

Report of Comfortably off Conditions in Henan Country (PRC)

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The statistics bureau and agriculture department of China together established “the country comfortably off standards in China”, which contains 16 items among 6 index branches. These branches include income distribution, material living, spirit living, population quality, living surrounding, social security and safety. Every item should be evaluated by synthesizing evaluation after the standard value of dressing warmly and eating fill, and the standard value of comfortably off life are established and weighted. The realizing degree and realizing score are separately clarified as the follows: Realizing degree = (reality value-dressing warmly and eating fill value)/ (comfortably off value- dressing warmly and eating fill value)* 100%; realizing score = realizing degree times the weighted value. The full realizing score is 100, which means fully realizing comfortably off level, and score within 90-100 means basically realizing. It’s estimated that the realizing score of Henan country in 1999 is 86.2, so the farmers should have one long way to fully comfortably off level.

1. The comfortably off realizing degree on the branch of income distribution

The income distribution includes net income level and income difference. The comfortably off degree on this branch has improved apparently, but the level remains at low level. In 1999, this degree is 73.1% in Henan country, and the degree on net income is 73.8% while per capita net income of Henan province’s farmers is 964.6 RMB.

With farmers’ income going up, the number of needy people decreases. The ratio between the amount needy rural people and total farmers in Henan province is down to 2.9%, while the high-income families expand, and the ratio with the total farmers is up to 24.7%.

2. The comfortably off realizing degree on the branch of material living

The comfortably off degree on this branch is 85.6%, with 7.6 percent more than that of last year. Firstly, condition of meal and alimentation has improved, however food

structure should be optimized. Among the three major kinds of alimentations, except heat amount, the two others protein and fattiness amounts are lower than the basic standards put forward by nutritionists according to the Chinese constitution. For instance, the absorbing protein amount of Henan farmers in 1999 per capita per day is 73.9 grams, with 1.1 grams less than the standard value. Secondly, the dress consumption tends to ready-to-wear cloth, but clothing level is not so high as that of expected. In 1999, the ratio between cost for purchasing ready-to-wear clothes and total dressing consumption has risen to 75.6%, but the comfortably off degree on clothing consumption is only 54.7%, which is the lowest among the degrees on 16 items. Furthermore, housing condition has been amended. By the end same year, the rate of concrete and brick house has reached to 91.1%.

3.The comfortably off realizing degree on the branch of spirit living

By the late of 1999, there are 96.9 sets of television among 100 families with 2.4 sets more than that of the last year, and the per capita service consumption has gained the standard of comfortably off value. So, the spirit living has improved much.

4. The comfortably off realizing degree on branch of population quality

The population quality has risen to the basic standard of comfortably off level, for the realizing degree on this item is 91.1%. For example, the mean precipitated life span is stable, and the basic and adult educations develop steadily. According to spot check, compared with that in 1985, in 1999 the number of the illiterate and the semiliterate have dropped down 22.5 among per 100 rural people. The number of people who only passed elementary education has dropped down 3.8, and the number of people who passed and over junior education has added 26.4. The comfortably off degree on this branch has gone up to 95%, with the average educated years being 7.9.

5. The comfortably off realizing degree on branch of living surrounding

The rural living condition has wholly improved, and by 1997, the realizing degree has achieved the standard of comfortably off level.

6. The comfortably off realizing degree on branch of social security and safety

Since the early 1980s', the realizing degree has reach the comfortably off level. In 1999, the comfortably off realizing degree on this branch has reached to 95%.