

Difficulties and Countermeasures of Targeted Poverty Alleviation in Ethnic Minority Areas of Southern Xinjiang

--Take the 3rd Division of Ethnic Minority Farming and Pastoral Areas of Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps as an example

Xue Zhen, Li Qing

College of Economics and Management, Tarim University, 843300, China

Keywords: Southern Xinjiang; minority ethnic areas; difficulties of targeted poverty alleviation; countermeasures

Abstract: Targeted poverty alleviation is an important campaign to build moderately prosperous society and to improve people's livelihood. The effect of poverty alleviation in the southern Xinjiang region of Xinjiang Minority Autonomous Region, is related to the long-term stability of the society. Based on the investigation of the 3rd Division of Ethnic Minority Farming and Pastoral Areas of Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, and the analysis of the existing difficulties in poverty alleviation, this paper explores the countermeasures of poverty alleviation in the "minority, remote, impoverished" region, hoping to provide reference for the regional governance of the Southern Xinjiang.

1. Introduction

Poverty alleviation and development work is related to building a moderately prosperous society in all respects in China, which concerns people's well-being and national long-term stability. Since 18th national congress of the CPC, with Xi Jinping as the general secretary of the Party Central Committee, attaches great importance to the work of poverty alleviation and development, whether it is the overall arrangement or special work, which is closely surround the work of targeted poverty alleviation. In order to carry out the decision of the CPC of Central Committee on winning a fight against poverty, the Party committee of the Corps, combined with the realistic situation, made detailed plans for the poverty alleviation work of the Xinjiang corps, and pointed out specific work objectives, basic strategies and responsibilities to ensure the completion of a well-off society in the northwest of China in the 2020 with poor round field away from poverty and poor population out of poverty. Targeted poverty alleviation work is an important political task in our country. It is a battle of poverty annihilation. It is also an important battle for our country to build a well-off and modern construction in an all-round way. Over the past 30 years, China has made remarkable achievements dealing with poverty alleviation, but there are still many "hard bones" and "big problems" unsolved. The poverty alleviation in Xinjiang is not only a political problem, but also a major social and livelihood issue, and the overall situation of the strategy is related to the poverty alleviation in the poverty-stricken areas.

There are thirty two border counties and cities along the border of Xinjiang and seventeen key counties for border development with fatal strategic meaning. However along with the hostile natural environment, the inconvenient traffic conditions and the low income level of the border people, the overall development lags behind, the poor villages and the poor population are relatively concentrated. The total population of these seventeen poverty-stricken counties (cities) in Xinjiang accounted to two million six hundred twenty-three thousand and one hundred, accounting for 11.41% of the total population of Xinjiang, and 48.57% of the key counties (cities) of the 35 poverty alleviation and development work in Xinjiang, and 671 poor villages, accounting for 22.51% of the 3029 poverty-stricken villages in Xinjiang, most of them are distributed along the border of the southern Xinjiang as poor and underdeveloped. In recent years, Xinjiang will invest nearly thirteen billion RMB to support seventeen border counties on poverty alleviation and

development, also lead farmers and herdsmen to return to the front line and enhance their ability to defend the borders. The stability and poverty alleviation of farmers and herdsmen in the border area of South Xinjiang is not only an important livelihood project, but also a fatal political task. Combining the key poverty alleviation of Corps with guarding the frontiers, maintaining social stability and enhancing ecological protection. At present, there are seventy-six poverty-stricken groups in the Corps, of which thirty poor groups are still on the road, and a total of eighty-one thousand and one hundred people with twenty-seven thousand and two hundred people, mainly concentrated in the 3rd division, the 14th division in southern Xinjiang and the border area with the 4th, the 9th and the 10th divisions as the focus, and the poverty-stricken population reached 76.6%, which is the key area for the corps to take off poverty and keep on hard work.

Taking the 3rd divisions of the southern Xinjiang border ethnic minority area as an example, based on the field investigation, this paper collects and analyzes the difficulties and problems existing in the process of poverty alleviation, and puts forward the corresponding countermeasures and suggestions based on the existing foundation, aiming at exploring the effects of poverty alleviation in the poverty-stricken minority areas of Southern Xinjiang.

2. Research Area Survey

The 3rd division of the Xinjiang production and construction Corps is located in the territory of Kashi, with a total population of 35399, poverty-stricken households of 10184 households, and a proportion 43.7% of the total poverty-stricken population among the total population. It is the largest minority population of the Corps, accounting for 15.77% of the total population of the division city. As the major division in targeted poverty alleviation, the Uygur population is the key division of the poor, and the Uygur population is ninety-four thousand and eight hundred, over 50% of the total population of the 3rd division. The total population of the 3rd divisions reaches two hundred twenty-four thousand and five hundred, of which one hundred twenty-six thousand and four hundred were ethnic minorities (one hundred and twenty-three thousand and eight hundred are Uygurs), with a total proportion of 56%, as the largest number of ethnic minorities in the divisions of the whole Corps.

3. Causes of the Poverty

Poverty is difficult to change due to objective reasons in the development of poverty-stricken areas. Through field research and relevant literature, the main objective reasons of local poverty are found in the following aspects:

(1) There are no advantages in the 3rd divisions, most of which are the regions with the head of the water and the end of the electricity, such as the 50th round field, the 51st round field, etc, which are far from the main artery, and the external communication is severely limited.

(2) The historical problems. Most of the original 3rd division's are minority units belong to original Bachu general fields, Piqiakesong subsidiary fields after the rearrangement of round fields. With less occupancy of natural resources and hostile regional conditions, during the early period, they face the fact that low benefit and high explore costs, which add heavy burden to the economic development due to historical debt, which hindered the pace of progress.

(3) The structure is not reasonable, the local people's income is relatively simple, and most of them depend on agricultural supply. The proportion of three major industries is 74:10:14 in 2012. Among which the structure ratio of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and sideline occupations are 63:22:8:7, which is a typical traditional agricultural production structure, planting industry as dominance, as long as single workers' income model. In recent years, with the adjustment of industrial structure of the local government, the proportion of agriculture compared with the original are decreasing, but still relatively large, cotton are the only source of income in the family.

(4) The hostile production conditions. The 3rd division is located in the northwest edge of the taklimakan desert, on the downstream of yarkant river, most affected by desertification in extreme weather condition all the year round, groundwater salinity content is high, with frequent hail and

sandstorms. Based on fragile ecological conditions, bad living environment; The construction of agricultural infrastructure lags behind, low utilization rate of agricultural water resources, and the problem of resource shortage and project water shortage is outstanding.

(5) Big stability pressure. The 3rd division is bounded by Akesu Kalpin County, Awat County and Marabishi County on the east, adjacent to the surrounding are the ethnic minority areas, and the masses of workers also engaged in stability tasks during the production management, stability work funds investment is increasing year by year, which add costs of round field.

1) The self-accumulation is weak, and there is insufficient internal impetus for the poor peasants of ethnic minorities. Basic old-age pension is not guaranteed, and the majority of ethnic groups stay at the level of solving the problem of subsistence. Besides, their market consciousness is feeble, the export of round field agricultural products chain is not perfect, the export agricultural product category is merely melon and fruit with a narrow export channel; long-term production and operation form a strong sense of small farmers rely on land, they are lack of consciousness of converting agricultural products into commodities. With a habit of blindly follow suit for production and business operation with single planting structure, finally came into the fact of the overproduction of agricultural products;

2) The poor with low degree of culture, among the poor in the 3rd division, high school degree or above are 5.9%, junior high school diploma is 94.1% (including illiteracy 11.17%), over 45 years of age or older of the poor don't understand the bilingual accounted for 82.9%; only 11.85% of women in poor households completed their nine-year compulsory education.

3) Complacent status. With a severe thought of "wait, rely, demand", among the poor who receive food subsidies, medial treatment for serious disease, the lowest life guarantee, student aid, social support and so on as transfer income's proportion is as high as 55% or above, and truly rely on operational income based on initiative of poverty alleviation and salary income are less than 50%.

4) Lack of labor skills. The limits of the culture level and the bondage of traditional thought, with a poor ability and slow speed to accept new stuff. Many people have no skills and maintain their livelihoods from traditional planting and breeding industry with a psychological repelling for working outside. (4) Traditional conception of fertility. Minority ethnic families have a large number of children, 4.4 on average, but the labor force is comparatively less, so family burden is inevitable. Intergenerational poverty. Consider about the cost for children's education and life, those children's quit school at an early age and then get married. They carry the burden of the family too soon, which leads to the inheritance of poverty.

4. Difficulties during the Process of Targeted Poverty Alleviation

Most of the older poor households are illiterate, and have no ideas of the basic situation of the family, and these are difficult to describe in numbers. At present, the identification of China's targeted poverty alleviation work is based on the annual per capita income of the family. However, the poor families do not understand the basic situation of the family, which undoubtedly increases the difficulty of assistance. In-depth investigation and scientific analysis are insufficient for who are the real poor, where are they, why they are poor, and how to get out of poverty. All the records work depends on the local management staff.

Identification difficulties lie in policies accurate to households, reasons of poverty, measures related with type of poverty which bring challenges to the assistance, that should fit the actual situation of the poor, in order to ensure the assistance for families for people, and all-round implementation of person in charge. It is difficult to achieve targeted identification so that targeted poverty alleviation will be with hindrance.

According to national industrial poverty alleviation program, the vast majority of the 3rd division poverty alleviation measures are still focusing on traditional farming, they pay less attention on the actual environment of poor and actual advantage of the environment, without trying and supporting new industries and new means of poverty alleviation, including rural tourism, leisure agriculture, product processing, and even carbon sinks, etc. Poverty alleviation is in the initial year, some

regions take the attitude of wait-and-see, some poor families still keep the ideas of “wait, rely, demand” which is crucial to poverty alleviation. Besides they are so reliable to generate rejection against the assistance from government, instead they are still struggle at the edge of poverty from traditional industry, so many of them will never reach the goal of shaking off poverty. In addition, poor households and local economic and social development capacity are limited, and the capacity of ecological environment is insufficient, which increases the difficulty of alleviating poverty to a certain extent.

In order to avoid “human poverty”, “number out of poverty”, “difficult masses supervision”, some regions take implementation of “Internet + sunshine supervision for poverty alleviation”, we explore and create the “targeted poverty alleviation cloud platform” based on the functions of information inquiry, dynamic management, data analysis and problem lead collection. Real-time record of the specific conditions of the villages, towns and households, intelligent analysis on data ranking of poor villages and households, making the best countermeasures of assistance, dynamic mastering the “five one” in place, poverty alleviation project implementation, funds allocated for poverty alleviation and the management status, and timely propaganda for benefit policy. However, most of our country has failed to accomplish.

In the face of the large number of poor people, the wide distribution, the diverse and complex reasons for poverty of No. 3 division. With the development of economy and society, many scholars have proposed that with Internet big data to carry out targeted poverty alleviation, unfortunately the effective use of the Internet has not been realized. Dynamic supervision of re-poverty of the poverty-stricken families as long as the implementation progress of the assistance project are the key to targeted poverty alleviation. Until now, the unsolvable problem of poverty alleviation and supervision should be the core. Supervision is directly related to the assistance effects and process.

5. Countermeasures and Suggestions

(1) Around ideas of “countermeasures for companies, methods for households, highlight the importance, concentrate the breakthrough, easy to difficult, ladder-style advance”, all levels of the government should elaborate three-year poverty alleviation to leaders of the company, departments, cadres and “visit, benefit, gather” work group, apply pair support with the accomplishment of the full coverage for help and support the poor. (2) Through the approach “ideas planning, visiting households, mass discussion, initial publicity, listen to the suggestions, the second check, democratic evaluation, public announcement” to identify the poor. And we require the staff at all levels of poverty alleviation to recognize that problem clear, countermeasure clear, responsibility clear, task clear with effective realization of assistance and recognition as a smooth docking. During the management process

(2) Dynamic monitoring, hierarchical management. According to the principle of “poverty out, re-poverty away”, we arrange work with year as the node, based on anti-poverty goals, establish archives for poor support and keep for data update in time, in order to maintain “what goes out, must comes out”, update year by year, classification management and dynamic monitoring. (2) Improve the system, insist on monitoring. First, “one to one, one to two” assistance are adopted. to help. In accordance with the division of the three levels, the level of the link specific to the person; The second is to apply classification assistance. For the low income households with the ability and willingness to work, specific to the household assistance measures and implement the annual target, to carry out targeted help with solid development. For the families do not own the labor capacity with living difficulties, we provide them with the minimum living guarantee support, according to the policy “guarantee the guaranteed”. The third is to establish the assistance record to monitor the effectiveness. On the basis of the pair support, the company keep the records of the contents and indicators such as the specific support measures and the assistance effect in accordance with the quarterly plan, and keep pace with supervision and inspection.

(3) Establish the subject of assistance. Make good use of four major assistance powers, such as special projects, industries, society and assistance for Xinjiang, apply good connections, coordinate the counterpart and hook helping, in order to build a platform for the round fields for poverty

alleviation.

Relying on Party members and cadres, identifying the responsibility. According to the overall planning of poverty alleviation work, take the “one to one” and “one to two” hook helping for the poor, and the poverty reduction tasks are specific onto the shoulders of Party members, cadres and staff members, forming the four level hook helping system of the group, from the group organs, the group and the group authority to the “visit, gather, benefit”, so that everyone takes the burden and everyone helps others.2) With the assistance of divisions, enhance the atmosphere of poverty alleviation. With the help of Army division leaders hooked to helping the poor households out of poverty, and vigorously promote the publicity. On the one hand, in order to ignite the whole group of Party members and cadres with full mental state to the work of poverty alleviation and development. On the other hand, the leadership of the army divisions should be a model of real practice and solid work, and let the poor people feel the concern from the party committees at all levels of the army, the division and the regiment, to feel the warmth of the party and improve the enthusiasm of poverty alleviation.3) Construct “four in one” with the cohesion of poverty alleviation. We are striving for the considerable financial support and resource supply onto urban construction, industrial development and labor employment, establishing the platform of regional development and income increase. With the forces of all respects for poverty alleviation, we lay the solid cornerstone for poverty alleviation.4) Develop “visit, gather, benefit”, solve prominent problems. Give full play to the “visit, gather, benefit” and through the investigation and research work of “visiting the people, benefiting people’s livelihood and gathering people’s heart”, we can find out and solve some of the profound hot issues that lead to poverty, offering suggestions for poverty alleviation and development, and make use of their own advantages to help the poor.

Acknowledgements

Source: Tarim University graduate research innovation project (TDGRI201725)

References

- [1] Deng Weijie. Difficulties, countermeasures and path selection of targeted poverty alleviation [J]. Rural economics,2014,06:78-81.
- [2] Yan Hongbing. Innovative “financial +” implementation of targeted poverty alleviation -- current difficulties and countermeasures of China’s financial poverty alleviation [J]. Wuhan finance,2015,09:56-59.
- [3] Lv Guofan. Research on poverty alleviation mode of resource industry in central China economic zone [D]. China university of Geosciences (Beijing),2014.
- [4] Zhu Lei. The difficulties and countermeasures of poverty alleviation and development in Tibet [D]. Tibet university,2008.
- [5] Chen Xiyong. The plight and countermeasures of targeted poverty alleviation in mountainous areas -- a survey from Pingwu county, Sichuan province [J]. Rural economics,2016,05:87-90.
- [6] Li Yan. Practical difficulties and countermeasures for the performance assessment mechanism of targeted poverty alleviation [J]. Qinghai social science,2016,03:132-137.
- [7] Gao Tianyue. The difficulties and countermeasures of financial precision poverty alleviation in guizhou minority areas [J]. Heilongjiang national series,2016,04:71-75.