Speech with officials responsible for domestic and foreign trade Liu Shaoqi (April 20, 1949)

Domestic and foreign trade has a great impact on the national economy and people's livelihood, and may even cause decision-making influence. Its mission is to "develop production and turnaround economy". Failure to do so will be detrimental to production, and the economy cannot be turned around. The same is true for tax issues. Now trade should be subject to production, not production subject to trade, taxation should also be subject to production, not production subject to taxation. If you don't obey production and only seek profit or income, it is a fiscal point of view, which we have criticized before. Trade taxation to help production development is a major matter, while earning more and less is a trivial matter. This is that small principles should obey great principles, and small principles should obey large principles.

Production is public and private. Public and private companies are now developing together. In the trade of turnover economy, state-owned and private companies are parallel and not conflicting (it may conflict in the future). Therefore, there is a problem of "balancing public and private". Trade is subject to production as well as private production. If you destroy private factories in trade, this is a mistake. Remember the two sentences of "developing production, taking care of both public and private", we must implement them to the end and don't violate them.

There are raw materials, manufacturing, and sales in production. Trading companies will be strengthened in the future. If they ignore the private sector, it will be difficult for the private sector to buy raw materials. Therefore, state-run trade should share the raw materials and the market with the private sector. There are priorities, but the public and private must always be considered. Do not develop state-owned enterprises. Selling goods also divide the market with them. It is even necessary that we and them sell on a commission basis. We need to integrate with them. At the same time, we must take the initiative to avoid conflicts with them, establish economic alliances with them, and fully cooperate with them. The specific method is to divide with them. Raw materials and markets. But they may also deliberately compete with us. If so, we should tell them not to do this first. If they really want to compete, they won't blame us if they suffer. There is unity and struggle against the liberal bourgeoisie, but today the focus is on unity rather than struggle, because they put private interests first, and we put the national economy and the people's livelihood first. If there is no struggle, it will become capitulationism. Our main targets are imperialism, bureaucratic capitalism and feudalism, not the liberal bourgeoisie. The free bourgeoisie here is afraid that trading companies will compete with them. At the forum yesterday, I told them that we can cooperate with them, and said: "You can only cooperate with state-owned enterprises." I think you are in " It's not clear that public and private are balanced."

Regarding the unified sales of bristles, they (referring to the capitalists who participated in the forum) think that it is too early, and that the enthusiasm of private purchases in the countryside is not high. I think what they said is reasonable and we can let them do it. In the future or after waiting for half a year, after the exchange between urban and rural areas is smooth, when we think it is beneficial to unified sales, the next order for unified sales is enough. Regarding the department store issue, they also think it is too early. I told them that our state-owned department store can also sell privately-owned finished products. However, I think the question can be considered, whether to set up a department store so that the private sector can also go together. sell. Regarding the contract between China Central Place and Qixin, they said they had lost it, and I said it could be renewed. In fact, their lifeblood is in our hands. If there is no country to buy cement, they have nothing to do. Huaxin's contract can be amended, and I have already told them in person: "This is the first time to do business with you. It cannot make you lose money. If we make money in the future, we will make money together and we will lose if we lose." This is what the resolution of the Second Plenary Session said: "In order to win more free bourgeoisie to fight with imperialism together." You (referring to China Central Place) will take the initiative to find them tomorrow and ask them if they want to re-conclude the contract. If they don't sign it, then don't blame us.

Now these capitalists are afraid of two problems: (1) They are afraid of trading companies controlling supply and marketing. (2) The issue of labor disputes. Yesterday I promised that they can cooperate with trading companies to implement the company's (private) policy. Regarding labor relations, I told them: "You can set factory regulations and implement them with government approval. As for temporary workers, Some variable-length jobs will remain unchanged if there are difficulties. They raised two contract questions, and I have promised them that they can amend it. In addition, I also asked many questions of principle. I did not answer them. I only promised them to change the two contracts. If this matter is realized, they will feel that the government really wants to cooperate with them so that they can reach our bottom. Those issues of principle will gradually fade away.

As for your trade, you must implement the principle of balancing public and private matters into all aspects in the future. Chairman Mao recently proposed a "all directions", that is, public, private, labor, capital, urban, rural, internal, and external. Those aspects must be taken care of. It is called comprehensive. If there is one aspect that is not taken care of, it is Made a mistake in the route.

The issue of foreign trade mainly lies in the connection between urban and rural areas. The North China government can issue an order to purchase bristles, pig intestines, lamb intestines, chickens, ducks, goose feathers, bones, and various skins through village officials (xxx: that way, village officials will control it, and it will be difficult for merchants to stay in the countryside. Free purchase), then you can think of a way. In short, the government can call on and launch it, and the land reform slogans in the village can be omitted. If you write "Buy bristles and sheep intestines", farmers will definitely be interested. This work should be treated as a combat task and an economic mobilization.