

發展經濟民生機遇不可再錯失

中英社評

香港同胞慶祝中華人民共和國成立66周年籌備委員會昨日舉行會議，「中聯辦」主任張曉明在會上講話，既向籌委會介紹了當前國家的重點方針和發展成就，也就特區在「後政改」時期的工作提出了「擱下政治爭拗、聚力經濟民生」的意見，值得參考和關注。

張曉明在講話中提到兩個「錯失」。第一個「錯失」，是錯失了2017普選行政長官的良機。張曉明指出，由於反對派議員的攔阻反對，方案未能在立法會通過。這一結果，違背了港人社會的主流民意，也非中央所願見，投下反對票的議員對此負有不可推卸的歷史責任。

這第一個錯失，性質是嚴重的，損失也是巨大的，「蘇州過後沒艇搭」，港人社會什麼時候才能重啟政改，正是遙遙無期、不知伊于胡底。而錯失既已無法挽回，眼前更重要的就是振奮心情、重新上路，不能讓悲觀失望及對立對抗的情緒蔓延，否則，社會繼續陷入無休止的爭拗和撕裂之中，不能集中精力去幹一些別的事情，損失只會更大。

因此，張曉明在講話提出了第二個「錯失」，張主任指出：為了保持香港國際金融、貿易和航運中心的地位，為了保持香港的國際競爭力及優勢，為了香港全體人民的福祉和下一代，實在不應該再把精力耗費在不應該耗費的地方，不應該在無休止的爭拗中再錯失發展的良機。全社會應該齊心協力，支持特區政府把施政的重心轉移到發展經濟、改善民生，促進社會和諧，再謀劃香港的經濟發展戰略，解決房屋問題及青年創業艱難等社會關注的突出問題，要多做一些實事。

為了達成此一目標，張曉明表示，



▲「中聯辦」主任張曉明就特區在「後政改」時期的工作提出了「擱下政治爭拗、聚力經濟民生」的意見

「中聯辦」今後願意在促進香港與內地之間的交流合作，以及拓展香港社會的發展機遇方面，為特區政府和社會各界做一些力所能及的事。

而且，為了呼籲和推動全社會都集中注意力發展經濟、改善民生，張曉明還罕有地作出了一個「特別的」承諾：在政改問題上，「從今天起，我會自動收聲」，因為過去已經講得太多、該講的也都已經講了。

事實是，在政改之爭告一段落之後，特首梁振英已經第一時間「廣告天下」：未來特區政府的施政方針將會重返正軌，集中精力發展經濟、改善民生，希望各方停止政治爭拗，共同為香港把事情做好，並且坐言起行，馬上邀約反對派議員會面商談經民事項。眼前，張曉明主任亦作出同一呼籲，而且，政改議題莫說爭拗，就

是連講也不再講了，到此為止，「自動收聲」。

梁振英和張曉明的講話，在社會上已引起了強烈的回響，正是人同此心、心同此理。20個月的政制爭拗，由於反對派派系綁架對人大8·31的決定，堅持違反基本法的「公民提名」，令到政制向前發展和實現普選這一合情合理、合憲合法的大好事變為一場激烈的政治爭拗和對抗，全港市民對此不僅深感無奈，同時也愈來愈感到困擾以至厭倦。如今普選方案已被反對派議員扼殺，特區政府和中央一致呼籲港人社會擱下爭拗、抓緊機遇、發展經濟、改善民生，正是全港市民的共同利益和共同意願，港人社會千萬不能「二次錯失」，在錯失普選良機之後再錯失發展經濟、改善民生的機遇。

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Opportunity for economic development and improvement of people's livelihood mustn't be missed again

The Preparatory Committee of Hong Kong Compatriots for the Celebration of the 66th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) yesterday held a meeting. Director Zhang Xiaoming of the Central Government Liaison Office in the Hong Kong SAR (CGLO) delivered a speech at the meeting, in which he **briefed** the committee about the country's current policy principles and achievements in development, and also put forward his opinion about "shelving political antagonism to focus on the economy and people's livelihood" for the post-political-reform SAR.

In his speech, Zhang Xiaoming mentioned two "losses [of opportunities]."

The first "loss" is the loss of the opportunity for the 2017 election of the Chief Executive (CE) by universal suffrage. Zhang Xiaoming pointed out that because of the opposition lawmakers "banding together" against it, the proposal for the political reform failed to pass the Legislative Council (Legco). This result ran against the mainstream public opinion in Hong Kong society and was something the central government was unwilling to witness, and for this, those lawmakers who voted down the proposal bore unshirkable historic responsibility.

This first loss of opportunity is serious in nature and causes enormous losses. **"Opportunity knocks only once."** Now it remains unknown when Hong Kong society could restart the political reform, which seems to be far in the indefinite future. A lost opportunity can never be retrieved. What is the most important right now is to boost morale and move on, rather than to let pessimism, disappointment and antagonist sentiments continue spreading. Otherwise, Hong Kong society will continue sinking into endless antagonism and splitting, unable to concentrate on some other matters. Then the losses would become even more enormous.

In this regard, Zhang Xiaoming talked about the second "loss of opportunity" in his speech. Director Zhang pointed out: In order to maintain Hong Kong's status as an international financial, trade and shipping hub, in order to maintain Hong Kong's international competitiveness and advantages, and for the sake of the welfare of all Hong Kong people and their next generations, Hong Kong really should no longer waste energy where it should not be wasted and should not again miss the good opportunity for development amid endless antagonism. The whole of society should **be of one mind** to support the SAR Government shifting its focus of governance onto economic development and improvement of people's livelihood, so as to promote social harmony, **map out** Hong Kong's new strategy for economic development, solve outstanding problems in society such as the housing problem and difficulties for young people to start their businesses and careers, and handle more concrete affairs in a down-to-earth manner.

To achieve this aim, Zhang Xiaoming said CGLO was willing to do whatever it could from now on for the SAR Government and various sectors in Hong Kong society to help promote the exchange and cooperation between Hong Kong and the Mainland and expand development opportunities for Hong Kong society.

Moreover, to appeal for the push the whole society to concentrate on economic development, Zhang Xiaoming even rarely made a "special" promise: "From today on, I'll voluntarily shut up" on the issue of political reform, because too much had been said before and what should be said had already been said.

As a matter of fact, when the controversy over political reform came to a conclusion, CE Leung Chun-ying had immediately announced publicly: the SAR Government's governance would be back on the right track and concentrate on economic development and improvement of people's livelihood, and hoped all parties to stop political antagonism and jointly concentrate on properly handling concrete affairs for Hong Kong society. And no sooner he had said than he started to act by inviting opposition lawmakers for meetings to discuss economic and people's livelihood issues. Now Director Zhang Xiaoming made the same appeal. Moreover, he advised and took the lead to "voluntarily shut up" on the political reform, let alone to argue about it.

Leung Chun-ying and Zhang Xiaoming's talks have found a

responsive echo in society. People indeed feel and think alike on this matter. The antagonism over political reform lasted for 20 months. The opposition "banding together" against the August 31 Decision by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) and insisting on having "nomination by petition" that violates the Basic Law had turned such a great logical, reasonable, constitutional and legal matter of advancing political reform to achieve universal suffrage into a fierce political antagonism and confrontation. Hong Kong citizens had not only felt utterly helpless but also become increasingly disturbed and puzzled. Now that the political reform proposal has been strangled by the opposition lawmakers, the SAR and Central Government both appeal for Hong Kong society to **put aside** antagonism and grab opportunities for economic development and improvement of people's livelihood. This exactly is for Hong Kong people's common interests and spells out their common aspiration. Hong Kong society must make sure the second "loss of opportunity" won't happen, so as not to miss the opportunity for economic development and improvement of people's livelihood after missing the good opportunity for implementing universal suffrage.

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WORDS AND USAGE

Brief sb about/on sth (phrasal verb) - To tell someone a summary with the essential details about something. (向……簡要介紹情況，簡介)
Examples: 1. We need to brief the president about the latest event. 2. We had already been briefed on what the job would entail.

Opportunity knocks but/only once (proverb) - You will only have one chance to do something important or profitable. ("Opportunity knocks" is meant that someone's chance to do something important is here right now.) (機會只有一次，機不可失)
Examples: 1. Opportunity knocks but once, so we must make the most of it. 2. Opportunity knocks only once. You never know if you'll get another opportunity.

(Be) of one mind (about sb/sth) (idiom) - If two or more people are of one mind, they agree with each other about something. (齊心協力，上下一心)
Examples: 1. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. 2. You will have to attend one of the state universities. Your father and I are of one mind about this.

Map sth out (phrasal verb) - To decide in detail how something will be done. (制定，籌劃)
Examples: 1. She is mapping out lesson plans for teachers who work with below-average readers. 2. When we mapped it out before we began this project, we thought we would be finished by now.

Put sth aside (phrasal verb) - If you put a disagreement or problem aside, you ignore it temporarily so that it does not prevent you doing what you want to do. (擱置，撇開)
Examples: 1. Let's put our differences aside and make a fresh start. Can we put that question aside for now, and come back to it later?

時事英語

自動駕駛汽車研發中

兩周前本欄談到在美國的「DARPA機械人挑戰賽」中，參賽機械人的表現大多差強人意 (barely satisfactory)。不過，參賽者都是所謂「人形」機械人 (humanoid robot)，且被要求模仿 (imitate) 人的一些動作。結果表明，這對現今水準的機械人來說難度仍然很大。

不過，隨著電腦科技的發展，自動化技術 (automation) 在較單調 (monotonous) 和標準化操作 (standardised operation) 方面的應用卻有長足進展。現在，所謂「機械手」(robotic arm) 已廣泛應用在一些製造業的生產線 (production line) —— 例如汽車裝配線 (automobile assembly line) —— 上，代替工人從事一些機械式的重複性勞動，大大提高生產率 (productivity)、加工精度 (precision) 和產品的標準化 (standardisation)。

今天，「自動駕駛儀」(autopilot) 也已成爲飛機不可或缺的裝備，它能按技術要求自動控制飛行和輔助飛行員操縱飛機。如果一架飛機在自動駕駛儀操控下飛行，英文可說：It is on autopilot。而 on autopilot 也已成爲一個習語，形容一個人不經思索而習慣性地做某事，如：By the second week of the election campaign, she was making all her speeches on autopilot。除飛機外，遠洋輪船、太空飛船 (spaceship) 也都裝備自動駕駛儀。

於是，人們自然會想到將自動駕駛技術應用到汽車上。現今至少有兩家跨國企業：美國谷歌 (Google) 公司和英國的德爾福汽車公司 (Delphi Automotive) 都在研發「自動駕駛汽車」(self-driving car)，且已造出試驗樣車 (prototype) 在路面試行。6月23日，兩家競爭對手的樣車在美國硅谷 (Silicon Valley) 的路上試行時，德爾福車想切線 (change lanes)，受到谷歌車的阻攔，兩車差點兒相撞，成爲新聞。有報道形容兩車「死裡逃生」(had a close call)。當然自動駕駛汽車仍在研發階段，諸多方面仍有待改進。不過，兩車能在關鍵時刻避過相撞，卻也說明研發已有很大進展。

亦然

走出校園

文學治療

文學能帶給人幸福感，是交流的幸福回憶。閱讀文學作品會發現個人的卑微，看了世界不同悲劇而感到的渺小，從而達到自我安慰和撫平傷口的作用。文學能解開個人迷思，改變思想和行爲；文學能推動人走向正面，從悲痛中走出來，這就是文學治療，可使人的思想邁向積極正面。

文學治療當然是透過自己最熟悉的語文閱讀，才有效果。西漢學者劉向曾言：「書猶藥也，善讀者可以治愚。」文學的治療效果則是通過作者與讀者之間的語言虛構世界而實現，透過讀者與作者的心靈對話，達致投射、認同、淨化、領悟等不同的治療功能，促進讀者的正向思維、行爲矯正和道德修養。

文學治療有各種形式，它能透過詩詞、歌曲、散文、小說等作品的閱讀，告訴你也是天涯淪落人，解決問題不只一種方法，讓我們了解人類的思想、行爲和動機。除了文學閱讀治療，還有文學寫作治療，透過創作抒發個人情緒，從而舒緩心靈的創傷。創作形式可以是一篇日記、一首詩詞、一則小品文、一篇散文或一本小說。作者如能直抒胸臆，就能釋懷，達致心身暢快。

古往今來，不少優秀的作品成爲治療心性的工具。正如魯迅和台灣文學之父賴和，同樣是醫生，但他們最終放棄醫人身體的工作，選擇成爲作家，因爲他們認爲文章才能治人之心，治心比醫皮囊更重要。結果，他們寫了不少揭露人性醜陋和改變人性的佳作。

今天，亞洲部分學校和醫院採用了「發展閱讀療法」，旨在促進和維護讀者的心理和精神健康，透過文學和個人情感之間的互動，養成開懷豁達的愉悅之情，有助人們解決各種情感問題。

職訓局語文策劃及發展辦事處語文講師 謝惠芝

齊來環保

東華三院小學獲「綠優校園」認證

11間東華三院小學於落實環保的表現，獲頒「綠優校園」認證，其中有四校獲得「最優秀表現獎」。另外，五位來自不同小學的學生，在參與中華電力綠戰士環保教育網站及獎勵計劃中表現突出，獲得「最優秀綠戰士」稱號。

環境保護署署長王倩儀、中電總裁潘偉賢和東華三院主席兼名譽校監何超蓮主持「綠優校園」認證先導計劃暨「綠戰士」環保教育網站及獎勵計劃頒獎禮。綠優校園認證先導計劃由中電推行，與東華三院、綠色力量及世界自然基金會香港分會合作，在2014/15學年間，爲11間東華小學的6400多名學生，提供與衣食住行等日常生活相關的環保活動及工具，鼓勵學生按環保實踐手冊的小貼士，在生活細節上逐一落實綠色任務。該計劃並向校方提供校本節能、環保評估清單及輔助教材，並爲部分學校提供能源審核，提供學校節能表現。

四間獲得「最優秀表現獎」的東華學校，是羅裕積、黃士心、李東海，以及姚達之紀念小學 (元朗)，其師生可參與由綠色力量舉辦的自然生態導賞團，到沙洲及龍鼓洲海岸公園、橋咀洲地質公園或南生園，探索大自然。得獎的五位綠戰士，包括高主教書院小學的周浚林和民生書院小學的吳芷晴，將於暑假到內地參觀再生能源設施。