

Discussing About the Theory and Development and Innovation of Ecological Civilization Construction in Our Country in the View of Scientific Development

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Abstract

The party central committee adheres to guide the overall situation of economic society development, and puts forward and develops the important proposition and strategic task of ecological civilization construction creatively. It's necessary to define the context of development, stage of development and innovation of the theory of ecological civilization construction in our country. Through these, it's easy to summarize the understanding and reflecting on the theory of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic.

Key words: Ecological civilization; Theory of development; Thinking; construction

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INTRODUCTION

Since Sixteenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China, the party central committee with Hu Jintao as general secretary lead the collective to adhere to the view of scientific development, adhere to the basic national policy of saving resources and protecting environment, implement

the strategy of sustainable development deeply, and put forward and develop the ecological civilization of socialism with Chinese characteristic. These politics offer solid theoretical foundation, ambitious point and powerful practice power to China in the respect of realizing harmonious development about man and nature, environment and economy, man and society. Besides, they are opened a new realm of socialism with Chinese characteristic. The report of eighteenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China puts the construction of ecological civilization in the prominent position from a new historical starting point, comes forward the ambitious goal of "trying to construct beautiful China and realizing China's sustainable development" (Hu, 2012), and send out loud horn towards a new era of socialist ecological civilization.

1. THE THEORETICAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ECOLOGICAL CIVILIZATION CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTIC

Ecological civilization is a new civilization form which takes respecting and maintaining ecological environment as a theme, accords to sustainable development, takes the continued development of the future human as starting point, and realizes interdependence, mutual promotion and coexistence communion of man and natural environment (Xiao, 2012, Aug. 9).

The ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic is the fundamental achievements of insisting on scientific development view from its thought birth and theory formation to theoretical development and improvement.

1.1 THE BREED OF ECOLOGICAL CIVILIZATION CONSTRUCTION

Before Seventeenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China, it can be seen bred period of ecological civilization construction. During this period, the main leaders of the party and the state put forward important ideas at several central plenary sessions that include the harmonious development of man and nature as a whole, the value pursuit and development concept of constructing ecological civilization inherently. The third plenary session of 16th which was held in October 2003 puts forward clearly the people-oriented, sets up the comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable scientific development view, and emphasizes on *balancing urban and rural development, regional development, economic society development, harmonious development of man and nature, domestic development and opening to the outside world*¹. Among them, balancing harmonious development of man and nature is the most important part of five co-ordinations of scientific development view. It requires us to grasp the relationship between human and nature as a whole, and sees it as the basis of understanding and reforming nature. The 4th plenary session of the 16th completely puts forward the idea of building harmonious socialist society, then in the special seminar which improves the ability of building harmonious socialist society of the main leaders at the provincial or ministerial level in February 2005, Hu Jintao pointed out that harmonious development of man and nature is the basic features of harmonious socialist society. *Harmonious development of man and nature means production development, affluent life and good ecology*². At the work forum on population, resources and environment that held in 2005, Hu Jintao used the term of ecological civilization, putted forward that one of the important points of our current environmental work is *improving the legal and policy frameworks of ecological construction, formulating the planning of national ecological protection, and pushing on ecological civilization education in the whole society*³. At the same year of October, the fifth plenary session of the 16th for the first time established building a resource-conserving and environment-friendly society as a strategic task of long-term planning in national and social development. It putted forward the development of circular economy, asked us to take the mode of production, lifestyles and consumption patterns which was beneficial to save resources and protect environment, and established the good relationship between man and environment, man and nature. Thus this can be seen that

¹ Selected important documents since 16th national conference (on, p.465).

² Building a harmonious socialist society. (2006, p.232). Beijing: Central Literature Publishing House.

³ Selected important documents since 16th national conference (in, p.823)

it involves abundant thoughts of ecological civilization construction in the major strategic thoughts of scientific development view and harmonious socialist society.

1.2 The Formation and Development of Ecological Civilization Construction

Seventeenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China for the first time writes "the construction of ecological civilization construction" into the party congress report, this means the formal establishment and the initial formation of its preliminary theory. In the report of 17th national conference, Hu Jintao came up with new higher requirements to our country on the basis of the goal of comprehensive construction well-off society established in the 16th national congress, namely promoting balanced development, expanding socialize democracy, strengthening cultural construction, speeding up the development of social undertakings and constructing ecological civilization. Hu Jintao takes constricting ecological civilization as the goal of comprehensive construction well-off society, and describes in detail the major goal of constructing ecological civilization, namely *circular economy can develop large scale, the proportion of renewable energy can go up significantly. The emissions of major pollutants can be controlled effectively, the quality of ecological environment can be improved clearly, and the concept of ecological civilization can be setted firmly in the whole society*⁴. Ecological civilization construction has become the important strategic component and the concept of our country's development that communist party of China governs our country, it is a great theoretical innovation of our country's ecological civilization construction, it improves our understanding about ecological civilization construction to a new theoretical height, and leads the development of China to the new dimensions, new directions and new realm.

After 17th national conference, the Communist party of China and our country further enriched and developed the theory of ecological civilization construction. At the seminar which the new central committees and alternate members learn party's ideas of 17th national conference, they made detailed exposition of the theoretical connotation and main work of ecological civilization construction. In this class, they came up with that *constructing ecological civilization actually needed to construct a resource-conserving and environment-friendly society based on the carrying capacity of resource and environment natural law and sustainable development*⁵. In January 2008,

Hu Jintao emphasized *the new requirements of implementing and coming true comprehensive*

⁴ Selected important documents since 16th national conference (on, p.16).

⁵ Selected important documents since 16th national conference (on, pp.108-109).

construction well-off society during the third collective learning of Chinese politburo, we must roundly promote economic construction, political construction, cultural construction, social construction and ecological civilization construction (People's Daily, 2008, January 31). Among these, ecological civilization construction with other four constructions becomes the constituents of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Then this thought and idea appeared again and again. The party's 17th session of 4th plenary session emphasized that ecological civilization construction and economic construction, political construction, cultural construction, social construction are the strategic task of realizing comprehensive construction well-off society. Besides, they are all the organic part of the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics. We must deploy roundly and advance on the whole. The party's 17th session of 5th plenary session started from the new change of the international situation and new requirements of domestic economic society development, it emphasized that speeding up resource-conserving and environment-friendly society, improving the level of ecological civilization. In addition, it needed to response to global climate change actively, develop the circular economy vigorously, strengthen the management of resources, strengthen environmental protection, strengthen the construction of ecological protection and disaster prevention and mitigation system and enhance the ability of sustainable development. Then "green development" was written clearly the "12th five-year" plan and shaped separate article, it indicated that our country's determination and confidence of the road to green development. These explorations and innovation laid a solid foundation and blowed the prelude for the further mature and perfect of the theory of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic.

1.3 The Mature and Perfect of Ecological Civilization Construction

On July 23, 2012, at the speech of special seminar for the main leading cadres at the provincial or ministerial level, Hu Jintao pointed out new scientific thesis that ecological civilization construction is the strategic task involved in the radical change of production mode and life style from the broader awareness for the future, the world and the human of ecological civilization construction. Hu Jintao emphasized that *we must take the concept, principles and goals and so on deeply into and throughout all respects and whole process of our economic, politic, cultural and social construction. Then we need adhere to the basic state policy of saving resources and protecting environment, promote deeply green development, circular development and low carbon development, and create good production and living environment for people* (People's Daily, 2012, Jul. 24). Constructing ecological civilization is related to the fundamental interests

,long-term interests and global interests of the Chinese nation, it's the major strategic decisions of the theory of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic for overall arrangements, the strategic thinking of ecological civilization construction enriches and perfects the theory of human civilization development, it is also the new development of party's concept in governing and rejuvenating the country. It leads the mode of production and life style into the historical position and strategic task of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic, and it also makes us have a profound understanding of the nature and meaning of ecological civilization construction.

The party's 18th national conference leded the ecological civilization construction of socialist society into a new developmental stage. The total layout of constructing socialism with Chinese characteristic is five-in-one. The report of 18th national conference puts ecological civilization construction in the prominent position, and definitely puts ecological civilization construction together with economic construction, politic construction, cultural construction and social construction, and these naturally form the total layout of five-in-one about ecological civilization construction. The report also puts forward our nation's dream of "trying to construct beautiful China and realizing China's sustainable development" (Hu, 2012) and for the first time discusses ecological civilization construction in separate chapters. More importantly, it answers a series of major issues about the basic thought, basic requirements, basic tasks and so on of our ecological civilization construction. This highlights the constant innovation and scientific development of the party's theoretical system and shows the strategic position and major role of ecological civilization construction, and it also marks the mature and perfect of the theory of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic.

2. THE THINKING OF THE THORY OF ECOLOGICAL CIVILIZATION CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTIC

2.1 The Thory of Ecological Civilization Construction of Socialism With Chinese Characteristic Is the Newest Theory Achievements Obstaine By the Communist Party That Answers the Relationship Between Economic Development and Resources and Environment Creatively

The theory of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic is formated and developed on the basis of deeper practice and understanding of the construction of socialist

modernization. It is based on the theory of Marxist view of nature, it inherits and develops the ideas of three generations of central collective leadership Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping and Jiang Zemin for ecological civilization construction, it is the newest theory achievements obtained by the party central committee with Hu Jintao as general secretary that answers how to realize the problems of sustainable development of our country's economic society and resources and environment. Except these, it is an important part of the theory of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic and the overall arrangements of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristic. It not only further enriches the connotation of our modernization in China, but also does it point out forward direction that overalls harmonious development of man and nature. *Under the guidance of this strategic thinking, our country promotes energy conservation, ecological construction and environmental protection solidly. As a result, the energy consumption of per unit of GDP continues to decline. We also have overfulfilled the "Eleventh Five-Year" reduction task of chemical oxygen demand and sulfur dioxide emissions, and we have implemented returning farmland to forest roundly and other key ecological projects. These measures provide a reliable basis for green growth and sustainable development* (Zhou, 2012, p.19).

2.2 The Theory of Ecological Civilization Construction of Socialism With Chinese Characteristic Is the Strategic Choices Made By the Communist Party That Initiatively Meets the People's New Expectations and Grasps the New Trend of International Development

Promoting construction of ecological civilization is the best reflection of Chinese Communist Party of putting people first and governing for the people, safeguarding the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the people. With the rapid development of economic society, there has been a growing demand for clean water, fresh air, clean food, beautiful livable environment. Constructing ecological civilization and creating a good production and living environment for the people, is the requirement to improve people's livelihood and living standards.

Since the 1960s and 1970, human began to realize the importance of ecological environment, human's understanding of the ecological and environmental problems has been deepened and expanded. Nowadays, sustainable development has become new trends of the times. What's more, green, recycling and low-carbon development is becoming a new trend. Communist Party of China has clearly grasped this trend and thought over the shortcomings of traditional development model of industrial civilization. They have summed up the experience of implementation of scientific development, transformation of economic development, and fully absorbed Chinese traditional culture, proposed and

vigorously promoted the construction of ecological civilization. These measures provide a more scientific guidance to enhance our sustainable development concept. Communist Party of China *persists in promoting the process of the construction of ecological civilization, and taking a new road to industrialization. At last, we have formed a characteristic construction of Chinese ecological civilization and made effective attempts for the civilizing process of the human society* (Zhou, 2012, p.19) .

2.3 Putting the Theory of Ecological Civilization Construction of Socialism With Chinese Characteristic Into All Aspects and the Whole Process of Modernization

Theory comes from practice and guides the practice. In recent years, China has made remarkable achievements in ecological environment construction, and made important contributions for the world. However, the large scale of China's population, the less resources per capita, the total discharge of major pollutants and the imbalance of supply and demand of water resources still exist, a long-term mechanism of environmental protection and environmental regulatory system has not yet formed. The theory of ecological civilization construction of socialism with Chinese characteristic is the guidance to the practice of scientific theory, which is in line with the development trend of China's economy and society, and conducive to resolving the outstanding contradictions and problems of China's economic and social development. So the concept of ecological civilization needs to be firmly established in the whole society, take ecological behavior into people's conscious action, put the theory of ecological civilization into all aspects and the whole process of our modernization. Eventually it promotes the full construction of well-off society and the sustainable development of scenic China.

2.4 The Theory of Ecological Civilization Construction of Socialism With Chinese Characteristics Is the Inevitable Requirement of Achieving An All-Sided Well-Off Society

Chinese well-off society is comprehensive rather than partial, is the process of historical practice of holding production development, rich life, neat village, scientific management and good ecology. There needs to comprehensively promote political construction, economic construction cultural construction, social construction and ecological civilization construction in the process, these five constructions constitute fully the basic components of constructing well-off society together. After our unremitting efforts of 30 years of reform and opening up, our country have achieved the well-off goal on the whole, but it is not the goal of all-round well-off society. In order to comply with the new development of our country's economic society and the new anticipations of masses of the people, Eighteenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of

China puts forward the ambitious goal of achieving a full well-off society by 2020 accord to the new change of the situation at home and abroad. All of these are on the basis of summariness seriously the ambitious achievements obtained by constructing an all-sided well-off society since Sixteenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China. The report of Eighteenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China not only puts forward the goal of ecological civilization construction clearly in the new requirement of constructing an all-sided well-off society, but also at the first time does it come up with the requirements of reform that builds the system of ecological civilization quickly. Under the new situation, if we want to realize the goal of constructing an all-sided well-off society, we must try our best to promote the ecological civilization construction for laying a solid foundation to construct a well-off society fully.

In order to lead people to go to the continuous and sustainable growth road, ecological civilization takes the harmonious coexistence of human and human, human and nature, human and society as its purpose, it also takes the sustainable mode of production and pattern of consumption as its connotation. Sixteenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China for the first time refers to follow the principle of sustainable development, continue to improve ecological environment, improve the efficiency of resource utilization, and take a road to the healthy development. The report of Seventeenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of China puts forward the basic state policy of building a resource-conserving and environment-friendly society. Constructing ecological civilization is the important strategic deployment of Eighteenth Conference of the National People's Congress of the Communist Party of

China, is the important way to realize the comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable development of the economic society. There is of great significance for our country to build a powerful nation of socialism with Chinese characteristics that shapes five-in-one about economic construction, politic construction, cultural construction and social construction. Constructing ecological civilization is not only the important pathway to the rise and prosperity of China, but also is the new contribution for human civilization. This article emphasizes the importance of ecological civilization to China's future development, at the same time embodies the global and modern meaning of ecological civilization construction.

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