



## **Xi Jinping Administration Starts its Second Term Following Revisions of Party and National Constitutions**

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The 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was held in October 2017<sup>1</sup>, and the new Central Committee was inaugurated with General Secretary Xi Jinping as its head. At this congress, the Party Constitution<sup>2</sup> was revised to incorporate “Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era” in the part of “general program” of the Party Constitution. About five months later, the First Session of the 13<sup>th</sup> National People’s Congress (NPC) was held in March 2018<sup>3</sup>, re-electing Mr. Xi Jinping as President of the country. By the amendment of the National Constitution made at the NPC, term restriction for the president was removed. In this article, while reviewing these two important meetings, the author would like to look at the present situation of China which is striving to make further reforms.

### **1. “New Era led by Xi Jinping” and Expected long-standing Xi administration**

(1) “The New Era led by Xi Jinping” endorsed as a party consensus at the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC Congress

As noted above, the party platform was revised at the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC Congress to incorporate “Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.”<sup>4</sup> It meant that the

<sup>1</sup> Held between October 18 and 24, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> <http://cpc.people.com.cn/n1/2017/1029/c64094-29614515.html> (in Chinese)

<sup>3</sup> Held for 16 days between March 5 and 20, 2018.

<sup>4</sup> In addition, the revision of the party platform was quite unique because it was politically toned by Xi Jinping as it extensively included many policies and opinions stated in the Important Speech series which General Secretary Xi Jinping made in the past five year period of the 18<sup>th</sup> National Congress.

start of “New Era led by Xi Jinping” was endorsed as a consensus of 90 million party members who are in position to lead a big state of China with a population of nearly 1.4 billion.

The new Central Committee organized at this party congress immediately had a plenary session (First Plenary) and elected members of the standing committee of political bureau, who will lead Central Committee for the coming five years. Among the seven members of the former term, Mr. Xi Jinping and Mr. Li Keqiang were reappointed while other five members were replaced. Mr. Wang Qishan, then 69 years-old Secretary of Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), retired from the committee due to the conventional age limit of under 67 but there was no elevation to the standing committee of other politburo members in their 50s who are thought to be responsible for the next generations<sup>5</sup>.

## (2) Amendment of the National Constitution to abolish the term limit of President and Vice President

In order to put the matter before the First Session of the 13<sup>th</sup> NPC in March 2018, the party Central Committee held plenary sessions in January and February. At the January plenary session (the Second Plenary<sup>6</sup>), it prepared a draft revision of the State Constitution, and at the February session (the Third Plenary<sup>7</sup>) confirmed the proposals for institutional reforms of the party and the state and personnel affairs for state institutions. On February 25, 2018, immediately before the Third Plenary session, the Central Committee of the party published through state media draft amendments of the National Constitution consisting of 21 items.<sup>8</sup> The draft included the abolition of term limit of up to 10 years of 2 terms for President and Vice President<sup>9</sup>, which immediately arose much speculation both at home and abroad that this might be an amazing measure for enabling Xi Jinping to stay as President even after 2023 as soon as he would be re-elected as President at the NPC to be held in the coming March<sup>10</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup> Naoki Umehara, “The Second Term of the Xi Jinping Leadership: New Economic Team to Start its Full-fledged Activities Next March”, Institute for International Monetary Affairs, Newsletter No. 33, November 14 2017 [http://www.iima.or.jp/Docs/newsletter/2017/NL2017No\\_18\\_e.pdf](http://www.iima.or.jp/Docs/newsletter/2017/NL2017No_18_e.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> It was held for two days from January 18, 2018, and People's Daily Online reported as “中共十九届二中全会在京举行” on January 20, 2018. <http://politics.people.com.cn/n1/2018/0120/c1024-29776190.html> (in Chinese)

<sup>7</sup> Held for three days from February 26, and People's Daily Online reported as “中共十九届三中全会在京举行” on March 1, 2018. <http://politics.people.com.cn/n1/2018/0301/c1001-29840365.html> (in Chinese)

<sup>8</sup> (受权发布) 中国共产党中央委员会关于修改宪法部分内容的建议, Xinhuanet, February 25, 2018 [http://www.xinhuanet.com/2018-02/25/c\\_1122451187.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/2018-02/25/c_1122451187.htm) (in Chinese)

<sup>9</sup> The historical setting of the term limit for the president and vice president dates back to the revision of the Constitution in 1982 when Mr. Deng Xiaoping took power after the end of the Cultural Revolution. Since then, maximum term limit of two terms for 10 years was set to the president and vice president as is the case with other important posts. However, without taking the position of the president; Mr. Deng wielded his power as a paramount leader while taking a position of the chairman of the CPC Central Military Committee, and there has been no official term limitation on this position.

<sup>10</sup> In many authoritarian countries, often seen are the cases where heads of state extend or abolish their terms of office only to establish a prolonged dictatorship. There is a concern in some quarters that China follows such cases with the recent revision of the National Constitution. Also there emerge some views, albeit on speculation, that with making the post of president virtually life-long position, Mr. Xi Jinping will be deified like Mr. Mao Zedong and become the object of cult of personality.

(3) What kind of era will be a “New Era led by Xi Jinping”

(i) Xi Jinping divides Chinese contemporary history into three periods

What will be the “New Era led by Xi Jinping” in the “Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era”?

A hint comes from the statement Mr. Xi Jinping made on July 26 2017 before the meeting of heads of Provinces and ministers in advance of the 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress, which said “從站起来、富起来到強起来。”<sup>11</sup> This phrase indicates current CPC’s views on the state development and the history. Since the modern age, China has had a historical perception that after having an age to stand up and become rich (站起来、富起来), the country will enter the days of becoming a strong country (強起来). And it is the Xi Jinping Thought he himself has been advocating that will bring about a strong country of 強起来.

(ii) Historical perspective of “從站起来、富起来到強起来”

According to the CPC perspective, China in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Ching dynasty) was encroached by the Western powers and had to endure a hard time. However, the communist party was established in 1921 and at last in 1949 Mr. Mao Zedong declared the foundation of Peoples Republic of China. This is a historical view that they tried to avenge the humiliation they experienced after the defeat of the Opium War. In other words, China finally stood up in the days of Mao Zedong.

Next phrase 富起来 means becoming rich. After the death of Mr. Mao Zedong who resolutely stuck to equality, Mr. Deng Xiaoping assumed control in December 1978, and took a shift to a route of reform and liberalization. He started with a realistic theory that in order to make the whole nation rich, someone has to get rich first, and he invited foreign capitals, encouraged the transfer/introduction of advanced technology, and made a rapid economic development realized. This process of getting rich is expected to continue into 2020 when China is face a full-fledged start of the Moderately Prosperous Society.

Although China is now going to achieve this great goal, the future is an uncharted territory. Therefore, the current party leaders led by Mr. Xi Jinping decided to add a new goal of 強起来 “becoming a strong country” to the Socialism with Chinese characteristics set in the Deng Xiaoping age. The words “從站起来、富起来到強起来” are their calls for developing a new era together to achieve a new goal.

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<sup>11</sup> “从站起来、富起来到强起来的历史性飞跃”, September 6, 2017, People’s Daily Online <http://politics.people.com.cn/n1/2017/0906/c1001-29517381.html> (in Chinese)

(iii) The possibility is small that Mr. Xi Jinping hands over his power to young leaders in 2022

Based on this viewpoint of Mr. Xi Jinping, it is quite unlikely that, even after achieving a moderately prosperous society in all aspects by 2020, he will hand over the post of General Secretary to his successors at the 20<sup>th</sup> Party Congress slated for two years later in 2022. Mr. Xi will try to actively lead the New Era for China even after that as a top of the communist party that sets a goal to become a strong country. It will mean that it is natural for him to stay as a leader after the party congress of 2022. Since the communist party has incorporated into the party constitution its historical view of becoming a strong country, the top personnel affairs of the party will be decided within that framework.

(4) How long will the Xi Jinping administration last? ---Prospect for a prolonged government---

(i) In what time span?

At his opening remarks for the 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress, Mr. Xi Jinping stated<sup>12</sup> that at the same time he set it a goal to make China “a modern and strong socialist country” by the middle of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with a medium term goal of “basically realizing socialist modernization” by 2035<sup>13</sup>. So far the Party has been aware of “two centenaries”, or a centenary of the party establishment (2021) and a centenary of the foundation of the state (2049). The former is just within sight but when 2021 comes the next goal of 2049 may seem to be too remote one, 28 years in the future so it is likely that the Xi Jinping administration set a new medium term goal of 2035.

(ii) Youth of Mr. Xi Jinping

Mr. Xi Jinping is now 64 years old and it is probable that he wants to control China as General Secretary and President until 2035. In the autumn of 2035 he will be 82.

As an example of age, let us see the case of Mr. Deng Xiaoping who was born in August 1904. At the age of 52 he was promoted to the 6<sup>th</sup> highest position in the party seniority in 1956. After repeating the loss of position and revival during the Cultural Revolution, he seize the power at the age of 74, or in 1978 to make a complete revival. He was 84 years old when the Tiananmen Square Incident took place in June 1989, and 87 years old when he made a Southern Tour in 1992, before passing away at the age of 92 in 1997. Compared to Mr. Deng, Mr. Xi Jinping at the age of 82 in autumn 2035 may be seen rather young.

(iii) Where to find its legitimacy of governance

On the other hand, the legitimacy of governance will be required for making a long-standing

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<sup>12</sup> the expression of becoming a strong country “**強國**” is not explicitly incorporated in the goal by 2035.

<sup>13</sup> Refer to the following URL for the English translation of the report at the 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the CPC.  
[http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/download/Xi\\_Jinping's\\_report\\_at\\_19th\\_CPC\\_National\\_Congress.pdf](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/download/Xi_Jinping's_report_at_19th_CPC_National_Congress.pdf)

government possible. In the case of Mr. Deng Xiaoping, his complete control of the army was the point. The Chinese Communist Party has a traditional aspect that a person who has taken control of the army, police and propaganda machine takes the power, and its tradition is still alive. Although in the past five years Mr. Xi Jinping rapidly strengthened his grip of the army and public organ, he can't compete with Mr. Deng Xiaoping who had been an army soldier. Also in order for a Chinese leader to maintain a high authority, it is important for him to clarify his guiding principles, theories, policy lines and let the party members and outsiders accept them.

In addition, skill of economic management is also an important key factor in the contemporary China. It is often pointed out that the promise of the party for making the people's life rich was the consensus of the "growing rich" days. In such circumstances the first hurdle the Xi Jinping administration to establish a long standing control will be to successfully realize the achievement of the "moderately prosperous society" in all respects by 2020. For that purpose, it will become necessary for the government to sustain the current level of economic growth and stabilize domestic finance while containing inflation, securing employment and keeping good external relations (especially with the U.S.) .

(iv) It is too early to forecast at this stage how long the current administration will last

As is seen above, Mr. Xi Jinping has an incentive to lead a longtime rule of the government and has an advantage of his relatively young age, but he has not come to gain an absolute strength in terms of legitimacy of governance.

It is quite hard to forecast at this stage how long the Xi Jinping administration will last. People gave him credence at the first plenum of the 13<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress. After all, it will depend on how the administration will govern the nation in the coming five or ten years and how the party executives and people will evaluate it to acknowledge the legitimacy of the government.

## **2. Start of the Second Xi Jinping administration -- Review of the First Session of the 13<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress--**

In the first session of the 13<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress, the representatives discussed and approved, as they usually do every year, work report of the government, budget draft, and economic and social development plan. What was special with this year's congress was that they discussed and approved the revision of the constitution, draft of supervision law, and reforms of state institutions. The second Xi Jinping administration that was born in March 2018 has now entered the stage to exercise its power it has seized so far.

### (1) Report on the Work of the Government

The Report on the Work of the Government for this year took a style to first review the achievements in the past five years, then present the challenges for the economic and social development for 2018 and propose the policies to be implemented in 2018. Among many contents included, the essential point was that the goals for main economic indicators for 2018 were kept almost unchanged from the previous year; namely the goals for the real GDP growth rate expected at around +6.5% over the previous year, the same level as projected last year, consumer inflation rate at around +3% and increase in the number of new urban employees at more than 11 million, also almost the same level as in the last year. The monetary policy was kept intact as “moderate and neutral”.

On the economic management, it was asked to control financial risks and try to keep safety operation. Specifically, it meant to appropriately deal with poverty and promote to tackle the environment problems while maintaining a trend of stable development. And it was made a top priority to steadily fulfil a modestly prosperous society in all respects by 2 years later, in 2020.

### (2) Adoption of Revised Draft Constitution

Revision of the Constitution includes the following three points<sup>14</sup>: (i) inclusion, based on the new party constitution, of policies the Xi Jinping leadership has implemented, such as Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, (ii) abolition of term limits for President and Vice President, and (iii) newly establishment of National Supervisory Commission (discussed below).

The Xi Jinping leadership upheld as its goal to realize an across-the-board rule of law. Although under the leadership of the Communist Party, the administration is making a strong effort to promulgate and authorize a new constitution to broadly disseminate the rule of law all over the country. The revision of the constitution covered 21 items which were all adopted. Thus the beginning of the “New Era led by Xi Jinping” was shared with the people and approved by the NPC.

### (3) Newly Established Supervisory Commission

The establishment of the Supervisory Commission is a measure to institutionalize the anti-corruption efforts. In the recent revision of the constitution, a section on the national supervisory commission was added (Section 7 of the Chapter 3). The place of its insertion indicates that the Supervisory Commission is positioned higher than the Supreme People’s

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<sup>14</sup> Refer to the following URL for the whole text of the revised Constitution. For each article of the draft see footnote 8 above. <http://dangjian.people.com.cn/n1/2018/0322/c117092-29882012.html> (in Chinese)

Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate. Also the Supervisory Act was adopted at the NPC and it was stipulated in the “Plan on Deepening Reform of Party and State Institutions”<sup>15</sup> released on the following day of the close of the NPC that the Commission was to be established as an organization responsible to the NPC Standing Committee, rather than as a lower institution under the State Council, and to be managed together with the Party Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI).

The organization of the Supervisory Commission is established not only at the central unit but also at all administrative units above county level. It aims at creating structure that helps prevent corruptions by extending supervision to all levels ranging from Province, autonomous regions, municipality to counties.

However, the management of the Supervisory Commission will have a tough going. The supervision should not be too lax, but if it is too tough, public sector employees will shrink, with a risk of impairing administrative efficiency. It will gather much attention in what way it will work to take root in society.

#### (4) Implementation of a broad institutional reform

At the NPC, reform plan of the State Council was adopted to streamline the organization and improve efficiency and on the following day of the close of the NPC. On March 21, the day after the close of the NPC, a “plan on deepening reform of Party and State Institutions”<sup>16</sup> was released. It implemented reforms of 8 areas including, in addition to the State Council institutions, those institutions of the Party Central Committee, the NPC, and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee, that spread to 60 items.

For the Party 20 reforms were implemented where all the major leading groups (groups established by the Party and the State Council to make top-down decisions)<sup>17</sup> were transformed to formal Central Committees. Also included were the reforms of the Publicity Department and the Committee for Political and Legal Affairs of the CPC Central Committee where the former standing member of the CPC Central Committee, Mr. Zhou Yongkang was reported to have exerted his influence.

Reforms of the State Council amount to 23 cases. Financial reform includes a merger of China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC) and China Insurance Regulatory Commission

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<sup>15</sup> The Plan was adopted at the Third Plenum of the Communist Party Central Committee held in February 2018, but it seems that the government released it after the adoption process at the First Session of the 13th NPC.

<sup>16</sup> 「中共中央印发《深化党和国家机构改革方案》」 March 22, People's Daily Online <http://dangjian.people.com.cn/n1/2018/0322/c117092-29882009.html> (in Chinese)  
“CPC issues decision on deepening reform of Party and State institutions”, March 5, 2018, Xinhua-Net [http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest\\_releases/2018/03/05/content\\_281476067521228.htm](http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2018/03/05/content_281476067521228.htm)

<sup>17</sup> The central leading groups that were upgraded include those for deepening overall reform, cyberspace affairs, financial and economic affairs, and foreign affairs.

(CIRC) (to China Banking Insurance Regulatory Commission CBIRC). Also with the establishment of the State Administration for Market Regulation, the original State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC)<sup>18</sup> was merged and its name disappeared. Ministry of Land and Resources, State Oceanic Administration and State Bureau of Surveying and Mapping were merged to newly established Ministry of Natural Resources.

In the area of local institutional reform, the local governments are required to promote the reforms in response to the institutional reform in the central government, to be completed in two stages by September 2018 and by March 2019. It is very important to spread the institutional reforms to the local level, but it will become a substantial burden to the local governments.

These reforms are quite wide-ranged and with substantially in-depth coverage, and they will not be realized without fairly strong authority and initiatives of the Party leaders.

### **3. Personnel Affairs of the high ranked officials of the state institutions approved at the 13<sup>th</sup> NPC.**

The appointments of high ranked officials approved during the NPC session are as shown in the Attachments 1 and 2. Among them, the following appointments are especially notable.

#### **(1) Deputy President**

It was the appointment of the vice president that attracted most attention in the recent personnel affairs. Vice president is a post that supports President, and the post was assumed by Mr. Wang Qishan who was the former member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranking 6<sup>th</sup>, and Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI). As stated above, Mr. Wang Qishan was not allowed at the 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress to retain the membership of the Party Standing Committee due to institutionalized age limit (to retire at the age of over 68).

Mr. Wang Qishan, however, played a decisive role through anti-corruption campaign during the start of the first Xi Jinping administration which tried to consolidate its control and concentrate the power. It is said that not only Mr. Xi Jinping has placed a high value on his real ability shown through these efforts but also they have been in a close relationship of long-standing and reliable allies. The appointment of Mr. Wang Qishan to the vice president is seen to have a meaning of Mr. Xi Jinping's expression of his appreciation to his past performance.

In addition, it is quite important for China to keep a good relationship with unpredictable

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<sup>18</sup> Administration Bureau for Industry and Commerce, local organizations of State Administration for Industry and Commerce, are responsible for a registration and licensing authority, and are well-known organizations also to foreign companies.

Trump administration in the U.S. and the diplomacy with the U.S., especially the economic diplomacy, is the area that Mr. Wang Qishan has the greatest talent. He has a detailed knowledge of financial affairs, and there seems to be an aspect that Mr. Xi Jinping continues to need his ability in the coming years.

## (2) Chairman of the National Supervision Commission

Mr. Yang Xiaodu, a member of the Central Politburo and former Minister of Supervision, was appointed to the director of the new National Supervisory Commission. As explained above, the National Supervisory Commission will work together with the CCDI. At the 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress, Mr. Zhao Leji, 6<sup>th</sup> ranked member of the Politburo Standing Committee, was appointed to the Secretary of the CCDI, and Mr. Yang will operate his organization under Mr. Zhao.

The National Supervisory Commission (NSC) takes over the anti-corruption campaign that Mr. Wang Qishan, former Secretary of the CCDI and aims at realizing corruption-free China by incorporating anti-corruption campaign into the national institution. At first there was even a speculation that the NSC would become an institution that transcends the state and the party, but currently it is seen that it does not necessarily aim at such things<sup>19</sup>. Anyway, as this institution may exert influence on the future course of China, its activities will have to be carefully watched.

## (3) Institutional reforms and personnel affairs of financial sector

### (i) Reforms of banking and insurance supervisory institutions

Among the institutional reforms related to financial sector, merger of the China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC), and China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC), each a sectoral regulatory institution, was decided to form a China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC). Both institutions had a history of being separated from the People's Bank of China, but with the recent development of the Chinese economy, which increased intra-business-sector transactions and developed financial conglomerates, it seems that the government is responding to these new circumstances with the merger of regulatory institutions. Effective March 21 Mr. Guo Shuqing, former chairman of the CBRC, was appointed to the head (chairman) of the new regulatory institution.

The China Securities Regulatory Commission was not subject to the present reform. It has not a history of being separated from the PBOC.

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<sup>19</sup> “杨晓渡:构建系统完备、科学规范、运行高效的党和国家机构职能体系”, March 14, 2018, People's Daily Online, <http://dangjian.people.com.cn/n1/2018/0314/c117092-29866417.html> (in Chinese)

“Leadership is essence of Party, senior official says”, March 15, 2018, China Daily <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201803/15/WS5aa9cb2ea3106e7dcc141c14.html>

(ii) Appointment of the Governor of the PBOC and personnel affairs of March 26

The NPC decided to appoint Mr. Yi Gang to governor of the PBOC, upgrading from deputy governor. He is a central banker with a great deal of experience and expertise, and is expected to take over the tradition of previous Governor Mr. Zhou Xiaochuan, who retired after serving the bank as the face of the PBOC since 2002.

Later on March 26, an internal meeting was held by the senior members of the PBOC, where Mr. Guo Shuqing, chairman of the CBIRC, was concurrently appointed to deputy governor of the bank. At the same time, it was announced that Mr. Guo would serve as Party chief (secretary) of the PBOC and Mr. Yi as Party deputy chief. This extraordinary cross-coupled appointment is considered to result from the political positions of Mr. Guo who is a member of the Politburo Central Committee and Mr. Yi who is only a candidate. Yet, after this decision, practical management of the bank is to be made by governor Yi and Mr. Guo to support him.

In the past, the governor of the PBOC often suffered from strong political pressure to ease monetary policy from influential local officials like party secretaries, governors, mayors of provinces and municipalities. Therefore it is believed that the Xi Jinping leadership tried to form a structure to support Governor Yi Gang, who sometimes looks to be somewhat too delicate, by appointing as a weight for domestic policies of the bank Mr. Guo who has an experience of local government top as Governor of Shandong province, and is strongly reform-minded as a member of Politburo Central Committee.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The Xi Jinping leadership had exerted its strong centripetal force in the past five years, and steadily promoted the concentration of power to the Politburo Central Committee, or Mr. Xi himself who is in the “core” of it. Responding to the problem that led to a downfall of Mr. Bo Xilai, anti-corruption campaign was at first promoted rather aggressively to completely remove grafts, but with a new formation of the State Supervisory Commission, it has been institutionalized. Until now the 18<sup>th</sup> party leadership led by Mr. Xi Jinping, Mr. Wang Qishan, Mr. Li Keqiang invested tremendous energy in it, and party members as well as people seem to have accepted the results positively. In the future it will be a big challenge how to make use of the foundation established in the past five years.

The Xi Jinping administration that started its second term with the enforcement of the new constitution substantially reformed the structure of the State Council. With this institutional reform, more effective and speedy administrative services are to be expected. On the other hand, in addition to the reforms in the central government, those in the localities will enter crucial

stages from now on. Especially since 2009, many provinces had competed with other provinces for economic growth by relying on debts. That promoted economic growth but it also created excessive equipment and excessive debts, making it a big problem to deal with them.

From now on, it is recognized to be an important agenda for the government to improve poverty and environmental problems while overcoming the mismatch of employment without destabilizing the finance and without dropping the speed of economic growth to realize the “moderately prosperous society” in all respects.

China aims to build a strong country in the “new era led by Xi Jinping” after 2020 and “basically realize the modernization of socialism” while avoiding a trap of middle income countries by 2035, 15 years later than that. China faces a host of issues including how to build a safety net like social security.

That the Xi Jinping administration has further strengthened centralized structure may work positively on the state management like bold implementation of reforms. However, there is a possibility that restriction of freedom of speech that should be guaranteed by the constitution or strengthened intervention of the party into the activities of private companies will come up as a new weak point. For the Xi Jinping administration to become a long-term stable government, it will be necessary for it to take advantage of its strength while overcoming such weak points noted above.

Attachment 1 Executive Officers Appointed by the NPC

Official Position	Names	Status in the Party, Seniority ranking, etc.
President	Xi Jinping	Member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranked top; General Secretary; "Core" leader; Chairman of the Central Military Commission
Vice President	Wang Qishan	Former ranked sixth member of the Politburo Standing Committee; Former Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection. Having speciality in finance.
Chairman of the Central Military Commission	Xi Jinping	See above
Vice Chairman	Xu Qiliang, Zhang Youxia	Both are members of the Politburo; Vice Chairmen of the Central Military Commission
Members	Wei Fenghe, Li Zuocheng, Miao Hua, Zhang Shengmin	Wei Fenghe is a member of the Central Committee and of Central Military Commission. The other three are members of Central Military Commission
Chairman of the NPC Standing Committee	Li Zhanshu	Member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranked third.
Vice Chair-persons (14), Secretary-General (1), Members (159)	(See the URL on the right column)	<a href="http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2018lh/index.htm">http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2018lh/index.htm</a>
Special Committees, Directors, Deputy Directors, and members	(See the URL on the right column)	<a href="http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/rdjc/node_507.htm">http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/rdjc/node_507.htm</a>
State Council, Premier	Li Keqiang	Member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranked second.
Vice Premiers	Han Zheng, Sun Chunlan (female), Hu Chunhua, Liu He	Han Zheng is a member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranked 7th. The other three are members of the Politburo.
State Councilors	Wei Fenghe, Wang Yong, Wang Yi, Xiao Jie, Zhao Kezhi	All are members of the Central Committee. Wei Fenghe is a soldier, Wang Yong is experienced in managing SOEs (reappointed), Wang Yi is also Foreign Minister, Xiao Jie is former Finance Minister, and Zhao Kezhi is also Minister of Public Security and served for many provinces.
Secretary-General	Xiao Jie (double)	See above
Ministers, Directors, PBOC Governor, etc.	(See Attachment 2 below)	All are members of the Central Committee except Yigan and Ma Xiaowei
Director of the National Supervisory Commission	Yang Xiaodu	Member of the Politburo, Secretary of the Central Secretariat, Deputy Secretary of the Central Committee for Discipline Inspection
President of the Supreme People's Court:	Zhou Qiang	Member of the Central Committee
Procurator-general of the Supreme People's Procuratorate	Zhang Jun	Member of the Central Committee

(For Reference) Appointments made outside the NPC

Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference	Wang Yang	Member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranked fourth
Deputy Chair-persons (24) Secretary-General (1)	(See the URL on the right column)	<a href="http://www.cppcc.gov.cn/zxww/newcppcc/zxld/index.shtml">http://www.cppcc.gov.cn/zxww/newcppcc/zxld/index.shtml</a>
Secretary of the Central Secretariat	Wang Huning	Member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranked fifth.
Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection	Zhao Leji	Member of the Politburo Standing Committee, ranked sixth

(Source) various reports.

Attachment 2 Ministers and Chairman of committees etc., appointed by the NPC

Minister of Foreign Affairs	Wang Yi (also State Councilor) (Member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of National Defense :	Wei Fenghe (also State Councilor) (member of the Central Committee and the Central Military Commission), preceded by Chang Wanquan.
Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission	Hei Lifeng (member of the central committee), reappointed.
Minister of Education	Chen Baosheng, reappointed.
Minister of Science and Technology	Wang Chigang (member of the Central Committee), preceded by Wan Gang.
Minister of Industry and Information Technology	Miao Wei (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister in charge of the State Ethnic Affairs Commission	Bagatur (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of Public Security	Zhao Kezhi (State Councilor) (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of State Security	Chen Wenqing (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of Civil Affairs	Huang Shuxian (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of Justice	Fu Zhenghua (member of the Central Committee), preceded by Zhang Jin
Minister of Finance	Liu Kun (also a member of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection), preceded by Xiao Jie
Minister of Human Resources and Social Security	Zhang Jinan (member of the Central Organizations Committee, the Central Committee), preceded by Yin Weimin
Minister of Natural Resources	Lu Hao (member of the Central Committee), newly established.
Minister of Ecology and Environment	Li Ganjie (member of the Central Committee), reappointed (Minister of Environment Protection).
Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development	Wang Menghui (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of Transport	Li Xiaopeng (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of Water Resources	E Jingping (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	Han Changfu (member of the Central Committee), reappointed (minister of Agriculture).
Minister of Commerce	Zhong Shan (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.
Minister of Culture and Tourism	Luo Shugang (member of the Central Committee), reappointed (Minister of Culture).
Minister in charge of National Health Commission	Ma Xiaowei, preceded by Li Bin (National Health and Family Planning Commission).
Minister of Veterans Affairs	Sun Shaocheng (member of the Central Committee), newly established.
Minister of Emergency Management	Wang Yupu (member of the Central Committee), newly established.
Governor of the People's Bank of China	Yi Gang (Candidate for the Central Committee), preceded by Zhou Xiaochuan.
Auditor-General of the National Audit Office	Hu Zejun (member of the Central Committee), reappointed.

(Source) Presidential Order No. 2 [http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2018lh/2018-03/19/c\\_1122560774.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2018lh/2018-03/19/c_1122560774.htm)

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