

19th CPC NATIONAL CONGRESS

Xi urges all to strive for progress

Party and nation told to study and spread new judgment, requirements

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General Secretary Xi Jinping called on the whole Party and country on Oct 19 to make joint efforts to achieve progress in Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

Xi made the remark during a panel discussion with delegates from Guizhou province at the ongoing 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. In April, Xi was elected to be a delegate to the 19th National Congress from Guizhou. Mountainous Guizhou is typical of places that have implemented Xi's thoughts on poverty reduction.

The report of the 19th National Congress is a political manifesto and also action guideline for the CPC to lead people across the country to adhere to and develop Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, Xi said.

Xi urged the whole Party to study the new judgment of socialism with Chinese characteristics in this new time, the new definition of the country's principal contradiction, the new two-stage plan to make China a "great modern socialist country", and the new requirements of strictly building the Party.

According to the report delivered by Xi at the opening session on Wednesday, socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era. The report also said that the country's principal contradiction has evolved to be the one between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life.

In the report, Xi said that the CPC will basically realize socialist modern-



General Secretary Xi Jinping is given a panoramic photograph of the village of Huamao in Zunyi by the village's Party chief. Xi received it during a panel discussion with delegates from Guizhou province on Oct 19 at the ongoing 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in Beijing. LAN HONGGUANG / XINHUA

ization in the first stage from 2020 to 2035 before developing China into a "great modern socialist country" that is "prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful" after another 15 years.

The whole Party should launch a massive campaign to study the spirit of the 19th National Congress and publicize the relevant thoughts at government departments, rural places, schools, communities and the military, Xi said.

Xi spoke highly of Guizhou's achievements in areas like poverty reduction, ecological protection,

infrastructure construction and anti-corruption in the past five years.

During the discussion, Xi spoke at length with nine delegates and paid attention to issues like the new rule on farmland contracts, development of rural tourism and medical insurance in rural villages.

"If the base is not stable, the earth will move and the mountain will rock," he said while highlighting the importance of building Party organizations at grassroots level.

Noting that poverty reduction is the "battlefield" in current circumstances, Xi pledged to promote offi-

cialists who have dedicated themselves to poverty reduction and contributed to betterment of conditions for the poor.

Yang Bo, a village official in Liupanshui, said that after talking with Xi, he has become more confident about leading villagers to get out of poverty.

Sun Zhigang, secretary of the CPC Guizhou provincial committee, said that Xi's report has rolled out a visionary blueprint for the Party and country's development and improvement in the next decades.

"We are deeply inspired by Gen-

eral Secretary Xi's report," he said, adding that the report could give the people "the strength of belief".

Shen Yiqin, Guizhou province governor, said "Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era" is the biggest highlight of the 19th National Congress and a historic contribution to the Party's development.

"General Secretary Xi has assumed the great responsibility of fighting corruption with admirable courage, and such efforts have saved the Party, the military as well as the country," she said.

Achieving GDP goal easier with strong Q3

By XIN ZHIMING
and WANG YANFEI

China achieved solid year-on-year GDP growth of 6.9 percent in the first three quarters, putting it in a position to comfortably achieve its whole-year target of around 6.5 percent.

Analysts said the solid growth trend is expected to be carried into the fourth quarter.

Growth was 6.8 percent in the third quarter, compared with 6.9

percent in both first and second quarters, according to the National Bureau of Statistics. China has kept its growth within the 6.7 to 6.9 percent range for nine consecutive quarters.

"The resilience of (China's economic) development has significantly improved," said NBS spokesman Xing Zhihong on Oct 19.

China's industrial output grew at 6.7 percent in the first three quarters, up from 6 percent a year ago. Retail sales growth was 10.4 percent

in the January-September period, unchanged from a year ago, while fixed-asset investment growth eased to 7.5 per-cent, down from 8.2 percent in the same period last year.

Xing said China has also made progress in advancing its supply-side structural reform, with corporate debt levels and costs, for example, reduced year-on-year in the first three quarters.

The quality of growth has significantly improved, with residential income and corporate profits both

registering higher year-on-year growth, Xing said.

China has attached more importance to the quality of growth in recent years. Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said on Oct 18 during the Party's 19th National Congress that the country "has been transitioning from a phase of rapid growth to a stage of high-quality development".

It's likely that growth remain stable in the fourth quarter, said

Lian Ping, chief economist of Bank of Communications. "The property market and consumption will help stabilize growth in the fourth quarter."

Real estate development growth reached 8.1 percent in the first three quarters, 2.3 percentage points higher than a year ago. Consumption traditionally is robust in the fourth quarter.

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