

大公社評

Good prospects for China's economy benefit HK development

At the opening of the National People's Congress (NPC) annual session yesterday, Premier Wen Jiabao routinely delivered his Government Work Report, outlining policy principles and major measures for this year's government work and economic development. This year's Government Work Report **focuses on** improving people's livelihood and stabilising the economy. In a changing international environment, China's economy - given its sound fundamentals - must [make progress while maintaining stability]. On the one hand, the government must maintain stability and guard against any major accident, while on the other hand, development and reform must also be actively pursued. How to accomplish all relevant tasks under this pre-requisite is a major challenge for the government this year.

For this year's economic development, the government has set the general line : "Stabilising growth, controlling prices, pursuing restructuring, benefiting people's livelihood, undertaking reforms and promoting harmony". Inflation began to slow down from the latter half of last year, so coping with it is no longer the most urgent task facing the government. Instead, sustaining relatively fast growth is the government's most important job. No doubt, as the outer environment remains unstable and unfavourable while domestically potential risks are on the rise and contradictions intensify, sustaining growth naturally must be given the fullest attention. If anything **goes wrong** here, there will not only be economic losses, but "benefiting people's livelihood and promoting harmony" will also be difficult to attain. For, efforts to set people's minds at ease and to maintain social stability must be supported by material means.

This year's goal for gross domestic product (GDP) growth is set at 7.5%, lower than 8% for the first time in eight years. Inflation will be kept under 4%. The growth target is perhaps at the low end. In fact, in past years, actual annual growth has more than often outpaced government targets. Therefore, the target as a guideline is less meaningful. Strongly supported by domestic consumption, China's economy is still full of vigour, showing no sign of a hard- or soft-landing. Last year, GDP growth slowed down a bid due to weakened growth in trade surplus, but it still managed to reach over 9%. The situation this year is likely to remain the same. Right now, as consumer price tends to stabilise while the property market cools down, the chances of keeping inflation under control are higher than last year. As a result, it may not be a big problem to maintain macro-economic stability and sustain high-speed growth. Attention must, instead, be given to at least two other aspects. One is how to improve the momentum for long-term growth and development. For this, efforts must be made to pursue restructuring and reform so as to further consolidate the sound fundamentals of the economy. Here, the important teachings of late leader Deng Xiaoping must be kept in mind : "Development is of overriding importance" and the country will come to "a dead end if giving up reform and opening up". The second is to address the problem of unfair and unreasonable incomes. Efforts must be given to help society move towards a new phase of common prosperity, especially after a quick rise of average incomes following fast economic development.

On the whole, although the Chinese economy has internal and external troubles facing domestic and foreign obstacles to development and problems to be tackled, the general situation at present and for some time to come remains good. China is now presented with a rare golden opportunity from the

comparative decline of the West under assault by one crisis after another. It must not let this opportunity **slip by**. Prosperity of the Motherland naturally provides good conditions for Hong Kong's growth and development, not to mention that the Motherland cares for Hong Kong very much, always giving its full support to Hong Kong's development. In his report, Premier Wen unequivocally pledged to support Hong Kong's efforts in dealing with international economic risks and in maintaining financial stability and long-term prosperity, support Hong Kong's efforts to consolidate and raise its international financial, trading and shipping status, and support Hong Kong's bid to become a renminbi (RMB) offshore centre. To further help Hong Kong's development, the Central Government has also decided to further open services trade to the SAR and facilitate cross-boundary infrastructure projects such as the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge.

From all these, it can be seen that the Central Government's support for Hong Kong is relevant and effective, comprehensive and concrete. As long as both sides join efforts wholeheartedly, important achievements can definitely be attained. Needless to say, with the Motherland's support, it does not mean Hong Kong can sit idle and reap what it has not sown. First of all, Hong Kong must speed up its own reconstruction, especially upgrading its pillar industries and developing new ones. Secondly, Hong Kong must speed up its construction of cross-boundary infrastructure projects and cultivating and developing the border areas. Lastly, Hong Kong must set a correct mentality and adjust its thinking. It must rationally and objectively view and deal with problems that prop up in exchanges with the Mainland, so as not to affect cooperation between the two sides. At the same time, Hong Kong society must also be tolerant internally for the sake of social harmony, so as to create and maintain a stable social environment.

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WORDS AND USAGE:

() Focus on (phrasal verb) - To give all your attention, effort, etc. to a particular issue or person.(專注於,全力以赴)

Examples: 1. Could we please focus the discussion on the matter at hand for a few moments ? 2. Suspicion focused on her husband.

2 Guard against sth (phrasal verb) - To protect yourself from something. (防止,預防)

Examples: 1. Regular exercise can help to guard against heart disease. 2. The armed forces were on high alert to guard against any retaliation.

③ Go wrong (idiom) - To make a mistake or a wrong move. (出錯,出 問題)

Examples: 1. Murphy's Law says: "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong." 2. Where (ie At what point) did I go wrong in my calculation?

④ On the whole (idiom) - Everything considered; in general.(總體上) Examples: 1. On the whole, this was a very good day. 2. Your work-on the whole-is auite good.

(5) Slip by (phrasal verb) - If an opportunity, etc. slips by, it passes and you did not use it. (溜走, 消失)

Examples: 1. Never let a chance to improve your English slip by. 2. I had the chance to switch jobs, but I let it slip by.

成語改得好如點鐵成金 改歪了有甚於點金成鐵

二月廿三日晚上,有電話來問: 「你可說過成語不盡是一成不變,改 得好可以除舊換新? |

中文基本リ

我回應:「改得好還可以說是點 鐵成金,改歪了則有甚於點金成鐵! | 只聽得對方問:「克勤克儉改成克 勤克業如何?|我反問:「你怎可以 這樣改的? | 他回答是:從電台廣播 聽到,那是一位角逐特首的政界人士 所改。我問他:「可有聽錯?|只聽 他連聲「沒有沒有!

我告訴他:像「克勤克儉」這樣 的成語不少,起碼有「先知先覺」、 「有爲有守」、「見仁見智」、「盡 善盡美」、「一心一德」、「美輪美 奐」、「予取予求」、「不仁不義」 、「作威作福」等等。其構詞特點: 第一、三字同形,第二、四字同質 如此構詞,有其對稱和恰當地表達內 涵的優勢。你未弄清楚這些構詞特點 而貿然改之,所以改得不倫不類 不過我也告訴他:並非絕不能改 。「予取予求」改成「予取予攜」,

「一心一德」改成「一心一意」,還 不是大行其道?因爲掌握了規律而改 ,即使改得好不過原語,也不致改歪 。至於把「克勤克儉」改成「克勤克 業|,除了破壞原來的構詞基礎,還 有其他問題:

「克勤克儉」語出《尙書・大禹 謨》。兩句話原意在表示爲國事操勞 , 為私用節省, 公私都做到兩全其美 。如果用在個人身上,表示既要勤奮 、又要節儉,倒無不可。但「克業」 何解?與「克勤」對得上嗎?在詞性 上就對不上:「勤」是形容詞,「業 」是名詞,對不上!還不是不倫不類 ?總之「克業」一詞實在費解!

大詩人如張九齡和蘇軾大都十分 尊重成語,不輕易動其一字,因爲要 考慮到傳統習慣和大家接受程度。只 因「弋人何篡」已失去生命力,才改 成既不違文字規律,又獲得廣泛認同 ,才改成「弋人何慕」而已。若把成 語改歪, 實有甚於點金成鐵! 若 容



微觀下的鮮花



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中國經濟前景好 有利香港促發展

全國人大會議昨日開幕,溫 總如常作了政府工作報告 , 勾勒了今年的經濟施政大方 向及重點措施。重民生穩經濟 已成了今年大會報告的主調。 中國經濟在基調良好而國際環 境多變下,必須採取穩中求進 策略,一方面要力保穩定不出 大事故,另方面也要積極推動 發展與改革。在這些大前提下 做好有關工作,乃今年政府施 政的主要挑戰。

今年經濟工作將以「穩增 長、控物價、調結構、惠民生 、抓改革、促和諧」為主方向 。自去年後段起通脹開始降溫 ,已不再是經濟面臨的最重要 即期問題,因此保持增長於較

快水平便成了政策工作首務。無疑,在外圍環境欠穩欠佳,和國內 潛在風險因素增加矛盾激化的新形勢下,保增長自然成了必須十分 重視的事項,如有閃失則除了經濟會蒙受損失外,也難以做到惠民 生促和諧。爲保民心安定及社會維穩,必須有一定的物質基礎作支 持

今年 GDP 增長將以百分七點五為目標,乃八年來的首次調低至 八下,通脹率則要控制在百分四。增長目標是偏低的,事實上多年 來目標與現實水平差距巨大,故其指導意義不大。在內需的強力支 持下,中國經濟仍充滿活力,看不到有明顯的或硬或軟的着陸跡象 。去年外貿盈餘轉弱拉低了 GDP 增長,但因內需強旺仍保有逾百分 九的升幅,估計今年情況相若。由於目前物價水平已趨穩而樓市亦 已降溫,故今年通脹可控在目標內的機會應較去年高。宏觀經濟維 持穩定高增長的問題不大,反而注意力應放到至少兩方面。一是改 善長遠增長及發展後勁,爲此必須大力推行調結構及抓改革的工作



▲十一屆全國人大五次會議8日在北京舉行第二次全體會議

持本港發展。溫總的報告中,便明言支持香港在應對國際經濟風險 ,和維持金融穩定及長期繁榮上的努力,支持香港鞏固及提升其金 融、貿易、航運等國際中心的地位,和建設人民幣離岸中心的工作 。為了更好地協助香港發展,中央還定下了提高對本港的服務貿易 開放,和做好建設港珠澳大橋等的兩地基建連接工作

由上述可見,中央對本港發展的支持既具針對性及有效性,又 全面而具體,只要雙方同心合力,必可取得顯著成果。當然,有祖 國支持並不表示香港便可坐享其成,還是要花很大努力才可取得理 想成績。首先,香港必須加快本身的建設,尤其是支柱產業的升級 換代和新興產業的開發。其次,必須加快與內地基建銜接及邊區的 開發利用。最後,還要端正心態和調整思維。對與內地交流帶來的 問題,要理性客觀看待並妥善處理,以免影響兩地合作。同時,在 本港內部要有包容之心以保社會和諧,為發展締造安定的社會環 壇∘ 2012/03/06 大公報社評

通識記憶體

中國8年來首次調低經濟增長目標

國務院總理溫家寶在第11屆全國人大五次會議上宣布2012年 國內生產總值(GDP)增長目標為7.5%,是8年 年份 GDP 增幅

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

10.4%

11.6%

13%

9%

8.7%

10.4%

9.2%

來首次調低經濟增長目標

過去7年國家均將GDP增長目標定在8%, 即使在金融海嘯翌年2009年惡劣的全球經濟環 境下,溫總理仍宣布堅持「保八」,被美聯社譽 爲「幫助全世界走出經濟下滑困境」。中國年均 GDP 實際增幅都超過這一目標(見表)

國家確立「保八」目標最初是爲保障就業 維護政治和社會穩定。面對每年大批新增勞動力 ,如果經濟總盤不保持一定的增長速度,就會造 成失業;8%的GDP增幅恰可保證每年約1000萬 的就業機會。不過,爲保增幅而犧牲環境資源的做法卻爲中國經濟 埋下諸多危機

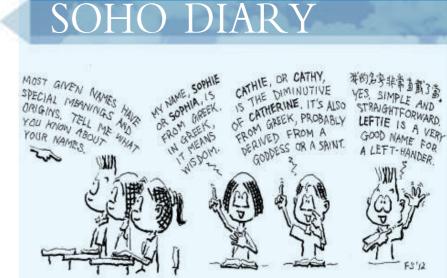
早在2004年,「兩會|代表說過追求GDP會為世界及本國帶 來害處。當時中國貢獻世界經濟總量不到4%,材料的消耗卻佔全球 總量的三分之一。當時首席科學家牛文元說,中國每創造1美元所 消耗的能源是美國的4.3倍、德法的7.7倍、日本的11.5倍;又同時 消耗了全球總量約三分一的鋼材和水泥

直至2011年,有報道指中國90%以上的地下水受到污染,118 個大中城市地下水已普遍遭到污染,其中嚴重污染城市佔64%;主 要是垃圾堆放場日益擴大、工業區的排污情況嚴重

通脹惡化更是「保八」的代價之一,過去兩年,通脹率(CPI)分別為3.3%及5.5%

從根本上鞏固經濟的良好基 調。必須牢記鄧公「發展是硬 道理」,和「不改革開放是死 路一條」的重要遺訓。二是紓 解分配不公及不合理的問題, 特別是在發展及平均收入水平 迅速上升後,要更多注意促進 社會步入共同富裕的新階段。

總體來看,中國經濟雖有 「內憂外患」,面對着各種國 內外的發展障礙及待解難題, 但目前及今後的大形勢還是良 好的,且正值西方由危機四伏 及相對滑落帶來的罕有黃金機 遇期,更須好好掌握。祖國的 榮景,自然為本港帶來了良好 的增長及發展條件,何況祖國 對本港關懷備至,一直全力支



A Left-hander

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A few days ago I read on the website of a Hong Kong newspaper that The King's Speech (電影《皇上無話兒》) had been chosen as the best foreign film in a Japanese film festival. The piece of news made me stop and think for a while. I had nearly forgotten the film. The title of the film in Chinese as it appeared on the web-page did not look familiar. It took me a while to figure out which film it was. The translation on the website was a literal one. When the film was on in Hong Kong, it carried a different Chinese name.

For a few seconds I wondered why the website did not use the old Chinese title as it had been used in Hong Kong before. After all, the visitors of the website are mainly local Chinese and it is easier for them to recognize the old Chinese title. But, I have to say, the previous translation that had been in use

was indeed not a good one. Perhaps that's why the writer or editor of the website chose to give it another Chinese title.

The choice of the Japanese film festival did not come as a surprise for many people, me included. The film has got many awards in the West and it is a worthy production. Yet I think it touches the Japanese in a different way.

In the story, the King has difficulty with his speech partly because he was being suppressed when he was young. He was a born left-hander, but he was disallowed to use his left hand to write and work. He was forced to conform and to use his right hand instead. Even when he was a prince, he was not allowed to choose his hobby. He liked making models, but his father made him collect stamps.