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- (2) local land departments shall not collect any fee upon expiry of old land use right term;
- (3) properties whose land use rights expire shall be transacted as usual. The old expired land use right term shall be still recorded there.

There are wide exclamations in the online community taking it as a propitious token of the future formal treatment of the same issue.

However, while I personally do not think the government will come up with any drastically different approach in the future on the issue but it may not be appropriate to read too much out of this short notice from the ministerial department. After all, this reply to local government is only an interim measure to pacify the property market at a time many are thinking the property market in China may have a big problem soon. This gesture will somehow augment people's belief that there will be no big deal in regard of their properties in spite of expiry of original land use right term.

One shall have to bear in mind the land use right issue is such a paramount and fundamental issue that only China's top legislature can provide a final solution by way of law enactment.

It is not really likely that the China government will just leave the land to property owners for indefinite use without charging anything for it. Too good to be true.

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