

The VIII Congress of the VCP Central Committee has passed the resolution called "Keeping on building and perfecting the Government of SRV and concentrating on the administrative reformation". Basing on the plan of the politburo, the Government made the plan to reform the administrative machinery at the first stage.

The goals of the administrative reformation pointed out by the plan are: building a strong, honest and competent administrative machinery which could operate within its legal authority; modernizing the administrative machinery in order to control effectively all socio-economic activities; realizing policies of the Government and Party; and making the people rich, the country strong and the society civilized and equitable. The plan puts forward a list of priorities which should be done in certain areas, especially in what relating to the people and businesses, in order to

the people informed about the public affairs so they can give their opinions if need be.

The plan stated clearly: The leadership of the Civil Services is responsible for publicizing periodically on mass media all public affairs so the people can know, carry out and give opinions.

- Innovating the process of making rules and regulations, enforcing the law seriously. The plan stated: From now on, only if all instructions and guidelines have been made are the law, ordinance and decree promulgated.

• Adjusting the administrative machinery step by step with a view to making it more simplified and appropriate to the new mechanism.

• Training the army of civil servants and purging the administrative machinery. The plan has suggested promulgating the regulations about recruiting the civil servant or examining new recruit or appointee.

series of actions which should be performed in order to reform the public administration with a view to perfecting the administrative institution, restoring rules and social order, purging the administrative institution, restoring rules and social order, purging the administrative machinery.

In this article, we would like to give our opinion about asserting rights and duties of the official in the administrative reformation.

A government consists of the executive, legislative and judicial powers. In my opinion, the government officials comprise persons employed by the three powers. They are people's representatives who were elected by universal suffrage representing the electorate's interests and working during their term of office at various offices such as the National Assembly, the People's Council, the People's Committee to make policies on national or local development. The law prescribes the term of office hold-

ON RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMATION

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accelerate the economic renovation and development in preparation for the next stage of reformation after the VIII National Congress of the Party.

The following are main contents of the plan:

- Reforming the administrative institution:
 - Reforming the administrative procedure.
 - Restoring rules and social order.
 - Dealing with complaint and denouncement of the people quickly and correctly.
 - Using various means to keep

As for purging the administrative machinery, the plan stated: all government officials should report and put themselves under examination of their superiors on their sources of money for buying land or building house.

As of July 12, 1995, by normalizing the diplomatic relation between Vietnam and the US, and as of July 28, 1995, by joining ASEAN, Vietnam officially entered the period of new challenges and difficulties, therefore Vietnam should have the strong and effective public administration. The above-mentioned plan of the Government has asserted the contents and

ers with a view to enabling the electorate to change or adjust the policy and goal if they proved inappropriate to new conditions by electing new representatives.

Government officials also comprise persons employed by the executive and judicial bodies. They are usually in contact with the people and handle affairs relating to the people's interests. So the strength of the public administration depends on the merits and morals of the officials.

Moreover, the Vietnam Government is under the direction of the VCP. The Party's interests are those of the people and the Party has no

other interest. Many associations such as Hồ Chí Minh Youth League, Vietnam Woman Association, Vietnam National Trade Union, etc. gathered round the Party. Through these associations, the Party mobilized the people to carry out Party's line and policy publicized by government bodies. Although it doesn't control directly the public affairs, but these officials working in above-mentioned associations and numerous party's cells were considered as government officials to some extent. Prestige of the Party and the Government depended on the merits and morals of these officials.

To reform the administrative machinery with a view to making it appropriate to new conditions, we

the inspection of the superior or judicial bodies and suffer discipline measures if there is evidence against him/her.

- cultivate himself/herself or take refresher courses with a view to obtaining ability to cope with ever-changing conditions, becoming equal to his/her position and carrying out the task better.

2. Rights of the government official

In order to fulfil the above-mentioned duties, the government official should be entitled to have the following rights:

- In order to help the official concentrate on the task, the Government, and the superior of the official, should ensure him/her and their families good living by paying adequate

vided that these measures are appropriate to their positions and functions.

- The Government should ensure the officials their political and economic interests when they fulfil their tasks according to rules and regulations but contrary to the interest of a group of people.

- The officials have rights to be assigned to perform tasks appropriate to their ability and desire whatever their sex, race or religion.

- They have a right to study and cultivate their knowledge and have chance to make social advancement.

In short, the officials are not only wage-earners or persons employed by the Government. The officials should have professional ethics,



should soon promulgate the Law on the Government Officials or Statute of Civil Service. The law should prescribe rights and duties of the official. The following are some main points of these rights and duties:

1. Duties of the government official

An official should:

- be loyal to the Constitution and laws, to the people's interests and the Party's line: and orientate all his/her activities towards serving the country and the people's interests.

- be a good example of a law-abiding citizen and responsible for directing and helping other citizens to obey the law and carry out government's policies.

- obey all orders, directives and assignments of the superior, endure

salaries and allowances proportional to their workload. The standard of living of the officials and their families should correspond to the average living standard of the society. In any case, salaries and allowances should enable the official to support their families and themselves without being forced to do any other job. Receiving low salaries, officials had to do other jobs in spare time, so they couldn't concentrate on their tasks, or they showed a tendency to take bribe and make things hard for the people. As a result of this, the administrative machinery would lose prestige and efficiency.

- The officials are allowed to have a right to find out new measures to carry out their tasks better pro-

and above all, they should orientate all their activities towards serving the people's interests. The officials are responsible for orientating their tasks towards serving the interest of the community. In order to fulfil their tasks, they should be assured of their political and economic interests and would get preferential treatment.

In reality, there is always a difference between theory and practice. Everybody must put a lot of efforts into reducing this difference. If someone considers this difference as natural and invincible, this will be harmful to the Government. The government's existence is based on laws, but its survival and development depend on the recognition of its members, especially of the army of officials■