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Theory, Demonstration and Methods: Research on Social Security of Migrant Workers by Domestic Scholar

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Abstract Social security of migrant workers has been significant in dissolving social contradictions and achieving the economic and social development in China during the transitional period. The researches of domestic scholar on social security of migrant workers can be classified into three categories. Firstly, theoretical analysis on social security of migrant workers, including researches on the appeal of social security and misunderstanding of recognition, theory-construction of rural worker social security, policy defects and equity construction in social security system of migrant workers. Secondly, real studies on social security of migrant workers, including researches on sequence of demand and influencing factors of social security of migrant workers as well as intrinsic motivation forming the perspective on social security. Lastly, road exploration of establishing social security system, including researches on the multi-level development of rural worker social security system, comparison of "Double-low method", "Guangdong Method" and "Shanghai Method" of the social security of migrant workers in Zhejiang Province and establishing multi-level social security system according to the hierarchy after the internal differentiation.

Key words Migrant worker, Social security, Comprehensive insurance mode, China

Migrant workers are a large labor force springing up after the reform and opening up in China and have contributed a lot to China's economic development. However, compared with the contribution, they are still in a vulnerable position in many fields like education, employment, government management, market access and social security. Social security of migrant workers has been significant in dissolving social contradictions and achieving the economic and social development in China during the transitional period. Therefore, domestic scholar have made researches on related problems of rural worker social security by using various theories, which can be classified into three categories, namely theoretical analysis on social security of migrant workers, empirical study on social security of migrant workers and road exploration of establishing social security system of migrant workers. The researches of domestic scholar after being classified can be served as the theoretical references for perfecting the social security system of migrant workers in China.

1 Theoretical researches

Zheng Gongcheng emphasizes the appeal and misunderstanding of recognition. Based on the traditional management of planned economy and the interest of urban dwellers, the government regards migrant workers as destabilizing factors and the prescribed policies mainly focus on domination, restriction and prevention. This negative political orientation will not only do harm to the organic integration of migrant workers and the urbanization as well as industrialization in China but also

lead to the marginalization of migrant workers. There are possibilities in the personal risks of migrant workers transforming into social risks. 5 kinds of ideological misunderstandings on recognition exist in acknowledging the authenticity, distinctiveness and social security appeal. Firstly, migrant workers are equated farmers simply and unrealistically. Secondly, land function of life guarantee is overestimated and the countryside is taken as the impounding reservoir of transferring the economic crisis. Thirdly, the corresponding social security system has been rejected on the pretext of no governmental promise to rural residents. Fourthly, financial shortage is overemphasized and the costs of establishing social security system of migrant workers are overestimated. Lastly, the increasing demand of social security of migrant workers and the diversification of security demand are ignored^[1].

Zhang Yuanyuan conducted the theoretical establishment based on utility maximization theory, operating theory of guaranteed enterprises and promoting production development. The first is utility maximization theory of social security under the constrained circumstance of fixed resources. Since the current supplier of social security resources is the government, social security resources are limited with low utility. Social security system is a kind of social system providing basic living guarantee through state legislation when citizens are difficult in surviving because of old age, permanent disability, unemployment and some other factors. The second is operating theory of the guaranteed enterprises. The funds of China's social security are mainly collected from national finance inclining to the town and neglecting the countryside, which leads to the low standard of social security of migrant workers. With social development and economic transformation, the original system must be re-

formed. And migrant workers' knowledge and skills should be improved through educational training so as to strengthen their competitive forces. The third is theory of promoting productivity. Social security is, in essence, a kind of redistribution, achieving rapid development of productivity force under the modern rule of law of equity and justice. Migrant workers' risks of going out can be reduced through establishing social security system of migrant workers. And employment opportunities can be increased and idle human resources reduced by improving the skills of migrant workers, promoting the development of social productivity^[2].

Ren Lixin made relatively systematic researches on the related policies of social security system of migrant workers. The coexistence and confusion of various models of rural worker social security system, implementing effect of unreasonable policies and the presentation of obviously impaired rights of rural worker social security are discussed. And the underlying causes of this kind of situation are the policy defects of establishing social security system of migrant workers. Discussion is conducted from the 3 aspects of policy vacancy, policy conflicts and policy orientation deviating from policy targets. The defects in social security system of migrant workers have caused intense conflicts of interest among all subjects which manifests in the interest conflict between the construction of social security system of migrant workers and the enterprises as well as local government. And this is the direct cause of great difficulties in establishing the social security system of migrant workers under the performance evaluation system. The policy defect of "low insurance coverage rate of migrant workers, low social security treatment and high surrender rate of migrant workers" is mainly because the national unified specific policies and regulations with operability have not been built and the projects as well as modes of social security are not pertinent and cannot meet various social security of migrant workers. Another reason of delayed policy outcomes of rural worker social security is that policy orientation deviates from the planned policy targets^[3].

The value assumption of social security system of migrant workers established by Fan Xiaoyan based on the notions of fairness is groundbreaking. In light of the belief that justice is the crucial value orientation in the reform and opening up of China and the basic footing of social security system of migrant workers, Fan Xiaoyan discussed the basis and necessity of equity construction of social security system of migrant workers, which consists of fairness in bottom line, opportunity fairness and result fairness. Fairness in bottom line means that social security system can provide the fundamental subsistence for migrant workers. Opportunity fairness means that one's achievement depends in a large measure upon the personal efforts and the realization of talents, not the backgrounds possessed which including the congenital physical conditions as well as the acquired social relations. Result fairness stands for that social security should provide the minimum subsistence guarantee to satisfy migrant workers' demand of avoiding absolute poverty. Equity idea of migrant worker social security is reflected in the four aspects of governmental responsibility, regu-

lation building, constructing sequence and stage setting^[4].

Quite a number of scholars summarized the obstacles to social security system of migrant workers as follows. Firstly, under the current administrative management, there is industry admission discrimination in migrant workers' employment, such as the industry permission restriction in Beijing. Secondly, migrant workers are treated with discrimination in daily life, such as the system of detention and repatriation. Thirdly, there are obvious systematic barriers in education after graduating from high school though compulsory education has been opened in the inflow place of migrant workers. The cause is the defects in social security system of migrant workers which is mainly reflected in relatively high security constraint, overlong duration, prevalent surrender of migrant workers, social security funds of migrant workers being the "cash dispenser" of social security funds, inflexibility in the present migrant worker social security system, difficulties in meeting various insurance requirements at different levels of migrant workers, relatively low standards of social security and inadequate covering motivation of migrant workers caused by difficulties in transferring social insurance^[5]. For example, the basic pension insurance of rural workers being out in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region was raised from 14.0% before 1999 to 16.3% in 2005 with a rising trend. However, the figure decreased to 9.4% during the years between 2006 and 2009 and migrant workers' desire for covering pension insurance subsided markedly^[6].

2 Empirical researches

Issues on social security of migrant workers are analyzed with empirical researches to provide data support for policy making.

With specific data from field researches, Zong Chengfeng pointed out that most migrant workers do not have social security and their requirements for social security are various and selective. The sequence of migrant workers' demand for social security is medical insurance, employment injury insurance, pension insurance, unemployment insurance and commercial insurance^[7].

Chen Luqing conducted studies on social security of migrant workers in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region through public questionnaire survey. He put forward relatively reasonable proposals for improving the social security conditions of migrant workers from the perspectives of the proportion of migrant workers' signing labor contracts, the impact of labor skills on signing labor contracts, the impact of migrant workers' acquiring professional certificates on their social security and the relationships between defaulting salary and signing labor contracts^[8].

Doctor Liu Limin illustrated the internal mechanism of the formation of social security value through analyzing the phenomenology of hourly workers and discussed the Chinese endogenous social security value and its practice mode. Economic reform endows peasants with rights of self management and access to cities, therefore, land-holding peasants' awareness of improving family conditions through personal efforts has been further strengthened and farmers do not possess the conscious-

ness of seeking for guarantee from the community and society. After going to cities and being far away from acquaintances in the village, it would be impossible for them to ask for help from villages and families. "They are right in the city which refuses to accept them while they are rooted in the village which has been far away." The structural transformation of social changes and the economic reform activating the market have deepened the restriction of the dual economic social structure of urban and rural areas. Household registration system excludes migrant workers from city social security. Low standards of social security cause that local divisional system suspends social security of migrant workers who are with high flow ability. The factors that moral decline is quickening during the social transitional period and social sense has increasingly weak normative force as well as deterrent force on social members aggravate individual's distrust on society and personal crisis awareness. Social security value of Chinese migrant workers is internal-oriented, which means that they do not seek for assistance from the outside when facing difficulties but find the way out on their own. And this is exactly as what Scoot has pointed out that when facing the controversy between the continuously changing outside and permanent family expense, farmers who are on the verge of survival crisis and constrained by social circumstances and systematic arrangement will not pursue the maximum of benefits but make a non-selective choice, namely not the worst choice^[8].

3 Method researches

Lin Yusheng expounded the necessity and feasibility of establishing the social security of migrant workers in accordance with Chinese economic and social development and proposed that social security system of migrant workers can be developed and perfected from the three levels of basic insurance, developmental insurance as well as welfare insurance in order to satisfy migrant workers' various demand on social security^[9].

Liu Zhijun and Chen Jiaojiao introduced the "Double-low Mode" of social security of migrant workers in Zhejiang Province and pointed out that Zhejiang Province slightly adjusted the current social security of urban employees and reduced the insurance restriction, lessened the costs and implemented low social insurance treatment^[10].

Peng Wenhua compared the "Guangdong Mode" with "Shanghai Mode" of social security of migrant workers^[11]. Guangdong Mode, whose formation is symbolized by *Social Pension Regulation in Guangdong Province* issued by Guangdong Province in 1989, is the social security system directly involving migrant workers into the social insurance system of urban employees. "Guangdong Mode" accords with the developmental orientation of rural labor force transferring to the city, urbanization as well as the integration of urban and rural area which are being carried out in China. Migrant workers are absorbed into the social insurance system of urban employees in system design while there are differences in types of insurance, costs and treatment according to the risks and security requirement of migrant workers. Shanghai Mode, firstly implemented

in Shanghai is a "comprehensive insurance mode" specific to the migrant workers. This mode fits those with big flow ability and small possibility of settling in the city. In "Shanghai Mode", costs of social insurance is covered by the enterprises, which reduces migrant workers' burden and motivates their intention of covering insurance. Moreover, this kind of "comprehensive insurance mode" has low costs of administrative management and strong feasibility^[9].

Zheng Gongcheng analyzed the population features and employment of migrant workers through questionnaire survey on migrant workers and established a multi-level social security system of the hierarchical categories after the internal division by using the stratified society theory of Marx Weber. Based on the "Trinity Theory" of Marx Weber, migrant workers are divided into three types or three hierarchies. The first is migrant workers with certain skills, fixed employers and relatively high citizenization. The second is farmers who are employed temporarily with relatively low technical skills. The third is farmers who have no skills and go out seasonally only by offering labor force. Zheng Gongcheng classified the first type into urban social security, which is beneficial to migrant workers' city life and reducing management costs. The transferring problems of social security of migrant workers with employers, relatively low technical skills, big vocational flow ability and no fixed incomes can be solved with all-purpose card throughout the country based on the improved standards. And the optimization of social insurance types should be emphasized with the priority of occupational injury, medical insurance and unemployment insurance. Perfect social security should be established to dissipate the worries of migrant workers who are engaged in individual operation in the city seasonally or live on physical labor without employers. In general, this multi-level social security carries out migrant workers' rights of social security with the priority of occupational injury followed by special salvation and disease insurance as well as classified pension insurance^[12].

4 Conclusions

Scholars make persistent studies and exploration on social security of migrant workers as well as the related questions and achieve further improvement in the implementation and theoretical researches of social security of migrant workers. Recognition has gradually turned to the internal causes of the problems in social insurance of migrant workers. Analysis has transferred from macro policy and theoretical research to micro modes. Target orientation has turned to system establishment from question analysis. And social security system will be perfected with social economic enhancement as well as the increasing emphasis on settling social insurance problems of migrant workers.

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collective organizations to improve the cooperative willingness and capability of farmers to organize the dispersed rural households after the implementation of rural household contract responsibility system to realize the self supply of public products in rural area and alleviate the tense status of the supply of rural public products.

4.4 Attending various kinds of farmers' training and trying to get symmetric information from the government

The government should help farmers to master science and technology as much as possible, especially the agricultural production technology to overcome the restriction of traditional culture and habit and stimulate their courage and hope. The education is conducive to improving the quality and capability of labors and promoting the balanced development of society. Through education, the overall quality of farmers can be improved. They may care about various policies on new village construction and their participation in political may be improved. Thus, farmers can bravely express their benefit appeals to let the decisions of public products satisfy their utmost demands.

4.5 The budget at village level should be established

At present, Chinese finance can be divided into four grades; the central government, provinces, cities and counties. The towns and villages do not have coffers. Thus, for one thing, the upper financial finance can not fully pay attention to the demand situation of each rural public products, so the government can not conduct capital input on rural public products according to the real situation; for another thing, the upper finance can not allocate finance to town and village, thus, the supply of public products will be suspended out of lack of money. Establishing the village level budget can solve the problem to certain extent. Except for the appropriate fee share that should be paid by farmers, every villager pays a certain sum of money to villagers' committee. In addition, the capital appropriated by the government at upper levels should be reserved in the village budget and the sum of capital can not be used at will in terms of non-public products. Thus, the villages' committee can provide public products to its villagers effectively. The villagers' committee knows the benefit appeals of farmers on public products, thus, farmers' demand can be satisfied to a large degree.

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5 Conclusion

All in all, it is a long-term and sustainable way for enhancing the supply of rural public products and completely solving the "three agriculture" problems. At present, China is in a critical period of social transformation, so the governments, farmers and other social forces should pay more efforts on narrowing the differences in the supply of urban-rural public supply and maintaining the stability and development of rural areas. The timely supply of rural public products can not only promote the balanced development of urban and rural areas, but also accelerate the construction of socialist new village with Chinese characteristics. As China is in the critical period of social transformation, multiple deep problems in the development of economy will appear. These problems are both opportunities and challenges. The researches on the system of rural public products are conducive to alleviating the prominent situation confronted by rural areas at present. Researching and reconstructing the supply mechanism of rural public products from new thought pattern can satisfy the inner demand for implementing scientific development outlook and realizing harmonious society. Satisfying farmers' demand for public products from multiple directions and layers is the necessary demand for protecting farmers' subsistence right and development right and can benefit farmers by the fruits obtained from reform and opening up. In addition, it is a better way for protecting farmers' basic interests.

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