The Report on the Development of the Rule of Law in China (Blue Book on the Rule of Law)

No.8 (2010)

Abstract

The year 2009 was the sixtieth anniversary of the establishment of the People's Republic of China and an important year in the construction of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Annual report on China's rule of law No.8 (2010) is a summarization and analysis of the development of the rule of law in China in 2009 in the fields of legislation, judicial reform, human rights, military legal system, international economic legal practice, administrative law, criminal law, civil law, intellectual property rights law, labour law and social law. The Annual report pays special attention to a series hot issues in 2009, including the development of the rule of law in Macao in the decade since its return to China, international law issues relating to the retrieval of Chinese royal cultural relics lost overseas, food safety supervision, crime situation and criminal policies in China, legislation on tort liability, and the current situation and existing problems in the system of legal settlement of colony incidents.

The annual report features a series of exclusive field studies on the situation of rule of law in China, including an evaluation and analysis of

the situation of disclosure of government information at the local level, a discussion on the legal issues relating to the circulation of land in rural areas, an investigation on the public awareness of and institutional building relating to corporate social responsibility, and an examination of the current situation and future trend of development of "new rural cooperative medical care system" that has draw widespread public attention.

In the part on local practice of rule of law, the annual report introduces the creative practice, developed by Sichuan Provincial Government in the aftermath of a major earthquake, of developing grassroots-level democracy and encouraging public participation in post-disaster reconstruction and in the reform of governance mode, examines crimes committed by Mafia-like gangs in Chongqing Municipality and special actions taken by Chongqing Municipal Government in response to such crimes, summarises the achievement made by Beijing Municipal Government in establishing the Labour Disputes Medication Centre and in resolving labour disputes, and analyzes the self-regulatory mechanism invented by the software industry in Dalian City and the implementation in the City of the first personal information protection system in China.

The Rule of Law in China in 2009: Promoting Development,

Safeguarding People's Livelihood, and Maintaining Stability

Research Team, Law Institute, CASS

Abstract: This article introduces the progress made by China in the

development of the rule of law in 2009 in the fields of legislation, judicial

reform, administrative law, criminal law, anti-corruption law, civil,

commercial and economic laws, media law, environmental protection law,

social law, and the laws of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, summarises

the main characteristics of and existing problems in this process—which

safeguarding people's livelihood and maintaining aimed

stability—and forecasts the development of the rule of law in China in the

year of 2010.

Key words: people's livelihood; stability and the rule of law

B2

Development of Chinese Legislation in 2009

Chen Guogang

The year 2009 is a crucial year in the realisation of the goal of

constructing a socialist legal system with Chinese characteristics by 2010.

Both the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and the

State Council have speeded up legislative work and adopted a series of

important laws and administrative regulations. This article reviews the

main progresses made in 2009 and forecasts the trend of developments in

2010 in the field of legislation in China.

Key words: legislation; revision of law

В3

Judicial Reform in China in 2009

Xiong Qiuhong

Abstract: In 2009, China has carried out judicial reform and made

remarkable processes in optimising the distribution of judicial power,

implementing the policy of tempering justice with mercy, strengthening

the ranks of judicial personnel, reforming the fund safeguarding system,

and improving the working mechanism of 'administration of justice for

the people', thereby contributing to the establishment of a fair, efficient

and authoritative judicial system, and upholding social fairness and

justice.

Key words: judicial system; reform of the procuratorial system; reform

of the court system

B4

National Human Rights Action Plan of China: A Landmark

Document of Human Rights Protection in China

Liu Huawen

Abstract: The adoption of the first National Human Rights Action Plan in

China was a historical breakthrough in the country. While human rights

white papers are mainly of summarising and declarative nature, the action

plan focuses on concrete actions. It was a new step in the development of

human rights cause in China; the drafting process of the this document

was characterised by participation by various government departments as

well as by the society as a whole; the action plan attaches great

importance to the fulfilment of international human rights obligations

undertaken by the Chinese Government, upholds various principles and

standards of human rights, and stresses implementation and supervision.

It has enabled China to gain useful experience and laid a foundation for

the making of national human rights action plans in the future.

Key words: National Human Rights Action Plan of China; human rights

standards; implementation and supervision

B5

International Law Issues Relating to the Recovery of Chinese Royal

Cultural Relics Lost Overseas

Xie Xinsheng

Abstract: The recent efforts by China to recover cultural relics looted from the Old Summer Palace (Yuanmingyuan) by western forces have drawn widespread public attention. From the perspective of international law, only the Chinese government has the right to institute legal proceedings for the recovery of Chinese royal cultural relics from overseas. However, the best way to recover Chinese royal cultural relics lost overseas is not to institute civil proceedings at foreign courts, but to adopt a combination of diplomatic and legal approaches in light of the concrete situation of specific cases.

Key words: recovery of lost cultural relics; litigation; nationalisation; state immunity; diplomatic channel

B6

Construction of the Military Legal System in China in 2009

Chen Chuangdong

Abstract: This article summarises the process of, and major events in the construction of military legal system in China in 2009 in the fields of legislation, law enforcement, administration of justice and legal services, and makes some forecasts on the major steps that might be taken by The Chinese People's Liberation Army in the further construction of

military legal system in 2010.

Key words: military legal system; administering the armed forces in

accordance with the law

B7

The Rule of Law in Macao in the Decade after Its Return to China

Wang Tao

During the decade after its return to China, Macao has, through the

implementation of 'One Country, Two Systems' and the Basic Law of

Macao Special Administrative Region, truly realised the high degree

autonomy of 'Macao People administer Macao', and while achieving

rapid economic and social development, has also made praise-worthy

progresses in the fields of legislation, administration of justice, legal

supervision and the reform of the administrative system. Meanwhile, it

has also encountered some new problems and challenges.

Key words: One country; two systems; Macao; the rule of law

В8

International Economic Law Practice in 2009: Challenges and

Opportunities

Liu Jingdong

Abstract: The reform of international economic law has been faced with

both challenges and opportunities in 2009. After the outbreak of the

global financial crisis, international economic law practice has showed

some new features and trends of development. This article analyzes the

challenges posed by trade protectionism to the formation of the WTO

legal system, the reform of international financial system, the

enhancement of the decision-making power of developing countries, and

the major issues relating to sustainable development in international

economic law, and explains the situation faced by and the tasks imposed

on China against the background of these new developments in

international economic law.

Key words: international economic law; challenges and opportunities

B9

Chinese Administrative Legal System in 2009

Li Xia

Abstract: This article mainly focuses on the achievements made and

challenges faced by China in the fields of administrative legislation and

administrative law enforcement in 2009. The achievements include: laws

and regulations adopted by both the central and local governments that

are well-targeted and highly creative; a new round of institutional reform

initiated by local governments; and the progress in the construction of

'accountable government' and 'service-oriented government' pushed

forward by both internal and external forces. Meanwhile, the article

points out some problems in the construction of the administrative legal

system, including those in administrative examination and approval,

disclosure of government information, and the overall level of rule of

administrative of law.

Key words: administrative rule of law; institutional reform;

accountable government

B10

Development of the System of Administrative Regulations with

Chinese Characteristics

Jiang Ling, Liu Ping, Wang Song Lin, Shi Lili, Han Bing

Abstract: In the 30 years since 'Reform and Opening up', the construction

of the administrative regulation system has been playing an important role in promoting the socialist modernisation and establishing and improving the socialist market economic system. This article gives a historical review of the formation of basic idea of the system of socialist administrative regulations with Chinese characteristics and the process of the construction of such system, conducts an empirical analysis of the basic rules of this system, its main problems, as well as solutions thereof, and tries to forecast the future development of the system.

Key words: Administrative regulations; institutional construction; retrospect and prospect

B11

New Developments in the Legal System of Food Safety Supervision in 2009

Song Hualing

Abstract: In 2009, the legal system of food safety supervision has been further strengthened. The Food Safety Law, and a series of related rules and regulations establishes a Food Safety Committee and provides for the division of work among different government departments, the responsibility of local government and the system of expert committees.

Currently the government is trying to realise the goals of food safety supervision through the implementation of Food Safety Risk Surveillance and Assessment system, food safety standards, food safety licensing and reporting system, system of disclosure of food safety information, food recall system, food safety credit system, and the system of off-limit industry.

Key words: food safety; Food Safety Law; supervision, administrative law

B12

Legal Settlement of Colony Incidents in China in 2009

Mo Jihong

Abstract: A review of emergency measures for dealing with colony incidents taken by local governments in 2009 and in previous years shows that the lack of ability to handle complicated situations and serious bureaucracy on the part of some local governments have led to escalation of conflicts, resulting in some vicious public security incidents or public crises. This article analyzes the main reasons for the failure of local governments to handle colony incidents and the possible solutions to this

problem.

Key words: colony incidents; emergency measure; ruling ability; the

Law on Emergency Responses

B13

Chinese Criminal Law in 2009

Liu Renwen, Zhou Zhenjie

Abstract: This article is a general review of the public security situation in China and a brief introduction to the Seventh Amendment to the Criminal Law as well as the relevant judicial interpretations issued by judicial organs in 2009. Taking the "Special Law Enforcement Action 2009" that targeted crimes relating to faked currency, the article reviews the measures taken by China in 2009 for the control of multiple crimes, and through the discussion of cases with major social impact, explores the relationship between the public opinion and administration of justice. The article also provides information about the ongoing reform of sentencing procedure and forecasts the trend of development of the criminal law system in the year 2010.

Key words: criminal law system; special law enforcement action; reform

of the sentencing procedure

B14

Chinese Procuratorial System: Characteristics and Prospect

Sun Qian

Abstract: This article analyzes the basic connotation of the Chinese

procuratorial system with Chinese characteristics and the underlying

causes of the formation of the procuratorial system, and explores the

ways of improving this system, including upholding the guiding position

of the theoretical system of socialism with Chinese characteristics,

making an effort in developing a socialist procuratorial theory with

Chinese characteristics, standardising and checking the exercise of

procuratorial power, developing codes of conduct for the procuratorial

profession, and raising the ethic standard of prosecutors.

Key words: procuratorial system; and connotation

B15

The Seventh Amendment to the Chinese Criminal Law: Main

Content and Background of Its Adoption

Huang Taiyun

Abstract: This article analyzes the main content and background of the

Seventh Amendment to the Criminal Law, adopted at the Seventh Session

of the Standing Committee of the Eleventh National People's Congress,

discusses revision of the provisions in the Criminal Law on the crimes of

embezzlement, bribery, disruption of socialist economic order, violation

of citizens' rights, disrupting the order of social administration,

jeopardising interest of national defence, and explores the legislative

purpose and the concrete application of a series of newly established

crimes.

Key words: Seventh Amendment of the Criminal Law; crime; revision

B16

Crime Situation and Criminal Policies in China in 2009

Jin Gaofeng

Abstract: The year 2009 saw a drastic increase in the number of crimes,

including major crimes such as violent crimes, crimes against property,

crimes of disrupting socialist market economic order and crimes of

disrupting the order of social administration. In response to this situation,

Chinese Government has made a series of adjustments and changes to its

criminal policies. In the year 2010 China Government will continue to be faced with dire crime situation and increasing press to maintain stability and therefore will make further adjustments to its criminal policies.

Key words: crime situation; criminal policy; analysis; prediction

B17

Chinese Civil Law System in 2009

Liu Chengwei

Abstract: In 2009, new progresses have been made in the development of Chinese civil law system. The year 2009 is the tenth anniversary of the promulgation and coming into force of the unified Contract Law. During the past ten years China has made steady progress in the development of both theory and practice of contract law. In 2009, China has begun the implementation of the Real Rights Law and made remarkable achievements in theory, practice and judicial interpretation of the Law, and the year 2009 is also a crucial year in the formulation and adoption of the Tort Law and Chinese Civil Code.

Key words: the second interpretation of the Contract Law; the implementation of the Real Right Law; the Draft Tort Law

Chinese Intellectual Property Right Law in 2009

Li Shunde

Abstract: In 2009, the national intellectual property strategy has become

an important step taken by China in response to the global financial crisis.

Active measures have been adopted by governments at various levels

throughout the country to implement the strategy. The progress made by

China in the protection of intellectual property right has attracted

worldwide attention. The third amendment to the Patent Law has once

again raised the level of protection of patents in China; Currently China is

also pressing forward with the reform of the judicial and administrative

procedures within the framework of intellectual property right law

system.

Key words: the Intellectual Property Right; strategy; implementation

B19

The Tort Law Legislation in China: Review and Prospect

Ye Mingyi

Abstract: In 2009, China has promulgated the Tort Liability Law, which

includes major revisions on such issues as different compensation

standards for the death of rural and urban citizens, the presumption of

causality in cases of medical malpractice, compensation for injuries or

death occurred in the employment relationship between individual

persons, and the determination of discharge of pollutants that meets the

relevant standards in cases of environmental tort. In 2009, China has also

promulgated amendments to the Food Safety Law, the Patent Law and

other laws, and established a series of new systems and rules relating to

the recall of defective food products, celebrities' liability for false

advertisement, and punitive damages. China has made huge achievements

in the development of the tort law system in 2009. Meanwhile, some parts

of the system still need to be improved.

Key words: the Tort liability Law; legislation

B20

The Financial Law System and the Reform of Financial Supervision

System in China in 2009

Xi Yuemin

Abstract: This article gives a comprehensive review of the historical

process of development of Chinese financial industry in 2009, covering

such fields as legal practice as financial policy, banking, securities,

insurance, straightening out of financial rules and regulations and

financial supervision, and summarises the new problems faced and new achievements made by China in the modernisation of financial law system against the background global financial crisis.

Key words: financial law system; financial control and regulation; financial supervision

B21

Financial Law Regulation of Consumption Coupons Issued by Local Government

Xu Mengzhou ZhouYuzhi Yanghui

Abstract: As a response to the global financial crisis, since the end of 2008, local governments of many cities in China have begun to experiment with the issuance of consumption coupons. Therefore it is necessary to carry out legal research on this phenomenon so as to regulate and safeguard the issuance of consumption coupons by local governments and promote the development of financial law system. This article analyzes from the perspective of financial law regulation the background, the legal relationship, and the issuance, retrieval, and use of consumption coupons, and puts forward proposals on strengthening and improving this system.

Key words: consumption coupon; financial law; regulation

B22

Implementation of Labour Law: Current Situation, Problems and

Countermeasures

Xie Zengyi

Abstract: Since its coming into force in 2007, the Labour Contract Law

has been well implemented with good results. On the other hand, however,

many problems still exist in the implementation of the labour contract law:

violations of the lawful rights and interests of employees occur frequently;

many employees are still not covered by social insurance schemes, the

revenue and expenditure structure of social insurance fund needs to be

administrative law enforcement by labour supervision

departments and the roles of trade unions in the protection of labour

rights need to be strengthened, labour dispute resolution bodies and

procedures are faced with serious challenge of rapid increase in caseload,

and the labour placement practice needs to be further regulated. All these

problems should be solved through legislation and better enforcement of

laws.

Key words: the Labour Contract Law; labour law enforcement;

insurance: trade union

"Agreed Joint Action": A Labour Relations Coordination Mechanism

Established against the Background of Global Financial Crisis

Zhang Mingqi

Abstract: Taking the impact of global financial crisis on labour relations

in China as the starting point, this article introduces the motive,

reasonableness, feasibility, main activities and methods of

implementation of the "Agreed Joint Action" launched by All-China

Federation of Trade Unions in December 2008, and analyzes the role

played by trade unions in the implementation of this Action.

Key words: Agreed Joint Action,; labour relations; trade unions;

collective consultation

B24

The **Construction** and Development of Chinese Educational Law System

Wang Xuemei, Wang Guozhu

Abstract: Currently, China has developed a framework of education law

system. However, some difficult issues remain to be resolved in the

development of educational law system, including the relationship

between the government and colleges or schools, the legal status of

colleges, schools, teachers and students, the college or school

administration system, the protection of the rights of students, equality of

education, standardisation of professional education or training, and

sustainable development of compulsory education and rural education.

Efforts should be made in the future not only to further improve the

educational law system, but also to strengthen the implementation of

educational law in China.

Key words: education; educational reform

B25

Democratic Participation in Post-disaster Reconstruction in Sichuan

Province

Research Team, Law Institute, CASS

Abstract: In the post disaster relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of

the major earthquake in Wenchuan County of Sichuan Province, Sichuan

Provincial Government created a democratic participation mechanism to

encourage the broad masses of people in disaster areas to participate in

the post-disaster relief and reconstruction work, thereby ensuring the carrying out of the relief and reconstruction work in an orderly manner, upholding the lawful rights and interests of people in the disaster areas, and realising the positive interaction between the administration by the government and self-administration by the people. This article analyzes the practice of democratic participation at the grassroots in post-disaster relief in Sichuan Province and puts forward some suggestions on future developing the system of grassroots-level democratic participation in public affairs in China.

Key words: post-earthquake relief; reconstruction; grassroots-level democratic participation

B26

A Research Report on Mafia-style Criminal Gangs and "Targeted Actions against Dark and Evil Forces" in Chongqing City

Research Group on "Anti-organised Crime Legal System and Investigation Mode"

Abstract: Through the analysis of 25 typical cases involving mafia-style criminal gangs in Chongqing City, this report examines the types and features of mafia-style gangs in Chongqing City, summarises the

experience of Chongqing Municipal Government in fighting such criminal organisations, and puts forward suggestions on developing a long-term mechanism for fighting against mafia-style criminal gangs in China.

Key words: Chongqing City; mafia-type organisation; Targeted Actions against CriminalForces

B27

The Current Situation of Operation of Beijing Labour Disputes Mediation Centre

Li Fan , Ge Lei

Abstract: In order to resolve labour disputes at their source or at the grassroots level and give full play to labour dispute mediation mechanism, the Federation of Trade Unions, the Human Resource and Social Security Bureau and the Judicial Bureau of Beijing Municipality have pooled their resources to jointly establish an interactive labour dispute mediation mechanism. This article introduces the background, the organisational structure, and the operation of the Beijing Labour Dispute Mediation Centre, analyzes the commonalities and differences between this Centre and other labour disputes mediation centres, and looks into the trend of future development of the Centre from the perspective of building

harmonious labour relations.

Key words: Beijing; labour disputes; mediation

B28

The Personal Information Protection Assessment System in Dalian

City

Lang Qingbin, Sun Peng

Abstract: With the integration of the world economy, the safety of

personal information has become an important balancing factor in

international exchanges. This article introduces the background and basic

working mechanism of the Personal Information Protection Assessment

System, the relationship between the system and the administration

mechanism, and on-going and future research projects in this field, and

puts forward some proposals on the improvement of this system.

Key words: protection of personal information; personal information

protection assessment; certification scheme

B29

Annual Report on Transparency of Local Governments in China

(2009): From the Perspective of Disclosure of Information through

Government Websites

Research Team, Law Institute, CASS

Abstract: In order to understand the actual situation of the transparency of government administration, promote the implementation of the system of disclosure of government information, and enhance the consciousness and nurture the culture of openness among government officials as well as among the general public, the Law institute Research Team has carried out investigation, evaluation and analysis, from the perspective of disclosure of information through government websites, of the current situation of transparency of government at local levels, including the basic situation of the operation of government websites, catalogue of government information to be disclosed, guideline on the disclosure of government information, disclosure of information upon application, annual report on disclosure of government information, and disclosure of information relating to demolition of houses and relocation of their occupants.

Key words: disclosure of government information; transparency assessment

Legal Issues Relating to the Circulation of Land in Rural Areas

Yuan Zhen and Ran Hao

Abstract: This article gives an overall description of the current situation of the circulation of the right to land contractual management in rural areas in 2009, explores some relevant legal issues that urgently need to be resolved, including shareholding in the management of contracted land, mortgaging of the right to land contractual management, and transaction security in the circulation of the right, and puts forward proposals on resolving these issues.

Key words: the right to land contractual management; circulation; shareholding; mortgage; transaction security

B31

Investigation Report on Corporate Social Responsibility *Research Team, Law Institute, CASS*

Abstract: In order to understand the public awareness of corporate social responsibility in China and the current situation of implementation of corporate social responsibilities by Chinese enterprises, the research team has launched an investigation on "Corporate Social Responsibilities and Law Abidingness". This article, based on of the results from these investigations, conducts a primary and brief analysis of the basic situation of implementation of corporate social responsibilities by Chinese

enterprises, makes comments on Chinese legal system of corporate social

responsibility, and puts forward some proposals on the improvement of

this system.

Key words: corporate social responsibility; law-abidingness;

supervision

B32

Research Report on the Development of "New Rural Cooperative

Medical Care System"

Yu Shaoxiang

Abstract: The author of this article believes that the basic solution to the

problem of "inadequate and overly expensive medical services" faced by

farmers is to remove the barrier created by the household register system

and establish an integrated medical insurance system with no distinction

between urban and rural citizens. Meanwhile, the government should

increase investment in medical service system, so as to prevent it from

developing towards markitisation and restore its proper nature as a public

welfare undertaking.

Key words: cooperative medical care; medical insurance