Governance of Poverty Alleviation: Research on the Current Situation of Industrial Poverty Alleviation under the Background of Targeted Poverty Alleviation
—Taking the A Town of S Province as the Example

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Abstract—Nowadays, industrial poverty alleviation has become increasing vital and irreplaceable under the background of constantly deepening targeted poverty alleviation. Based on the field research with A town of S province, we found that government lack the macro-adjustment ability, and enterprises lack the ability to drive the poverty alleviation, and the low-income families have poor ability to relieve poverty by industries. So the author gave the advice from the three aspects: government, enterprises and low-income families, in the hope of promoting industrial poverty alleviation, and accelerating rural revitalization.

Keywords—targeted poverty alleviation; industrial poverty alleviation; poor households

I. INTRODUCTION

Since the reform and opening-up, we have made great achievements in poverty alleviation. At the end of 2018, our State Statistical Bureau announced that there were still 16.6 million people living in poverty, and the poverty rate was 1.7%[1]. Due to the complexity of the poverty, traditional rough method cannot solve the current problems. So in order to tackle the problem, China firstly put forward the “targeted poverty alleviation” in 2013. And in the 19th national congress in 2017, President Xi Jinping stressed that the diversity of market should be manifested to develop industrial poverty alleviation and achieve the “two-wheel driving”. Under the current background of deepening targeted poverty alleviation, how to manifest the function of industrial poverty alleviation is of great practical significance.

The research on poverty was made earlier in abroad. The initial part was usually exploring the poverty causes, and the final part was in studying how to relieve poverty. Generally, economists think that the poverty can be solved when the economy is entirely prosperous. Therefore, their research focus is on explaining the macro progress of development and prosperity, rather than reflecting the origins and development of poverty and hunger.

In our country, it was in 2005 that domestic scholars began to launch related research with industrial poverty alleviation. The first one is about its concept. Even though Xu Xiang, Liang Chen and Wang Sangui didn’t give a clear introduction, all of them stressed the characteristics of being supportive, developing and regional[2]. The second one is various models of poverty alleviation. The current industrial poverty alleviation is mainly by rural industries, tourism, finance and e-commerce. If divided by the participant, it can be divided into stressing more on government than market, leading enterprises motivation, and government plus cooperative[3]. And the third one is that domestic scholars found out the shortage of manpower, material resources, financial resources and technology on the basis of literature and research. And the benefit gambling of government, enterprises and farmers was the main reason for the difficulty in poverty alleviation.

In summary, current scholars have increased their attention with poverty alleviation and made dramatic research results. However, due to the short time of developing targeted and industrial poverty alleviation, they lack the rational analysis with the behaviors of the three aspects, and tend to mix the industrial poverty alleviation with industrialized development.
II. ANALYSIS OF CURRENT SITUATION OF INDUSTRIAL POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN A TOWN

With the research object of A town of S province, the author learned the brief condition and current situation of industrial poverty alleviation here, and explored the existing problems.

A. Brief introduction of the poverty alleviation in A town

A town is located in the east of S province, including 53 administrative villages. The whole area is 173 square kilometers, and the altitude is between 450 and 1100. Its geographical condition is rather complex. Characterized by warm temperate continental monsoon climate, it is the optimized zone for apple industry. The town has an area of 69,560 mu, among which there are 47,219 mu arable areas. And farmers’ income mainly depends on the industry of pepper apple and breeding.

1) The statistics of poor households

The original registered poor households were 558, and the total number of people was 1719. After putting up the notice, the current poor households are 552, involving 1650 people. It includes that: the reserved registered 228 households, 563 people; expectant relieving poverty 287 households, 997 people; and newly-born 37 households, 90 people. 41 households, involving 142 people, have been deleted. The reducing rate is 3%. And the potential poor households are 5, including 17 people. Currently, the registered poor households are 552, 1650 people. According to the poverty type, the ordinary poverty is 248 households, 822 people; the low-income is 244 households, 763 people; the five-guarantee is 60 households, 65 people. Divided by the poverty cause, there are 50 households, 101 people lacking manpower or technology, 48 households, 164 people needing to afford their children’s education, 254 households, 758 people disturbed by diseases, 166 households, 499 people being disabled, and 34 households, 128 people troubled by other reasons. The new poor households are 37, involving 90 people, including 27 households, 70 people in ordinary poverty, 3 households, 3 people of five guarantees, and 7 households, 17 people being low-income. Based on the poverty cause, there are 6 households, 15 people lacking manpower or technology, 3 households, 7 people needing to afford their children’s education, 20 households, 54 people disturbed by diseases, and 8 households, 14 people being disable.

2) Publicity and Party building

The two committees of the town have established the leading group on poverty alleviation, held eight meetings to promote the work, four specialized training meeting, three progress forums, and two observation tours in the advanced villages. They are making efforts to research the poverty alleviation, regulate goals and task, and arrange specific procedures. Besides holding the related meetings, the town has also paid attention to the publicity and implementation of poverty alleviation. There were 50,000 colored pages, 280 banners printed in the town to publicize the related policies. And the Detailed Rules for the Implementation of Poverty Alleviation in A Town was published to implement the specific responsibilities of cadres and make sure that each work can be done well and everyone has his own responsibility. And all villages have filled in the “Individual itemized table of targeted poverty alleviation” and “Support record of targeted helping the poor”, and particularly made 53 publicizing slogans for administrative slogans, which were put up on the wall.

3) Work supervision

Firstly, the grass-root government officials signed Responsibility Agreement of Poverty Alleviation and Promising Paper of Targeted Poverty Alleviation to make sure that everyone is responsible to his own work. Secondly, four staffs with rich experiences were made to form a evaluation group, which has the right to check the work at any time. Thirdly, the disciplining committee has strengthened the supervision with the work, printing the Organization and Management of Poverty Alleviation, and talked with related cadres who have prominent contradicts, and insufficient sense of responsibility and working efficiency. Fourth, they have specifically connected the learning education of “two-learning and one-doing” with poverty alleviation, regularly and systematically integrated with organization construction and daily work, and provided a strong back for the whole victory of poverty alleviation.

B. Current situation of industrial poverty alleviation in A town

According to the Guidelines on Further Speeding up Industrial Poverty Alleviation printed by the city, Provisions of the Capital Management for Industrial Poverty Alleviation in S province printed by provincial financial department, and Providing Special Funds to Support Poverty Alleviation announced by the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Poverty Alleviation Office of State Council, the planned projects are mainly divided into the following kinds:

The first one is production development projects for poor households According to the type of rural industrial scale; they have provided necessary financial support to the poor households in terms of capital subsidies and discount loans. The financial aid standard is that: every household of the traditional breeding and planting can get no more than 5,000 Yuan; and the highest standard of agricultural and sideline product processing and modern agriculture technology cannot be more than 10,000 Yuan.

The second one is village collective economic development project. According to the characteristics of rural collective economy, the industries have been developed with various methods, demonstratively guiding the poverty alleviation of the poor. They changed the capital to share, resource to equity, and farmers to shareholders. Putting the specialized capital into rural collective economy with the form of share capital to truly motivate the industrial development of poor households. Make the industry benefit clear for household and dynamic management for capital profit. According to the declared fund in the shareholder agreement signed by the village committee and collective organization, the capital of every household cannot exceed 10 thousand Yuan. The third one is modern agriculture development project of new agricultural operation subjects. The new agricultural management, such as rural cooperative, rural enterprise combination and farms, should be
promoted so as to strengthen the relation with the poor households, lead them to participate in the projects and improve their family economy. The model of “government plus poor households” are encouraged to explore the new mode in poverty alleviation, like government investing in industrial parks for poverty alleviation, leasing and repurchasing enterprises’ site equipment, land custody and new-type farms. The financing fund subsidies are supposed to be implemented. Three-fifths of the fund is used to support those industrial projects for poor households, such as modern farming, construction, and small and micro enterprises. And the other is used to make poor households receive professional training, consulting service, market development and security monitoring.

C. Analysis of existing problems in the poverty alleviation of A town

1) Government lacks the macro-adjustment ability

(1) Irrational use of poverty alleviation capital. On the one hand, the national requirement with targeted capital and industrial poverty alleviation effects has been increased, which makes the local government consider more before making decisions. As a result, the funny phenomenon appears that they dare not randomly use money even though they have money. On the other hand, they fail to do the practical research and listen to the opinions of the masses in the implementation of “one policy for one household in one village”, which leads to the not obvious helping effect.

(2) The “reductionism” existing in the government. According to the survey, the “arithmetical” industrial poverty alleviation was implemented in A town, that is, helping the poor reach above the poverty alleviation line by calculating the distance from each poor household to the poverty alleviation line and the industrial poverty alleviation. Even though the “reductionism” thinking can satisfy the poverty alleviation of some poor households, it ignores the fact that poverty is a key problem caused by various factors and the situation of returning to poverty alleviation is serious.

(3) Imperfect plan for poverty alleviation project. According to the survey, at present, 9 town-level industrial poverty alleviation projects are being implemented, 3 poverty alleviation projects in the stage of implementation plan, and 2 poverty alleviation projects having been completed. Although there are relevant implementation plans, the main problem is the lack of detailed implementation plan, making it difficult to implement the project. Meanwhile, serious homogenization exists in enterprises, and the fierce competition exists in the same industry. Just regarding the industry of peppers, there are up to 25 enterprises.

2) Enterprises lack the ability to drive the poor to relieve poverty

(1) Obstacles existing in the cooperation between enterprises and poor households. At first, enterprises’ pursuit for benefit is disagreeing with the poverty alleviation, so their service content cannot meet the real demand of poor families. Then, their positions are not equal, which is shown that the enterprise is donating money and dominant in the cooperation. The information is asymmetric. Eventually, there exist some enterprises seeking their own profits by taking advantage of national poverty alleviation.

(2) Imperfect interest binding mechanism of “farmers, enterprises and market”. The new industrial poverty alleviation development model of “farmers, enterprises and market” in town A has a very low contract performance rate, which makes it difficult to form a community of shared responsibility and interests of “jointly resisting risks and sharing benefits”. Once affected by adverse climatic and environmental factors, enterprises’ under-pricing or “breaking an agreement” will easily lead to the termination or cancellation of purchase and sales contracts, which will result in farmers’ poverty again.

(3) Short industrial chains and low product added value. A town mainly develops apple, peach, pepper and other industries, but all of them are in the initial stage. There is no secondary processing, so the industrial chain and storage time are short, and the added value of the products is also very low. It has greatly restricted the production scale and market expansion of the industry and the industry development is not strong enough.

3) Poor households lack the ability to get themselves rid of poverty

(1) Rather low education and skill level of poor households. Among the poor households in A town, there are up to 38% who cannot read words, and 40.5% have the diploma of primary school, 21.2% graduating from junior high school, only 0.3% receiving education from senior high school and above. The general education level is rather low. This will not only lead to short-term poverty, but result in a disadvantaged position in the long-term competition, which can directly or indirectly hinder poor households’ skill improving and form a vicious cycle of poverty.

(2) Poor households’ insufficient enthusiasm with industrial poverty alleviation. In A town, numerous poverty-stricken households are forced by the government to participate in industrial projects in order to complete arranged poverty alleviation tasks. On the one hand, poverty culture makes poor households believe that food and clothing mean happiness; on the other hand, they are weak to resist risks. For example, A town once established the industry of pig raising, but failed. And poor households lost a lot of money, so their trust in the poverty alleviation industry promoted by the government is decreasing.

(3) The small number of poor households participating in poverty alleviation industry. Among the poor households in town A, the proportion of the disabled accounts for 54%, and 37% has to take care of the elderly or sick. Besides, it is common that children of these poor households go out to receive education, marry and work. So the rural labor force is in short supply.

III. METHOD SELECTION OF INDUSTRIAL POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Based on the above situation, the author put forward corresponding suggestions to solve the problems existing in industrial poverty alleviation.
A. Strengthen the macro-adjustment ability of the government

1. Make the poverty alleviation capital more targeted On the one hand, the government can establish cooperation organization through field research, put related fund to the organization, and help it more of standardization, profession and scale; on the other hand, the alleviation funds can be used to improve the initiative of the poverty-stricken households, such as rationally granting bonuses to the those taking an active part in industrial poverty alleviation, and granting subsidies to those whose interests are damaged due to the unstable development of the industry.

2. Scientifically manage poverty alleviation projects Firstly, when planning industrial poverty alleviation projects, the government should take various poverty causes of poor households into consideration such as family conditions, physical conditions, skills, etc., and build an open industrial households into consideration such as family conditions, government should take various poverty causes of poor when planning industrial poverty alleviation projects, the development of the industry.

B. Guide enterprises to motivate poverty alleviation

1. Strengthen the responsibility awareness of enterprises Firstly, strengthen ideological education, guide enterprises to realize the importance of thinking the source of success, promote enterprises to consciously establish a correct image, and fulfill the social responsibility of poverty alleviation and common development. Secondly, strengthen the model role of typical enterprises. In many industries of poverty alleviation, those enterprises with strong sense of responsibility and outstanding development should be selected, publicized and praised so as to promote the experience exchange and mutual learning among enterprises, and promote more and more enterprises to enhance their sense of responsibility.

2. Strengthen the mechanism for linking industrial interests Firstly, clarify responsibilities of each parties and establish a distribution system that benefits the poor households; secondly, the government should give related support in capital and policy for those excellent enterprises “doing true poverty alleviation and practical work and seeing result”; thirdly, enterprises and poor households should sign a contract, clarifying the authority of each party; fourthly, we can explore new cooperative ways, learn from the separation of management rights and ownership of some industries, and entrust them to more capable business entities so as to maintain and increase the value of the industries.

C. Cultivate the ability of poor households to lift themselves out of poverty

1. Raise the level of education and skills of the poor households the first one is strengthening training. The poverty-relief department can cooperate with the education department. The latter can formulate detailed and feasible training plans and carry out fundamental education training for poor households. The second one is depending on technological innovation. Only by integrating high-tech industries with agricultural production and teaching farmers how to use them can the efficiency and quality be improved. The third one is emphasizing education. Help farmers and their generation master knowledge and ability through education, realizing the transformation from “wisdom” to “folly”.

2. Encourage young people to start businesses in their hometowns some young people master certain skills and abilities by learning and working outside. The government should launch related inspiring policies to attract the young people to start business in their hometown. Such way can not only help the poor get rid of poverty but benefit all local farmers, achieve the income increase, and promote living standards and happiness.

IV. CONCLUSION

On the basis of the literature reading and researching A of S province, this paper made the introduction and analysis with the current status of poverty alleviation by industries, found out a series of problems existing in the poverty-relief development of government, enterprises and low-income families, and put forward corresponding suggestions of three aspects: promoting the macro-adjustment ability of government, guiding enterprises to strengthen the ability to motivate poverty alleviation, and train the poor to lift themselves out of the poverty. However, due to different circumstances in different areas and the limit time and space involved in this paper, the universality of this paper may be affected to some extent. So it may be not very representative in nationwide. The author will continue to conduct in-depth research on this topic.

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