

社評

政策路向正確 增長保八可期

昨日中國召開人大會議，總理溫家寶作了政府工作報告，回顧了去年的社會經濟發展，和部署了今年的工作計劃。目前全球都在竭力應付金融危機的衝擊，如溫總報告所述，中國也正就此作出巨大努力，最終必可讓中國經濟扭轉下滑勢頭，並走上復甦之路。這也將是中國對穩定世界經濟所能作出的最主要貢獻，在不斷惡化的國際局勢中露出一線希望。

報告指中國在去年已及時調整宏觀政策，全力保持經濟的平穩較快發展。隨着國內動力轉弱，出口表現亦因外需急降轉差，推出刺激經濟方案，確是防止出現硬着陸的關鍵。報告亦就未來要面對的挑戰作出了充分估計，指今年是新世紀開始以來經濟發展最為困難的一年，任務十分繁重。在形勢下舉國上下必須團結一致傾力以赴，務使刺激方案能全面落實。

對今年的工作，報告提出了四大原則：擴內需保增長，調結構上水平，抓改革增活力，和重民生促和諧等，成了科學的指引政策操作導向。在國際環境日劣下，保增長只能由擴大內需擔當主角，但這並非不顧出口，報告亦提出了要努力保持外貿穩定增長，和絕不放鬆推動出口。這確是十分正確的方針：維持出口不單是為了保增長，其中的加工出口更是創造就業的重要來源。由於聘用了大量民工，這也成了促進西部及內陸地區發展，和緩解三農問題的有效途徑。近月隨着出口下滑，即出現了大量民工賦閒返鄉。

此外，報告提出以百分之八為GDP增長目標更有特殊意義。過去多年來同樣提出百分之八的目標，卻是無關宏旨，誰都知道與最終實現增幅相去甚遠。但今年全然不同：這成了要努力爭取的目標，和全國投入奮戰的動員令。政府還為保增長配備了恰當的宏調策略：積極的財政政策及適度寬鬆的貨幣政策，可成為達成目標的有力保證。財政擴張力度不小，一下推出九千五百億元的赤字，達到了佔GDP百分之三的安全上限。貨幣擴張同樣力度甚強，廣義貨幣增長一成七，相對百分之八的GDP增長及百分之四的CPI通脹率，可謂十分寬鬆。強力擴張政策也為實施總額四萬億元的兩年投資計劃，提供了充足的支持。如按計劃實行，今明兩年每年平均可為經濟直接帶來百分之六至七的增長，再加上乘數效應，保八已無疑義。今年初段慣性作用令經濟還會稍為向下尋底，但在年中趨穩後當可逐漸復甦；到明年更可恢復強勁增長而令保八可期。更重要的是，中國將會向世界證明，可憑本身力量成功地通過危機的考驗。



3月5日人大會議在北京召開，溫家寶總理在政府工作報告中提出了「保八」目標

當然，在保增長中也不能搞唯GDP論，只要增長不及其餘。同樣重要者是借危機衝擊次弱留強，使經濟在量的擴張外同時實現質的提升，令復甦與增強效益相輔相成，當經濟走出低谷時競爭力也更強。因此，報告的大原則中強調了要優化結構、提高水平和推進改革。只有這樣才可達致質量並重，兼顧短期刺激與長期發展需要，和為持久高增長奠定更好的基礎。總之，有了正確的政策，配合全國力量和借助過往成績為基礎，保八目標定可實現，國人對此應抱堅定信念，並奮發圖強。

2009/03/06 大公报社評

Editorial

Goal of 8% growth can be attained

China's National People's Congress (NPC) yesterday opened its annual session. The Government Work Report delivered by Premier Wen Jiabao reviews the country's social and economic development in the past year and unveils this year's plan. Currently the whole world is devoting all efforts to dealing with the assaults of the financial crisis. As Premier Wen said in the Report, China is also making all-out efforts to handle the crisis. Such efforts will eventually put an end to the country's economic downturn and expedite a recovery. This will be the most important contribution China can make to stabilising the world economy, which sheds a ray of hope in the deteriorating international situation.

The Report points out that China already adjusted its macro-economic control policy last year to spare no pains to maintain a stable and relatively high-speed economic growth. As the economic driving forces at home became weaker and exports declined due to rapidly shrinking external demands, it was indeed crucial to launch economic stimulus measures in order to prevent a hard landing. The Report also gives an adequate appraisal of challenges the country is likely to face in future, pointing out that this year will be the most difficult year for economic development since the turn of this century and the task facing the nation will be very arduous. Under such circumstances, the whole nation must become united as one and spare no effort to implement the stimulus package.

On this year's work, the Report sets four principles: boosting domestic demand to ensure growth; proceeding with economic restructuring to accelerate the transformation of development pattern; continuing to deepen reform and opening up to strengthen economic vitality; and paying attention to people's livelihood to promote social harmony. These principles are the scientific orientation for policy operations. As the international environment increasingly worsens, boosting domestic demand will inevitably play a major role in sustaining economic growth. This however is by no means meant to ignore exports. Hence the Report also sets to strive for stable growth in foreign trade and spare no effort to boost exports. This is indeed a very correct principle. To sustain exports is not just for ensuring growth, because the processing exports in particular are a major source for jobs. Processing exports employ an enormous number of rural migrant workers and thus are an effective way to promote development in western and inland regions and to combat the 'san nong' (agriculture, rural economy and peasants) problem. With the decline of exports in recent months, a large number of migrant workers have lost their jobs and returned to their home villages.

Moreover, it is of special significance for the Report to set the 8% target for gross domestic product (GDP) growth. In each of past several years, the 8% growth target was also set, which then was of little relevance as everybody knew the actual achievement in the end would far exceed it. But it is completely different this year: the 8% growth is a goal that must be attained with great efforts and thus it is also national mobilization order for every citizen to throw himself into the combat. To ensure the growth the government has also taken an appropriate macro-economic strategy: pro-active fiscal policy and moderately loose monetary policy provide a forceful guarantee for the achievement of the goal. The fiscal expansion is quite impressive, with the deficit hitting 950 billion

yuan reaching the upper limit of 3% of the country's GDP. Monetary expansion is also quite forceful: broad money supply will increase 17% which is very loose compared with the 8% GDP growth and 4% inflation in Consumer Price Index (CPI). Powerful expansion policies also lend adequate support to the plan of investing with 4 trillion yuan in two years. The investment plan, if fully implemented, could boost the economy to grow 6-7% annually this year and the next, and with the multiplier effect the 8% growth goal can no doubt be attained. The economy may continue to go down early this year due to the downturn inertia, but it will tend to stabilise and gradually recover from the middle of the year. And next year the economy will resume its strength for 10% growth. More importantly, China will show the world that it can rely on its own efforts to successfully pass the test of the crisis.

Needless to say, while growth is to be ensured, GDP worship must be avoided which eyes on GDP growth alone while ignoring other aspects of development. What is equally important is to take the opportunity of the crisis to eliminate the weak and save the strong, so as to improve the quality (of the economy) while expanding the quantity. In this way, recovery and efficiency improvement could become complimentary so that the competitive edge could be sharpened in a time when the economy is bottoming out. On this, the major principles of the Report stress on optimising structure, accelerating the transformation of development pattern and continuing to deepen reform and opening up. Only in this way, can both quality and quantity be equally valued, can both short-term stimuli and the needs for long-term development be taken care of, so that a better foundation can be laid for long-lasting high-speed growth. All in all, with a good policy, with the coordination of the whole nation's strengths and based on past achievements, the goal to ensure 8% growth is bound to be attained. All compatriots must have a strong faith in this and work hard for the prosperity of the country.

6 March 2009

Phrasal Verb: Devote something to someone/something; devote something to doing something - To give an amount of time, energy or attention..... etc. to someone or (doing) something. Examples: 1. He devotes all his time to the struggle for justice. 2. She gave up her work to devote more time to her children. 3. I'll devote a few of my people to your project. 4. The report recommends that more resources be devoted to teaching four-year olds. 5. Several courses have been devoted to improving students' language skills.

中文基本功

《論語》 亡字兼作無字用

《論語》是古書，用的當然是古字。有的古字，今天仍用；有的古字，已改成今字；有的仍然未改。這是閱讀此書應具備的知識。逢星期日晚上在香港電台講解《論語》的，似乎未諳此道，且舉一月廿五日晚上的例子給大家參考。

當晚《解構經典》主持人講到《雍也》篇孔子的一句話：「有顏回者好學，不遷怒，不貳過，不幸短命死矣，今也則亡……」把亡字讀成死亡的亡，那就大錯特錯！

《論語》成書於春秋戰國之交。當時有無的無，是寫成亡的。書中「今也則亡」，譯為白話文就是：「現在已經沒有了！」今本《論語》的無字，都是後人追改。除了把亡字改成無字，也把毋字改成無字（就是

戰國時期的諸子百家，包括《孟子》在內，書中的無字也是後人追改，絕非原字）。可惜歷代改字，沒有改清，才會有「今也則亡」之例。因此，「今也則亡」應照原意，讀成「今也則無」才合。

亡字在春秋戰國時期，是個多字：除作無字用，還用來比喻逃亡（這是亡字的本義），還用來比喻忘記。《詩經》有一篇《綠衣》，其中「心之憂矣，曷維其亡」這一句的亡字，就是忘的本字。亡字下邊加個心，變成忘字，那是漢代的事了。

讀古書，要了解漢字源流、熟讀古史，這實在不容易做到；但如果沒有這個根底，極易出錯。倚賴前人的經解，依賴字典的註釋，都是不夠的。 容若

五星級英文



孩子是否吃得消

有個學生考試全級十名內，見到我高興地報告這事，還說老師當着全班說沒想到她有這樣的成績。後來和她父親談起，他也說：「我了解自己的女兒，見她拿到這樣的成績也覺得意外。」跟着他又問：「如果不繼續上你的課，學生可否保持已得到的水平？又如果繼續上你的課，學生是否可一步步前進，得到更好的成績？」

假若我是以考英文為專業，或者我會鼓勵學生繼續上課，不單是為了學費，也是保持學生人數。但因為我的目標是做大作家，教英文始終是興趣而已，所以我的回答是：「這是因人而異。有些學生上了10課，已可以掌握到方法，甚至進一步尋求更適合的學習方法，自己推動自己。另一些沒有掌握到方法，卻因課程使他們愛上學英文，於是沒有方法也可與英文交成知己朋友，於是不需上課。不如你試試停一停，不再送女兒來讀我的課程，看看她的進度，自然知道結果。」

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過了不久，學生的母親來找我，說希望跟我談談。

自從創立了一套課程後，學生家長都用各種方法找機會與我談話。初時我很少「應酬」，主要是家長太喜歡向我投訴學生，說學生在家裡怎樣不聽話。我的反應是：「上課時他很好，很聽話。」家長說：「我也知道，他也告訴我你在課堂上經常稱讚他，但在家裡他真的很不聽話。」久而久之，覺得家長把我看成「申訴專員」，專門處理孩子在家不能達到家長要求的個案。

父母期望勿離實際

雖然有了不少經驗，但上述那學生的母親仍給我驚嚇的效果。問她對女兒的考試成績滿不滿意時，她說：「不滿意。」

說驚嚇效果，是因為她對女兒的期望太高，甚至脫離實際。上了我的課一學期，如果是課程令她女兒大有進步，她對女兒的期望也大躍進。孩子吃得消嗎？（與家長對話，一）

社經「數」描

「保八」任務有望完成

國際金融海嘯，美國政府花9000億美元救市，中國政府則用4萬億元公共投資方式注入市場，反映兩國政府在不同經濟體系有不同策略。美國經濟學家認為刺激內需，以刺激消費，實質效益不大。股市下跌，人民財富減少，消費減少，但長遠而言，隨着財富增加以及人民收入的變化，消費仍會增長，但增長的速度會放緩，問題在於現時刻意刺激消費，當日後經濟復甦，消費增長的速度相信要加大調控才不致引起過快的通脹。不過，中國經濟自有其一套調節方式，將公共投資注入股市體系，未必適合中國救市的基調。

貿易方面，08年第4季中國出口開始下滑，預計09年外貿仍處順差，但外貿或會減少，甚至是負增長。

另一方面，企業利潤和投資或會下滑，09年國家固定資產投資大約是17萬億元，政府將4萬億元注入市場，09年落實的只是萬多億，對市場的影響約是10%，將消費和內需、貿易、企業利潤和投資因素組合推測，「保八」還有多少端倪可窺，倘能「保八」，中國經濟能軟着陸的情況較為樂觀。

國際貨幣基金組織、世界銀行、各個評級機構紛紛對中國「保八」表示樂觀，最保守的預計是2009年，中國的增長在7.5%左右，由此觀之，「保八」的任務大有可能實現，惟動用的4萬億元必須提高勞動生產率，改善投資質量，加強醫療及教育的改革才行。 專業教育培訓顧問 呂康

通識記憶體 政府工作報告 「兩會」討論焦點

政府工作報告是中國政府匯報地方工作進程的文件，每年各級政府都在召開人民代表大會會議和政協協商會議（俗稱「兩會」）前，向大會主席團、與會人大代表和政協委員發布這一報告。

政府工作報告結構通常由回顧一年來工作、每年工作任務、政府各級建設組成。

2008年中國國務院政府工作報告顯示，07年國內生產總值達24萬億元人民幣，增長達10.6%，躍升到世界第4位；物價指數方面，08年通脹控制在4.8%水平。

工作報告說明，07年財政收入比預期多7000多億元人民幣，投放了5625

億元解決「三農」問題。

2009年3月5日，國務院總理溫家寶發表的政府工作報告指出，08年國內生產總值超過30萬億元，增長了9%；而物價總水平漲幅就得到控制。在糧食產量方面，中國連續5年增產，總產量10,570億斤，創歷史最高水平。

08年5月，中國經歷了汶川大地震的重創，下半年又受到國際金融海嘯衝擊，加上09年是實施「十一五」規劃的關鍵之年，也是進入新世紀以來中國經濟發展最困難的一年，改革發展穩定的任務十分繁重。

因此，09年政府工作報告中，中央財政擬安排7161億元投入「三農」；投入1300億元用於地震災區災後重建。