

27th Politburo Meeting of Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, guides the meeting

KCNA

The 27th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held at the headquarters building of the Party Central Committee on February 7.

Attending the meeting were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Present there as observers were deputy directors of major departments of the Central Committee of the WPK who are members of the relevant panels of the preparatory committee for the Party congress.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, guided the meeting.



Upon authorization of Kim Jong Un, Jo Yong Won, Presidium member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, presided over the meeting.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee decided on the following agenda items:

First, "On the deliberation of

qualifications of the delegates to the Ninth Congress of the WPK"

Second, "On the deliberation of composition of the presidium, platform and secretariat for the Ninth Congress of the WPK"

Third, "On the deliberation of schedule of the Ninth Congress of the WPK"

Fourth, "On the deliberation of

documents to be submitted to the Ninth Congress of the WPK"

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee heard reports on the agenda items and discussed them, and on the basis of it approved relevant decisions.

Kim Jong Un made an affirmative appreciation of the fact that the relevant panels of the preparatory committee for the Party congress have effectively pushed ahead with the preparations for the

congress in every way, and clarified the principled issues and detailed tasks for the successful holding of the congress.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee adopted with unanimous approval a decision on opening the Ninth Congress of the WPK in Pyongyang, the capital of the revolution, in late February 2026.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un pays congratulatory visit to Ministry of National Defence

Comrade Kim Jong Un delivers a significant speech on Army Founding Day

KCNA

The Korean People's Army, the ever-victorious elite ranks, has formulated afresh the concept of a powerful army and the law of victory with its unique ideological and moral superiority of remaining absolutely loyal to the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea, unparalleled mass heroism, matchless bravery and indomitable fighting spirit,

and boosted the absolute might of the revolutionary armed forces to the peak of honour. It is marking its founding anniversary with pride, adding a page of shining victories and miracles to the great army-building history.

The KPA is adding to the greatness of the Party and the state and ushering in a new era of prosperity and development in the vanguard of the revolution seething with struggle and transformation for the

eternal prosperity of the country and the wellbeing of the people, true to the sacred letters embroidered on its glorious colours. Its legendary feats and dynamic advance constitute a source of great pride of the state and the people and a symbol of their strong dignity and inexhaustible strength.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, paid a

congratulatory visit to the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK on February 8, the 78th founding anniversary of the KPA, to congratulate and encourage all officers and men of the army.

He was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the WPK Central Committee.

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FROM PAGE 1

All the commanding officers were filled with an overwhelming emotion and joy as they came to greet the great brilliant commander visiting the Ministry of National Defence with his ardent desire to put his trust, infinitely precious for the existence and development of the revolutionary armed forces, in them again on the significant Army Founding Day.

There was a solemn ceremony of greeting the Supreme Commander.

Comrade Kim Jong Un reviewed the guard of honour of the Korean People's Army.

The Ministry of National Defence presented him with a bouquet of fragrant flowers reflecting the boundless reverence of all the KPA service personnel for him.

He was courteously greeted by major commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and commanders of the KPA large combined units.

He reviewed the colours of victory, symbols of honour of the large and other combined units at all levels of the KPA.

All the participants raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" looking up to the greatest commander in the world who has led the Juche-oriented cause of building a powerful army to victory with his outstanding army-building ideas and commanding art to fully demonstrate the dignity, might and fame of the armed forces and add eternal glory to the long army-building history.

The national flag of the DPRK was hoisted.



The guard of honour of the KPA marched in a fine array, being reviewed by the Supreme Commander.

Kim Jong Un delivered a significant speech on the occasion of Army Founding Day.

In the speech, he said:

"All the generals and other officers and soldiers of the heroic armed forces of the Republic,

"Generals and other officers at the Ministry of National Defence, the supreme commanding organ of the Korean People's Army,

"I congratulate you on the February 8 Army Founding Day.

"This day, when we recall with pride our army's heroic building history and its ever-victorious course, is a revolutionary holiday which is significantly celebrated not only by the service personnel but also by all the people throughout the country.

"On behalf of the Party and government, I extend warm congratulations and militant greetings to all the officers and soldiers on the occasion of Army Founding Day

in reflection of my mind always thankful to our army that is playing every role and making infinite devotion for our great state and people, shouldering a great mission and heavy duty incomparable to those of other armies in the world.

"I also pay my respects to the responsible efforts of the commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and the military and political cadres of the large combined units, who are doing their best to perfectly embody the military lines and policies of the Party in the military and political activities of the entire army.

"In particular, I extend warm encouragement and congratulations to the commanding officers and other combatants of the overseas special operations units, who are carrying out the order of their homeland in combat positions in the faraway alien land, staking the honour of their heroic army, as I want to see them all the more today.

"Comrades,

"We greet this day every year, but today I have come here with a really special feeling.

"As it is the day we are celebrating in the lead-up to the Ninth Party Congress, which will open soon, I feel more keenly the greatness and preciousness of our army.

"In looking back upon the victorious journey of our army over the past turbulent five years as it has always been since

its founding, today's glory would never be conceivable separated from the enormous role our army has played. At this thought, I can hardly find enough words to express my heartfelt thanks to all the officers and soldiers of our army.

"Officers and soldiers of the KPA,

"You have done really great things to support the Party's cause and defend the security of the national sovereignty and safety of the people in the vanguard of the pioneering struggle, the struggle for achieving

transformation, which was challenging year after year.

"I would like to praise you for having done greater things last year than you had done in all the years of the past.

"Last year was a year especially filled with unheard-of dramatic events and distinguished feats that could be performed only by our army. For this, it can be called a year when the Party's and people's trust in and affection for their army grew stronger and greater.

"Our army has proved before the times and history that it is its mettle and original features to quicken more enormous and vigorous strides for loyalty and feats the greater the trust in and expectation for it.

"As you are all prepared for, this is a year of tremendous transformation, when the fighting front of our army will become more widened and which will demand more strenuous efforts.

"Likewise, the coming five years that will be indicated by the Ninth Congress of the Party will be years when our army's outstanding role that no one else can perform will become further enhanced.

"Our Party is always filled with confidence and feels proud as if it had won the world, as it has put in the vanguard of the struggle to create a new world the revolutionary armed forces, our army, boundlessly faithful to its cause.

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FROM PAGE 2

“Comrades,
 “On the occasion of Army Founding Day, I offer my warm congratulations once again to all the officers and soldiers of the army, and I hope you will make more strenuous efforts.
 “Our brave army will further accelerate its advance for the country and the people, and its fighting course will be adorned with brilliant feats and fame.
 “Long live the heroic Korean People’s Army!”
 The speech, filled with his profound trust and affection as he always places the armed forces of the Republic in the

vanguard of the drive for accomplishing the sacred cause of the WPK, deeply moved all the service personnel.
 When he finished his speech, the service personnel chanted the slogan of loyalty to him and sang a revolutionary military song in chorus as a token of their militant enthusiasm to dedicate themselves to ensuring the eternal prosperity and security of their socialist country and the happiness of their beloved people by regarding as sustenance for their growth and lifeblood of their destiny the trust and loving care shown by him, who injects vitality into the revolutionary armed forces to be strong, signally glorious and invincible, and by becoming men

of faith and moral obligation, who never deviate on the road of following the Party Central Committee, and men of strong ideology, who are fully equipped with its revolutionary ideas.
 He had a photo session with the major commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and commanders of the large combined units of the KPA.
 A ceremonial performance was given by the central military band of the Ministry of National Defence.
 The festive mood on Army Founding Day was further lifted by the performers’ rhythmic formations ever changing to the tune of the revolutionary military songs, full of the militant spirit reminiscent of a bugle signal to the entire army for an advance toward a new victory, and smart and amazing rifle-handling skills shown by the KPA honour guard members.
 Kim Jong Un had a photo taken with the generals and other officers of the headquarters of the Ministry of National Defence in commemoration of Army Founding Day.
 All the participants paid the highest glory and respect to the Supreme Commander who has led the service personnel step by step with his warm encouragement so that they can win great victories and perform immortal feats in the forefront of the struggle for achieving the great cause of building a rich country

with a strong army.
 Kim Jong Un said that the course of eye-opening development and aggressive advance of our country, which has brought about miraculous transformations and remarkable successes during the term of the Eighth Party Central Committee, is associated with the undying feats of the KPA service personnel, the admirable sons and daughters of the country and the people, who have made a breakthrough for victory and effected new upsurges in the revolution with their ennobling devotion and priceless exploits, so as to bring the great transformation to be seen in the future to the present reality.
 From the army-founding generation to the present generation, the revolutionary nature of our army voluntarily shouldering the heavy burden for the revolution has never changed, and to be proud of is the militant path it has covered by making a bold advance to achieve greater victories in the face of trials and difficulties, and yet more worthwhile and glorious is the path ahead of it, he said, adding that the work sites of a gigantic struggle, to be indicated by the Ninth Congress of the Party, are calling the service personnel of the KPA, the strongest in the world, invincible and heroic.

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Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at Overseas Military Operations under construction

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, inspected the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations under construction on February 13.

He was greeted on the spot by Ju Chang Il, department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, commanding officers of the army units involved in the construction and officials of the design and creation units.

Going round the construction site, Comrade Kim Jong Un acquainted himself in detail with the progress in construction and creation and fitting of sculptures.

Highly appreciating that the outer wall

decorative engravings were created well to preserve the theme-specific features, he said that the matchless bravery and mass heroism displayed by soldiers of the Korean People's Army, involved in the overseas military operations, must be

imposingly etched in history as a banner of invincibility.

The Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations is, before being a simple architectural structure, the crystallization of the noble

respect paid by our Party, country and people to the sacred souls of the heroic martyrs who will be immortal for all ages, and the platform of dignity and honour for respectfully exalting their worthwhile life, he added.

Stressing the need to create all elements to be ideologically and artistically perfect to the last detail, he clarified a series of tasks and ways of modification.

He called upon the service personnel, designers and creators, involved in the construction of the memorial museum, to deeply cherish the profound feelings of respect

of the Party and people and successfully build the museum into a sacred temple, a grand monumental edifice representative of the era, which will be everlasting as a symbol of the feats and immortality of the martyrs.



FROM PAGE 3

He expressed belief that the KPA, which has accepted the decisions of the Party as an absolute truth and supreme military order and always said "Yes" in response, will glorify the current era by performing miraculous feats transcending heroism of all historical ages in the ensuing new struggle and add lustre to the honour of the present generation to be admired by posterity.

All the participants loudly chanted the slogan of "Death-defying defence", out of their firm pledge to add eternal brilliance to the great fame and glory of the KPA, which has adorned the past years with legendary victories and miracles by dint of its unique spirit and soul, always living up to its sacred appellation—army of the Party and army of the people.

Kim Jong Un watched a sports game of commanding officers of the ministry held in celebration of Army Founding Day.

Then he met the retired generals invited to the celebrations.

Saying that recorded in every page of the long army-building history, which has always gone on alongside the leadership history of the Party, is the ennobling devotion made by the retired generals who faithfully upheld the Party and the country with their unbounded self-sacrificing and indomitable spirit during their long service in the revolutionary army, he had a photo taken with them,

who dedicated themselves to bolstering up the military muscle.

His congratulatory visit to the Ministry of National Defence was a meaningful occasion that greatly heightened the noble sense of mission of the service personnel and their spirit of exertion to invariably perform the vanguard role of the revolutionary armed forces in the sacred struggle for safeguarding the sovereignty and right to development of the state and the people's destiny and future.

Conferences of provincial (municipal) committees of WPK held

KCNA

Preparations are now under way in the DPRK to successfully hold the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, which will mark an epochal turning point in putting the great pioneering era of comprehensive development of socialism on a fresh higher stage.

Under the guidance of the Party Congress preparatory committee, the conferences of city and county Party committees were concluded. They were followed by the conferences of Party organizations, including the provincial (municipal) Party committees and the Party

committees performing the similar function such as those of the Cabinet, the Korean People's Army, the Ministry of Public Security and the Ministry of Railways.

Present at the conferences, held between January 28 and February 6, were leadership members of the relevant Party organizations and the delegates elected at the conferences of city and county Party committees.

Leading officials of the Central Committee of the WPK guided those conferences.

The presidiums were elected at the conferences.

The conferences reviewed the work of the relevant Party committees for implementing

the important tasks set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK and held in-depth discussions for setting development-oriented future goals and finding scientific ways for carrying them out on the basis of the experience and lessons gained and drawn during the past five years.

The reporters at the conferences referred to the successes made by the Party committees, the political staffs of the relevant regions, in playing the role of organizers and mobilizers in the struggle for implementing the Party's policies while always prioritizing the work for more firmly establishing the Party Central Committee's unified leadership system.

The conferences concluded that when the Party committees direct primary efforts to strengthening their basic Party organizations and enhancing the role of their members, always guided by the line of the three revolutions, ideological, technological and cultural, the idea of attaching importance to cities and counties and the line of strengthening cities and counties, the working efficiency and activity of the Party organizations will be redoubled to make it possible for them to consolidate their regions, sectors and units into solid cornerstones for safeguarding national interests and guaranteeing comprehensive national

rejuvenation.

Speakers at the conferences expressed their resolve to make full exertion and devotion in the vanguard of the struggle for national prosperity and development and wellbeing of the people by fundamentally innovating their ideological viewpoint and working manner.

The conferences authorized the Party committees to be elected to adopt and thoroughly implement the resolutions reflecting the tasks to be advanced at the Ninth Congress of the WPK. Leadership bodies of the relevant Party organizations were elected at the conferences.

The conferences elected

the delegates to be sent to the Ninth Congress and appointed the observers.

All the delegates and observers were filled with the pledge to take part in the Congress in a responsible manner, always mindful of the general will and trust of their Party organizations, and fulfill their core and vanguard roles in every workplace for implementing the Party's policies.

The preparatory undertakings are conducted dynamically, thanks to the ever-growing political consciousness and zeal of all the Party members and other people and service personnel who are advancing to the day of the historic Congress.

National book and art exhibition opens

KCNA

A national book and art exhibition in commemoration of the forthcoming Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea opened amid the daily growing political enthusiasm of the Party members and all other people of the country for greeting the congress significantly and with splendour.

Its opening ceremony took place at the Korea Fine

Art Museum on February 11.

Present there were Ju Chang Il, department director of the WPK Central Committee, officials, journalists and artists of ministries, national agencies and publishing and fine art sectors and other working people in Pyongyang.

Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, delivered an opening address.

He said that the exhibition would be a significant occasion for demonstrating

the dignity and invincible leadership ability of the great Party and boosting the political awareness and revolutionary enthusiasm of the Party members and all other people of the country to advance toward the goal for a new victory to be set by the Ninth Party Congress. He then declared the exhibition open.

At the end of the ceremony the participants looked round the exhibition hall.

On display at the venue

are more than 10 000 kinds of books, including books dealing with the glorious revolutionary history and immortal exploits of the Party and books on art and literature and science and technology.

Also on show are art pieces reflecting the miraculous successes achieved in socialist construction during the term of the Eighth Party Central Committee and the new civilized life greeted and enjoyed by the people.

Farm machines, tractors conveyed to farms

KCNA

'Jingmaeng' farm machines

"Jingmaeng" farm machines, provided by the trade union organizations ahead of the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, were conveyed to the Yongang Farm in Kaepung District in Kaesong on February 6.

Present at the meeting for conveying the farm machines were Kim Jong Sun, department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, officials of the Central Committee of the General

Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, exemplary trade union members and agricultural workers of the Yongang Farm.

At the meeting speakers noted that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un saw to it that tractors and tillers, provided by the trade union organizations through the do-good-thing movement on the occasion of the Ninth Congress of the WPK, were sent to the Yongang Farm.

'Nyomaeng' small tractors

"Nyomaeng" small tractors, provided by women's union organizations through a do-good-thing movement with the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea as an occasion, were conveyed to farms in South Hwanghae Province.

Ceremonies for conveying the tractors took place at the Haeon Farm in Jangyon County and the Sinphung Farm in Chongdan County on February 9.

Present there were Han Kwang Ho, deputy department

director of the WPK Central Committee, Jon Hyang Sun, chairwoman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, officials concerned and agricultural workers and women's union members in the counties.

At the ceremonies speakers noted that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un saw to it that the small tractors were sent to the aforesaid farms.

After the ceremonies the participants looked round the tractors.

'Nonggunmaeng' small tractors

Small tractors, provided by organizations of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea on the occasion of the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, were conveyed to the Manjin Farm in Ongjin County, South Hwanghae Province.

A meeting to convey the tractors took place on February 11, with the attendance of Min Sung Chol, deputy department director of the WPK Central

Committee, officials of the UAWK Central Committee and officials and agricultural workers of the farm.

At the meeting, speakers noted that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un ensured that the "Nonggunmaeng" small tractors were sent to the Manjin Farm.

At the end of the meeting the participants looked round the tractors.

Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm harvests vegetables

KCNA

The newly-built Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm has harvested vegetables for the first time this year.

With high pride in living and working in an ideal farm town with the largest-ever group of greenhouses which made another leap forward in modernity, advanced nature and profitability as well as architectural level, its officials and employees cultivated healthy vegetable seedlings while ensuring the control of temperature and humidity, the nutrition care and others as required by technical regulations according to the growing conditions of vegetable crops.

The farm transplanted the healthy vegetable seedlings to greenhouses and cultivated them in a scientific and technological way while steadily raising the level of employees' technical knowledge and skills in contact with technicians and researchers

of relevant units.

The joyful faces of employees harvesting various kinds of vegetables such as tomato, red pepper, cucumber and bok choy at different types of greenhouses presented another spectacular scene of the "Treasure Island".

The Sinuiju Vegetable Science Research Centre has also produced different kinds of fruit and leafy

vegetables.

Trucks carrying vegetables arrived at the commercial service units, orphanage and primary and middle schools for orphans in the city of Sinuiju.

Laughter of orphans seeing fresh vegetables including red tomatoes resounded through the schools.

Service amenities in the city were crowded with

inhabitants buying fresh vegetables.

The citizens expressed their impressions with delight that they could taste various kinds of vegetable dishes although the farm was inaugurated not long ago.

Officials and employees in the service sector of the city are giving sincere service to the inhabitants with pride and joy.



Various kinds of vegetables are harvested at the newly built Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm.

Birthday of Korean People's Army celebrated

KPA commanding officers visit Kumsusan Palace of Sun

KCNA

No Kwang Chol, Jong Kyong Thack, Ri Yong Gil and other commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and commanders of the services and large combined units visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on the occasion of the 78th anniversary of the heroic Korean People's Army.

The sacred temple of Juche was full of boundless reverence for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman

Kim Jong Il who performed great immortal exploits in the history of building the Juche-based revolutionary armed forces with their outstanding ideas and extraordinary leadership.

Placed at the statues of the great leaders was a flower basket in the name of the KPA.

All the participants paid high tribute to them at the statues, reflecting the unanimous mind of the officers and men of the armed forces of the DPRK.

At the halls where the President and the Chairman lie in state, the participants paid tribute to the great leaders in the humblest reverence.

The KPA commanding officers made a firm pledge to devote themselves to fulfilling the sacred mission assigned by the times and the revolution on the road of defending the victorious advance of the Juche cause with arms, remaining absolutely loyal to the ideas and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Floral tribute paid to great leaders

KCNA

Officials, service personnel, working people, youth and students in the DPRK visited the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il across the country to place flower baskets and flowers at them on the occasion of the 78th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army.

Laid at the statues of the great leaders on Mansu Hill were flower baskets in the name of the Party, armed forces and power organs, ministries, national agencies, units of the KPA and the Public Security Forces, factories and universities.



People from all walks of life lay flower baskets and bouquets at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il to pay tribute to them.

Placed at the statues in different parts of Pyongyang, including Kim Il Sung University, were flower baskets in the name of KPA and PSF units, institutions and enterprises.

Officials, service personnel, working people, youth and students in other parts of the country visited the statues of the peerlessly great men in their residential areas to pay high tribute to them.

Art performance given by Song and Dance Ensemble of Ministry of National Defence

KCNA

The Song and Dance Ensemble of the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK gave a music and dance performance at the Ponghwa Art Theatre on February 8 in celebration of the 78th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army.

Among the audience were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, Pak Jong

Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Jong Kyong Thack, director of the General Political Bureau of the KPA, and other commanding officers of the Ministry of

National Defence, officers and men of the KPA, those involved in the overseas military operations, and officials and meritorious persons in Pyongyang.

Put on the stage of the performance, which began with a male quintet and chorus "National Anthem of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea", was a variety of numbers, including the military songs sung in the glorious course of the struggle of the revolutionary armed forces and famous songs on the theme of patriotism.

The performers sang high praises of the might and matchless heroism of the KPA defending the sovereignty of the DPRK and the wellbeing of the people with invincible arms, remaining loyal to the Party's ideology and leadership.



The Song and Dance Ensemble of the Ministry of National Defence gives a music and dance performance at the Ponghwa Art Theatre on February 8 in celebration of the 78th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army.

People's delegations visit KPA units

KCNA

People's delegations, composed of senior Party and government officials and officials of ministries, national agencies and regional Party and power organs, visited the units of the Korean People's Army on the occasion of its 78th birthday.

Members of the delegations were greeted by service personnel.

They congratulated the officers and men on the founding anniversary of the heroic KPA.

They told the servicepersons about the news of their native places and the innovative successes being achieved by the people at all

worksites in the lead-up to the Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, encouraging them who are putting spurs to combat and political training.

The great army-people unity was also displayed in new theatres for regional transformation and other areas of grand construction.

The members of delegations paid warm militant regards to the soldier-builders celebrating February 8 and asked them to make greater achievements in construction projects, remaining true to the noble intention and deep sincerity of the Party which devotes the greatest efforts to the work for the people and younger generations.

Dance parties held

KCNA

Dance parties of youth and students were held in the DPRK on February 8.

The venues of dance parties in the capital city, including the plaza of the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, were filled with excitement and joy of the young people greeting Army Founding Day.

The participants danced, paying the highest glory to the peerlessly great men who founded the revolutionary armed forces of Juche and developed the KPA into an invincible revolutionary army with their unique ideas of army building and

outstanding leadership.

Such dance parties took place in all the provincial capitals, cities and counties on the same day.

A dance party of women's union officials and members was held at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph in Pyongyang on February 8.

The dance party began with the song "Long Live Generalissimo Kim Il Sung".

The participants paid the highest tribute to President Kim Il Sung who set a world-historic example in building the revolutionary armed forces and provided a military guarantee for the prosperity of all generations to come.

KCNA

All the people and service personnel of the DPRK significantly celebrated the 78th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army.

A large number of people visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred temple of Juche, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il lie in state.

At the plaza of the palace, the visitors looked back in reverence upon the revolutionary careers and exploits of the great leaders who started the Juche-oriented army building and developed the KPA into an invincible revolutionary

Across the country

army.

Officials, working people, service personnel, youth and students visited the statues of the great leaders on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and in other parts of the country and mosaics depicting the images of the peerlessly great men to lay flower baskets, bouquets and flowers at them and make a bow to them.

At the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, working people, youth and students paid high tribute at the Monument to the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs, recollecting the indomitable spirit and exploits of the victors of the great years who had

honourably defended the dignity and sovereignty of the DPRK.

Many people visited the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery.

The national flags of the DPRK fluttered at major places in Pyongyang and provincial, city and county seats and institutions, industrial establishments and farms across the country, and various posters and visual aids were displayed to rev up the festive mood.

Colourful performances were given at the National Theatre and other theatres and places in the capital city.

Performances were given in North and South

Phyongan, South Hwanghae and South Hamgyong provinces, Nampho and Kaesong municipalities and other parts of the country.

Many people, youth and students visited and congratulated the war veterans.

Public catering facilities, the Central Zoo, the Natural History Museum, the Munsu Water Park and other bases for cultural and leisure activities in Pyongyang and other parts of the country were crowded with working people enjoying the holiday, and gorgeous illuminations were displayed in Songhwa, Hwasong and Jonwi streets to boost the festive mood.

On the occasion of 84th birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il

Great life resplendent with patriotism

By Ri Sung Ik PT

February 16 this year is the 84th anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Marking the day, the Korean people are looking back with deep emotion upon the career of the Chairman who devoted his all, even his birthdays, to the people.

On February 16 1975, when he was engrossed in his work, an official told him that it was his birthday. He said smilingly that how could he celebrate his birthday and that he never celebrated his birthday, and resumed his work.

Even ordinary people enjoy their birthdays, but the Chairman used to spend his birthdays like ordinary days and yet working more busily.

He spent his birthdays inspecting the Pyongyang General Printing Plant, guiding the screen adaptation of a work of President Kim Il Sung or discussing the issue of improving the people's living standards.

Although all the people wished

he took a good rest on his birthday at least, he further hastened his pace on his journey for the good of the country and people.

February 16 1982 was his 40th birthday.

The then Central People's Committee of the DPRK awarded the title of DPRK Hero to him in reflection of the unanimous mind of all the people across the country.

That day President Kim Il Sung arranged an informal party and said: Properly speaking, Comrade Kim Jong Il said he would not celebrate his birthday. In fact he has never celebrated it before, except having a meal together with his family at home. But this time I was determined to celebrate his birthday.

That day, too, the Chairman left for another field guidance tour as soon as the simple yet meaningful party was over.

On his 50th birthday when the President blessed him with an ode to him, he hardened his will to be more faithful to the revolution in the future. And true to his pledge, he devoted himself to the country

and people till the last moments of his life.

He inspected the then Kumsusan Memorial Palace under construction on his birthday in 1995, the year after the President's unexpected demise, and visited a frontline post on February 16 2003.

That is why the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un earnestly said: Our General Kim Jong Il was always on the inspection tour for the sake of the country and the people, without having a proper rest even on his birthdays. My heart would not ache this much, if I could have offered the 70th birthday spread to him who had never celebrated his birthday.

A myriad of structures erected on this land and the ever-increasing happiness of the people are associated with the leadership of the Chairman who spent even his birthdays for them.

That is why the Korean people unsparingly dedicate their all efforts to the struggle to build a socialist paradise, which the Chairman desired, on this land without fail.

'Our father'

By Kim Hak Chol PT

When February comes every year, Min Hong Dan, an officer of the Korean People's Army, remembers the extraordinary story of her name.

Her birthplace is Taehongdan County, a famous potato-growing area.

When Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the county 26 years ago, he called at the house of a married couple of discharged soldiers who volunteered to work there and showed parental care for them.

At the time the wife asked him without reserve to name her baby to be born. He granted her request, telling them to name it Tae Hong if it is a son and call it Hong Dan if it is a daughter.

As a result, she was named Min Hong Dan and as soon as she was born, she became a happy child well known to the whole country.

Ko Hu Hoe on Kubong Pass also has a treasured memory of her name.

There is a road repair workteam on Kubong Pass, a remote mountainous area. A family has worked there for decades. And one day in August 2000, they became patriots widely known to the country.

Several cars climbed up the mountain pass and pulled to a stop near the place where the family

workteam members were working and unexpectedly Chairman Kim Jong Il got off his car.

That day he highly praised their laudable deeds of maintaining the road in the deep mountain for the safe traffic of vehicles with deep sincerity, without caring whether they were appreciated or not, and had a photo session with them. At the time, a baby was sound asleep in her mother's bosom and she was trying to wake her up impatiently. The Chairman held the mother back and laughed a hearty laugh, saying she would regret having slept if she grew up and saw the photo later.

Later, her father and mother named their daughter Ko Hu Hoe (given name meaning regret) to cherish the happy memory of that day.

Many other children were also born and grew up with the blessing of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Among them are Ri Chuk Bok (blessing), Ri Kyong Yon (contest), Ryu So Gum (salt) and Kim Kwang Myong (bright future).

He was really the tender-hearted father of all children across the country, who showed all sorts of loving care for them, the king and future of the country, busy as he was with his revolutionary leadership while continuing his field guidance tour.

Variety of events held in celebration of February holiday

KCNA

Week-long film show opens

A week-long film show opened in the DPRK in celebration of February 16, the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Documentary films dealing with the immortal revolutionary exploits the Chairman performed for the Party and the revolution, the times and history and the history of revolutionary leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who continues a long journey of devotion to the people, and feature films on different themes will be shown at cinemas and halls of culture across the country.

An opening ceremony took place at the Pyongyang International Cinema House on February 10.

Present there were Ju

Chang Il, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Choe Hui Thae, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, officials, creators and artistes in the film sector and working people in Pyongyang.

Ri Song Un, director-general of the National Administration of Motion Picture Industry, made an opening address.

After the ceremony, the participants watched "Developing Our Party into an Invincible Revolutionary Party", part 6 of the Korean documentary film "General Kim Jong Il, Peerless Patriot".

Similar events took place in all provinces on the same day.

Pencil drawing festival opens

The 11th National Pencil Drawing Festival opened in Pyongyang in celebration of

the 84th birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Presented to the festival

are more than 390 pencil drawings on diverse themes and of various forms created by artists, amateurs and schoolchildren in different parts of the country.

On display at the festival venue are drawings dealing with the noble revolutionary career and immortal exploits of Kim Jong Il.

Among the exhibits are drawings of people enjoying new life and new civilization to their heart's content in the picturesque villages, precious fruits of the regional development policy, which have been built all over the country year after year.

There are also exhibits showing the revolutionary spirit and indomitable struggle of the people and

TU members get together

Workers and members of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea met at the Central Hall of Workers on February 11 to celebrate the 84th birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Present there were officials

service personnel out in the general advance toward the glorious Party Congress and the absolute weaponry of the armed forces of the DPRK gaining their fame as the most powerful revolutionary army.

An opening ceremony took place at the Pyongyang International House of Culture on February 9.

Present there were Ri Yong Nam, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, creators, and working people, youth and students in Pyongyang.

Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, made an opening address.

At the end of the ceremony the participants looked round the exhibition hall.

of the GFTUK Central Committee and trade union officials and members and workers in Pyongyang.

Choe Jong Chol, vice-chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee, made a report to be followed by

speeches.

The reporter and speakers said that Kim Jong Il's life is the noblest one of a peerless patriot who performed immortal

Ice sculpture festival goes on

The Ice Sculpture Festival-2026 in celebration of February 16, the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il, is now going on in the DPRK with splendour. It was opened in the City of Samjiyon on the occasion of the auspicious February holiday.

The venue of the festival has been visited by people in Ryanggang Province and officials, working people, service personnel, youth and students from across the country touring the revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu.

The ice sculptures, on display at the venue of the festival where the spectacular snowscape of natural forests and gorgeous illuminations are in good harmony, vividly show all the people's reverence for Chairman Kim Jong Il.

They make visitors

exploits for the country and its people, the times and revolution, with iron will and superhuman energy, holding high the red flag of the revolution.

recall with emotion the revolutionary career of the Chairman who made a high-intensity forced march for the prosperity of the country and happiness of the people all his life.

Also, there are ice sculptures reflecting the transparent spirit of devotedly defending the leader and indomitable fighting spirit displayed by the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners.

Seen there are sculptures showing the appearance of the country, which is undergoing change day by day under the wise guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, and the happy life of the Korean people.

On display are also ice sculptures depicting national symbols and works on various themes.

Groundbreaking ceremonies of construction projects for regional development policy in 2026 held



Groundbreaking ceremonies of construction projects for regional development policy in 2026 take place in Songhwa County, Musan County, Taean District and Phanmun District (February 6).



In Sinphong and Sonchon counties (February 7).

KCNA

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place respectively on February 6 in Songhwa County in the granary on the west coast, Musan County and Taean District with a leading iron ore producer and large machine-building base and Phanmun District in the southernmost part of the country to signal the start of construction projects for the new year, more vividly highlighting the validity and prospects of the Regional Development 20x10 Policy set forth by the Workers' Party of Korea.

Present there were Choe Tong Myong, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Ju Chang Il, Kim Hyong Sik and Ju Chol Gyu, department directors of the WPK Central Committee, senior officials of the Party and power organs in South Hwanghae Province, North Hamgyong Province, Nampho Municipality and Kaesong Municipality, officials and working people in the relevant areas and soldier-builders.

At the ceremonies speakers noted that the significant ceremonies marking the start of the regional development policy for 2026, when a new stage of the overall development of socialism will be opened, were held amid the great interest and expectations of the residents of Songhwa County, Musan County, Taean District and Phanmun District.

The unprecedented gigantic revolution to transform the regional areas is being staged without letup, they said, adding that this reality is an eye-opening change that can be brought about only by the transparent outlook on the revolution and people of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who knows no satisfaction in the work for the people.

Noting it is the intention and firm will of the WPK that the long-term development of the regional areas represents the everlasting future of our state and the prospect of Korean-style socialism, they ardently called for displaying the indomitable patriotic spirit and fighting traits in order to uphold the Party Central Committee's policy on regional construction with a single mind and loyalty.

Then the commanders of the 124th regiments of the Korean People's Army made speeches.

As the venues of the ceremonies were full of excitement and joy of

the regional people who will live in happiness and comfort in the new era of regional change, excavators, hydraulic loaders and trucks started their work.

Groundbreaking ceremonies of the construction projects for the regional development policy for the new year were held in Sinphong and Sonchon counties on February 7, amid the growing patriotic will and fighting spirit of all the people to accelerate the overall prosperity and development of Korean-style socialism according to the blueprint to be unveiled by the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Present at the ceremonies were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, Ju Chang Il, department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, chief secretaries of the provincial committees of the WPK, officials in the relevant provinces and counties, working people and service personnel.

At the ceremonies speakers said that a new era of national rejuvenation, an era of remarkable changes, is being ushered in thanks to the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who has boldly pioneered and invariably accomplished the unprecedented revolution for realizing the centuries-old desire of the regional people.

They said that the ceremonies add inexhaustible vitality to the ranks of the general advance which will glorify the significant year 2026, which was greeted with ardent patriotism and boundless pride, as a year of eventful successes and eye-opening changes to be specially recorded in the history of the country and will more vigorously usher in a period of comprehensive national prosperity with clear and sure development of the regions.

They stressed that under the wise guidance of the great Party Central Committee, which put forward the absolute loyalty to the people as the lifeblood of its policy, the wealth of prosperity will surely spring up in the relevant regions at the end of the year and the bright future, in which the people across the country live in happiness all together, will be brought earlier.

They ardently called on all the soldier-builders, officials and working people to glorify this year when the glorious Party Congress is to be held as a year of fresh advance and leap forward by faithfully upholding the ideas and leadership of Kim Jong Un with a single mind.

Then the commanders of the 124th regiments of the Korean People's Army made pledge-making speeches.

The projects began amid the stormy cheers and shouts for devoted implementation raised by the participants with surging enthusiasm.

Regional construction projects for the new year are being launched in the DPRK in a three-

FROM PAGE 8

dimensional way and on a full scale, demonstrating the revolutionary will and the power of precise execution of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Groundbreaking ceremonies of construction projects for the regional development policy took place in Pongsan, Sijung, Sinhung and Thongchon counties on February 8.

Present there were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, Ri Hi Yong and Kim Tok Hun, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, Ju Chol Gyu, department director of the WPK Central Committee, chief secretaries of provincial Party committees, officials of the relevant provinces and counties, working people and service personnel.

Saying that light-industry factories, hospitals and leisure complexes will be simultaneously built in 20 cities and counties this year when a new phase will be opened up for attaining the grand goal of comprehensive development of socialism, speakers at the ceremonies stressed that this fact corroborates the truthfulness and vitality of the regional revolution staged by the Party to realize the ideal and long-cherished desire of the people, and the rosy future of socialism.

They said that this proud reality, in which the era of great transformation is ushered in by dint of practical successes, is an amazing result brought about by the wise guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who set it as a historic task the WPK should boldly and surely fulfil to provide all the people across the country with the happiest life, and has led the efforts to accomplish it with his strong leadership practice.

Then commanders of the 124th regiments of the Korean People's Army made speeches.

They vowed to build all construction objects into monumental edifices symbolic of the great era of Kim Jong Un by giving full play to the spiritual

strength of all the soldiers and waging an intensive campaign for making collective innovations and setting new standards and records at every construction site.

The soldier-builders launched into construction, full of enthusiasm to add glory to their noble appellation as pioneers of socialist civilization and creators of the people's happiness in the new worksites for the regional industry revolution.

Grand construction began in Hwaphyong, Phyonggang, Riwon, Myonggan and Samsu counties to build regional-industry factories, hospitals, leisure complexes and an offshore farm.

Present at the groundbreaking ceremonies were Ri Il Hwan, Ri Hi Yong and Choe Tong Myong, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kim Hyong Sik, department director of the WPK Central Committee, chief secretaries of provincial Party committees, officials in the relevant provinces and counties, working people, service personnel and shock brigade members.

Speakers said that proving the truthfulness and vitality of the regional revolution guided by the WPK, light industry factories, hospitals and leisure complexes will spring up in Hwaphyong, Phyonggang, Myonggan and Samsu counties and a modern offshore farm will be built in Riwon County, they noted.

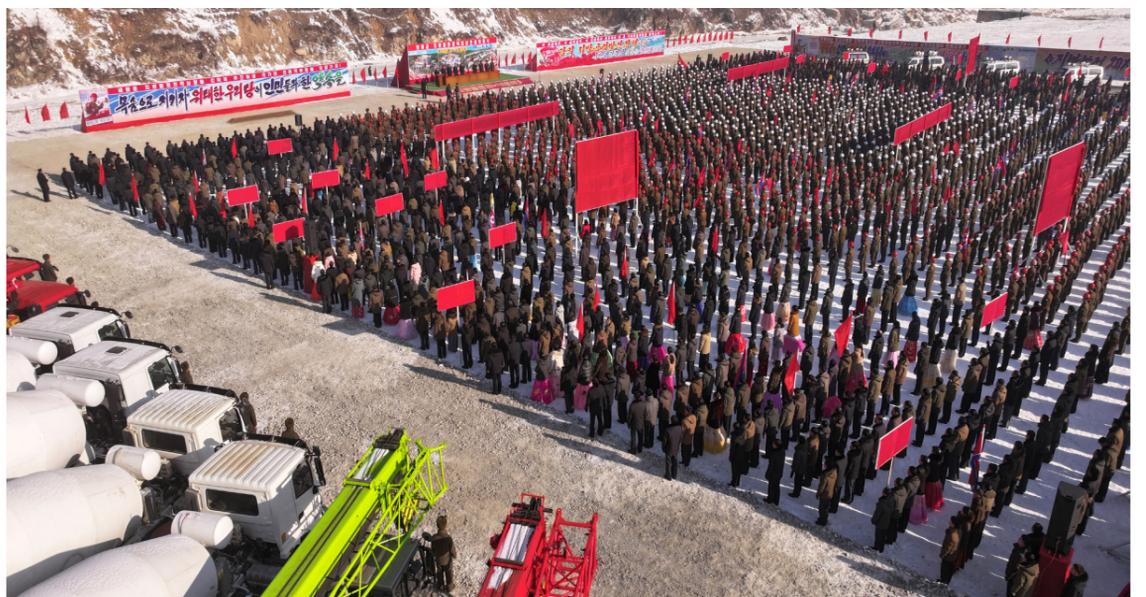
Saying that regional development will bring bigger transformation and the vigorous advance of the country toward a rosy future will be accelerated under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, they called upon all the people to dedicate their patriotic strength and enthusiasm to the prosperity of the country.

Then commanding officers of the 124th regiments of the Korean People's Army and the South Hamgyong provincial shock brigade made speeches.

Servicepersons and shock brigade members launched the construction, full of fervent zeal to demonstrate the valiant spirit of the revolutionary army and the mettle of Koreans in the drive for carrying out the far-sighted plan of the Party Central Committee promoting the historic cause of regional transformation.



In Pongsan, Sijung, Sinhung and Thongchon counties (February 8).



In Hwaphyong, Phyonggang, Riwon, Myonggan and Samsu counties (February 9).



For rising generations, for future

During the term of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the WPK and the DPRK government set socialist policies for the coming generations as the most important ones and consistently implemented them while directing special efforts to them.

By Pang Un Ju PT

Top policy priority for Workers' Party of Korea

During the term of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, it set it forth as the most important policy to bring up children excellently and provide them with a happy life and has vigorously implemented it.

The Ninth Congress of the Korean Children's Union took place in Pyongyang in December 2022.

In his important letter "Let Us March towards the Future as a Powerful Country under the Unfurled Flag of the Korean Children's Union" sent to the participants in the congress, the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un said that the Party and people, by redoubling their efforts, would without fail build a country in which children would live a cheerful, valiant, rich and happy life, free from any worries, and that the Party believes in the people as in heaven, and before them and above them stand the children.

He noted that the top policy priority for the Party and state is always focused on the younger generations and that is an invariable principle followed by the WPK and the DPRK's eternal policy.

All the policies and activities of the state have been linked to the love for the younger generations during the struggle for the comprehensive development of socialist construction.

At a meeting with senior officials of the Central Committee and provincial

committees of the WPK in June 2021, the General Secretary expressed his determination to solve the problem of supplying goat's or cow's milk to children at nurseries and kindergartens during the term of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

Therefore, the Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK adopted the childcare policy on supplying nutritious foods including dairy products to children across the country at state expense and the DPRK law on childcare was adopted in February 2022.

As he loves the children so much, the General Secretary tasted a trial product of milk powder before others and made exact demands to improve its quality and earnestly told officials to make all dairy products good enough with an attitude of parents making them for their own children.

The Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee stressed that it was one of the most remarkable changes made in the life of the Korean people during the eighth term of the Party Central Committee that all pre-school children are regularly supplied with dairy products every day without exception.

Important Party meetings held during the term especially dealt with the issue of caring for the rising generation.

The Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee set it as a consistent policy of the Party and government to provide school uniforms and school things to the

students across the country at state expense. The Fifth Plenary Meeting placed special emphasis on the need to have a correct viewpoint on education, and the Ninth Plenary Meeting discussed the issue of displaying a high sense of responsibility in implementing socialist policies for schoolchildren as an important agenda item.

The Party adopts the policies for the rising generation on a preferential basis and carries them out with all efforts irrespective of whether the conditions are favourable or not. Herein lies the true features of the WPK.

Brighter appearance of children

The happy and hearty laughter of children and the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* resounded endlessly across the DPRK in the past five years.

One evening in December of 2021 when the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea took place with splendour, the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un learned about the funding plan for making and supplying new uniforms for students throughout the country.

Saying that tens of millions of metres of cloth were needed to make new uniforms for all the students across country, he noted that though it was not easy to make and supply uniforms, bags and shoes for all of them, we should do it without condition.

At the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the



The DPRK law on childcare is adopted at the Sixth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly in February 2022.

Workers' Party of Korea held afterwards, he said that the provision of uniforms to students is not a task that is carried out only under favourable conditions and that may not be done under unfavourable conditions, but a policy of the WPK and the eternal policy of the DPRK, which should be implemented unconditionally and on a top-priority basis.

He also made time despite his busy schedule to examine the samples of school uniforms on New Year's Day and took measures to draw up and distribute a new guide to body measurement for the production of school uniforms and to build factories specializing in the production of school uniforms across the country.

Accordingly, a solid foundation was laid and a well-organized system was established for producing and supplying uniforms, bags and shoes for all the students on a regular basis.

Under the care of the General Secretary who regards all orphans as his sons and daughters and looks after them with paternal affection, children at orphanages, baby homes and primary and middle schools for orphans throughout the country grow up healthily, free from any worries, and display their talents to the full.

Even when natural disasters hit different areas of the country, the WPK, which regards the nursing, upbringing and education of children and students as the most important state affair, set the education and edification work as its top priority along with the rehabilitation work and did its best to that end.

In July 2024 flood hit North Phyongan Province and some other areas of the country. The General Secretary, who constantly worried about the safety of children, made sure that an emergency system was put in operation, whereby all the children in the stricken

areas including students were brought to Pyongyang to be provided with nursing and education in a safe and convenient environment during the restoration period at state expense. And he visited the temporary classrooms in April 25 Hostel equipped with all educational conditions and watched a demonstration lesson for primary school pupils. That day, he helped them shoulder their schoolbags and said that they all looked smart in new school uniforms and that their mothers who came to Pyongyang with them would feel pleased. And he described the children's laughter as the vigorous breath and vibrant spirit of the advancing country and a symbol of the mightiness of Korean-style socialism.

The Korean people are convinced of a beautiful future of the country as they hear the happy laughter of children who grow up brightly under the loving care of the General Secretary.



The children across the country are supplied with dairy products and other nutritious foods on a regular basis, growing up healthily.

All students in the country are provided with uniforms, bags, shoes and other school things.

Five years for strengthening whole Party

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The term of the Eighth Party Central Committee in the history of the Workers' Party of Korea is the period when the WPK has taken on the appearance and established the traits as befits a party capable of firmly carrying forward the 80-year ruling history while preserving its revolutionary character and original features and steadily enhancing its ruling power and leadership ability along the path indicated by the line of Party building in the new era advanced by the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

The original Party-building idea and theory advanced by the respected General Secretary are the scientific and practical Party-building programme which enables the WPK to firmly preserve its original features and character and put its ruling power and leadership ability on a permanent basis by bringing about a fresh turn in strengthening the Party and in the ideological viewpoint and work method and style of the officials. And they were its main source of power to energetically lead the all-people advance for implementing the decisions of the

Eighth WPK Congress to perform unprecedented miracles in all fields.

The five-point Party-building line in the new era on building the Party to be politically mature, organizationally strong, ideologically pure, strict in discipline and sound in work style was adopted at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.

The entity which firmly guarantees the five-point Party-building line in the new era is the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK.

On June 1 2024, the respected General Secretary visited the newly-built school to attend its opening ceremony. In his commemorative speech there he said: "The new era of building the Workers' Party of Korea, the golden age of strengthening the Party, is opening at this point today".

He selected the site of the school at the place near the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance, and with a view of the revolutionary martyrs cemetery in which the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs lie buried, and made

sure that it encapsulated the appearance and dignity as befits a research centre that supports the organizational and ideological strengthening of the Party and its leadership activities practically in education and academically.

During the term of the Eighth Party Central Committee the WPK has firmly defended its lifeline by combining the strengthening of its work for implementing the immediate revolutionary tasks with the long-term Party building that guarantees the future development of the revolution and consolidated its leadership ability and fighting efficiency to the full.

The Party Central Committee confidently organized and waged the revolutionary struggle to bring about great changes by convening important Party meetings including plenary meeting, meeting of the Political Bureau and meeting of the Secretariat and adopting crucial lines and decisions in succession for ushering in a new golden age of strengthening the whole Party and an era of comprehensive development for national rejuvenation and for ensuring the people's security and promoting their well-being.

They include the five-point

Party-building line in the new era, the national defence development strategy, the programme for the rural revolution and Regional Development 20x10 Policy, and the childcare policy. Recorded as the starting points for all these fighting plans and their successful implementation are the important Party meetings.

It is also a success the WPK achieved during the term of its Eighth Central Committee that it established the new Party work system, order and method over the whole Party and effected substantial changes in strengthening the basic Party organizations with the clear orientation.

The respected General Secretary established the Party climate of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people and strict discipline system in the WPK, which served as the important foundation for enhancing its leadership ability and fighting efficiency.

He said that the motherly Party is not the words coined by a thinker, a politician or a leader of the working class but an honorary title and appellation the people gave to the WPK and that the Party must, at all costs, prove itself worthy of the great trust of the people and become a genuine party for the people, adding that the WPK should spare no pains to become a party devoting itself for the sake of people and that this is his ideology, ideal and unshakable will on Party building.

As seen above, the WPK readjusted and strengthened its leadership ability and fighting efficiency in every way in the past five years to become further refined politically and develop beyond recognition organizationally and ideologically, ushering in a golden age of its development while making every possible effort to defend the interests of the people and bring their happiness into full bloom, irrespective of whether the conditions were favourable or unfavourable.

Greater victory in store

By Pak Song Min PT

In a nutshell, the term of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea can be said to be five years of transformation.

So many things have changed.

The Party has grown stronger thanks to the five-point Party building line in the new era and the single-minded unity of the DPRK has been further cemented.

The architectural field of the country has made remarkable progress through the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, a project pushed forward vigorously during the term of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

Thanks to the steady implementation of the childcare policy, children across the country have grown up healthily in better conditions for their upbringing while being supplied with dairy products and other nutritious foodstuffs, and students across the country have studied to their heart's content, provided with new school uniforms, shoes, school things and satchels.

It should be said that the greatest change has occurred in provinces.

The news of moving into new houses was reported day after day as the houses were built in succession in rural villages and the steady implementation of the Regional Development 20x10 Policy resulted in the construction of regional-industry factories in dozens of cities and counties in just two years, and the factories now produce various kinds of products.

The construction of advanced health facilities, leisure complexes and grain storage stations has also helped improve the living standards of the regional people.

In particular, a modern city was built in the area of Wihwa Island in the Amnok River, where flooding had been regarded by the residents as their fate, and the area turned into a place which can steer the economic development of the region and the improvement of the locals' living standard.

Most recently the Samgwang Livestock Farm was built as a new model for socialist rural construction and the development of livestock farming in the new era.

Witnessing the development of the socialist countryside, which is beyond usual practice and precedent, all the Korean people pleasedly picture everything in their country and their life which will change for the better in the coming five years after the Ninth Party Congress and are convinced of their rosier future.

This is the truth they have learned through the past experience and the present changes.



An overall view of the Central Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea, which has been built wonderfully into a world-class political school.

Revolution in construction a process of cultural revolution



Ri Yong Ho, section chief of Pyongyang University of Architecture

Thanks to the Workers' Party of Korea's plan and energetic guidance to provide the people with better welfare, a revolution in construction has been brought about and the entities of socialist civilization are mushrooming in the DPRK.

The revolution in construction we carry out is a worthwhile undertaking to create the wealth of the country and, at the same time, a process of the cultural revolution.

This revolution, aimed at creating material wealth by setting new standards

and making new innovations in the whole course of construction including architectural design, is not simply the work of setting and enforcing new formative and technical standards of construction.

It leads the people to civilization in the new era and enables them to raise their cultural level.

People's cultured living environment cannot be improved without construction.

Seeing all the structures, including modern dwelling houses and new

villages, mushrooming in the capital and provinces, the people keenly realize the height of civilization intended by the Party.

Through the construction process, builders themselves become creators of new culture and new civilization as they actively introduce advanced construction methods.

When the splendid bases for cultural life are built in cities and counties, bases for regional development, and all the regional people possess rich emotional feelings and cultural attainments, leading a life in good health under excellent conditions and environment, great progress will be made in the work for achieving cultural progress in the provinces.

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Top 10 players of DPRK for 2025 (3)

By Kim Hak Chol PT

With sustained efforts toward victory

Pang Chol Mi, a boxer and People's Athlete of the Kumgangsan Sports Team, was born into a farmer's family in Jongju City of North Phyongan Province.

From her childhood she loved sports and dreamed of becoming a judoist.

Following the advice of her instructor at the then Jongju City Juvenile Sports School to play boxing rather than judo in consideration of her constitutional character, Chol Mi began to learn boxing.

Tenacious and competitive, she would actively create opportunities to build her physical strength. One of them was to run 6 km distance from her house to school, declining to stay in the school dormitory.

After becoming a boxer of the Kumgangsan Sports Team, Pang won her first gold medal of the international competitions at the Ulan Bator Cup



Pang Chol Mi

Hong Jin Gyong

Han Il Ryong

International Boxing Tournament held in 2017 and became a world champion the following year by winning a title at the IBA World Women's Boxing Championships in 2018.

And then she earned gold medals at the Asian male and female boxing championships in 2019 and the 19th Asian Games and was also successful at the 33rd Olympic Games.

Her pursuit of victory continued.

She beat her opponent by an overwhelming margin in the final match of the 52kg category at the 2025 IBA World Women's Boxing Championships and was crowned world champion again.

Fighting off debilitating illness

Han Il Ryong is a marathon runner of the Amnokgang Sports Club.

Born to a farmer's family in Rinsan County of North Hwanghae Province, he learned the rudiments of athletics at the then Rinsan County Juvenile Sports School.

He has always taken first place in the national games during his playing career at the Amnokgang Sports Club as well as his school days.

He suffered from lumbago after participating in the National Championships held a few years ago. He was at a crossroads of abandoning his sporting career or not.

Two-time world champion

Hong Jin Gyong, a Taekwon-Do player of the South Hwanghae Provincial Taekwon-Do Team, was born in Pongchon County of South Hwanghae Province.

After she began to learn Taekwon-Do, Hong distinguished herself in the national games, attracting the attention of experts.

She made her international debut at the 22nd Taekwon-Do World Championships held in 2023. There she obtained six medals including three golds.

The following year she bagged six medals including five golds at the 10th Asian Taekwon-Do Championships.

She continued to win several events including the women's individual sparring at the 23rd Taekwon-Do World Championships in 2025 and was awarded seven medals including six golds and the individual technical prize.

She became a two-time world champion by winning the titles at the Taekwon-Do world championships two times in succession.

Otters in Poptong

By Pang Un Ju PT

Otters are animals for international protection distributed in such countries as the DPRK, China, Russia and Kazakhstan.

In the area of Poptong County located between the Masik and Ahobi mountain ranges, mountains are high and steep and there are a small area of flatland and many rocks around rivulets flowing along deep valleys, and therefore it provides otters with good habitats.

This area was designated and has been protected as an otter reserve in the central part of the DPRK.

The animal often nests in a rock crevice under a rocky cliff by the uninhabited riverside, between rocks at the junction of two rivers or near the neck of the rapids, or under the roots of a tree.

It is active mainly at night and occasionally in daytime. Under water it moves at a fast speed, swimming and diving skilfully. But it moves slowly on the ground as its legs are short.

It is 65-75cm long and its tail is 45-50cm in length.

The period between February and April is its mating season, and the female breeds a litter of two to four younglings between April and June.

