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Eighth WPK Central Committee meets for second plenary session



Amid the great expectations and interest of all the Party members and the people who have turned out in the new revolutionary advance upholding the programme for struggle set forth at the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK was held in Pyongyang from February 8 to 11.

The plenum was convened at a time when the guidance and the fighting efficiency of the WPK, which leads Korean-style socialism to new victories with the great idea and the art of leadership, have been remarkably demonstrated and the fighting spirit of all the Party members and other people who are boundlessly loyal to the Party's cause has been elated.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, guided the plenary meeting.

As the General Secretary took the platform with members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, all the participants raised stormy cheers of the greatest respect for him who wisely leads the Party and the people along the road of victory and glory out of the noble responsibility for the country, revolution and people.

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

Present as observers were deputy directors of the relevant departments of the Party Central Committee, leading Party and administrative officials of commissions, ministries and national agencies, senior officials of the leading institutions at provincial level, chief secretaries of city and county Party committees and leading Party and administrative officials of major industrial establishments. They listened in the teleconference system.

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

Prior to the discussion of the agenda items, the General Secretary referred to the main purport of the convening of the plenary meeting of the WPK Central Committee.

Saying that the Party Central Committee should powerfully lead the masses to the implementation of the decisions made at the Eighth Party Congress by nurturing the heightened enthusiasm of the masses who have sympathized with the idea and



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spirit of the congress, he stressed the need to provide Party organizations and members with practical means of innovation which would help bring about substantial change and progress from the first year of the five-year plan.

As the decisions made at the Party congress are mid- and long-term tasks to be fulfilled by every sector during the coming five years, he said, it is necessary for the plenary meeting to examine the plans for this year in detail and fix and issue them as the decisions of the Party Central Committee. He expressed the determination and will of the Party Central Committee to take important measures to push ahead with economic construction and provide the people with more stable and improved living conditions despite the continuous emergency infectious disease prevention situation, in particular.

He proposed agenda items to be discussed at the plenary meeting, as he underscored the need to make a serious study of a series of issues arising in thoroughly overcoming negative elements hindering socialist construction at present, further consolidating the Party organizationally and ideologically and enhancing the militant functions and role of Party organizations.

The agenda items brought up before the plenary meeting was adopted with unanimous approval.

1. On thoroughly implementing the first year's tasks of the five-year plan set forth at the Eighth Party Congress

2. On waging more intensive struggle against anti-socialist and non-socialist practices throughout society

3. On modifying the collection of the slogans of the Party Central Committee

4. On the deliberation of "Explanation of the Rules of the Workers' Party of Korea"

5. An organizational matter

The plenum discussed the first agenda item. The General Secretary delivered important report on the first agenda item *On Carrying out the First Year's Tasks of the Five-year Plan Set Forth at the Eighth Party Congress*.

He, in the report, first referred to the need to properly organize the economic work of the first year for implementing the new five-year plan for national economic development.

Saying that the first-year work is very important in attaining the new long-term goal decided on by the Eighth Congress of the WPK, he noted that the five-year plan can be finally accomplished with confidence only when the first-year plan is properly set up and fully implemented.

The new five-year plan requires a new start apart from all those old and out of date and all the people in the country are now watching how the work for implementing the decisions made at the Party Congress starts and what kind of change is being made, the report stressed.

In order to successfully do this year's work decisive of the result of the implementation of the decisions made at the Eighth Party Congress, the plan which is its operational map

and a blueprint should be set up in an innovative and effective way and the entire Party, the whole country and all the people should wage a vigorous struggle for its implementation.

However, there are no remarkable changes in the national economic plan drawn up by the Cabinet for this year as compared to before, the report analysed, noting that the idea and policy of the Party congress are not properly reflected in the proposed plan for economic work for this year and innovative viewpoint and clear tactics cannot be found although the congress has just made decisions and intensive studies on the document of the congress have been made and discussions of orientation have been held.

The Cabinet failed to play a leading role in mapping out plans of key economic sectors and almost mechanically brought together the figures drafted by the ministries. And as a result, the goals of the plan of a certain sector have been set subjectively without even actual possibility and the those of some other sectors have been set lower under the signboard of readjusting and reinforcing even though they can easily be achieved or should be reached.

The report sharply criticized the work of several sectors that markedly showed such tendencies.

In the agricultural sector, the goal for grain production has been set high subjectively from the first year of the five-year plan in disregard of the present situation where farming condition is unfavorable and the state is unable to supply enough farming

materials, thereby making it hard to avoid bureaucracy and bragging from the planning stage just as before.

In contrast with this, the sectors of electric power industry, construction and light industry have lowered the goals of the production plans for major indices to such level as they would not be blamed in the year-end.

Now major industrial establishments in the sectors of metal, chemical and machine industries, local industry factories across the country and the agricultural sector impatiently demand even a bit more electricity, and coal and other mines cannot but stop production and the people feel inconvenience in their living due to shortage of electricity.

This being a fact, the Cabinet, the State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Electric Power Industry mapped out this year's plan for producing electricity lower than the present level under the pretext of adjusting to the present demand on electricity of major industrial establishments and directing efforts to restoring original efficiency of electric generators.

The construction sector also made the plan for building dwelling houses in Pyongyang Municipality lower than the goal decided by the Party congress under the excuses of the supply of materials and labour. These are seeds of self-protectionism and defeatism of officials in economic sectors who are trying to take a breather and keep up pretense of doing work under the pretext of condition and environment.

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Noting that the building of dwelling houses is an important undertaking to provide the people with stable and highly cultured life and a political issue to defend the prestige of the Party congress, the report said that the Party Central Committee was determined to build 10 000 dwelling houses in Pyongyang this year without fail.

The light industry sector was also seriously censured for mapping out an absurdly low plan for shoes production for this year under the excuse of materials provision and the principle of giving priority to quality over quantity.

The report stressed the need for other sectors to suggest goals, which can ensure the development-oriented, dynamic, persevering characters and scientific accuracy so as to make a tangible contribution to economic construction and the people's living, instead of setting plans low so as to get high estimation for overfulfilling tasks at the year-end.

The General Secretary in the report referred to the need to map out plans efficiently for expanding production capacity and foundations when organizing economic work for this year.

All sectors of the national economy should build new production bases for production growth in the future, upgrade the backward and outdated production processes and reinforce necessary processes so as to step up the work of expanding production capacity while pushing the current production.

As suggested in the main tasks of the five-year plan, we should press ahead with the nationwide work of focusing investment on the metallurgical and chemical industries, regarding them as key links in the whole chain of the national economy, and consolidating the material and technical foundations of the agricultural sector in a planned way from this year.

We also need a method by which we can concentrate efforts in an accurately-targeted method on projects that are urgent to us and in which ten achievements can be made from one success.

Stressing that the nationwide, planned and scientific self-reliance requires special priority and should

be applied in an innovative way in economic work, the report said that this year's plan mentions about preferentially providing materials demanded in the major sectors of the national economy but state supply measures have been taken for only a few of them.

For economic guidance organs to tell subordinate units to buy and use as much as they can even those goods, which need not to be imported and which are domestically produced, is the most typical expression of dereliction found in those organs characterized by shifting their responsibilities on to the lower units by abusing the slogan "self-reliance".

The persistence of such situation would result in gradual waning of the economic authority and control power of the state and in pushing state-run enterprises to illegal moneymaking.

Noting that the Cabinet and the State Planning Commission should take centralized and unified control of products from all sectors of the national economy and businesses, and make quick switchover to the work system of fully meeting the demand by establishing production-consumption relations, the report underscored the need to intensively provide labour, equipment, materials and funds to businesses of key industry sectors and the only-son factories, take nationwide encouraging and preferential steps and take detailed measures to ensure import indices with domestic production.

The General Secretary in the report called for attaching importance to talents in organizing economic work for this year and paying special attention to bringing up talented scientific and technical personnel and Party officials in every sector.

The knottiest problem in propping up the national economy now is the shortage of talents and it is an urgent task to bring up new-type talents at present when we are set to make a bold innovation in all work.

Changes should be made in the work of bringing up talents first to make substantial changes in Party, state and economic work and the people's living.

The report said that all sectors and units should regard it as an important task in the five-year plan to bring up able scientific and technical

personnel, administrative personnel and Party officials who can shoulder each field of the country in the future and push it in a planned way. To this end, all sectors of the national economy should meticulously organize work on the principle of bringing up talents necessary for their sectors by themselves and leading economic officials should hold fast to it as an important methodology to find talents first and rely on them in taking stock of the actual situation of their own sectors and exploring the ways for improvement.

It should be the working attitude and traits common to all officials to boldly appoint talents, bring them up in practice and put them forward before the Party and state with a viewpoint that no work can be carried out, to say nothing of the decisions of the Party congress, without having talents in hand and bringing them up, the report added.

It stressed the need to train Party officials who are capable of finding out and intentionally bringing up talented management personnel excellent in conceiving ideas and in organizing, managing and controlling power, and who are proficient in work with people.

The General Secretary in the report put important emphasis on intensifying the struggle for putting an end to units' claiming of their special importance and self-centredness across the whole Party, state and society when conducting the first year's work for implementing the decisions of the Party congress.

The report said that misuse of power, bureaucratism and irregularities and corruption are anti-Party and anti-people acts committed by individuals, whereas units' claiming of their special importance and self-centredness are graver anti-Party, anti-state and anti-people acts perpetrated under the veil of unit and organization, stressing these are the biggest obstacle to applying our Party's people-first politics and consolidating our own strength, our internal driving force.

It specially mentioned that the practices of units' claiming of their special importance and self-centredness which infringe on the interests of the state and people and neglect the implementation of the decisions and instructions of the Party

must not be allowed to go at large any longer but be stamped out resolutely by mobilizing Party authority and legal and military powers.

It expressed the determination of the Party Central Committee to regard units' claiming of their special importance and self-centredness as the enemy to the revolution and state tantamount to the misuse of power, bureaucratism and irregularities and corruption and to wage an all-out war against them with the plenary meeting as an occasion, and called on all Party organizations, political and state organs and all the people to be the main force in the war for wiping out units' claiming of their special importance and self-centredness.

In the report the General Secretary pointed to the necessity to organize economic work for this year in the direction of demonstrating the potential of self-supporting economy and stabilizing the people's living to the maximum while strictly maintaining the state emergency infectious disease prevention discipline.

He then suggested the tasks facing the sectors of the national economy for this year.

The report suggested key tasks to be carried out this year by main industrial sectors such as metal, chemical, power, coal, development and exploitation of natural resources, machine and forestry in reinforcing production foundations while conducting ongoing production, and specified detailed ways to fulfil them.

Importantly stressed was the issue of pushing the improvement of the railway situation with the focus of this year's work put on adjusting and reinforcing railways in the sector of rail transport.

The report suggested the tasks of conducting on an extensive scale the construction of major projects including the unconditional construction of dwelling houses for 10 000 families in Pyongyang and finishing of infra-network project as planned as well as local construction and of accelerating the expansion of the cement production capacity and meeting the demand for various building materials in a responsible manner in the sector of construction

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and building materials industry.

In the report the General Secretary underlined the need for the light industrial sector holding a big share in solving food, clothing and housing problems for the people to tap all potentials and to increase to the maximum the production of consumer goods and light industrial goods. He set it as the central part of the work for this year to ensure domestic production of raw materials, recycling, recovery of original performance of equipment, creation of new production capacity, and invigoration of local industry and the General Bureau of the Tanchon Area Mining Industry.

The report stressed that it was decided to spruce up local industrial factories in Kimhwa County of Kangwon Province this year to implement the line of strengthening city and county set forth at the Eighth Congress of the Party and to set a new standard of local industrial factory. The report proposed assigning the task of taking measures for this to the Cabinet, the State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Light Industry.

In addition, it suggested the tasks for the fisheries sector to put emphasis on strengthening its material and technical foundations and actively carry out fishing and fish culture and farming so as to bring substantial benefits to the people this year.

The report also detailed the major tasks to be carried out this year by the fields of commerce, communications, land and environment, city management, external economic relations and tourism.

The General Secretary in the report stressed the need to unconditionally carry out the plan for agricultural production for this year.

The report called upon the agricultural guidance organs including the Ministry of Agriculture to map out a foresighted plan for farming and, in particular, to take measures for coping with the disastrous climate in a scientific and realistic way, stressing the need for the agricultural sector to steadily lay the foundations for stable and sustained development for increased grain output by thoroughly fulfilling this year's plans for cereals production and procurement.

It suggested tasks for breeding high

yielding varieties and expanding the area for cultivating them to increase the per-hectare yield, decisively increasing the fertility of soil, ensuring the scientific cultivation method for each farming process in line with the features of each breed and mapping out and pushing ahead with a detailed plan for making the low-yielding fields fertile before farming season.

It called for promoting in a planned way the work for laying material and technical foundations of units producing tractor and farm machines, pushing forward the restoration of irrigation systems and facilities and the expansion of the irrigated areas, accelerating the reclamation of tideland, cultivation of new land and land realignment and increasing the production of livestock products, vegetables, fruits and industrial crops.

It dealt with issues of supplying farming materials on which success or failure of this year's farming hinge in a responsible manner on a nationwide scale, stamping out the practices of talking big in the agricultural sector, and bringing about a decisive improvement in the work of rural ri Party committees.

The General Secretary in the report referred to the tasks to be fulfilled by the field of science and culture.

The report emphasized the matter of smoothly solving technological problems arising in consolidating the existing economic foundations and putting production on a normal track in the field this year, and the matter of identifying all scientific and technological talents in different sectors, regions and units, while taking practical steps for improving the qualifications and levels of scientists and technicians.

It said that the secondary educational sector should establish a rational educational system for bringing up reserve scientific and technological talents in a planned way and that universities should train more scientific and technological talents including experts on IT, biological engineering, chemistry and materials.

Important tasks were also suggested to be carried out by the public health sector in order to bring about a remarkable improvement in it this year.

The sector should direct primary

efforts to decisively eradicating different kinds of contagious diseases and promote as scheduled the construction of new public health facilities and the pharmaceutical, medical appliances and medical supplies factories now underway.

The report roundly exposed the real state of art and literature still in stagnation and hibernation and called for bringing about a step forward in creation activities as required by reality that has entered a new period of turn.

Tasks were suggested for the mass media to wage a vigorous media campaign aimed at inspiring the masses to the implementation of the decisions of the Party congress, and for the field of physical culture and sports to organize a variety of sports events and conduct brisk mass sports activities.

The report stressed the importance for the People's Army and the munitions industry and the sectors in charge of south Korean and external affairs to thoroughly achieve and carry out the fighting goal and plans for this year for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress without an inch of deflection.

The General Secretary in the report made special reference to the tasks for improving economic work in an innovative way by decisively enhancing the functions and role of state economic guidance organs.

What should be done immediately at present is for the Cabinet and state economic guidance organs to improve its guidance over and management of the overall economy by restoring the functions peculiar to them as economic organizer and their controlling functions.

State economic guidance organs should emerge from force of old habit of sitting helplessly, only complaining about bad conditions and lack of authority, and actively wage a bold campaign for overcoming economic difficulties and obstacles.

It is important to remove stumbling blocks to economic development and make sure the economy of the country is smoothly managed by improving the role of the non-permanent economic development committee.

The report stressed the need to make every process dovetailed from the planning stage, pay attention to promoting organic relationship

and cooperation among economic sectors, thoroughly reject the evasion of responsibility and self-centredness existing in state economic guidance organs and overcome obstacles and difficulties while actively supporting and complementing each other purposefully and actively.

It is important to establish strict discipline in planning and critically review the results of production in order to organize and command economic work in an efficient way.

It is necessary for the Cabinet and state economic guidance organs to make exact demands on all production units while providing them with necessary conditions so that they can unconditionally carry out their plans for production and supply of materials, and to conduct an intensive struggle against such phenomena as bargaining and defaulting on plan discipline and observing it for mere form's sake.

The report also set forth tasks for the Cabinet and state economic guidance organs to boldly conduct the work for improving the economic management method.

In improving economic management methods, it is necessary to attach importance to finding out and adopting the methods of the state's unified and numerical control and distribution of all products and imported materials.

It is necessary to properly combine political, economic and technical, and administrative and organizational methods in order to settle the issue of economic management in our own way in line with our own situation.

The General Secretary in his report repeatedly emphasized the need for officials in the economic field to decisively enhance a sense of responsibility and role.

Saying that the expectations of the Party and people about leading economic officials are very high at the present starting point towards the five-year plan and the reality calls upon all officials to work with redoubled efforts beyond the limitation of their level, ability and potentiality, the report called upon the officials to display mental power and fighting spirit to make a staunch dash toward the future and terminal of the five-year plan while always looking

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far into the future.

The General Secretary in his report set forth the tasks for guaranteeing the fulfilment of the national economic plan by law.

Saying that nobody has a right to bargain over the national economic plan and everyone has only a duty to unconditionally carry it out as it is the instruction of the Party and law of the state, he stressed the need for the judicial sector to set it as the core task to provide a powerful and thorough legal guarantee for the national economic plan for this year and thoroughly carry it out.

He pointed to the necessity to concentrate Party efforts on the fulfilment of the tasks for this year.

The report attributed the serious mistakes made in attaining the goals of the five-year strategy for national economic development set forth at the Seventh Party Congress to the misguidance by Party committees at all levels over economic work and the failure of Party officials to fulfil their responsibility and role as organizers and standard-bearers in implementing Party policies.

The report mentioned the matters of principle to be maintained in intensifying the guidance of Party organizations over economic work for this year.

Party organizations should thoroughly overcome formalism in shaping and adopting Party decisions for implementing the line and policies of the Party.

Decisively parting from the old way of running Party meetings, they should

discuss and adopt Party decisions for carrying out the tasks set forth in the present plenary meeting in line with the intention of the Party Central Committee, will of the masses and actual conditions of their units and so that their implementation can be guaranteed and responsibility can be attributed.

After adopting Party decisions, it is necessary to grasp and review the implementation of the decisions on a regular basis in order to increase strong points and successes and correct faults and deviations.

The report called upon Party organizations to play the role of steering wheel in providing efficient political guidance for the successful implementation of the economic tasks for this year.

The steering role of Party organizations in carrying out the national economic plan is, in essence, to most correctly illuminate the way for ensuring satisfactory economic work as required by Party policies and properly guide it not to deviate from them.

Party organizations should find out correct methods and map out detailed plans for perfectly carrying out the national economic plan for their units, positively push ahead with the work to make sure that administrative and economic work is done as required by Party policies and timely correct the mistakes and deviations.

The Party committees should intensify brainstorming and help their members enhance the responsibility and role to skilfully overcome obstacles and difficulties in carrying out the national economic plan and in

particular, leading officials of Party organizations should do away with subjective and arbitrary practices but fulfil their duty as the political educators and standard-bearers who arouse the masses to implementing the policies.

Party organizations should regard a monthly production review as a Party meeting of summing up the fulfilment of Party decisions, not just a business-like review of the fulfilment of the national economic plan, and hold it to be of political significance and make it a good opportunity in awakening officials and producers, raising their competitive spirit and generalizing advanced experience.

The report said that it is very important to heighten the role of the Party organizations of the Cabinet, ministries and national agencies in successfully carrying out the economic tasks for this year and set forth relevant tasks.

Once Party policies are laid down, the Party organizations of ministries and national agencies should effectively conduct the organizational and political work for implementing them and positively back administrative and economic officials with a stand of taking full responsibility for the results of execution.

They should steadily awaken officials by conducting intensive educational and ideological campaign for overcoming such negative phenomena as the one of not devoting themselves to implementing Party policies and of failing to boldly do the work while complaining about poor conditions, being seized by defeatism and self-protectionism.

Concluding his three-day report, the General Secretary said that the plenary meeting was convened in an appropriate and necessary period in the sense that it helped rectify mistakes from the stage of planning a year's work and newly decided on the great work for the people and that it helped find out and correct ideological maladies including passivism and self-protectionism latent in officials.

Expressing the expectation that every member of the Party central leadership body would correctly confirm the work plan for this year through consultative meetings of panels, he called for making the plenary meeting a significant occasion of giving greater confidence and courage to all members of the Party and other people who turned out in implementing the decisions made at the Eighth Party Congress.

After he finished his report on the first agenda item, all the participants in the meeting raised enthusiastic cheers to pay the greatest tribute to the General Secretary who provided the commanding officials of the revolution, all Party members and other people with the powerful weapon of advance and innovation by unfolding a clear plan for the first year's march for implementing the decisions made at the Eighth Congress of the Party with his rare insight and deep thought and by energetically guiding the meeting for days.

His important report full of absolute confidence in the justice of the socialist cause, spirit of boundlessly serving the people and strong will to

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win a fresh victory of the revolution serves as a great militant banner for bringing about a new upsurge and change in socialist construction.

Kim Tok Hun, premier of the Cabinet, Ma Jong Son, minister of Chemical Industry, U Sang Chol, director of the Central Public Prosecutors Office, and Jo Yong Won, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, made speeches on the first agenda item at the plenary meeting.

Referring to the fact that the General Secretary in his important report comprehensively set forth the tasks of struggle for the entire Party and all the people for this year, the speakers deeply analysed and pointed out mistakes of not properly applying the idea and spirit of the Party congress from the stage of mapping out the plan.

They expressed their firm determination to set the militant goal for the first year in an innovative and scientific way by bringing about a fundamental innovation in their ideological view and work style in order to repay the great expectations of the Party and people and staunchly put it into practice and thus fulfil their responsibility in the struggle for implementing the decisions made at the Party congress.

The speakers pledged to conduct a dynamic legal struggle for carrying out the five-year plan and defending the socialist economic system and powerfully propel the implementation of the decisions made at the Party congress and this year's tasks as a Party and political work by turning

the whole Party into an integral whole of loyalty upholding the leadership idea of the Party Central Committee with sincerity and devotion.

Consultative meetings of different panels for drafting the resolution for the first agenda item were held at the plenary meeting.

The consultative meetings, divided into the industrial, agricultural, light industrial and construction panels, deeply studied the contents of the report made by the General Secretary and discussed in depth how to work out plans of different sectors for this year guided by the report.

New reserves and possibilities were actively explored and creative and constructive suggestions were made for innovating work of different sectors amid earnest speculation and efforts, and the targets that were submitted earlier were upgraded as a whole.

At the plenary meeting, there was a report which put together supplementary suggestions made during the process of drafting a resolution at the consultative meetings of different panels.

The draft resolution drawn up through the consultative meetings was acknowledged as correctly embodying the strategic tasks and policies of the Party congress and fully reflecting the scientific accuracy, feasibility and dynamism of this year's work direction and targets for different sectors.

Resolution on the first agenda item "On thoroughly implementing the first year's tasks of the five-year plan set forth at the Eighth Party Congress" was adopted with unanimous approval

at the plenary meeting.

Upon the adoption of the important resolution which would bring about an evident change and practical achievements in the struggle and life of the people for implementing the tasks set at the Party congress, all the participants expressed their enthusiastic support for the resolution of the plenary meeting and firm will to carry it out with loud applause.

The second agenda item "On waging further intensive struggle against anti-socialist and non-socialist practices throughout society" was discussed at the plenary meeting.

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

Stressing that our revolution, which has entered the new development stage, strongly calls for more intensified struggle against the anti-socialist and non-socialist practices than ever before, the General Secretary in his report clarified his revolutionary will and determination to definitely remove vicious cancer that threatens the ideology and social system and hinders single-minded unity.

The report also suggested the task of powerfully waging the struggle against anti-socialist and non-socialist practices in Party organizations, working people's organizations, government organs and law enforcement institutions.

The report noted that powerful combined headquarters should be organized ranging from Pyongyang to provinces, cities and counties so that they could grasp the actual conditions of the struggle against anti-socialist and non-socialist practices

in a unified way on one and the same principle and powerfully carry it out in an intensive and diverse way.

It specially stressed the need for Party organizations to intensively carry out the operation for overcoming abuse of power, bureaucratic behaviour and irregularities and corruption among the officials and also definitely remove those who connive at and foster anti-socialist and non-socialist acts from the ranks of officials.

It is necessary to set the urgent settlement of the economic management problem as a very important task for defending the socialist character of the state and rooting out the anti-socialist and non-socialist practices, and solve the problem step by step in a strict and resolute manner.

The General Secretary in his report said that all officials should clearly bear in mind that low-keyed struggle done only in words will never end anti-socialist and non-socialist practices and that if so, they and our people might be compelled to pay a dear price. He stressed the need for the officials to fulfil their responsibilities and duties in the struggle for mercilessly curbing and stamping out anti-socialist and non-socialist acts found in their own sectors and units and for consolidating Korean-style socialism in order to protect the destiny of the country, people and younger generation.

Listening to the report of the General Secretary, the participants bore in mind once again the necessity and urgency of the intensified struggle

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WPK Central Committee plenum issues press release

A press release of the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was issued on February 11.

According to it, Ri Son Gwon and Kim Song Nam were by-elected as member and alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK respectively and O Su Yong was elected as secretary of the Party Central Committee and director of its Department of Economic Affairs at the plenary meeting.



Ri Son Gwon, minister of Foreign Affairs



Kim Song Nam, director of the International Department of the Party Central Committee



O Su Yong, secretary of the Party Central Committee and director of its Department of Economic Affairs

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against anti-socialist and non-socialist acts, received powerful methodology and solutions to them and hardened their resolve to staunchly defend Korean-style socialism and add lustre to it.

Resolution on the second agenda item "On waging more intensive struggle against anti-socialist and non-socialist practices throughout society" was adopted with unanimous approval at the plenary meeting.

The third agenda item "On modifying the collection of the slogans of the Party Central Committee" was discussed at the plenary meeting.

The collection of the slogans of the Party Central Committee is a political document holding the Party's strategic and policy slogans, and therefore it plays an important role in firmly uniting all the Party members and other people around the Party and in encouraging them to the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of Juche.

The reality, in which the Party's prestige and leadership are being remarkably strengthened and socialist construction goes ahead in depth, requires ensuring in every way the political character and quality of the collection of the slogans set forth by the Party Central Committee.

A report on the modification of the collection was made.

The plenary meeting recognized that as the collection of the slogans of the Party Central Committee was modified with political slogans intensively reflecting the line, strategy, tactics and political doctrine which should always be held fast to by the Party, it would fulfil its mission as an ideological weapon for defending the idea, immortal revolutionary exploits and absolute prestige of the leader, safeguarding the revolutionary character of the Party and victoriously advancing the socialist cause, and adopted a decision on making the modified collection the one of the slogans of the Party Central Committee.

The plenary meeting discussed the fourth agenda item "On the deliberation of 'Explanation of

the Rules of the Workers' Party of Korea"'.
The General Secretary referred to the purport of deliberating on "Explanation of the Rules of the Workers' Party of Korea" at the plenary meeting.

Noting that the Eighth Party Congress modified and supplemented some contents of the Party rules as required by the developing revolution, he said that to compile the handbook on the Party rules is of great significance in consolidating the Party organizationally and ideologically, strengthening the militant functions and role of Party organizations and intensifying the Party life of Party members.

He said that the handbook on the Party rules must be decided on at the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee, which organizes and guides all Party work at an interval between Party congresses, and that after the handbook was examined and distributed, Party organizations and members should deeply study it and do every Party work and lead Party life as required by the norms of the Party rules.

The plenary meeting, based on the full pre-study by the members of the Party central leadership body, adopted a decision on determining the draft handbook as the handbook on the rules of the WPK.

The plenum deliberated on the fifth agenda item "An organizational matter".
Members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee were recalled or by-elected.

Ri Son Gwon was by-elected member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Kim Song Nam was by-elected alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

A secretary of the Party Central Committee was elected.

O Su Yong was elected secretary and director of the Department of Economic Affairs of the Party Central Committee.

Members and alternate members

of the Party Central Committee were recalled or by-elected.

Kim Tong Il, Kim Yong Nam and Kim Chol Su, alternate members of the Party Central Committee, were by-elected its members.

Hong Hyok Chol, Ri Kyong Ho, Choe Yong Jin, Ryong Kun Chol and Jong So Chol were by-elected alternate members of the Party Central Committee.

The General Secretary concluded the plenary meeting.

Saying that the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee successfully finished the discussion on all agenda items presented, he expressed thanks to the members of the leadership body for sincerely attending the discussion on Party and state work, always keeping themselves tense and prepared throughout the past four days. He noted that it is a manifestation and expression of their will to perform their heavy duty entrusted by the times and the revolution by solemnly and thoroughly fulfilling their pledge made before the people.

He said that every agenda item discussed at the plenary meeting is of special significance in strengthening and developing the revolutionary work and the Party and that clear recognition of important and urgent immediate tasks was shared and definite directions were confirmed.

He pointed out that the plenary meeting provided a strong policy weapon with which to prevail against and eradicate the internal negative factors hindering the existence and development of the socialist system, and a political means of equipping and rousing the whole Party.

He said that through the plenary meeting, the Party Central Committee came to further refine its leadership art of finding correct solutions to problems and submitting and directing everything to them, and to gain precious experience.

He also appreciated that the plenary meeting showed the people, who value the Eighth Party Congress, the firm will of the Eighth Party Central Committee to translate the epoch-making tasks decided at the Party

congress into reality without fail by mapping out detailed and practical plans.

Now that we have gone through another requisite and excellent course of development, he said, the Party Central Committee should provide correct guidance over the decided tasks and carry them through, thus achieving progress in the revolutionary work and making the people feel the changed reality.

Stressing that officials of every sector and unit should bear in mind that to ensure perfection in emergency infectious disease prevention effort tops important tasks for this year, remain strict and consistent in the infectious disease prevention effort and rapidly cope with all the circumstances, the General Secretary took new measures to make the state emergency infectious disease prevention headquarters keep the highest tenseness and vigilance and to establish strong infectious disease prevention discipline throughout the country.

Noting that the Party Central Committee has made preparations in a far-sighted way from long ago to provide the people with more bountiful and happier life and give impetus to the readjusting, reinforcing and independent development of the national economy, he expressed his expectation that with the plenary meeting as an occasion, substantial changes would be made in the working attitude and way of work of leading economic officials, and took decisive measures which would guarantee the implementation of the new five-year plan.

Calling on all the members of the Party central leadership body to value the decisions of the plenary meeting as their life and make every effort for their unconditional and thorough implementation, he said it is time for them to undergo test over their loyalty before their loving people. He earnestly asked all the comrades to turn out as one in the revolution for translating into practice the grand fighting programme of the Party by making redoubled efforts.

Kim Jong Un enjoys lunar New Year's Day celebration with Party leadership body members

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, president of the State Affairs of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, saw the lunar New Year's Day celebration performance on Thursday together with members of the Party central leadership body.

As he entered the auditorium amid the playing of the welcome music, all the participants burst into enthusiastic cheers of "Hurrah!" extending the greatest respects to the General Secretary who indicates the broad avenue to fresh advance and victory for the Party and people with his far-sighted wisdom and extraordinary leadership art and strengthens the Party into the motherly party that fights, advances and unconditionally serves the people both in name and reality.

The performance was given by the artistes of the State Merited Chorus and other major art troupes.

The performers sang highly of

the greatness of the Party which has confidently led the Korean revolution along the straight path of victory in the face of the unprecedentedly grim hardships and challenges and demonstrated the might of the country and people to the world.

Resounding through the hall were famous pieces in the era of the Workers' Party showing deep reverence of the people for Kim Jong Un, who is making a new history of a dignified powerful country with the people-first politics, and reflecting the loyalty and single-minded

unity of them who are determined to greet all victories and glory on the road of trusting and following the Party only.

Seeing the performance unfolding a solemn and noble music world with hymns to the Party, the audience keenly realized once again the truth that the country and people have an immensely bright future whatever hardships and difficulties may arise in the way of their advance as the General Secretary, who dedicates his all to realizing the dream and ideal of the people with the noble idea of devotion to the cause of the people, single-minded unity and self-reliance, leads the Party and revolution.

Party with excellent performance, and had a photo taken with them. Acknowledging the enthusiastically cheering audience, the General Secretary encouraged all the participants as he expressed the conviction that the members of the Party central leadership body would creditably fulfil their heavy yet honourable responsibility and duty on behalf of the revolution in the van of the grand march for implementing the decisions made at the Party congress, not forgetting even a moment the expectations of all the Party members and other people across the country.

The performance climaxed with orchestral music and male choruses *We'll Travel the Road to Socialism Only* and *We'll Travel One Road Forever*.

When the performance was over, the General Secretary mounted the stage and thanked the performers for warmly congratulating the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee on its success while showing absolute support for the revolutionary line and idea of the



LEAD

Chairman Kim Jong Il's exploits go on for national dignity

February 16 is the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il. The DPRK commemorates it as the Day of the Shining Star, one of the greatest national holidays, every year.

It is an expression of tremendous admiration of the Korean people for the great exploits the Chairman had performed for the country and nation.

He firmly defended the sovereignty of the country and the dignity of the nation in the latter half of the 1990s, which was recorded as the period of Arduous March and forced march in the history of building a powerful socialist country in the DPRK.

The 1990s were really a hard time for the DPRK.

It was compelled to experience unprecedented trials and ordeals due to the sanctions and blockade the imperialists tightened further by taking advantage of the collapse of socialism in East Europe and terrible natural disasters that hit the country for several consecutive years, and the world closely watched how the DPRK would overcome the difficult situation.

At the crossroads of the history to decide whether it would be reduced to the slave

of imperialism or safeguard its independence, the DPRK opted for the latter.

DPRK leader Kim Jong Il decided to cope with grave difficulties and victoriously advance the revolution with the People's Army as the main force of revolution and made his way through the path of Songun at the forefront.

On his continued field guidance tour from the front to the rear and from the rear to the front, he inspected frontline army posts and climbed up the steep cliff of Mt Osong by pushing his car. On the way, such an impressive story about his nap and rice-ball was told.

In the hard times the DPRK not merely safeguarded national dignity and security, but made big strides forward for fresh progress.

He continued his forced march even in the face of the biting cold in midwinter and the scorching heat in midsummer to kindle the flames of increased production in key industries and make them spread throughout the country. He also ensured that monumental structures were built for the people across the country and a large-scale land-realigning project was

undertaken to give a facelift to the country's land.

In the 1998 the DPRK's first artificial earth satellite Kwangmyongsong 1 soared into the outer space, followed by the successful launch of Kwangmyongsong 2 in 2009 and remarkable achievements were made in establishing the Juche iron production system.

Chairman Kim Jong Il was the originator and pioneer of the DPRK's CNC industry. At the time when the country encountered extreme difficulties he looked to the distant future and invested a large sum of money in the CNC application to usher in an age of breaking through the cutting edge.

All victories and achievements the DPRK has won and made in recent years are inconceivable apart from the seeds of happiness the Chairman sowed and cultivated.

Therefore, along with the Day of the Shining Star, the Korean people remember with deep emotion the exploits of the Chairman who led the campaign for defence of socialism to victory and laid an eternal foundation for building a prosperous country.

By **Kim Rye Yong PT**



Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp located in Sobaeksu Valley at the foot of Mt Paektu in Samjiyon, Ryanggang Province. In the log cabin, Kim Jong Il, the great leader of the Korean people, was born on February 16 1942. In the background is Jong Il Peak with an altitude of 1 798 metres above sea level, which is the highest peak in the area.

Kim Jong Il praised for his benevolence

Chairman Kim Jong Il in his lifetime bestowed kind-hearted favour also on foreign people.

Among them was Pierre Budot, former director of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, who suffered a relapse of his lingering illness on his visit to the DPRK.

Kim Jong Il took every necessary step for his treatment, telling officials to provide the visitor to the DPRK with proper medical treatment to cure him. Under his meticulous care, the foreigner completely recovered from his chronic disease after undergoing 40-odd-day-long treatment.

In mid-November 1994, a staff member of the Egyptian embassy in Pyongyang fell into a coma in an accident and was driven to a hospital.

As his important internal organs were seriously damaged, veteran surgeons did not dare to operate on him. Even his mother who flew to the DPRK from faraway Egypt despaired of her son at the sight of him.

On hearing the fact from relevant officials, Kim Jong Il saw to it that all necessary measures were taken to rescue him from the jaws of death although he was going through the greater pain of loss than anybody else after President Kim Il Sung passed away.

Accordingly, a 10-odd-member medical team was formed with competent doctors, who waged a 24-7 struggle to cure him using the up-to-date medical equipment and rare medicines.

Such devotion created a miracle. The patient came round after a month and fully recovered afterwards to leave the hospital.

"His Excellency Kim Jong Il showed boundless parental love to my son. I am at a loss to know how to return such an immense love. He is just the father who embraces and takes warm care of all the people," said his mother.

By **Om Ryong PT**

Dolphinarium built under Chairman's concern

The dolphinarium in Pyongyang was also constructed under the close concern of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

At a meeting with officials one day, he referred to the need to build a dolphinarium, saying it would give delight to the people, especially youth and schoolchildren. Since amusement and water parks are planned to be built on Rungna Islet, it would be good

to construct the dolphinarium there, he suggested.

He took necessary measures, saying when it was constructed on Rungna Islet, lots of people would visit it as they could get easy access to it. He told them to bring not only dolphins but also other rare animals and paid attention even to ensuring the temperature of animal houses and aquarium.

By **Han Kwi Hun PT**

Nationwide

Centenarian honoured with birthday spread

Ri Jong Nyo, who is living in Johung-ri, Jongphuyong County of South Hamgyong Province, celebrated her 100th birthday.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to her.

She said she is leading a happy life in a large family with her great grandchildren in good health, extending her gratitude to the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un.

Academic degrees and titles conferred on intellectuals

Academic degrees and titles have been conferred on intellectuals on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star, one of the greatest national holidays in the DPRK.

According to the decision of the State Commission for Conferment of Academic Degrees and Titles, professorship went to Jo Myong Bong and Ri Il Gyong, department chiefs of Kim Il Sung University, Kim Kil Nam, department director of Kim Chaek University of Technology, Han Tok Hyong and Ri Su Chol, department chiefs of the same university,

Choe Nam Sun, department chief of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education, Pak Chan Bin, deputy section chief of Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering, Han Jong Gun, department chief of Wonsan University of Agriculture, Wi Kwang Il, department chief of Hamhung University of Chemical Industry, and others.

Doctorate was awarded to 45 officials, lecturers and researchers who have worked in education, research and public health institutions.

In addition, associate professorship was granted to 188 persons and the master's degree was conferred on 1 011.

Studio develops lots of industrial designs

The Korean Industrial Design Studio has come up with hundreds of industrial designs.

Among them are designs for trademarks and garments which reflect the demands of the times and ensure compactness, concentration and symbolism.

Women's motivational activities encourage those on their way to work

Artistic motivational activities of women's union members can be seen in different places every morning.

"I feel pleasant and

invigorated whenever I see on my way to work the housewives dancing with drums and red flags," said Min Chang Il working at the East Pyongyang Thermal Power Station.

Their activities have become more animated since the historic Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea was convened last January.

According to Pang Kyong Hui, vice-chairwoman of the Pyongyang municipal women's union committee, more than 3 700 union members are conducting such activities every morning in 80-odd places in the city alone.

Wonsan Salt Works starts production

The Wonsan Salt Works in Kangwon Province is making an innovation in the production of the first salt of this year.

It has introduced advanced extracting methods like a salt water freezing method suitable for the characteristic features on the east coast of Korea.

It increases salt production every day as it gives precedence to the compaction of evaporating and crystallization ponds by rolling and to the irrigation of them with seawater, while ensuring close contact between processes.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Lunar New Year's Day celebrated

Macrobian happy with family reunion on holiday

With lunar New Year's Day just around the corner, the family of 101-year-old Hyon Pong Hak in neighbourhood unit No. 32, Tongsong-dong, Central District, Pyongyang, is busy with preparations for the traditional folk holiday.

"All our family members get together every lunar New Year's Day," said her daughter-in-law, Mun Myong Sun.

On this holiday, too, Hyon's six children and their spouses and children are coming to her home, she said.

On such holiday, housewives are very busy with preparing

festive dishes, but there is pleasure that only women can derive, said Mun.

Her sisters-in-law have come to Mun's home a day earlier to help her with cooking.

Hyon's daughters and daughters-in-law make glutinous rice-cakes at one side of the house and mung-bean pancakes at the other side flaunting their culinary skills, while the elderly woman "nags" at them as she samples the foods.

Although she is over 100 years, she is incredibly alive and kicking.

According to Mun, her hale

and hearty mother-in-law still does needlework and even kitchen work and as she is a very good cook, women in the village as well as her daughters and daughters-in-law often learn from her how to cook traditional dishes.

As she is so familiar with folk customs, she tells young women about dishes prepared on such folk holidays as lunar New Year's Day and macrobiotic foods and gets her children to make them in families frequently.

"Thanks to state benefits, I have been able to live long and now spend such an enjoyable holiday with this big family," said Hyon Pong Hak.

Born into a poor peasant's family before Korea's liberation from Japanese military rule, they could not afford to enjoy holidays.

Only after liberation could she lead a happy life, she recalled.

She raised all her children to be honourable citizens and is now head of the family of dozens of members. She asks her descendants including great-grandchildren to do good things for the country this year, too.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



Hyon Pong Hak (second from right), aged 101, sits on the table with her family members on lunar New Year's Day.

KIM YONG CHAN

Folk games enliven holiday schedule

Many families spend a good time while playing folk games on the lunar New Year's Day.

Typical folk games include *yut* (four-stick) game, *janggi* (Korean chess), *paduk* (go) and kite-flying.

The *yut* game was in full swing in the family of Pak Yong Jin who is residing in neighbourhood unit No. 34 of Phalgot-dong No. 2, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

"On holidays or Sundays, all the members of our family get together to play the *yut* game and on this lunar New Year's Day I have teamed up with my father to have a match against my mother who has been paired with my wife," said Pak Yong Jin.

A typical folk game that had been played by the Korean ancestors before the period of the Three Kingdoms (3rd century BC-AD 7th century),

it is played with four sticks, a certain number of markers for each team and a board.

In the game to see who advances pieces faster to the finish, a player can catch the opponent's pieces, join two or three pieces to move them together, and play individually or by making up teams.

"My husband sometimes cheats us by exercising a privilege as head of the family. So we put forward our grandson as a referee to ensure fair play," said Ri Jong Suk, mother of Pak Yong Jin.

The appearance of mother and daughter-in-law was delightful to see as they were pleased while clapping their hands when wanted scores came after carefully looking at rolling four sticks, but the appearance of father and son evoked mirth as they waged a psychological warfare

whenever their opponents cast *yut*.

In the heated game, the mother's team was about to finish their game when the last triplet pieces were expected to come out.

But the triplets were caught by the opponents and a shout of sigh and joy rocked the whole house all at once.

Finally, the game ended in favour of the father and son.

"The *yut* game is very interesting as we play it. No one can assure how the *yut* sticks come out and sometimes the game turns out to be defeat when we think of victory or vice versa. The *yut* game is best as it can be played by men and women of all ages in any place," said Pak Song Su, father of Pak Yong Jin.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

Eatery draws many on lunar New Year's Day



PAK KWANG HUN

Diners relish traditional dishes on lunar New Year's Day at the Rice-Cake Soup House in the Changgwang Food Alley.

The Rice-Cake Soup House in the heart of the capital city is visited by many customers.

"Although there are many restaurants in the food alley, many people come to our eatery to savour rice-cake soup, a special dish for lunar New Year's Day," said So Hyon Gyong, chief of the soup house.

Rice-cake soup that is made by boiling slices of rice-cake in meat soup has long been a symbolic food for lunar New Year's Day in all parts of Korea including Pyongyang. So it became customary to ask "How many bowls of rice-cake soup have you had?" when asking children their ages on the day.

The soup has distinctive characters according to regions. In the Kaesong area, bar rice-cake is sliced with a bamboo knife into the shape of peanut to prepare the soup.

The restaurant serves the soup

made to a traditional recipe of the Pyongyang area.

White rice is selected carefully to make chewy and glossy bar cakes. The rice is pulverized and the flour is kneaded with hot water and steamed.

It is very important to select the rice and adjust the amount of water when making the dough with hot water. The processes are undertaken by most experienced cooks.

Cooks dexterously knead the dough to make long bar rice-cakes, slice them into the shape of willow leaf, parboil the pieces in salty water and pour cold water over them to lightly boil them again before putting them into cold water.

"Rice-cake soup can easily be made at home, but the home-made soup is not as savoury as the soup of this restaurant," said Kim Jong Su, an elderly resident in Tonghung-dong of Central District, Pyongyang.

By Pang Un Ju PT



RYU KWANG HYOK

The family of O Tong In in neighbourhood unit No. 61 of Puksong-dong No. 2, Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, play *janggi* (Korean chess) and *yut* (four-stick) game on the lunar New Year's Day.

