

Current Chinese Economic Report Series

Bing-lian Liu
Shao-ju Lee
Ling Wang
Ya Xu
Xiang Li *Editors*

Contemporary Logistics in China

Assimilation and Innovation

 Springer

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Preface

This book is the fourth volume in a series entitled “Contemporary Logistics in China,” authored by the researchers in the Logistics Center at Nankai University. Expanding the scope of the three predecessor volumes, published in previous years, this book continues the effort of providing a systematic exposition of the logistics development in China to the English-reading community at large. Our ultimate aim and desire is to present a timely portrayal of the rippling enlargement of China’s logistics market and the status of its logistics industry’s transformation. In so doing, we strive to offer an in-depth analysis of the hot issues and the dilemma amid the ongoing dynamic and multi-faceted development, and a source of reference for interested readers in the academic and professional fields.

The present work is founded on the research findings of a score of scholars in the Logistics Center, in writing the “Annual Logistics Report in China (referred to as The Blue Book in Chinese),” for the past 11 consecutive years. The Blue Book endeavors to parse the relevant data with analytic rigor and fresh perspectives in the hope to shed some light on this confounded area of logistics evolution in present day China. It is recognized by the National Development and Reform Commission and commended by knowledgeable readers as the most systematic and authoritative research report of its field. This series of books in English, though created as a companying publication, possess their unique characters in terms of themes, coverage of subjects, and orientations, to afford the English readers a balanced view on contemporary logistics of China.

This book comprises 11 chapters, organized into four parts. The introductory part, consisting of three chapters, depicts the current development status of the logistics environment, the logistics market, and the logistics infrastructure. The first three chapters give an up-to-date summary of relevant statistics and a longitudinal view of the recent trend; they also discuss the latest logistics development in a rapidly changing economic and social environment.

Part II focuses on the logistics development of three provinces in China – Zhejiang Province, Fujian Province, and Shaanxi Province. Zhejiang Province is one of China’s most developed provinces, with highest degree of opening-up, and in

a leading position in logistics development. The unique logistics operations in Yiwu, a city in Zhejiang endowed with booming global trade, is featured in this chapter. Fujian Province plays a leading role in China's opening-up to the world, especially in the economic and trade exchanges between China Mainland and Taiwan. Expansion of mutual investments between Fujian and Taiwan has accelerated the logistics cooperation between the two regions. In the past few years, Shaanxi Province has achieved a steady economic growth through its tripartite development of advanced manufacturing, energy/chemical, and green industries. It has also made notable progress in construction of integrated transportation system and logistics parks, making it an important transportation hub in Central China.

The third part addresses the logistics development of two rapidly-expanding sectors in China – the apparel industry and the ports. Development in both sectors impact the scale and mode of domestic as well as international logistics. The development environment, development status, existing problems and future development trend of these sectors are analyzed respectively. The final part, consisting of three chapters, discusses some hot logistics topics in China. Chapter nine focuses on the current status of China's logistics service innovation. For the past few years, China's logistics service innovation has developed rapidly with the emergence of many typical innovation modes and several demonstration cases of logistics service. The chapter describes some typical patterns of the logistics service innovation and suggests some development proposals. The next chapter is on the development of China's logistics financial service. The chapter introduces the contents and development background of China's logistics financial service, and points out the problems and the future development trend. The last chapter of this part studies the operations mode and development trend of online shopping logistics in China. Modern information technology is rapidly revamping its distribution channel of social products, and the transaction mode of online shopping is gradually accepted by more and more consumers in China. The chapter shows the current situation of online shopping logistics in China and presents an outlook on the development trend.

This book is based on the most up-to-date information and synthesized for a systematic presentation for readers in universities, consulting firms, media, logistics enterprises, governmental agencies, and research institutions. We hope that this series of books will serve as a useful source of information and handy tool for grasping the vibrant logistics development in China.

Tianjin, China

Bing-lian Liu
Shao-ju Lee
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Xiang Li

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