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Kim Jong Un chairs WPK Central Committee plenary session, sets forth head-on offensive policy

Amid the great expectations and interest of all Party members and other people and service personnel, the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held at the headquarters building of the WPK Central Committee from December 28 to 31, Juche 108(2019).

The plenary meeting, which was held in the historic, pivotal period of hastening a new victory in building a powerful socialist country under the leadership of the great WPK, put forward an immortal

programme for breaking through head-on the unprecedentedly severe trials, defending to the last the sovereignty and supreme interests of the country and opening the road to victory of the revolutionary cause of Juche under the unfurled banner of achieving prosperity by dint of self-reliance. As such, it constitutes an event noteworthy in the history of building a powerful state of independence as well as in the history of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the



Workers' Party of Korea, guided the meeting.

Present at the meeting were members and alternate members of the WPK Central Committee and members of the Central Auditing Commission of the WPK.

Present as observers were officials of the WPK Central Committee, ministries and national agencies, chairpersons of the provincial people's committees, the provincial rural economy committees and the city and county Party committees

and officials of major fields and units and the armed forces organs.

Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting on the authorization of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

The plenary meeting dealt with the following agenda items:

1. On the orientation of our immediate struggle under the present internal and external situation
2. On the organizational matter
3. On modifying and supplementing the collection of the slogans set forth

by the Party Central Committee

The first agenda item was discussed.

Kim Jong Un made a historic report on the agenda item.

Saying that the period of the past eight months since the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK witnessed an uninterrupted and highly intense struggle and courageous advance, he referred to the fact that the WPK has always formulated and maintained correct internal and external political lines centred on

the urgent demands, rights and interests of our people and the sovereignty and security of the state and has constantly struggled for their implementation, and continued:

In order to continue to follow the victorious fighting course of advance under the unfurled banner of achieving prosperity by dint of self-reliance, we should take greater steps forward in our revolutionary advance, and the current developments and the

SEE PAGE 2





FROM PAGE 1

gigantic tasks facing us demand that accurate and audacious measures be taken on the basis of a cool-headed judgment of the realities.

The Party Central Committee has convened this plenary meeting for the purport of comprehensively and deeply analysing and assessing the subjective and objective obstacles and difficulties faced in the course of the great and dynamic advance of our revolution and of taking decisive measures for further promoting socialist construction.

Kim Jong Un advanced the revolutionary line on launching an offensive for making a breakthrough head-on as required by the present situation and the developing revolution.

Noting that our own internal might with self-sufficiency and self-reliance as the motive power has been further strengthened in the tense struggle for carrying out the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK, he referred to the fact that our state and people have greatly demonstrated their indefatigable valour and tremendous potentiality while proudly advancing and leaping in the difficult situation true to the appeal of the Party to open up a great period of upsurge in socialist construction holding higher the unfurled banner of self-reliance.

He said that the challenges that have faced us in the past several months have been so harsh and dangerous that others would not withstand even a single day but yield to them, but no difficulties could ever stop or delay the rush of our people advancing undauntedly as a solid integral whole, and they have achieved great successes ceaselessly in bolstering up the strength of the state and in increasing its defence capabilities, and continued:

The colossal and complicated work of developing the state-of-the-art weapon systems possessed only by advanced countries in defence science and technology presupposed our own finding of innovative solutions in terms of the scientific and technological aspects without anyone's help, and all the research tasks were perfectly carried out by our own driving force, i.e. our reliable

scientists, designers and workers in the munitions industry.

This means a great victory, and our possession of promising strategic weapon systems planned by the Party one after another constitutes a great event in developing the armed forces of the Republic and in defending and guaranteeing our sovereignty and right to existence.

Such a leap forward in developing the state-of-the-art national defence science would make our great military and technical strength irreversible, greatly promote the increase of our national strength, improve our power of putting the political situation around us under control and give the enemies the blow of serious uneasiness and horror.

In the future, the more the US stalls for time and hesitates in the settlement of the DPRK-US relations, the more helpless it will find itself before the might of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which is growing stronger beyond prediction, and the deeper it will fall into an impasse.

Kim Jong Un referred to a series of successes achieved in economic construction.

This year we reaped an unprecedented bumper harvest that exceeded the peak-year level even under many restrictions created by the heinous sanctions imposed by the hostile forces and continued unfavourable weather conditions; we implemented the second-stage project for sprucing up the city of Samjiyon, building it into an excellent model of mountainous cultured town, an ideal archetype of local town, in the centre of education in revolutionary traditions, and completed the construction of the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm, tree nursery and Yangdok Hot Spring Resort true to the Party's intention, thus presenting the creations of advanced civilization to our people.

Construction of the Wonsan Kalma coast resort, Suncheon Phosphatic Fertilizer Factory, Orangchon Power Station, Tanchon Power Station and other projects, which are simultaneously under construction in several parts of the country, is being pushed ahead under meticulous planning, and almost all the sectors of the national economy, including metal, coal-mining, building

materials and light industries, are showing a trend of remarkable growth.

Praising that Kangwon Province, having appealed an emulation drive of self-reliance to the whole country, created one model experience after another in carrying out Party policy and that North Phyongan and other provinces are competitively achieving marked results in developing agriculture, stockbreeding, education, public health and local industry, Kim Jong Un stressed that this is an inevitable result born of the great struggle of all the people who turned out as one in hearty response to the Party's call and conducted an indefatigable campaign for increased production and for creation in a daring way.

Analysing the trend of the prevailing situation, he said that the real intention of the US is to seek its own political and diplomatic interests while wasting time away under the signboard of dialogue and negotiations and at the same time keep sanctions so as to gradually reduce our strength.

He stressed that we further hardened our determination never to barter the security and dignity of our state and the safety of its future for anything else.

Noting that the stalemate between the DPRK and the US cannot but assume a protracted nature as the US is raising demands contrary to the fundamental interests of our state and maintaining a brigandish attitude, he said that recently the US has been talking about continued dialogue while peddling the issue of the resumption of dialogue here and there, which is just aimed at passing easily the year-end time-limit set by us and gaining time for evading a lethal attack as it now has found itself in a tight corner, without intention from the beginning to withdraw its policy hostile toward the DPRK, improve relations and resolve the problems. On the other hand, the US has openly revealed its provocative political, military and economic manoeuvres to completely stifle and crush our Republic, and this is the double-dealing behaviour of the brigandish US, he added.

He said that we will never allow the impudent US to abuse the DPRK-US dialogue for meeting its dishonest

aims but will shift to practical shocking actions to make it fully pay for the pains sustained by our people so far and for the development so far restrained, and continued:

It is true that we urgently need external environment favourable for our economic construction, but we can never sell our dignity which we have so far defended as valuable as our own life, in the hope of gorgeous transformation.

The DPRK-US stand-off which has lasted from one century into the next has now boiled down to a clear stand-off between self-reliance and sanctions.

If there were not the nuclear issue, the US would find fault with another thing we do, and its military and political threat would not cease.

The present situation that warns a protracted confrontation with the US urgently requires us to make it a fait accompli that we have to live under the sanctions by the hostile forces in the future, too, and to strengthen our internal strength in all aspects.

Stressing that the fierce confrontation with the enemy is always accompanied by the work of strengthening our own forces and only when priority is given to self-strengthening can we take the initiative and achieve victory, he pointed out that there are not a few problems that need to be put to rights in state management, the economic work and other fields from the viewpoint of building up our strength.

He mentioned that, although we cry out for self-reliance and self-sufficiency, our implementation of this work is not yet freed from the habit of the past, and analysed the present situation including state management and economic work which is insufficient for pulling and spurring the great cause of self-reliance and self-development and which fails to bring about a bold renovation but stays stagnant.

Noting that our cause can be pushed ahead successfully only by a high sense of responsibility for carrying out the revolutionary tasks by our own efforts and wisdom and courage of correctly shaping our course of both today and tomorrow, he emphasized that there were no

SEE PAGE 3



FROM PAGE 2

problems as the leadership system of the WPK is solidly established, the whole Party is unified ideologically and spiritually and our people urgently demand the cause.

Saying that the current plenary meeting serves as an occasion for members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee and all other officials to analyse in depth the existing difficulties of their sectors and units in combination with the shortcomings latent in their work, he mentioned that they should inquire into the portions their sectors and units contributed to building a powerful socialist country under the present situation, and should have a readiness to shoulder the heavy tasks and make a bold charge to accomplish them without despair and vacillation.

A great victory is accompanied by trials and struggle, and the victory of the revolution is inevitable but cannot be achieved without any difficulties and hardships, he said, and continued:

We should launch an offensive for making a breakthrough head-on aimed at neutralizing the sanctions and pressure by the hostile forces and opening a new avenue for socialist construction. This offensive is a task of the times, which should be carried out without fail when viewed from both the immediate tasks and prospective demand of our revolution.

If we fail to put spurs to the struggle for bolstering our strength for self-development while waiting for the lift of sanctions, the enemies' reactionary offensive will get fiercer and they will dare to check our advance.

The more we bolster up our own strength and create valuable wealth on the strength of self-reliance and self-sufficiency, the greater agony the enemies will suffer and the earlier the day of victory of socialism will

come.

All the Party organizations and officials have to take upon themselves without hesitation the important duties entrusted to them by the times and turn out in the offensive for making a breakthrough head-on to foil the enemies' sanctions and blockade by dint of self-reliance.

"Let Us Break Through Head-on All the Barriers to Our Advance!"—this is the fighting slogan the entire Party and all the people should uphold today.

The key front in today's offensive for making a breakthrough head-on is the economic front, he said, setting it forth as an immediate task for the economic field at present to rearrange the economic foundations of the country and tap all the possible production potentials so as to fully meet the demand for economic development and people's life.

Mentioning the actual state of the country's economy, he pointed out that the conditions of the national economy have not turned better remarkably as a result of the failure of the motive force of its development to recover, and that the state's capability of execution and control for fulfilling the important economic tasks is weak.

Citing detailed instances, he pointed out the bad practices of the economic sector of shouting the slogan of self-reliance but failing to make a smart and optimum response in the present important and vital period that has faced severe difficulties and to direct efforts to maintaining and reinforcing the self-supporting foundations of the national economy, and continued:

With no visible progress made in the work of realizing the unified guidance over and strategic management of the economic work and improving the management methods of enterprises, the role of the state as the organizer of the economic work has not been enhanced, and serious problems have been raised in readjusting, reinforcing and reenergizing the

overall economy to switch over to the stage of growth.

Setting forth the tasks to be tackled in putting on the right track the economic work system and order, he said:

The problem that should be solved before anything else is to put the economic work system and order on a reasonable track. Today, when our Republic has gained great strength and is aspiring after normal development in all spheres, there is no need to still cling to the transitional and provisional work methods of the past.

In order to restructure the country's economy, strong measures should be taken to ensure the state's unified guidance over and strategic management of the economic work.

Pointing out the present serious situation in which the Cabinet is failing to fulfil its duty as the economic headquarters, he illuminated the fundamental principles for improving the Cabinet-responsibility system and Cabinet-centred system, the core of the economic work system of the state, and continued:

The Cabinet should strengthen the state's finances by making effective use of the existing economic foundations and undertake economic planning properly and scrupulously command the economic activities so that the production units could be revitalized as well. For the present, the Cabinet's unified leadership and command should be ensured, first of all, in the work of safeguarding the lifeline and integrity of the country's economy.

Saying that a revolutionary ideology and spirit should lead the times, but the economic work should be conducted in firm conformity with the practical conditions, he advanced crucial tasks for finding out a clear-cut way of improving planning to meet the actual requirements, keeping the overall balance between production and supply and decisively raising the confidence in the national

economic plan.

Emphasizing that the work of the Cabinet is just the work of the Party Central Committee and the execution of the decisions of the Party Central Committee is just the work of the Cabinet, he made an anatomical analysis of the serious problems that need urgent solution in strengthening the state's unified guidance over and management of the economic work after the plenary meeting is over.

After setting forth the innovative measures and detailed plans for adjusting the overall state machinery to spur economic development and enhance the role of officials, he specified realistic ways for vigorously pushing forward with the improvement of economic management based on them.

He specified the orientation of solving key issues for the economic growth to be pushed forward by the whole Party and the state. They included the issue of finding out a methodology and taking measures for improving the commercial service so as to ensure both the interests of the state and the convenience of the people while maintaining the original features of the socialist commerce by restoring the commercial system of the state, the socialist commerce, without delay, the issue of abolishing unnecessary procedures and systems in improving the economic management as required by the times when all the countries around the world are vying with each other to develop new technologies and new products by racing against time, the issue of putting on the right track all the elements that hamper production activities and decrease working efficiency in state management and the economic work, the issue of expanding and strengthening the national specialized construction forces and modernizing their building equipment so as to make them take charge of major projects

SEE PAGE 4

FROM PAGE 3

and the issue of conducting the work of enforcing the socialist system of responsible business operation in a realistic way.

He set forth the tasks to be tackled by the major industrial sectors of the national economy.

Stressing the need to break through head-on the manifold difficulties and bring about a substantial upsurge in production first in the key industrial sectors, the buttresses of the independent economy, he made an overall analysis of the evil practices and the state of stagnation revealed in the fields of the metal, chemical, electric-power, coal-mining, machine-building, building-materials and light industries and rail transport, and specified scientific and substantial measures for bringing about a stride forward in the economic work.

Noting that a makeshift investment and hand-to-mouth investment without recourse to our own strength and potentials is like pouring water into a bottomless pot and this will bring about not a stride in the economic work, he stressed that it is the natural attitude of a man shouldering the responsibility for the revolution to carry on the work on a long-term basis, looking forward to the future.

He underscored the need to correctly set up index-wise plans of ten long-term objectives through scientific calculation to develop the country's economy on a stable and long-term basis and build up the economic foundations of the country one by one through the struggle for carrying out the plans. Once the long-term objectives are decided, we should attain them without fail through scrupulous organization and command of the economic work by the state and launch of an all-people struggle for production and creation, he said.

He stressed that agricultural production should be radically increased.

Noting that the agricultural front is the major thrust area in the offensive for making a breakthrough head-on, he said that the strong wind of increasing crop yields should be raised more fiercely by actively introducing scientific farming methods in the agricultural sector, and advanced important tasks for bringing about a fresh turn in animal husbandry, fruit farming and other sectors of agriculture, including those of building up the sci-tech forces and scientific research institutions in the agricultural sector, directing efforts to training the talents of agricultural science and technology, creating the foundations for agricultural production free from crop failure by perfecting the irrigation system of the rural economy and raising the level of mechanization in farm work and managing the cropland of the country in a unified way.

He stressed the need to improve science, education and public health.

The inexhaustible strategic assets

on which we should rely today are science and technology, he said, adding that science and technology should be a beacon light that illuminates the path ahead and take the lead in development at present when the economic work is faced with many difficulties.

He underscored the need for Party organizations to imbue scientists and technicians with the consciousness that all fronts of socialist construction could emerge victorious only when they made a breakthrough on the science front, and that the ideals and goals of building a powerful country would be achieved only by their painstaking efforts and devotion for scaling the high peak of cutting-edge science.

Effective policy-oriented guidance should be provided to scientific research, he noted, adding that the scientific research and educational institutions, including the State Commission of Science and Technology and the State Academy of Sciences, and ministries and national agencies should scrupulously organize the work of implementing without fail and in time the research projects included in the ten long-term objectives in the sector of science and technology so as to contribute to transforming our country into a cutting-edge science and technology developer and an advanced civilization creator.

He said that if science can be called an engine leading the economic development, and education can be called the mother of science, specifying the tasks and ways for fundamentally improving the country's education as appropriate to the era of bringing about a radical improvement in education. They included the tasks for steadily improving the structures and teaching programmes of all universities, including Kim Il Sung University, in keeping with the developing reality and the world trend, making the contents of education practical, comprehensive and up-to-date, bringing education closer to scientific research and production, updating the educational conditions and environment and producing larger numbers of talented personnel and valuable sci-tech findings by promoting in a substantial way the work of narrowing the differences in the level of education between the central and local areas, building up the ranks of teachers in terms of quality, and improving the contents and environment of education substantially with strenuous efforts.

Noting that our public health is a major criterion of the image of socialism through which the people directly enjoy the advantages of our system, he set forth important tasks arising for our socialist public health service, which was provided by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il and which is the best in the world, in sustaining its original features, building up its material and technological foundations and training all the medical workers to be true health workers of the Workers'

Party possessed of warm human love and high level of medical qualifications.

He underscored the need to launch a dynamic struggle to increase production, practise economy and improve the quality of products, conserve ecological environment and take strict measures to prevent natural disasters.

The current offensive for making a breakthrough head-on is a gigantic, patriotic struggle to be waged by the high-pitched enthusiasm and creative efforts of millions of the working people, he said, adding that if all sectors, units and citizens make efforts to increase production and practise economy to the maximum so as to create more of their own things and save them as many as possible, our economy will remain unperturbed and our living standards will be improved, however the hostile forces are hell-bent on imposing sanctions.

Noting that the models to be copied in the present era are the patriotic working people who regard the spirit of economy as part of their mental qualities, as well as the labour-, energy-, cost-, and land-saving enterprises, he advanced the tasks for launching a vigorous campaign for economical use of electricity throughout society, raising a wind of emulation drive for tapping reserves and further increasing production and practising economy in keeping with actual conditions of one's own sectors and units, making all sectors and all units give precedence to the improvement of the quality of their products and creations on the principle of giving priority to quality over quantity, taking decisive measures for protecting the ecological environment in a thoroughgoing way, and establishing a well-knit nationwide crisis management system to cope with natural disasters.

Kim Jong Un stressed the need to provide a political, diplomatic and military guarantee for our grand offensive for making a breakthrough head-on.

There has to be a powerful political, diplomatic and military guarantee to win a sure victory in this offensive of overcoming unprecedentedly harsh challenges and difficulties, he said, and proposed measures for further strengthening the diplomatic front to cope with the prevailing situation.

Based on a comprehensive and in-depth analysis of the grave situation created on the Korean peninsula and the current structure of complicated international relations, he set forth important tasks for taking offensive measures to reliably ensure the sovereignty and security of our state.

He said that the US has applied the most brutal and inhuman sanctions against our state and posed a persistent nuclear threat to it over the past seven decades by labelling it as their enemy, part of the "axis of evil" and a "target of preemptive nuclear strike," and that the current situation on the Korean peninsula has reached

a more dangerous and serious phase owing to the US policy of hostility to the DPRK.

In the past two years alone when the DPRK took crucial measures first to stop nuclear test and ICBM test fire and shut down the nuclear testing ground in order to build confidence with the US, he said, the latter, far from responding to the former with appropriate measures, threatened it militarily by conducting dozens of big and small joint military drills which its president personally promised to discontinue and by shipping latest war equipment into south Korea and adopted over a dozen independent sanctions measures, only to show once again before the world that it remains unchanged in its wild ambition to stifle our system.

Under such circumstances, the DPRK has found no grounds to be unilaterally bound any longer by the commitment with no other party to honour, and this has put a damper on its efforts for disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons across the world, he said.

As we already made clear, the prevailing situation proves that the road of defending ourselves by building up our strength sufficiently enough to keep the hostile forces at bay so that they would not dare to threaten our sovereignty and security is the only path we should follow without suspension and hesitation, even if difficult, he said, clarifying the WPK's policy towards the US.

Saying it is our Party's steady goal in defence upbuilding to possess a matchless military capability no one dares to challenge and bolster it on, he stressed that it is the core idea and firm will of the WPK in defence upbuilding to make no forces, whoever they are, dare use their armed force against the country.

He said that we should push ahead with the development of strategic weapons more vigorously, and declared that we cannot give up our future security just for visible economic results and happiness and comfort, given that there has been no change in our external environment owing to the US gangster-like acts both in the days when we went along the road of pushing economic construction and nuclear arms buildup in parallel and at present when we are working to concentrate all our efforts on economic construction and that hostile acts and nuclear threat and blackmail are still being intensified, and confirmed that the world will witness a new strategic weapon to be possessed by the DPRK in the near future.

He resolutely declared that we need not hesitate while holding any expectation of the lift of sanctions by the US even now when we thoroughly know its real intention, that if the US persists in its policy hostile towards the DPRK, there will never be the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, and that the DPRK will steadily develop indispensable and prerequisite strategic weapons for

SEE PAGE 5

FROM PAGE 4

national security until the US rolls back its hostile policy and a lasting and durable peace mechanism is in place.

He said that we will reliably maintain the constant readiness for action of the powerful nuclear deterrent capable of containing the US nuclear threat and guaranteeing our long-term security, and that the scope and depth of the buildup of the deterrent will properly be coordinated depending on the future approach of the US to the DPRK.

Our development of absolute weapons like the ones possessed by big powers is a great success, but we are happier to see that a large contingent of outstanding scientific and technological talents has been built in the course of that and this is a success our Party holds dearer, he noted.

He said that the defence science research sector and the munitions industry should implement the Party's line of defence upbuilding faithfully and perfectly under the uplifted slogan of "Higher and Faster" in order to attain the already-set phased targets while maintaining the principle of self-reliance and Juche from A to Z.

Stressing the need to continue to devote nationwide efforts, deep concern and unstinting support to the defence upbuilding for firmly guaranteeing the national sovereignty and security and the people's happy future according to the strategic policy advanced by the Party, he called on officials and scientists in the defence industry to throw themselves into the sacred activities for bolstering up the national defence capabilities in every way in the spirit and mettle with which they developed the nuclear war deterrent through a three-year-long arduous struggle and with invariable loyalty to the Party and the revolution.

He raised the tasks for launching an intensive Party-wide, nationwide and society-wide campaign against anti-socialist and non-socialist practices, improving the work of working people's organizations and tightening moral discipline throughout society.

He referred to the need to strengthen the Party, the General Staff of the revolution, and markedly increase its leadership ability.

In order to make a vigorous advance by breaking the present deadlock in the way of advance, big efforts should constantly be channelled into strengthening the Party in view of the practical experience of the Korean revolution and the historical lessons of socialist construction, he noted, referring to the fact that the biggest effort has been directed to developing the WPK into an invincible party guiding the revolutionary cause of Juche as intended by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il over the past eight years.

He said that what is important for the Party to discharge its leadership mission as the General Staff of the

revolution is to correctly indicate the orientation, fighting goals, tasks and ways to Party members and other working people in every period and proficiently organize and mobilize them in the implementation of them, and what is important in consolidating the Party's leadership ability into an invincible one is to build it to be a party that enjoys the absolute support and trust of the masses of the people and has formed an integral whole with them.

He advanced the tasks of principle and practical measures for further strengthening the Party organizationally and ideologically and enhancing the role of cadres in line with the requirements of the times and the developing revolution.

Our revolution is advancing dynamically, but the hostile forces' challenge to it is getting more persistent and the current difficulties are serious, he said, adding that our Party has decided to wage another arduous and protracted struggle in order to win the final victory of the revolution and make our great people well-off.

He continued:

Victory or defeat at today's crossroads of the destiny of socialism is decided only by the strength of unity and the guiding role of our Party.

Our Party will exercise its correct leadership ability and will never waver in the face of the challenges.

It will stand firm and continue to deal heavy blows to the US and its following hostile forces.

And it will always share weal and woe with our people.

Kim Jong Un said that the Korean people learned to live on their own, deal with enemies and difficulties and defend their dignity and rights in the protracted and harsh environment unprecedented in history, and clarified that it is our firm revolutionary faith that we will defend the dignity of the country and defeat imperialism by achieving prosperity by dint of self-reliance and even by tightening our belts.

Confirming that if we all continue to wage a dynamic struggle with the indomitable revolutionary faith, ardent patriotism and indefatigable fighting spirit, we will be able to overcome the difficulties and greet the day of fresh victory when the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* has become the actual life of all the people, he appealed that we should break through head-on the formidable barriers to the revolution and dynamically open a road of victorious advance as pioneers and standard-bearers in the current glorious struggle for realizing the aspirations and ideals of building a powerful socialist country.

Attentively listening to the report delivered by the WPK Chairman, the participants clearly bore in mind the intention of the Party Central Committee to eliminate all the challenges and barriers to the revolutionary advance and dynamically speed up a powerful socialist country building by

strengthening in every way our own force, the internal motive force, in line with the requirements of the present situation and the developing revolution.

As he concluded the landmark report, the participants broke into enthusiastic applause and thunderous cheers in a show of their absolute support and approval for the Chairman who clearly indicated the scientific and revolutionary path ahead of the Party and the people with a deep sense of responsibility for the country, people and revolution, unshakable revolutionary faith, acumen and foresight.

Written speeches on the first agenda item were presented at the plenary meeting.

Those who presented written speeches were Pak Pong Ju, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Jae Ryong, premier of the Cabinet; Thae Hyong Chol, vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly; Jo Yong Won, first vice-director of the Organizational Leadership Department of WPK Central Committee; Pak Jong Chon, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army; Pak Chol Min, chairman of the central committee of the youth league; Ri Chung Gil, chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology; Kye Myong Chol, chairman of the Rural Economy Committee of North Phyongan Province; Kim Kwang Nam, general manager of the Kim Chack Iron and Steel Complex, and other participants in the meeting.

The speakers expressed their feelings of having received a far-reaching operations map and blueprint of the Party Central Committee for opening up an avenue of new victory in building a powerful socialist country, and fully supported the WPK Chairman's outstanding idea and strategy of making a breakthrough head-on and the programme for their materialization that call for accomplishing earlier the great cause of achieving prosperity by self-reliance by resolutely smashing all the challenges and difficulties on the road of advance in socialist construction.

On the basis of the idea and spirit of the historic report of the WPK Chairman, they seriously reviewed the deviations and essential shortcomings revealed in their sectors and units and their basic reasons.

They made solemn pledges before the plenary meeting to uphold with proud practices the idea and intention of making a breakthrough head-on set forth by the Party Central Committee by making all the officials, Party members and other working people fully understand the main spirit of the plenary meeting, by training them to be the fighters of self-development, true patriots, who possess the unyielding revolutionary spirit as part of their mental qualities through an offensive of politico-ideological education, and by properly steering and leading them to vigorously wage the campaign for increased

production and modernization with the strategy of self-reliance in conformity with their own realities.

The plenary meeting had an in-depth and proactive study and discussion of the draft resolution on the first agenda item, and adopted it with unanimous approval.

The resolution carries the following decisions:

First, we will readjust the economic foundations of the country and enlist all possible production potentials to fully meet the demand for economic development and people's living.

Second, we will attach importance to science and technology and improve education and healthcare that represent the image of the socialist system.

Third, we will protect the ecological environment and set up a national crisis control system against natural disasters.

Fourth, we will guarantee the victory in the offensive for making a breakthrough head-on through a powerful political, diplomatic and military offensive.

Fifth, we will intensify the struggle against the anti-socialist and non-socialist practices and tighten moral discipline, and ensure that the working people's organizations scrupulously carry out ideological education.

Sixth, we will strengthen the Party, the General Staff of the revolution, and radically enhance its leadership role.

Seventh, officials, leading members of the revolution, shall make strenuous efforts to fulfil their responsibility and duty before the Party, the revolution and the people in the offensive for making a breakthrough head-on to overcome the difficulties lying on the road of advance of socialist construction.

Eighth, Party organizations and political organs at all levels shall meticulously conduct the organizational and political work for implementing this resolution, and relevant organs like the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet shall take practical measures for thoroughly carrying out the tasks set forth in the resolution.

The plenary meeting discussed the organizational matter, the second agenda item.

Members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee were recalled or elected to fill vacancies.

Ri Il Hwan, Ri Pyong Chol and Kim Tok Hun were elected to fill vacancies as members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Kim Jong Gwan, Pak Jong Chon, Kim Hyong Jun, Ho Chol Man, Ri Ho Rim and Kim Il Chol were elected to fill vacancies as alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Vice-chairmen of the Party Central Committee were dismissed or elected.

Ri Il Hwan, Kim Hyong Jun, Ri

SEE PAGE 6

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un pays homage to great leaders

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on the occasion of the New Year 2020.

He entered the hall where the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il stand.

Baskets of flowers were laid at

the statues of the great leaders in the name of the Supreme Leader and in the joint name of the WPK Central Committee, the WPK Central Military Commission and the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and in the joint name of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

The Supreme Leader, together with members of the Party central

leadership body, paid homage to the great leaders at their statues.

At the halls where Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance he and his party paid tribute to them on the occasion of the New Year.

He was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the DPRK State

Affairs Commission and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly.

Also accompanying him were Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and member of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, and other members of the Party central leadership body.

KCNA

FROM PAGE 5

Pyong Chol and Kim Tok Hun were elected as vice-chairmen of the Party Central Committee.

Members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee were recalled or elected to fill vacancies.

Alternate members of the Party Central Committee Kim Hyong Jun, Han Kwang Sang, Kang Jong Gwan, Kim Kwang Chol, Kim Kyong Jun, Yang Sung Ho, Kwak Chang Sik, Pak Kwang Ju, Pak Myong Su, Ri Pong Chun and Song Sok Won were elected to fill vacancies as members of the Party Central Committee and Ho Chol Man, Ri Ho Rim, O Il Jong, Kim Yong Hwan, Kim Il Chol, Kim Jong Ho, Son Yong Hun, Rim Kwang Il and Choe Sang Gon directly as members of the Party Central Committee.

Jang Kwang Myong, Jon Hyon Chol, Sim Hong Bin, Ri Thae Il, Choe Kwang Il, Ri Wan Sik, Ri Yong Chol, Choe Chun Gil, Kim Hak Chol, Kim Chol, Pak Jong Gun, Jon Hak Chol, Jo Yong Dok, Sin Yong Chol, Kim Sung Jin, Mun Jong Ung, Ri Jong Gil, Choe Song Nam, Jon Hyong Gil, Kang Son, Kim Yong Bae, Kim Ki Ryong, Sin Hong Chol and Kim Yong Nam were elected to fill vacancies as alternate members of the Party Central Committee.

The chairman of the Inspection Commission of the Party Central Committee was elected and its members were recalled or elected to fill vacancies.

Ri Sang Won was elected as chairman of the Inspection Commission of the Party Central Committee.

Directors of some departments of the Party Central Committee were dismissed or appointed.

Ri Il Hwan, Kim Hyong Jun, Choe Hwi, Ri Pyong Chol, Kim Tok Hun, Choe Pu Il, Ho Chol Man, Ri Ho

Rim, Han Kwang Sang and O Il Jong were appointed as department directors of the Party Central Committee.

First vice-directors of the departments of the Party Central Committee were appointed.

Kim Tong Il, Ri Yong Gil, Kim Yo Jong and Ri Yong Sik were appointed as first vice-directors of the departments of the Party Central Committee.

Chairmen of the provincial Party committees were dismissed or appointed.

Kim Yong Hwan was appointed as the chairman of the Ryanggang Provincial Party Committee.

Cadres of state organs were dismissed or appointed.

Kim Il Chol was appointed as Vice-Premier of the Cabinet and concurrently Chairman of the State Planning Commission, Jon Hak Chol as Minister of Coal Industry, Jon Myong Sik as Minister of Culture and Kim Sung Jin as President of the State Academy of Sciences.

The plenary meeting discussed and decided the third agenda item on the issue of modifying and supplementing the collection of slogans set forth by the Party Central Committee.

The meeting discussed the issue of splendidly celebrating the 75th founding anniversary of the WPK as the fourth agenda item, and adopted a relevant decision.

Concluding the plenary meeting, Kim Jong Un mentioned the significance and importance of the meeting in making a breakthrough head-on under the prevailing situation and bringing about a new upsurge in our revolution.

He stressed that the basic idea, the basic spirit, of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK is to conduct the offensive for a breakthrough

head-on, not to wait for the situation to turn better, and said:

In other words, we should never dream that the US and other hostile forces would leave us to live in peace, but make a breakthrough head-on on the strength of self-reliance to tide over the difficulties lying in the way of advance of our socialist construction.

We should not look for the way of getting ourselves adapted to the objective factors to be controlled by them in the current struggle, but make a breakthrough head-on to put the objective factors under our control.

It is necessary to hold effective Party-wide discussion for the implementation of the tasks set forth at this plenary meeting; we should overcome the tendencies of holding discussions in a ceremonious way without ensuring that this work is brought close to the broad sections of the masses and give Party members who are in direct charge of practical work a clear understanding of the spirit of the meeting. In this way, we can turn this course into the course of mobilizing ideology, planning and giving assignments aimed at awakening and inspiring the whole ranks to the implementation of the decisions adopted at the meeting.

Clarifying the tasks to be stressed in informing the officials and other Party members and working people of the spirit of the plenary meeting, Kim Jong Un gave detailed instructions on planning and giving assignments scrupulously for implementing the tasks advanced at the meeting. He stressed that all the sectors and units should define everybody's duty clearly so that they do not pay lip service to slogans in today's offensive for making a breakthrough head-on, formulate a concrete plan and proper methodology for carrying out the

Party policies and take substantial measures.

In order to carry on the revolution, revolutionaries should regard the valuable trust of the people as their lives, he said, earnestly appealing that we should become faithful and diligent servants of our excellent people, who work heart and soul for them.

The Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK was held successfully amid high political consciousness and revolutionary enthusiasm of all the participants to responsibly shoulder the important tasks assigned by the times and fulfil their responsibility and duties as the leading personnel of the revolution in rallying whole Party, all the people and the entire army for advance in the honourable struggle for opening a broad avenue for achieving prosperity by dint of self-reliance.

Kim Jong Un had a photo session with members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee at the meaningful place, where the historic plenary meeting was held.

The plenary meeting, which was held under the guidance of Kim Jong Un, chairman of the WPK, will shine brightly in the history of our Party and motherland as a historic meeting that demonstrated all over the world the leadership ability of our dignified Party that organizes and guides all victories of the Korean people, the unshakable faith and will of our people to push ahead vigorously along the invariable course of achieving prosperity by self-reliance, united firmly around the Party, and the indomitable spirit of offensive of Juche Korea which is advancing with a belief in the validity of its revolutionary cause and its own strength.

KCNA-THE PYONGYANG TIMES

BY-ELECTION

Official report released on WPK Central Committee plenary session

Members and alternate of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea were elected to fill vacancies at the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK. New members of the Political

Bureau of the WPK Central Committee are Ri Il Hwan, Ri Pyong Chol and Kim Tok Hun.

Among the new alternate members are Kim Jong Gwan, Pak Jong Chon, Kim Hyong Jun, Ho Chol Man, Ri Ho Rim and Kim Il Chol.

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CELEBRATIONS

Nation greets New Year 2020 with fresh hope and excitement



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES AND KCNA

A count-down performance is held at Pyongyang's Kim Il Sung Square on the eve of New Year 2020. The performance, divided into two parts, is given by artistes from such prestigious groups as the Mansudae Art Troupe, the National Folk Art Troupe and the Moranbong Electronic Ensemble, as well as teachers and students in the art education sector in the city. Fireworks go off to signal the start of the New Year and the audience react cheerfully.



An endless stream of people flows into Mansu Hill in Pyongyang to pay floral tribute to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il at their statues on New Year's Day.



A festive mood fills the air in Pyongyang as children and adults walk along jovially on Wednesday.



The Pyongyang Greeting Card and Souvenir Shop draws lots of people on the occasion of the New Year.



A scene from one-act play *Pacesetting Girls* performed at the National Theatre in Pyongyang.



Visitors look round an exhibit at the Pyongyang Ice Sculpture Festival-2020 that displayed over 70 ice sculptures.



Schoolchildren give New Year performance "Snow Falls on New Year's Day with the Blessings of Mt Paektu" at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in Pyongyang on Wednesday.



Students celebrate the New Year with a variety of folk games like kite-flying, shuttlecock kicking and rope skipping in different places in Pyongyang.



HONOUR

Top ten DPRK players and coaches of 2019 nominated

Top ten players and coaches of 2019 were chosen in the DPRK.

Six out of the top ten players are weightlifters.

Rim Jong Sim of the Kigwancha Sports Club has topped the list. She established a new world record in the women's 76kg category snatch of the 2019 IWF World Weightlifting Championships and got nine medals including five golds at such international competitions as the Asian Weightlifting Championships and IWF World Cup.

The Amnokgang Sports Club's Om Yun Chol has come second in the list as he set a new world record at the 55kg event of last year's IWF world championships and won four golds at two rounds of international contests.

Pak Yong Mi has taken the third place. The Pyongyang Sports Club's wrestler bagged two golds at the women's 53kg event of the Asian Wrestling Championships in April last year and the same event of the 2019 World Wrestling Championships last September.

Rim Jong Sim's sister Rim Un Sim is also a weightlifter at Kigwancha. She got nine medals including two golds at the 2019 IWF world championships and two other international competitions, and has come fourth in the list.

The next three in the list are Choe Hyo Sim, Pak Jong Ju and O Kang Chol, who are all weightlifters.

Kigwancha's Choe Hyo Sim won two golds and seven other medals at three international sporting events including the 2019 IWF world championships, April 25's Pak Jong Ju collected eight medals including three golds at the world championships and other international competitions and April 25's O Kang Chol took eight medals at international events including the aforesaid championships.

The eighth placer is Pyongyang's Kim Jin A who earned three golds at three international games including the IJF Grand Slam in Abu Dhabi.

Pak Myong Won of the Korean People's Army Defence Sports Club, who won a gold and a bronze at the 14th Asian Shooting Championships, and Kim Song Guk of the Amnokgang Defence Sports

Club, who reset the Asian and world records in the men's 10m air pistol of the same championships, have been placed ninth and tenth.

The first place of the top ten coaches of 2019 has been taken by Kigwancha's Kim Chun Hui, coach of the Rim sisters and Choe Hyo Sim, who contributed to earning 10 golds, 13 silvers and nine bronzes at the world weightlifting championships and other international events.

Amnokgang's Ro Hyon Chol who instructed Om Yun Chol well to win four golds in the international arena has been placed second.

Pyongyang's coach Kim Kuk Song has come third for coaching Pak Yong Mi to take two golds at the world and Asian wrestling championships.

The next four places have gone to April 25's Ri Chol Nam, weightlifting coach of Pak Jong Ju, Pyongyang's Kim Ryon Mi, judo coach of Kim Jin A, the KPA Defence Sports Club's Ri Sung Il, shooting coach of Pak Myong Won, and the Amnokgang Defence Sports Club's Ju Hak Chol, shooting coach of Kim Song Guk.

The eighth placer is the KPA Defence Sports Club's Sim Chong Rim, coach of Ri Ji Ye who won a gold and two bronzes at the 14th Asian Shooting Championships.

The Ministry of Commerce Sports Club's Kang Kum Hwa has been placed ninth for coaching Jong Kum Hwa and Ro Hye Song to win the title of the women's modelling duo at the 11th Asian acrobatic gymnastics championships and contributing to the nation's four consecutive wins in the event. Pak Chol Jun of the Kungangsan Sports Club who coached Pang Chol Mi to bag a gold at the women's 51kg event of the 2019 Asian boxing championships, has taken tenth place in the list.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Players of year



Rim Jong Sim, Kigwancha's weightlifter **Om Yun Chol**, Amnokgang's weightlifter **Pak Yong Mi**, Pyongyang's wrestler **Rim Un Sim**, Kigwancha's weightlifter **Choe Hyo Sim**, Kigwancha's weightlifter



Pak Jong Ju, April 25's weightlifter **O Kang Chol**, April 25's weightlifter **Kim Jin A**, Pyongyang's judoist **Pak Myong Won**, KPA Defence Sports Club's shooter **Kim Song Guk**, Amnokgang Defence Sports Club's shooter

Coaches of year



Kim Chun Hui, Kigwancha's weightlifting coach **Ro Hyon Chol**, Amnokgang's weightlifting coach **Kim Kuk Song**, Pyongyang's wrestling coach **Ri Chol Nam**, April 25's weightlifting coach **Kim Ryon Mi**, Pyongyang's judo coach



Ri Sung Il, KPA Defence Sports Club's shooting coach **Ju Hak Chol**, Amnokgang Defence Sports Club's shooting coach **Sim Chong Rim**, KPA Defence Sports Club's shooting coach **Kang Kum Hwa**, MoC Sports Club's acrobatic gymnastics coach **Pak Chol Jun**, Kungangsan's boxing coach

Best Taekwon-Doists chosen

Ten best Taekwon-Doists of 2019 have been nominated in the DPRK.

They are Ham Su Gyong from the Nampho Taekwon-Do Club, Pak Mi Hyang from the Pyongyang Municipal Taekwon-Do Club, Kim Nam Su from the Jagang Provincial Taekwon-Do Club, Kim Kum Jong from the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee Club, Ha Kum Gwang from the North Hwanghae

Provincial Taekwon-Do Club, Kim Hyang Sim from the North Phyongan Provincial Taekwon-Do Club, Kim Ryu Gyong from the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee Club, Rim Wi Sok and Wang Myong Guk from the same club, and Om Hyon Hui from the Pyongyang Municipal Taekwon-Do Club.

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