

Practical difficulties and prospect of vocational education helping rural revitalization——Take Henan Province as an example

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Abstract:Accelerating the development of vocational education is of great significance for solving the problems of agriculture, countryside and farmers and promoting the fairness of education.Vocational education has great potential in helping to develop rural revitalization, and it is also an important carrier for various exogenous resources to be imported into rural areas.In view of the practical difficulties existing in the current vocational education in Henan province to help rural revitalization, this paper focuses on the prospects from four aspects: talents, industry, culture and organization:(1)Pay attention to the introduction of skilled personnel and the cultivation of local skilled personnel in rural areas;(2)Promote the integration of the primary, secondary and tertiary industries, and implement the Henan policy of everyone holding certificates and skills;(3)Guided by intrinsic values, cultivate the awareness of grassroots people and school teachers and students to serve rural revitalization;(4)Pay attention to top-level design and improve the vocational education system.

Key words:vocational education rural revitalization Practical difficulties prospective

1.introduction

The revitalization of the nation and rural areas plays a crucial role in the rise of the Chinese nation.Rural revitalization is the comprehensive revitalization of industries, talents, culture, ecology, and organizations.In the report of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the strategy of rural revitalization was clearly proposed, and solving the “three rural issues” has always been a top priority.Before the reform and opening up, vocational education had always played an important role in rural development,Vocational education has made extremely important contributions to rural construction, agricultural development, and increasing employment and income for farmers in various historical stages of the Party’s century long development.Since the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, vocational education has been placed in a more prominent and important position. It is clear that vocational education is an effective method to hinder the intergenerational transmission of rural poverty, and it is emphasized that “the poorer the place, the more difficult it is to provide education, but the poorer the place, the more education is needed. The less education is provided, the poorer it will be.”As a major agricultural province, vocational education plays a significant role in the revitalization of rural areas in Henan Province. Based on the review of relevant documents on rural revitalization, this article focuses on four aspects: talent revitalization, industrial revitalization, cultural revitalization, and organizational revitalization. It also summarizes the practical difficulties and challenges that vocational education in Henan Province faces in helping rural revitalization, and summarizes some countermeasures and suggestions,These provide some reference for vocational education in Henan Province to assist in rural revitalization and consolidate the achievements of poverty alleviation.

2.The practical difficulties of vocational education helping rural revitalization in Henan Province

(1)The practical difficulties of vocational education to help rural talents revitalize

It is undeniable that the mainstay of rural talent revitalization is the majority of young and middle-aged people, but in reality, according to the statistical yearbook of Henan Province, the rural population of Henan Province was 62.34 million in 2010, and the rural population has dropped to 44.287 million in 2020.One of the main reasons is that under the dual economic structure of urban and rural areas, the gap between rural and urban areas is getting wider and wider, and more and more young and middle-aged workers from rural areas flood into urban areas for work, resulting in the “hollowing out” of rural areas. The main remaining people are the left-behind elderly and children. According to the Talent Development Report of Henan Province, by the end of 2021, the permanent population of Henan Province is 98.83 million, of which 43.04 million are rural residents, accounting for 43.55%,In the rural administrative areas of the province, the working-age population between 16 and 59 accounts for 50.70% of the total rural population.From the perspective of the education of the rural population in Henan province, there are 1.92 million rural agricultural production and operation personnel in 2021, and 59.75% of the rural labor force in the province has a junior high school education, 11.55% of the senior high school education, and only 4.36% of the college and undergraduate cultural programs.On the whole, the cultural quality of the rural labor force in the province is low, the number of rural talents is constantly decreasing, and the quality of the remaining labor force is low, and the quality of rural talents training in vocational education is facing greater pressure.According to a nationwide sample survey conducted by the School of Social Sciences of Tsinghua University, more than 70 percent of migrant workers do not plan to return to their villages for employment, 80 percent of migrant workers do not want to choose to work in the countryside, and the younger they are, the more reluctant they are to return to their villages for farming, and only 3.8 percent of “post-90s” migrant workers said they could or would like to return to their villages for farming.According to the investigation and understanding, most of the students in the vocational colleges in Henan Province come from the countryside, and they strive to enter the university and enter the city to study. The perfect infrastructure, advanced medical resources and educational resources of the big cities make

them return to the poor rural areas to work and start businesses after graduation, which they think is a foolish choice, and they will lose their immediate benefits in the big cities. Therefore, most vocational college graduates are not willing to return to their hometown for employment and entrepreneurship, and the rural brain drain is serious.

(2) It is difficult for vocational education to help rural industry revitalize in practice

Rural revitalization is based on the revitalization of the primary industry. At present, there are only four higher vocational colleges involved in agriculture and forestry in Henan Province: Henan Forestry Vocational College, Lankao Agriculture and Rural Vocational College, Henan Agricultural Vocational College and Nanyang Agricultural Vocational College. Taking Henan Vocational College of Agriculture as an example, there are a total of 61 majors, 17 of which are agriculture-related, accounting for only 27%, and other vocational colleges offer agriculture-related majors even less. According to the data of Henan Provincial Education Statistical Yearbook, in 2021, the enrollment of higher vocational education for the primary industry accounted for 1.2%, the enrollment of the secondary industry accounted for 21.79%, and the enrollment of the tertiary industry accounted for 77.01%. The professional layout of vocational education in Henan Province is still mainly to serve the secondary and tertiary industries. According to the Sunshine college entrance examination network, as of the end of 2023, a total of 146 colleges and universities in Henan Province to carry out vocational education, including 100 vocational colleges, from the regional point of view, the current development of vocational colleges in Henan Province is still centered on serving the city, far away from the countryside, increasing the transportation cost of vocational colleges to carry out vocational skills training in rural areas. It will affect the supply capacity of skilled labor force required for the revitalization of rural industries.

(3) The practical difficulties of vocational education to help rural culture revitalize

At present, rural revitalization has made initial progress, but rural cultural construction is a short board, farmers have a lack of cultural self-confidence, scientific and cultural quality still need to be improved. Rural areas rely on agriculture to survive, cities rely on industry to survive, affected by traditional concepts, farmers have been labeled as “poor, dirt, dirty” by the outside world, due to their status in the society is not valued, the inherent external bias, so that they have feelings of inferiority in the heart, eager to escape from the countryside. As a vocational college student from the countryside, they think that the identity of farmers is not honorable, and rarely show their rural identity to outsiders, and even take it as a shame. At present, culture is the productive force, farmers are the developers of rural cultural resources, and vocational education is the technical provider of cultural resources development. The development of cultural resources into productive forces requires certain technical and economic conditions. Vocational education should provide technical support and help for the mining and development of rural culture. After being transformed into a skilled craftsman and a skilled master, it is difficult to remain in the countryside due to the influence of the dual economic structure, resulting in fewer talents and resources for the development of rural cultural resources. Henan Province is a big agricultural province. The courses offered by its agricultural vocational colleges mostly involve popular majors such as economics and management, computer science, and basic medicine. At present, under the situation of employment pressure, ensuring students’ employment is an important goal of vocational education. During the summer vacation, the school encourages students to actively seek internship opportunities, and the summer practice of “three trips to the countryside” is not in place, students have few opportunities to go deep into the countryside to exercise, and the consciousness of going deep into the countryside to serve the countryside has not been inspired and guided, and the consciousness of serving the countryside revitalization is weak.

(4) It is difficult for vocational education to help rural organizations revitalize in practice

Rural organizations, as grassroots self-governing organizations of villagers, provide institutional guarantee for rural revitalization. Rural organizations are an important lever to ensure the implementation of the Party and the state’s line, principles, policies, and decision-making arrangements. They are also important organizers and implementers of the rural revitalization strategy. At present, the contradiction between vocational education and organizational revitalization in Henan is mainly manifested in the lack of power and ability of vocational education to help rural organizations revitalize. The lack of power is mainly manifested in that, according to the survey, the vocational education of the 100 vocational colleges in Henan Province mainly serves enterprises, and the school-enterprise cooperation mode is the main mode of education, and the power of serving rural organizations is weak. The weak ability is mainly manifested in that, in order to revitalize rural organizations, a group of agricultural skilled talents who know, love and understand agriculture are needed. However, the professional setting of Henan vocational colleges mainly serves the development of urban economy, and the professional setting deviates from the development of agricultural economy, resulting in the weak ability of vocational education to serve the revitalization of rural organizations.

3. The prospect of vocational education helping rural revitalization

(1) Pay attention to the introduction of skilled talents and the cultivation of local skilled talents in rural areas

The revitalization of rural talents should not only expand the total amount, but also revitalize the stock. The revitalization of rural talents focuses on not only paying attention to the external help and support, but also stimulating the internal power of the countryside. The Implementation Opinions of the General Office of the Henan Provincial People’s Government on the In-depth implementation of the system of Science and technology Commissioners pointed out that all townships and leading agricultural industries in the province should achieve full coverage of science and technology commissioners. As a vocational college, it should assume its due social responsibility, strengthen the cooperation between “school and county” and “school and village”, make the school’s agricultural experts and agricultural science and technology talents sink into the countryside, carry out precision agriculture technology assistance, and strive to train a group of rural local “Tian Xiui” and “local experts”. On September 23, 2019, Henan Province launched the “One college student in one village” cultivation plan,

which plans to cultivate a group of practical rural talents who can be retained, used, understand the economy and are good at management in the future, and provide internal talent guarantee for the full implementation of the rural revitalization strategy. As vocational colleges, when conditions permit, “Rural Revitalization College” and “Rural Education College” will be established. According to their professional abilities, teachers of the schools, in addition to teachers related to agriculture, ideological and political education, machinery, management, finance and other professional teachers, can join the college to expand the number of rural talent support. Using the combination of “online + offline” to carry out regular knowledge and skills training for farmers. For example, Henan Zhumadian Vocational and Technical College set up a rural revitalization college, in-depth Zhumadian City Xiping County Jiaozhuang Township to carry out “one village one college student” admission re-examination work, through the actual understanding of the ability of grassroots farmers, teachers can implement accurate help work, set up rural talent revitalization training courses, and set up rural revitalization college online learning platform. Set up e-commerce, computer, accounting and other course knowledge, build up the school village talent training platform. In the future, through foreign help and assistance, we will truly train front-line farmers rooted in rural areas to become agricultural elite talents, so as to drive the improvement of farmers’ quality and ability, and realize the transformation from “blood transfusion” to “hematopoietic”.

(2) Promote the integration of the first, second and third industries, and implement the policy of “everyone has a certificate and skills Henan”

From 2013 to 2022, in the central No. 1 document on the integration of rural industries, seven times clearly mentioned the integrated development of the first, second and third industries, and the revitalization of Henan’s rural industry, we should strive to promote the integration of the first, second and third industries, and revitalize the potential resource advantages of rural areas. The 14th Five-Year Plan of Henan Province, announced on December 29, 2020, clearly points out that it is necessary to continue to promote the high-quality development of agriculture in Henan Province, build core areas for grain production, modern agricultural industrial parks, and cultivate advantageous and characteristic industrial clusters. Therefore, as a vocational college in Henan Province, it should clarify its own social service positioning, adhere to the leadership of the government, deepen the curriculum reform and construction of vocational colleges, and take the initiative to build a development plan for serving rural industries. With the construction of “double high” as the starting point, based on the development of rural industries in their own service areas, establish a long-term cooperation model with the local township government and agricultural research institutions, actively go into the surrounding countryside, carry out research on rural industries, build an “agricultural professional group” and education model in line with the vocational colleges themselves, and better serve the integrated development of the first, second and third industries that are suitable for the characteristics of the countryside. To strengthen the integration of production and education, vocational colleges should strengthen cooperation and exchanges with rural enterprises, build a rural talent industry chain around the rural industry chain, and provide a reserve army for the prosperity of rural industries. The revitalization of rural industries mainly relies on farmers. On December 20, 2021, the General Office of the Henan Provincial Party Committee and the General Office of the Henan Provincial People’s Government issued the “Work Plan for High-quality Promotion of the construction of” Everyone is Certified and Skilled Henan “, clearly implementing the training of rural revitalization skills and “promoting the whole village” vocational skills training. The vocational colleges in Henan Province should actively implement the spirit of the policy, consolidate their own responsibilities and obligations, actively serve rural areas, carry out free vocational skills training for farmers, and actively complete the task of rural vocational skills training issued by the Department of Education, so that the main force supporting the revitalization of rural industry will become a strong army.

(3) Guided by intrinsic values, the grassroots and school teachers and students should cultivate the awareness of serving rural revitalization

Confidence in rural culture is the spiritual force of rural revitalization, and confidence in rural culture is ultimately confidence in socialist culture with Chinese characteristics. Because of its unique relationship with rural areas, vocational colleges, as the main carrier of rural revitalization, should strengthen the cooperation between “village schools”, increase the expenditure and intensity of training services for rural areas, and regularly lead school teachers to explain the socialist thought with Chinese characteristics and socialist core values to rural grassroots groups in plain language. Connect the confidence of socialist culture with Chinese characteristics and the values of rural society, arouse the resonance of the grassroots, lead the rural grassroots with socialist culture with Chinese characteristics, enhance the self-confidence of rural culture, so as to better serve the rural revitalization. In September 2019, in a letter to the secretaries, presidents, and expert representatives of agricultural universities across the country, it was pointed out that we should continue to take moral education as the foundation, strengthen agriculture and promote agriculture as our own responsibility, produce more scientific and technological achievements, and cultivate more new talents who know and love agriculture. As teachers of vocational colleges in Henan Province, they should realize the special relationship between vocational colleges and rural areas and assume the important role of Henan Province in becoming a strong agricultural province. As teachers of specialized agricultural courses and general teachers, they should keep in mind the virtues and talents, fully tap the ideological and political elements related to rural revitalization in the curriculum, and tell students well rural stories and local culture. To fully stimulate the ideological consciousness of students to contribute their own strength to the revitalization of rural areas, it is necessary to lead students to come out of theoretical knowledge, lead students to rural practice research, support agriculture and education, and experience rural life, and feel the charm and uniqueness of rural culture in practice.

(4) Pay attention to top-level design, improve the vocational education system

Vocational colleges in Henan Province should adhere to running schools under the leadership of the Party, strengthen the top-level

design of vocational education, adhere to the major strategy of vocational education serving the country's rural revitalization, implement the Party's 20 major spirits, truly implement the spirit of loving agriculture and promoting agriculture, and change the traditional concept of attaching importance to urban development and neglecting rural development. Assume the responsibility of training grass-roots organization personnel and new professional farmers who understand "agriculture, rural areas and farmers". Continue to implement the vocational education reform system in the "National Vocational Education Reform Implementation Plan", and the members of rural organizations include ordinary villagers and elites. It is necessary to increase the full-time vocational education for ordinary rural villagers and adult vocational education for elites. It is necessary to clarify the differences between vocational education and undergraduate education. Through vocational education, they can master both culture and skills, improve the cultural ability and technical ability of rural organization personnel, promote the growth of the endogenous force of rural organizations, and promote the improvement of the governance ability of villagers' self-governing organizations. In the document on implementing the rural revitalization strategy, it is explicitly required to send the first secretary to party organizations in poverty-stricken villages, weak and lax villages, and villages with weak collective economy. As a vocational college, it is necessary to actively respond to the policy spirit, implement the system of "resident village secretary" of vocational colleges, promote the revitalization of Henan countryside by helping the surrounding rural areas, and consolidate the achievements of poverty alleviation. For example, Wang Guodong, the first secretary of Luoyang Science and Technology Vocational College in the village, in Luoyang Yichuan County, Gezhai Township, Cijian Township, Xinan County, Jianggou village, to carry out accurate help, lead the village cadre team, in-depth farmer research, understand the urgent needs of agriculture, really work for agriculture, and improve the grassroots organization construction capacity.

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