INTRA-PARTY OVERSIGHT AND THE INCORRUPTIBILITY AND SELF-DISCIPLINE OF PARTY MEMBERS AND LEADING CADRES
Adherence to the principle that the Party should manage the Party and run the Party strictly is a basic policy the Communist Party of China (CPC) concerning Party building. Whether before or after the founding of New China, the CPC always attached great importance to the work concerning intra-Party oversight and the incorruptibility and self-discipline of Party members and leading cadres, and focused on maintaining the advanced nature and purity of the Party and safeguarding its unity.

As early as 1926, the CPC decided to establish central and provincial oversight committees to strengthen the work of intra-Party inspection and oversight work. During the Yan’an period (from October 1935 to March 1948), the CPC used the fundamental purpose of steadfastly serving the people wholeheartedly to teach all Party members and cadres to strengthen their Party spirit and increase their consciousness of governing cleanly. It also gradually developed the basic work style of linking theory with reality, maintaining close contacts with the masses, and practicing criticism and self-criticism. After the CPC became the ruling Party in 1949, the Central Committee promulgated the Decision concerning the Establishment of Commissions for Discipline Inspection of the Central Committee and Party Committees at All Levels. On its basis, discipline inspection bodies were set up in the Central Committee and local committees; members of Commissions for Discipline Inspection were appointed by the peoples’ congresses at their level, and all Commissions for Discipline Inspection were made subject to leadership by two bodies (The work of discipline inspection commissions is carried out under the leadership of its corresponding Party committee and the next-higher-level discipline inspection commission).

Since the beginning of the new century, the CPC has explored how to institutionalize and standardize intra-Party oversight. First, it has improved the system of intra-Party inspection tours. Beginning in June 2006, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the Central Organization Department have jointly has sent inspection teams throughout the entire country (The Chinese mainland excluding Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. Both here and below), whose primary task is to inspect the work of provincial-level Party and government groups. As a result of the rise of the banking sector, banking inspection teams were sent out for the first time in 2005. The scope of the inspection of the Central Inspection Group covers all aspects of the work of the bodies they are investigating. The next step was for provincial-level inspection teams to be created and sent out to inspect the work of prefectural- and county-level Party and government bodies. In order to maintain unified supervision over agencies that were sent out into the field, the leadership of agencies dispatched by the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection was changed from their being under the joint leadership by the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, the Ministry of Supervision and local body they serve, to being directly under the leadership of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the Ministry of Supervision. As a result, commissions for discipline inspection at all levels were better able to carry out their duties and powers and their oversight became more effective. Second, a series of regulations were formulated and promulgated. In February 2004, the CPC promulgated the Regulations concerning Internal Oversight of the Communist Party of China (for trial implementation), which set forth clear rules concerning ten kinds of specific forms of oversight, thereby creating a relatively systematic and complete intra-Party oversight system. In order to better carry out the implementation of these regulations, in September 2004 the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection promulgated and implemented the Regulations concerning Guaranteeing the Rights of Party Members. In January 2005, the CPC Central Committee also published the Program for Creating and Implementing a Sound System for Punishing and Preventing Corruption That Gives Equal Weight to Education, Regulations and Oversight. According to statistics, from the adoption of the reform and opening up policy to the convocation of the Seventeenth National Party Congress, provincial- and ministerial-level bodies throughout the country enacted more than 3,000 laws, regulations and rules concerning Party conduct and clean government, more than 200 of which originated from the Ministry of Supervision of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. The formulation and promulgation of these regulations shows that the work of intra-Party oversight bodies has reached a new stage of institutionalization and standardization.

In addition, the CPC absolutely will not tolerate actions by leading Party cadres that violate the law and Party discipline. In 2009, all of China’s discipline inspection and oversight agencies combined investigated 134,504 cases, concluded the investigation of 132,808 of cases, and punished 138,707 individuals, with an additional 5,366 additional individuals referred to judicial authorities for investigation of criminal conduct.
1. The Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee reports on its work to the whole Central Committee and receives oversight by it.

At the Third Plenary Session of the Sixteenth Central Committee in October 2003, the Political Bureau for the first time submitted a work report to the Central Committee. In February 2004, the CPC Central Committee promulgated the Regulations on Internal Oversight within the Communist Party of China (for trial implementation), which clearly set forth the regulation that the Political Bureau should submit a work report to the Central Committee. This shows that the CPC’s system of internal oversight has reached a deeper level. The fact that the Political Bureau reports on its work to the Central Committee shows that it is accountable to the Central Committee for its work and subject to its oversight. This is an embodiment of the democratic principle that people are responsible for their actions, and it clarifies the relation between those who delegate power and those who have power delegated to them and the relation between those who exercise oversight and those who have oversight exercised over them. The Seventeenth National Party Congress revised the Party constitution, and among the revisions was the addition to Article 21 that the Political Bureau should report on its work to the Central Committee and receive oversight by it.

At the Fourth Plenary Session of the Seventeenth Central Committee, General Secretary Hu Jintao delivered the work report of the Political Bureau to the members of the Central Committee on behalf of the Political Bureau, and the members of the Central Committee held a collective discussion of it. The Central Committee also deliberated and passed the Decisions on a Number of Important Issues concerning the CPC Strengthening and Improving Party Building in the New Period.
2. The heads of standing committees of local Party committees report to their plenary sessions on the standing committee’s work, and they and the standing committees are subject to oversight by their plenary session.

It has been a longstanding practice for standing committees of local CPC Party committees at all levels to submit a work report to their whole committee. In some localities, this practice has been formalized in regulations, which effectively strengthens oversight of the work of the standing committees.

For example, in March 2005, the CPC Sichuan Provincial Party Committee issued the Interim Regulations for Prefectures (Autonomous Prefectures) and Counties (Cities, Districts) in Sichuan concerning the Submission of Work Reports by Their Standing Committee to the Full Party Committee and Receiving Oversight by It. This was the first such body of regulations in all of China. These regulations used an institutional approach to standardize the procedures for standing committees to submit work reports and for plenary sessions to exercise oversight. This further clarified the division of functions and apportionment of powers between standing committees and plenary sessions, and particularly highlighted the safeguards the submission of work reports by the standing committees of prefectures (autonomous prefectures) and counties (cities, districts) to their plenary sessions and the oversight of the former by the latter.

Standing committees should submit a work report to the plenary session at least once a year. When a standing committee carries out an important decision of a higher-level Party organization or the plenary session or undertakes important new projects, it should make a special report on this work to the plenary session.

A copy of the work report should be delivered to all committee members five days before it is presented in session.

No action can be taken against members of the plenary session for comments they make when discussing the standing committee’s work report.

Members of the plenary session have the right to ask for explanations concerning the contents of the work report.

After the work report is given, the plenary session should draw up a resolution and vote on it. If more than half the committee members in attendance vote to accept the report, it shall be deemed accepted.

If the work report is not accepted, the standing committee should deliver a new work report to the plenary session within three months.

On the basis of a thorough review of the experience of local committees, the CPC formulated a corresponding system for the whole Party. When the Party constitution was revised at the Seventeenth National Party Congress in 2007, among the revisions was the addition to Article 27 that the standing committees of local Party committees at all levels should submit work reports to their plenary sessions and be subject to their oversight.
3. The Party’s primary-level organizations and their principal leaders report to a general membership meeting and receive the oversight of Party members.

The CPC’s primary-level organizations give reports on their work to general membership meetings of their Party branch at regular intervals. In general, such reports should be given once or twice a year and comprehensively report on the work of the Party building committee during its term of office. When a Party branch holds an election, it should report on the work planned for the duration of the organization’s term of office at a general membership meeting. In general, the work report of a Party branch committee should include: the results of an investigation of Party branch’s implementation of the Party’s line, program and policies, and the resolutions and instructions of higher-level Party organizations; a review of its work completing its tasks and carrying out Party building and a summary of the experience acquired and lessons learned in the process, as well as its work recruiting Party members; and a report on the collection and disposition of Party member dues. If a work report is given before a Party branch election, it should also identify problems and shortcomings in the work of the present Party branch committee and make suggestions for the work of next one.

After the Party branch committee gives its report at a Party branch membership meeting, it should conscientiously gather Party members together for discussion and patiently listen to their feedback. If there are criticisms or questions, answers and explanations should be given in a responsible manner.

4. The oversight, evaluation, selection and appointment of Party members by Party organizations and departments at all levels.

The CPC attaches great importance to the evaluation and oversight of cadres in its work of selecting and appointing cadres. The CPC Central Committee issued the Method for Assigning Responsibility for the Work of Selecting and Appointing Leading Cadres of the Party and Government (for trial implementation) in 2010. In conjunction with this publication, the Central Organization Department issued the Method for Reporting on the Work of Selecting and Appointing Leading Cadres of the Party and Government (for trial implementation), the Method for Standing Committees of Local Party Committees to Report to Their Committees on the Work of Selecting and Appointing Cadres and Receiving Democratic Evaluation of Their Work (for trial implementation), and Method for Evaluating How Well Party Secretaries of Municipal and County Party Committees Fulfilled Their Responsibilities in the Work of Selecting and Appointing Cadres When Their Terms of Office are Completed (for trial implementation). These four legal documents thoroughly implemented the spirit of the Fourth Plenary Session of the Seventeenth Central Committee, and they are an important measure for further rectifying the manner in which the selection and appointment of cadres is done and increasing public confidence in the process. A series of oversight requirements involving announcement of appointments before they take place, appraisal of cadres during their terms of office, evaluation of their tenure of office when they leave, and accountability for malfeasance and neglect of duty provide effective tools for preventing improprieties in the appointment process and institutional guarantees for increasing public confidence in it.
1. Oversight by special bodies of Party committees and commissions for discipline inspection at all levels

The Regulations for the Internal Oversight of the Communist Party of China (for trial implementation) specifies that Party committees at all levels lead the work of intra-Party oversight, and clarifies the tasks and requirements of commissions for discipline inspection at the same level, and of the work departments of Party committees, bodies and agencies directly under the Party committees, and other Party organizations (committees) of the same level for intra-Party oversight. These regulations also sets forth measures for implementing the resolutions and decisions concerning strengthening the work of intra-Party oversight set forth by higher-level Party organizations and people’s congresses of the same level, and require that important problems in the work of carrying out intra-Party oversight be investigated and resolved. They also require that standing committees of Party committees and their members, and the leading groups and their members of commissions for discipline inspection at the same level and the work departments of Party committees, bodies and agencies directly under the Party committees, and other Party organizations (committees) of the same level be subject to supervision; and also require that Party committees exercise oversight over Party organizations at the next lower level and their leading groups, especially their principal leaders.

Commissions for discipline inspection at all levels are specialized bodies for carrying out intra-Party oversight. The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, local commissions for discipline inspection at all levels, and primary-level commissions for discipline inspection under the leadership of Party committees at the same level and Commissions for discipline inspection at the next higher level carry out the following duties concerning intra-Party oversight: assist Party committees at the same level organize and coordinate the work of intra-Party oversight; organize and undertake supervision and inspection of the work of intra-Party oversight; exercise oversight over the manner in which leading Party cadres perform their duties and exercise their powers; investigate and deal with important or complex cases of Party organizations and Party members violating the Party constitution or other Party regulations; report the results of their inspection work and their recommendations to the Party committee at the same level and the commission of discipline inspection at the next higher level; within the scope of their authority write draft versions of rules and regulations; make decisions concerning preserving Party discipline; hear reports concerning violations of Party discipline by Party organizations and their members; hear accusations and appeals for justice from Party members; and guarantee the rights of Party members. Discipline inspection work committees dispatched by the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and local Commissions for discipline inspection at all levels carry out their duties in accordance with applicable regulations. Commissions of discipline inspection exercise unified supervision over the work commissions they dispatch. The work commissions carry out their oversight of Party organizations and leading Party cadres where they are sent in accordance with relevant regulations. Commissions for discipline inspection and Party discipline inspection groups of localities or departments may report important matters concerning their own locality, department or work unit directly to the commission for discipline inspection at the next higher level.
2. The investigation and oversight by inspection teams at all levels of leading groups and leading cadres at the next lower level.

The Regulations concerning CPC Inspection Teams (for trial implementation) a promulgated in 2009 stipulate that the Central Committee and Party committees of provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government institute an inspection team system and create special investigation agencies to carry out inspection and oversight of leading groups and their members of Party organizations at the next lower level. The content of their inspection and oversight includes discovering the situation concerning the implementation of the important thought of the Three Represents, and the Party's line, program, policies, resolutions, decisions and work arrangements; the situation concerning the implementation of democratic centralism, the responsibility system for fostering Party spirit and clean government, and the work of selecting and appointing leading cadres; the situation concerning handling the relation between reform, development and stability; and any other tasks the Central Committee assigns to it.

Inspection teams may attend meetings of the Party organizations they are inspecting as observers when their work warrants it, examine relevant documents and materials, conduct meetings, have discussions with various individuals, and learn about and investigate important problems concerning leading cadres raised by the masses in their letters and visits. They should also give reports of their findings to the Party organizations they investigate in which they make criticisms and suggestions. However, it is not the job of inspection teams to solve the specific problems they uncover.

Link: The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection undertakes inspection and oversight work in Lueyang County, Shaanxi Province.

In September 2008, Wang Wei, member of the standing committee of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, vice minister of the Ministry of Supervision, and member and office manager of the Central Earthquake Relief Fund Materials Oversight and Inspection Leading Group led a discipline inspection group of the Ministry of Supervision in carrying out inspection, investigation and study of earthquake relief work in Lueyang County, Shaanxi Province. The group inspected construction sites at Lueyang Tianjin High School and the Tianjin Vocational Education Center and the refugee center at Xigou Village in the town of Guohe, where they did onsite inspection of reconstruction work, and listened to reports by provincial, municipal and county earthquake relief bodies, and got a thorough understanding of how the earthquake relief funds were being administered.

Wang Wei demanded that cadres at all levels and the construction crew from Tianjin supply all the relief materials promised on time and strengthen oversight and supervision of all links in the use of relief funds. He required that project construction be done in accordance with the Tendering and Bidding Law, that all building materials be bought through government centralized procurement, and that black-box operations be strictly forbidden. At the same time, costs should be kept to a minimum without compromising construction quality or safety, and the rights of the masses needed to be effectively safeguarded.

From 2009 till the beginning of 2010, inspection teams of the Hebei Provincial Party Committee carried out inspections of 14 counties (cities) and eight bureaus or work units. It filed 30 investigation reports, four special reports and 50 evaluation reports, in which it evaluated the work of 48 county-level leading groups and more than 100 leading cadres. Altogether it discovered 170 problems of various sorts, made 158 recommendations for making improvements to work units, and made 15 recommendations to the provincial Party committee and government and their agencies. It submitted eight cases concerning municipal- or department-level cadres to the provincial commission of discipline inspection, promptly submitted the contents of reports concerning leading groups it inspected and the materials upon which the evaluations of those leading groups were based to the organization department of the provincial Party committee. It also submitted to supervision bodies of the provincial government six reports on the work of provincial government departments in coordinating solutions to problems.
3. Oversight by Party members of leading Party cadres and organizations of the Party

The Regulations concerning Internal Oversight within the Communist Party of China (official implementation) states the responsibilities and rights of Party members concerning intra-Party oversight. Party members have the responsibility to promptly report the views and demands of the masses to Party organizations in order to safeguard the masses’ legitimate rights and interests. When Party members have contrary views concerning the Party’s resolutions and policies, while resolutely carrying them out they may state their reservations in Party meetings or to Party organizations, and also convey them to higher-level Party organizations all the way up to the Central Committee. However, they may not publicly state views in opposition to decisions of the Central Committee. Any Party organization or member who is criticized on good grounds in a meeting should courageously admit and correct deficiencies and errors in their work. When violations of the law or Party discipline by any Party organization or member are reported to the authorities, Party members should take a stand against the negative and corrupt phenomena. When Party members participate in any activities organized by the Party for evaluating Party members and leading cadres, they should state their views.

Link: Qingfeng County, Puyang, Henan Province established a Party member oversight group to carry out oversight over village cadres and primary-level organizations.

Beginning in 2000, Qingfeng County, Puyang, Henan Province established oversight groups composed of Party members without official positions in 515 villages to exercise oversight over the work of Party branches, village committees and village cadres. This practice strengthens the militancy and cohesion of Party organizations and promotes the material, political and cultural development of the villages. A village oversight group is composed of three to seven Party members without official positions who are recommended by the villages Party members and residents and approved by the Party organization at the next higher level on the basis of having a high level of political awareness and a strong sense of justice, the ability to participate in the deliberation and administration of state affairs, a commitment to principles, and the courage to speak the truth. They assume office after taking a standard training course. The responsibilities of Party member oversight committees are to oversee the implementation of Party and government policies, and policy decisions concerning economic and social development by the village Party branch, village committee and village cadres, and also judge whether they accomplish something of real benefit to the masses and do their work diligently and honestly. After a Party member oversight committee reports problems it finds to the Party branch, village committee and village cadres, they should promptly correct their shortcomings. When major problems are discovered or problems that are reported are not corrected, the Party member oversight committees have the right to report the matter to the Party organization at the next higher level, and that organization should conscientiously investigate and handle the matter. The village residents of Jihangwu Village, Lista Township, Qingfeng County were very unhappy that a number of village cadres were concerned only their own families making money and getting rich and did not put any effort into leading the village’s economic development. The village Party member oversight committee reported this situation to the village Party branch and village committee. After receiving this criticism, these two bodies formulated an economic development plan for the whole village. Cadres were divided into two groups. One group took responsibility for bringing in high-yield seeds and advanced agricultural technology and guided farmers in improving their crop mix in order to grow high-quality high-yield crops efficiently. The other group of cadres took responsibility for establishing small industry and trade zones in places near country marketplaces where traffic was convenient and attracting business and investment from outside. In this way eight family enterprises and individually owned businesses were set up. From then on the village economy became one of the most prosperous in the whole district, and the residents’ incomes increased dramatically.

Link: Method for filing reports intra-Party oversight in the CPC.

The CPC has established a three-dimensional integrated method in which individuals can report issues on line, by phone or by letter. For the nationwide discipline inspection and oversight system: Since 1988, discipline inspection and oversight agencies have all set up telephone lines for reporting discipline issues. In July 2005, the Ministry of Supervision of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection established the website for reporting discipline issues, www.12380.gov.cn. In June 2008, a nationwide telephone number for all the country’s discipline inspection and oversight agencies, 12388, was set up to receive reports from the masses about violations of Party and government discipline by Party members, leading cadres and civil servants, as well as suggestions and complaints concerning Party spirit, clean government and anti-corruption work.

For the nationwide organization system: In 2004, the Central Organization Department announced it had set up a nationwide telephone number for all the country’s organization departments, 12380, to receive complaints. At the same time the Central Organization Department, the organization departments of the 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government, and 466 lower-level organization departments set up telephone lines for receiving complaints. In 2009, the Central Organization Department set up the website www.12380.gov.cn, primarily for receiving complaints against leading groups and leading cadres at the county-level and above concerning violations of the Regulations concerning the Work of Selecting and Appointing Leading Party and Government Cadres.

The website www.12380.gov.cn set up by the CPC Central Committee Organization Department
The Jiaojiang District of Taizhou, Zhejiang provides a good example. The Jiaojiang District is one of the sites where trials of permanent tenure of office in Party congresses were carried out. The district created a large number of effective ways that the framework of permanent tenure of office in Party congresses could be used to strengthen intra-Party oversight. It established the system of sincere democratic discussions among deputies and of seeking comments before important policy decisions were made; established the system of delegates making motions and raising questions, improved the system of deputy activities, and strengthened oversight over disposition of delegates’ motions; established the system of democratic scrutiny of district’s Party committee and commission of discipline inspection and their members, the system of voting on new members to be added to these two bodies during the term of office of the Party congress, and the system of voting on the appointment or dismissal of district officials, and strengthened oversight of the appointment and dismissal of cadres. All specific measures adopted observed the following four principles: 1) In discussing the appointment or dismissal of cadres, at least two thirds of the committee members must be present. 2) In voting, all members need to consider the issues carefully, discuss them, and clearly indicate whether they agree or disagree or reserve judgment. In general, votes should be taken only after consensus is reached. 3) Each committee member has one vote, and voting is done by secret ballot. 4) Whoever gets a majority of the votes cast is elected. The district also established the system of the whole committee listening to reports of important cadres and discussing the reports; the system of the standing committee of the district Party committee giving a work report to the whole Party committee; and the system of receiving oversight and evaluation by the district people’s congress government and political consultative conference, as well as the Party committee’s functional bodies and having them report on their findings to the whole Party committee. All this work strengthened oversight over the exercise of power.

2. Implementing internal oversight and restraint of leading groups.

The report of the Sixteenth National Party Congress states that internal oversight of leading groups needs to be strengthened. The key to doing so is to establish a strict internal monitoring system in them.

The best way to carry out internal monitoring in leading groups is to have group discussions of important decisions, the hiring and firing of key cadres, the arrangements for key projects and the allocation of large sums of money and to decide these matters collectively. In deciding important matters, members of leading groups should fully express their views and minority viewpoints should be considered carefully. Important matters should be decided by vote, and the principle of the minority following the majority must be followed. The process by which important decisions are made should be recorded in the minutes of the meeting where they are decided, and they should be made public to a suitable extent so that members of the leading group, other cadres, members of the public and higher-level bodies can exercise oversight.

The Party is thoroughly implementing the responsibility system of collective leadership and division of labor. Members of leading groups need to effectively carry out their duties on the basis of collective decision making and the division of labor while at the same time taking an interest in the overall work and actively participating in collective leadership.

The Party is actively promoting the system of meetings on democratic life. Meetings on democratic life are an important aspect of the Party’s internal political life and an effective way to solve problems concerning leading groups. Meetings on democratic life need to adhere to the principle of uniting—criticizing—uniting, and carry out strict and earnest criticism and self-criticism. When the masses make criticisms or investigations reveal problems, effective means of correcting problems need to be worked out, persons responsible need to be clearly identified and the implementation of solutions needs to be supervised.

In September 2007, Mulei Kazak Autonomous County, Changji Prefecture, Xinjiang issued the Interim Rules concerning Internal Oversight of Leading Groups, which clearly specified the content, measures and responsibilities for oversight of leading groups at all levels.

The main content of oversight of members of leading groups is how well they observe political discipline, accomplish something substantive and break new ground, implement the system of democratic centralism, implement the Party’s principles and policies concerning cadres’ work, carry out their economic duties, improve their work style and carry out their duties honestly. The main oversight measures are: First, to implement the responsibility system that combines collective leadership with individual responsibility, create a set of rules of procedure for meetings of Party committees and organizations and secretaries work meetings, have different members of the leading group take responsibility for human resources, financial disbursements, and investment approval, and keep people in the same positions for three years to maintain stability. Second, to implement the system of leading groups giving regular work reports. Every month leading groups should report to the authority over them at the next higher level on their work arrangements, their economic activities, and progress made on important projects, and listen to reports of members of the leading group on progress of the work they have individual responsibility for. Third, to implement the system of leading cadres having heart-to-heart conversations at fixed intervals. The head of a leading group should have a heart-to-heart conversation with members of the leading group at least once a year, plus whenever special circumstances warrant it. Fourth, to implement the system of leading cadres reporting on the probity with which they discharge their duties. Leading cadres should give one such report within the specified period and accept oversight from cadres and the masses.

These interim rules also specify that the head of a leading group has overall responsibility for the internal oversight work of the group. The head of the leading group is to be held responsible if the internal rules of the leading group are deficient, oversight measures are not implemented, the oversight responsibilities of each member of the leading group are not clearly specified, nascent conflicts between members of the group are not immediately dealt with, actions that violate discipline and the law are not promptly stopped, major problems that result in serious consequences or losses are not promptly reported to higher authorities, or bad influences or serious consequences occur as a result of his or her own failure to be incorruptible and self-disciplined.
3. Establishing a sound responsibility system for leading groups and cadres

The CPC has always paid great attention to evaluating leading groups and cadres and used these evaluations as a basis for oversight of leading groups and cadres at all levels. In the last half of 2008, the General Office of the CPC Central Committee issued the Guidelines for Establishing a Mechanism for Evaluating How Well Leading Groups and Cadres of the Party and Government Promote Scientific Development, and the Organizational Department of the Central Committee adopted the Comprehensive Methods for Evaluating Local Party and Government Leading Groups and Cadres (for trial implementation), the Comprehensive Methods for Evaluating leading Groups and Cadres of Party and Government Work Departments (for trial implementation), and the Methods for the Annual Evaluation of Leading Groups and Cadres of the Party and Government (for trial implementation). Together, these documents constitute a mechanism for evaluating how well leading groups and cadres of the Party and government promote scientific development.

The CPC has two main criteria for determining whether or not leading groups and cadres fulfill their responsibilities.

First, whether or not leading groups and cadres effectively carry out major policy decisions and plans of the Central Committee. In August 2007, the Wuxi Municipal Party Committee, Jiangsu, issued the Targets for Controlling Cross-Section Water Quality in Rivers (Lakes, Reservoirs, Marshes, Springs) and Methods for Evaluating Compliance (for trial implementation). Wuxi was the first to institute the “river czar system,” according to which the heads of Party and government bodies at all levels in Wuxi have responsibility for controlling pollution in the sections of the rivers in their jurisdiction. To ensure this system gets results, in December 2007 the Organization Department of the Wuxi Municipal Party Committee issued the Guidelines for Counseling Leaders Who Do Not Vigorously Implement the Party Committee and Government’s Important Decisions and Arrangements. These guidelines stipulated that responsible leaders would be censured if they “do not effectively control environmental pollution, achieve the targets for conserving energy and reducing emissions, or promptly implement the series of major policy decisions and arrangements of the municipal Party committee and government for cleaning up Lake Tai, or if the policies they adopt are ineffective or they do not achieve significant results.” In addition, Wuxi also implemented the three-guarantees system according to which leaders guarantee water cleanup is given priority, localities guarantee aggregate goals are met and departments are held responsible for results and comprehensively implemented river czar system management in water function areas.

By September 2008, all levels of government in Wuxi had already comprehensively implemented the river czar system, and the number of waterways brought under management had been extended from the initial number of 64 to a total of 815. In 2008, the Lake Tai-Wuxi water district made it safely through the summer; blue-green algae was kept under control, and the water supply was completely normal. In the spring of 2009, the temperature was warmer than normal, and the water level in Lake Tai was lower than normal, but the water quality was still better than previous years at the same time.

Second, the situation concerning leading groups and cadres’ implementation of the responsibility system for strengthening Party spirit and building clean government. In 1998, the CPC issued rules concerning implementing the responsibility system for strengthening Party spirit and building clean government, which clearly specified the responsibilities leading groups and cadres should assume for strengthening Party spirit and building clean government. Party committees in all localities should draw up rules and regulations for their locality that embody the spirit of Central Committee directives and conscientiously implement them. In 2007, the commission of discipline inspection of Fushan, Heilongjiang incorporated the work of strengthening Party spirit and building clean government among leading cadres into the comprehensive municipality-wide responsibility system for strengthening Party spirit and building clean government, and quantified the assessment of how well targets are reached. Whenever prominent problems concerning leading cadres’ Party spirit or their incorruptibility and self-discipline were identified, special efforts were taken to rectify the situation. For example, on the basis of the Discipline Rules concerning Leading Cadres Hosting Weddings, Funerals and Parties issued by the commission of discipline inspection, the commission investigated Liu Yinggui, fine director of the Culture and Sports Bureau of the Dongzhou District for putting on a lavish party to celebrate his mother’s 80th birthday, and Chang Mifeng, head of the Social Services of the municipal Office of Civil Affairs for the lavish party he hosted to celebrate his daughter’s admission to university. Both of them were punished for violations of Party and government discipline and fined. The offending hosts as well as 42 cadres who attended the birthday celebration had their names publicized throughout Wuxi. Another example is the special investigations on the basis of the Rules for Strengthening Supervision of the Use of Public Vehicles, issued by the commission of discipline inspection, which put an end to the misuse of 46 Party and government automobiles. In addition, the media exposed the misuse by officials of 104 automobiles to drop off and pick up their children at school or to attend weddings. Altogether, 85 responsible individuals were severely punished for these infractions.
In September 2009, the Public Health Oversight Bureau of Nantong, Jiangsu held its monthly education activity for all mid-level cadres who are Party members. This month’s topic was “Measuring Cleanliness in Government.”

Party schools at all levels have always paid great attention to cultivating their students’ Party spirit and made Party spirit an important aspect of their education. The Interim Regulations on the Work of CPC Schools clearly stipulates, “Education in Party spirit is a compulsory course in Party schools. The content of such courses needs to be well targeted, integrate the study of basic Marxist theory with exercises in strengthening Party spirit, and transform students’ subjective world and the objective world in a coordinated way.” The Decision of the CPC Central Committee concerning Strengthening and Improving the Work of Party Schools to Meet the Challenges of the 21st Century takes cultivating Party spirit as an important orientation in the new education program. Making education in Party spirit an important component of education in Party schools is one of the ways education at Party schools is distinguished from other education, as well as an important purpose and standpoint of education at Party schools.
2. Standardizing the personal integrity of leading cadres

The CPC pays great attention to the ethics and personal integrity of leading cadres, makes a large number of specific demands on cadres who are Party members, and has adopted strict standards of behavior.

On October 2, 2006, the Guidelines of the General Offices of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council concerning Strengthening Party Spirit and Clean Government in Rural Primary-Level Bodies were officially published. These guidelines clearly require that cadres of rural primary-level bodies who are Party members abide by the six musts and six must-nots, namely: They must liberate their minds and progress with the times, and must not be stuck in a rut and be afraid to progress. They must be realistic and pragmatic and act within their capabilities, and must not be hypocrical or boastful, or try to outdo everyone else. They must respect the will of the people and do their work in accordance with the law, and must not force their will on others or act arbitrarily. They must overcome hardships and be patient, and must not be stuck in a rut and lose their way.

The CPC pays great attention to the ethics and personal integrity of leading cadres, makes a large number of specific demands on cadres who are Party members, and has adopted strict standards of behavior.

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3. Formulating supplementary systems and constraining and preventing corruption

At the Fifth Plenary Session of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, General Secretary Hu Jintao particularly stressed that building systems to combat corruption and promote propriety is an important aspect of punishing and preventing corruption and an urgent task for strengthening the effort to combat corruption and promote propriety. The Party needs to create a system for preventing corruption and promoting propriety that has scientific content and strict procedures, covers all areas, and can be used effectively. It is focused on creating a sound system with all requisite regulations for punishing and preventing corruption, is centered on restricting and overseeing the exercise of power, and increasing the implementability of its regulations as its means.

Persuasion and admonishment

On February 26, 2006, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the Central Organization Department promulgated the Interim Procedures for Carrying Out Persuasion and Admonition and Making Written Inquiries of Party Members and Leading Cadres. These procedures specify seven circumstances under which leading Party cadres should receive persuasion and admonishment and require that the person being admonished be told the reason for the session. The person carrying out the admonishment should make sure to go to the root of the matter, they should be sober-minded; in economic matters, they should be sober-minded. The person being admonished should be informed of the reason for the session, and the person carrying out the admonishment should make sure to go to the root of the matter, they should be sober-minded; in economic matters, they should be sober-minded.
Reporting on probity in discharging one’s duties

On February 25, 2006, the General Office of the CPC Central Committee the Interim Guidelines for Leading Party cadres Reporting on The Probity with Which They Discharged Their Duties that were formulated by the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the Central Organization Department, and notified all localities and departments, they should conscientiously implement them in light of their actual circumstances. On the basis of instructions from the Central Committee, all local Party committees arranged for all leading groups and leading Party cadres to report on the probity with which they discharged their duties.

On December 12, 2008, the leading groups of the Party and government of Suoqian, Xiaoshan, Zhejiang reported on the probity with which they discharged their duties. Mid-level cadres of town agencies, the heads of all villages and communities, and representatives of some enterprises, 60 persons in all, attended the meeting and listened to the reports. Huang Hanchen, secretary of the CPC Suoqian Town Party Committee delivered the leading group’s probity report on behalf of the group. Then, he and Cai Qiuying gave personal probity and work reports. Then the rest of the members of the leading group reported on the duties they performed in the previous year as well as on relevant policies and regulations, work style and efficiency, and incorruptibility and self-discipline. They identified deficiencies in their work and set forth measures for improving them.

A questionnaire was distributed to everyone who attended the meeting to gauge public opinion, and they were asked to anonymously report their opinions about the leading group and its leaders individually. The leaders of the district organization department and commission of discipline inspection and the district supervisor of Party spirit and incorruptibility attended the meeting and exercised oversight on the reports.

Reports by leading Party cadres on personal matters

On August 8, 2006, the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee held a meeting to discuss rules concerning leading Party cadres giving reports on personal matters. It was decided that leading Party cadres should report on the following matters: changes of their marital status; whether they have a personal passport; facts concerning any personal trips they have taken abroad; whether their children are married to foreigners or residents of Hong Kong, Macao or Taiwan; whether their spouse or any children live abroad and if so the nature of the situation; whether their spouse or any dependent children (children who live with them and are financially dependent on them) have operated any private business abroad and if so the nature of the situation; whether their spouse or any dependent children are the responsible parties for offices in China of foreign companies or companies located in Hong Kong, Macao or Taiwan and if so the nature of the situation; whether their spouse or any dependent children have been investigated by judicial authorities for criminal conduct and if so the nature of the situation; and any other matters they believe they should report.

The promulgation and implementation of these rules are an important measure in the new situation for strengthening supervision and oversight of Party members and leading cadres, and they are beneficial for upholding the principle that the Party should manage the Party and run the Party strictly, ensuring that leading Party cadres carry out their duties honestly, and strengthening Party spirit and clean government.
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