Research on the Economic Thought of Xi Jinping
Based on the New Development Ideas

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Abstract. In order to provide theoretical guidance for the economic construction of China, at the Central Working Conference in the end of 2017, the socialist economic thought with Chinese characteristics in the new era of Xi Jinping was formally put forward, thus providing the guidance for the economic development of China. The economic thought of Xi Jinping in recent years was studied in this paper by means of literature research method, and it was found that, the five development ideas, including innovation, coordination, green, openness and sharing, constitute an important part of the economic thought of Xi Jinping. The conclusion can be drawn that, under the guidance of the economic thought of Xi Jinping, China's economy is developing towards innovation, coordination, green, openness and sharing.

Introduction

President Xi Jinping pointed out that the idea is the precursor of action, and certain development practices are guided by a certain development concept. Whether the idea of development is right or not, fundamentally determines the success or failure of the development. Xi Jinping stressed that the development is the foundation and key to solve all problems in China, and the development must be scientific development. We must unswervingly implement the development idea of innovation, coordination, green, openness and sharing. Presided over by President Xi Jinping himself, the five new ideas of development were explicitly put forward in the China's 13th Five-Year Plan. The idea of new development is the basic connotation and main content of the economic thoughts of Xi Jinping.

Innovation is the First Motive Force for China's Economic Development

China's economic development has shifted from the stage of high-speed growth to the stage of high-quality development, thus opening up the new stage shifting from factor-driven to innovation-driven. At present, China's economy should be a kind of economy which mainly relies on innovation to drive high-quality development.

Innovative development focuses on solving the problem of development motivation. The innovation capability of China is still not strong, the level of science & technology development is not high, the supporting capacity of science & technology to economic and social development is insufficient, and the contribution rate of science & technology to economic growth is far below the level of developed countries. In order to promote the high-quality development of China's economy,
the development base must be placed on innovation and the quality change, efficiency change and
dynamic change of economic development should be promoted relying on innovation, thus constantly
enhancing China's economic innovativeness and competitiveness.

Innovation was put into the first place for the five development ideas in the Fifth Plenary Session of
the 18th CPC Central Committee, which also emphasized that, "Innovation must be placed at core of
the national overall development, to constantly push forward theoretical innovation, institutional
innovation, science and technology innovation, cultural innovation and innovation in the other fields,
thus making innovation penetrate all the work of the Party and state and making innovation flourish in
the whole society".

President Xi Jinping pointed out that the reason why putting innovation in first place is that
innovation is the first driving force for development. Grasping the innovation means that the 'nose of
cow' influencing the overall economic and social development has been grasped. Adhering to the
development of innovation is the conclusion we have drawn after we having analyzed the course of
world development since modern times and especially summarized the successful practice of China's
reform and opening up, as well as the fundamental policy for us to deal with the change of
development environment, to strengthen the power of development, to grasp the initiative of
development, and to lead the new normal better.

It is necessary to take major scientific & technological innovations as the guide, speed up the
transformation of scientific & technological innovation achievements into realistic productive forces,
speed up the construction of a new industrial system, thus realizing the situation of "We have all what
others have, what we have are stronger than those of others, and we am better than the stronger aspects
of others" and enhancing the overall quality of China's economy and its international competitiveness.
We should implement innovation-driven development strategy in-depth, to put more emphasis on
innovation as the acting point to drive development. We should stimulate the innovative passion of
the whole society, and accelerate the formation of economic system and development model with
innovation as the main guidance and support.

Coordination is the Inherent Requirement of China's Economic Development

Coordination can make the economic development sustainable, harmonious and efficient.
Coordinated development pays attention to solving the problem of unbalanced development. The
incongruity of China's economic development is a long-standing problem, which is prominently
manifested in the relationship between region and town & country, economy and society, material
civilization and spiritual civilization, and economic construction and national defense construction.
This situation is formed at a specific historical stage, but now the problem of imbalance and
incongruity has been highlighted and has become a serious constraint influencing the continued
development. This requires us to pay attention to the adjustment of the relationship, pay attention to
the overall effectiveness of development, otherwise the Buckets Effect will become more obvious and
a series of social contradictions will continue to deepen.

The Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee regarded coordinated development
as one of the five major ideas of development that must be firmly established, stressed the need to
firmly grasp the overall layout of the socialist cause with Chinese characteristics, to correctly handle
the important relations in development and constantly enhance the integrity of development.

President Xi Jinping not only affirmed and emphasized the methodological significance of
coordinated development in solving China's development problems, but also analyzed and expounded
some new characteristics of coordinated development under the new situation. For example,
coordination is both a means and a goal of development, as well as a criterion and yardstick for
evaluating development. Coordination is the unity of the two-point theory and the emphasis theory for
development. For a country, a region or even an industry, there are both developmental advantages
and constraints in its particular development period. In terms of the development of thinking, we
should not only focus on solving problems and filling shortcomings but also consider consolidating
and thickening the original advantages. Only when the two sides complement each other to bring out the best in each other can we achieve a high level of development. Coordination is the unity of development balance and imbalance, and developing from balance to imbalance and then to new balance is the basic law of the development of things. Balance is relative and imbalance is absolute. Coordination is the unity of development deficiency and potential. China is being in the stage of developing from a middle-income country to a high-income country. It is inevitable that there are many incongruities and deficiencies in this stage of development. To develop harmoniously, we should find out the deficiencies, for which we should exert more efforts, thus exploiting the development potential and strengthening the development stamina by making up the deficiencies. Proceeding from the prominent problems of unbalanced, uncoordinated and unsustainable development in China currently, we should focus on promoting regional coordinated development, urban and rural coordinated development, coordinated development of material civilization and spiritual civilization, and promote the integrated development of economic construction and national defense construction.

**Green is the Ecological Support of China's Economic Development**

Green is the color of spring, which symbolizes life, breeds the vitality and represents the people's longing for ecological civilization and a better life. Ecological environmental protection works in the present age and benefits future generations. The construction of ecological civilization relates to the well-being of the people and concerns the future of the nation.

Green development pays attention to solve the problem of harmony between man and nature. Human development activities must respect nature, comply with nature, protect nature, otherwise human beings will be avenged by nature. It is a law that no one can resist. The development of green circulation and low carbon is the direction of scientific & technological revolution and industrial transformation in the present era, which is also the most promising development field. China has great potential in this respect and can form many new economic growth points. On the other hand, the problems of tightening resource constraints, serious environmental pollution, and ecosystem degradation in China are very serious, and the people's demand for fresh air, clean drinking water, safe food, and a beautiful environment is getting stronger and stronger.

The Fifth Plenary Session of the Eighteenth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China put green development as one of the five major development philosophies which must be firmly established, stressed the need to adhere to the basic national policy of conserving resources and protecting the environment, and strengthened the development path of civilization with production development, rich life and good ecology, thus forming the new pattern of modernization of the harmonious development of human and nature.

President Xi Jinping has repeatedly stressed that moving toward a new era of ecological civilization and building a beautiful China is an important part of realizing the Chinese Dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. The relationship between economic development and ecological environmental protection should be dealt with correctly, and the concept that protecting the ecological environment means protecting productive forces and improving the ecological environment means developing productive forces should be established firmly, thus more consciously promoting green development, circular development and low-carbon development and never sacrificing the environment in exchange for temporary economic growth. In accordance with the concept of respecting, complying with, and protecting nature, the basic national policy of conserving resources and protecting the environment should be implemented, to integrate the construction of ecological civilization into all aspects and the whole process of economic, political, cultural, and social construction, thus leaving the production and living environment with blue sky, green land, clear water for future generations.

President Xi Jinping has stressed that there is no substitute for the ecological environment. Environment is people's livelihood, green hill represents a beauty, blue sky is also a kind of happiness,
and green hills and clear waters will bring mountains of gold and silver. In the protection of the ecological environment, we must set up the overall vision, long-term development view and holistic view, and we should not lose too much because of small things, attend to one thing and lose another, live beyond our means, and strive for quick success and quick profits. The ecological environment should be protected as the ways of protecting our eyes and be treated as the ways of treating lives, thus promoting the formation of a green development style and way of life and working together to promote the prosperity of the people, the strength of the country, and the beauty of China.

**Opening up is the Only Way for China's Economic Development**

In the primary stage of socialism, opening up and reforming constitute a basic national policy of China together and become one of the two basic points in the basic line of the Party. The present world is an open world, and it is impossible for any country to develop in isolation. Persisting in opening up to the outside world is the only way for the prosperity and development of a country or a region. Therefore, opening up is an objective need for development.

The focus of open development is to address the issue of internal and external coordination in development. It should be soberly aware that international economic cooperation and competition are undergoing profound changes; the system and rules of global economic governance are facing major shifts. The depth, breadth, and pace of China’s "bringing in" and "going global" efforts are now greater than we have ever been, as is the pressure that the country is coming under to address external economic risks and safeguard national economic security. The question now is not whether to open up, but rather how we can raise the quality of opening up and the coordination of internal and external development. China's overall level of openness is not yet high enough. We still lack sufficient capacity to leverage international and domestic markets and resources, to respond to international economic and trade friction and make our voice heard in international economic discourse, and to use international economic and trade rules to our advantage. These need to be remedied quickly.

Therefore, the Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee will regard open development as one of the five development concepts that must be firmly established. It emphasizes the need to conform to the trend of China’s deep integration into the world economy, pursue an open strategy of mutual benefit and win-win development, develop a higher level of open economy, actively participate in global economic governance and in providing public goods, improve China's say over international regimes in global economic governance, and build a broad community of shared interests. In the report made by President Xi Jingping to the 19th National Congress of CPC, he further emphasized that China's door to the world will only become more and more open, and put forward a series of new tasks and new measures around "making new ground in pursuing opening up on all fronts", including solidly promoting the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative and turning China into a trader of quality. We will adopt policies to promote high-standard liberalization and facilitation of trade and investment. We will improve the balance in opening our different regions, develop new ways of making outbound investments, etc.

President Xi Jinping repeatedly emphasizes that China's development is an open development, and the continuous expansion of opening up, raising the level of opening up, and promoting reform and development through opening up is an important magic weapon for China's constant achievements in development. Only by persisting in opening up and deep integration into the world economy can sustainable development be realized. We will uphold the fundamental national policy of opening up, pursue a mutually beneficial opening up strategy and continuously increase the level of an open economy. We will implement a more proactive strategy of opening up and promote opening up to a larger scale, a broader range and a higher level. It is necessary to establish strategic thinking and global vision, stand at the height of the interrelationship between domestic and international situations, examine the development of China and the world, and continuously push forward China's cause of opening up.
Sharing is the Value Objective of China's Economic Development

Sharing, as one of development concepts, means allowing the broad masses to share the fruits of reform and development, or to make the achievements of the reform and development more fruitfully and equitably benefit all people. Socialism with Chinese characteristics aims at sharing, and it is also developing in the process of pursuing and realizing sharing step by step. It has a distinct characteristic of sharing and is shared socialism.

The focus of shared development is to address the issue of social equity and justice. Since 40 years of reforming and opening up, China has leapt to the world's second largest economy in 2010, and the people's living standards have already reached a well-off level and will soon realize its moderately prosperous society in all respects of a higher level. However, we should also face up the fact that the inequality of social distribution is still prominent, and the income gap and the regional gap in public service levels between urban and rural areas are still relatively large. It suggests that there are still imperfections in the results of shared reform and development, both in actual situations and the system design, and it is urgent to take practical measures to solve them. Only when this problem is well solved can the enthusiasm, initiative and creativity of all people be fully mobilized and the country's development be given the most profound strength.

The Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee will regard shared development as one of the five development concepts that must be firmly established. It emphasizes that it is essential that we remain committed to the principle that development is for the people, reliant on the people, and that its fruits are shared by the people, and make more effective institutional arrangements to let the people have more sense of gain in the development of joint construction and sharing, enhance the momentum of development and the unity of the people, and lead all people steadily towards common prosperity.

President Xi Jinping further reveals the essence and connotation of the development philosophy of sharing and put forward requirements for implementation. He clearly points out that the essence of the principle of sharing is to adhere to the people-centered development thinking and to reflect the requirement of gradually achieving common prosperity. The connotation of sharing, as one of development concepts, in terms of its coverage, is universal sharing by all people; in terms of its content, sharing is comprehensive sharing; in terms of its way of realization, sharing is co-construction and sharing; in terms of its promotion process, sharing is progressive sharing. To implement the development concept of sharing, on the one hand, it is necessary to fully mobilize the enthusiasm, initiative, and creativity of the people, to promote the cause of socialism with Chinese Characteristics, and to constantly enlarge the 'cake'; on the other hand, it is necessary to well divide the constantly growing 'cake', so that the superiority of the socialist system is more fully reflected and the people's sense of gain can be enhanced. Therefore, we must do a good job from the top-level planning to implementing "the last one kilometer", and continue to make progress in practice.

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, President Xi Jinping has repeatedly stressed that sharing the fruits of reform and development among the broad masses is an essential requirement of socialism with Chinese characteristics and an important manifestation of our party's fundamental purpose of wholeheartedly serving the people. The development we pursue is one which benefits the people. The prosperity we pursue is the common prosperity of all people. Whether the people have jointly enjoyed the fruits of reform and development or not is ultimately the criterion for whether it is a success or not for reform and development.

Summary

Innovation is the primary engine of China's economic development; coordination is the inherent requirement of China's economic development; green is the ecological support for China's economic development; opening is the only way for China's economic development; sharing is the value objective of China's economic development. The new development concepts, as the main content and basic connotation of Xi Jinping's economic thought, fundamentally reveals the essential
characteristics and internal requirements of China's economy, and clarifies the development ideas, development direction and development focus of China's economy. Xi Jinping's economic thought, which takes the new development concepts as the main content, is the latest achievement of political economics of contemporary China, and is China's solution to lead world's economic development contributed by China.

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