《奥巴马如何打造“积极政府”？》

Obama has four years to transform America’seconomy

The US election was fought on first principles: shouldgovernment be strengthened or dismantled? The answer wasresounding. The public wants better government, not lessgovernment.

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Much of the economic debate in the US has been over short-term stimulus but the election turnedon long-term structural issues. Barack Obama solidly carried much of the Midwest because hechampioned an industrial policy for the automobile and allied industries. What saved the Midwestwas not a temporary stimulus but a skilful rescue package, complete with government financingand public investment in research and development directed at next-generation electric vehicles.

?? ???(Barack Obama)??

Though climate change was the issue, neither candidate wanted to mention it played the leadingrole in the final act, in the form of Hurricane Sandy. Not only was the east coast reminded of thefuries of a rising ocean level; it was reminded again of the need for collective action to anticipate, ameliorate, and respond to emergencies.

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The problem for Mr Obama in the second term is that he does not yet have an economic strategycommensurate with his vision of a proactive government. Low tax revenues continue to leave theUS vulnerable. The US government collected only 32 per cent of gross domestic product inrevenues last year, compared with 38 per cent in Canada, 45 per cent in Germany and 49 percent in Sweden. The latter countries can overcome budget deficits, poverty and outdatedinfrastructure. The US cannot. It will need a tax ratio like Canada’s by later this decade to get thejob done.

????????????????????????“????”??(GDP)?32%????????????????38%??????45%??????49%??10??

Yet revenues are not enough.

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