

03.14-The five-year plan

The five-year plan Command performance

The Communist Party is about to set its goals for 2020
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IN 1953, **taking cues from** their Soviet advisers, Chinese leaders launched their first five-year plan. They **charted** a course for rapid industrialisation of the then-**agrarian** country. Now they are drafting their 13th such document. It will show how much has changed. Its main message will be that industrialisation has **run its course** and that China will have to find a new engine of growth. But the very existence of the plan (to run from 2016 to 2020) is indicative of how, in economic **policymaking**, much has stayed the same.

Vocab

1. take cue from sb/sth **take your 'cue from sb/ sth** to copy what sb else does as an example of how to behave or what to do 模仿...的样子做；学...的样

e.g. Investors are taking their cue from the big banks and selling dollars. 投资者效法大银行卖出美元。

2. chart v. to plan a course of action 计划行动步骤；制订计划

e.g. She had carefully charted her route to the top of her profession. 她周密地制订了达到她职业巅峰的行动计划。

3. agrarian adj. connected with farming and the use of land for farming 农业的；土地的；耕地的

4. run its course **run/ take its 'course** to develop in the usual way and come to the usual end 任其发展；听其自然

e.g. When her tears had run their course, she felt calmer and more in control. 等她哭够了，她就比较镇静，比较克制了。

5. policymaking n. 政策制定；决策 **Policy-making** is the making of policies.

e.g. The Central Committee is the party's **policymaking** body...中央委员会是该党的决策机构。

Sentence

But the very existence of the plan (to run from 2016 to 2020) is indicative of how, in economic policymaking, much has stayed the same.

主干：the very existence of the plan is indicative

后面跟从句 how much has stayed the same.

其中 in economic policymaking 是 how 指代的哪个方面

China will publish the first outline after an annual meeting of the Communist Party's Central Committee at the end of October. It will be very different from the party's early plans. It once set **specific** production targets for steel and grain, among other things—**hallmarks** of the central planning that **led** China so **astray**. Since the early 1980s, the role of the plans has been relaxed. They clarify medium-term policy priorities, but are not blueprints that must be **adhered to slavishly**.

Vocab

1. **specific** *adj.* =**precise** 明确的；具体的 *detailed and exact*
e.g. I gave you specific instructions. 我给过你明确的指示。
2. **hallmark** *n.* 特征；特点 *a feature or quality that is typical of sb/ sth*
e.g. Police said the explosion **bore all the hallmarks of** a terrorist attack. 警方称这次爆炸具有恐怖分子袭击的所有特征。
3. **leads astray** **PHRASE** 短语 误导；使作错误决定 *If someone or something leads you astray, they make you believe something which is not true, causing you to make a wrong decision.*
e.g. We drove east to Rostock, where my map led me **astray**. 我们驱车向东去罗斯托克，但地图却给我指错了方向。
4. **adhere to** v. **PHR V** **ad'here to sth** (*formal*) *to behave according to a particular law, rule, set of instructions, etc.; to follow a particular set of beliefs or a fixed way of doing sth* 坚持，遵守，遵循（法律、规章、指示、信念等）
e.g. For ten months he adhered to a strict no-fat low-salt diet. 十个月来他严格坚持无脂肪少盐饮食。
5. **slavishly** *adv.* 奴隶般地，盲从地

Yet the plans are still important, not least because of the attention they receive. "They are large **neon** signs of where the party wants to take the country," says Scott Kennedy of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, a **think-tank** in Washington. Local officials **scurry to** adjust their **rhetoric** and policies to fall **in line with** the plan. Banks direct capital to the industries the plan seeks to boost. Companies, both state-owned and private, alter their business models accordingly.

Vocab

1. **neon** *n.* 氖；氖气
e.g. **neon lights/ signs** 霓虹灯；霓虹灯广告
2. **think-tank** *n.* (政治、社会、经济问题的) 智囊团，智库，专家组 *a group of experts who provide advice and ideas on political, social or economic issues*
3. **scurry to** v. 急匆匆；赶忙 *If people scurry to do something, they do it as soon as they can.*
e.g. Pictures of starving children have sent many people **scurrying to** donate money. 看到一张张忍饥挨饿的孩子们的照片，许多人赶忙捐钱。
4. **rhetoric** *n.* *speech or writing that is intended to influence people, but that is not completely honest or sincere* 华而不实的言语；花言巧语
e.g. the rhetoric of political slogans 政治口号的虚华辞藻
5. **in line with** **PHRASE** 短语 (与...) 一致；(与...) 相符 *If one thing is in line with another, or is brought into line with it, the first thing is, or becomes, similar to the second, especially in a way that has been planned or expected.*
e.g. The structure of our schools is now broadly **in line with** the major countries of the world... 我们的学校建构现在基本上与世界上主要国家的相一致了。

In recent years, the plans have come to **encompass** a wider range of priorities. Almost all the binding targets in the current one relate to the environment or social welfare. Officials were obliged to build 36m units of public housing, limit energy use and expand primary-school enrolment—all of which they accomplished, albeit sometimes by fiddling the numbers. Purely economic targets such as income growth and job creation were considered **predictive**, not **mandatory**.

Vocab

1. **encompass** v. to include a large number or range of things 包含, 包括, 涉及 (大量事物)

e.g. The job encompasses a wide range of responsibilities. 这项工作涉及的职责范围很广。

2. **enrolment** n. the act of officially joining a course, school, etc.; the number of people who do this 入学, 注册, 登记 (人数)

e.g. School enrolments are currently falling. 目前学校的注册人数在减少。

3. **albeit** conj. although 尽管; 虽然

e.g. He finally agreed, albeit reluctantly, to help us. 尽管勉强, 他最后还是同意帮助我们。

4. **fiddle** v. 篡改; 伪造; 对...做手脚 to change the details or figures of sth in order to try to get money dishonestly, or gain an advantage

e.g. She **fiddled the books** (= changed a company's financial records) while working as an accountant. 她当会计时对账簿做了手脚。

5. **predictive** adj. 预言性的; 预测性的 You use **predictive** to describe something such as a test, science, or theory that is concerned with determining what will happen in the future.

6. **mandatory** adj. =**compulsory** required by law 强制的; 法定的; 义务的

e.g. The offence carries a mandatory life sentence. 这种罪行依照法律要判无期徒刑。

Sentence

Officials were obliged to build 36m units of public housing, limit energy use and expand primary-school enrolment—all of which they accomplished, albeit sometimes by fiddling the numbers.

主干 Officials **were obliged** to build... **limit** energy use and **expand** primary-school enrolment.

all of which 这里的 which 指代前面的三个事件

albeit sometimes.... albeit 连词, 尽管

For all that, the **most-watched** part of the new plan will still be its target for GDP. The current one aims for average annual growth of 7% from 2011 to 2015. In reality, it is likely to be about 7.8%. In the past, targets were often set well below the potential growth rate. That could change with the new plan. State media have suggested the new target will be 6.5%, beyond what many **forecast** for the coming years.

Vocab

1. **most-watched** adj. 最受关注的

2. **forecast** n. 预测; 预报 a statement about what will happen in the future, based on information that is available now

e.g. The forecast said there would be sunny intervals and showers. 预报间晴, 有阵雨。

Sentence

That could change with the new plan.

That 指的是 set GDP 的 growth rate 这件事

with 这里表示伴随 because of sth and as it happens 由于; 随着

e.g. The shadows lengthened with the approach of sunset. 随着太阳西沉, 影子越来越长。

This could have big **implications for** economic policy. The farther growth **slips** below target, the more the government will be under pressure to stimulate the economy or, failing that, to **doctor** data. Given China's already-heavy debt burden (see article) and analysts' **abiding cynicism about** official statistics, neither outcome would be welcome. Some economists have called on China to abandon its growth target altogether, to give itself more **breathing space**. But Kuang Xianming of the China

Institute for Reform and Development, a think-tank, says the GDP figure will remain in the plan, because it serves as a **lodestar** for all other economic policies.

Vocab

1. **implication** n. ~ (for/ of sth) a possible effect or result of an action or a decision 可能的影响 (或作用、结果)

e.g. The development of the site will **have implications for** the surrounding countryside. 这个地点的开发将会影响周围的乡村。

2. **slip** v. to fall to a lower level; to become worse 下降; 退步; 变差

e.g. His popularity has slipped recently. 近来他已不如过去那样受欢迎。

3. **doctor** v. =**falsify** to change sth in order to trick sb 篡改; 伪造

e.g. He was accused of doctoring the figures. 他被指控篡改数字。

4. **abiding** adj. 情感、记忆、兴趣等) 持久的, 长久的 An **abiding** feeling, memory, or interest is one that you have for a very long time.

e.g. He has a genuine and **abiding** love of the craft...他对这门手艺有着真挚持久的热爱。

5. **cynicism about** n. (对成功或人的真善的) 怀疑 **Cynicism about** something is the belief that it cannot be successful or that the people involved are not honourable.

6. **breathing space** n. a short rest in the middle of a period of mental or physical effort 短暂休息; 喘息时间

7. **lodestar** n. a principle that guides sb's behaviour or actions (某人行为或行动的) 指导原则

There will be plenty of other targets to **aim for**. Just over 70m people still live under the official poverty line; the plan is likely to include a **pledge** to expand welfare payments to lift them all above it. The government has already started to relax its one-child policy; some believe the aim in the next five years will be to **abolish** it altogether. There will probably be **objectives** for **reductions in** carbon emissions, investment in high-tech industries and the building of **megacities**. Full details will not be released until March, when China's parliament approves the plan.

Vocab

1. **aim for** v. ~ (at doing sth) | ~ (at/ **for** sth) to try or plan to achieve sth 力求达到; 力争做到

e.g. We should aim for a bigger share of the market. 我们应该努力争取更大的市场份额。

2. **pledge** n. ~ (to do sth) a serious promise 保证; 诺言; 誓约

3. **abolish** v. to officially end a law, a system or an institution 废除, 废止 (法律、制度、习俗等)

e.g. This tax should be abolished. 这种税应该取消。

4. **objective** n. =**goal** something that you are trying to achieve 目标; 目的

5. **reduction** ~ (in sth) an act of making sth less or smaller; the state of being made less or smaller 减少; 缩小; 降低

e.g. There has been some reduction in unemployment. 失业人数有所减少。

6. **megacity** n. 大城市 (人口超过1000万的)

Sentence

Just over 70m people still live under the official poverty line; the plan is likely to include a pledge to expand welfare payments to lift them all above it.

主干: Just over 70m people still **live** under the official poverty line

; 在这里表示 and 的意思

to lift them all above it. 这里 it 是指 the official poverty line 表示 lift 这些人到达官方贫困线以上。

Perhaps the most **intriguing** element is one that will remain unmentioned by state media: the historic milestone of the new document. Such plans are one of China's **cherished inheritances** from the Soviets. But the Soviet Union collapsed before it was able to see its 13th one to **completion**. Beating the Soviets may provide China's party with a bigger-than-usual **incentive** for the rest of the decade.

Vocab

1. **intriguing** *adj.* very interesting because of being unusual or not having an obvious answer 非常有趣的；引人入胜的；神秘的

e.g. He found her intriguing. 他觉得她很迷人。

2. **cherish** *v.* to love sb/ sth very much and want to protect them or it 珍爱；钟爱；爱护

e.g. her **most cherished possession** 她最珍爱的物品

3. **inheritance** *n.* the money, property, etc. that you receive from sb when they die; the fact of receiving sth when sb dies 继承物（如金钱、财产等）；遗产；继承

e.g. She spent all her inheritance in a year. 她在一年之内用完了所有继承的遗产。

4. **completion** *n.* the act or process of finishing sth; the state of being finished and complete 完成；结束

e.g. The project is **due for completion** in the spring. 这项工程预定在明年春季竣工。

e.g. The road is **nearing completion** (= it is nearly finished). 这条道路快要完工了。

5. **incentive** ~ (for/ to sb/ sth) (to do sth) something that encourages you to do sth 激励；刺激；鼓励

e.g. There is no incentive for people to save fuel. 没有使人们节约燃料的鼓励办法。

Sentence

Beating the Soviets may provide China's party **with** a bigger-than-usual incentive for the rest of the decade.

现在分词做主语 Beating the Soviets

谓语是 may provide

with using sth 用；使用；以；藉

e.g. It is treated with acid before being analysed. 对它先用酸处理再进行分析。

From the print edition: China

The five-year plan Command performance

五年计划：钦定的浮夸演出

The Communist Party is about to set its goals for 2020.

中共即将设定2020年的目标。（译者注：这篇文章发表于2015年10月，当时“十三五”计划内容尚未公布。）

IN 1953, taking cues from their Soviet advisers, Chinese leaders launched their first five-year plan. They charted a course for rapid industrialisation of the then-agrarian country. Now they are drafting their 13th such document. It will show how much has changed. Its main message will be that industrialisation has run its course and that China will have to find a new engine of growth. But the very existence of the plan (to run from 2016 to 2020)

is indicative of how, in economic policymaking, much has stayed the same.

1953年，参考苏联的模式，中国领导人制定了他们的第一个五年计划。这一计划旨在使仍然属于农业国的中国迅速工业化。现在，他们开始起草第十三个五年计划，我们将目睹这一变化有多大。这个计划将传递出工业化已经走到尽头以及中国将寻找新的增长引擎的信息。但这个（于2016年到2020年间运行的）五年计划只提到了，在经济政策上有多少内容将保持不变。

China will publish the first outline after an annual meeting of the Communist Party's Central Committee at the end of October. It will be very different from the party's early plans. It once set specific production targets for steel and grain, among other things—hallmarks of the central planning that led China so astray. Since the early 1980s, the role of the plans has been relaxed. They clarify medium-term policy priorities, but are not blueprints that must be adhered to slavishly.

10月底会召开一年一度的中国共产党中央委员会年会，会后将公布十三五计划的首个框架，它将与党之前的计划大有不同。五年计划曾经涉及很多方面，其中之一是对钢铁和粮食设定具体的产量目标。这种由中央设定的计划使得中国混乱不堪。到了20世纪80年代初，五年计划的定位有所放宽。计划主要用于理清中期政策的轻重缓急，而不是一张必须盲目遵从的蓝图。

Yet the plans are still important, not least because of the attention they receive. “They are large neon signs of where the party wants to take the country,” says Scott Kennedy of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, a think-tank in Washington. Local officials scurry to adjust their rhetoric and policies to fall in line with the plan. Banks direct capital to the industries the plan seeks to boost. Companies, both state-owned and private, alter their business models accordingly.

但是五年计划依然重要，尤其是因为它受到的关注。“五年计划是指明中共将带领这个国家走向何处的大霓虹灯。”华盛顿智囊团战略与国家关系研究中心的Scott Kennedy如是说。地方官员匆忙修正他们的口号和政策，与计划方向一致；银行会把资金投向五年计划试图提携的产业；国企和民营企业也都会相应地改变他们的商业模式迎合发展方向。

In recent years, the plans have come to encompass a wider range of priorities. Almost all the binding targets in the current one relate to the environment or social welfare. Officials were obliged to build 36m units of public housing, limit energy use and expand primary-school enrollment—all of which they accomplished, albeit sometimes by fiddling the numbers. Purely economic targets such as income growth and job creation were considered predictive, not mandatory.

这几年，计划已经包含了更大范围的优先事项，当前几乎所有具有约束力的目标都与环境和社会福利相关。官员被要求建造3600万套公共住房，限制能源使用量，并扩大小学注册人数，而这些目标都已完成，即使有些时候会篡改数字。有些纯粹的经济目标——比如收入增长和创造就业机会——只是被当作预期目标，而非必需目标。

For all that, the most-watched part of the new plan will still be its target for GDP. The current one aims for average annual growth of 7% from 2011 to 2015. In reality, it is likely to be about 7.8%. In the past, targets were often set well below the potential growth rate. That could change with the new plan. State media have suggested the new target will be 6.5%, beyond what many forecast for the coming years.

尽管如此，新计划里最被关注的依然会是GDP的设定目标。现有的2011至2015的GDP平均年增长率目标为7%，而实际上，平均年增长率大概为7.8%。过去，目标通常设定为低于可能的增长率，这种做法在新计划中可能会发生变化。官方媒体暗示新的目标将是6.5%，这高于市场上许多对未来几年的预测结果。

This could have big implications for economic policy. The farther growth slips below target, the more the government will be under pressure to stimulate the economy or, failing that, to doctor data. Given China's already-heavy debt burden and analysts' abiding cynicism about official statistics, neither outcome would be welcome. Some economists have called on China to abandon its growth target altogether, to give itself more breathing space. But Kuang Xianming of the China Institute for Reform and Development, a think-tank, says the GDP figure will remain in the plan, because it serves as a lodestar for all other economic policies.

这可能对经济政策产生重大影响。经济增长下滑得离目标越远，政府就越将承担刺激经济的压力，如果做不到这一点，他们就会篡改数据。考虑到中国已经沉重的债务负担和分析家们对官方数据长期存在的冷嘲热讽，前述两种结果都不会受人欢迎。一些经济学家呼吁中国完全放弃增长目标，使得自身获得更多喘息空间。但是智库机构中国改革发展研究院的匡显明表示，GDP数字将会在计划中保留，因为它是作为其他经济政策的指导原则。

There will be plenty of other targets to aim for. Just over 70m people still live under the official poverty line; the plan is likely to include a pledge to expand welfare payments to lift them all above it. The government has already started to relax its one-child policy; some believe the aim in the next five years will be to abolish it altogether. There will probably be objectives for reductions in carbon emissions, investment in high-tech industries and the building of mega cities. Full details will not be released until March, when China's parliament approves the plan.

五年计划还会涉及许多其他目标。目前中国还有超过7000万人的生活水平处在官方贫困线之下，计划可能会包括扩大福利支出，兑现承诺，使他们的生活水平高于最低贫困线；官方已经开始放松独生子女政策，一些人认为接下来五年的目标是完全废除这一政策；可能会有减少碳排放、投资高科技工业和建设超大城市的目标。完整的内容到三月人大会议批准计划之后才会公布。

Perhaps the most intriguing element is one that will remain unmentioned by state media: the historic milestone of the new document. Such plans are one of China's cherished inheritances from the Soviets. But the Soviet Union collapsed before it was able to see its 13th one to completion. Beating the Soviets may provide China's party with a bigger-than-usual incentive for the rest of the decade.

也许最有趣的部分是官方媒体仍不会提及的：新计划中的历史里程碑。这样的计划是中国从前苏联得来的珍贵传统之一，但是前苏联在它的第13个五年计划之前就解体了。在剩余的从2016到2020的时间里，超越前苏联或许能给中国共产党提供非同寻常的动力。