

Ground-breaking ceremony for second-stage 10 000 flats project held in Hwasong area General Secretary Kim Jong Un attends ground-breaking ceremony for 2023 project to build 10 000 flats in Pyongyang



KCNA

Another construction project was declared amid the dynamic advance for the prosperity of the country where dreams and ideal of the people are being translated into reality under the outstanding leadership of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea which has brought about epochal changes in the flames of the construction revolution symbolic of the advancing socialism and its victorious cause.

A ground-breaking ceremony for the 2023 project to build 10 000

flats in Pyongyang, the second-stage construction project in the Hwasong area, took place on February 15, greatly enhancing the people's confidence in the inexhaustible power and rosy future of the state which writes a new history for the comprehensive rejuvenation and development under the uplifted banner of self-support and self-reliance.

The venue of the ceremony where the grand construction campaign would be declared was seething with elated enthusiasm of army and civilian builders for struggle to proudly build

another luxurious street of socialism full of the people's happiness by upholding with loyalty and patriotism the intention of the Party which set the housing construction, most welcomed by the people, as the primary major policy task.

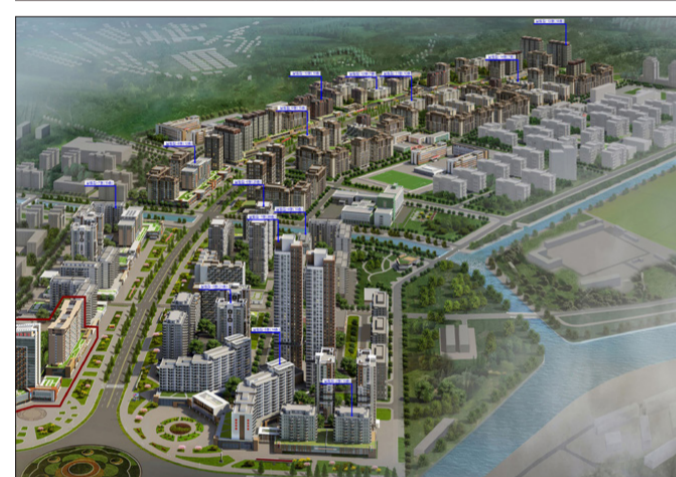
Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, attended the ceremony.

When he arrived at the venue of the ceremony, all the participants raised enthusiastic cheers for him who, as the

great pioneer and creator for realizing the socialist ideal, has devoted himself to building the people's paradise as soon as possible.

Present there were Kim Tok Hun and Jo Yong Won, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Il Hwan and Jon Hyon Chol, secretaries of the Party Central Committee, Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK,

SEE PAGE 2



FROM PAGE 1

Pak Hun, vice-premier of the Cabinet, officials of the ministries and national agencies and officials and builders in Pyongyang.

Also on hand were officials of the armed forces organs including Kang Sun Nam and Kim Jong Gwan.

When the ground-breaking ceremony was declared, the national anthem of the DPRK was played solemnly.



Kim Tok Hun, also vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, made a speech at the ceremony.

He extended warm militant greetings on behalf of the DPRK government to the army and civilian builders who would take part in the continued grand construction campaign as worthwhile creators and pioneers making a new history of the construction in the capital city in the flames of the construction revolution kindled by the Party Central Committee.

Noting that the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee decided to firmly push forward with the second-stage project in the Hwasong area, despite the expanded major construction fronts for this year, he said that it is the noble intention and steadfast will of the Party that the housing construction, most welcomed by the people, should be carried out without fail, however harsh difficulties they may face.

The construction project of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang is an important item decided by the Eighth Congress of the WPK to build as soon as possible a socialist paradise where the people will enjoy the highly-civilized life to their heart's content, and the first target of the basic tasks planned and propelled by the Party, he said, referring to the importance and significance of the construction of 10 000 flats in Pyongyang to be carried out this year.

He said that the General Secretary clearly indicated the orientation and ways for carrying out the grand plan to bring the substantial and fundamental change to the people's life, clarified the problems arising in the construction project and took all necessary measures.

When the second-stage project is finished following the first-stage district in the Hwasong area having features of a modern city section, the area will be turned into a beautiful and grand street and district which thoroughly embodies the Party's people-first principle and where formative art and modern civilization blend in well with each other, and this will be a striking demonstration of the potentials and rosy future of the state that has made creation and change with its own efforts and its

own way, he pointed out.

He stressed that the news about the ground-breaking ceremony will powerfully encourage all the people, who are out in the dynamic struggle for this significant year, true to the Party Central Committee's noble outlook on the people and leadership of passionate patriotic devotion, to perform new miracles and changes, and the sound of ground-breaking blast will resound as the indomitable resolution and pledge of capital city builders determined to absolutely defend the Party's policies and devotedly carry out the Party's decisions.

He called upon all the officials and builders to turn out as one in the great campaign for creation to bring a dramatic change to the Hwasong area with the faith and fighting spirit of safeguarding the prestige of the Party Central Committee with eye-opening miracles in the construction of the capital city in the great era of Kim Jong Un.

Noting that the structures to be built in the Hwasong area will shine long as the glorious witnesses to the struggle of the people who held the most far-reaching ideal in the most arduous period, he ardently called for working harder for the victory in the worthwhile struggle to bring about the prosperity and development of the great state and the wellbeing of people in order to bring the day of submitting the report of glory to the great Party Central Committee.

All the builders loudly chanted slogans of devoted implementation with their steadfast will to create a new Hwasong speed and Hwasong legend following the proud tradition of patriotism and loyalty of having responded to the Party's call with perfect practices by

turning out as one and thus unfold the world of selfless, devoted efforts of the Party, which has recorded the history of love for the country and the people, with the successful completion of the ideal street for the people.

Kim Jong Un personally pressed the blast button to herald the ground-breaking of the second-stage 10 000 flats construction project in the Hwasong area. A thunder rocked the construction site and fireworks were displayed to be followed by the stormy cheers of participants.

The venue of the ceremony was filled with high passion and militant stamina of the builders to certainly attain the target of the housing construction set forth at the Eighth Congress of the Party by displaying extraordinary revolutionary and patriotic enthusiasm for the future of the capital city slated to become more beautiful and grandiose and for the highly-civilized life of their parents and brothers and sisters.

Kim Jong Un gave warm encouragement to all the builders, waving his hands to them who turned out as one again with the elated spirit in the grand construction campaign to powerfully demonstrate again the potentials of the state and the creativity of the people.

Another grand construction campaign in the Hwasong area for this year, the third year in building 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, will clearly prove with the proud entity of change the irresistible spirit of the Korean people who are constantly creating new Korean-style socialist civilization and new life with their own efforts under the leadership of the Party Central Committee in the face of ordeals and challenges.

Ground-breaking ceremony of Kangdong Greenhouse Farm held

General Secretary Kim Jong Un attends ceremony, shovels first spadeful of earth

KCNA

The construction of a modern greenhouse farm for Pyongyangites started amid the full display of the high spirit of the DPRK and the loyalty and patriotic might of its people dynamically advancing toward the overall development of socialist construction, ushering in a great heyday of creation and construction under the great guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The construction of a large-scale greenhouse farm in the capital city, another grand drive of creation symbolic of epochal change and development

to take place this year, is an important undertaking conducted under the far-reaching strategy and plan for advance and changes of the Party, which confidently opens up a new chapter of the national development and rural development, finding its inexhaustible strength and passion in the people's happy looks.

The Party Central Committee thoroughly subordinating everything to the people's welfare decided it as a major construction task to build a large greenhouse farm in the Kangdong area at the historic Sixth Plenary Meeting of its Eighth Central Committee, which adopted a development strategy for bringing a new phase of upsurge of socialist construction, and gave this honourable combat duty to the service personnel of the Korean People's Army



again.

A ground-breaking ceremony for the greenhouse farm construction took place on February 15.

The ceremony was full of the boundless fighting spirit of the service personnel who came to work, cherishing in mind the deep trust of the Party Central Committee which called them again to the theatre of gigantic construction to be recorded as another brilliant page in the history of the army's devoted struggle for the good of the people.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, was present at the ceremony.

When he arrived, all the participants broke into enthusiastic cheers in reflection of their boundless reverence for and loyalty to the General Secretary

who is making uninterrupted journey of devoted service for the people to build a highly-civilized thriving country, a socialist paradise on this land full of the people's laughter and happiness.

Present at the ceremony were Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary for Organizational Affairs of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Yong Gil, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, and officials and working people in Kangdong County.

Also on hand were major commanding officers of armed forces organs including Kang Sun Nam, Kim Jong Gwan and Kim Kwang Hyok, and soldier-builders.

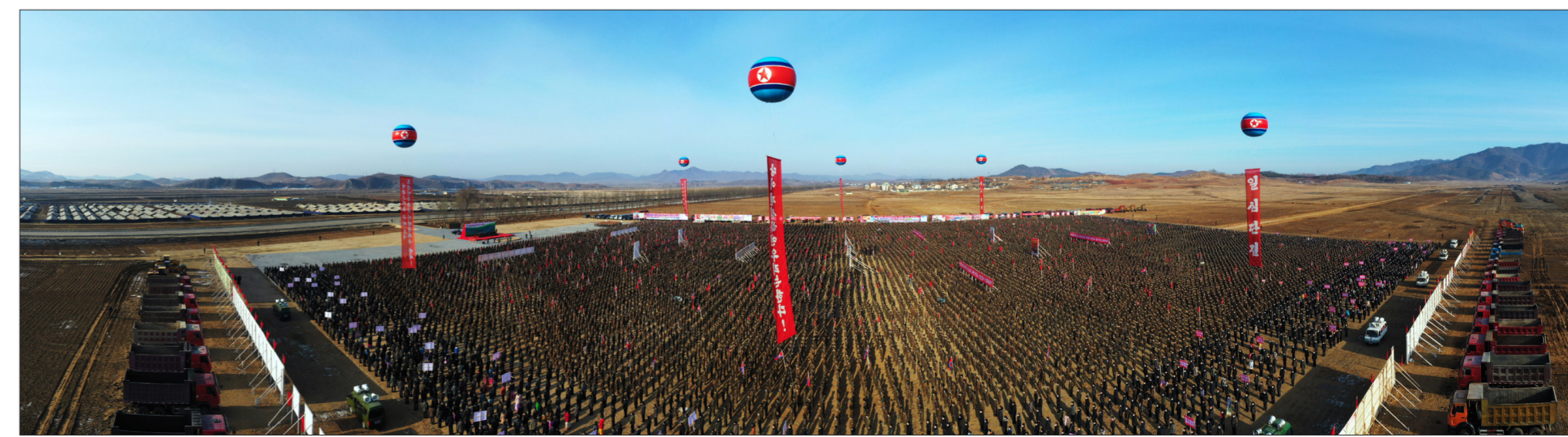
the Party Central Committee.

He said that to fully provide the people with fresh vegetables in all seasons is a top-priority affair which the Party always pays deep attention to and strives to settle in coming years without fail.

When looking round the completed Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm in October last year, the General Secretary said that other greenhouse farms to be built in the future should be put on a more intelligent, intensive and modern level than the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm and gave precious instructions for the construction of a new greenhouse farm in Pyongyang, the speaker said.

He said that it is the intention of the Party Central Committee to build the Kangdong greenhouse farm as a highly

SEE PAGE 4





FROM PAGE 3

profitable one for mass-producing tasty and nutritious green, fruit and functional vegetables and as an ideal one with more



modern and civilized working and living conditions to serve as a dynamic motive force for promoting the improvement of the people's diet and the rural development in the new era.

The untiring struggle of service personnel will serve as a model showing how to fulfil the pledge made before the Party and the leader and overcome the present difficulties with high fighting spirit, and they, ready to devote themselves to the country and the people, will remember every day of their tense construction campaign as the days of unforgettable experience heightening

their loyalty and a patriotic sense of mission and as the proud and worthwhile days, he said.

He called on all the soldier-builders to lead their high enthusiasm to bold practice and good result through meticulous and militant operations and command, wage intensive and offensive frontline information and motivation activities and fully display the true creative mettle of the army of the Party and the people by dedicating their sincerity to every structure with the transparent readiness to reliably defend the dignity and prestige of the Party Central Committee.

Saying that the spirit of advance of the army vigorously fighting for the Party, the country and the people will provide confidence in sure victory and courage to the people out in the implementation of the decisions made at the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee, Jo Yong Won ardently appealed to all soldier-builders to build up a proud model entity representing the advanced character of the socialist rural communities in the Kangdong area and submit a report of glory and victory to the Party Central Committee.

A speech of pledge was made at the ceremony.

The speaker noted that the service personnel of the Korean People's Army, who came to the grand construction theatre true to the noble intention of the respected Supreme Commander

Kim Jong Un, who entrusted the KPA with the construction of the Kangdong Greenhouse Farm he has made preparations with much effort for the improvement of the living standard of the capital citizens and the remarkable rural development, are filled with extraordinary revolutionary enthusiasm to surely repay the deep trust of the Party Central Committee in them with loyalty and feats.

The spirit of dynamic advance to be witnessed in the Kangdong area will be a clear demonstration of the indomitable heroic stamina of the country and people dynamically advancing towards a new era while braving difficulties by their own efforts, he said, expressing the firm resolution to successfully carry out the Party's plan and intention.

All the participants loudly chanted slogans to show their faith and will to fully display heroism and creativity as builders and defenders of the people's happiness, keeping in mind the great trust and expectation of the respected General Secretary who entrusted them with an important project for realizing the ideal of the people.

Kim Jong Un shoveled the first spadeful of earth in commemoration of the ground-breaking for the construction of the Kangdong Greenhouse Farm.

The venue of the ceremony representing the immortal image to be recorded long in the sacred course for the people was replete with deep reverence for Kim Jong Un, who came to the

significant place where the start of the grand construction project was declared before the world and showed great trust, and with the militant enthusiasm of soldier-builders to successfully carry out the task given by the Party.

Following the blast signaling the start of the construction project, colourful fireworks were displayed, foretelling the proud changes in the Kangdong area.

Kim Jong Un shook hands with major commanding officers of the construction units one by one, calling on them to lead their units and subunits to creation and feats and to let all the service personnel loyally and reliably uphold the will of the Party that there should be only advance and creation on the road for the wellbeing of the people, and militantly encouraged them to surely repay the Party's trust by devotedly carrying out the assigned tasks on the honour of their units.

He warmly waved back for a long time to the dependable soldier-builders filled with enthusiasm to perform heroic feats in the van of the struggle for the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialism under the fluttering colours of loyalty and patriotism.

The construction of the Kangdong Greenhouse Farm as a new and eye-opening "farm city", which will intensively represent the Party's far-reaching plan for the rural revolution and the civilization in the present era, will heighten the people's confidence in their struggle for bringing earlier the rosier future of Korean-style socialism.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un watches sports games

KCNA

There took place sports games between staffs of the Cabinet and the Ministry of National Defence on February 17 in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star (the birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il), the greatest auspicious holiday of the nation.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, watched sports games.

The stadium was filled with joy and excitement of

officials of the Cabinet and the Ministry of National Defence who had the great honour of holding significant sports and cultural events on the spring holiday of February in the presence of Kim Jong Un whom they wanted to see even in their dreams.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un appeared in the auditorium, all the players and spectators raised enthusiastic cheers of "Hurrah!".

Among the spectators were Kim Tok Hun and Jo Yong Won, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Il Hwan and Kim Jae

Ryong, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, and other senior officials of the WPK Central Committee, members of the Cabinet and officials of ministries and national agencies.

Kang Sun Nam, Pak Su Il, Jong Kyong Thack and other commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, service personnel and teaching staff and students of military education units also saw the sports games.

First, a football match between the staffs of the Cabinet and the Ministry of National Defence took place.

The game was always exciting.

Player No. 12 of the team of the Ministry of National Defence scored the opening goal by shooting in the goal area in the 32nd minute of the first half of the game.

During the interval, model plane operators of the Pyongyang Air Club made high-tech flight of different model aircrafts to delight the spectators.

In the second half, the number 22 player of the Cabinet team scored the equalizer through an 11-metre free kick in around 55 minutes of the match. So the match got more exciting as each team got one point.

Every player ran and ran with tireless ambition for victory and showed fine

for arranging the sporting event on the auspicious holiday of February and enjoying the matches together with them so as to give them great strength, courage and joy.

All the participants made a firm pledge to serve the people with devotion with renewed courage and in high spirits, bearing in mind this moment marking the spring holiday of February with great joy in the presence of Kim Jong Un and his beloved daughter, and to dedicate their wisdom and zeal to the struggle for making this year a year of a great turn and change to be specially recorded in the development history of the country.



scenes. Each time there was a scoring opportunity the spectators, they cheered more enthusiastically.

The Ministry of National Defence team defeated the Cabinet team 3-1 in the match.

Then there was a tug of war match between staff members of the Cabinet and the Ministry of National Defence.

In the match, too, the defence ministry team beat its Cabinet rival 2-0.

A shout of joy was given again after the game.

Officials of the Cabinet and the ministry extended their thanks to the General Secretary



Kim Jong Un has photo session with activists in traits of assisting army



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on Tuesday met and had a photo session with the activists in the traits of assisting the army who were invited to the celebrations of the 75th birthday of the Korean People's Army as special delegates and have spent significant days in Pyongyang.

Those activists were greatly excited and delighted to have a photo of glory taken with the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un whom they always wish to see, after participating in the Army Day celebrations held splendidly in his presence under the special care of the Party Central Committee.

When Kim Jong Un arrived, all the participants burst into cheers of emotion with tears in their eyes, looking up to the great father who specially invited them, though they have performed their bounden duties for the motherland, to the greatest political and military festival and repeatedly showed deep loving care and benevolence to be conveyed down through generations.

Warmly waving back to the

enthusiastically cheering participants, he extended warm encouragement and gratitude to the activists in the traits of assisting the army who have devoted their pure conscience and patriotic sincerity to the strengthening of the revolutionary armed forces invariably in good times and bad times.

He said that every victorious advance of our revolutionary armed forces is deeply associated with the valuable contributions and efforts of the genuine patriots who accepted the Party's line of building a powerful army and policy of giving priority to the military affairs as the absolute truth and the foremost requirement of their living and have served as a foundation for realizing the great cause of building up a thriving country with a powerful army.

He highly appreciated the lofty mental world of the activists in the traits of assistance to the army, saying that they have assisted the army in silence with the noble consciousness that they are defending the outposts for defending the country together with the servicepersons, after making their children stand in the defence lines despite all difficulties, as they are well aware that the building of a powerful nation is unthinkable without

the powerful national defence and that assisting the army is the most vivid expression of patriotism.

The spirit cherished by them is the indomitable and strong sentiment of the women of a village on the banks of the Nam River in the 1950s, who made their way for aiding the war front under the severe gunfire, and it is also the steady inheritance of the great patriotic spirit displayed by those in the Chollima era, who built the country's fences as an impregnable fortress on the ruins of war, thinking of the state affairs before their household affairs, he said, adding that this spirit should be put above all as an example to be followed by all in the present struggle for the comprehensive development of socialist construction.

Saying that the trial experienced to defend the war victory for 70 years is costlier than the trial experienced to win the war, he earnestly said that the 70-year history of the great war victory could be glorified thanks to their ardent loyalty devoted to the long course of cementing the absolute power of the DPRK in every way.

Expressing expectation that the activists in the traits of assisting the

army would continue to glorify their worthwhile life as a paragon patriot in further elevating the traits of assistance to the army under the uplifted slogan of our army-first principle, he had a photo session with them.

After the photo session, stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" burst out again. Kim Jong Un waved back for a long time to the activists in the traits of assisting the army with tears of emotion rolling down their cheeks.

Saying that he will invite again as special delegates those activists in the traits of assisting the army to the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the war victory to be specially recorded in the history of the country, he warmly wished all of them good health.

Warmly blessed by him, all the participants were full of ardent enthusiasm to devote themselves entirely to the worthwhile work of assisting the army for the strengthening and development of the KPA, the invincible heroic army which is the pride and honour of our Party, state and people, cherishing deep in their mind the immutable truth that the rosy future and victory of socialism, our dignity and lifeblood, are guaranteed by invincible arms.

To bring a happy smile to people

By Ri Sung Ik PT

At present the DPRK advances towards a new victory of socialism as it works to bring earlier happiness to its people with an intrepid spirit and vigorous strides in the face of unprecedented challenges and thereby the people's laughter gets louder despite the trying ordeals.

Last year alone, the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District and 10 000 flats were built wonderfully in Pyongyang to provide ordinary working people with new houses, many students and schoolchildren

across the country were supplied with new school uniforms made under the benevolent care of the Workers' Party of Korea and major construction projects of immense significance in bringing earlier rejuvenation to the country were completed, including the world's largest-scale Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm and local-industry factories in Kimhwa County, and thus the people's cheers rang out all across the country.

In addition, everyone, men and women, and young and old, is happy to eat good-quality ice cream produced

by the Taesongsan Ice Cream Factory and a new history of rural development in the era of Workers' Party was opened up to wipe away old and outdated things in every part of the socialist countryside.

Feeling such maternal affection for all the Korean people, Kim Jong Un fervently hopes that all of them enjoy the best civilization to be envied by the world people in good health, always wearing a bright smile on their faces.

He believes that the laughter of the people is the motive force of socialism and the standard for assessing

national power and that a country filled with the happy laughter of the people is precisely a powerful socialist state.

He loves his people so purely and fervently he finds his greatest pride and joy in their smile.

Once he unbosomed himself to officials to the following effect:

It is our Party's determination and will to make our children and people lead the happiest life in the world, so that their happy laughter and hurrah for the Workers' Party reverberate loudly. As I think of the slogan "We are the happiest in the world!" I cheerfully do any

tasks, however difficult they may be.

That is why he usually tells officials that it is the ideal of the WPK to build a socialist paradise filled with the laughter of the people.

This ideal is just the ideological source of the great leadership ability and inexhaustible strength of the WPK which invariably leads the country and people along the road of victory and glory, undaunted by all difficulties and ordeals.

Based on such noble ideal, the WPK makes every possible effort to defend and hold in high esteem the people as it courageously

Greatest national holiday celebrated

Senior Party, government officials pay homage to great leaders

KCNA

Kim Tok Hun, Choe Ryong Hae and Ri Pyong Chol, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, other senior Party and government officials and officials of the Party Central Committee, ministries, national agencies and armed forces organs visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, eternal leaders of the WPK, state and people and sacred images of socialist Korea, are preserved in their lifetime appearance was wrapped in a solemn atmosphere.

A basket of flowers in the name of General Secretary Kim Jong Un was placed before the statues of the



Senior Party and government officials visit the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

President and the Chairman, before the statues also in the name of the State Affairs Commission Committee of the DPRK Flower baskets were laid of the WPK Central Committee, of the DPRK, the Standing Supreme People's Assembly and

the DPRK Cabinet.

The participants paid high tribute to the great leaders at the statues.

At the hall of immortality where Kim Jong Il is preserved in his lifetime appearance, they made a bow to the Chairman, who had devoted his whole life to the sacred cause for the country and people holding high the red flag of Paektu to give eternal vitality to the glorious history of development of a prosperous Korea.

All the participants hardened their resolve to carry out their mission assigned by the Party, revolution and people by supporting the ideas and leadership of the General Secretary with absolute loyalty and perfect practical results to make substantial changes and strides in the struggle for the people's well-being and the all-round rejuvenation of the country.

Nation celebrates Day of Shining Star

KCNA

All the people across the AD P R K celebrated the Day of the Shining Star, the greatest national holiday.

Streams of visitors flowed to the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, supreme temple of Juche, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance, and

their statues and portraits of their beaming images throughout the country.

The venues of the national art exhibition and provincial, city and county photo shows brimmed with ardent yearning for the

Chairman.

A variety of performances were staged all across the country in celebration of the holiday.

The National Symphony Orchestra gave a concert at the

Moranbong Theatre, the Phibada Opera Troupe a music and dance performance at the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, the National Folk Art Troupe a performance in front of the Three-

Revolution Exhibition House and art groups of ministries and national agencies performances at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre and Central Youth Hall, while drama *Devoted*

Service for the Good of the People was staged at the National Theatre.

Entertainers put on performances outdoors in different parts of the capital city and officials and members of the women's union held a dance party, enhancing the festive mood.

Artists in all parts of the country including Jagang, Kangwon and North Hamgyong provinces and Kaesong City staged performances and art groups of provincial-level institutions also gave performances in Sinuiju, Phyongsong, Hamhung and all other provincial seats.

There was a men's football match at Kim Il Sung Stadium and the Central Zoo, Natural History Museum and other cultural recreational grounds were filled with happy laughter of working people having a good time.

Public catering facilities including the Okryu and Chongnyu restaurants in Pyongyang, the Sinhung Restaurant in Hamhung and the Kyongam Restaurant in Sariwon served a variety of special dishes, adding more pleasure to people.



Youth and students and women's union members hold dance parties and colourful performances are given across the country to mark the Day of the Shining Star.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES (TOP LEFT)

Greatest national holiday celebrated with social events

Art exhibition opens

KCNA

A national art exhibition opened to mark the 81st anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il. The opening ceremony was held at the Korean National Art Museum on February 13. It was attended by Jon Kyong Chol, deputy department director of the

Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and creators in the sector of fine arts and working people in Pyongyang. Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, delivered an opening address. He expressed his conviction that the art exhibition would provide an opportunity to inspire

the Korean people with a firmer will to vigorously make a new turning point in the development of the state under the leadership of the Party Central Committee, holding the Chairman in high esteem as the Sun of Juche forever. After the ceremony, participants looked round the exhibition hall.



A national art exhibition opens at the Korean National Art Museum on February 13 to mark the 81st birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

New stamps issued



New stamps issued by the State Stamp Bureau of the DPRK.

KCNA

The State Stamp Bureau of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued new stamps

(one sheetlet and four individuals) on the occasion of the birthday (February 16) of Chairman Kim Jong Il. Inscribed on the upper part of the sheetlet are

words reading, "Celebration of the 81st anniversary of the birth of the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il" and "Juche 31 (1942) - Juche 112(2023)".

State academic degrees, titles conferred on intellectuals

KCNA

State academic degrees and titles were conferred on intellectuals on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

According to the decision of the State Commission for

Conferral of Academic Degrees and Titles, the title of academician was awarded to Pak Hak Chol, first vice-president of Kim Il Sung University.

The title of candidate academician went to An Myong Hun, lecturer of Kim Il Sung University,

Kim Son Ho and Kim Su Ha, researchers of Kim Chaek University of Technology, and Kim Myong Gon, researcher of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts.

Many other intellectuals were awarded professorship and doctorate.

Culinary skill contest held

KCNA

The 11th culinary skill contest in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star was held at the Pyongyang Noodle House between February 12 and 14.

The contest held on the occasion of the greatest national holiday in February was attended by cooks, waitresses and officials selected from ministries, national agencies and public catering and external service units in Pyongyang.

The contest consisted of a technical competition in which cooks made and presented different kinds of dishes and drinks, an exhibition of dishes showing the characteristic features of each unit and a demonstration of excellent cooks.

Its closing ceremony held

on February 14 was attended by Ri Song Hak, vice-premier of the Cabinet, Ri Yong Min, director of the Guidance Bureau of Public Catering Service, relevant officials, cooks and waitresses.

Diplomas, medals and certificates were awarded to units and participants highly

rated in the contest. Meanwhile, similar contests were held at famous restaurants in each province, including Okkye Restaurant in Haeju, South Hwanghae Province, and Kyongsong Tangogi Restaurant in Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province.



The 11th culinary skill contest in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star is held at the Pyongyang Noodle House between February 12 and 14.

Joint national meeting of KCU organizations held

KCNA

There was a joint national meeting of the Korean Children's Union organizations in Pyongyang on February 16 to mark the 81st anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

It was attended by students of Mangyongdae Revolutionary School and Kang Pan Sok Revolutionary

School, those in the capital city and pupils who were to join the KCU.

Present there at invitation were Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Tu Song, department director of the WPK Central Committee, youth league officials and meritorious persons and labour innovators in

Pyongyang.

Mun Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, made a report.

Then there was a ceremony of accession to the KCU.

Led by the chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee, pupils to be admitted to the KCU took an oath.



A national meeting of the Korean Children's Union organizations takes place in Pyongyang on February 16 to mark the Day of the Shining Star.

Workers' artistic motivational team gives performance

KCNA

The workers' artistic motivational team of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea gave a performance "Song of working class dedicated to February" in celebration of the 81st anniversary of the birth of

Chairman Kim Jong Il at the Central Hall of Workers in Pyongyang on February 14.

It was seen by Ri Tu Song, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Pak In Chol, chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee, trade union officials, workers

and trade union members in Pyongyang.

Performers sang highly of the sacred revolutionary life of the Chairman who had performed immortal exploits for the country and revolution, times and history through his tireless revolutionary leadership, regarding "The people are God" as his lifetime motto.



The workers' artistic motivational team of the GFTUK Central Committee gives a performance in celebration of the 81st anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Oratorical meetings

KCNA

Oratorical meetings were held at the People's Palace of Culture and the Central Hall of Workers in Pyongyang respectively on February 14 on the occasion of the 81st anniversary of the birth of

Chairman Kim Jong Il. They were attended by Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, and officials and working people in the city.

The speakers at the meetings highly praised the undying exploits of the Chairman who made the

long journey of devotion for the people all his life to fully demonstrate the invincibility and power of people-centred Korean-style socialism and told impressive stories about the devotion of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to translate the people's dreams and ideals into reality.

Women, farmers hold celebratory meetings

KCNA

Women's union officials and members held a meeting at the Hall of Women in Pyongyang on February 15 to celebrate the 81st anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

It was attended by officials of the central committee of the women's union and women's union officials and members in the city.

Cha Hyon Ok, vice-chairwoman of the women's union central committee, made a report, which was followed by speeches.

Speakers said that Chairman Kim Jong Il who took the first step of his great life on Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution, performed immortal exploits for the times and history with his sacred revolutionary leadership with the will to glorify the socialist country as the strongest one to be

envied by the world true to the intention of President Kim Il Sung. They expressed their resolve to rally closer around the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and fully display the strong spiritual strength and patriotic devotion of Korean women in the sacred struggle for the prosperity and development of the great country.

Agricultural workers and members of the Union of



Women's union members hold a celebratory meeting in Pyongyang on February 15.

Agricultural Workers of Korea held a celebratory meeting at the hall of culture of Migok-ri, Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province, on February 14 to mark the 81st anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

It was attended by Min Sung Chol, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Il Hyok, secretary of the Party committee of North Hwanghae Province, officials of relevant sectors and the UAWK and agricultural workers.

At the meeting Ri Yong Chol, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the UAWK, made a keynote speech, followed by other speakers.

They described the birth of the Chairman on Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution, as a great fortune of the

Korean nation which promised a rosy future of Juche Korea and an event of great significance in the world history which offered bright prospects for the cause of independence for humankind.

They also referred with excitement to the energetic leadership of the peerlessly great man who had guided the UAWK step by step in every period and at every stage of the developing revolution to fulfil its mission and responsibility at the outpost for the socialist rural construction and improvement of the people's living standards.

They stressed that his immortal revolutionary career and exploits shine more brilliantly under the outstanding leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, another great man born of heaven.

Art groups of ministries, national agencies give performance

KCNA

Performances of art groups of ministries and national agencies in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star were held at the East Pyongyang Grand

Theatre and the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on February 14.

Officials from over 30 units went on stage to perform a variety of numbers.

The performers sang highly of the immortal exploits

of Chairman Kim Jong Il who defended the destiny of the country and the people with honour in the face of unprecedented trials and difficulties and opened up a new era of building a powerful socialist country.

Performance given in celebration of Day of Shining Star

KCNA

A performance took place at the Samjiyon Theatre in Pyongyang on February 16 on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star, the greatest national holiday.

Working people in the capital city saw the show.

It was staged by entertainers of the Wangjaesan Art Troupe, State Merited Chorus and Samjiyon Orchestra.

The programme included the hymns to praise the Korean people have loved to sing with infinite honour and happiness of holding

Chairman Kim Jong Il in high esteem as the leader of the revolution and their benevolent father.



A celebratory performance takes place at the Samjiyon Theatre on February 16 on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star.

Children receive gifts from leader

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent gifts to students and children of revolutionary schools, primary and middle

schools for orphans, baby homes, orphanages, primary schools, kindergartens and nurseries across the country to mark the Day of the Shining Star, the greatest national holiday.

Every part of the country from Pyongyang to the first village under Mt Paektu and remote island villages resounded with the happy laughter of children who received school things and foodstuffs.

Korean youth carry on tradition of patriotism

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Young people are volunteering to work at difficult and labour-consuming sectors of socialist construction in different parts of the DPRK.

They unanimously say that this is a precious tradition of the Korean youth.

endless snowstorms and waging a long bloody war against the Japanese imperialists with arms in hand under the guidance of General Kim Il Sung.

The Korean young men and women created a legend of war victory of heroic Korea by dedicating their lives for the beloved fatherland during the fierce Fatherland Liberation War and, after the war, performed a miracle of building a socialist country which is independent in

politics, self-sufficient in the economy and self-reliant in defence from scratch in a short period by charging ahead at full speed in the spirit of Chollima.

In the period of the Arduous March and forced march when the country was experiencing unprecedented difficulties, the young people devotedly defended the socialist country and consolidated the foundations for a powerful country building while taking the lead

in supporting the Songun revolutionary leadership of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Patriotism still lives in the hearts of the youth of today. Many young Koreans have volunteered to join the army to defend the country and work at difficult sectors of socialist construction since the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the 10th congress of the youth league, and the number of volunteers is continuously growing.

All of them are members of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League.

Among them are those who went to labour-consuming sectors of economic construction and graduates of teachers training colleges and universities of education who voluntarily became teachers at schools in remote mountain villages and islands.

They are burning their hearts with ardent patriotism to follow in the footsteps

of their parents who went to mountains, the sea and development areas in response to the Party's call.

"Do not say you love your country without devoting your heart to it," this is the unanimous will of the young people though they live and work in different places.

Therefore, in the DPRK, the words "patriotism" and "youth" are inseparable as seen in the name of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League.

Young people volunteer to work at construction site of new street in Pyongyang

By Ryom Un Gyong PT

Young people in Pyongyang and provinces are volunteering to work at the construction site of a new street in the capital city of Pyongyang with youthful energy and patriotic enthusiasm.

Lots of young people in Pyongyang, South Phyongan, Kangwon, North Hamgyong and Ryanggang provinces and Rason and

Kaesong cities applied to work at the construction site with a burning ambition and aspiration of youth and a high sense of patriotism though they were born and live in different places.

According to information available, young volunteers for the construction project in Pyongyang numbered well over 90 000 across the country in January alone.

After receiving the appeal the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth

League sent to all youth league organizations and youths in the country, young people say in unison that if they fail to do something for the capital city construction, they would be unable to proudly tell about their youth to their children in the future.

Those of Pyongyang competitively volunteered for the construction of the new street with pride in being the youth of the capital city.

Saying that if they yield

to the trials and ordeals standing in their way even an inch, they cannot proudly say that they are the youth vanguard of Kangwon Province which created the spirit of Kangwon Province, the new spirit of the times, young people of Kangwon Province joined the ranks of volunteers one after another.

Keeping in step with this spirit, those of North Hamgyong Province are full of determination to

steadily carry on the proud feats of the youth ranks who dedicated their youthful vigour and clean conscience in all parts of the country in the house construction site in the capital city.

Inheriting the spirit of the working class of the 1950s who had performed the miracle of ushering in the Chollima era from scratch in the post-war period, young people of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, Kumsong Tractor Factory and Taean

Friendship Glass Factory renewed their will to fulfil their responsibility and duty.

Young volunteers are now filled with enthusiasm to build the new street as a grand monument they dedicated by youth by exhibiting inexhaustible passion and performing astonishing feats of labour with pride in being honourable creators and proud pioneers who write a new history of national rejuvenation and development.



Korean young men and women volunteer to work at the house construction site in the capital city of Pyongyang.

RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Friendship association hosts online seminar to celebrate KPA's birthday

KCNA

An international internet seminar "75th anniversary of the founding of the invincible Korean People's Army" was held under the sponsorship of the Korea Friendship Association between February 6 and 10.

The special page opened for the seminar carried photos showing the undying exploits President Kim Il Sung performed for building regular armed forces, great feats of Chairman Kim Jong Il to go down in

the history of Juche-oriented army building and leadership exploits the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un accomplished in the course of developing the KPA into the most powerful revolutionary armed forces in the world.

Posted on it were also a photo of a flower basket KFA sent to the statues of the President and the Chairman on Mansu Hill on the occasion of the KPA's 75th birthday and scores of other photos showing the great military strength of the KPA.

Put on it were a letter to

General Secretary Kim Jong Un adopted by the participants in the seminar, congratulatory messages sent to the seminar by the Korea-Europe Cultural Exchange Promotion Agency, the Korean Committee for Solidarity with the World People, the Korea-Latin America and the Caribbean Friendship Society and the Korea-Asia-Pacific Interchange Association and several pieces of editorials, as well as speeches.

Speeches were made at the seminar attended by official delegates of the

KFA including Chairman Alejandro Cao de Benos and of some branches.

Admiring the President, the Chairman and the General Secretary who pioneered the army-building cause of Juche and advanced it along the road of victory, speakers highly praised the KPA for following the most proud and glorious road and fully demonstrating the dignity and might of a powerful army under the leadership of outstanding brilliant commanders.

A letter to Kim Jong Un was adopted at the seminar.

Nation opens new phase of prosperity



Kim Kyong Il
PhD, associate professor and researcher of the Academy of Social Sciences

On the basis of analysis and review of the experience accumulated and lessons drawn from the struggle of last year, the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea adopted and defined the direction of advance and the main link of the whole chain for a new leap forward of the Party and state to meet the prevailing situation and specific reality of the country.

The plenary meeting is of great significance in that it injected fresh courage and vigour to the indomitable fighting spirit of the Korean people and opened up a broad avenue for bringing about new changes and development for national prosperity.

Obstacles still stand in the way of advance for this year to open up the new phase of upsurge in socialist construction and the country may face a harsher national crisis.

However, we are sure to win victory in our struggle and the victorious advance of Korean-style socialism is a science.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un wisely leads us.

His far-sighted wisdom, scientific ideology and theory and timely counterstrategy are the source of great encouragement to the Korean people to perform miracles and bring a great victory in any upheavals.

Seeing the innovative entities born in succession even in the severe national crisis, the Korean people sympathize with the truthfulness and vitality of the Party policies, feel confident about the future and redouble their efforts. On the strength of this irresistible force, the DPRK is rising to a higher position in the face of enormous difficulties.

The new year 2023 is a year of key importance in implementing the five-year plan put forward at the Eighth Congress of the WPK and a meaningful year that marks the 70th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War and the 75th anniversary of the DPRK.

This year, the Korean people will turn out and make an all-out efforts for national rejuvenation and development by redoubling the fighting spirit displayed last year.

The key industry sectors of the national economy

will make the most and effective use of their existing foundations and potentials in a rational way to correctly implement the production plans for major economic indexes as scheduled.

It is necessary to dynamically push ahead with the large-scale construction in Pyongyang and the building of farmhouses.

It is an important policy task which the Party attaches most importance to and is pushing forward with much effort to bring about a substantial change in the people's living.

The agricultural sector should attain the cereal production goal of this year set forth by the Party without fail, keeping in mind that life or death of the country and national rejuvenation hinge on solving the food problem of the people.

Light industry, local industry, public service, fishery, urban management and other sectors directly related to the people's living should find realistic and rational work systems and methods and carry out the policies of the Party and state in a planned manner so that they can reach the people correctly.

Science and technology play a locomotive role in developing the national economy and improving the living standards of the people.

Only when top priority is given to the development of science and technology of the country, can it smoothly carry out the immediate tasks and attain the important long-term goals and continuously increase the material and economic potentials of the country irrespective of the objective environment.

Senior officials of provinces, cities and counties should work out development plans to suit the local conditions and characters and fully implement them.

It is important to demonstrate the advantages and might of the Korean-style socialist system to the full by further displaying the spirit of collectivism and patriotic deeds in difficult times.

All the Korean people will open up a new phase for prosperity by their own efforts on the strength of single-hearted unity this year, too, by following the road of advance and rapid progress indicated by the Party Central Committee.

International effort for environmental protection and economic growth

By Song Jong Ho PT

With the protection of ecological environment being highlighted as a pressing and vital issue that brooks no further delay, there are increasing signs of positive international moves towards the protection of ecological environment of the earth and sustainable economic growth.

South Africa directs efforts to increasing power production by using renewables.

At present, the country pushes ahead with the legislation of a new law designed to boost the output of energy. On January 27, the spokesman for the state energy crisis management committee under the direct control of the Presidential office said a new draft law and regulations were completed to cope with electric power crisis, including the reconstruction and scrapping of aged thermal power stations and rapid development of green hydrogen, solar and wind power and other renewables.

Saying that the efforts to end the power blackout have been delayed, he noted that the new law would help overcome such tendencies and push the effective implementation of the government measures to solve the electricity shortage.

Singapore opened the first glass recycling factory in the country for collecting and reusing glass waste. It is expected to collect and recycle large quantities of used glass from a waste dump which is estimated to be full to the brim by 2035.

Hosting the inaugural ceremony of the factory, the sustainability and environment minister said that it plans to recycle about 3 500 tons of glass waste till March 2024 after starting operation and 80 percent of the disposed waste would be converted into abrasive. The remaining 20 percent of glass dust will not be wasted, but be used for making bricks and other building materials, he added.

In Bangladesh a 60 000kW-capacity wind power station is expected to be completed in June this year as part of its programme for increasing the production of renewable energy that does not inflict damage on the environment. The government reportedly plans to add more turbines to the power station to expand its capacity to 120 000kW.

Kenya pays special attention to the protection of ecological environment. The Kenyan President takes the lead in the tree-planting campaign. He planted 56 trees on his 56th birthday last year. With this as a momentum, birthday celebration tree planting ceremony has become commonplace, resulting in the planting of over 560 000 trees across the country.

The mayor of Nairobi reportedly planted 38 trees in the central park to celebrate his 38th birthday.

On February 3, the Kenyan President said the Nairobi greening project would be launched in March and young people would be fully involved in it. The project is aimed not only at creating jobs for young people but also saving the country from climate change, he noted.

According to the project, over 10 000 young people will be mobilized to plant 11 million trees in Nairobi in the coming five years.

New horizon of national development

BYWORD

At the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said, "In the new year, too, our struggle will face trials and difficulties which are not easy to overcome, but we

should vigorously advance towards a new horizon of development of the state with firm confidence in our cause and faith in our own strength."

This year, all the Koreans are filled with the determination to advance

forward breaking through all sorts of difficulties and with confidence in victory.

They are all out to open up a new horizon of development of the state.

In response to the Party's call, all sectors and units of the national economy drew

up innovative and detailed plans for attaining this year's goal and fulfilling new long-term tasks and have brought about innovations since the first month of the year. The whole country is overflowing with surging enthusiasm for struggle.

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Snowscape of Jong Il Peak

PYON CHAN U

Jong Il Peak rises imposingly on the ridge of Mt Paektu, covered in snow. At the foot of the peak there is the native home of Chairman Kim Jong Il. The peak seems to stand in defence of his home at the Paektusan Secret Camp. It is 1 798 metres high.

Weightlifter put on national top ten list for two successive years



Weightlifter
Ri Song Gum

By Han Kwi Hun PT

There was a gathering to announce top ten players and coaches of the year 2022 of the DPRK at the Weightlifting Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang.

Ri Song Gum, weightlifter of the April 25 Sports Club, headed the list of the top ten players announced by Premier Kim Tok Hun who doubles as the chairman of the State Sports Guidance Commission.

"I am so delighted that I have been nominated as one of the top ten players of the

country again this year after 2021. I will live up to the expectations of those who have supported me with better results," said Ri.

She broke the world record twice in the women's 49kg category of the weightlifting event of the national championships last year to obtain three gold medals to be rated as a best player surpassing the world level.

She was born in Nyongbyon County, North Phyongan Province, and began to learn weightlifting at the county juvenile sports school. Afterwards, she honed her skills at the

Ryomyong and April 25 sports clubs.

In those years, she took part in over a dozen international competitions to notch up remarkable successes.

In particular, she won three golds in the women's 44kg category of the 2014 Asian senior and junior weightlifting championships and established a new world junior record in jerk. This showed off the enormous potential for development of the newcomer.

Afterwards, she fully demonstrated her ability as an ace in several international events like the world

weightlifting championships and Asian Games and bettered junior and national records on the home front.

"Her merit is that she trains assiduously by herself to complete the detailed technical movements as well as her daily training assignments. Such exact demand on herself has made her a weightlifting ace," said Kye Song Il, weightlifting coach of the April 25 Sports Club.

A winner of Kim Il Sung Youth Honour Prize and Merited Athlete, Ri Song Gum has set her goals on world title and Olympic gold.

