspection, control and cost accounting must be seriously implemented. Guidance must be close so that all production potential is mobilized. Management must insure the efficient utilization of the labor force and the full use of the capacity of equipment and machines and materials which are being seriously wasted at present. These are two very important factors for quickly increasing social production and national income and satisfying the demands for manpower, equipment, machines and materials.

In guiding the implementation of the 1975 state plan, it is necessary to concentrate all forces on decisive factors, such as agricultural and industrial production and the plan for collecting, purchasing and delivering agricultural and industrial products, the capital construction plan; the import-export plan; and other plans for serving the people. These plans are decisive to insuring the essential economic balance and the regular and systematic implementation of production and construction tasks.

An important, urgent task in economic management is to gradually reorganize production in all sectors in the direction of large-scale socialist production. From production in basic units to production in all sectors and territorial divisions and in the entire society. In agriculture, economic management involves reorganizing production, gradually improving management at the basic level, developing the great potentials of agriculture, and building the district into a level charged with formulating plans for agricultural, small industrial and handicraft production and coordinating all state economic organizations within the district to support and step up agricultural production. In the industrial sectors, the capital construction sector, and the communications and transportation sector, it is necessary to gradually implement the principle of management by sector in coordination with management by territorial division in order to raise technical levels, specialize production, raise labor productivity and make full use of the capacity of machines and equipment. Of course, we must make preparations and carry out these tasks gradually in accordance with the characteristics and progress of each sector. An important requirement is that in the process of carrying out the economic task for 1975, every ministry, province and district must make marked progress toward increasing its organizational and managerial ability and improving its organization and work methods. In particular, it is necessary to display a high level of discipline and uphold the socialist legal system, comprehensively strengthen the control task, strongly improve work methods, and combat bureaucracy in the state administration.

The more capital construction and the production, circulation and distribution of goods develop, the more they require that we promptly promulgate or amend regulations and policies to support the supervision of the implementation of economic tasks and make regulations and policies truly effective. It is most urgent that we promulgate regulations governing the use of materials and gradually improve the supply of materials and equipment so that supply organizations can virtually meet production requirements and better serve the production and construction sectors. In capital construction, it is imperative that we establish specific regulations on preparatory work, construction activities and the testing and acceptance of finished projects, in order to insure that construction work is on the right track, guarantee the quality of projects, and avoid waste. There must be more practical regulations concerning the utilization of construction materials for each task, each area and each type of project in order to economize on steel, timber and imported materials and make widespread use of domestic materials.

Improving management in state agencies and enterprises is a particularly important factor for developing all potentials in order to step up production and construction. The fact that social management has been improved and social activities have become healthier is also a highly significant factor for motivating all laboring people to join the production front. At present, we must properly manage manpower in urban and rural areas so that everyone has a suitable job useful to society. We must also closely coordinate the implementation of the labor obligation with measures to manage markets, grain, and so forth. The struggle against illegal business,

against violations of property of the state and cooperatives, and against the disruption of social order must be resolutely and strictly continued. This is an indispensable aspect of the improvement of economic and social affairs.

In 1975, on the occasion of the major anniversaries, we must insure that the emulation movement to engage in productive labor and economically build socialism, which has been launched in all economic sectors, in all localities, in the state-owned sector, in agricultural and handicraft cooperatives and among students and all other strata of people, is vigorous and lasting and produces realistic results. To insure the fulfillment of the state plan, the emulation movement must be directed toward carrying out urgent tasks and other main tasks such as making innovations and improving techniques in order to raise labor productivity, reducing the waste of materials, lowering production costs, and maintaining or improving the quality of products. People who are physically able must be mobilized to engage in productive labor and construction activities and participate in other tasks. Everyone must work enthusiastically, work the prescribed number of days and hours; everyone must emulate in raising labor productivity, make full use of discarded materials and products, and produce more goods for society. We must work to the best of our ability with a sense of collective ownership, with discipline, according to proper techniques and with high productivity, in order to contribute as much as possible to meeting the needs of the people. At the same time, we must resolutely struggle to protect socialist property and overcome all negative phenomena in economic and social life. These tasks are very important and practical and must be fulfilled by all patriotic citizens in the present revolutionary stage.

So that the emulation movement is permanent and continuous, responsible agencies must uniformly fulfill related tasks, such as prescribing planned norms, working out plans and projects; preparing charts; establishing criteria, industrial regulations and technical rules; solving the transportation problem; meeting the people's demands for grain and food products; and protecting the people's health, trade union organizations must consider launching and organizing the emulation movement one of their primary tasks. Party organizations must pay attention to leading and guiding the emulation movement in obtaining even more realistic results. Cadres and party members must uphold their vanguard and exemplary role in production, in other tasks and in their studies. They must actively motivate the masses to enthusiastically participate in the emulation drive and, through it, improve themselves and help other people make progress.

The people's armed forces must continue to accelerate the determined-to-win emulation movement which is aimed at scoring outstanding achievements in training, combat and combat readiness in order to realistically celebrate the three major anniversaries.

In 1975, our party and people are faced with very great but very glorious economic tasks. Successfully carrying out the tasks of economic rehabilitation and economic and cultural development is the main prerequisite for

building a stronger north, leading socialist construction in the north to a new stage and turning the north into a true and steady base of support of the struggle for the achievement of independence and democracy in the south in order to advance to the peaceful reunification of the country.

The requirements of the new situation and tasks this year call for much greater efforts from our cadres, party members and people than in the previous years. We are determined to strive for the fulfillment of all tasks and the successful implementation of the resolution of the 22d party plenum, thus making 1975 a year of glorious victory for our country's revolution.

CSO: 4909

THE GUIDELINES AND TASK OF THE 1975 STATE PLAN

Hanoi HOC TAP in Vietnamese No 1, January 1975 pp 12-45 & 56

[Report by Vice Premier Le Thanh Nghi at the opening meeting of the fifth session of the Fourth National Assembly on 23 December 1974]

[Text] To venerated and beloved President Ton Duc Thang, to the presidium of the fifth session of the Fourth National Assembly, and to all National Assembly deputies:

In response to the appeal of the VWP Central Committee, the National Assembly and the government, the people and armed forces in the northern part of our country have, over the past 2 years since the signing of the Paris agreement on Vietnam, upheld revolutionary heroism; worked diligently, heroically, intelligently and creatively; endeavored to heal the wounds of war; restored and developed the economy; developed culture; accelerated the building of material and technical bases for socialism; consolidated socialist production relations and scored important achievements.

In the flush of success, the northern people are preparing to enter 1975 with new enthusiasm and new revolutionary ardor.

In the south, the NFLSV and PRGRSV, holding high the banner of peace and independence, are leading the struggle of the southern people from one victory to another. Confronted with the schemes and acts of the United States and the bellicose and fascist Nguyen Van Thieu lackey clique in their serious sabotage of the implementation of the Paris agreement on Vietnam, our compatriots and combatants are perseveringly accelerating their just struggle and shifting the balance of power increasingly in favor of the revolutionary cause in order to achieve independence and democracy in the south and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the country.

On behalf of the Council of Ministers, I am going to present to the National Assembly the main guidelines, tasks and measures of the 1975 state plan. This report consists of three parts:

- I. Economic rehabilitation and development in 1974
- II. Orientation and tasks of the 1975 state plan.
- III. Further consolidation and improvement of socialist production relations, strengthening of state management and economic affairs and acceleration of the emulation movement to engage in productive labor and to diligently and thriftily build socialism.

Part I: Economic Rehabilitation and Development in 1974

Inspired by the successes recorded in 1973, workers, collective peasants, cadres, public employees at various services and levels and the people's armed forces have made great efforts in 1974 to overcome difficulties and fulfill the new tasks set by the VWP Central Committee's 22d Plenum and the fourth session of the Fourth National Assembly.

It may be said that 1974 has been a year in which the plan has been achieved fairly satisfactorily in many respects, thus providing favorable conditions for the North Vietnamese people to advance in 1975 toward fulfilling the tasks of economic rehabilitation and development, and actively preparing for the strong development of the national economy in the following years.

A notable success in agricultural production is that this year, the northern peasants have reaped two successive bumper rice crops. The yearly paddy output surpassed plan norms by 8 percent and increased 21.4 percent compared with the previous year.

Thai Binh Province has achieved the highest paddy output. Many delta provinces such as Hai Hung, Nam Ha and Ha Tay and the capital city of Hanoi have yielded high outputs. The number of provinces, districts and cooperatives reaching 5 tons per hectare has increased considerably, and many cooperatives have obtained 10 tons per hectare.

With bumper crops, life in the rural areas has become even more stable and the rural people more enthusiastic, thus exerting a good influence on the national economy in many fields.

However, we must not be subjective or satisfied with the achievements scored. We must make greater efforts in production and management must consume grain economically. Only by so doing will we be able to meet grain demand in the coming years.

The initial great success in rice production in 1974 was a result of the efforts of the majority of cooperative members to accelerate production, the efforts of all leading echelons over production, and the active contributions of industry and other economic sectors. It was also a result of the building of the material and technical facilities and the gradual application of new techniques in agriculture over past years.

Along with bumper rice crops, both area and output of potatoes have reached an all-time high, thus adding to North Vietnam's food production and clearly showing the possibility of developing potato cultivation in the winter. The productivity of some kinds of vegetables, beans and short-term industrial crops was fairly high. The herd of hogs has been maintained and has further increased.

Progress has been made in the building of material and technical facilities for agriculture. The collective peasantry have made tremendous efforts to continue to restore and perfect the irrigation system, to repair fields cratered by enemy bombs and shells, to restore or set up more cattle breeding centers, to reclaim wasteland, to build new economic areas and to promote afforestation and other activities.

Greater attention has been paid to agricultural cooperatives and initial results have been recorded in their consolidation. Many of them have improved land management, reappropriated crop fields that were illegally encroached upon and put an end to the waste of land. The campaign for reorganizing agricultural production and further improving its management according to large-scale production has begun to broaden in a number of districts and cooperatives. Congresses of collective peasants have been organized in many localities where millions of cooperative members have enthusiastically made many good suggestions for improving production and management.

Nevertheless, no broad comprehensive change has yet been made in agriculture. Although the rice harvest was good, the 5th-month and spring rice crop area has not reached the planned norm. Rice transplanting has been behind schedule in 16 percent of the cultivated areas. The rice yield has varied from one locality to another. For many years now, the cultivation of subsidiary crops and industrial crops has not been given due attention. This year, it still cannot reach the planned norm.

Guidance of animal husbandry, particularly veterinary tasks, is very unsatisfactory. Epidemics have developed widely and for a long period of time.

Although effort have been made, the building of the material and technical facilities for agriculture is still slow and cannot meet requirements. Wasteland reclamation, expansion of the cultivated areas and afforestation are also slow. The jungles have not been satisfactorily protected.

These shortcomings have limited the results of agricultural production in 1974.

In industry, many production establishments have been newly restored and resumed operations even in the course of rehabilitation, thus meeting with difficulties as the production process was not yet smooth. Nevertheless, many important industrial branches have endeavored to fulfill the state plan, with the best results being recorded in coal, power, chemicals, brick and tile, salt and consumer goods. The total value of industry and handicraft production was 4 percent above plan and up more than 15 percent over 1973.

The coal industry has actively carried out the plan for output. Although it has not yet reached prewar levels, it has overfulfilled its production plan by 12 percent and its stripping plan by 8 percent. The quantity of coal supplied to industry, agriculture and export has increased considerably compared with previous years.

The power industry has continued to satisfactorily restore powerplants damaged by U.S. bombs, thus increasing the power supply. The power output was 2 percent above plan in 1974 and 66 percent over the prewar peak of 1965.

The coal and power industries, by fulfilling their plans, have provided more favorable conditions for other branches to fulfill their plans.

The method of specialized production has been applied to the engineering industry, where groups turning out machine tools, farm machines, car and tractor spare parts and so forth have been formed. The value of the engineering industry production has doubled compared with the prewar period. The production of many important items such as metal-cutting machines, electric motors, small tractors, canoes, tugboats, pushbarges and buses has increased considerably.

In the chemical industry, the production plan for fertilizer, synthetic rubber and so forth has been fulfilled or overfulfilled. The production plan for bricks and tiles has been overfulfilled. The production plan for cement is still below prewar norms, but efforts have been made to restore kilns and machines and to improve the production chain, thus providing conditions for increasing output in the coming year.

The production plan for some foodstuffs and consumer goods such as salt, seasoning, alcohol, beer, tea, cigarettes, matches, soap and so forth has been fulfilled or overfulfilled: Small industries and handicrafts, with their great potential for the production of consumer goods, have been restored and developed to a higher level than in the prewar period.

In general, the production rate of a number of industrial branches has begun to increase fairly well. Yet, the machinery industry is still developing slowly. No particular progress has been recorded in the lumber industry. The foodstuffs industry has not yet developed vigorously. The production rate of a number of consumer goods industries is still low.

This situation has made it difficult for industry to support the economic branches, especially agriculture. Industries, small industries and handicrafts have great potential but have not yet been developed satisfactorily. Manpower, materials and equipment are still wasted. The use of raw materials is not tightly controlled. Production costs remain high and product quality is still unsatisfactory. The industrial branches must endeavor to overcome these shortcomings in the days to come.

The communications and transport branch has achieved or overfulfilled the main norms for transport of imported goods, coal and timber and has met other requirements. The total volume of transported goods in 1974 has increased by 30 percent compared with 1973 and 60 percent compared with 1964.

The transportation of goods to the mountainous provinces and the former Fourth Region and the communications and transport activities in the rural areas are still unsatisfactory. Management in communications and transportation requires that we exert even greater efforts.

The postal branch has endeavored to meet the requirements for economic rehabilitation and development. However, the quality of its work is still poor. Efforts must be made to improve its equipment as well as its managerial task.

With regard to capital construction, cadres and workers have made great efforts to overcome difficulties and to help restore and develop the postwar economy, expand existing factories and build new installations, while making preparations for the years ahead.

At the end of 1974, almost all powerplants have been restored. New powerplants such as the Ninh Binh and Uong Bi plants have been put into partial operation, thus increasing power capacity by hundreds of thousands of kilowatts compared with 1973. The improvement and building of electric power lines and transformer stations have been continued.

Workers and cadres in the coal industry have continued to push ahead the building of new mines, restored the coal-sorting and cleaning plants, and increased the capacity of roads for export coal and of the coal-loading ports, thus making possible a rapid increase in coal output in the coming years.

The Thai Nguyen iron and steel complex has been restored and put into partial operation. Six new machine plants have been put into commission and the building of big machinery plants, chemical fertilizer plants and textile mills has been pushed ahead. Almost all plants in the chemical industry, building materials and light industry services have been rehabilitated or even expanded and their capacity increased.

Many ports, wharves and roads have been quickly restored. Some major bridges are under construction. Workers have joined soldiers in removing mines and clearing ports, thus enabling heavy-tonnage ships to maneuver easily.

We have also made many efforts to rehabilitate or build a great number of warehouses to store materials and goods.

The state has paid great attention to the restoration and building of houses, schools and hospitals. Many efforts have been made by cadres, workers and people of all branches and at all levels in this field. Millions of square meters of new housing and tens of thousands of classrooms have been built in the past 2 years. The people in various localities have devoted tens of millions of workdays to restoring and enlarging production installations and public utility establishments.

However, the building of houses, schools and hospitals is still slow and far from meeting demand. It is necessary to build more in the coming years. Capital construction in general is still slow and of poor quality.

Study and application of science and techniques in industry, agriculture, construction and in a number of colleges and research institutes has made progress.

In the field of circulation and distribution of goods, greater efforts have been made to meet the needs of production and the people's lives in spite of many difficulties caused by the war and of the rapid increase in the population. In 1974, the circulation of retail goods sold on the state-organized market has increased 2 percent over 1973 and doubled that of 1965. Goods distribution has been improved a step further, and efforts have been made to meet the people's most vital needs. The prices of consumer goods on the state-organized market have been stable, and the prices at which some items of agricultural products are purchased have been adjusted so as to encourage the development of their production.

Efforts have been made in the export of goods under postwar conditions.

State revenue has begun to increase and the prices of many items have decreased.

Activities in education, culture, arts, public health, sports and physical culture have quickly returned to normal and are taking new steps forward. In the north at present, almost one out of every three citizens goes to school in one way or another. The training of technical cadres and workers has continued to expand. In the localities, the number of hospital beds, medical establishments and sanitary and disease-control teams have been restored and developed.

The training of the contingent of kindergarten nurses has made progress and an increasing number of children are attending kindergarten. The birth control movement has spread. The cultural, art and information branches have made all-round efforts in order to meet the increasing requirements of the people's cultural life.

Although difficulties remain, the state and our people are striving to care for the livelihood of the brother and sister wounded combatants and the families of fallen heroes. The government has promulgated a number of policies to supplement and improve the system of treating wounded combatants and troops assigned to other branches.

The consolidation and perfection of socialist production relations in the state and collective sectors, which is closely linked to the development of the production forces, is a requirement related to the task of economic rehabilitation and development to which the various branches and levels have attached great importance. Many state-operated economic installations have sought to overcome the situation in which the consolidation of socialist production relations has slackened.

Recently, the various levels have closely linked the movement to study the cooperative statute and the holding of congresses of collective peasants with the movement to reorganize agricultural production so as to advance it toward large-scale production. Thus, production relations in the agricultural cooperatives are being consolidated.

State and economic management has scored initial progress. Guidance over the development and implementation of plans from the central to local levels is stricter than before. The government has promulgated a number of policies and systems to stabilize production and management so as to initially and gradually systematize economic management and to insure that it will effectively accelerate economic rehabilitation and development.

Labor productivity in the industrial, construction and transportation branches fulfilled the plan norms and increased from 15 to 20 percent over 1973. Greater attention has been paid to qualitative norms and economic and technical norms in increasing labor productivity, reducing production costs, reducing waste of material supplies and improving product.

We have conducted and are conducting a resolute struggle against dishonest and illegal business transactions and have applied administrative, economic and educational measures to eliminate acts of encroachment on the property of the state and the cooperatives, and acts aimed at creating disturbances in economic management and public order and security. At the same time, we are managing the free market better.

Better progress has been noted in the implementation of systems and principles regarding financial expenditures and the use of material supplies and goods. However, we should continue to promote this struggle in a more vigorous manner to eliminate the bad practices that cannot be tolerated in society.

The movement to emulate in labor productivity and to diligently and economically build socialism has been launched in many basic-level units. Better progress has been noted in the observance of labor discipline and in protecting socialist property. This progress has positively contributed to the completion of the state plan and to the achievement of new successes. In the emulation movement, many typical models have appeared and many innovations for rationalizing production and improving techniques have been developed.

The convening of conferences of workers and civil servants and the signing of collective contracts were stepped up more strongly than in 1973. Relations between the state and trade unions at various levels have become closer. Thousands of basic-level units have adopted norms that are higher than those of the state plan. Tens of thousands of labor cells and teams have enrolled in the struggle to become socialist labor cells and teams.

Responding to the emulation movement for labor productivity and to diligently and economically build socialism, in the past year our armed forces have contributed millions of mandays to building irrigation projects and dikes, carrying out communications and transportation operations, exploiting sea products, reclaiming wasteland, carrying out afforestation, and so forth.

Dear comrade assembly deputies, during the past 2 years of economic rehabilitation and development in the north, many encouraging achievements have been scored, particularly in the fulfillment of the 1974 state plan. We have restored and developed a great part of the production capacity of various economic branches. Industrial and agricultural production, communications and transportation operations and so forth have been accelerated. The national economy has positively developed in its major aspects. We have set forth ways to practically solve the major problems of our economy, and certain results have been achieved. All North Vietnam's economic activities have been carried out in accordance with the resolution of the 22d Plenum of the VWP Central Committee.

Our achievements in 1974 strikingly reflect the strong vitality of the socialist regime in the north and our people's great efforts and latent potentials, and provide a basis for us to advance vigorously in future years. These achievements prove the correctness of the resolutions of the VWP Central Committee, the National Assembly, and the government as well as the extraordinary, great efforts of the branches, echelons, working class, collective peasantry, people's armed forces, socialist intellectuals, and compatriots of various nationalities in our north who have been advancing to fulfill their duties in the new stage of our Vietnamese nation's glorious revolutionary undertaking.

The successes in the current rehabilitation and development of the economy, as well as the great victory in the recent anti-U.S. national salvation resistance of our people, are closely linked with the great and valuable assistance of the Soviet Union, China and other fraternal socialist countries, and progressive forces all over the world. These successes are also the result of the continued and persistent efforts of our people over many years. Even during the years of fierce struggle, our people followed the line of combining production and combat and made all-out efforts to defend and increase the economic and national defense potential, while at the same time developing education, culture, public health and scientific and technical research, and preparing conditions for the current economic rehabilitation and development and cultural development.

While carrying out the task of economic rehabilitation and development, the northern people are constantly facing toward their kith and kin in the south and endeavoring to fulfill their obligation to the heroic south. In 1974, we have intensively mobilized our human and material resources to support the revolutionary struggle and the building of the liberated zone in the south. We have endeavored to satisfactorily receive the released brother and sister southern combatants, treat their diseases, and improve their health. We have made positive efforts to foster and educate the southern schoolchildren with the affection and under the protection of the great family of the Vietnamese nation.

We must correctly appraise the achievements scored in 1974 and warmly acclaim our brother and sister workers, peasants and intellectuals and the people's armed forces for making great contributions to economic rehabilitation and development and to cultural development.

On the other hand, we must be aware of the present weaknesses in our economy and our shortcomings in the management of economic and state affairs so as to overcome them and create conditions for our economy to advance steadily and vigorously.

We have made fair but slow progress in fulfilling the 1974 state plan while the requirements of our national economy have increased. We have not yet satisfied the needs for many kinds of materials and goods. Meanwhile, our economic potential remains great but has not been properly exploited. Our people, especially our workers and civil servants, have encountered many difficulties in their life that must be settled.

The production forces have been restored and developed, but, because inadequate attention has been paid to consolidating the socialist production relations, they have not yet exerted a strong impact on the development of production and have not created conditions for us to advance production to large-scale socialist production.

Slow progress has been made in the management of economic and state affairs. Our organizational level and our guidance and managerial capability have not kept pace with requirements.

Generally speaking, the planning task has not been carried out satisfactorily. A number of tasks have not been improved. The development of plans at the basic level has not been properly achieved. These plans have not reflected proper implementation of the guidelines for advancing North Vietnam's economy from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production.

The procedures for managing state and economic affairs have not been simplified or improved. The branches and localities have not made uniform progress. Some units have properly carried out the managerial task and state plans, policies and systems, but the performance of many enterprises, construction sites, state farms, lumber sites, production and trade cooperatives has been mediocre; their work efficiency has been low, and they have utilized manpower, materials, equipment and capital wastefully. In a number of places, one can observe the lack of a spirit of responsibility and of a sense of organization and discipline in the implementation of state directives, resolutions, policies, systems and plan norms. One can also note violations of the law, misappropriation of state and collective property, bureaucracy, lack of democracy, and rightist thoughts in the management of state and economic affairs and in the maintenance of social order and security. These phenomena have not been resolutely eliminated.

The mass emulation movement has made new progress, but it has not yet become a seething and vigorous revolutionary tide. The fervor in the emulation movement for labor productivity has not developed uniformly. In some places, importance has been attached only to the form and not to the content of the movement.

All of the aforesaid weaknesses and shortcomings have prevented the advance of the branches, localities and basic-level units and restricted the exploitation of all latent potentials of our national economy. Of course, our north's economy is inherently backward and has recently experienced a protracted, fierce war whose serious consequences cannot be overcome in a few years.

In the face of the new requirement and heavy, great tasks in 1975, all branches, echelons, cadres and people must have a high determination to quickly overcome all weaknesses and shortcomings, develop their strengths, and advance to complete the tasks in the new stage.

Part II: Orientation and Tasks of the 1975 State Plan

Dear comrade Assembly deputies, soon we will be entering 1975, a year of great political significance and special economic importance.

Three major anniversaries will be celebrated in 1975: the 30th anniversary of the DRV, the 45th anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party, now the VWP, and the 85th anniversary of the birth of beloved President Ho Chi Minh.

In 1975 North Vietnam must successfully conclude the period of postwar economic rehabilitation, make a stable transition to the period of large-scale development of economy and culture, continue to push ahead with socialist industrialization, and advance from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production. We must score brilliant achievements in 1975 to be worthy of the fine traditions of our nation, party and state.

Embarking on 1975, we have new possibilities and favorable conditions, as follows:

Regarding the material and technical bases, almost all industrial establishments that suffered bombing during the war have been restored. A number of new enterprises have been completed and put into operation. Compared with 1965, power production will increase 80 percent and machine building will double. Coal extraction will equal that of 1965. The reopened railroad capacity will equal that of 1971. Port capacity will be up by 20 percent compared with 1964.

In agriculture, a number of new high-yield strains have been used in large-scale cultivation so that output is increasing quickly. Almost all districts in the plains and midlands have built hog-breeding farms. Cattle and chicken breeding establishments have gone into operation. Fish hatching has been further increased. The irrigation network has been improved and draining and watering channels expanded. We have six times the number of tractors we had in 1965. New production capacity of the economic branches will allow us to substantially step up production and construction next year.

Economic cooperation and trade exchange with foreign countries, already, initially expanded will create new possibilities for restoring and developing our economy.

The consolidation of socialist production relations and management has progressed in a number of respects. The newly promulgated policies and systems will gradually exert a good effect in this area.

Concerning ideological work, achievements in the north in economic rehabilitation and development and cultural development, together with the successes of the revolution in the south and the events of great political significance in 1975, will vigorously encourage and enhance the revolutionary enthusiasm of our people and cadres and stimulate their ardor in work, production and building the country. The emulation movement for labor productivity and for diligently and thriftily building socialism is gathering impetus in enterprises and on construction sites and is being boosted in agricultural cooperatives, small industry and handicrafts.

However, as I mentioned in the first part, North Vietnam's economy will continue to encounter many difficulties in 1975. Although production has developed at a fairly rapid rate, it has failed to satisfy the quickly increased requirements of production and of the people's livelihood. We must still import large quantities of material supplies, raw materials, equipment and machines while export possibilities have not increased accordingly. The demand for many kinds of consumer goods has not been satisfied, especially since our population has increased rapidly and the distribution of the population has changed. Our people, especially our workers and civil servants, are still facing difficulties in their life.

We have achieved little in the way of consolidating socialist production relations. Phenomena of negativeness in economic and social life have not been completely eliminated. Slow progress has been made in economic and state management. The organizational level and the ability to manage the economy have failed to keep pace with the need for reorganizing production in the direction of large-scale socialist production.

This situation requires that we make outstanding efforts to properly exploit all latent potentials and new favorable conditions to rapidly overcome all difficulties, shortcomings and weaknesses in order to create a stronger change in our economy and our people's life.

Under the 1975 state plan, the North Vietnamese people must achieve all tasks set by the 22d Plenum of the VWP Central Committee for the north in 1974 and 1975: "Quickly complete the healing of the wounds of war, strive for economic restoration and economic and cultural development, continue to lay the material and technical foundations for socialism, stabilize the economy and people's life, consolidate national defense, and spare no effort to support the South Vietnamese people's revolutionary struggle and the building of the liberated zone.

In order to carry out this common task, all work in North Vietnam in 1975 must concentrate on three main objectives:

1. We must mobilize and organize the social work force to take part in production and construction with a high revolutionary spirit; make full use of every latent possibility of the economy; step up production and practice economy; and help the whole society, all economic branches, and all economic units to attain or exceed the highest norms of 1965 or 1971. We must struggle for a rapid increase in social productivity and national income, the guaranteeing of social consumption funds, and increased capital accumulation generated by the economy itself, thus fulfilling our obligations to the heroic south.
2. We must move forward in consolidating and perfecting socialist production relations in both the state-operated and collective sectors and resolutely solve the problem of inactive areas in economic and social life.
3. We must strengthen leadership and state management, readjust economic management from the central to the basic level, and satisfactorily settle immediate problems while preparing long-term plans for the development of the economy and culture.

We must thoroughly understand the following guidelines.

1. We must firmly grasp the line of socialist industrialization, develop heavy industry on a priority basis and in a rational manner while promoting agriculture and light industry build the central economy while developing the local economy; combine economy with national defense and accelerate the restoration and development of heavy industry, especially the branches of machinery, metallurgy, electricity, coal, fertilizer, construction materials and chemical products, in order to create conditions for vigorous development of agricultural production, light industry, construction industry, and other economic branches. We must develop agriculture vigorously and reorganize agricultural production with a view to large-scale socialist production in order to create a stable basis for industrial development and to meet the requirements of export and the people's life.
2. We must properly utilize all latent possibilities of the national economy; properly organize and utilize the social work force; make use of production capacity, the capacity of machines and equipment and the possibilities of ricefields; combine handicraft labor with machines; motivate all people to strive for high labor output, practice economy, and utilize material supplies, raw materials and capital the most effective way; oppose all instances of waste and strive to attain the quality norms of plans, reduce wasted materials, improve product quality and lower production costs.
3. We must strive to consolidate socialist production relations in both the state-owned and collective sectors; pay primary and special attention to consolidating and improving the all-people ownership system and collective ownership system; solve problems concerning distribution; consolidate and strengthen the relationship between the state and collective economy; consolidate state-owned economic establishments and, at the same time, agricultural cooperatives, small industry cooperatives, handicraft cooperatives, salt-production cooperatives, sea-fishing cooperatives and marketing cooperatives; and implement the socialist reform regarding small producers and small merchants.
4. We must strengthen the organizational and managerial capability of the branches, echelons and basic units; quickly systematize state and economic management; take the first step in building a managerial system in accordance with the requirements of reorganization production toward large-scale socialist production; strengthen the district level to develop its managerial function and effectiveness; properly utilize the body of scientific and technical cadres and skilled workers; broadly and quickly apply technical methods; and step up the rationalization of production and technical improvement.
5. We must heighten the spirit of independence, sovereignty and self-reliance while struggling to win international assistance; expand economic and technical relations with foreign countries; and overcome a tendency to rely on others, an inferiority complex or conservative and negative attitudes.
6. We must heighten revolutionary vigilance, further consolidate national defense, closely combine the economy with national defense, and coordinate immediate with long-term tasks of economic development.

7. We must launch a wide and deep revolutionary mass movement in all branches, localities and basic units; participate in the emulation movement for labor productivity and for diligently and thriftily building socialism; and fulfill or overfulfill the 1975 state plan.

The 1975 state plan embodies the following essential tasks:

1. Strive to exploit all economic capabilities, step up production, and practice thrift;
2. Basically fulfill our task related to the rehabilitation of the postwar economy, vigorously develop the forces of production, and gradually reorganize our economic structure so as to advance from small-scale to large-scale socialist production;
3. Achieve noteworthy progress in meeting the requirements of the people's livelihood, particularly of manual and office workers;
4. Gradually reduce the imbalances in the national economy;
5. Meet national defense requirements and provide aid to the revolutionary struggle and the building of the liberated areas in the south; and
6. Make intensive preparations in all respects for the 1976-1980 5-year plan.

We should strive intensively to increase the gross social product by 19.6 percent over 1974, national income from production by 19.5 percent, the value of total industrial production volume by 22 percent, the value of total agricultural production by 8.6 percent, total investment for capital construction by 41.5 percent, the volume of goods transported in the country by 22 percent, total goods traffic in the organized market by 18 percent, the value of exported goods by 30 percent, receipts for the national budget by 11.1 percent, social labor output by 14 percent, and recruitment of new workers for training by 19 percent in universities and 14 percent in vocational high schools. The number of students enrolled at the beginning of the school year in general high schools should increase by 4 percent.

The following are specific tasks and objectives of the various branches:

1. Industry

To continue to develop the key role of industry in the national economy, we should in 1975 strive to fulfill the rehabilitation of war-damaged installations and accelerate production and the development of key industrial sectors which are capable of pushing the entire national economy ahead. These include the mechanical, cast iron, steel, electricity, coal, construction material, fertilizer and chemical sectors. We should strive to produce raw materials, materiel, equipment and spare parts that can be produced locally and thereby meet the requirements for developing production, primarily agricultural development. We should strive to develop the light and food industries and the small and handicraft industries, and rapidly increase production of consumer goods to support the people's livelihood and to meet export requirements.

Total industrial output value for 1975 should increase by 22 percent over 1974, with group A achieving a 26-percent increase, group B a 19-percent increase, industry at the central level a 28-percent increase, industry at the local level a 17-percent increase, and the small and handicraft industries a 15.3-percent increase.

The machinery industry plays the key role in providing technical equipment necessary for the national economy. In 1975 we should fully utilize our production capabilities, which have been improved over past years, to conduct the reorganization of production; improve management in the entire branch; define production projects for the immediate and distant future for every enterprise; improve and expand a number of factories; and assign tasks properly and closely coordinate the activities between enterprises at the central and local levels and those supporting national defense and the mechanical network of the cooperatives in accordance with the guidelines for specialization and cooperativization according to the lines of production. We should concentrate on stepping up production to adequately meet the requirements of farm implements and common and improved work tools of the agricultural, water conservancy and construction branches and so forth.

We should rapidly increase production of machinery, equipment and spare parts in the various economic sectors and the industrial branch such as 12-hp tractors, motor pumps used in water conservancy, tractor-drawn agricultural machines, diesel motors, lathes, transformers, buses, barges and auto spare parts. We should step up production of metal products for popular consumption, satisfactorily organize repairs and improve repair capabilities to enhance use of machinery and equipment in the various sectors, and attach great importance to fully utilizing discarded materials and projects and to salvaging and repairing old machinery and equipment.

The machinery industry should concern itself with production and technical management and step up the introduction of technical advances to enhance product quality, improve the machinery and equipment being produced, and produce new items in order to meet the requirements for 1975 and to make preparations for the years ahead. We should accelerate the construction of important mechanical factories so they can be put into operation quickly and thereby increase production capacity.

Investment in the machinery industry for 1975 will nearly double that of 1974. The percentage of this investment in terms of total industrial investment will increase from 15 percent in 1974 to 18 percent in 1975.

The metallurgical branch must accelerate the restoration and rebuilding of the Thai Nguyen iron and steel complex; complete the building of the Gia San steel-rolling plant; expand the chromite mine, the tin mine and so forth; accelerate the building of electric ovens in the machinery plants and fully use the steel-processing power of these ovens to increase the steel-producing capacity of the machine building branch; and strive to apply technical advances to increase the quality and quantity of products and produce new types of goods.

The electrical branch must increase power capacity by 19 percent compared with 1974 and double that of 1965. Power supplied to industry and agriculture must increase by 32 and 20 percent, respectively, compared with 1974. Along with restoring existing power plants, building a number of new power plants, and stepping up the improvement and development of the electrical network in order to overcome the imbalance between power supply and consumption, the electrical branch must strive to increase labor output and reduce the wastage of electricity and production costs.

To meet the great needs of the country and export requirements, the coal branch must increase the capacity of machines and equipment; properly organize the repair of means of transporting and extracting coals; accelerate the building of coal-sorting and coal-cleaning plants, bridges and ports; continue to improve the existing coal mines; build a number of new mines; strive to increase coal production by about 1.5 million tons, or 39 percent, over 1974; create conditions for further accelerating coal production in the coming years; and apply technical advances in coal extraction in order to increase labor output and lower production costs.

The chemical products branch must complete the building of the Ha Bac nitrogenous fertilizer factory and put it into operation. It must continue to improve the Lao Cai apatite mine, expand the Van Dien phosphorous fertilizer plant, and accelerate the production of various kinds of phosphorous fertilizer to meet the requirements of developing agricultural production. Production of phosphorous fertilizer must increase by 24 percent compared with 1974. The chemical products branch must also accelerate production of inner tubes and tires of all sizes for automobiles and bicycles and rubber spare parts and develop tire-patching installations to meet the present great need. It must begin construction of an antibiotics plant, a battery plant and a rubber products factory. We should attach great importance to expanding production of chemicals that can be produced locally, with our own raw materials, so as to reduce imported chemicals, intensively applying technical advances to improve product quality, economizing on raw materials, and increasing production of new chemical products.

The construction materials branch should accelerate production of cement, bricks, tiles and so forth to meet urgent current requirements. It should promote the restoration and expansion of the Haiphong cement factory and should improve management and step up production at cement factories in the localities.

Cement production should increase 40 percent or more compared with 1974 and labor output 23 percent. We must make intensive preparations for rapid construction of large cement factories, step up construction of cement producing installations in the localities, and provide more equipment for existing cement factories so as to increase production of cement in the future.

We must complete the building of brick and tile factories, make full use of the capacity of existing brick and tile installations, and accelerate the organization of brick and tile production in the mining areas and nearby provinces so as to fully utilize discarded earth and stones and various types of low-temperature coal. Brick production must increase by more than 22 percent compared with 1974. The Uong Bi concrete factory must be completed. The Duo Tu concrete factory must be partially put into operation.

The branches and localities must accelerate the production and utilization of construction materials and structures made of raw materials available in the localities.

The lumber branch must accelerate timber production to meet the great needs of the basic construction and industrial branches. Timber production must increase by 22 percent compared with 1974. We must step up demarcation of lumbering zones and the building of roads for timber transportation, insure sufficient manpower for lumbering work, and repair machines and equipment so that they can operate at full capacity.

We must properly organize the transportation, processing and placing of timber in water; make full use of trees and branches; achieve unified management of sawmills and of timber supply in order to increase production of finished products and economize on timber; and carry out necessary measures to closely oversee the supply of timber according to requirements.

The light industry sector and grain and food products processing sector must be vigorously developed to meet the demands of the people's everyday life and to increase sources of exports. Processing of grain and food products in the localities must be accelerated to meet the people's demands. The people's demand for processed wheat flour must be met.

Efforts must be made to accelerate processing of secondary crops so as to further increase production of food products. The pattern of grain consumption must be changed and animal husbandry developed. It is necessary to organize the processing of vegetables and other foods and accelerate sea fishing and the exploitation of other sea products.

In state-operated fishing installations, management must be strengthened and problems concerning services, repair and supply of equipment settled. With regard to fishing cooperatives, it is necessary to improve and consolidate management, to provide them with more fishing equipment, and to attract more manpower to the sea fishing branch. Production of saltwater fish must increase by 43 percent over 1974. Along with boosting production of fish, we must also organize the purchase and processing of fish.

The salt producing branch must develop the achievements scored in 1974, intensively set aside new land for salt production, and improve existing salt fields to increase productivity. The branch must strive to increase salt production by 22 percent over 1974.

It is necessary to satisfactorily organize the purchase of all kinds of agricultural products including sugarcane, tea, tobacco, vegetables, fruit and so forth to help processing factories operate with high efficiency.

The weaving branch must continue rehabilitation of the Nam Dinh and 8 March weaving factories. Existing weaving factories must boost cloth production. Construction of the Minh Phuong weaving factory must be accelerated, and the yarn spinning section of this factory must be put into operation on schedule. The weaving branch must insure that cloth production increases by 19.5 percent over 1974.

Production of paper is still a long way from meeting demand. Therefore, damaged papermills must be rehabilitated to operate at full capacity. We must build additional small papermills in localities where there are sufficient raw materials. It is necessary to organize the purchase and retrieval of old paper of all kinds for reprocessing. Efforts must be made to increase paper production by 25 percent and production of writing paper by 70 percent over 1974.

The light industry and food products processing sectors must pay special attention to accelerating production of consumer goods, children's toys, school aids, sport and cultural training instruments, and various kinds of powdered food for infants.

The best way to quickly boost consumer goods production is always to actively exploit all sources of raw materials in the country, to salvage and use discarded raw materials and goods, and to look for substitute raw materials and materials.

It is necessary to strive to develop the potential of local industry, especially small industry and handicrafts. First of all, production of essential goods for the people's everyday life and of export goods must be accelerated.

With regard to small industry and handicraft cooperatives, attention must be paid to consolidating and strengthening management, continuing the socialist reform, overcoming negative phenomena in production and business, and developing positive aspects. Supply of raw materials and other materials must be organized. Small industry and handicraft cooperatives must be provided with more equipment and manpower to boost production.

New policies aimed at encouraging the development of small industry and handicraft production must be adopted promptly. State agencies charged with controlling industrial production must closely oversee and help small industry and handicraft cooperatives and various branches and occupations in such fields as application of technique, assignment of work, and cooperation in production.

It is necessary to vigorously develop production of items produced with raw materials and discarded materials available in the localities such as fish, salt, secondary crops, farm products, food products, timber, earthenware, chinaware, glassware, beans, jute, rushes, rattan, bamboo and construction materials. Efforts must be made to produce the repair working tools. Adequate preparations must be made to train workers and develop installations to quickly boost production of woolen material, jute rugs and embroidered goods for export in the coming years.

2. Agriculture

Concentrating efforts on boosting agricultural production in order to meet the ever growing need for food and foodstuffs, raw materials for industry and agricultural products for export is an especially important and urgent task at present.

In the spirit of the resolution of the 19th Plenum of the VWP Central Committee, the general guideline for agriculture is that efforts should be made to strike a balance between cultivation and stockbreeding, between rise growing and subsidiary and industrial crops, and between domestic consumption and export of agricultural products, so as to create a new position leading agriculture step by step toward large-scale socialist production.

In 1975 new progress should be made in the designation of agricultural areas; in the designation of areas of extensive and intensive cultivation, chiefly areas specializing in essential crops; in the effective intensification and use of the material and technical bases and the widespread application of technical innovations; in the consolidation of socialist production relations; and in the readjustment and promotion of agricultural management and leadership from the center to the grassroots, especially the districts and agricultural cooperatives.

We must exert great efforts to step up intensive cultivation in the plains while strongly developing agricultural production in the midlands and mountainous region.

Past realities and experience reveal our opportunities of developing agriculture at a fairly rapid rate. For this reason, in 1975 we must strive to increase total agricultural output value by 8.6 percent over 1974, with an increase of 6.5 percent in farming and 16 percent in stockbreeding. In 1975 grain output must increase by 5 to 6 percent compared with 1974, a year of a bumper rice harvest.

To rapidly increase grain production, we must step up intensive cultivation to increase rice output while paying special attention to quickly increasing the production of corn and other secondary crops. Because winter-spring rice output in recent years has increased in a fairly satisfactory manner, and because there are possibilities of maintaining this output level, we must strive to increase the rice-growing area quickly for this crop. We must strive to expand the 10th-month rice area and to quickly utilize new high-yield rice varieties in the main crop. In rice production, we must concentrate on leadership and increase investment in intensive cultivation of rice crops in the plains and midlands as well as in areas where output can be increased rapidly.

Production of secondary crops is of special importance in solving the problems of food grain and fodder. We must resolutely overcome the tendency to overlook production, processing and consumption of secondary crops.

In 1975 there must be dramatic changes in the production, purchase, collection, processing and consumption of secondary crops in order to quickly increase grain production. The volume of secondary crop production, calculated on the basis of the value of rice, must increase by more than 40 percent compared with 1974.

We must expand the area of secondary crops to be cultivated in all areas, especially the midlands, mountainous region and former interzone 4, and along riverbanks. We must build areas where secondary crops, especially corn, can be grown in a concentrated and intensive manner. We must quickly increase the corn area and strive for an output of 25 to 30 quintals per hectare in corn-growing areas.

We must ready sufficient sweet potato seed and prepare the soil on schedule so as to expand the sweet potato area and raise output to 80 or 100 quintals per hectare. We must vigorously develop manioc cultivation in the provinces in the mountainous region and midlands; pay strict attention to intensive cultivation, purchase, collection and processing of manioc; and expand the area of algae and alpinia chinensis [rong rieeng] in the provinces of the mountainous region and in low- and high-lying areas in order to solve the food problem while preventing erosion. In particular, we must concentrate on quickly increasing the potato area. Potato cultivation opens bright prospects in the exploitation of our soil and climatic conditions to help solve the food problem.

The winter crop constitutes a great agricultural potential because it is a good source of foodstuffs and fodder and a source of products for export.

In early 1975, we must ready seeds and draft power so as to further expand the winter crop area and create conditions for increasing the area of winter crop from 300,000 to 500,000 hectares in a few years. We must also expand the cultivated area of vegetables and beans; consolidate and expand the food-producing belt around Hanoi, Haiphong and Nam Dinh; urgently build food-producing areas in Quang Ninh, Bac Thai and Vinh as well as areas where vegetables are grown for export.

Along with expanding the cultivated area, we must pay special attention to intensively cultivating vegetables in order to increase vegetable output. We must rationally allocate the patterns and cultivation schedules of vegetables and pay attention to processing of vegetables so as to meet the needs of cities and industrial centers as well as export needs.

It is necessary to consolidate and expand the area of jute, mulberry and sugarcane; create conditions for rapidly expanding the cultivation of these crops in the years ahead; further expand the area of peanuts; set aside a number of areas for intensive cultivation of peanuts and increase the yield in those areas to 18 or 20 quintals per hectare; and step up production of soybeans in various areas, especially Cao Bang, Lang Son, Lao Cai and Ha Bac provinces.

With regard to other crops such as tea, coffee, rubber trees, castor oil plants, sesame, cotton, rushes and lacquer trees, oleaginous crops, fruit trees such as bananas, pineapples and oranges, and medicinal plants, we must provide for production; gradually set aside areas where intensive cultivation of these crops will be carried out; and provide close technical guidance for the production, purchase and processing of these crops.

With regard to animal husbandry, the raising of domestic animals and fowl and the raising of fish in sweet and brackish water must be intensified.

While accelerating winter rice and secondary crop production, we must resolve the fodder problem better, consolidate the seed production and breeding network, and intensify water conservancy activities.

In 1975 we must increase the number of hogs by 3 percent over 1974 and increase meat production by 14 percent while rapidly increasing the number of crossbred commercial hogs and adopting technical measures to increase the weight of hogs removed from pigpens. We must also carry out the following tasks: Control and care for oxen and buffalos in winter; increase the number of cows and female buffalos for breeding purposes; take good care of calves and buffalo calves in order to increase herds of draft oxen and buffalos; prevent any decrease in the number of oxen; continue to develop milch cows and milch buffalos; develop duck raising in coastal and swampy areas; boost the number of female ducks to more than 2 million; organize chicken raising according to industrial methods; begin to build chicken-raising enterprises in Hanoi, Haiphong, Bac Thai, Quang Ninh and Vinh; and extensively develop fish raising in sweet and brackish water in order to increase the source of food products. In 1975 we must strive to increase fish raising by 30 percent over 1974.

To achieve these objectives and create conditions for developing agricultural production in ensuing years, the greatest importance must be attached to accelerating the building of material and technical facilities in agriculture and stepping up the supply of technical materials to agriculture.

The reorganization of agricultural production in accordance with the guidelines for specialized and intensive cultivation and large-scale socialist production gives rise to pressing tasks for water conservancy. In 1975 the state must devote an appropriate amount of capital and materials to water conservancy; mobilize manpower; organize the cooperatives' workforce; and mobilize cadres, students and army men to participate in water conservancy work. Efforts must be made to insure that a complete farmland water conservancy network will be built by 1976 to adequately irrigate 900,000 hectares. Specifically, in 1975 we must adequately irrigate 320,000 hectares or more; build new water conservancy projects in various areas, such as Dong Mo and Ngai Son; shore up dikes and other embankments; carry out the task of taking precautions against or controlling flash floods and floods; and expand the flash flood control network along the Day River. Efforts must be made to effectively combat waterlogging in key rice-growing areas, insure stable production, and create favorable conditions for carrying out intensive rice cultivation in order to rapidly increase rice production.

With regard to the mountainous region, importance must be attached to building reservoirs for irrigation purposes, insuring sufficient water for production and the people's daily life, and solving the irrigation problem in remote areas.

We must expedite the building of ricefields in accordance with the guidelines for large-scale socialist production, specialized and intensive cultivation and mechanization; expand the mechanization of crop production in areas where mechanization is required to carry out intensive crop cultivation and increase the number of crops cultivated annually; and allocate manpower to building new economic areas or expanding various professional branches. In 1975 tractor stations and state farms must improve management, increase efficiency in utilization of machines and equipment, and expand the area of mechanically plowed and harrowed ricefields by approximately 11.5 percent of the total cultivated area--an increase of 25 percent over 1974.

The machinery branch must meet the needs of agriculture for ordinary and improved farm implements and improved carts.

With regard to seeds and breeders, in 1975 we must continue building, consolidating and improving the rice seed and hog and fish breeder production network; continue building farms where milch cows and milch buffalos are raised; build facilities to produce jute and seed tobacco; and expedite construction of facilities producing seed for potatoes, peanuts, mulberry plants and soybeans. To meet the requirement for intensive crop cultivation, we must accelerate production of various kinds of phosphorous fertilizer, import nitrogen fertilizer, rapidly put the Ha Bac nitrogen fertilizer plant into production, and accelerate lime production to produce sufficient lime for fertilizing ricefields.

We must fully utilize existing sources of animal manure, organize fertilizer and green manure, especially azolla and alum; draft plans to improve the soil and increase its fertility; and intensify veterinary activities and the protection of animals.

In 1975 we must intensively build, consolidate and closely guide the veterinary network from the central level to the basic level; insure an adequate supply of insecticides; intensify prevention of insects and diseases; and expeditiously eradicate insects and diseases which destroy crops.

State farms must enhance their core role in building new economic areas in the midlands and mountainous provinces.

In 1975 state farms must attach special importance to reorganizing management; define and stabilize guidelines for commercial production; satisfactorily use land; intensify reclamation of wasteland and fallow land; increase the cultivated area by at least 26.4 percent over 1974; adopt effective measures for intensive cultivation of crops in order to increase yield; develop animal husbandry; increase total agricultural production value by 15 percent over 1974; fulfill or overfulfill plan norms for delivery of agricultural products to the state; and expand the new economic areas.

Further increasing the area of cultivated land in the midlands and the mountainous and coastal provinces is a pressing requirement for economic development and consolidation of national defense in our country. Various branches and echelons must closely guide implementation of this task. The Central Agricultural Commission, together with the localities, must expeditiously determine areas where wasteland must be reclaimed, expedite the comprehensive demarcation and planning of new economic areas, satisfactorily mobilize and organize the work force, and solve problems arising from the people's livelihood in order to send people from the delta to develop economic areas in the midlands and mountainous region. In the exploitation of land in the mountainous region, we must closely guide the building of ricefields on slopes, insure use of proper cultivation methods, establish guidelines for crop cultivation and animal husbandry, continuously enforce intensive cultivation measures, and achieve increasingly substantial economic results.

While implementing 1975 plans, we must make intensive preparations to expand the reclamation of wasteland and build new economic areas on a larger scale in 1976.

We must continue expediting the task of promoting fixed cultivation and fixed residence; promote afforestation; and protect, care for and improve forests. We must expeditiously and satisfactorily carry out the planning task; solve the seed production problem; recruit more manpower for forestry sites; expedite the allocation of forests and forest land to cooperatives; organize afforestation cooperatives in accordance with state plans; insure fulfillment of 1975 afforestation plans; and prepare to further expand afforestation in the years ahead. Importance must be attached to protecting, caring for and improving forests and accelerating the tree-planting movement in the delta and midlands.

The agricultural development tasks for 1975 and ensuing years require that we vigorously improve agricultural organization, management and guidance and attach special importance to improvement at the district level. Acceleration of agricultural development requires that many economic branches exert joint efforts and, specifically, develop the impact of industry on agriculture. Therefore, in 1975 various branches must effectively support agriculture in accordance with the program of the Council of Ministers and the state plan.

3. Communications, Transportation and Posts and Telecommunications

In 1975 we must accelerate the rehabilitation and development of railway and land communications lines; increase sea and river transportation capabilities; consolidate and strengthen the storage network; reorganize management; increase the productivity of transportation loading and unloading facilities; insure expeditious transportation operations in support of the production and construction branches and the localities; increase the capabilities of transportation of imports and exports; and improve and expand the transportation of passengers. The total volume of goods to be transported in 1975 is scheduled to increase by 22 percent in terms of tonnage and 23.2 percent in kilometer-tons over 1974.

We must promptly import products from foreign countries, particularly important material supplies, raw materials, machinery, equipment and goods, and, at the same time, satisfactorily organize the transportation of goods for export. We should improve our capabilities regarding the loading and unloading of goods and storage facilities, keep goods safely, and transport goods rapidly so as to avoid a situation in which too many goods are stocked at harbors, particularly Haiphong harbor, pending transport.

In 1975, we will continue to improve and enlarge Haiphong harbor; build additional harbors; promote the dredging of arroyos and canals leading to river and sea ports; complete the rehabilitation of a number of railroads; continue to build or strengthen major bridges; improve a number of important communications lines; improve the streets in Hanoi; construct an additional 60,000 square meters of buildings to be used as storage facilities for the transportation branch; promote planning work; secure the work force for construction of new railroads and harbors and make preparations for the 1976-80 5-year plan.

We should satisfactorily plan transportation activities in the rural areas, accelerate the construction of the road network in the rural areas in accordance with requirements related to the reorganization of agricultural production, and step up the construction of roads leading to new economic areas.

We should attach great importance to the application of technical advances in improving transportation output; in constructing roads, bridges, and harbors; in loading and unloading; and in transporting loose goods.

Improving transportation management is an important task necessary for insuring satisfactory implementation of the 1975 transportation plan. We must rationally utilize and coordinate transportation methods; attach great importance to maritime transportation; intensify transportation by rail and river and through pipelines; unify management of loading and unloading activities at train stations and harbors; and organize in a more rational manner the activities at train stations and along transportation lines and networks so as to increase transportation speed.

We should assign transportation work rationally to the transport forces at the central and local level and the forces of the Communications and Transportation Ministry and the various branches; satisfactorily coordinate transportation activities with the army transportation force; and reorganize the truck transportation network, limit it on long distances and plan truck transportation for each locality. We should satisfactorily organize round-trip transportation activities, increase the number of trailers, and step up repairs so as to increase the capacity of transportation facilities.

In the transportation process, we should attach very great importance to the maintenance, delivery and receipt of goods. Through the application of intensive measures regarding management and full utilization of the transportation capacity, it is anticipated that transportation efficiency will increase 10 percent and labor output 15 percent and that transportation costs will be lowered.

We should strive to strengthen and improve the postal service so as to enhance the quality of communications and the economic information network and to satisfactorily support the mobilization and command of production forces and economic management. We should fully utilize existing communications facilities, unify the management of communications facilities in the various branches, and provide more equipment so as to gradually modernize the communications network and insure that communications activities can be performed in an accurate, safe and convenient way.

We should satisfactorily organize forces to cope with unexpected natural calamities such as typhoons and floods, and satisfactorily support the activities of major anniversaries.

We should make the necessary expenditures for the postal branch; step up the rehabilitation and improvement of telegraph lines in former Zone 4 and in the Quang Ninh mining area; continue to install automatic telephones in the cities and major towns; expand the areas of activity of the postal service and improve its organization and management. It is anticipated that the 1975 value of postal productivity will increase 7.6 percent over 1974.

4. Investment and Capital Construction

To meet the needs for economic rehabilitation and development, for cultural development and for improving the people's livelihood in 1975 and future years, we must increase investment and further step up capital construction. Because difficulties have been encountered with regard to investment, material supplies, construction force and so forth, while working out the 1975 investment plan we should consider the use of capital in a correct and logical manner, particularly foreign investment; closely examine the economic efficiency of projects; attach great importance to intensive investment; overcome the situation of uncoordinated investment; insure completion of projects in a uniform manner in order to put them into operation to support production at an early stage; and gradually build the economic structure of large-scale socialist production.

The task of the construction branch for 1975 is to concentrate on completing projects that are being rehabilitated or under construction and to begin construction of a number of projects so as to insure the rate of construction in future years. We should pay attention to projects for production of mechanical, metallurgical and electrical items; coal, fertilizer, raw materials, materiel, and consumer goods and goods for export; supplementary investment projects; and projects which require limited investment, but which will produce rapid and practical results. We should give priority to the construction of projects provided for under agreements signed with foreign countries, and must insure sufficient construction materials and equipment.

While working out construction plans, we must resolutely stick to the principle that plans will be carried out only when sufficient initial preparations have been made. We should encourage construction of projects requiring little or no steel or wood, but we should insure that they will be carried out according to established guidelines, according to schedule and after proper planning of the locally available construction force and materials, in order not to adversely affect the implementation of major construction objectives of the various branches or localities.

We must carefully examine and closely manage planning, and must counter manifestations of registering substandard [duwouis hangj ngachj] projects and then upgrading them year after year to turn them into abovestandard [treeen hangj ngachj] ones. We must overcome the situation in which the examination of planning activities and granting of capital for investment is slackened in order to concentrate efforts on major objectives which we need to urgently achieve--particularly those projects supporting production or regarding housing, schools, worker training schools and so forth. After considering our capabilities regarding capital to be invested and construction materials to be needed, we should also think of using substitute materials and practice thrift.

The capital construction manpower and equipment and funds for the economic and cultural sectors in 1975 will increase by 41.5 percent over 1974, with construction funds increasing by 26 percent. Of the total investment for construction, funds for abovestandard projects will account for 54 percent and for substandard ones, 46 percent; investment for construction of new projects 81.5 percent; and investment for construction projects already begun 26.4 percent [figures as heard].

Investment in the materials producing sectors, which accounted for 86 percent of the total investment made in 1974, will increase to 87.6 percent in 1975. Of this investment, funds for the industrial sector will increase from 34 percent in 1974 to 40.6 percent in 1975; investment in the agricultural, forestry and water conservancy sectors will account for 17.7 percent in the communications, transportation and postal sector, 18.2 percent; and in nonproducing sectors, 12.4 percent.

We will concentrate on completing 80 industrial projects, including 15 mechanical projects and a number of large projects--the Ninh Binh and Uong Bi powerplants, the Gia Sang steel laminating plant, the Ha Bac nitrogenous fertilizer plant, and the fiber and weaving sections of the Vinh Hu weaving factory.

If the above objectives are met, by the end of 1975 the production capacity of the electricity sector will have increased by 32 percent over 1974; of the coal sector by 17.5 percent; and of the cast iron sector by 50 percent. The Gia Sang steel laminating plant and the Ha Bac nitrogenous fertilizer plant will be put into operation. Cement production capacity will increase 17 percent. Brick production capacity of state-operated enterprises will increase by 36 percent and cloth production capacity by 67 percent. The production capacity of tea, noodles, and processed wheat flour will increase fairly well.

Regarding agriculture, we will continue to step up improvement of farmland water conservancy networks, reclaim wasteland and fallow land, and carry out afforestation.

We will improve and build more rice seed and breeder hog centers; continue to develop the Moc Chau breeder milch cow center and the Luong My chicken farm; expand construction of the main parts of the network for dispersing flash floods along the Day River; and step up construction activities in areas producing quality goods.

Regarding the development of new economic areas, we must attach importance to investing in and constructing production installations, houses, roads, service centers, schools and hospitals. We should expedite planning and other types of preparatory work so as to insure completion of planning for capital construction supporting agricultural production.

Regarding communications, transportation and postal services, we should mainly continue to restore railroads, improve and enlarge wharves and harbors, step up construction of warehouses, and rehabilitate some 550 meters of bridges for train traffic and 2,000 meters of bridges for other types of road transportation.

It is anticipated that, by the end of 1975, railroad traffic will have been restored to the prewar level and that harbor capacity will increase by 20 percent over 1964. Warehouse capacity will also increase fairly well, but we should continue to step up construction of warehouses in the next few years in order to meet requirements.

Regarding nonproductive projects, construction investment for 1975 will increase by 38.7 percent over 1974 and account for 17 percent of the total construction investment. We will build approximately 650,000 square meters of housing with construction investment increasing by 78.5 percent over 1974, including 400,000 meters of housing to be built in the cities and concentrated industrial centers. We should expedite the housing construction rate so as to reduce the difficulties encountered by manual and office workers and the people.

Regarding hospitals, we will complete rehabilitation of the Bach Mai hospital, continue the construction and rehabilitation of hospitals in a number of provinces and districts, and begin construction of children's hospitals in Hanoi, a hospital for the Hai Ba Trung city ward in Hanoi and so forth.

We will build 400,000 square meters of schools, classrooms and housing for students. We will continue to build colleges to teach construction, electric motors, mining, geology, and light industry; industry college No 1; the Viet Bac teachers' school; and the Thai Binh medical school. We will build 10 schools of sturdy structure and 25 schools of semisturdy structure for temporary use to train 20,000 technical workers. We will also build additional schools and classes for general education students. We will continue to build projects for scientific research, hotels, water supply projects and so forth.

In 1975, the construction branch should attach importance to introducing technical advances and stepping up scientific and technical research in construction so as to economize on construction materials and utilize those that can be secured in the locality concerned or in other parts of the country. Attention should be paid to stepping up of mechanization in construction and to improving management so as to increase labor productivity and lower production costs.

To achieve the above construction objectives, the various branches and localities should satisfactorily prepare for investment, a task in which we are presently very weak. The state should satisfactorily perform its task of examining and authorizing investment. The State Planning Commission, ministries, general departments and administrative committees in the various localities should satisfactorily perform construction and investment planning; rapidly reorganize the professional construction forces in accordance with the guidelines for specialization; gradually concentrate construction activities in specific areas; intensify research and planning; review and promulgate new planning models; and make intensive preparations to begin construction for 1976 and the years ahead.

We should promote research so as to soon promulgate systems and regulations for strengthening investment and construction management. Capital construction planning for 1975 requires great efforts from the various branches and localities. We should satisfactorily mobilize and organize the people, army, manual and office workers and students to participate intensively in construction and in the production of construction materials.

5. Exports and Imports

Our urgent task is to rapidly increase goods for export so as to increase our import capability and rapidly decrease the current great imbalance between exports and imports. The various branches and levels should clearly recognize this extremely important current task. In the interest of production and our current livelihood and, at the same time, of our socialist industrial undertaking, we should, in the years ahead, economize on consumer goods and closely manage the goods that can possibly be exported so as to increase our foreign currency. It is anticipated that the 1975 export index will increase 30 percent over 1974 and 24 percent over 1964, the prewar year with the highest export index. The above export index is far from meeting demand; therefore, we should continue to study measures to further increase goods for export.

The various branches such as agriculture, internal trade, grain and food products, and so forth must study possibilities of accelerating production; improve the purchasing task; firmly control and manage sources of export goods, especially farm products such as tea, peanuts, coffee, rushes, vegetables, fruits and so forth; and study and revise the price policy in an effort to economize on and limit the consumption of goods and products reserved for export.

All branches, localities and production units must insure satisfactory fulfillment of plans and contracts for the deliveries of export products in terms of both quantity and quality.

The foreign trade branch must satisfactorily organize the control and purchase of export goods, encourage their production, and improve export procedures for products. Efforts must be made to provide sufficient raw materials for factories and small industries and handicraft installations to produce export goods. To quickly increase the volume of export goods for subsequent years, it is necessary to proceed to building factories for processing tea and canning vegetables and fruit, and to train more workers and handicraftsmen to produce embroidered goods, woolen and jute rugs, and so forth.

In 1975, it is necessary to satisfactorily carry out the system of cooperation in production using raw materials from foreign countries in order to develop production more strongly in the coming years.

Concerning imports, raw materials, materials, machinery, equipment and goods must be imported in sufficient quantities and in time to meet the country's demand. Positive measures must be taken to increase the quantities of raw materials and materials that are in great demand in the country. The import of equipment must be in harmony with the progress of construction in the country. It is necessary to actively accelerate the production of raw materials, materials, machinery, equipment and spare parts in the country and study the use of substitute raw materials and materials in order to reduce export demands. The import of goods that can be produced locally must be limited to the maximum.

Imports in 1975 will increase by 4 percent over 1974. Seventy-eight percent of imports will be production means.

In 1975 it is necessary to prepare favorable conditions so that in subsequent years we will be able to further expand economic, scientific, technical and commercial cooperation relations with foreign countries, especially socialist countries, and thereby increase our capital and technical capabilities, create conditions for rapidly expanding our economic potential, and meet the requirements for the acceleration of socialist construction on a large scale.

6. Domestic Trade

In 1975 domestic trade must serve production and the people's life better. Our population has increased quickly, and the segment not engaged in agricultural production is continuing to increase. This situation has resulted in a rapid increase in the demand for goods. Meanwhile, although it was planned that goods production would increase appreciably, the need for goods has not been satisfied.

In the face of this situation, we must closely supervise the purchase and collection of goods, fully control all sources of goods and state-operated trade, consolidate and expand the socialist market, resolutely restrict the free market, and improve trade management and distribution formulas. We must improve functions related to guidance in the consumption of goods in accordance with the actual situation. First of all, we must step up the collection and purchase of goods and strictly control the existing sources of goods. The responsible echelons and branches must be aware of this task; closely guide agricultural cooperatives; and earnestly educate and motivate our peasants to properly fulfill their obligation of selling grain, food products and other agricultural products to the state.

The industrial branches must boost production of production means, construction materials and certain kinds of consumer goods, especially staple goods, so as to develop the interchange of merchandise between industry and agriculture and increase the possibility of purchasing agricultural products. We must increase measures to bring about contracts on the exchange of materials and goods between industrial branches and agricultural cooperatives and peasants so that the state can fully control the sources of goods.

The state-operated trade branch must develop trade in various kinds of food products, meat, vegetables, fish, eggs, chickens, ducks and so forth in order to meet the present great need.

State farms must insure scrupulous implementation of plans and systems regarding delivery of products to the state. Localities must scrupulously implement the plan for delivering goods to the central level. State-operated industrial installations must deliver all of their industrial products to the state. They cannot reserve part of these products for consumption, sale, exchange or illegal business.

The domestic trade branch must closely manage and control most small industry and handicraft goods with a view to increasing the source of goods in the hands of the state while contributing to consolidating socialist production relations in this sector. We must organize close control of product quality and prevent individuals or cooperatives working on contract from stealing raw materials given them for manufacturing goods.

It is planned to increase output of state-purchased foodstuffs and agricultural products in 1975 by 40 percent over 1974 and output of purchased industrial commodities by 23 percent.

Along with accelerating the purchase and concentration of goods in a state-managed network, it is necessary to improve distribution of goods and guide the people to consume goods in accordance with the actual situation. We must strive to insure the distribution of staple goods according to the present criteria. At the same time, the domestic trade branch must work diligently to fulfill its task of purchasing foodstuffs so as to increase supplies of vegetables, fish, eggs and so forth for workers and civil servants, particularly in the cities and industrial centers.

The distribution of goods in the countryside must meet the vital needs of the peasants and must be aimed at promoting production and increasing production of agricultural products and other goods. With regard to goods which are not of prime necessity and whose production is limited, it is necessary to distribute them to the right consumers. Part of these goods must be reserved to be distributed or awarded to those who have scored achievements in production and labor, overfulfilled their plans or developed innovations.

It is planned to increase the total amount of goods to be sold at retail on the organized market by 18 percent. Goods sold on the unorganized market will decrease by 48.2 percent. It is planned to increase the amount of goods reserved for the organized market out of the total amount sold at retail on the unorganized market from 72 percent in 1974 to 86 percent in 1975.

Improving the management and organization of markets is an important task in 1975. We must reorganize the domestic trade network according to the new requirements and strive to consolidate and expand the socialist market and state-managed trade network in order to develop state leadership over the market as a whole and effectively oppose the free market. We must actively consolidate and develop the role of marketing cooperatives in the countryside.

While expanding the socialist market in coordination with administrative and economic measures, we must resolutely restrict the free market and eliminate the free market in grain. We must reorganize and closely control small merchants, especially those engaged in selling drinks and food products, in tailoring and in selling plastic and metal products.

Many branches and agencies must coordinate their activities in struggling resolutely against all illegal business activities, such as hoarding or smuggling state-managed goods, that may upset the market and adversely affect the people's livelihood.

State enterprises and agencies must strengthen internal management and resolutely prevent state-owned materials and goods from surfacing on the free market. The state-run trading branch must improve its organization of trading activities in order to insure close, concentrated and unified management of the sources of goods, reduce personnel indirectly engaged in trading activities, and increase retail and purchasing personnel. It must strengthen the ranks of cadres and personnel of the trading branch and improve their political and professional standards and sense of service: intensify the central task: overcome the negative aspects of trading activities, such as corruption and illegal business activities, especially at production establishments and shops; and strictly observe the system of responsibility, reward and punishment in trading activities. So that the trading branch can carry out its tasks satisfactorily, we must strengthen its material facilities, build additional refrigeration and storage facilities, and provide retail shops with adequate weight and measurement instruments.

7. Labor, Wages, and Training of Technical Workers and Cadres Manpower employment plans must be aimed at stimulating the masses, revolutionary enthusiasm and impetus, accelerating an enthusiastic and widespread emulation movement to engage in productive labor and to practice thrift in various branches and localities, utilizing the existing work force efficiently, and insuring that everyone works in accordance with established regulation, discipline and technical standards and with a high level of productivity.

While developing production and construction, we must organize persons of working age and those who are able-bodied but unemployed to participate in productive labor or other tasks. We must allocate sufficient manpower for military duty, recruit sufficient manpower for the various economic branches, and expedite the training of technical workers and cadres in preparation for implementation of the 1976-1980 5-year plan.

An immediate and long-term requirement is to draw up plans to gradually reorganize social labor and effect a redistribution of social labor nationwide. In the rural areas, we must fully utilize the existing manpower to carry out intensive crop cultivation, increase crop productivity and cultivate crops in all planned areas; devote more manpower to producing secondary and industrial crops; develop winter crop cultivation; expand animal husbandry; and strive to develop various professional branches and occupations in order to attract more manpower and fully utilize free manpower.

Coastal districts can allocate manpower to cultivating rushes, producing salt and raising shrimp and fish. Fishing cooperatives must develop the processing of products in order to employ more women. It is necessary to devote free manpower to building the rural areas or working for various worksites and enterprises on a contractual basis. While carrying out these tasks, we must organize manpower so that in 1975 approximately 110,000 laborers and 220,000 or 240,000 household members will be sent from the delta to participate in reclaiming wasteland and building new economic areas in the midlands and mountainous region.

In the cities we must organize additional production and processing installations; develop various branches of handicraft production; and organize construction, repair and support forces, child-care teams and other activities that do not require substantial amounts of materials and capital so as to attract and fully utilize social labor. With regard to those who do not submit themselves to manpower management directed by the state, while educating them politically, we must resolutely adopt the necessary administrative, organizational and managerial measures to lead them onto the path of legitimate business activities.

In the state sector, one of the most important tasks is to organize production and manpower, closely control the number of workdays and workhours and insure the prescribed number of productive workdays and workhours, increase the rate of utilization of machines and equipment, strive to attain or exceed the prewar level of labor productivity, and consider these tasks to be principal objectives of all branches.

We must intensify protection of labor, insure maximum labor safety for workers, resolutely reorganize and rationally distribute labor among the various branches in order to fully utilize existing manpower, and strive to streamline the state affairs and economic affairs management apparatus to insure that it is not cumbersome and is truly effective.

It is absolutely forbidden to complicate the organization, especially administrative procedures, at one's convenience.

Branches, localities and production installations must create favorable conditions for arranging jobs for our brother and sister disabled veterans so that they can continue to serve the fatherland and socialist industrialization.

In 1975 it is necessary to select tens of thousands of cadres to work for agricultural cooperatives and at the district level. Those who have indirectly participated in production or have worked ineffectively must be led to participate directly in production or attend a training course.

It is necessary to organize the treatment of sick workers in the state sector so that they can return to work quickly.

Regarding the salary system, it is necessary to apply the system of testing the workers' professional skills in order to award promotions. At the same time, the system of piecework wages and the system of granting bonuses must be applied broadly to encourage workers to increase labor output.

Regarding cadres in administrative services and those indirectly engaged in production, we will increase their promotion rate to 15 percent per year and readjust the rate of promotion among the various branches. We must promote standardization of cadres so as to improve the promotion system and further heighten the sense of responsibility among cadres and manual and office workers.

The training of technical workers is a very urgent task which should be accelerated with a view to long-range planning. In 1975 we will recruit about 100,500 people who will become technical workers after training--a 19-percent increase over 1974.

We should attach importance to the capital construction, mechanical, metallurgical, coal exploitation, construction materials, and tractor driving instruction branches. In addition to training new technical workers, we should pay attention to upgrading the skills of existing workers; rapidly stabilizing their food, housing and study conditions; providing more equipment; and assigning more teachers to schools training technical workers.

In accelerating the training of technical cadres, economic management cadres should attach particular attention to training quality. It is anticipated that some 65,000 students will enroll in universities at the beginning of the 1975-76 academic year--a 14 percent increase over the 1974-75 academic year. The number of students to be enrolled in vocational high schools will be approximately 87,000--a 4 percent increase over the past school year. In addition, we should attach particular importance to organizing study sessions and refresher courses so that existing cadres can better carry out their tasks.

8. Stabilize the People's Livelihood

As our production has been unable to meet demand and since the serious consequences of the war have not been completely overcome, our people's livelihood--particularly that of manual and office workers--is still fraught with many difficulties. We must solve problems arising in the daily life of workers and civil servants, especially the urgent problem of providing adequate meals and housing. With regard to food, we must provide the workers with sufficient meals and at least the minimum amount of calories they need to engage in productive labor. We must concentrate on providing the workers with better meals, primarily the two main meals--breakfast and the additional meal for third-shift workers; maintain the present level of supply of grain, meat and fuel to workers and civil servants; and strive to increase the supply of fish, eggs and better vegetables to workers and civil servants in the cities and industrial zones. The state-run trading branch charged with supplying meals must improve breakfasts served to workers and civil servants.

With regard to housing, attention must be paid to providing housing facilities to those workers and civil servants who urgently need them, especially those in the cities, concentrated industrial zones and enterprises that have recently been put into production. Of the 650,000 square meters of housing facilities to be built in 1975, we are planning to build 90,000 square meters in Hanoi, 42,000 square meters in Haiphong, 38,000 square meters in Quang Ninh and 35,000 square meters in Bac Thai.

We must allocate coal for the production of bricks and tiles; strive to make more materials available to construction of housing facilities; pay attention to supplying materials to various enterprises, agencies and schools with which their own workers, civil servants and students will build housing facilities and child-care centers; attach importance to repairing homes; devote part of the housing area to building child-care centers; strive to increase the supply of water for family consumption in the cities; strive to solve the problem of supplying water for family consumption in the industrial zones; and guide compatriots in the mountainous region in solving the problem of supplying water needed for family consumption and production.

In 1975 the people's transport requirements will increase substantially as a result of the major holidays and because the delta people will go to the midlands and mountainous region to build new economic areas.

Although we have increased the number of buses and trains, our passenger transport facilities have not met all requirements. Therefore, we must properly organize transportation of passengers along various lines, increase the number of trips, organize the sale of tickets, insure that trains and buses strictly observe schedules, attach importance to solving the problem of transporting passengers in the new economic areas and the cities, increase the number of vehicles transporting workers to and from industrial zones, insure satisfactory transportation of passengers on the major holidays, improve services rendered to passengers, and maintain public order and security at railway and bus stations.

We must continue to work on the problem of providing professional training and jobs to wounded and sick combatants and to combatants released from the army. Various branches and localities and basic-level units are dutybound to rely on the local people in promoting love and care among the people and in caring for families of fallen heroes and wounded combatants, orphans and war invalids.

9. Educational, Cultural and Health Protection Activities

While carrying out educational activities, we must grasp more firmly the party's education policies and insure that comprehensive progress is obtained in teaching and studying. We must attach particular importance to moral education and overcome formalism and the tendency to emphasize high scores while neglecting political, ideological and moral education. We must correctly implement party and state policies in selecting students for training at schools. We should develop supplementary education activities and carry out Level I education on a widespread basis for children of that school age. We must complete preparations for and promote educational reform.

It is anticipated that the number of students enrolled in concentrated supplementary education for the 1975-76 school year will be approximately 40,000--a 14 percent increase over the 1974-1975 school year, and the number of students in kindergarten classes will be 480,000--a 13 percent increase over the past school year. We will provide classrooms for all 860,000 children who will be attending classes for the first time. General school enrollment will reach the 5.6 million mark--a 14 percent increase over the past school year. The number of students attending Level I education will be approximately the same as the last school year, while those at Levels II and III will increase by 11 percent.

In 1975 we must step up the building of schools to provide enough classrooms for new students and, at the same time, insure that deteriorated schools and classrooms are replaced by new ones. The state will earmark some construction capital and mobilize the people and cooperatives to make additional contributions to building from 20,000 to 25,000 classrooms to accommodate more than 500,000 students. We should motivate the people and students to take part in the construction of schools.

To improve the quality of teaching and study, we must solve the textbook problem. In 1975 the number of textbooks to be published will increase by 13 percent over 1974. We must attach importance to providing more training aids, step up the training of teachers, and satisfactorily organize refresher courses to improve teachers' knowledge.

To relieve part of our people's difficulties, beginning with the 1975-76 school year, we will stop collecting tuition fees from general school students. These fees currently amount to approximately 30 million dong annually.

As far as public health care is concerned, it is necessary to pay more attention to preventive medicine and to improving the quality of health services for the people. It is necessary to accelerate the preventive medicine movement and to motivate the people to constantly maintain good sanitary conditions and to dig wells and cesspools. It is necessary to organize wide inoculation campaigns and to promptly eradicate epidemics. It is necessary to combine the contributions of the people and cooperatives with state assistance in order to accelerate the building of village and district health facilities.

Attention will be paid to providing more equipment to all hospitals and to increasing the number of beds for patients in the new economic areas. As planned, in 1975 there will be 4,000 more beds for patients than in 1974.

We must closely study advanced medical knowledge in the world, improve our own medical knowledge, and better coordinate Western medical knowledge with Oriental knowledge in the areas of use of medicine, disease treatment and development of research facilities. We must pay due attention to our nation's traditional and local medicine. We must organize the distribution and use of medicine satisfactorily and insure distribution of sufficient first aid treatment and ordinary medicine.

We must better exploit local pharmaceutical products and accelerate the cultivation of medical herbs. As planned, in 1975 locally available pharmaceutical products necessary for the manufacture of medicine will increase by 87 percent compared with 1974. Of the total amount of local and imported pharmaceutical products necessary for the manufacture of medicine, in 1975 local products will account for 25 percent compared with 13.8 percent in 1974. The value of medicine and medical instruments to be put on sale will increase by 4.6 percent.

We must give due care to the protection of mothers and children in order to create favorable conditions for women to bring into full play their role in productive labor and other activities. The number of kindergartens must be increased to take care of more than 500,000 children, 50,000 more than in 1974. The industrial, trade and public health branches must endeavor to meet the demands of kindergartens for equipment, tools, medicine and food. Special attention must be given to the birth control campaign to keep the growth of the population at a rational pace.

We must step up cultural, art and information activities; improve their quality; and devise rich forms of activities to better serve the people. We must develop their role in improving the people's political and ideological background, in supporting the emulation movement for productive labor and economy, and in effectively preparing the people for the major commemorative days in 1975. We must whip up an enthusiastic, merry and healthy atmosphere among the people and have them guard against negativeness, backwardness, superstition and other backward customs formerly observed at funerals and weddings. We must help them build a civilized life, love and help each other, respect old people and women, and care for children.

We must consolidate and develop the role of existing museums, preserve historical relics, and develop mobile museums to serve broad sections of the people. We must develop the mass movement to participate in cultural and art activities and must consolidate and develop museums and exhibition centers.

We must improve information and broadcasting media and must develop the broadcasting network, with emphasis on new industrial areas, new economic areas and agricultural cooperatives.

We must widely and profoundly develop the physical training and sport movement, particularly at industrial worksites, agricultural worksites and schools. Attention must be paid to organizing training areas and facilities for manufacturing equipment used in physical training and sport activities.

We must accelerate publication of newspapers and production of films. As planned, in 1975 we will publish 210 million copies of newspapers and magazines, an increase of 7 percent compared with 1974, and 1,750 books in 40 million copies, an increase of 15 percent. We will also produce 97 films. The number of loudspeakers will be 556,000, an increase of 150,000.

10. Scientific and Technical Research

Scientific and technical research must concentrate on meeting the important and urgent requirements of our economy, locating and extracting sources of replacement for materials and raw materials, economizing on materials in the process of production, preserving and processing food and foodstuffs, improving product quality, reorganizing production and increasing labor productivity. In this way we will contribute to fulfilling the economic tasks in 1975 and, at the same time, pay due attention to development requirements in the years to come.

As far as industry is concerned, we must study how to exploit most efficiently the sources of minerals in our country to replace imported raw materials, and must produce new items. We must continue to study measures to improve basic industrial standards in the machinery branch and the repair of spare parts. We must seek to mechanize the economic branches and to modernize the working methods and technological regulations of each branch and each product step by step. We must improve measures to preserve food and to process subsidiary crops and a number of other important food products.

As far as agriculture is concerned, to develop the system of crop species and breeder livestock, we must clearly determine the breeder system and the breeder supply techniques in the immediate future, first of all those related to rice, corn, vegetables, beans and peas for export, pigs, chickens, ducks, milk oxen and buffaloes. We must promptly determine crop cultivation patterns and livestock raising patterns in each area in order to reorganize agricultural production.

We must accelerate the supply and mechanization of working tools and agricultural production in the new economic areas. We must conduct comprehensive studies on the cultivation of crops for export and must continue to study how to improve the soil, to rationally use fertilizer to meet the requirements of intensive cultivation and expansion of the cultivated areas and to protect crops and livestock.

In capital construction we must study planning criteria for the rural and urban areas, study the standardization of construction designs of buildings used for housing and industrial purposes, continue to study mechanization of construction projects, and improve construction equipment and tools.

In communications and transport we must study ways to organize transportation rationally in order to increase the productivity of transportation means; utilize and improve facilities used to transport unwrapped goods; attach special importance to adopting measures to improving product quality, especially of metal and export products; improve standardization and weights and measurements; attach importance to rationalization of production and technical improvement, a very important task aimed at achieving substantial economic results and increasing labor productivity; further intensify guidance for scientific and technological activities; rationally organize and use scientific and technical cadres in order to maximize their efficiency; and learn from the scientific and technological expertise of foreign countries with an active and creative spirit in order to properly apply this expertise to the practical conditions of our country.

11. Make Positive Preparations for 1976 and the 1976-1980 5-Year Plan

While implementing the 1975 state plan, we must expedite basic and urgent preparations for the ensuing years; expeditiously complete the recapitulation of the results of basic investigation of national conditions and resources and continue to improve utilization of this data in support of planning; step up basic economic and social investigations; utilize the results of the 1974 census; continue to study population problems; step up the planning and demarcation of economic areas; insure a rational distribution of manpower, which serves as a basis for formulating long-term plans; and adopt major guidelines and measures for developing the new economic areas in the midlands and mountainous region.

To insure effective formulation of the 1976-1980 5-year plan and the 1976 plan, we must complete the establishment of bases for the formulation of plans, especially the system of establishing norms and costs used in long-range planning; improve the review of formulated plans; assess possible developments in the situation from now until late 1975; study long-term economic and technical subjects and plans for development of urban areas and industrial zones; and expedite negotiations with foreign countries concerning projects envisaged in the 5-year plan and long-term export and import plans.

In preparing for the forthcoming 5-year plan, we must draw up plans to systematically train and upgrade cadres in charge of management of economic and state affairs. The tasks involved in preparing for the 1976 plan and the 1976-1980 5-year plan are complex and very important. We must charge specific organizations with making these preparations and properly assign leadership and study cadres to carry out the tasks set forth. Various branches and echelons must review the tasks they have carried out thus far and draw upon experience which will serve as a basis for carrying out new tasks in the days ahead.

Part III: Further Consolidation and Improvement of Socialist Production Relations, Strengthening of State Management and Economic Affairs, and Acceleration of the Emulation Movement To Engage in Productive Labor and To Diligently and Thriftily Build Socialism

Dear comrade deputies to the National Assembly, the 1975 state plan is a particularly important one. It requires not only vigorous development of the production forces, but also further progress in consolidating socialist production relations, noticeable progress in the management of state and economic affairs, and steady acceleration of the masses' revolutionary movement. Therefore, we must concern ourselves with the following major tasks:

1. Acceleration of the Consolidation and Improvement of Socialist Production Relations

In 1975, while developing the forces of production, we must vigorously consolidate and improve socialist production relations in both the state-run and collective economic sectors and, at the same time, continue to carry out socialist reform with regard to individual economic activities. We must resolutely overcome the negative aspects of economic and social activities. This is an extremely important task aimed at insuring satisfactory fulfillment of the 1975 state plan.

In the state-run economic sector, we must resolutely protect socialist property and oppose all encroachment against it; insure internal distribution of labor at the enterprises, worksites, state farms and forestry sites and in each sector; resolve satisfactorily the relations of socialist cooperation in the fields of organization of production and management and between the economic units and various economic branches; rationally organize the distribution of tasks, specialization, and cooperation and coordination between the enterprises and the production teams in order to develop production capabilities; strictly observe the system of delivering products and cash to the state; and eliminate the limited, localized activities of economic units.

Through economic management and enforcement of state laws, we must further consolidate and improve socialist relations in production; insure that the state-run economic sector steadily enhances the leading role and superiority of the people's economy. We must implement the various work statutes and systems concerning state workers and civil servants, expedite establishment of criteria for each category of cadres and personnel, vigorously exercise the masses' socialist liberties, and satisfactorily maintain the relations of productive labor and the distribution of material wealth.

In the collective economy sector, we must consolidate and improve the system of collective ownership of means of production, develop the right to collective ownership of cooperative members, reorganize and improve management and control committees, and strengthen management while at the same time attaching importance to the political and ideological education of cooperative members and to state assistance to cooperatives to help them further develop production.

Regarding agricultural cooperatives, we must motivate people to study the cooperative statute; hold collective peasant congresses at the various levels; and initiate a movement to emulate in labor productivity in the rural areas, to reorganize agricultural production and to further improve cooperative management in order to gradually advance agricultural production toward large-scale socialist production.

We must respect and guarantee the cooperative members' right to collective ownership and, at the same time, uphold the sense of discipline in labor productivity and in implementing cooperative policies, systems and regulations. We must strengthen state management over agricultural cooperatives and, first of all, expeditiously reorganize and improve agricultural management at the various levels. We must study and soon promulgate a law dealing with the management of land, plant species, seeds and breeder animals and policy for agricultural investment; establish a contractual system between the state and cooperatives; and strictly implement the policies on labor obligations and the obligation of making contributions to the state.

Regarding industrial and handicraft cooperatives, we must study and reorganize production on the basis of the planned development of each industrial sector. We must strengthen relations among the various state-operated industrial sectors and among the small industry and handicraft sectors--particularly regarding work distribution and cooperation in production and assistance in technical equipment and cadres. We must improve management among the small industry and handicraft cooperatives and promote planning in the small industry and handicraft sectors.

The state must adopt strict measures regarding registration of enterprises and management of the market, contract system and products. It must provide guidance to cooperatives to help them follow the path of honest business transactions and overcome negative manifestations in production and business transactions.

Regarding fishing cooperatives, we must pay attention to reorganizing fishing production, improving management, and providing additional fishing junks, nets and other fishing equipment; advance the majority of fishing cooperatives to average or advanced level; and gradually draw into fishing cooperatives fishermen who operate individually.

We must continue to carry out socialist reform among small traders and strengthen market management. In addition to consolidating and expanding the socialist market, we must insure that the state-run trading sector exerts a leading role on the market. We must expeditiously reorganize the free market, reform small traders and induce them to practice honest business transactions with reasonable income, and resolutely punish speculators and those who carry out illegal or crooked business transactions or indulge in corrupt practices.

2. Strengthen State and Economic Management

In 1975 we must achieve marked progress in every aspect of management to further systematize and improve state and economic management. All management activities of the Council of Ministers and the various branches and levels must be aimed at basic-level units. They should promote and support the masses' labor productivity movement in order to insure fulfillment of the objectives set forth in the resolution of the 22d Plenum of the VWI Central Committee and the tasks mentioned in the 1975 state plan.

We must systematize planning while improving planning activities and strengthen leadership over planning from the central level to the various branches, levels and basic-level units. Our plans should reflect our party and state policies and the rules of economic development to advance small-scale production to large-scale socialist production.

We must grasp more firmly the guidelines for socialist industrialization and improve planning in the various levels in order to develop vigorously the potential of the various branches, localities and basic-level units. We must closely coordinate guidance on elaboration and implementation of plans; resolutely overcome conservatism, bureaucratism and disregard of reality; and reorganize and improve the contingent of cadres engaged in planning activities from upper to lower levels.

To uphold the legally binding nature of plans, we must, on the one hand, conduct the formulation of plans from the basic level upward through democratic discussions and, on the other, must intensively guide, expedite and closely control the planning task. We must expeditiously overcome bottlenecks and difficulties encountered in implementing plans.

In early 1975 various branches and echelons and the basic-level units must hold widespread discussions among the masses on specific measures to be taken to insure successful implementation of plans. At the same time, they must carry out the necessary tasks, such as readjusting economic contracts, signing other contracts, and taking the initiative in increasing reserve raw materials and other materials for each quarter and each semester.

As of 1975, there will be no question of readjusting plans in midyear, except for unexpected developments.

The responsible agencies must expeditiously detect and bring to the attention of the government those units that fail to strictly abide by plan norms so that the government can apply severe sanctions. The agencies must draft and disseminate the 1976 state plan at an early date so that the various branches, localities and basic-level units have time to contribute to finalizing the plan, thus insuring that it is formulated from the basic level upward.

We must expedite the task of planning and management according to the characteristics of each branch and according to territorial divisions; continue to eliminate bottlenecks found in coordination among the various branches and between the central level and local level; strictly conduct various phases of inventory, control and accounting; insure close guidance with a view to bringing into full play the productive capabilities and potentials of the people's economy; conduct strict inventories and exert close control in order to firmly ascertain the productive capabilities of each basic-level unit; review labor norms; properly readjust and raise norms for labor productivity by reorganizing production and effectively organizing labor; put unused equipment, machines and materials into production; increase the utilization rate of equipment; substantially reduce wastage of materials and production and transportation costs; strive for economy in production and construction; comprehensively improve the statistical and accounting system, including preliminary compilation of statistical data; analyze and evaluate progress made in implementing each planned task in each given period; and strictly implement the management policies and systems in force in order to effectively coordinate administrative measures with economic and technical measures and material incentives.

We must resolutely implement the existing policies and systems and, at the same time, consider and expeditiously enact and supplement new management policies and systems.

With regard to the state-run economy, we must exploit existing productive capabilities and potential, stress managerial responsibility and sense of service, raise qualitative norms, strengthen technical management, conduct economic accounting, and properly promote the basic-level units' initiative in production and business.

With regard to the collective economy--agriculture and handicrafts--we must effectively coordinate educational, economic and administrative measures in developing positive and creative aspects, eliminating negative aspects, and stressing the duty of the collective economy in contributing to the entire society and state.

With regard to the free market, we must insure that most small merchants carry out their activities under the management of the state-run trading branch, in accordance with the state plan and state laws.

With regard to capital investment, we must firmly observe established statutes and strict discipline in preparing for investment and assessing the results of investment. We must promote investment that brings quick and substantial return; mobilize, redistribute and utilize the social work force; expedite comprehensive consideration of a series of policies and statutes; rapidly organize new jobs to attract the jobless to the production front; encourage the masses to go the new economic areas and new industrial zones; correctly observe the principle of distribution of goods based on labor performed; uphold the spirit of diligently and thriftily building the country; attach great importance to improving the workers' living conditions; encourage those who are working diligently and well and with a high level of productivity; adopt sanctions against those who are lazy, who are working with an unsatisfactory level of productivity or who show a lack of responsibility; improve the organization of production and enterprise management; consider a reorganization of production in basic-level units; and completely reorganize production wherever necessary and where conditions permit.

In 1975 we will reorganize production in five key branches; the agricultural branch in the delta and the combined agricultural and forestry branches in the mountainous region, with emphasis on state farms; machinery; construction; communications and transportation; and supply of equipment. According to their capability and conditions, the other branches should also reorganize production. We must systematize management of enterprises, continue to set up pilot centers for improving management of the industrial branch and enterprises, and complete the study of and promulgate the statute concerning state-operated industrial enterprise and use it as a basis for accelerating improvement of enterprise management.

In improving the management apparatus and the system of work performance, we must achieve further progress in implementing the principle of carrying out management according to branches and territorial divisions. We must consolidate the organization and improve the managerial abilities of the administrations at various levels. We must solve the contradictions between function-managing cadres and cadres in charge of management of production and business transactions, and between branches at the central level and the local administrations.

We must implement the statute promulgated by the Council of Ministers; uphold the rights and responsibilities of the ministers under concentrated and unified government leadership; bring into full play the state management role of the ministries and general departments over the various branches and, at the same time, enhance the position, function and managerial abilities of local administrations in the respective areas. We must uphold the observance of discipline and the socialist legal system, implement correctly systems defining the responsibilities of heads of agencies and individuals and responsibility for materials, and not tolerate breaches of discipline or irresponsible activity.

We must intensify inspection and control and, at the same time, vigorously develop the responsibilities of the masses and trade unions for supervising implementation of plans, policies and systems. We must draw conclusions and solve problems and correctly apply the reward and punishment system.

We must vigorously improve working methods and keep in close touch with basic-level units in order to solve their problems promptly.

The comrade ministers and heads of the various branches at the central level and the comrade chairmen of provincial and district administrative committees must devote much time to regular inspection and direct guidance to basic-level units.

3. Vigorously Step Up the Masses' Revolutionary Movement To Emulate in Labor Productivity and To Diligently and Economically Build Socialism in Order To Score Achievements To Greet the Three Major Anniversaries in 1975.

Economic rehabilitation and development is a mass revolutionary undertaking. We must promote intensive and extensive ideological and political motivation: accelerate the masses' revolutionary movement in the various branches, localities and basic-level units; and insure that a truly seething and lasting mass revolutionary movement is undertaken to implement the 1975 state plan successfully. The main purposes of the movement are to satisfactorily and fully utilize our people's production capabilities and arouse their potential and to insure that everyone works and works with high productivity, that fewer material supplies are used, and that greater efficiency is achieved. On this basis, we must, from the very beginning of 1975, specify higher work norms than those set forth in the state plan, but this must be done in a practical and logical manner.

The management agencies at various levels and mass organizations must closely coordinate their activities and provide firm guidance for the movement. Every enterprise, installation, locality and branch must devise realistic and practical guidance plans in order to promptly meet all requirements and insure that mass movements progress continuously in a vigorous and widespread manner not only in the economic field, but also in the cultural and social fields.

We must further strengthen relations between the state and trade unions and male and female youth associations while organizing and providing guidance to the masses.

We must accelerate the signing and implementation of collective contracts at the enterprises, organize conferences of manual and office workers and of agricultural cooperative members, follow up the development of the movement, and promptly grant awards and bestow commendations and develop and disseminate the achievements and experience gained.

During their meetings, trade unions, the Ho Chi Minh Working Youth Union, the Vietnam Women's Union, and the other associations in the Vietnam Fatherland Front must use the guidelines for our people's economic responsibilities and the movement to emulate in labor productivity and to diligently and economically build socialism to motivate and educate the masses.

Members of the Presidium and comrade National Assembly delegates, in 1974 the North Vietnamese people have recorded important successes in economic rehabilitation and development. Entering 1975, the task of developing the economy and culture is even heavier and greater. Immediately, we must cope with many difficulties.

However, we also have fundamentally favorable conditions. The 1975 state plan has been drafted in a positive and realistic spirit. Our branches, echelons and basic units have great potential. While implementing their production plans, they must bring into full play all existing potentials to fulfill or overfulfill the 1975 state plan.

If this plan is implemented successfully, North Vietnam's economy will take a significant step forward: We will have basically completed the task of postwar economic rehabilitation, stepped up production and initially transformed the economic structures from small-scale production to large-scale socialist production. National production income will guarantee social consumption funds. Material, cultural and social life will be further stabilized and improved, and the consolidation of socialist production relations and management of economic and state affairs will make marked progress. All this will imbue the people with new enthusiasm and prepare the conditions for further accelerating socialist industrialization in the years ahead.

Happy over and confident in the party's clear-sighted leadership, the strong position of our revolution, the revolutionary heroism and our people's creative work capabilities, let us endeavor to implement venerated President Ho's sacred testament, develop the great victory of the anti-U.S. national salvation resistance, and continue to develop the victorious momentum in the economic front. Let us advance steadily, overcome all difficulties and obstacles, and emulate in fulfilling and overfulfilling the 1975 state plan so as to welcome the three major commemorative days. Let us strive to build and defend the socialist north and satisfy the demands of our southern compatriots and combatants, who are struggling heroically for independence, democracy and the peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

It is certain that our people will record even greater victories in carrying out the democratic national revolutionary struggle in the south and in building socialism in the north. It is certain that our fatherland will be reunified and our compatriots in the north and south will live together under the same roof.

CSO: 4909

EVERYONE MUST WORK, TRULY WORK, WORK IN AN ORGANIZED, DISCIPLINED, TECHNICAL AND HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE MANNER

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[Article by Nguyen Tho Chan]

[Text] One-half century ago, Lenin pointed out: "Once it seizes state power, the proletariat has one basic, vital interest, namely, increasing the output of products and increasing the level of society's production to large-scale." (1) When the people's regime was established in our country, President Ho also appealed to all our people to "increase production! Increase production immediately! Increase production some more! This is our slogan for today. It is the practical way for us to maintain our liberty and independence." (2) For us, these words of advice are of even deeper significance today because our country's economy, which has always been poor and backward, has been ravaged by war. Labor productivity and national income are very low. The quantity of materials and commodities produced fail to fully meet needs, the economy is imbalanced in many areas, and the people still encounter many difficulties in their everyday lives.

To overcome this situation, the 22nd Party Plenum established the economic reconstruction and development task for the 2 years 1974-1975 which is designed to create the conditions needed to develop North Vietnam on an increasingly large scale and at an increasingly rapid rate. The plenum also set forth a pressing requirement of utmost importance: "We must mobilize and organize the social labor force to engage in production and construction in a spirit of enthusiasm, make full use of the potentials of the economy, step up production, and practice economy."

When we talk about production and economy, we are primarily talking about labor. When we talk about the potential of the national economy, we are primarily talking about the labor force. It is labor which produces all social wealth. It is labor which reforms nature and reforms man himself. It can be said that without labor the society of man could not exist and develop. In our country, urgent labor and strict economy are absolutely necessary in order to carry out socialist accumulation because our accumulation can be carried out by no other means than by labor. It must be clearly understood that socialist industrialization in North Vietnam can only be achieved by means of a difficult, steadfast, and determined struggle in labor. The voluntary, selfless, brave, and fully creative labor of all laborers under the leadership of the party of the working class is a strong force stimulating the formation of large-scale socialist production in our country. As a result, the laborer has always been the most valuable of the valuable treasures on earth. This is a very ordinary realization, something which everyone knows. But, reality demands that we repeat and repeat this ordinary but very basic realization many times. Because, some of our cadres and people fail to fully realize the pressing and long range importance of labor. This is one of the important reasons underlying many of the new antagonisms within our society at this time. These antagonisms can be seen in the following: at a time when economic reconstruction and development demand very much labor, more than can be obtained, there are still many people who are able to work but refuse to be mobilized or refuse to accept the job assigned them by the state. At a time when it is necessary to strengthen economic management, there are still cadres who give light attention to and even conveniently abandon the principles, regulations, and policies of the most key area of activity, labor management. At a

time when the party and state are appealing to everyone to practice strict economy and streamline the economic management apparatus and the state apparatus, both the economic management apparatus and the state apparatus are continuing to grow. At a time when raising labor productivity is considered a matter of foremost importance, work regulations, work time requirements, and the various measures designed to improve the organization of labor and improve the organization of production are not being fully implemented and the number of mandays and work hours lost is very high. At a time when the role played by economic levers is being emphasized, one lever, wages and bonuses, is not being correctly employed. The trend toward "averagism," selfish material interests, and "relief," which is contrary to the principle of distribution in accordance with labor, is developing, etc.

These antagonisms have led to a certain amount of stagnation in economic management and state management, limited efforts to develop upon positive factors and eliminate negative factors, limited social labor productivity as well as the labor productivity within each sector and installation, and adversely affected the implementation of the state plan and the development of the new socialist man.

To step up production and the practice of economy, these antagonisms must, of course, be resolved. The best way to do this is to launch a movement to "emulate in labor, production, and the practice of economy in socialist construction" in order to successfully implement the resolution passed by the 22nd Party Plenum and build momentum for carrying out the major tasks which lie ahead. The substance of this movement is to accelerate the rise of social labor productivity, the primary requirement of which is to successfully implement the slogan: "Everyone must work, truly work, work in an organized, disciplined, technical, and highly productive manner."

Everyone must work, this is the basic obligation and right of the citizen in the socialist system. Our country's constitution states: "Labor is the obligation and honor of each citizen"(3) and "the citizen of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has the right to work."(4) Society guarantees each person the right to work, the right to have a job, and, naturally, the right to be remunerated on the basis of the quantity and quality of the work he performs. This provision reflects one of the greatest achievements recorded by the working class and laboring people of our country in their long and difficult process of revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the party. It reflects the superiority of the socialist system. It marks one of the greatest changes in the history of mankind: the replacement of labor for hire with labor for oneself and one's society.

Everyone must work and have a job, this is the basic right of equality, the basis of each right, and of each other right of equality and freedom. In socialist society, everyone who can work but refuses to work does not have the right to receive anything and cannot enjoy any of the products of society. We must strictly implement the following basic principle of socialism: "Those who do much, receive much, those who do little, receive little, and those who can work but do not, receive nothing."

Everyone must work. This is the most glorious and sacred of obligations because only by working and having a job is it possible to secure each item of wealth, each thing needed to improve the material and cultural life of man. Labor is a necessity for each person and for his descendants. Labor is needed to successfully build socialism in North Vietnam. We must make an extraordinary effort to step up the socialist industrialization of the state. Labor is a concrete expression of patriotism, love of the people, and love of socialism. There are many types of labor: mental or manual labor, handicraft or mechanized labor, light or heavy labor, production or production support labor, etc. All of these types of labor are of benefit to society and all are glorious, all that is needed is for each individual in every position to truly fulfill his responsibility. President Ho said: "We must realize that labor is glorious. Mental labor is glorious. Manual labor is even more glorious. Without farmers working fields, we would have nothing to eat. Thus, what do farmers do? Farmers participate in manual labor. Without textile workers, we would not have any clothing to wear. Thus, what do workers do? They participate in manual labor. Therefore, manual labor is very glorious."(5) Therefore, each person must perform the job assigned him by society on the basis of his talents and strengths. Having contempt for labor, particularly manual labor, laziness, avoiding work, only wanting to take it easy, doing easy jobs while avoiding difficult ones, looking for light jobs while avoiding heavy, strenuous jobs, wanting to sit at a desk rather than participate in direct production, and so forth are deviations which must be harshly criticized. In reality, there are a number of people who do not consider labor their sacred obligation. They do very little work or none at all but demand much. They only

accept jobs on certain conditions; they ask for light work even though they are in good health. They refuse to accept jobs involving new technically based quotas but demand that they be paid a high unit price instead. They violate labor discipline, they pretend to be sick, they take time off whenever they feel like it, and so forth. We must enact persuasive, educational, or compulsory measures for those people who do not want to accept jobs for which they are qualified. When necessary, we must use the power of the state to force them to work, particularly those people who refuse to work and live as parasites. The requirement at this point in time is that every citizen of Vietnam who has reached working age and is able to work must participate in labor and accept the job assigned him by the state. As regards those people who have nothing to do, people who waste their time loafing, people who engage in illegal jobs, people in agencies and enterprises who leave their jobs in order to earn high incomes on the outside, graduates of trade training schools, colleges, and vocational middle schools who were supported by state allowances while in school but do not accept the jobs assigned them by the state, and people who are placed in jobs but refuse to work, we must force them to work in accordance with current regulations or harshly punish them in accordance with state laws and discipline.

The measures of the state are both necessary and very humanitarian because only by working can these elements whom Lenin called "the dregs," the "rotten and corrupt," the "worms," and "lice" be transformed into useful citizens of the fatherland.

The socialist system not only demands that each person work, but it also demands that everyone work with high productivity because constantly raising labor productivity is a law of development of socialism. Only by constantly raising labor productivity is it possible to step up socialist reform and socialist construction in North Vietnam, rapidly free North Vietnam of its poverty and backwardness, and make positive contributions to the cause of liberating South Vietnam and reunifying the fatherland.

Raising labor productivity is the primary guideline for reducing production costs, raising national income, and increasing the accumulation of capital and carrying out expanded production; it is the condition which is needed to increase the earnings of manual and office workers and improve the material and cultural lives of the working people. Therefore, achieving the labor productivity levels which were established before the war and raising social labor productivity to a level which is at least two or three times higher than the present level are a very pressing task.

However, to raise social labor productivity, it is first of all necessary to raise the labor productivity of each production installation; here, the labor productivity of each individual plays a very important role. During the past several years, in response to the "everyone does twice as much work" appeal made by the revered Uncle Ho, the masses of laboring people in our country have devoted their efforts to maintaining and stepping up production even under the extremely difficult conditions of the two very violent wars of destruction waged by the U.S. imperialists. The heroic and creative actions of our people in production and combat were decisive contributions to protecting and strengthening the economic and national defense potentials of North Vietnam as well as to competently supporting the revolution in South Vietnam. The actions were an extension and brilliantly developed upon our nation's tradition of diligent labor and bravery in combat. Hundreds of thousands of our people displayed an exemplary spirit in productive labor by excellently completing their assigned tasks. Many people regularly surpassed their quotas and completed their plans for the year 3 or 4 months early. These people were represented by the labor heroes, emulation warriors, and progressive laborers. These people have concretely proven that everyone can, under ordinary conditions and even in the face of formidable difficulties, raise his labor productivity. Their secret is to truly work, work in an organized, disciplined, and technical manner.

To truly work means to work in a spirit of being the owner of the country; work in an enthusiastic, dedicated manner for the sake of one's task, work in an effective manner under clearly defined targets and specific requirements.

The person who truly works is a person who thoroughly understands the situation and task of his country and the significance and effect of the job he performs. He is always thinking of ways to complete his task with the highest possible output, in the shortest possible amount of time, and with the lowest possible expenses. He never gives any thought to narrow personal interests which harm the interests of the collective and all of society. He never folds his hands in the face of difficulties

but is always proposing things which can and must be done in order to produce more and more material wealth for society. He combats all attempts to earn a living in a fraudulent manner as well as the practices of reporting that much work has been done when only a little has been completed and reporting that the quality of work is good when it is actually bad.

The requirement of truly working demands that each individual take a firm stand in his position and make every effort to exercise the authority and fulfill the responsibilities assigned him. He must actively propose work programs and the measures needed to carry out these programs in an accurate and timely manner; at the same time, he must make positive contributions to the implementation of these programs and measures.

To truly work it is necessary to work in an organized manner. This is a requirement, an important principle of large-scale socialist production.

Working in an organized manner means fulfilling the duties assigned oneself, contributing to the successful implementation of the overall plan and working closely with other laborers in a relationship of cooperation and mutual help founded in the spirit of comradeship for the purpose of developing production. In the overall production system, everyone is mobilized to participate in social labor through various measures, such as organized recruitment, systematic trade training, the assigning of labor contracts, etc.

The person who works in an organized manner is a person who very clearly understands the precious value of time. He is always making the most efficient and economical use possible of his work time. He not only gives attention to his work time, but also gives very much attention to the work time of others. Moreover, he knows how to use his leisure hours in the most beneficial manner possible. Therefore, understanding the system and methods of time distribution, fully implementing them, training oneself to know how much time has been used, and struggling unrelentingly against procrastination, the failure to respect work hours, and so forth are the first ethics all of us need.

The person who works in an organized manner is a person who has a clear concept of his daily target, a person who constantly increases the quantity and quality of the products he produces which are expressed in such economic-technical norms as labor quotas, material consumption ceilings, and standards of product quality. He not only works in accordance with average standards and quotas, but also constantly strives to achieve advanced standards and quotas. He realizes very clearly that only such standards and quotas fully reflect his labor obligation, reflect the significance of each person's contribution to society, and help complete a job within a given deadline and with the lowest possible expenditure of money, manpower, and time. Only such standards and quotas have the positive effect of stimulating the rapid advance of the economy while helping the person who works in an organized manner make continuous progress. He never accepts standards or quotas which are conveniently devised, backward, or outmoded because he deeply understands that maintaining low labor productivity means maintaining the origin of poverty and backwardness.

Working in a technical manner is one of the pressing requirements of socialist industrialization. Working in a technical manner means thoroughly understanding and fully complying with production rules and regulations, work regulations, and labor safety regulations; it means thoroughly understanding and skillfully utilizing machines, tools, raw materials, and building materials in the process of production; it means working in an accurate and scientific manner. Only by working in a technical manner is it possible to insure the quality of products and reduce the consumption of materials and work time to the lowest possible levels.

The person who works in a technical manner is a person who fully realizes the role and effect of the various means of production. In the spirit of "loving his vehicle as his child, valuing gasoline as he does his own blood," he values and cares for machinery, tools, raw materials, building materials, and so forth and seeks ways to fully utilize the capacity of machinery, equipment, and so forth because he understands that they are the backbone, the muscle, and the arteries of production, a primary factor in raising labor productivity. The person who works in a technical manner is also a very responsible person who always enthusiastically supports improvements and innovations. He never sits idly by in the face of difficulties and is never satisfied with the standards he achieves or the methods he uses; rather, he devotes his efforts

to achieving higher standards and developing more modern methods. At the same time, he very highly values and inherits all of the best things and advanced experiences of his forefathers and predecessors. He never pardons actions which show contempt for established principles and procedures. The person who works in a technical manner is a person who displays a full sense of responsibility in two areas: the quantity and quality of the products he produces. He works quickly and does much work while doing good work without wasting money. He deeply understands that making goods which are of poor quality is a waste of material wealth, a waste of society's time, an affront to his occupational conscience and the legitimate honor of the laborer. He is a person who likes changes, likes to think and be creative, and likes accuracy, seriousness, and thoroughness; these are the basic virtues of a person who works in a technical manner.

To truly work and work in an organized and technical manner, it is necessary to have discipline, that is, necessary to voluntarily comply with established standards, quotas, regulations, and rules in the production process; necessary to fully implement the orders and decisions of the leader, necessary to put the interests of the collective and of society above personal interests, necessary to have a high spirit of responsibility for the job assigned by the party and state, etc. All of these things are designed to insure the implementation of each person's work regulations, insure the full and efficient use of work time and the capacity of machinery and equipment, and insure that all units and the entire economy operate normally and in a coordinated manner in order to constantly raise labor productivity and product quality.

Our labor discipline is the self-imposed discipline of laborers who have overthrown the ruling yoke of oppressors and exploiters and have become the masters of society. It is the discipline of the leader as well as the discipline of those who are led.

Lenin emphasized: "...Labor discipline is the key to the entire economic construction of socialism, it is the basic viewpoint underlying our understanding of the dictatorship of the proletariat." (6) It can only be firmly established in a long struggle between the new and the old. To establish and consolidate labor discipline, it is necessary to apply many measures from education, persuasion, and the actual organization of labor to compulsion; it is particularly necessary to use compulsory measures for those who avoid work, those who sabotage the organization of production, and the decadent and ungoverned petty bourgeoisie. These persons "must be very severely punished. Every attitude of clemency or weakness is a crime against the revolution." (7)

It must be realized that heightening labor discipline and heightening the spirit of fully complying with all of the laws of the state, the internal rules of enterprises and worksites, and the orders of directors and unit commanders is the basic task of the socialist labor organization and a factor of utmost importance in raising labor productivity.

"Everyone must work, truly work, work in an organized, disciplined, technical, and highly productive manner" is the most important and most revolutionary slogan in the present stage. To implement this slogan, it is necessary to reorganize productive labor on a society-wide scale and attract each and every person who can work to the production front. Lenin clearly stated that this is "the most important and difficult problem of socialism." (8) "It will take many years, decades, to create a new labor discipline, new forms of social ties between people, and new forms and methods of drawing people into labor. It is a most gratifying and noble cause." (9)

To transform this slogan into reality, it is necessary to launch a broad campaign which eventually becomes a strong and feverish mass movement closely linked to the work and daily lives of each individual, one which is comprised of many positive measures regarding ideological education, the organization of labor, and policies and regulations as well as the strengthening of the system of law in order to insure that everyone truly works, works in an organized, disciplined, technical, and highly productive manner. Our ethics and responsibility demand that we work in this manner. This is the reason for life and confidence and must become a habit on the part of each individual.

As regards ideological education, it is necessary to give everyone a thorough understanding of the important significance of productive labor and a clear realization that the production front is the main front in North Vietnam at this point in time. It must be clearly understood that only by developing production is it possible to establish the

material-technical base of socialism, possible to correctly express the viewpoint of self-reliance, the spirit of genuine patriotism, and the proletarian international spirit of our party, and possible to express a determination to maintain and enhance our people's tradition of diligent, brave, and creative labor. We must be deeply imbued with the teaching of President Ho: "All of us, at all echelons, must join together to develop production."(10)

It is necessary to develop a new style, a new ethic within our people, one which reflects the work viewpoint of the party and President Ho. It is necessary to heighten the role played by productive labor, particularly by good laborers who diligently work for the interests of society. On the other hand, it is necessary to generate strong public opinion to condemn lazy people, speculators, and parasites, the habit of earning a living in a fraudulent manner, and the practice of "doing little for the state and collective but taking much from the state and collective." Everyone must be made to realize that laziness, avoiding work, speculation, living as a parasite, and so forth are decadent, shameful, and are undeserving of our country, our heroic compatriots in South Vietnam, our forefathers, and future generations.

Ideological educational activities must insure that everyone actively contributes to eliminating waste, concerns themselves with developing the potentials which exist in terms of the instruments of production and manpower, be interested in improving the organization of production and labor, values tools, machines, and equipment, makes economical use of raw materials, building materials, and power, and gives their attention to studying and applying innovations, technical improvements, and advanced work methods in order to raise labor productivity and insure the quality of products.

It is also important to insure that everyone displays a high spirit of initiative and activeness in productive labor, not fear difficulties and hardships, and not rely on others; rather, everyone must do what he tells others to do and devote his efforts to helping step up the overall movement.

The organization of labor: our country has two great potentials: one is the favorable natural conditions and four seasons in which vegetation grows well; the other is abundant and skillful labor. Exploiting and developing these potentials in order to step up socialist construction is an important task of the organization of labor.

This task demands that we determine the sources of jobs in which manpower can be invested in the most profitable manner possible. These sources of jobs are not few, rather, there are very many. They include the vast jungle mountainous areas with their rich natural resources which have not been exploited much. They include rich coastal areas and many fertile silt fields which have not been exploited as well as many rivers and bays which can but are not being used to produce innumerable valuable marine products. They include industrial and handicraft products manufactured primarily from domestic raw materials which are needed for production, everyday life, and exportation but which are not now being produced by us in any sizeable quantity. The problem of decisive significance is that the responsible agencies of the party and state on the various echelons and in the various sectors direct an appropriate amount of thought toward finding, organizing, and developing these jobs. Here, the role played by small solutions and investments in depth is very significant. Because as Le Duan said: "Frequently, it is only necessary to invest a few pieces of new equipment, a few materials, and so forth at the right place in a certain job in order for thousands and tens of thousands of laborers to be employed and create a large volume of new wealth."(11)

Together with correctly determining which jobs must be started, it is necessary to survey and classify labor in order to assign jobs suited to the capabilities and health of each individual. This is a rather complex matter because it requires the active participation of practically every sector, state agency and enterprise, cooperative, and mass organization, primarily state operated production installations. It also demands the prompt solution of many problems involving organization, supervision, and related policies and regulations. The realities of sending laborers to build new economic areas, recruiting students for training schools, recruiting laborers for state agencies and enterprises, providing jobs for the laborers in cities, and so forth prove this. It also demands that we actively overcome the shortcomings which exist in organization and management, in general, particularly in the organization and management of labor.

To begin with, it is necessary to quickly improve the establishment and the supervision of the implementation of plans, the primary tool used in management. Production plans and labor plans must always be of an advanced and realistic nature and be well balanced. Particular attention must be given to the balance between labor and materials and the balanced among labor, equipment, and tools because loose planning, the lack of careful calculations, the lack of a scientific basis, and conveniently "charging forward" on the basis of subjective desires generally lie at the basis of the great waste of labor, equipment, materials, and capital which is occurring at many installations as well as in many sectors and localities.

In conjunction with reorganizing and improving planning and the supply of materials and technology, we must direct attention to improving the organization of labor and gradually applying the science of labor to production and work. It is necessary to expand the scope of technically based labor quotas to provide a foundation for the efficient organization of labor, the establishment of accurate labor plans, and the correct implementation of the principle of distribution in accordance with labor. Particular attention must be given to improving work conditions for the laborer by every existing way possible so that everyone is healthy, can work in comfort and continuously, and raise his labor productivity. It has also come time to correct the problem of not providing a full supply of tools or supplying very bad tools to laborers. It is necessary to resolve the tool problem well and give attention to all three types, common tools, improved tools, and mechanized equipment, as well as to all three areas, that is, the use, maintenance, and repair of tools. There must be a full supply of high quality tools suited to the requirements and physical strength of those who use them.

To avoid the waste of labor, combat bureaucracy, and strengthen the effectiveness of the management provided by state agencies, it is necessary to determinedly implement a program to streamline the state management apparatus and the enterprise management apparatus and reorganize cadres in order to have them competently support production installations. To accomplish this, it is necessary to thoroughly implement the viewpoint of economy in labor and the guideline "using few people to perform much work"; at the same time, it is necessary to correctly determine the function and task of each organization, meet the standards and qualifications of cadres for each function, and strongly improve work methods.

Together with organizing and mobilizing each labor force to participate in production and the support of production, full attention must be given to stabilizing the living conditions of the laborer. Only when his standard of living is maintained and gradually improved is the laborer happy with his job and healthy, only then does he devote his enthusiasm, talents, and creativity to his job. But, to improve his standard of living, it is necessary to produce an abundant social product, that is, production must be developed and social labor productivity must be high. But, at present, our social labor productivity is still low and the social product is still small. This is a difficulty, an antagonism. Lenin called this antagonism a "vicious circle" and pointed out that this vicious circle can only be broken through the spirit of bravery of the masses who overcome their deprivation, tiredness, and exhaustion to work with high productivity without receiving any remuneration whatsoever. Lenin developed this viewpoint on the basis of the "communist Saturdays" and considered it "a great innovation." Considering our country's present circumstances, the same thing must be done to carry out socialist industrialization. Therefore, to resolve the problem of the laborers' living conditions, we must, on the one hand, "make everyone deeply understand that working, making every effort to work, and working with high productivity is the only way to insure the continuous expansion of accumulation and insure the continuous improvement of the standard of living, the only way to create the actual capabilities needed to coordinate immediate interests with long-range interests." (12) On the other hand, we must make full use of each existing system and capability to stabilize the standard of living of laborers which we must begin by appropriately remunerating those laborers who perform the most strenuous work, those who work in the most complex technical jobs, and those who work with high productivity. The best method continues to be establishing technically based labor quotas, determining the correct unit price, and paying piecework wages. The target is to meet quantitative requirements, serve better breakfasts and main meals, and revise the material benefits for strenuous trades, jobs involving toxic substances, and night shift work; consolidating collective dining halls, child care centers, and housing and resolving the travel problem well; and establishing regulations requiring government agencies and businesses to promptly attend to matters concerning the public so that the people who deal with

them have to wait less and need not visit their offices many times for the same thing in order to help maintain the health of laborers and give them more time for studying, relaxing, and entertainment. In addition, the planned parenthood campaign, the establishment of a civilized style of life within families, and teaching everyone to be aware of and know how to safeguard their health are very practical matters which must be given particular attention in order to help everyone be able to work with high productivity.

Regulations and policies: during the past several years, our state has issued many regulations, rules, and stipulations concerning the obligations and rights of the laborer and clearly stated what must be done and what must be prohibited in the areas of recruiting and training as well as the utilization and firing of laborers. These stipulations concretely reflect the requirements of the state and, at the same time, express the capabilities of the national economy as regards the laborer.

But, in reality, these stipulations are not being fully implemented; at a number of places, they are being conveniently increased or reduced in scope and even violated. As a result, negative consequences have occurred which have adversely affected efforts to provide incentive in production or the health and life of the laborer. This is primarily due to a lack of respect for the law and the failure to harshly deal with violations; it is also partially due to the fact that a number of regulations are not comprehensive or are not suited to the new situation.

Therefore, to heighten the effect of the regulations and policies concerning labor and wages, attention must be given to resolving the following several problems well:

First, it is necessary to teach respect for the law and widely disseminate the regulations and rules concerning labor and wages. Everyone must be given a clear understanding of the revolutionary, uniform, realistic, economic, and mass nature of these regulations; everyone must realize that it is not in the common interest of society or the personal interests of the laborer to implement these regulations incorrectly nor does implementing them incorrectly stop or limit actions which are harmful to society.

Secondly, it is necessary to systematize current labor and wage regulations and policies in order to promptly and appropriately revise and supplement them. Regulations and policies must always have the effect of providing the laborer with incentive to enthusiastically engage in production, try to study and improve his occupational skills, and make an effort to constantly raise his labor productivity and improve the quality of his products while completing each task assigned him.

Thirdly, it is necessary to heighten the legal nature of labor and wage regulations and policies. This includes planning the establishment of a Ministry of Labor law and carrying out this plan in a very urgent manner in order to bring this ministry into existence in 1 or 2 years.

In the immediate future, mistakes or willful violations of labor and wage regulations and rules which result in a major waste of manpower or adversely affect the health and life of laborers must be dealt with in a harsh manner. Each attitude of weakness, procrastination, or protecting those who make mistakes is totally contrary to the labor viewpoint of our party.

Under the light of the resolution passed by the 22nd Party Plenum, we are totally confident that once educational activities are thoroughly carried out, the working masses gain a clear understanding of their ownership role, and cadres and party members truly set good examples in productive labor, the slogan "everyone must work, truly work, work in an organized, disciplined, technical, and highly productive manner" will surely become reality, thereby helping implement the 1974-1975 state plan and provide momentum for rapidly, steadily, and strongly advancing North Vietnam to socialism.

FOOTNOTES

1. Lenin: "Collected Works," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1970, Volume 33, p 276.
2. Ho Chi Minh: "Selected Works," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1960, p 221.
3. "The Organization of the State of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1971, p 22.
4. Ibid., p 24.
5. "The Appeals Made by President Ho," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1958, Volume 4, p 93.
6. Lenin: "Complete Works," Volume 30, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1968, p 644.
7. Lenin: "Complete Works," 1964, p 164.
8. Lenin: "Instructions of the Labor and National Defense Council to the Local Soviets" (draft), Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1963, p 26.
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10. "The Appeals Made by President Ho," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1962, Volume 6, p 176.
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THE NEW STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE REVOLUTION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

Hanoi HOC TAP in Vietnamese No 1, Jan 75 pp 57-66

[Article by Truong Chi Cuong]

[Text] After 2 years of resolute struggle to firmly maintain peace and scrupulously implement the Paris Agreement, the South Vietnamese people have achieved important and concrete successes, particularly since early 1974.

The successes of the southern people in countering the enemy's nibbling and "pacification" operations and the struggle of the people in the southern cities in recent months mark the bankruptcy of the new U.S. strategy and the new stage of development of the southern revolution.

One of the basic features of the present revolutionary situation in the south is that the southern armed forces and people have defeated to an important extent the nibbling and "pacification" policy, a key measure in the new U.S. strategy.

The Nguyen Van Thieu clique, considering its nibbling and "pacification" policy a major strategic policy which is a matter of survival for its regime in a situation in which the United States was forced to withdraw its troops, has fully mobilized its military, political, and economic forces and resorted to the most cruel, crafty and sophisticated offensive maneuvers to implement this policy.

First of all, the U.S.-Thieu clique has schemed to obliterate the "leopard skin" status of the southern battlefield, delineate areas, drive back the liberation armed forces, occupy land, win over the people, and narrow and paralyze the liberated areas of the PRGRSV. The U.S.-Thieu clique has repeatedly launched nibbling operations, while using bombs and munitions in coordination with psychological warfare and espionage warfare activities to carry out its plan to settle people and build hamlets in order to nibble at and sabotage the liberated areas.

In addition to launching nibbling operations, the U.S.-Thieu clique has concentrated on fiercely "pacifying" the areas under its temporary control. This clique has increased the number of officers and civil servants in villages and hamlets, established sub-district military sectors in order to unify and reinforce its coercive system at the basic level, combined the repression of the masses with the use of psychological warfare and espionage warfare tricks, sowed suspicion and division among the people, and sought to isolate and "destroy the infrastructure" of the revolution in villages and hamlets.

In addition to resorting to political maneuvers, the Thieu clique has made every effort to conscript troops, increase taxes, and confiscate rice, upgrading in order to strengthen its military forces and solve its economic difficulties.

The U.S.-Thieu clique has nurtured the ambitious design of using its strength to obliterate all of the liberated enclaves in the south and carry out a large part of its nibbling and "pacification" policy. While the PRGRSV is determined to firmly maintain peace and scrupulously implement the Paris Agreement, Nguyen Van Thieu has aggressively shouted for war and deployed troops to carry out his schemes to sabotage the peace and the Paris Agreement.

However, the situation has developed in contrast to the expectations of the U.S.-Thieu clique.

The criminal acts of the Thieu clique have exposed its warlike face and design to sabotage the peace to public opinion at home and abroad and made the southern people extremely indignant.

Determined to punish Nguyen Van Thieu for his crimes of sabotaging the peace and violating the Paris Agreement, the southern armed forces and people have dealt the nibblers powerful offensive and counteroffensive blows from the outset, particularly since August 1973.

Since early 1974, the offensive position of the southern revolution has shifted to a new stage, gradually driving the Saigon army into a passive, defensive position and frustrating and repelling to a great extent the nibbling and "pacification" policy of the Nguyen Van Thieu clique.

The striking feature of the situation in the recent past is that the southern armed forces and people have expanded their relentless, strong widespread offensive position, won great victories in the dry season as well as in the rainy season--with many localities winning greater victories in the rainy season than in the dry season--and have completely gained the initiative on the battlefield, thereby forcing the Saigon army to shift to a passive, defensive position.

Since July 1974, the activities of the puppet army have been concentrated mainly on blocking the offensive of the liberation armed forces and clearing the areas that have been reoccupied by the Liberation Armed Forces. However,

even in these activities, the puppet army has also been bogged down, defeated and its weaknesses exposed, the nibbling operations of the puppet army and its capabilities of reoccupying land have markedly decreased, whereas in first quarter of 1974 the puppet army was capable of reoccupying 50 percent of the number of posts captured by the liberation armed forces, in the third quarter of 1974 it was only capable of reoccupying 30 percent of these posts.

The regular Liberation Armed Forces have not only blocked the enemy's nibbling operations, but have also launched deep, vicious attacks on its staging areas for nibbling operations, destroying many more district military sectors and district seats, such as Thuong Duc, Minh Long, Mang Den, Mang But, Duc Phong, Bo Duc, Dong Xoai, Phuoc Binh, Tanh Linh, Hung Long and so forth, putting many seasoned units of the puppet regular forces out of action and recovering many vast areas of strategic importance.

While the regular Liberation Armed Forces have driven the puppet regular forces into a confused, passive resistance on vital battlefields, the people in many delta areas of the 9th, 5th, and 8th regions have promptly launched three-pronged offensives to destroy or force the abandonment of many enemy posts, have arisen to take control of villages and hamlets, and restored and expanded the liberated areas in the deltas, including some liberated areas adjoining cities and important communication lines.

In 1974, the southern armed forces and people destroyed or forced the surrender or abandonment of 4,500 posts--this was the greatest number of posts destroyed in one year since 1968 and nearly equaled one-half of the total number of posts of the puppet army in the south--completely annihilated 139 battalions and 415 companies, put nearly 250,000 enemy troops out of action, won over an additional 1.22 million people, and restored, expanded and improved many additional liberated zones, with one liberated zone encompassing 22 districts and linking eight provinces.

The resounding revolutionary successes in the liberated areas and the masses' extreme poverty, which was caused by Thieu's warlike, repressive, exploitative policy, have motivated the people in areas under the Saigon administration's temporary control to proceed positively along the revolutionary line. What is noteworthy is the fairly rapid change in the areas inhabited by religious people, ethnic minorities and the areas into which people have been forced to move their residences and to resettle. There, the masses' struggle against conscription, repression, exploitation and so forth has increasingly developed, thereby seriously reducing the Saigon administration's capabilities of replenishing its army and its economic potential. Although the Saigon administration has concentrated every effort on consolidating its coercive apparatus in villages and hamlets in the areas under its temporary control, the coercive effect is being weakened and its scope of action is being rapidly narrowed.

In short, none of the objectives outlined in the U.S.-Thieu clique's nibbling and "pacification" policy can be achieved. The southern people have achieved a very important new success in smashing this policy.

This great success proves that the Provisional Revolutionary Government's policy and guidance in countering the enemy in its nibbling and "pacification" operations are timely and correct and that the southern people, who have truly acquired experience in struggling against and attacking the enemy, have attacked and counterattacked the enemy relentlessly and vigorously and in the right direction and also been equipped with a great determination to smash enemy schemes. This success also clearly indicates that the U.S.-Thieu clique's nibbling and "pacification" policy is one studded with contradictions and crimes and has been hated and fiercely countered by the southern people of all walks of life. This policy will certainly be inevitably and completely frustrated.

The failure of the U.S.-Thieu clique and the success of the southern armed forces and people in the recent, fierce nibbling and pacification and anti-nibbling and "anti-pacification" process not only reflect the balance of position and force between the two sides in South Vietnam, but have also made this balance develop further and vigorously in favor of the revolution.

The failure of the Saigon regime to implement its nibbling and "pacification" policy plus its many difficulties have driven the puppet army into a new and rapidly weakening position.

What is noteworthy is that the total number of puppet troops has begun to decrease and will rapidly decrease. Although the Saigon administration has sought every means to conscript and round up troops, it can in no way compensate for the losses suffered by its troops who have been killed in action, wounded or have deserted. This can be very easily understood because while the number of puppet troops who have been killed and wounded or have deserted is very great, the source of troop replenishment is being rapidly narrowed. There remain only 100 or 150 or, at the most, 200 men in many battalions, particularly in the civil guard battalions, not to mention those units where troops exist only on paper. In many areas, to compensate for losses suffered by regular forces, the Thieu clique has been forced to deactivate civil guard or people's self-defense companies one after another. However, this has resulted in the forces of the Thieu clique to be spread thinly and its combat positions weakened.

The fighting spirit of the puppet troops has recently declined rapidly. In recent battles in district military sectors and district seats, although the puppet troops were protected by fairly strong fortifications built years ago, their resistance was very weak. In many strongholds troops of the most aggressive and diehard puppet units could not resist more than one day. In the densely-populated delta areas, situations where civil guard and self-defense forces have abandoned posts en masse and fled have become common-place. On the average, two puppet posts have been abandoned for every one which has been attacked. It is worth noting that in the recent past the

number of puppet officers and troops captured has been very high, and the numbers of deserters and war protestors have been greater than in any period since 1965.

The intensity of firepower and the amount of mobile equipment of the puppet troops have markedly decreased. In the third quarter of 1974, the monthly number of artillery rounds fired by the puppet troops decreased by approximately three-fourths compared to 1973. The number of daily tactical sorties flown by the puppet air force only equaled about one-half the daily sorties flown in 1973 and approximately one-fifth of those flown in 1972. The present number of aircraft in the south, compared with the greatest number of aircraft on hand in the period of the limited war, has decreased by 70 percent, with the number of helicopters decreasing by 80 percent. This situation indicates that the bomb and ammunition reserves of the puppet troops have decreased and that they are encountering great difficulties in fuel and the maintenance, repair and use of various types of aircraft, tanks, combat vessels and heavy weapons.

In frenziedly deploying its troops to conduct sweep and nibbling operations while its forces are limited and the liberation troops are attacking and counterattacking relentlessly and everywhere, the puppet army is being driven into a situation fraught with acute contradictions between concentrated and dispersion and between conducting nibbling operations and defensive operations within the scope of its strategy. The puppet army has been repeatedly defeated and is facing the danger of an even heavier defeat and more rapid decline in the near future.

The serious consequences of a prolonged war, the forced withdrawal of the U.S. armed forces as a result of their defeat, the inability of the United States to continue its military and economic aid as it did previously because of its own difficulties, the continuous failure of the nibbling and "pacification" policy, and so forth, all this has driven the areas controlled by the Saigon administration into an unprecedented, tragic situation. Agriculture has not developed, industry has deteriorated, trade has been stalemated, finance has become confused, and so forth. Compared with 1973, 50 percent of enterprises have closed their doors and the remaining enterprises are operating at low levels, at rates of just 30 to 60 percent of capacity. Inflation increased by 65 percent in 1973 and 114 percent in 1974. The piaster was devalued 17 times, and prices increased from 50 to 300 percent within 20 months. All these incurable maladies have caused the economy of the Saigon regime to decline rapidly and driven the people in the areas controlled by the Saigon administration into a miserable, hopeless situation.

The social situation is extremely confused. More than 3.5 million people are now unemployed, 70 percent of the population have not had enough food to eat since September 1974, and 50 percent of the students are dropouts because of the food shortage. Hundreds of suicide cases, many caused by bitter starvation, are occurring monthly; beggars are seen everywhere. All these evils are causing the further decay and decline of the Saigon regime.

The political status of the Saigon regime has become increasingly rotten. In continuing to serve as a tool to implement the U.S. neocolonialist policy, prolong the war, sabotage the Paris Agreement, and trample on human democratic liberties and dignity, Nguyen Van Thieu and his clique have been isolated more than ever inside and outside the country. He no longer has any political base, and even the people who previously supported him are now turning their backs on him and, even worse, rallying forces to oppose him. Dissatisfaction is also spreading in the puppet army, and there are more and more officers and troops opposing Thieu.

Nguyen Van Thieu's only hope is U.S. support and backing. However, the U.S. imperialists are encountering unprecedented, great difficulties at home and abroad: the internal ranks of the United States are seriously divided, inflation is spiraling, the economy is in a state of recession, the danger of a grave economic crisis is threatening the United States, U.S. prestige and influence in the world are declining, etc. The fact that the U.S. Congress has reduced by one-half the military aid requested by the Pentagon for Thieu in the 1974-1975 fiscal year and reduced economic aid compared by 20 percent with the preceding fiscal year clearly reflects the difficult, multifaceted situation now confronting the U.S. administration. In such a situation, it is certain that no matter how stubborn the U.S. imperialists might be, they must carefully ponder whether they should jump in to save someone who is about to drown only to sink into distress and failure with him. Moreover, the U.S. imperialists have experienced many bitter setbacks in years past in Vietnam.

At a time when the Thieu regime has encountered cumulative difficulties, suffered increasingly greater setbacks and been increasingly weakened, the forces of the southern revolution have been comprehensively strengthened and developed ever more steadfastly.

The three troop categories in the liberation armed forces are being developed and consolidated and strengthened both quantitatively and qualitatively: their morale, equipment and combat tactics and technique have been improved. All three troop categories have fought well. The regular forces of the liberation army not only have been able to defeat the well trained units of the puppet regular forces in and outside their fortified stronghold, but also to firmly maintain and expand vital areas. The local forces and guerrillas in many areas have been able to destroy or force the surrender or evacuation of scores of posts, win over the people, and gain control over vast areas under the Saigon administration's temporary control.

The liberated zone of the PRG has been expanded, and many additional vast, well organized areas have taken shape and begun to develop comprehensively. Production has been boosted. The amount of area under cultivation in 1974 increased rapidly compared with 1973. The reclaiming of wasteland has been intensively developed and very good results have been attained. Since the signing of the Paris Agreement, the people in the liberated areas have reclaimed hundreds of thousands of hectares of ricefields. A number of industrial and handicrafts branches, such as the mining industry, repair industry, processing industry and so forth, have begun to

develop. The people in various areas have begun to produce various types of consumer goods to serve the people's daily life. It is worth noting that the communications and transportation network, which has been developed rapidly everywhere with thousands of kilometers of automobile roads, has played an important role in comprehensively strengthening the revolutionary forces, boosting production and improving the people's daily life.

Cultural, educational and medical activities have been satisfactorily developed. More than 170,000 students have attended schools in the southern liberated areas. In the 5th region alone, there are 118 hospitals and dispensaries with thousands of beds. The cultural and literary and artistic movement is also being developed. Security and order have also been further consolidated. Generally speaking, the daily life of the people in the liberated areas has been stabilized and begun to be improved in various areas, and the people are happy, healthy, high-minded, and enthusiastic.

The influence of the liberated areas is producing a strong effect on the areas under the Saigon administration's temporary control. Hundreds of thousands of people in the temporarily-controlled areas have struggled to return to their native villages in the liberated areas to earn a living. The political struggle movement of the people in the areas under the Saigon administration's temporary control has continued to develop with a new quality: their ranks have become increasingly numerous, slogans and forms of struggle have been further improved, the momentum of the struggle is strong, and the nature of their offensive has been reflected ever more clearly. On the basis of the masses' struggle, revolutionary power has been developed rapidly and steadfastly. Obviously, the revolutionary position and strength in the areas under the Saigon administration's temporary control are being developed vigorously.

It is necessary to add that the rapid and steadfast development of the socialist north, the strong growth of the Lao and Cambodian revolutions and the new successes of the revolutionary and national liberation current in many countries in the world are greatly influencing the strong growth of the southern revolution.

Obviously, the comprehensive forces of the southern revolution are stronger than in any previous period. The military and political position of the southern revolution is firmer than ever, and its international advantage is developing, all this is of a decisive significance for the development of the entire southern situation in the days ahead.

The whole development of this situation will lead to disturbances in the southern cities, the last fortresses of the Nguyen Van Thieu clique, the areas that reflect the present acute contradictions in the Saigon regime. The seething situation in the southern cities in recent months has proven this. The Thieu regime has driven the people in the areas under its control into a situation in which they are forced to take action.

It is not accidental that the present struggle movements in the southern cities are daubed with all types of political hues, encompass many religions and factions, and attract the massive participation of the people of all walks of life, from workers, laboring people, and university and high school students to various intellectual circles, such as journalists, lawyers, writers, and many people in Thieu's "National Assembly," administration and army. Various religions and factions, which supported Thieu thus far, are now opposing him and his clique.

It is worth noting that at the very outset the struggle movements have shouted political slogans and linked their struggle for the right to a decent life and democracy with their demand for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of peace and national concord. These slogans have also been gradually revised to be consistent with each stage of development of the movements. What is impressive is that these movements have, from the outset, centered around the slogan demanding the overthrow of Thieu and the establishment in Saigon of a government that agrees to implement the Paris Agreement.

The very inspiring forms of struggle in the southern cities at present are not only highly creative, but also reflect the momentum of the struggle of the southern urbanites of all walks of life and the intense nature of these movements. Although the Nguyen Van Thieu clique has deployed tens of thousands of policemen and secret agents to seek every means to limit and quell these movements, these movements, which began with seminars and meetings, have reached the point of burning newspapers, staging demonstrations with the participation of the majority of the masses on the streets, openly challenging the Thieu administration, and fiercely countering the repressive policemen and secret agents.

Many additional struggle fronts and committees and many new opposition forces involving various circles and the people of walks of life have now made their appearance, attracting the participation of hundreds of thousands of people. These organizations are developing in almost all the southern provinces down to the basic level, thus expanding these movements throughout the south with an increasingly higher quality. Le Duan has said: "The whole task of motivating and gathering the revolutionary forces is, in the last analysis, organization, organization, and organization. Therefore, once the mass movement has taken shape, leading the masses in submitting to the established order of organizations is a key problem of decisive significance."

The character, scale and objectives of the struggle movements in the southern cities clearly demonstrate that the Nguyen Van Thieu regime, which has been strenuously built during more than a decade by the United States as an efficient tool to carry out its neocolonialist policy, is now confronted with an unprecedentedly serious challenge. The lackeys of the U.S. imperialists are disputing with one another to such an extent that they are ready to die for their interests. Deprived of a political base of support, Nguyen Van Thieu and his henchmen are being attacked from all directions. Their foothold has crumbled tragically.

The South Vietnamese people have long been aware of the nature of the Thieu regime and the face of the Thieu clique. They have had much experience in suffering from the crimes and tragedies which the Thieu clique has inflicted on the nation and themselves. Now they are again suffering the consequences of the dictatorial and corrupt Nguyen Van Thieu clique's war-prolonging policy. They are now confronted with an urgent demand to overthrow the Nguyen Van Thieu regime and build a South Vietnam where there will be no more war, no dictatorship and corruption and which will not be dependent on foreign countries. The southern revolution is confronted with very favorable conditions for developing its forces and accelerating the struggle movement. The struggling forces in South Vietnam are now able to join their actions for the common national interest and with the common goal of toppling Nguyen Van Thieu. By developing their strength and operating in unison on the same front against Thieu, the urban struggle movements will certainly become ever broader and larger.

Naturally, the South Vietnamese people are vigilant and aware what the U.S. imperialists are plotting and expecting from the present struggle movements in the cities in South Vietnam. Faced with the situation in which the people's struggle movement resolutely demands the overthrow of Nguyen Van Thieu, and knowing that it is difficult to prevent his collapse, the U.S. imperialists are trying to manipulate the southern movement in a direction suitable to their requirements. What they want is that if they are forced to do away with Thieu, they will still be able to maintain a regime without Thieu to continue to implement U.S. neocolonialist policy. By having their lackeys participate in the struggle movements, the U.S. imperialists hope that they will be able to promote influence and secure political support for a new lackey clique to carry out their new scheme.

But the South Vietnamese people, with their experience and political awareness, will never agree to these U.S. moves and will refuse to serve as a prop for any regime, or any group of people, or any individual to continue to carry out the U.S. imperialists' schemes and policies aimed at prolonging the war, jeopardizing peace and national concord and perpetuating the division of the country. Prompted by the urgent and earnest demands of the nation and of themselves, the South Vietnamese people have set forth objectives and slogans for their struggle. With the strength of solidarity and with large forces, they will struggle to the end and will certainly not deviate from their set objectives and slogans.

Moreover, the main, deep cause of the present movements in the cities is the victory of the southern revolution and of the heroic southern people, in which the role and forces of the PRGRSV are becoming a factor deciding the life and the political trend in South Vietnam.

The U.S. imperialists are planning to replace Thieu with someone else. The question of replacing Thieu has become a daily topic of the southern urbanities. However, no matter whether Thieu is to be done away, the U.S. imperialists will be unable to solve the comprehensive crisis in South Vietnam and avoid tragic defeat if they are unwilling to learn from their past lessons of defeat in Vietnam and give up their neocolonialist policy now being seriously bankrupted.

It must be added that Nguyen Van Thieu and his henchmen⁹ will not easily give up their interests and their present lucrative positions. With the existing fascist, repressive apparatus, they have ruthlessly oppressed and will even more ruthlessly oppress the opposition movements and forces. This traditional policy can create temporary difficulties to the struggle movement at any given time. But ruthless repressive measures always result in a situation in which the indignation and uprising of the people grow ever stronger, and once the popular movement has developed to a high degree, no force can stop it. The question raised now for the South Vietnamese people is to quickly strengthen and resolutely protect the revolutionary forces, unite and be vigilant against all enemy schemes of sowing dissension among and fooling the people, accelerate the struggle to take the initiative in attacking the enemy on all fronts. Only then will they win great victories. No matter how stubborn and perfidious the U.S.-Thieu clique might be, it cannot check the strong development and the inevitable victory of the southern revolution.

The realities of the southern revolution further prove that the line and policies of the NFLSV and the PRGRSV regarding the southern revolution are completely correct. This line and these policies have the support of the people of all strata in South Vietnam and the sympathy and support of broad segments of people in the world. They are lighting the way for strong, steady steps forward by the southern revolution. Although the struggle of the southern people is still replete with difficulties, hardships and complexities, the new developments over the past 2 years, especially in 1974, have created a strong and firm basis for even stronger development in the future. Determined to maintain the peace, scrupulously implement the Paris Agreement and accelerate the struggle on the military, political and diplomatic fronts, the southern people will advance toward achieving the national democratic revolutionary cause in South Vietnam and toward peacefully reunifying the fatherland.

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UNDERSTANDING THE PARTY'S BASIC VIEWPOINTS CONCERNING PRICES IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PRESENT PRICE POLICY WELL

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[Article]

[Text] During the periods of economic reconstruction and reform and the years of the first Five Year plan, the price policy had the effect of providing incentive for the development of industry and agriculture, insuring socialist accumulation, and supporting the requirements of the development of the economy and the improvement of the people's standard of living. The 10th Party Plenum reached the following conclusion concerning commerce and prices: "The price policy during this period has been basically correct and produced good results... The two systems of agricultural purchasing prices and consumer goods retail prices have become relatively complete and basically reasonable; the relative value of agricultural products and industrial goods generally reflects the major relationship of the national economy."

Since 1965, the government has adopted many price measures designed to support the requirements of economic development and the strengthening of economic management; for example, it has revised a number of prices, primarily agricultural product purchasing prices, and begun to establish enterprise wholesale prices. Under the circumstances of the violent war, continuous natural disasters, and major economic difficulties, the organized market price system was maintained and had the effect of helping develop production, maintain the standard of living of the people, consolidate the rear area, and support the frontlines. This was a great victory for our party and state in their leadership and supervision of the economy.

However, due to the serious aftereffects of the war and loose economic management and market management, production has been encountering difficulties for a long period of time and the illegal free market has increased in size, thereby having a negative effect upon production and distribution and reducing the effectiveness of the state system of directed prices in the area of providing incentive for the development of production. There are also shortcomings in the state's directed prices, for example, efforts have not been continued to complete the price system of the state, the purchasing prices of a number of agricultural products have been revised slowly and those revisions which have been made have been made in a "patchwork" manner without comprehensive research, the retail prices of consumer goods have been maintained in a rigid manner, the "two prices" and "high price" methods which are designed to strengthen the management of the market have been applied slowly, etc. The coordination of price policies and measures with other economic levers is not close; price discipline and financial discipline are loose and do not prevent state agencies and enterprises from disregarding the state's directed prices in order to "facilitate their own work."

In the immediate future, the various sectors and echelons must, in order to support the requirements of economic reconstruction and development in the 2 years 1974-1975, gain a full understanding of the party's basic viewpoints regarding prices and correctly apply the price policy, considering it an effective economic lever designed to provide incentive for the development of production, step up the technological revolution and the new distribution of labor, strengthen economic-

financial management, and stabilize the economy, the market, and the standard of living of the people.

It is necessary, on the basis of the economic laws of socialism, to correctly apply the law of value in order to stimulate the development of the national economy at a rapid rate and strengthen the material and technical base of socialism in North Vietnam. Under the conditions of the socialist economy in North Vietnam, we must, on the basis of the requirements of the economic laws of socialism, actively apply the law of value to serve the interests of socialism; the law of value cannot be applied by itself, the law of value cannot be considered the law which has the major effect within the economy, one which places emphasis upon providing incentive by means of material interests or prices, and there cannot be a lack of coordination between prices and the other tools of economic management.

Recently, due to the failure to fully understand the basic viewpoint presented above and in the face of a difficult economic situation, unstable production, very high production costs for many products, and the pressure of free market prices, a number of cadres have developed incorrect tendencies. Some unilaterally demand without any economic basis whatsoever that the prices of the products the state buys be raised and that the prices of the instruments of production the state sells be reduced; some demand that the spontaneous prices of the free market be used as a basis for establishing the directed prices of the state; others demand that the directed prices of the state compensate for each and every unreasonable expense incurred by production installations and economic units, even for losses resulting from a lack of responsibility or poor management. Many economic management cadres fail to realize that the primary causes of the business losses of enterprises and cooperatives are loose management and the practice of allowing much corruption and waste to exist and allowing production costs to rise which create contradictions with the directed prices of the state. They openly propagandize their mistaken viewpoints and demand that the state raise its prices in order to compensate for these unreasonable and high costs or conveniently revise its directed prices, establish prices for purchases over and above obligations in a convenient manner, reduce the level of obligations, and so forth; they even try to find ways to sell few or no products to the state in order to have products to sell on the free market at high prices and make up for these unreasonable costs while earning a high profit.

A Political Bureau communique issued on 15 August 1974 concerning pricing activities in the immediate future stated: "The basic problem at this point in time is, on the one hand, to struggle to reduce production costs and insure the quality of products by overcoming weaknesses in management and utilizing both living and past labor in the most economical manner possible; on the other hand, it is necessary to struggle to reorganize and expand the socialist market, gradually narrow the free market, and resolutely struggle against speculation and illegal occupations. Free market prices cannot be taken as the basis for calculating the directed prices of the state because free market prices reflect spontaneity in trade. Nor can prices be used to compensate for high production costs resulting from poor operations."

The resolution issued on 9 September 1974 by the Council of Ministers concerning the pricing guidelines and task for the 2 years 1974-1975 also stated: "The directed prices of the state must be established on the basis of reasonable production costs based on reasonable standards and quotas governing labor productivity, the consumption of materials, and the income of the laborer; educational activities and economic and financial measures must be employed to direct the thoughts and actions of the laborer and of production and business installations toward the struggle to reduce production and circulation costs, raise labor productivity, increase the output and quality of products, and practice economy in the consumption of materials."

Under the socialist system, value is formed in a planned manner based on reasonable quotas and ceilings governing social labor productivity, the consumption of materials, the income of laborers, and profits. The recent rise in free market prices reflects the spontaneity which exists in trade under the conditions of loose market management. These prices are very much higher than the actual value of goods and, as a result, they cannot be used as a basis for determining the directed prices of the state. Therefore, our party's viewpoint is: in conjunction with struggling to reduce production costs in order to establish efficient production costs to be used as a basis for determining the directed prices of the state, it is necessary to struggle

to reorganize and expand the socialist market, gradually narrow the free market, and determinedly combat speculation and illegal occupations. If this work is not performed well, it will be impossible to develop the effect and effectiveness of the state's system of directed prices and impossible to successfully apply the law of value as a lever providing incentive for the development of production in accordance with the state plan.

It is necessary to firmly control the dictatorship of the proletariat and utilize prices as an effective tool of the state with which to organize and manage the economy; struggle to eradicate the negative aspects of economic life and social life; closely coordinate the price policy with financial, credit, commercial, and other measures in order to develop the coordinated role played by the system of economic levers in the economy; manage prices in accordance with uniform principles, heighten price discipline, closely coordinate price activities with administrative and ideological activities, and combat partialism, localism, liberalism, and convenience in the implementation of the price policy of the party and state.

Prices are a combined economic problem, an important economic tool in the system of economic levers of the dictatorship of the proletariat state; they represent the overall interests of the economy and must be closely coordinated with the other economic-financial measures of the state administration. We must harshly criticize the partialism, localism, liberalism, convenience, lack of careful consideration, lack of coordination, and so forth which have occurred in many sectors and on many echelons and impeded the implementation of the price policy of the party and state.

Prices also comprise a major policy of the party and state, one which is closely related to production and life and which directly influences the economic and political affairs of the party and state; therefore, the party must provide close leadership of pricing activities and the state must fulfill its dictatorship of the proletariat role by managing prices in accordance with uniform principles and by policies and regulations and strengthening the socialist system of law in order to support the requirements of developing the socialist economy in accordance with a uniform plan.

In the immediate future, all sectors and echelons must gain a thorough understanding of the basic viewpoints presented above and correctly apply the price policy of the state in order to successfully implement the price guidelines and task for the coming period of providing incentive for the development of production, stimulating the technological revolution and the new distribution of labor, strengthening economic-financial management, raising labor productivity, lowering production costs, increasing the accumulation of capital, and stabilizing the standard of living of the people.

To provide incentive for the overall development of agriculture, step up intensive cultivation, expand the amount of area under cultivation, and apply new techniques, the state must, in conjunction with its policy of investing in the construction of the material and technical base of agriculture, supplement a number of price policies and measures. On the basis of the present system of prices, the state must continue to revise the purchasing prices of a number of agricultural products and the sales prices of a number of instruments of agricultural production, establish price supports and subsidies for production areas encountering difficulties and new economic areas, and establish incentive prices of a bonus nature for the sale of grain, food products, and other agricultural products over and above obligations or over and above contract levels. However, the implementation of the price policies and measures mentioned above must be accompanied by the improvement of the methods of agricultural management and the consolidation of agricultural cooperatives.

To support the requirements of stepping up the technological revolution, raising productivity, and lowering production costs within the various production sectors, the state must actively establish an economically and technically based system of wholesale prices for the instruments of production; it must establish price differentials based on product quality and a price differential for imported and domestic goods in order to provide incentive for domestic production; and it must expand the establishment of enterprise wholesale prices within industry and apply appropriate forms of enterprise wholesale prices for the other economic sectors. At the same time, the state must investigate and research the production costs of the various types of cooperatives and state enterprises in order to establish a basis for directing and managing purchasing prices, contract prices, and service prices in a reasonable manner.

At a time when the economy is still encountering difficulties and production does not satisfy needs, the state must implement a consumer goods retail price policy which differentiates between vital necessities and items of secondary importance in the everyday lives of the people as well as between goods supplied under ration standards and goods supplied through normal sales; it must maintain the prices of vital necessities, continue to implement the "two prices" and "high price" policy, and struggle to eliminate speculation in trade goods on the free market.

While implementing the price guidelines and task mentioned above, the various sectors and echelons must fully comply with the state's price guideline; making an effort to stabilize prices in coordination with revising unreasonable prices.

To stabilize prices, we must first of all endeavor to tightly manage the free market and not allow it to develop in a random manner, disrupt market prices, and pose difficulties for the economy and everyday life. To accomplish this, all sectors and echelons must make every effort to overcome their weaknesses in economic management and market management, step up production, strengthen their economic-financial management, expand the scope of operation of state operated commerce enterprises and market cooperatives, consolidate the organized market, rapidly narrow the scope of the illegal free market and eventually abolish it, maintain the directed prices of the state, and heighten the positive role prices play in providing incentive for production and stabilizing the people's standard of living.

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RESEARCH: THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CURRENT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION

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[Article by Nguyen Nhu Kim]

[Text] In the past several decades, science and technology have developed strongly and rapidly, recorded increasingly large achievements, brought about profound changes of a revolutionary nature in production, had a direct effect upon the activities of man, and opened great prospects for the development of society.

There have been many revolutionary changes in science and technology. A general characteristic of a technological revolution is a basic change in the means of labor or techniques. It can have an effect upon a number of separate aspects or upon all technical sectors. A scientific revolution is always closely linked to inventions which completely change prior understandings of nature or society and result in a higher level of knowledge. This process can occur within one scientific sector or in all fields of man's knowledge.

But, only today is there a true scientific and technological revolution in which the scientific revolution is being carried out at the same time as and in a manner closely linked to the technological revolution. The major discoveries in the science of nuclear physics, solid physics, electronics, cybernetics, synthetic chemistry, molecular biology, and so forth together with such extraordinary technological advances as automated tools, manmade materials, atomic energy, electronic computers, jet travel, space communications, electronic methods, modern means of organization and management, and so forth are considered the outstanding achievements of the scientific and technological revolution which is now in the initial period of a process of strong and complex change.

Man is being liberated from strenuous, simple labor in a system of machines and the shift of this work to an automated system makes it possible for man to devote his energy and intelligence to creative activities, to reforming nature and serving society -- which are also the great goals of communism. In substance, whereas the industrial revolution only involved the replacement of man's hands by machines, the current scientific and technological revolution involves the replacement of all of the functions of man (manual as well as mental) by automated machines in a given production process. By summarizing the opinions of many of the researchers in the world, particularly those of Marxist scientific theoreticians, we can state two general characteristics of the current scientific and technological revolution: science has become a direct production force and the entire system of science-technology-production has developed particularly rapidly.

1. Science Has Become a Direct Production Force

On what basis can we claim that only under the conditions of the current scientific and technological revolution has science become a direct production force?

Man has been a direct production force for thousands of years. The handicraftsman, through his energy and talent, carried out the entire productive labor process. In the industrial revolution, the worker worked directly with the machine; in the

process of achieving the high level of mechanization of capitalist production, this labor became more and more simple. Scientific and technical advances were introduced into production by means of the labor performed by the worker, consequently, science did not directly participate in the production process and was not an independent production force. Therefore, science was not strongly developed in the industrial revolution. And, the capitalist class only developed those scientific sectors which yielded the largest profits; therefore, the scientific and technological sectors could not develop in a uniform and balanced manner; to the capitalist class, the direct production worker was only an object to be exploited, an object which would be transformed into part of his machine, a "robot" machine operator, as production developed and became more highly mechanized.

However, in large-scale industrial production, science was gradually expressed in the equipment, machinery, and material-technical base of capitalism, although not uniformly. Marx wrote: "The development of fixed capital is a norm which shows how much of society's common knowledge has been transformed into direct production forces."⁽¹⁾ Only in the current scientific and technological revolution has this level been clearly expressed in modern pieces of technical equipment and machinery and systems of automated tools. Extremely sensitive pieces of equipment have replaced the brain and precision measuring machines coordinated with the methods of modern cybernetics have replaced the control and inspection functions of man in certain production processes. All of this equipment is the product of modern science and technology. Science has become separated from direct labor, it has truly infiltrated production and become an independent and direct production force.

In broader terms, under the conditions of the current scientific and technological revolution, an extremely deep and substantively different organic relationship exists between the fields of activity of man (mental activity and the creation of material wealth). There are also direct reciprocal effects between science and production, one provides the foundation for the other, and one stimulates the other so that both can develop together.

During the period of the industrial revolution, these two fields existed side by side, the relationship between them was very loose, and it was a long time before this relationship was clearly expressed. Today, science directly participates in everyday production. Science has become the main source of technical advances within production. Conversely, it must be said that the level of production must be high in order to be able to rapidly utilize the inventions of science and, in the process of implementing them, production generally encounters new difficulties which only science can resolve. This is the cyclical, progressive relationship between science and production.

Let us analyze one example. The process of controlling nuclear energy and using it for peaceful purposes involves the continuous coordination of the scientists and projects of very many sectors. To combat the harmful effects of radiation upon man, metallurgists have developed suitable materials which absorb radiation, physiologists have researched safety levels as regards living bodies, geneticists have delved into the influence of radiation upon future generations of many different species, electronic engineers have developed extremely sensitive equipment for an automatic alert system, etc. Without resolving the problems mentioned above, production could not be continued. To put man in space, it has been necessary to establish and implement very complex research projects coordinated among practically all fields of science and modern industry.

Conversely, there are also many examples of the effect of the level of production upon the development of science. Nuclear physics could not have developed as rapidly as it has were it not for the manufacture of increasingly strong reactors by industry. The great achievements recorded by molecular biology have certainly been primarily due to the existence of electron microscopes with an increasingly high degree of magnification. The precision measuring equipment, modern electronic computers, large-scale testing installations, and so forth which are the products of modern industry are stimulating the strong development of science.

The present organic relationship between science and production, which is the result of strong reciprocal effects, has led to major changes in every area compared to the industrial revolution.

1. The time between research and production has constantly been shortened.

In the past, it took decades, even hundreds of years, for the phenomena discovered in the natural sciences to be reflected in technology; however, as a general rule, only a few years are required today. For example, man had to wait more than 100 years to implement the principle of the camera; but, only 4 to 5 years elapsed from the time the transistor was invented to the time it was put into mass production. However, we also see that because science develops in a relatively independent manner, not all theoretical discoveries can immediately be applied in production. In addition to those which can be immediately applied, both large and small scientific breakthroughs are gradually accumulated in a reserve for application in later years.

2. The changing role of science.

In the past, production was generally a step ahead of science and science was generally the summarization of production activities. Today, the situation is totally different. Mental activities have assumed the predominant position and are of a decisive nature as regards the guidelines and mode of development of the activities involved in the creation of material wealth. For example, Watt invented the steam engine 70 years before scholars discovered the law of the conservation of energy. Today, nuclear physics has led to the introduction of nuclear generators, solid physics has led to the development of the transistor, molecular biology has led to the development of new varieties, synthetic chemistry is the basis of manmade fibers, plastics, and so forth.

Also because of the predominant role played by science, many scholars researching scientific policies have stated that it is necessary to insure that science develops at a higher rate than technology does and that technology have a higher rate of development than production. This has been the trend of development in the world over the past 10 years. Recently, a number of fields of science have developed very rapidly in comparison to production in a number of developed capitalist countries; this further indicates the need to plan and manage science.

3. Influence upon the structure and organization of science and production.

In the past, scientific research agencies were practically never located within large industrial installations. The scientists working in the laboratory gave little attention to industry's requirements of science. Today, because time is of ever great economic importance, it is very necessary to organize scientific research in such a way as to achieve the highest possible efficiency and returns. The present trend of organization is to closely coordinate research agencies with production enterprises. In the Soviet Union, scientific and production federations have been established; research and design institutes have been established right next to the production enterprises they support and both are under the same management. In the developed capitalist countries, a similar organizational trend exists and college-industry groups have developed in a spontaneous manner.

4. The industrial nature of scientific activities.

Today, scientific activities are in the nature of a special industrial sector. The term "the science industry" (or "the industrialization of science") is commonly accepted. Let us examine this industrial nature of science in terms of scale, organization, and economic returns.

To begin with, the industrial nature of science is reflected in the scale of the corps of scientific research cadres in the developed countries. The number of people participating in the field of science has increased more rapidly than the number in any other field of activity. (In 1971, the Soviet Union had more than 5,000 research agencies and more than 1 million scientific cadres; the total number of people working in the field of scientific research rose to more than 3 million, or more than 1 percent of the population and more than 4 percent of the number of people working in the national economy). The rate at which scientific and technical cadres have been trained during the past few decades has also greatly increased. (The Soviet Union now has more than 800 colleges). On the average, the number of cadres trained doubles approximately every 15 years. A survey of many developed countries shows: to meet the rising requirements of the national economy, the number of scientific cadres and engineers trained must increase by 4 percent a year. This number must be increased by 10 percent if a country wants to keep pace with the development of science and technology.

The expenditures on scientific research are also very high and can be compared to the annual capital investments in the most important industrial sectors. In 1971, the Soviet Union spent more than 13 billion rubles on scientific research, the equivalent of 4.2 percent of its national income (this does not include the expenditures on the 70 billion electrovolt reactor at Serpukhovo). During recent years, Japan, a developed capitalist country, has spent the smallest amount on scientific research (1.5 percent of its annual GNP) because its policy is to import technology.

The cost of scientific research equipment (primarily testing and measuring machines) has constantly risen because scientific equipment has become more and more sophisticated and complex and more and more types of equipment are being used. Moreover, scientific equipment quickly becomes outmoded and, as in modern industry, must be completely replaced on the average of once every 5 years.

As science develops, it requires more and more manpower and money. However, mankind can only allocate a certain amount of money and a certain force of cadres for scientific activities. A number of scientists have stated that expenditures in science cannot exceed 7 percent of total national income and they predict that the number of people working in science will comprise approximately one-twenty fifth of the total number of people working in every field of activity by the year 2000.

The industrial nature of scientific activities is also reflected in the organization of labor, in the specialization, centralization, and distribution of labor within science. We can consider the basic elements of scientific research links in the production line of scientific knowledge, links which include basic research, applied research, and design-testing (in the capitalist countries, this last link is called developed research). Stated more simply, basic research is designed to uncover the laws of nature and constantly heighten man's level of knowledge. Applied research has the task of transforming the phenomena and laws of nature which basic research has uncovered into the principles and structure of machines and the principles of production methods. The final link in the knowledge production line, the important link between science and production, is design-testing which has the task of transforming principles, methods, and structures into production methods and techniques and specific products. It must be mentioned here that expenditures on research and the number of scientific cadres who must be mobilized increase in the advance from basic research to applied research and design-testing.

The specialized organization of labor within science is also reflected in the division of scientific cadres into theoretical cadres, laboratory cadres, and scientific information cadres. In a scientific collective today, we find, in addition to outstanding scientists, skilled information cadres; in addition to research cadres, there are engineers and technicians who operate sophisticated and complex testing machines. It can be said that present day scientific labor is collective labor and that the main results achieved are collective results even in the case of a scientist who seemingly "works alone." The increasing number of collective projects clearly reflects this.

As regards the economic returns of science, researchers must first of all examine the influence of scientific and technical advances upon the annual rate of increase of gross national product. According to much research data and economic data compiled over many years in the developed capitalist countries, manpower and capital investments are no longer the most important factors, rather, the application of scientific and technological advances within production is the primary force behind the rapid growth of output. This is the present trend of economic development in depth under the conditions of the scientific and technological revolution. In the countries of Western Europe, 50 to 75 percent of the increase in total national economic output over a period of 10 years (1949-1959) was brought about by scientific and technological advances. In the Soviet Union, scientific and technological advances accounted for 59 percent of the increase in national income in 1961, 78 percent in 1967, and 88 percent in 1968.

Economic returns can also be calculated in terms of profit compared to the amount of money invested in science. In the capitalist countries, the average profit earned from scientific activities is 100 to 200 percent. In the Soviet Union, even though many areas of the organization of science are in need of further improvement, there is a return of 3 to 5 rubles for every 1 ruble invested in science.

Another expression of the economic returns from scientific activities can be seen in the fact that sales of the right to use inventions have entered a new stage, a stage of extraordinary development. The rate of growth in the sale of patents is higher than the rate of growth in the sale of trade goods. In 1966, according to preliminary estimates, as many as 50,000 patent trade agreements were signed in the capitalist countries alone; these agreements represented more than one-tenth the total income of the foreign trade sector and ranked as the third most heavily traded product behind petroleum and machinery. Obviously, the patent is an intellectual product of high value. This intellectual product is also called "software" to differentiate it from "hardware," that is, equipment and machinery.

To insure increasingly high economic returns from economic activities, a new trend has been started in the organization and management of scientific research agencies in the socialist countries of Europe, namely, the use of cost accounting systems which, in many respects, resemble those in use within enterprise management. The Research Institute works on the basis of orders for products from enterprises and signs contracts regarding the amount of time to be spent in research, the contents of research, and the results of research in accordance with established laws; the agency only exists and develops if there are economic returns (that is, if business profits are earned).

2. The Rate of Development Is Very High Throughout the Science-Technology-Production System

The second characteristic of the scientific and technological revolution -- the very high rate of development throughout the science-technology-production system -- is in the nature of a total revolution in productive forces, one which is very much different from the industrial revolution. Many basic changes have occurred in practically every important industrial, technical, and scientific sector.

Science is developing in accordance with the law of infinite functions faster than any other field. The tremendous increase in the volume of scientific information is one of the concrete expressions of this rapid development: the volume of scientific information doubles once every 12 years.

1. Within science all of the scientific sectors have undergone major substantive changes; more and more frequently, they are dividing into small sectors working in new directions while some are joining together to form very rich joint scientific sectors. In the various fields encompassed by these scientific sectors, researchers are making great discoveries.

In the past few decades, all fields of science have contributed to the advances made by science and technology. However, two scientific sectors have had the most decisive effect, physics and cybernetics.

Modern physics has been and is delving into the elementary structure of materials, of the atom and the nucleus, and of solid crystals. Nuclear research projects have led to nuclear energy; the study of crystals has allowed us to increase the hardness of solids and made an important contribution to the discovery of semiconductor devices. Physics is being divided into new sectors, each of which is moving in a separate direction, but their common objective remains delving into the elementary structure of materials, such as basic nuclear physics, electronic physics, neutron physics, quantum physics, solid physics, super-conductor physics, etc. Present space physics, despite the very broad scope of its research, is still basically concerned with gaining a deeper understanding of the structure and movement of materials in small fields.

Cybernetics is a large field of activity based on the logical analysis of a large number of phenomena in nature and society and researching ways to duplicate these phenomena. Each phenomenon is based on certain logical relationships. If they can be understood, we can, by means of electronic technology, duplicate, control, or increase these phenomena.

The discovery of the electronic computer stimulated the strong development of cybernetics because the computer began to solve many very complex problems. Cybernetics has led to the development of many new fields of mathematics designed to resolve many important problems in the natural sciences, social sciences, organization and management of production, or other fields of activity of man. This has strongly influenced the directions of development of mathematics, particularly the fields

of calculus and differential calculus, the basis of electronic computer technology and the techniques of utilizing computers. Many other mathematical methods, such as programming, statistics and probability, cybernetics, and so forth are in wide use in the various fields of research, including the social sciences.

Modern chemistry is also delving into the elementary structure of inorganic and organic materials, particularly the structure of molecules, in order to develop new materials, the most representative of which are the synthetic materials, such as plastic, manmade fiber, etc. Coal and petroleum chemistry are fields of research to which scholars are giving particular attention and which promise great discoveries. Petroleum chemistry coordinated with microbiology have begun to provide sources of protein for livestock production and there is hope that they will solve the nutritional problem of mankind. Chemistry coordinated with the various fields of physics has recorded great achievements in the creation of materials with the high parameters needed for the development of modern industry, such as manmade diamonds, very hard and very pure metal crystals, materials which can withstand high temperatures, are resistant to corrosion and rust, etc.

Over the past 2 decades, basic substantive changes have occurred in biology and biology has gradually come to occupy the foremost position in the various fields of scientific research. Scientists throughout the world agree that modern biology is on the threshold of great discoveries. Whereas description and comparison were the primary methods employed in biology in the past, today, biologists are delving into the structure and function of living matter on the cell and molecule level. Since the historic turningpoint which occurred when the structure and function of the chromosomes in the cell were discovered in 1953, biologists have taken a long stride forward in explaining genetics and have, on this basis, recorded great achievements in practice. In agriculture, in coordination with the great achievements of the machine, water conservancy, and fertilizer sectors, modern biology has begun to permit the effective selection and hybridization of new crops and the effective selection and crossbreeding of livestock. In the space of 6 to 8 years, many countries in the world doubled their agricultural output as a result of modern techniques, primarily hybridization and crossbreeding. In the field of public health, the continuous achievements of molecular biology are opening many new possibilities in the prevention and treatment of dangerous diseases, such as the viruses and super-viruses, birth defects, the various strains of malaria, etc.

In fact, all of the achievements of a decisive nature mentioned above were not achieved by only one basic scientific sector, but by two or three or many sectors coordinating with and supporting one another. It can be said that the discovery of the foundations of heredity was made by the field of biochemistry with special support from the fields of spectrometry and informational mathematics. The electronic computer is not only the achievement of electronics but also the product of many coordinated sectors, such as solid physics, differential calculus, synthetic chemistry, and even biology not to mention other complex technical sectors. Coordination among sectors is one of the distinctive features of modern science.

This coordination also occurs between the natural sciences and the social sciences. At present, many fields of social science research, such as psychology, sociology, economics, and so forth are using the research methods of the natural sciences, particularly mathematical methods such as cybernetics, programming, probability and statistics, etc. Most representative is the new science, the science of organization and management, which mathematicians and economists have coordinated to make a true science. The natural sciences are also presenting the social sciences with many subjects of research related to philosophy, political economics, psychology, and sociology, such as cybernetics, man and machine, heredity and environment, cosmography, the effect of the scientific and technological revolution upon each field of activity of man, etc.

2. Within technology.

The above mentioned substantive changes which have taken place in all fields of science have occurred in a relatively short period of history, only the past few decades. The great achievements in technology have primarily been recorded during this period of time and been rapidly expanded in each field of technology. These technological changes have changed the means of labor at their very foundations

from raw materials and technical processes to the structure and function of equipment and machinery.

First, we saw the rapid and widespread appearance of new raw materials which laid the foundation for the production of increasingly sophisticated means of labor. For example, the high molecular synthetics and new metals have special features which we do not find in nature. New raw materials have had the effect of stimulating the birth of a number of new industrial sectors. The strong development of the electronics industry and a number of other sectors has primarily been due to the development of sterile solids and special products of modern chemistry. Even traditional raw materials, such as metals, have been markedly improved. The objective of labor no longer plays a passive role in the production process.

In technology, more and more use is being made of the phenomena and strengths of nature discovered by science to improve the means of labor. The special characteristics of electrons passed through magnetic fields and different materials are used to make vacuum and semi-conductor devices. The potential power of the atom and the nucleus have been tapped to unleash huge new sources of energy. Biological, physical, and chemical processes hold promise of unique techniques on many industrial sectors. Biological methods are not only being strongly developed in industry and the field of public health, but are also opening new roads in the processing industry and the automatic control systems industry. On the other hand, a clear trend of modern technology is the use of very high or very low parameters, such as extremely high pressure technology (in the production of manmade diamonds, for example), extremely low temperature (near absolute zero) technology (as in super-conductor technology), ultra-high vacuum technology involving vacuums of 10^{-10} mmHg and higher, ultra-short wave technology, etc.

The structure and function of work tools are also undergoing major changes. The significant feature is the replacement of the three-element structure (power, motion, and working machines) of the mechanical machine principle by the four-element structure (the element of control, inspection, and adjustment has been added) of the principle of automated machinery. However, in a number of cases, man is using new techniques based on totally different principles than those of ordinary machines, such as the new methods of converting thermal energy, solar energy, and chemical energy to electrical energy (from hydrodynamics, semi-conductor photoelectric cells, fuel batteries, etc.) and vice versa.

The revolutionary changes which have occurred in technology have led to the formation of increasingly large and complex technical systems, such as energy systems, raw material systems, communication and liaison systems, agricultural systems, etc. Everything is moving toward one combined technical system.

The scientific and technological revolution is having a strong effect upon each aspect of social life in one way or another but it is having its primary effect upon the methods and structure of modern industry. Therefore, it will inevitably lead to a new industrial revolution. And, for the socialist countries, it has had the effect of accelerating the construction of the material and technical base of socialism and communism; however, for the capitalist countries, it is a signal of the even sharper conflict between productive forces which have developed in an extraordinary manner and very weak, outmoded capitalist production relations.

FOOTNOTES

1. Marx and Engels: "Complete Works," Russian version, Political Documents Publishing House, Moscow, 1960, Volume 46, Part II, p 215.

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ATTITUDE TOWARD SHORTCOMINGS

Hanoi HOC TAP in Vietnamese No 1, January 75 pp 80-83

[Article by Nguoi Xay Dung--the Builder]

[Text] It is difficult to avoid shortcomings and errors in the revolutionary task. President Ho taught: "Lenin said: There are two types of people who have no shortcomings: the baby in his mother's womb and the dead person in the coffin. It is difficult to avoid shortcomings in our actions. However, when we commit shortcomings, we must sincerely criticize ourselves, welcome the criticism of others, and resolutely correct our shortcomings."¹ What is important to a revolutionary is to boldly recognize his shortcomings and errors so as to correct them, make constant progress and contribute to advancing the revolutionary undertaking. Whether or not one dares to recognize and correct his shortcomings and errors is a criterion for distinguishing a revolutionary from a nonrevolutionary.

The moral implication of this problem is not new at all, because all of our cadres know it. But what matters is that in reality not everyone can have a clear-sighted view of and a correct attitude toward his shortcomings at all times. In many cases, an incorrect attitude toward shortcomings and errors is an impediment to the implementation of the lines and policies of the party and state.

The socialist revolution and the building of socialism in the north have placed before us very great and heavy responsibilities. Since building socialism is not easy under normal conditions, this undertaking is several times more difficult and complicated at a time when our country is moving from small-scale production and has experienced a protracted war. We have no experience in the face of numerous new problems. It is in this very difficult and complicated situation that our people have struggled bravely to score outstanding achievements in all fields. These great achievements are eloquent proof of the correctness and creativity of our party's leadership, the superiority of the socialist regime in North Vietnam, and the great strength of our people. If we fail to correctly realize all of our success and achievements and if we see only shortcomings and errors, our view is erroneous and fails to correctly reflect the realities in the

northern society. Apart from our great achievements, we have committed numerous shortcomings and errors. This is inevitable. Lenin once stressed: "In such a new, difficult and great undertaking (that is, the building of socialism--N.X.D.), shortcomings, errors and defects are inevitable. He who fears difficulties in socialist construction, lets these difficulties frighten him, and falls into a situation of despair and cowardice, is not a socialist man."²

What matters is that a number of our cadres and party members have adopted an incorrect attitude toward shortcomings and errors.

What we must stress here is that many comrades have failed to recognize their own shortcomings and, in particular, do not want others to speak of these shortcomings. They speak only of other people's shortcomings, and in this respect they have sometimes proven to be so "enthusiastic" that they have abandoned an objective, impartial attitude, but they have a different attitude toward themselves. They like only praise and dislike criticism of their shortcomings, although this criticism is perfectly correct. Some people, like leeches daubed with lime, react immediately and vehemently. They advance all types of arguments to defend their shortcomings. They invoke objective pretexts to declare that they have no problems concerning stand, viewpoint, knowledge, the spirit of responsibility or sense of organization and discipline. Even worse are the cases in which many responsible persons disregard the warnings of the collective and higher echelons to urgently remedy their obvious shortcomings and refuse to correct them, with a view to proving that they have remained steadfast and have persistently maintained their own "viewpoint" and their "independence."

A number of people have quickly welcomed criticism and the views of others, have achieved self-criticism, and have pledged to resolutely correct their shortcomings. But they have not carried out their pledge, their attitude has remained unchanged, and their work performance has not been improved at all.

Many problems have already been discussed but have not been solved, while shortcomings have continued to develop. Whenever a question is raised concerning the status of these problems, the answer is that they are still buried in the "under study" files and no one knows when this "study" will be completed.

Failure to adopt a severe attitude toward one's shortcomings and to recognize and resolutely correct them reveals a lack of spirit of responsibility and sense of organization and discipline. All cadres and party members, especially those comrades in charge of leadership, guidance and management, must be responsible to the party, the state and the masses for a certain task or a certain field of activity.

The party character and revolutionary ethics require that each cadre or party member seek every means to gain the best results in his mission so as to be worthy of the confidence of the party, the state, the collective and the masses. Strong points must be developed while shortcomings must be overcome. All cadres and party members must be aware of this elementary

requirement. They cannot be called good cadres and good party members when they invoke one reason after another to cover up their shortcomings or to refuse to correct them because of their heavy responsibility, all leading cadres and responsible cadres must be well aware of this matter. If they deliberately conceal their shortcomings, they may commit new ones and may possibly commit a series of new, grave shortcomings, because they have sought to conceal or justify their shortcomings and to "sidetrack" their superiors in order to achieve their own intentions. Concealment of shortcomings and refusal to welcome criticism and to correct shortcomings are a transgression of one of the primary ethical duties of cadres and party members and a rejection of criticism and self-criticism--a rule of progress of the party that any cadre must voluntarily observe. This reveals a deceitful attitude and a tendency to disregard leaders, the collective and the masses. It shows a lack of spirit of responsibility and sense of organization and discipline.

If we fail to take a comprehensive look at the problem or to simultaneously pay attention to many of its aspects, we will be unable to solve it.

First of all, all cadres and party members must have a full sense of responsibility for their task and their position. The spirit of responsibility must be clearly manifested in their understanding of the line, viewpoint, guidelines and policies of the party and state and in all their activities related to the work for which they are responsible. They must resolutely avoid a BUREAUCRATIC and SUBJECTIVE attitude. If they are bureaucratic, they will know nothing but reports, because they refuse to closely observe the situation; and they will be unaware of prevailing shortcomings and errors. If they are subjective, they will overvalue themselves and their collective and will fail to realize their shortcomings. In many cases, the main cause of shortcomings and of the perpetuation of shortcomings is the fact that our cadres and party members fail to thoroughly understand the line, viewpoint, guidelines and policies of the party and state or adopt a bureaucratic, subjective attitude, which makes them unaware of their shortcomings. Since they do not realize their shortcomings, how can they correct them? Moreover, it is necessary to overcome the tendency to concern oneself solely with one's "ACHIEVEMENTS" and FACE, while disliking those who criticize one's shortcomings and seeking by every means to conceal these shortcomings and lay the blame on others.

Sincerely recognizing one's shortcomings is a requirement of each cadre and party member in actual revolutionary activities, but it is not the final goal. Criticism and self-criticism are not only aimed at revealing what is right and wrong, at revealing shortcomings and errors, they are mainly aimed at remedying shortcomings and errors. Sincerely recognizing shortcomings and errors and resolutely correcting them reveal a correct attitude, a spirit of making progress, loyalty to the party, and a sense of responsibility to the masters of cadres and party members. It is necessary to oppose the tendency to make self-criticism for form's sake and in a routine fashion. Some people, while making self-criticism, have made a profound, objective and

scientific analysis of their shortcomings, but, in the end, have not corrected these shortcomings at all. One wonders whether such self-criticism is useful to the performance of tasks and to the revolution.

To correct their shortcomings in their work, cadres and party members must, of course, display adequate enthusiasm and determination. But, in many aspects of our present work, especially in economic building, enthusiasm and determination are not sufficient. Many comrades have sought to deeply study problems but have failed to realize shortcomings. Even if they found shortcomings, they have been unable to correct them. There are many cases in which a shortcoming is being corrected while another is committed. This is due to deficient knowledge and ability, and not to the lack of enthusiasm and determination. The only way to remedy this situation is through learning. Learning is necessary for us to acquire the indispensable knowledge that will enable us to fulfill our tasks and distinguish right from wrong.

Together with the self-improvement of cadres and party members, it is necessary to exert permanent, close control over and adopt a severe attitude toward those who try to cover up their shortcomings and who refuse to correct them.

Reality shows that the line, guidelines and major policies of our party and state regarding economic building and development are correct. However, many defects and shortcomings committed in the implementation of these guidelines and policies have notably restricted our achievements. Only by properly carrying out the control and supervisory task can we discover shortcomings and errors so as to promptly correct and overcome them. In particular, at a time when the situation of lax management and slowness and irresponsibility in the performance of tasks has not been quickly remedied by the management branch and various installations and when the small producers' tendency to work at one's convenience, liberalism and lack of concentration have not been promptly overcome, the control and supervisory task of the party and state assumes particularly important significance. We must thoroughly understand Lenin's teaching: "CONTROL OVER THE PERSONNEL ON A MISSION AND OVER THE ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF TASKS remains and will remain the pivotal task in all activities and of the entire policy. It is not a task to be carried out for a few months or years but for many years."³

After shortcomings are revealed, it is necessary to encourage and control the correction of these shortcomings so that they can be overcome promptly and properly. Of course, we should not hurry in certain cases and under certain conditions, because the problem must be studied in several aspects. But, in these cases, we must also not allow shortcomings to drag on too long. We cannot accept the situation in which shortcomings that have been discussed continue to remain for months and even years. We must adopt a severe attitude toward those who seek to cover up their shortcomings and who refuse to correct them. One of the reasons for the prolonged existence of shortcomings is that we do not have a serious, proper attitude toward them and those who have committed them. We must overcome the erroneous tendency to refrain from revealing other people's shortcomings to avoid angering them and for fear that solidarity will be disrupted, our work will be affected, and a change of cadres will cause a shortage of personnel. Moreover, it is necessary to resolutely

oppose arbitrariness, dictatorship, and the tendency to retaliate against those who have criticized shortcomings, because this is a gross violation of the principles on the party's activities and organization. Reality proves that once we adopt a correct, serious attitude toward those who have committed shortcomings and errors, the situation will be improved. Tolerance toward shortcomings and those who have committed them is a manifestation of rightist thoughts and will allow these shortcomings to continue to prevail and to spread like a contagious disease.

Finally, it is necessary to reexamine, complement and improve the systems, rules and regulations with a view to insuring that all tasks are carried out smoothly, strictly and regularly by all people, from the high to low level and to insure that the defects which can create conditions for people to act incorrectly are minimized. All cadres and party members, in whatever position, must scrupulously implement all state systems, regulations and laws. Leading cadres and responsible cadres must be exemplary in observing the promulgated systems, regulations and principles. It is necessary to promptly prevent the situation in which party discipline and state laws are enforced at one's own convenience--that is, a situation in which discipline and laws are enforced strictly toward some people and loosely toward others.

We are facing great, glorious, but difficult and complicated revolutionary tasks. All of our cadres and party members must further heighten the spirit of responsibility, strive to develop their strong points and to resolutely overcome their shortcomings, and make worthy contributions to the revolutionary undertaking of our party and people.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Ho Chi Minh: Develop the Spirit of Seeking To Study and Progress," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1960, page 92.
2. "Lenin: Selected Works," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1960, Volume II, part 2, page 313.
3. "Lenin: Complete Works," Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1970, Volume 33, page 335.

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STUDYING TO GAIN A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THE SCIENCE OF PARTY DEVELOPMENT

Hanoi HOC TAP in Vietnamese No 1, Jan 75 pp 84-89

[Article by Dau The Bieu]

[Text] The leadership of the party is the decisive factor in the victory of the revolution. For this reason, party development activities are of particular importance. To conduct good party development activities, it is necessary to thoroughly understand the science of party development, that is, the science of building the vanguard unit of the working class. At the various party schools, the science of party development occupies an important position in teaching and studying programs.

At present, the revolution in our country is faced with two strategic tasks, namely, resisting the United States for national salvation and building socialism in North Vietnam. The completion of these two strategic tasks demands that party development activities be strengthened. To conduct good party development activities in the new stage, we must study in order to gain a thorough understanding of the science of party development of Marxism-Leninism.

A number of people maintain that the only purpose of studying party development is to research specific activities related to it. Such an understanding is a mistake. For communists, party development is a science. Of course, it is necessary to research specific matters concerning party development but it is first of all necessary to understand the theory of Marx, Engels, and Lenin concerning the party and party development. Not understanding the theory of Marxism-Leninism concerning the party and party development but only researching specific activities or experiences concerning party development leads to empiricism and ordinary pragmatism which are contrary to the viewpoint of Marxism-Leninism.

The science of party development is a part of Marxism-Leninism. It has its own research objectives.

The research objectives of the science of party development are:

The principles underlying the birth, growth, and development of the party.

The rules and regulations governing the internal activities of the party.

The principles, forms, and methods by which the party leads the state and the other organizations in the dictatorship of the proletariat system (trade unions, the Youth Group, the Women's Federation, cooperatives, etc.).

The principles, forms, and methods used by the party to lead the buildup of the party's armed forces.

The principles, forms, and methods used by the party to lead economic development, cultural development, scientific and technological development, literary and artistic development, etc.

The principles, forms, and methods of the political and ideological activities and the organizational activities of the party amongst the masses.

The experiences gained in party development in both stages of the revolution, particularly the new stage of the revolution, such as the experiences gained with respect to the basic organization of the party, party members, cadres, solidarity, unanimity, criticism, and self-criticism within the party, the apparatus and work methods, etc.

Party development is studied in order to gain an understanding of the principles of Marxist-Leninist theory concerning the new style party of the working class, understand the creative application of these universal principles to the specific conditions of our country, thoroughly implement the viewpoints of our party in the various areas of party development, and heighten the revolutionary qualities, the spirit of responsibility, and the enthusiasm for party development activities of the cadres and party members at each specific combat position while effectively improving their ability to conduct party activities in order to correctly resolve the various problems related to party development in the new stage of the revolution.

By studying the Marxist-Leninist theory of the party of the working class, we gain an understanding of the law underlying the birth of the communist party, the class nature of the party, the contents of the principles of the ideological and organizational development of the party, and the principles, forms, and methods used by the party to lead the state and the various organizations within the system of the dictatorship of the proletariat and provide leadership in each field of activity of society (politics, economics, military affairs, science and technology, culture, literature, art, etc.).

Marxist-Leninist theory of the party of the working class helps us understand the scientific bases underlying the objective inevitability of the birth of the party and the leadership role of the party which constantly grows in the process of the socialist revolution and socialist construction. The party is the vanguard unit of the working class but the party was born on the basis of the coordination of Marxism-Leninism with the workers' movement and the Vietnamese patriotic movement.

The first important problem in the operation and leadership of the party is to understand and creatively apply Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of our country, establish the correct revolutionary line, and so forth. Party ideological development is designed to give the entire party a thorough understanding of the ideological system of the working class and cause it to take the firm working class stand, understand Marxism-Leninism and the lines and policies of the party, adopt the correct political viewpoint, have pure revolutionary feelings, and struggle against all non-proletarian thinking. Because the party is leading the regime, in addition to knowledge of theory and politics, the party also gives its attention to deepening the knowledge of culture, science, technology, economic management, and state management on the part of cadres and party members.

Studying Marxist-Leninist theory of the party of the working class helps us gain an understanding of the characteristics of the new style proletarian party, the principles of organization of the party, and the principles, forms, and methods of leadership employed by the party, particularly since the party has become the party leading the regime. The party is an organized vanguard unit and the highest organization of the working class. The party must always be a united bloc of will and action and cannot tolerate camps or factions within itself. The party uses self-criticism and criticism as the law of development of the party. The party always maintains an intimate relationship with the masses. Because the party is leading the regime, it must vigilantly guard against and overcome the maladies of bureaucracy and remoteness from the masses. Democratic centralism is the principle of organization of the party. As a result of this principle, the ideological unanimity of the party is maintained by means of organizational unity. The principle of leadership of the party is collective leadership. The party's comprehensive and absolute leadership of the entire system of the dictatorship of the proletariat and each field of activity in society is a matter of principle. However, strengthening the leadership role of the party is closely linked to developing the role and effectiveness of the dictatorship of the proletariat state. In its leadership of the government, the party must concern itself with establishing, utilizing, and developing the role of the state and implement the lines and policies of the party through the activities of the state apparatus. The party is the leader and the state is the manager, a manager who relies on the lines and policies of the party. The party and state are not one

but the activities of the party and state are not separate. The strength of the party's leadership of the government must be the combined strength of the entire system of the dictatorship of the proletariat. As a result, the party must know how to use the state apparatus to implement its leadership of all of society.

The primary experiences gained by our party in party development help us gain a deep understanding of the process of our party's creative application of the principles of the Marxism-Leninist theory of the new style party of the working class to the specific conditions of our country in order to develop our party and make it a strong proletarian party.

The contents of the lessons dealing with the primary experiences gained by our party in party development have the practical effect of heightening the theoretical level and the ability of cadres and party members in party development activities.

The party development line of our party helps us understand the party development guidelines, task, and plan and, at the same time, gain an understanding of new viewpoints and the new features of party development activities in the new stage of the revolution.

Because the party is leading the government, many new problems have been raised in party development activities. We must study these problems in order to correctly resolve them. If we stop at old concepts and old experiences, we will easily fall into empiricism and easily become conservative in party development activities.

Generally speaking, what are the basic characteristics of a party leading a government? What are the basic characteristics of our party -- a party which is leading the government under circumstances in which the revolution in our country must simultaneously carry out the two strategic tasks of resisting the United States for national salvation and building socialism? What is the glorious destiny of our party in the new stage of the revolution?

In view of the fact that the party is leading the government, how should party development be carried out in order to guard against and overcome two dangers: the danger of making a mistake in a line and the danger of bureaucracy, degeneration, and remoteness from the masses?

The party development guidelines, task, and plan set forth in the resolution of the 3rd Party Congress and the resolutions and directives of the Party Central Committee, the Political Bureau, and the Secretariat must be thoroughly implemented in order to strengthen the leadership role and increase the fighting strength of the party.

Under the conditions of the party leading the government, the problems of improving the leadership ability of the party and developing the strength of the state and the other organizations within the system of the dictatorship of the proletariat are very new and very complex problems. To strengthen the leadership role of the party and heighten the role and effectiveness of the state apparatus, the party -- the political leadership nucleus of the entire system of the dictatorship of the proletariat -- carried out its leadership in such a way as to not loosen the party's leadership but it never replaces the state either.

Within the system of the dictatorship of the proletariat, the various mass organizations the organizations which directly assemble the masses at production and work installations occupy an important position with respect to strengthening the leadership role of the party and increasing the strength of the dictatorship of the proletariat state. Once it has gained political power, the tendency toward bossism and the habit of giving light attention to mass activities and the role played by mass organizations easily develop within the party. The activities of the various mass organizations could become solely administrative in nature. Are there any changes in the relationship between the party and the masses or the forms and methods used by the party to mobilize the masses when the party is leading the government?

When the party is leading the government, the establishment of the right of collective ownership of the people and the development and improvement of the system of socialist democracy are a very important requirement in insuring the quality of the party's leadership, primarily by insuring that the political line of the party is a correct one. How must the party research, improve, and coordinate

the many matters pertaining to education, organization, and policies in order to guard against and overcome the danger of remoteness from the masses on the part of some cadres and party members?

To strengthen the leadership role of the party and increase the party's fighting strength, it is necessary to carry out strong party development. What must the party do to enhance its beautiful tradition of solidarity and unanimity and, at the same time, overcome the phenomenon of disunity which develops when the party is in political power? The political task and the vast organizational task of a party leading the government demands that the party improve the structure of its organization and improve its mode of leadership.

When it is leading the government, the life of the party is basically expressed in the activities of the state in the fields of politics, economics, military affairs, culture, society, etc. Under these conditions, the system of organization of the party must be consistent with the system of organization of the state; however, how must the organizations of the party be structured in order to uphold the principle of democratic centralism within the party and insure the party's unified, centralized, leadership of the system of the dictatorship of the proletariat, primarily the state?

Together with the rapid development of economic, cultural, social, and national defense installations and the tight relationship throughout the entire system of the dictatorship of the proletariat in which the various sectors are developing on increasingly large and complex scales, the implementation of the principle of economic management by sector in coordination with management by territory and the new structures of economic management have been, are, and will be raising many specific problems concerning organization which demand that the party promptly and correctly determine the position and function of each echelon in order to set forth new appropriate requirements regarding the size and quality of party committee echelons.

While developing upon the leadership experiences gained by the party in the national democratic revolution, a pressing problem faced at this time is that of improving the methods of leadership employed by the party in socialist construction, in the fields of economics, culture, science and technology, literature and art, etc.

The establishment of the position, function, and role of the basic organizations of the party and the correct solution of basic problems involved in improving the quality of the various types of basic party organizations and improving the mode of leadership of the various types of basic organizations (comprehensive leadership units, such as enterprise party chapters, cooperative party chapters, and so forth and agency party chapters, etc.) are raising many problems which must be resolved in order to achieve uniformity of understanding and organization for the purpose of further increasing the fighting strength of the party's basic organizations.

The strength of the party organization is always organically linked to the strength of each member of the organization. As a result, it is necessary to supplement and define in greater detail the task and qualifications of the party member and party cadre and improve the various areas of party member and cadre activities in such a way as to constantly improve the quality of the corps of party cadres and members so that they are deserving of being the vanguard warriors of the working class and both the leaders and very loyal servants of the people as taught by President Ho.

The problems mentioned above are both new and complex. The entire party must make positive efforts and all cadres and party members must think about and research party development activities in the new stage of the revolution in order to be able to resolve these problems well.

Linking theory with practice is the guideline for studying party development. The party development line and guidelines of our party, the resolutions, directives, and policies of our party concerning party development, and the works by President Ho and the other key leaders of our party concerning party development are models of the coordination of theory and practice. Consequently, the most important training material in party development is the documents of our party and the works of President Ho and the other leaders of our party. Naturally, we must study and

gain a deep understanding of the principles of Marxism-Leninism in order to deeply understand the documents of our party. At the same time, we must give attention to selectively studying the experiences gained in party development by fraternal parties.

The realities of party development are very rich and constantly developing. Each cadre and party member must try to think when he is engaged in research or when he is studying. On the basis of fully understanding the viewpoints of the party and understanding reality, he must think about and offer opinions concerning the problems raised by reality in order to help supplement the lines and policies of the party. Party development is a course in organization and people; therefore, implementing the guideline of linking theory with practice in the study of this subject in order to insure good training results and develop the intelligence of cadres and party members is a positive contribution to party development activities and is a practical way to improve the revolutionary qualities of cadres and party members as well as their ability to conduct party activities. This guideline demands that each cadre and party member display a high spirit of party-hood when studying, relate what he is studying to the realities of the work of his sector or echelon and his own work, realize the strongpoints which exist in order to develop upon them, be aware of existing shortcomings in order to rectify them, and avoid the practice of only assuming responsibility to other sectors, echelons, and people.

Studying the science of party development requires a full understanding of dialectical materialism and historical materialism. The phenomena which occur in the activities and leadership of the party are very diverse and very complex because the activities and leadership of the party affect each and every field of social activity, they affect both the organization and man. Only by fully understanding dialectical materialism and historical materialism is it possible to differentiate between a phenomenon and something which is part of the intrinsic nature of a thing or between fundamental aspects and temporary, partial aspects and possible to correctly and scientifically analyze each specific situation in detail.

In the study of party development, the analysis of progressive model units is very important because they are living examples of the coordination of theory and practice, examples of the successful application of the lines and policies of the party in everyday life.

It is also necessary to study the gradual application of many other methods, such as the methods of statistics, the programmed evaluation review technique, and so forth in order to study party development better.

To achieve good results in the study of party development, each cadre and party member must adopt a correct attitude, be fully responsible, and display an appropriate amount of initiative and creativity. At the same time, the leadership and supervision of the various party committee echelons and the guidance provided by the specialized departments of the party (the Organization Department, the Department of Propaganda and Training, and the inspection committee) are very important in order to help cadres and party members gain an understanding of the viewpoints of the party. The elementary and advanced training of a corps of good instructors in the science of party development is a pressing requirement because teachers play a decisive role in the quality of training. At present, this corps is understaffed and weak.

Studying the science of party development is obviously a pressing requirement of increasing the fighting strength of the party and heightening its leadership role. As a result, the various party organizations as well as each cadre and party member, primarily the leadership cadres of the party, must heighten their sense of responsibility for party development activities and actively help put the study of party development on an increasingly regular basis and help it achieve good results.