

Study on the Improvement of Appearance of Rural Villages in the Suburbs of Tianjin

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Abstract. The strategy of rural revitalization formulated by the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China puts forward higher requirements for the construction and development of rural areas and provides great opportunities and favorable conditions for the improvement of the appearance of rural villages. In order to study the improvement of the appearance of rural villages in the suburbs of Tianjin, we selected six representative villages of Tianjin for investigation. This paper summarizes the current situation of the improvement of the appearance of rural villages in the suburbs of Tianjin, finds out the existing problems in the improvement of the appearance of rural villages in the suburbs of Tianjin, draws on the practices and experience of improving the appearance of rural villages at home and abroad, and formulates the countermeasures and suggestions for the improvement of the appearance of rural villages in the suburbs of Tianjin.

Introduction

With the continuous promotion of the rural revitalization strategy, the construction of Beautiful Countryside is also developing rapidly, and the improvement of the appearance of villages is advancing in an orderly manner. In order to promote the revitalization of rural ecology, and build a beautiful and clean living environment, a stable and healthy ecological system, and the harmonious coexistence of man and nature^[1], we conducted a survey of six suburban villages in Tianjin. Through the study of different typical villages, we can fully understand the specific situation and existing problems of the appearance of suburban villages in Tianjin, by which we are able to explore countermeasures for the construction of ecological, livable and beautiful countryside and the improvement of the appearance of suburban villages.

Analysis of the Appearance of Suburban Villages in Tianjin

In order to strengthen the construction of suburban villages, Tianjin has issued a series of policies to guide and support the improvement of rural appearance. In July 2018, Tianjin Municipal People's Government issued *Implementation Opinions on Comprehensively Strengthening Ecological and Environmental Protection and Resolutely Fighting Pollution Prevention and Control*. By 2020, the overall quality of the ecological environment will be improved, the total discharge of major pollutants will be substantially reduced, environmental risks will be effectively managed, the level of ecological and environmental protection will be commensurate with the goal of building a moderately prosperous society of high quality in all respects; adjust agricultural input structure; guide the green life in suburban rural areas; strengthen the control of industrial pollution; strengthen the control of coal pollution^[2]. Corresponding implementation plans have been made for suburban rural garbage treatment, sewage treatment and coal reform work, and all above-mentioned work shall be accomplished by 2020. The government has given strong support to the improvement of the appearance of villages and the appearance of rural villages is improving significantly.

Overall Situation of Appearance of Suburban Villages in Tianjin

The reform of appearance of suburban villages in Tianjin can be divided into three types. First, the complete implementation of rural planning has a good effect in villages such as Chaomidian Village, Zhangwo Town and Lianhe Village of Jizhou District, namely, one village has basically completed socialization, and the other village develops the characteristic village according to its characteristic with obvious improvement of both rural economy and the appearance of the village and has created the excellent living environment; in terms of management, the person in charge is clear, and there are both good system and management measures for garbage treatment and sewage treatment; second, there is basic but not complete rural planning in villages such as Xianheyi Village and Xianhe'er Village of Beichen District, and Daliutan Village of Xiqing District. Xianhe Village is supported by local factories and funded to build infrastructure. Roads are hardened and streetlights are basically complete. But sewage and garbage treatment is poor. Daliutan Village has achieved "change from coal to gas" due to its good thermal energy. In general, such villages have poor management and unclear responsibilities. There is no clear planning and measures to develop the appearance of villages; third, basic planning is poor in villages such as Sixiaotun Village of Jinghai District and Beizhuzhuang Village of Jizhou District. The lack of secondary and tertiary industries and the lack of sources of income lead to the situation of having neither planning nor money for development and the environmental infrastructure is poor in these villages. The lack of enough financial support leads to the difficulty in management and slow improvement of the appearance of the villages. Therefore, we need to keep exploring ways of improving the appearance of these villages.

Features of Appearance Management of Suburban Villages in Tianjin

Characteristic governance methods of some villages in the process of management are worth learning. Taking Chaomidian Village as an example, the village clearly defines the responsible person, and finds the person in time when there are problems in the process of governance of the appearance of the village. The power and responsibility are well defined, and the efficiency is improved to fully integrate the village into the urban system; there are characteristic farmyards in Lianhe Village, which leads to the heavy burden of garbage disposal. Therefore, the village adopts the door-to-door garbage collection and garbage disposal within the village; in terms of greening, the implementation of special greening measures, namely, greening in any place available, has rapidly improved the appearance of the village; in Xianheyi Village and Xianhe'er Village, they highlight characteristic fruits planting, which, combined with continuous financial support by village-run enterprises, keeps improving the appearance of these villages.

Current Situation of Awareness of Suburban Rural Residents

It can be found during the visit that farmers have a weak awareness of environmental protection. In the process of the construction of the appearance of the suburban villages, the participation rate of the villages is low, and they maintain the attitude of being irrelevant. Although the situation has been improved in recent years under the influence of publicity, the degree of improvement is relatively low and there is a lack of understanding of the significance of improving the appearance of villages; at the same time, in order to solve this situation, Tianjin Municipal People's Government not only improves the appearance of the villages, but also enriches the rural culture in the suburbs by carrying out characteristic activities such as the most beautiful yard and the most beautiful family owner, etc. and setting awards to boost rural residents' enthusiasm so as to let the farmers fully enjoy the results and fun brought by the improvement of the appearance of the villages.

Problems Existing in the Improvement of Appearance of Suburban Villages in Tianjin

Unreasonable and Irregular Suburban Rural Planning

In the survey, we found that most of the villages in the suburbs of Tianjin were formed naturally with the growth of population and the development of economy and society especially in the early stage of Reform and Opening up, when the rapid increase of villagers' income had higher requirements for the construction of homestead due to the rapid development of economy and society. As a result, the demand for homestead had been growing rapidly, and the village was constantly extending outward. Even if the village had original planning, it was generally not suitable for the villagers' demand for modern production, life and entertainment. In the past decade or so, the rapid development of urbanization makes many villagers settle down in cities, which leads to the vacancies in some villages. Although a large number of homestead are not abandoned, the lack of management of homestead and the lack of environmental management of surrounding area have brought great difficulties to the improvement of village appearance. How to develop a forward-looking and long-term scientific and reasonable planning that is able to keep pace with The Times in view of the reality of rural development, is the primary problem to be solved urgently to improve the appearance of villages.

The Lack of Strict or Sound Relevant Laws and Policies, and the Lack of Implementation

Although No. 1 Document of the Central Government has mentioned "three rural issues" for 13 consecutive years and proposed a reform plan for the appearance of villages, the insufficient and unreasonable allocation of local government funds leads to a large waste of resources and funds, and most suburban rural areas are lack of policy management; secondly, although many preferential policies for optimizing rural environment and differentiated incentive policies have been formulated, the hierarchy of reward and punishment system is too simple and there is no clear classification, which leads to the difficulty and poor implementation effect of reward and punishment policies. In addition, due to the low cost of punishment, a small number of villagers are more unscrupulous, resulting in the simultaneous construction and destruction from time to time.

The Lack of Infrastructure and the Lack of Management in Suburban Rural Villages

It can be found through the survey that although the roads in the villages have been basically hardened, a small number of alleys still have red brick roads, which have been seriously damaged, and some hardened roads are cracked sometimes, which seriously affects the travel safety of villagers and appearance of the villages; secondly, street lamp installation has been basically completed. Nevertheless, there is still no street lamp in some roads. Besides, street lamps have been seriously damaged in some villages; finally, greening effect in villages is poor. There are less lands but more people in Tianjin. Although greening around villages and on both sides of roads is implemented every year, there are few complete greening belts and greening landscapes with no management in general.

The Lack of Innovative and Clear Management Methods, and the Lack of Awareness among Villagers

Suburban rural management is mainly led by village cadres but some of them pay little attention to the village environment. Besides, disorderly building and construction is serious in some villages and the lack of clear management systems and methods seriously impacts the environmental construction of appearance of villages; unclear rights, responsibilities and duties result in the lack of management over many places in the villages, and even some serious damage to public facilities and other phenomena; in addition, rural residents lack an understanding of the significance of improving the appearance of villages, resulting in the slow progress.

Suggestions for Improving the Appearance of Suburban Villages in Tianjin

Establish and Improve Relevant Policies and Legal Systems, and Increase the Support for the Improvement of Appearance of Suburban Villages

Establishing and improving relevant policies and legal systems is the guarantee to improve the appearance of villages. Establish and improve relevant policies and systems. Formulate scientific and reasonable fund allocation methods, release funds in accordance with different standards and special requirements for different types of villages or towns or special circumstances, and require supervision by multiple parties; determine responsibilities and work division, establish a sound participation mechanism and management system of all parties within towns and villages, and confirm layer-based responsibilities; at the same time, the government at all levels should formulate a detailed classification of villages, which can better plan the rural appearance construction in the suburbs and is conducive to economic and environmental development. In addition, establish a sound supervision and inspection mechanism. First of all, formulate a strict supervision mechanism and a scientific and specific assessment mechanism. The assessment results are linked to the year-end performance of the village. Each inspection team shall inspect the rural pollution and destruction behavior irregularly; the leading group shall carry out regular supervision.

Strengthen Suburban Rural Planning and Design, and Promote the Overall Improvement of Appearance Suburban Rural Villages

A good suburban rural planning will accomplish more efficient improvement of appearance of villages, and a good rural building layout will bring great convenience to the future infrastructure plans. By taking village as the unit, carry out continuous planned rectification to drive the construction of appearance of villages in the entire area; building characteristic suburban villages and determining the respective positioning are able to greatly improve economic development and environmental construction in suburban villages. Besides, comprehensive improve the appearance of lands, waters, roads, forests and villages, and promote the complementation between rural appearance and natural environment so as to accomplish the goal of construction of Beautiful Countryside.

Enhance Rural Infrastructure Construction to Create Basic Conditions for the Construction of Appearance of Suburban Rural Villages

The relatively complete infrastructure is necessary for the improvement of the construction of appearance of suburban rural villages. Firstly, road hardening. Suburban rural villages have basically realized the road hardening and hardening is basically completed in village entrance roads. Red brick roads still exist in a small part of suburban rural villages, and transformation needs to be implemented ASAP; secondly, public lighting. There is no public lighting in remote villages and narrow alleys. Some places are equipped with lighting, which is either idling or lack of management by professionals; thirdly, comprehensive improvement of rural greening construction. The land in Tianjin has a high salinity and alkali, which makes it necessary to plant trees with slightly higher salinity and alkali resistance. In addition, the rural interior greening is unreasonable, which requires organizations at all levels to formulate greening standards, so as to realize green coverage of large area and improve the appearance of the villages from the inside to the outside.

Innovate the Management Mode and Improve the Governance Level of Suburban Rural Villages

Innovate management level. Village leaders and local governments should adapt to village conditions. Firstly, establish a management system that is in line with local characteristics and speed up the governance of public spaces in rural areas and rural courtyards. Strictly supervise and timely rectify household with small interior workshops. Secondly, local fund management and loan management. Timely supervise the funds after devolution and timely recover funds that do not meet

the requirements for use to avoid massive waste of resources; thirdly, combine with the actual classification to carry out feasible remediation plan; fourthly, improve governance mechanism, and carry out an orderly and strict governance standard and adopt governance conditions in accordance with villagers' requirements; fifthly, strengthen the leadership of organizations, carry out practical and feasible governance programs, clearly determine responsibilities and implement unified management.

Improve Social Group Participation and Enhance Villagers' Awareness

Villagers are the main body in the improvement of appearance of villages. First of all, enhance the awareness of the villagers and establish a sense of ownership. The government should make full use of all the conditions to increase publicity and education, so that rural residents in the suburbs will be fully aware that it is the responsibility of everyone for the construction of the rural appearance. The government should strengthen publicity and education, as well as legal education, and there should be severe punishment if they destroy the environment; finally, improve the participation of rural residents in the suburbs, develop self-conscious behavior, and ensure the continuous improvement of the appearance of rural villages in the suburbs of Tianjin.

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