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社会管理的视角



张 一 著

The Research on Price Factors of Influencing Social Stability
——From the Perspective of Social Administration

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社会管理论丛

卷一

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摘 要

“我懂得两个问题可以危及到社会的稳定及政权的巩固，一个是贪污腐败问题，一个是物价问题。”总理的警示依旧萦绕于心。通观历史，无论过去还是现在，物价过度上涨，特别是“民生物价”的波动，都是影响社会和谐稳定的基本原因。物价既影响经济发展全局，又关系社会稳定大势，解决物价问题已成为促进社会和谐的战略选择。

国际金融危机爆发之后，物价上涨成为最受中国老百姓普遍关注的热点问题。社会稳定的基础是人心稳定，而物价波动必然带来人心波动，影响社会预期，甚至使人们对未来社会处境担忧，产生悲观情绪，冲击正常的社会心理，造成利益受损者改变现状的期待。一遇风吹草动，就可能导致群体性事件的发生，影响社会稳定。物价持续上涨，导致相当一部分社会成员的财富急剧缩水，尤其值得注意的是由于物价上涨受损最直接、最严重的是低收入群体，他们没有能力像富裕阶层那样采取有效措施以规避金融风险，只能听之任之。按照“木桶效应”理论，当社会无法使低收入者这块“短板”接长并保持完好，“木桶”就无法盛满水，必然导致社会发展受限。持续的物价上涨必然延长并加剧对老百姓生活的影响，对城乡居民消费产生挤压或抑制效应，进而影响扩大内需的实现。

物价问题在本质上仍是利益问题，是涉及群众切身利益的现实问题。改革开放到当前阶段，已经显露出关于“利益分配”层面的缺陷，而物价上涨的承受力是居民利益是否受损的真实尺子。物价问题具有利益属性，利益问题是一切社会关系的核心。马克思认为：“人们奋斗所争取的一切，都同他们的利益有关。”在市场经济条件下，利益在不同群体间分布的不均衡不可避免，但必须适度，倘若超出社会中某一群体的承受能力，就会影响社会稳定甚至引发社会危机。物价问题可以说不算是一个新问题，但它在当前经济社会转型的深刻背景下，又被时代赋予了新的特点，在利益主体过度分化的条件下，物价上涨引发各阶层苦乐不均的问题

应当引起关注,在一定程度上很容易引发一些我们没有遇到过的不熟悉的情况和问题,特别是在我国进入经济快速发展的轨道之后,贫富分化严重、利益冲突较多,新旧矛盾相互交织,不确定性增强,社会不稳定因素明显增加。

物价上涨的后果主要有:其一,扩大贫富差距。尽管物价上涨波及的范围是全面的,但是对不同收入阶层影响的程度却有着天壤之别。广大的中低收入者的资产结构比较单一甚至没有资产,规避风险的能力低下。当前物价上涨的负面影响在使另外一部分人受益的同时,导致一部分人利益受损,贫富差距由此扩大。其二,影响心理稳定。物价问题是最容易影响社会心理稳定的因素,社会不满情绪的滋生蔓延往往源于物价上涨。在物价过度上涨时,富人财富的诱惑力也更容易被放大,从而加大中国人的“仇富心理”,加剧对分配不公、行业垄断、权力寻租、不正当致富等情况的强烈不满。由物价上涨连锁引起的一些公共物品的涨价势必也会加剧对“上学难、住房难、看病难”的不满情绪。其三,破坏社会秩序。物价上涨不仅导致社会心理的焦虑,也极有可能使一些社会秩序不能得到正常的遵守和维护。物价上涨事实上构成了对正常社会秩序的威胁,不仅使公众和社会蒙受极大损失,处理不好还将使政府形象和声誉受到严重损害,并导致社会经济生活秩序的混乱。

当前中国正处在矛盾凸显期,大规模突发性群体事件和集体上访事件接连不断,几乎没有不涉及利益关系的,尤其是这些冲突基本上都是发生在低收入群体之中。科塞说,引起社会冲突的起因之一就是“不平等系统中的下层成员越怀疑现在的稀缺资源分配方式的合法性,他们就越可能起来斗争”。当他们的合法权益受到侵害而无法通过正常渠道维护自己的合法权益的时候,他们便会采取一些伤害、威胁他人和牺牲自己等激烈甚至是群体性事件来寻求解决问题的途径,使得影响社会稳定的危险因素大为增加。诸如前一段的长沙楼盘被砸、拆迁抗争、河南农民因“谷贱伤农”而自杀、重庆等地的出租车罢运等标志性事件,虽然发生在局部地区,却值得警惕。稳定是当今中国的大局,能否妥善解决物价问题是事关经济社会持续稳定的大事。

物价问题归根结底是利益分配问题。在利益主体过度分化的条件下,稳定物价变得更加困难。在宏观经济调控中,为控制物价过度上涨,政府不得不过多地动用行政手段,为照顾困难群体也不得不过多地采用行政限

价措施,这样一来市场化改革就更加困难。但是历史经验表明,市场机制不能自然地实现不同群体利益的平衡,解决利益的公平分配问题是无法靠市场来完成的,也不能避免影响物价上涨所引发的生产的自发性和盲目性,极有可能孕育出如同“社会瘟疫”一样的经济危机,对经济、政治和每一个人的生活都带来沉重打击。特别值得注意的是,物价上涨是在我国经济增长成功之后出现的现象,这也从侧面证明了靠经济增长并不能解决包括物价在内的一切问题,更不一定自动带来人民生活水平的普遍提高。纵观世界维护社会稳定与化解经济危机的理论与成功的实践来看,均是在经济发展的基础上,通过对社会的有效管理,促使社会保持相对团结包容的状态,通过制度化的机制与安排,使各种社会诉求得以回应,社会矛盾得以消解,社会张力能够得以释放,反过来在一定程度上为经济的发展及危机的解决创造良好的社会环境。可以说,控制物价上涨的市场“失灵”,为发挥社会管理在促进物价稳定过程中的作用提供了空间。

物价关系社会经济发展的全局,成因复杂。通过创新社会管理管好物价,应该成为目前我国社会管理的最重要目标。“社会管理的基本任务包括协调社会关系、规范社会行为、解决社会问题、化解社会矛盾、促进社会公正、应对社会风险、保持社会稳定等方面。”可以看出,维护社会稳定是社会管理的基本目的。从表面上看物价是个经济问题,但从其形成的原因和影响范围来看,物价关系老百姓的生存状况和发展环境,关系社会稳定的大局,是社会管理的基本任务之一。我国正在经历着由充分释放市场力量向保护社会秩序的“大转型”过程,将物价治理作为社会管理的重要内容,是“以人为本”理念和“经济结构中的社会嵌入性”这一基本逻辑决定的。

“以人为本”是治理物价的基本出发点,从社会发展的综合性、长远性角度来考量稳定物价问题,将治理物价作为社会管理的重要内容,探讨物价稳定和民生保障之间的关系,是从根本上解决物价上涨问题的重要途径。社会管理的根本任务是维护社会秩序、促进社会和谐、保证人民安居乐业,具有“与社会成员日常生活和根本利益的直接相关性、非经济性的社会目标,能够满足社会成员的基本需求、解决社会问题、维护公平正义、保持社会稳定和提升社会福利等”。将稳定物价作为社会管理重要内容的根本意义,在于有效的社会管理能够给人民群众创造一个良好的工作和生活环境,协调群体利益,熨平社会失衡心理,从而推进社会发展和人

的全面发展。在经济发展的新形势下,将稳定物价作为社会管理的重要内容,解决人民群众关心的生存条件问题,体现了社会管理“以人为本”的核心理念。只有管好物价,才能增进社会团结,奠定构建和谐社会的群众基础。

物价问题既是经济问题,又是社会问题,涉及社会生活的方方面面。解决物价问题,可以提振信心,特别是在物价飞涨的关键时期,稳定物价就是稳定社会,同时又可以促进社会公平,改善社会风气。尽管稳定物价的关键是商品的供求平衡,但实现这种平衡的心理因素必须引起足够重视。在一个缺乏社会管理的社会,一些利欲熏心的人制造恐慌,囤积居奇,即便生产发展,物价不稳也不可避免。在这种情况下,通过社会管理,借助国家和社会的力量,依法协调保障各方利益,从政策取向上找准共同利益与具体利益的结合点,通过利益整合,使各个利益群体公正合理地分享社会发展成果,分担物价上涨所带来的损失,维护社会公平正义,就显得非常必要和紧迫。物价上涨过程中的社会管理,通过充分调动社会各群体的社会参与,能够密切政府与社会各阶层的联系,为经济宏观调控创造良好的社会环境。

解决物价问题是创新社会管理的关键环节,对实现社会和谐具有十分现实的意义。社会管理创新的必要性,源于我国社会发展与治理不同步而导致的社会问题丛生、社会矛盾加深。传统的形成于计划经济时期的社会管理体制机制已经不适应新形势的需要,严重阻碍社会的和谐发展与进步,需要不断进行改革与创新。在当下,物价问题已成为“维护社会秩序、促进社会和谐”的关键,治理物价必须加强和创新社会管理,要求国家和社会关注物价上涨给社会及其成员所带来的影响和变化,针对这些影响和变化调整社会管理理念、政策、手段,形成良好的社会氛围,才能遏制影响物价的非经济因素,保持社会稳定,使社会管理能够在适度消除物价上涨的负面影响中发挥作用,做出制度安排,创造稳定物价的长效机制,凝聚人心,有效化解物价上涨造成的社会矛盾和冲突,回应百姓诉求,调节利益关系,切实保障不同收入阶层群众的基本生活不因物价上涨而受到严重影响。

关键词: 物价上涨 社会稳定 利益 社会管理 创新

Abstract

"I know that two problems can endanger the stability of the society and the consolidation of power. One is corruption, and the other is the price." Prime minister's warning still exists. Throughout history, no matter past or present, excessive price rising, especially the fluctuation of price on the people's wellbeing is the basic reason that affects social stability and harmony. The price will not only affect the overall development of the economy, but also affect social stability. Therefore, solving the price problem has become a strategic choice to promote harmonious society.

After the international financial crisis, rising price has become the hot issue that Chinese people are most concerned about. Reassuring the public is the base of social stability, but commodity price will bring people's fluctuations, and affects social expectations, even People will fear for the future situation, then produce negative emotions. What will impact the normal social psychology and cause the interest - impaired to have an expectation to change the present situation. Once something changes, the group events will happen and affect social stability. The rising price makes the most social members' wealth shrink dramatically. In particular, rising price will be the most direct and serious factor that affects the low - income groups, because they have no ability to take effective measures to avoid financial risk but the rich persons can. According to "bucket effect" theory, the bucket's volume, does not depend on the longest piece of wood but on the shortest one. When the society can't make the low - income groups who are like "short board" longer and in good condition, "bucket" will not be filled with water, then that will limit the development of society. The rising price will seriously affect people living and inhibit consumption of urban and rural residents, then impact the realization of the basic state

policy of expanding domestic demand.

The price question in essence is still a interest problem and the real problem that involve the vital interests of people. Since the reform and opening up, the society has revealed defects about “distribution of interests”, the residents’ acceptability of rising price is the ruler of their interests. The price question has interests attribute, interest is the core of all social relations. Marx thinks: “what the people strive for, all related to their interests.” Under the market economy condition, the interest’s unbalanced distribution in different groups is inevitable, but must be moderate. If it exceeds the bear ability of a social group, it will affect social stability and even cause social crisis. The price question can’t be a new problem, but under the background of economic and social transformation, it has been endowed new features. Under the background of the interest subjects’ excessive differentiation, we should pay attention to the problem which the rising price has caused and made the social strata some happy some pain, otherwise it will be easy to cause some new problem what we haven’t met, especially in the current circumstances: our country economy is developing fast, the polarization between the rich and the poor gets serious, there are more conflicts of interest, old and new contradictions are intertwined, uncertainty is increasing. Social unstable factors are increased obviously.

The major consequences of rising price are: First, it expands the gap between rich and poor. Despite rising price will affect all of the people, but for different income levels influence is different. The assets structure of most low-income groups is single or even they have no assets, so they don’t have much ability to avoid risk. The negative effect of current price rising is that make part of the person’s benefit damaged, and the others’ beneficial. Second, it influences people’s psychological stability. The price problem is the factor that most easily influences social psychological stability. The production and spread for social discontent often stems from a rising price. When price overly goes up, the temptation of the wealth is also easier to be amplified, and then deepening the mentality for “resenting the rich”, aggravating the strong discontent with unfair distribution、monopoly of industries、abusing the power for personal gains and making fortune in illegal ways. Increase of some public goods in price that

caused by rising price is bound to increase the dissatisfaction with difficulty in affording tuition, difficulty in buying a house and difficulty in seeking proper health care. Third, it destroys the social order. Rising price not only can lead to social psychological anxiety, and it is not also most likely to normally obey and maintain some social orders. Rising price in fact threatens the normal social order, it not only damage the public and social's interest, if we can't deal with this problem, it also seriously damage the government's image and reputation, and disrupt the social and economic life's order.

The current China is in the time of obvious contradiction, the large sudden group events and collective appeal events which almost relate to the benefit continuously happen, however these conflicts are largely happened in the low-income groups. Just like Lewis Coser said, one of the causes which causes social conflict is that if the lower members doubt the legality of the way of scarce resources' distribution, they likely struggle against it. When their legal rights and interests are infringed, they cannot maintain their legitimate rights and interests through normal channels, they will take some ways to damage and threaten others in order to solve the problems, even sacrifice themselves or arise group incidents, all these greatly increase the dangerous factors of influencing the social stability. Such as the previous events: people hit the buildings in Changsha and struggle against demolition, the farmers in Henan suicide because of the cheap corns, the taxi drivers strike in Chongqing and other places. Although these things happen in the local area, we should be vigilant. Stability is the China's overall situation. The price question that we should properly solve is a great event, which is linked to the economic and social sustainability.

On fact, the price problem is the problem of profit distribution. In the condition of over-polarization of interests subject, making the price stability more difficult. Amid macro-economic adjustment, government have to excessively take administrative measures to control the soaring price, and have to adopt too many administrative approaches for limiting price to take care of group in economic difficulty, as result of making marketization reform more difficult. However, we fail to rely on the market to solve the problem of fair distribution of interest. The history tells that market system can't naturally achieve the balance of

diverse groups' interests, and rising price inevitably brings blindness and spontaneity of production, it is very likely to emerge economic crisis as social plaque, which gives economy, politics and everyone's life a hard hit. The point that attract our particular attention is that the phenomenon of price rising emerged after successfully maintaining our economy growth rate by 8 %. It proves indirectly economy growth can't address all the problems including price, and it is not more necessary to automatically bring general improvement of living standard. Seen from the theories and successful practice of maintaining social stability and defusing economic crisis, which all built on basis of economic development, promoting the society to maintain a state of relative solidarity and inclusiveness by effectively managing the society, responding to all kinds of social requirements, reducing social conflicts and unleashing the social tensility by institutional mechanism and arrangement, instead, it also created a favorable social environment for economic development and solution of crisis to a certain degree. So to speak, the market inefficacy of holding rising price provides space for playing a role of social administration in the process of promoting price stability.

The price rising has complicated reasons which is related to overall development of social economy. Managing the price well through innovating social administration should become the most important target for the present Chinese social administration. The Chinese premier, Hu Jintao said: "the basic task of social administration involving in coordinating social relationship、standardizing social behavior、resolving social conflicts、promoting social justice、dealing with social risks and maintaining social stability". we can see that maintaining social stability is basic purpose of social administration. Seemingly the price is economic problem, but from the point view of reason of its formation and sphere of influence, price refers to people's living condition and development environment as well as overall situation of social stability, which is one of the basic tasks of social administration. Our country is experiencing "great transformation" from completely releasing market power to protecting society, managing price will be served as the important part of social administration, which is decided by the idea of "people foremost" and basic logic of social embedability in the economic structure.

“people foremost” is the fundamental starting point for managing price, concerning the problem of price stability from the perspective of comprehensiveness and long-term of social development, managing price will be regarded as the important part of social administration, concerning the relation between the price stability and ensuring wellbeing, which are important ways to hold price rising radically. The basic task of social administration is that maintain social order, promote social harmony and ensure the people to live and work in peace and contentment, Social administration has the social objective of direct relevance and non-economy with social members' dairy life and fundamental interests, it can meet community members' basic requirements, address social problems, maintain social justice, remain social stability and increase social welfare. The essential significance of regarding stabilizing price as the important part of social administration is that effective social administration can create a favorable working and living environment, coordinate group interest, comfort mentality of social imbalance, in this way, promote all-round developments of social and human being. Under the new circumstances of economic development, stabilizing price serves as an important content of social administration and a problem of solving living condition that people concerned, which embodies the core theory of “putting people first”. Only managing the price well can promote the social solidarity and lay the foundation of building harmonious society

The price problem is economic problem and also a social problem, involving in every aspect of social life, tackling the price problem will inspire confidence and lay mental foundation for coping with financial crisis, particularly in the key period of soaring price, stabilizing price means stabilize society, at the same time, promotes social justice, improves social conduct. Even though the balance of commodity supply and demand is the key in terms of stabilizing price, we must pay more attention to realize the balance's psychological factors. People will create panic and engross the market in a society lack of social administration, price instability is inevitable, even if making a progress in production. In this situation, through social administration, coordinating and ensuring all interests according to law with country and society supports, grasping combination between common and concrete interests from policy orientation,

thought interest integration, making every interest's group fairly and reasonably share achievements of social development, shouldering the losses caused by price rising, and maintaining social equity and justice will become more necessary and urgent. Social administration in the process of price rising is able to close the wild connection between government and all levels of society by fully mobilizing social groups to participate, and create a good social environment for economic macro-control.

Solving price problem is key step of innovating social administration, plays a very practical significance's role in realizing social harmony. The necessity of social administration innovation is originate from inconsistency of social development and social intelligence in our country, resulting in producing lots of social problems and deepening social contradictions. The traditional social administration system that formed in the period of planned economy has not met the requirements under the new situation, seriously impeded harmonious development and progress of society, it needs to constantly innovate and reform. Currently, price problem has become the key of upholding social order and promoting social harmony, we must strengthen and innovate the social administration to manage price, requiring country and society to focus on effects and changes that brought by price rising for society and its members, in view of these effects and changes, adjusting ideas of social administration、policies and measures to create a good atmosphere in society, so as to curb non-economic factors of influencing price, preserve social stability, make social administration play a role in moderately reducing the negative effects caused by price rising. We should make system arrangements for stabilizing the price, create a good social environment for stabilizing price in timely、appropriately and comprehensively, cohere public felling, effectively solve social contradictions and conflicts caused by price rising, respond people's requirements, coordinate relationship of interests, effectively guarantee the basic life of different income groups not to be badly affected by the price rising.

Key words: price rising, social stability, interests, social administration, innovation

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