

The image features a North Korean flag waving on a flagpole against a blue sky with light clouds. Below the flag is the North Korean national emblem, a golden oval medallion with intricate designs including a sun, mountains, and a factory, set against a white background. The text 'DPRK Raising Its Profile' is overlaid in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a white outline and a drop shadow effect.

**DPRK Raising
Its Profile**

2022

2022:

DPRK Raising Its Profile

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Preface

In 2022 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea found itself beset with trials unprecedented in its history of more than 70 years.

The global public health crisis persisted without showing any sign of diminishing. Then in May a breakthrough was made in the epidemic prevention wall which the Korean people had built up for two years and three months through strenuous efforts, posing a serious threat to the safety of the country and the people.

The consecutive natural disasters, like drought and heavy rains, were also an obstacle on the road of advance of the Korean people.

Worse still, the moves by the forces hostile towards the country went to extreme.

However, the Korean people adroitly overcame all these hindrances and challenges and achieved remarkable successes: they held grand political and military festivals like the military parade in celebration of the 90th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and celebrations of the 74th founding anniversary of the DPRK, and restored peace by stabilizing the anti-epidemic situation in just over 90 days; they

built Songhwa Street with 10 000 flats, the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District and other streets as the epitomes of the Korean-style civilization. Another large-scale greenhouse farm was built in the Ryonpho area in South Hamgyong Province as a structure representative of the era and houses sprang up in rural villages, which sustained the regional and geographical features, across the country, giving a spur to rural rejuvenation in the new era; 5 500 farm machines produced by the working class in the munitions industry were supplied to the farms in South Hwanghae Province, a major breadbasket of the country; and regional-industry factories in Kimhwa County, Kangwon Province, were renovated, ushering in a new era of the development of the regional industry.

To cope with the repeated military threats by the hostile forces, the country further strengthened its self-defensive war deterrent, thereby firmly defending its security and the safety of its people.

All these valuable successes achieved in harsh circumstances are ascribable to the unshakable will and seasoned leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea, which has taken full responsibility for the destiny of the state and people, and to the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude of the Korean people, who have waged an unyielding struggle in faithful support of the policies of the WPK and the state.

Demonstrating the Dignity and Prestige of the State

It is by no means easy for a nation to maintain its dignity and demonstrate its prestige.

In particular, in the prevailing situation where tyranny of injustice tries to dominate the world, wielding power as an omnipotent means, a country must overcome all harsh conditions and possess the power of justice in order to safeguard its dignity without grovelling to it.

As all the people are firmly united around their leader with a single mind, the DPRK pursues politics of independence without having to read others' faces or being restrained by anything.

It advances straight forward along the road of independence and socialism without stagnation and marking time, braving the storms of history by dint of single-hearted unity.

In 2022 the Korean people demonstrated the might of single-hearted unity of the leader, the Party and the masses on various political occasions

including the 90th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and the 74th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

With the programme of Party building in the new era having been put forth as a guideline, they could have an everlasting guarantee for developing the WPK as an invincible party for ever.

Raising the Country's Profile through Political Festivals

In 2022, the DPRK organized various grand political festivals marking major national anniversaries, through which it powerfully demonstrated its unique potentials and mettle.

In particular, the military parade held at night in celebration of the 90th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army marked a major political and military occasion for demonstrating the country's daily-growing might.

April 25, 1932 is the day when the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung founded the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army.

The founding of the AJPGA, which was later developed into the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, was a great national event that proclaimed a war against the imperialists holding

high the banner of achieving national liberation and winning independence by the efforts of the Korean people and a historic event which ushered in a new era of the Juche revolution which relies on the powerful revolutionary armed forces.

The military parade held in April 2022 in celebration of the 90th founding anniversary of the KPRA not only represented a review of the 90-year history of the DPRK's revolutionary armed forces but also provided a glimpse into the level its national might attained.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un's speech at the military parade and the content and form of the parade proved this well.

Referring to the profound and great significance the birth of the country's first genuine army 90 years before had in the history of the Korean revolution and nation and will have in the future development of the state and people, he declared in his speech that the fine sons and daughters of the Korean people, when they held their revolutionary weapons aloft in the forests of Paektu, were expressing the soaring spirit of the independence of the Korean nation, their hopes, and the great banner of their unity and that those weapons were a force that instilled the mettle of self-dependence and Herculean strength in the tear-stained fists of the Korean people.

Then he continued: We should continue to grow stronger; we must not be satisfied or rest on our laurels concerning the

strength we have built up for defending ourselves; we must make our military supremacy more secure so that we can stand up to anyone; this is what the revolution demands, and it will decide the future of all the generations to come.

As it explained the origin of the spirit of independence the Korean people prize as their own life itself, reviewed the historical experiences of the country which had to build up its might and represented the faith and will of its people who had never flinched in the face of any trials on the road, his speech added more to the significance of the military parade.

The parade was a grand political, military and cultural festival which was fundamentally different from the previous ones in terms of scale, content, composition, artistic quality and unity.

Every element about the parade—ranging from the paratroopers' breathtaking landing stunts to unique flag-hoisting ceremony, performance by the combined military band, skills presentation by the honour guards of the KPA, formation of the columns of paraders, acrobatic and artistic flight of planes, majestic passing of mechanized units, an epitome of the absolute might of the country and background laid out on the square—clearly illustrated the single-hearted unity between the leader and his people and the genuine features of the country as a political, ideological and military power.

By showing the country's invincible military might through beautiful scenes reminiscent of an impeccable artistic

performance, the parade created a new chapter in terms of both military aesthetic quality and military art.

All the processes and proceedings were dramatic, artistic and in perfect harmony and unity between planes, marching columns, people and equipment.

To take the flying columns alone as an example, it reminded the viewers of a breathtaking aerial acrobatic performance.

Whereas the outfits and uniforms of the paraders showed the qualitative development of the country's defence industry and the progressive and modern quality of the KPA, the leading tanks, symbolic of the KPA's fighting capacity, tactical missiles of the latest types with high manoeuvrability and striking power, anti-aircraft missile systems, super-large MLRSs of a new type, underwater-launch ballistic missiles and self-propelled transporter-erector-launcher inspired the Korean people with boundless pride and self-confidence. The parade was crowned by the appearance of the ultra-modern and powerful *Hwasongpho-17* carried on an 11-axle transporter-erector-launcher.

Seeing the parade, the world people looked back upon the speed of development of the DPRK's military hardware.

Following the success in the test-fire of the ground-to-ground IRBM *Hwasong-10* at the first try in June 2016, the country also succeeded in test-firing *Hwasong-12*, a new-type ground-to-ground IRBM, whose tactical and technical

specifications and characteristics were further improved, in May 2017, and ICBM *Hwasong-14* on July 4, 2017.

In November 2017 it successfully test-fired the new-type ICBM *Hwasongpho-15* which is far superior to *Hwasong-14* and is capable of carrying a super-large heavy nuclear warhead.

The military parade held in April 2022, five years later, proved that the country's speed of updating its military hardware became faster.

In his speech at the military parade Kim Jong Un said: In the current era we should continue to exalt the glory of our powerful armed forces at the same time as developing their might at a speed far greater than at any time in the past 90 years; the nuclear forces of our Republic should be fully prepared to fulfil their responsible mission and play their unique deterrence role at any time.

The columns of the powerful weapons represented the DPRK's faith and will to propel the sustained development of its self-defensive capability including war deterrent in a more forceful way.

The grand parade held in April eleven years previously had shown the features of the KPA as an elite army and solemnly declared that the military and technological edge was no longer the monopoly of the imperialists and that the era had gone for ever when the enemy would threaten the Korean people with atomic bombs. And the spectacular one held in October three

years previously had demonstrated the level of development the country's defence capability had reached in several years. However grand and spectacular they were, they paled in comparison with the one held in April 2022.

On July 27, 2022, a grand event celebrating the 69th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War was held before the Monument to Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War on the bank of the Pothong in Pyongyang.

It was a significant festival which brought dignity and pride to the Korean people who had brought an ignominious defeat to the US imperialists, the ringleader of the world's imperialism, for the first time in history.

The celebration event was also quite a sight as a paratrooper landed from the altitude of 1 200m flying the national flag and jets flew at a very low altitude and then zoomed vertically and spiraled upward setting off fireworks. These highlighted the political and cultural significance of the celebration event.

Kim Jong Un made a speech in the celebration event.

In the speech, which was pulsating with his affection and respect for and moral obligation to the victorious wartime generation who had created the ideological asset of the spirit of defending the country, he solemnly declared that he would add glory to the country of the people.

His speech was followed by an artistic performance.

Consisting of varied numbers including the wartime

song *Song of National Defence*, song *For the One and Only Motherland* and the narrative poem *Soul of Warriors* which reminded the audience of the ennobling spirit and soul of the victorious wartime generation, the performance demonstrated that the priceless tradition of victory created by the defenders of the country in the 1950s would be firmly inherited.

The celebration event brought home to the Korean people the iron truth that they will be crowned only with victory and glory as long as they advance indomitably on the strength of their great ideology and unity. Seeing the performance they hardened their resolve to always win victory as they did 69 years previously and to build theirs into a powerful and prosperous country by their own efforts.

On the night of September 8, 2022, a grand performance was held in front of the state assembly hall, or parliament building, at the foot of Mansu Hill in celebration of the 74th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

It was the first grand performance that was held with the parliament building as the background.

With renewed scale, form and characteristic portrayal, the performance showed the new level of civilization in the country.

The performance, which began with *Song of the Proclamation of the People's Republic* and immortal song *Ode to Marshal Kim Il Sung*, outlined the history of the DPRK, spanning more than 70 years, through unique composition

and truthful representation, giving an impeccable explanation to the philosophical theme that the greatness of the socialist motherland is in reality the greatness of its leader.

The dazzling illuminations, stage setting, backdrop that portrayed the proud history of the Republic in a concentrated way, characteristic and novel arrangement and representation of music, good ensemble, the red-, blue- and white-coloured costumes of the members of the chorus representing the flag of the Republic and all other items were designed to contribute to explaining the theme of the performance.

Particularly impressive about the performance was its profound theme, bold and innovative composition and high level of artistic representation.

As seen above, the political festivals in 2022 were significant occasions which demonstrated the prestige of the DPRK once again.

They inspired the Korean people with dignity and pride in their state and confidence in its future, and highlighted the example of the civilization of the Korean style and the reality in the country which aspires after and continuously creates something new while rejecting stereotypes and set patterns in all sectors.

Ushering in a New Era in Strengthening the Whole Party

The cause of party building is precisely a revolutionary cause, and the level of its building can be called the standard of the development of the revolution. Therefore, the work of strengthening the party should always be given priority in the given era and developed continuously along with the change of the era.

If a ruling socialist party adheres to the authority-oriented principles, obsessed with the idea that it is a weapon of class struggle, a weapon for the revolution and construction, the party will lose its leadership functions and make a mess of the revolutionary cause.

Proceeding from the changing times, the Workers' Party of Korea advanced and steadily enriched the ideas and theory of Juche-oriented party building to perform with credit its role as the General Staff of the Korean revolution.

The year 2022 was a year, when a new turning-point was made for strengthening the whole Party, ushering in a new era of further strengthening its fighting efficiency in its ruling history spanning nearly 80 years.

The gatherings of guidance level and working level of

the WPK, including the Second Conference of Secretaries of Primary Committees, First Workshop of Officials in the Information Field and special workshop for officials in Party life guidance sections of organizational departments of Party committees at all levels, were held one after another, so as to rapidly improve the militant functions and roles of Party organizations.

These historic gatherings, which will be etched in the history of the WPK's development, enabled its basic organizations to further strengthen themselves and the guidance units and working departments at all levels to renovate their work, fully aware of their duties, the principles of their activities and their work orientations.

Kim Jong Un put forward the ideas on the role of the primary Party committees and on attaching importance to them, the four major principles and six major tasks to be adhered to in the organization and guidance of Party life and the idea of making Party information workers powerful loudspeakers and hi-fi amplifiers that remain faithful to the Party Central Committee. All these ideas are programmatic guidelines, which opened a radical phase in imbuing the entire Party and the whole society with the ideology of the WPK and improving the militant functions and roles of Party organizations.

For the WPK, which steadfastly holds fast to the Juche-oriented theory on prioritizing ideology, ideological work is the

very core of all types of its work. The ideology-first principle is the key to tiding over difficulties and achieving fresh victories and a mode of revolution unique to the WPK.

The WPK always attaches paramount importance to the ideological front for achieving victorious advance of the revolution and firmly guaranteeing it on the strength of ideology. It has raised it as a very important problem in hastening the building of a prosperous country to intensify education in patriotism, aimed at encouraging all the people, mindful of the preciousness of their country, to work sincerely and conscientiously for its prosperity, whether they are appreciated by others or not.

In 2022 the sector of ideological work conducted education in patriotism in a substantial and consistent way, thus elevating our-state-first principle to an all-people patriotic spirit.

Making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people is a revolutionary trait unique to the WPK.

Under the seasoned leadership of Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the WPK, the people-oriented character was improved remarkably and the spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people was displayed higher than ever before among Party organizations and officials.

At the Second Conference of Secretaries of Primary Committees of the WPK, the General Secretary said: From now on we should make a forced march of devotion for the

people by staking the dignity and prestige of our Party, a party for the people and a “servant” party for them, without an equal in the world. Now is the time when our Party officials should go closer and more intimately to the people.

This was an appeal made to all the officials of the entire Party to go on the road of making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people with a renewed determination.

Kim Jong Un set noble examples in this regard for Party organizations and officials across the country, demonstrating his readiness to sacrifice himself and never caring about any difficulties if it was for the sake of the people.

Seeing him, officials keenly realized how they should support and serve the people and defend their life and security; Party organizations and officials at all levels went deeper among the people who were experiencing difficulties in their living and created the Party trait of making selfless, devoted efforts for the people, in the course of which, the improper view of the people revealed among them was eliminated and their people-oriented character improved.

Through this practical struggle, the WPK has been strengthened into a party which is seasoned and reveals not an iota of degeneration in the whirlwind of history, and a long-term theoretical guideline, the orientation of Party building in the new era, was provided.

On October 17, 2022, Kim Jong Un paid a visit to the Central

Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea and gave the school teaching staff and students a commemorative lecture, titled, *On the Orientation of the Building of Our Party in the New Era and the Tasks of the Central Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea*.

The Central Cadres Training School of the WPK is a “pedigree farm” for training the backbone of the ruling Party.

After the country's liberation (August 15, 1945), the Workers' Party of Korea, while shouldering the cause of building a state and army, was faced with the important task of rapidly expanding and strengthening its forces and, at the same time, laying the indispensable organizational and ideological foundations for developing itself into a socialist ruling party in the future.

Soon after liberation, Kim Il Sung, before anything else, founded the Workers' Party of Korea, the guiding political organization of the Korean revolution, on October 10, 1945, and saw to it that the then Central Party School was established on June 1, 1946, as a permanent Party school for training Party cadres.

When he visited the school in August 1948, he gave the graduates of the one-year course his hand-written instructions, reading that they should become competent officials of the Party and the state, who work always among the people, standing in the van of the people, for the independence and sovereignty of

the country and the freedom and happiness of the people.

His instructions were an absolute proposition that comprehensively reflected the immutable guidelines and principles to be maintained in the whole course of the building of the Party and its activities.

The school systematized the Party's ideas, lines and policies in a theoretical and comprehensive way, thus defending the Party's organizational and ideological strengthening and leadership activities in the educational, practical and academic fields.

Party officials and other talented persons produced by the school have set examples in leading the masses through their effective and faithful activities in Party and state building and in all other fields of socialist construction, and contributed greatly to the victorious advance of the Party and the state.

In the commemorative lecture he delivered at the school, reviewing the remarkable development made in the last decade, Kim Jong Un said: The characteristics of our Party building are the combination of thorough succession and fresh innovativeness, and the combination of the strengthening of Party work for the fulfillment of the immediate revolutionary tasks and the long-term building of the Party which guarantees the future development of the revolution.

Setting the orientation of Party building in the new era that is to be an important landmark in the development of the Party and the revolution, he continued: Today our Party faces a

responsible period when it has to inevitably link its leadership history of nearly 80 years to 100 years or more. It is obvious that if the educational system is not perfect enough to train the eminent reserves of the Party, even though the revolutionary idea of the Party is great and its exploits are enormous, and so if the reserves to take charge of the cause of the Party are not well prepared, the future of the Party, far from inheriting its ideology and exploits, is inconceivable.

The lecture was an immortal, great programme guaranteeing the new century of Party building.

That Kim Jong Un gave the commemorative lecture on the day of founding the Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU), the origin of the Korean revolution and the glorious historical root of the Party, is very meaningful.

He added: It is important to intensify the education and struggle for always maintaining and displaying the noble idea and determination of the early days of Party founding throughout the Party and, at the same time, push forward in a responsible and strong way with the work of training Party officials who have acquired the revolutionary trait of our Party. True to our Party's idea of attaching importance to its building and its policy of training its reserve cadres, the Central Cadres Training School should train competent Party officials and proficient political activists with whom our Party can entrust the future without anxiety even after 50, nay 100 or hundreds of years. What is

important for the socialist ruling Party in opening up its future is to resolutely maintain its natural duty and principles of activity without losing its centre of development in any circumstances and under any conditions, continue to intensify the struggle for uniting the whole Party around its Central Committee, continue to have its roots deep among the working masses and gain the unanimous trust of all the people.

To this end, he stipulated the political, organizational, ideological, discipline and work-style construction as the directions for the building of the WPK in the new era.

The directions are aimed at developing the WPK into a party that is politically mature, organizationally sound, ideologically pure, strictly disciplined and healthy in work style.

Just as a house with strong pillars does not collapse, so the WPK, if it follows the above-mentioned directions, is able to carry out its mission and duty as a revolutionary party without any vacillation.

In the lecture, Kim Jong Un said that the Party's political construction, the core task in steadily enhancing the Party's leadership ability and maintaining and consolidating its correct political traits, should be promoted, adding that this construction should always be given priority and strengthened, and the other sectors of Party building, including organizational and ideological construction, should be led and defined by it, and continued: The WPK can develop as indomitable leading

ranks with a high dignity and strong fighting efficiency only when a powerful impetus is given to its political construction. The whole Party should become a single-hearted entity with its Central Committee, with one head and one body. Party committees at all levels should perform their functions and roles correctly as the supreme leadership bodies and political staff of the units concerned. Every Party member forming the Party should think and struggle on a high level as the voluntary vanguard and political activist. The Party should steadily improve the methods of its leadership over the revolution and construction.

The Party should continue to strengthen its organizational building, he said, and continued: It is necessary to further deepen and develop the Party's organizational construction to steadily strengthen it into a body that is organizationally integrated and that moves as one in the dynamic advance towards the construction of socialism and communism purposed by us by overcoming any storm and stress. This organizational construction is an essential requirement for consolidating the organizational unity of the whole Party centred on its Central Committee and ensuring its sound metabolism and fighting efficiency.

The Party should give priority to the work of winning the trust of the masses and consolidating it, and Party organizations and officials should always lend an ear to the people's opinions,

respond sensitively to them, properly coordinate the public sentiments and direct their efforts to the work with young people, an important guarantee for building the Party in a long-term way.

Stressing the need to push ahead more powerfully with the ideological construction of the Party, he said: The ideological construction of the Party is a precondition for its existence and development as well as a fundamental guarantee for exercising its political leadership over the revolution and construction. Precedence should be given to the Party's ideological construction, and only then is it possible not only to prevent its change and degeneration but to further cement its ideological position. The sector of theoretical research should conduct in-depth research for explaining and propagating the ideas, theories and policies of our Party and deepen it in a far-sighted way so as to lead the ideological construction of the Party by providing a theoretical, profound and systematical clarification of the law-governed nature of the development of the Party and revolution and the prospect of socialist construction.

On vigorously pushing forward with the discipline construction of the Party, Kim Jong Un said: Discipline construction of the Party is an important requirement for thoroughly suppressing all unorganized, undisciplined and negative elements in the overall Party work and propel and guarantee the sound development of the Party. Only when a

strict discipline is established within the Party, can the whole Party be turned into revolutionary ranks that move as one according to the unitary conclusion of its Central Committee. And, only then, can the Party's leadership ability be promoted and the revolutionary struggle and construction work be carried out successfully.

Kim Jong Un explained the need to build the Party's style of work in a substantial way, adding that doing so is aimed at maintaining and developing its unique climate that conforms to its ideals and programme and the developing times. He continued: Building its style of work is of particular importance in building up the WPK in the new era. This is not a matter related with an individual Party official but a matter related with its dignity and prestige. It is a lesson taught by history that if the officials are degenerated far from becoming genuine servants of the people, a party cannot but be given a wide berth by the people and ignored by them, no matter how righteous its political doctrine and struggling purposes might be. That is why the issue of building its style of work was chosen as an independent field by the WPK in building itself up in the new era, the issue which had been discussed in the field of leadership art building before.

The basic requirement in this regard is that the whole Party should make officials acquire the revolutionary and people-oriented work style created by Comrades Kim Il Sung and

Kim Jong Il and developed and enriched by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, and apply it to their work, carrying out their tasks in a responsible way with a revolutionary attitude and manner in their work. While ensuring that a proper attitude towards the people is prevalent within the Party, it is necessary to further subdivide and actualize the rules of life of officials working at Party organs at all levels, in keeping with the new requirements of the building of the style of work, and to establish an order of strictly observing them. Revolutionary and people-oriented leadership traits and a sound political climate can be cultivated and maintained in the Party only when this work is carried out in a substantial way.

Kim Jong Un stressed that the whole Party should steadily and methodically conduct the work of making officials acquire the revolutionary and people-oriented work style, created by Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and developed by the Party, and apply it to their work, so that the communist work style peculiar to it could be carried on. It is the mode of existence and mode of revolution of our Party to deepen the people's trust in it by regarding them as sacred beings and making devoted efforts for them, purify its climate and attain higher goals on the strength of the single-minded unity between the Party and the people.

The orientation of Party building Kim Jong Un put forward is a permanent programme for its building to link its ruling history of nearly 80 years to 800, nay 8 000 years, by opening

up a new heyday of consolidating it with the day of the 96th founding anniversary of the DIU, the origin of the Korean revolution and the root of the WPK, as the starting point.

The orientation of Party building in the new era will serve as a powerful ideological and theoretical weapon that guarantees the building up of the dignified WPK, which has recorded the longest ruling history, into an eternally promising party and the promoting of socialist and communist construction with confidence by remarkably raising its leadership role.

The WPK had so far achieved great victory, overcoming the grave difficulties, through a tireless struggle to develop itself into a powerful body that is ideologically pure and organizationally integrated and to link its guidance with the masses in the three aspects of organizational building, ideological building and leadership art building.

However, the subjective and objective conditions of the Korean revolution and the actual situation of its work demanded that it should not rest on its laurels but put spurs to strengthening itself as a whole and work with a more appropriate and effective methodology.

Unless the Party innovated its building, not paying attention to the ever-changing requirements of the era and the prevailing state of its work, being obsessed by the stereotype, it could never strengthen itself nor promote the revolutionary cause.

The new five-point orientation of Party building clarified

by Kim Jong Un is an ideology that, by comprehensively inheriting and developing Kim Il Sung's and Kim Jong Il's Juche-oriented ideas and theories on Party building as required by the new era, indicates the way for the WPK to acquire an immaculate and thoroughgoing appearance and traits.

At the Sixth Plenary Meeting of its Eighth Central Committee, the WPK adopted a resolution on defining the new five-point orientation of Party building, based on Kim Jong Un's unique idea and theory of Party building, as the WPK's line of its building in the new era.



Precious Successes Achieved in the Face of Harshest-Ever Trials

In 2022 the Korean people brought about innovative changes in various fields and powerfully promoted socialist construction despite the grim challenges and ordeals of the public health crisis, the greatest upheaval after the state was founded.

Amid this struggle, new streets symbolic of the prosperity and civilization of the era of the Workers' Party were built in Pyongyang, the capital city, a large-sized greenhouse farm was built in Ryonpho, South Hamgyong Province, and modern houses of the new century were built in rural areas across the country, changing the appearance of the country.

Farm machines, numbering 5 500, the first seed of rural development in the new era, were supplied to farms in South Hwanghae Province, a major granary in the country, and the Komdok area made its appearance as a mountain gorge city, and an architectural group was built in the Hwasong area in Pyongyang.

Regained Stability and Peace

In 2022, the most serious state emergency occurred that a breakthrough was made on the epidemic prevention front, which had firmly been defended for two years and three months.

At the end of April a fever of unknown cause broke out, explosively spreading and expanding all over the country and resulting in over 350 000 fever cases in a short time.

The State Emergency Epidemic Prevention Headquarters and relevant units deliberated over the results of strict gene arrangement analysis of the samples collected from fever cases of an organization in the capital city on May 8, and concluded that it coincided with BA. 2, a subvariant of the Omicron variant, which was spreading rapidly worldwide at the time.

On May 12 alone, some 18 000 fever cases were found nationwide, and 187 800 persons were isolated and received medical treatment, six of them dying (one of them being tested positive for BA.2).

The people were at a loss what to do in this situation.

On May 12, the Eighth Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK was convened.

The Political Bureau recognized the necessity to raise the state epidemic prevention system to the highest-level

emergency anti-epidemic system to cope with the prevailing circumstances.

Kim Jong Un outlined and analyzed the current epidemic crisis created in the country, and noted that the highest-level emergency anti-epidemic system was aimed mainly at stably containing and controlling the spread of Covid-19 that had entered the territory of the country and quickly curing the infected cases to eradicate the source of its spread in the shortest possible time. Pointing out that the more dangerous enemy of ours than the malicious virus were unscientific fear, lack of faith and weak will, he affirmed, saying: We will surely overcome the current sudden situation and win victory in the emergency anti-epidemic efforts as we have a strong organizing ability with which the Party, government and people are single-mindedly united and a high sense of political awareness and self-consciousness of all the people that have been fostered and cemented during the prolonged emergency epidemic prevention campaign.

He stressed that the people's living and production activities should be organized with the whole country locked down city by city and county by county and with work, production and living units isolated from one another so as to flawlessly and perfectly block the transmission routes of the virulent virus, adding: The Party and the government have decided to take a measure of mobilizing the reserve medical supplies which have

been stored up for an emergency like the current one.

Accordingly, measures were taken for locking down every region and every unit across the country, for scientific and intensive testing and treatment, for releasing and supplying the state emergency medicines and for stabilizing the people's living to reverse the epidemic situation in a short span of time.

First of all, immediate and strict lockdown was enforced. This was, in fact, a measure that demanded greater endurance. Not to mention the damage to be done to national economic production and social life, no one could imagine the sufferings the people would experience in their lives.

However, the people responded to the measures taken by the Party and the government with a do-or-die determination, and, even in such a situation, defended their workplaces, doing their work in a responsible manner.

All the workers in the public health and anti-epidemic sectors worked 24 hours a day, and students from medical schools as well as retired medical workers enlisted themselves in providing medical treatment.

However, even though measures had been taken to urgently release and supply the reserve medicines of the state in accordance with the decision of the Eighth Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, officials in the relevant sectors and units failed to do their work properly on the plea of the prevailing conditions. As a

result, medicines were not supplied as demanded, impeding the treatment of patients.

One of the most pressing tasks facing the state in the situation was to supply medicines quickly to those suffering from the epidemic.

Being reported about this, Kim Jong Un, at a consultative meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK on May 15, had the Central Military Commission of the WPK issue a special order for immediately stabilizing the supply of medicines in Pyongyang by committing the powerful forces of the medical field of the People's Army. At the subsequent major Party meetings he ensured that measures were taken to improve the supply of medicines, and that all the pharmacies switched over to the 24-hour operation system.

In this way, medics of the KPA were dispatched to hundreds of pharmacies in the capital, and the people raised cheers.

At the major Party meetings held in the early morning or in the dead of night, Kim Jong Un instilled confidence in victory and courage into the officials, who were at a loss what to do, and gave detailed instructions on the correct strategy, ways and principles of the anti-epidemic war.

As the malignant epidemic spread simultaneously across the country in the early period of the highest-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign with the number of fever cases jumping to hundreds of thousands a day, the mortality rate could not

be reduced unless the work of establishing and propagating scientific therapies for the patients to treat the disease by themselves was given precedence.

In this regard, the public health sector found out optimum methods of drug administration, worked out proper treatment strategies, standardized them nationally, and issued relevant guidelines. The treatment and prevention institutions and other relevant institutions conducted a campaign for propagating common knowledge necessary for preventing and treating the disease among the broad sections of the people, and prepared video presentations for the promotion of the understanding of the viewers and disseminated them through mass media.

As a result, a well-regulated system of delivering medicines was established in the capital and the local areas, and the work of establishing, applying and disseminating treatment methods suited to the physical constitution and characteristics of the Korean people and the actual situation of the country was accelerated.

Along with this, a vigorous struggle was waged to reverse the anti-epidemic situation, and the anti-epidemic war was turned into an all-people resistance both in name and in reality.

Thanks to the correct leadership of Kim Jong Un and to the death-defying struggle of the workers in the public health and anti-epidemic sectors, KPA medics and the people, the country treated all the fever cases, recording a mortality rate

of 0.0016%, in less than three months after the highest-level emergency anti-epidemic system was put in place.

At the same time as supplying medicines, the medics of the KPA, deployed in the pharmacies in the capital, took practical measures for satisfying the people's demands and convenience. They not only waited for the people at the pharmacies, but provided sincere and devoted service, even running to seek out families that were in need of medicines, thus creditably discharging their noble mission as an army defending the people.

One medic sacrificed his life on this road, and another, while treating the patients in the place of a sick district doctor, unhesitatingly opened the airway of a patient, which had been blocked owing to acute respiratory insufficiency, and saved his life.

They did not impose even a slight burden on the people in the most difficult conditions, and left the capital city silently for their posts in the dead of night and at dawn without any formal farewell ceremony after accomplishing their tasks.

This made the people's trust in the WPK, which had trained such an army, stronger, and the families in the capital were filled with vigour and vitality again.

The great victory in the anti-epidemic campaign won by the Korean people was attributable not to the good conditions and foundations but to the firm will, self-sacrificing devotion and warm love of the WPK.

At a consultative meeting of the Political Bureau of the

Central Committee of the WPK held on May 14, 2022, Kim Jong Un said: The time has come when our Party Central Committee should prove its leadership role once again in the face of the trials of history; it is time for us to more deeply realize for what we are needed and for whom we have to fight at the cost of our lives; our Party will bravely discharge its important responsibility and duty and take full responsibility for the security and wellbeing of the country and people by displaying infinite loyalty and devotion.

From the day when the highest-level emergency anti-epidemic system was in operation, the Central Committee of the WPK, in a tense atmosphere, performed the function of commanding and controlling the anti-epidemic situation throughout the country.

Kim Jong Un visited the State Emergency Epidemic Prevention Headquarters and indicated to the officials, who were not aware of what to do before the first national crisis, clear-cut guidelines and strategies for their work.

This was not all.

A few days later, in order to acquaint himself with the supply of medicines in the capital, he visited pharmacies in Taedonggang District. The pharmacies had been frequented by many people, whose family members were suffering from the fever; worse still, the chemists had just recovered from the disease. Not minding these, Kim Jong Un learned in detail

about the operation of the pharmacies and the supply and selling of medicines, giving precious instructions to the chemists.

His warm affection and tender feeling for the people served as a fundamental source that powerfully aroused all the people to the anti-epidemic war.

At a consultative meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK held on May 14, 2022, he said that he was donating reserve medicines prepared by his family to people in need with a fervent prayer that peace and laughter would settle again in all families across the country at an early date. When an acute enteric epidemic broke out in the city of Haeju a month later, he sent on June 15 medicines prepared by his family to the Haeju Committee of South Hwanghae Province of the WPK.

Following his ennobling example, the people displayed the traits of helping and leading one another forward and devoting their all to society and the collective.

Officials of the Central Committee of the WPK sent hundreds of kinds of medicines prepared by their families to South Hwanghae Province, and numerous medical workers across the country did the work while eating and sleeping at their posts.

Officials and working people sent their medicines, materials necessary for anti-epidemic work, food, funds and others to the anti-epidemic, curative and preventive institutions, war veterans, houses with honoured disabled ex-soldiers and needy families;

one day in late May 2022, a woman, living in Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, donated medicines kept in her family to treating the fever case in her neighbourhood; when a family, which had just moved to another district, found themselves in a helpless state because of the ailing young daughter, the head of the neighbourhood unit and other neighbours sent their reserve medicines to the family and the doctor in charge of the unit treated her with sincerity.

The employees and officials at some factories worked day and night to provide medicines and foodstuffs to those infected with the virus; some people disposed of their family property to prepare goods needed by those in hostels, students' dormitories, orphanages and baby homes; and still some others selflessly shared their food grain, subsidiary foodstuffs and daily necessities with families and neighbours in need.

In the course of putting an end to the severest-ever public health crisis after the founding of the country, the Korean people learned a serious lesson once again that it was impossible to win victory in the war against the malignant virus only by dint of modern science and technology, and that when all the citizens consolidated the anti-epidemic walls without slackening even for a moment in firm unity and mutual cooperation, they could achieve the expected results.

It was proved by a new record of two years and three months in the history of the epidemic prevention work, and it was the

lesson of May 2022, when a breakthrough was made in the epidemic prevention walls owing to a moment of slackness.

It is the advantages unique to the social system in the country that the whole of it upheld the decisions and directives of the Party and the state on completely locking down all the sectors and units and kept pace with them, and all the people took a voluntary part in the anti-epidemic war without a moment of slackness, controlling and defending one another and demonstrating the spirit of collectivism, virtues and tender feeling. In this way, they set a new record in the period of anti-epidemic work amid the global health crisis, thus surprising the world people.

This success clearly proved the leadership and fighting efficiency of the WPK, the validity and scientific accuracy of the state anti-epidemic policy, the politico-ideological superiority of the socialist system and the organizing ability and the might of unity peculiar to it.

The anti-epidemic campaign of the year 2022 fully demonstrated the might of single-hearted unity of the leader and people and the advantages of the DPRK-style socialist system.

Kim Jong Un personally led the anti-epidemic campaign day and night without taking a rest even though he was suffering from the fever. The blood-sealed ties of affection and trust between the national leader and his people became the unbreakable might in overcoming the public health crisis.

The beautiful deeds and virtue of helping one another and devoting oneself for others displayed in the anti-epidemic campaign were a manifestation of the beautiful mental world of the Korean people, who acquired collectivism and sentiment of human love under the care of the WPK and the socialist system.

Thanks to the unique advantages of the social system of the country, the WPK could enforce locking down of every region and every unit across the country, an anti-epidemic measure unheard of in the world, and the people voluntarily and conscientiously observed and carried out all the regulations and instructions concerning anti-epidemic campaign, regarding them as the intentions of the Party and as an obligation and duty for the country, their own families and for themselves.

The medics, with an enthusiasm to live up to the trust and expectations of the Party and with an ardent love for the people, defended the people's absolute trust in the Party and the valuable tradition of unity between the army and the people with their devoted efforts.

The great victory in the anti-epidemic campaign, worthy of special note in the world history of public health, clearly demonstrated to the world once again that the DPRK will achieve victory with correct political leadership abilities and the might of single-hearted unity in the face of any challenges as it is led by the great leader and the Party and the people are united as one.

The victory the DPRK achieved in defending the safety of the state and the people from the global health crisis was one of the most important successes it achieved in 2022.

Vigorous Housing Construction

The Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government vigorously pushed ahead with the project of building 50 000 flats in Pyongyang in 2022 even under the harshest situation.

A modern street with 10 000 flats was set up in the Songsin and Songhwa area as part of the project.

The Eighth Congress of the WPK held in January 2021 had designated the building of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang as one of the important tasks to be accomplished during the five-year plan period.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the building of 10 000 flats in the Songsin and Songhwa area as part of the project to build 50 000 flats in Pyongyang was held in March 2021.

Kim Jong Un made a speech at the ceremony and pressed the button for blasting, signalling the start of the project.

In the speech he said: The Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Second Plenary Meeting of the Party's Eighth Central Committee held earlier this year took the decision to construct 50 000 flats in our capital city during the five-year

plan period by building 10 000 every year, while pushing ahead with housing development across the country; building 50 000 modern flats in Pyongyang is something our Party has long intended, prepared for and aspired to, in order to provide its citizens with more cultured and stable living conditions; the Party and the government, having made themselves aware of the number of families that were in need of new houses, conducted in-depth research to determine the measures for solving the problem; they regarded this project as their most important task.

Thus came into being the words *something the WPK has long intended, prepared for and aspired to in order to provide people with more cultured and stable living conditions.*

The Party and the government enlisted powerful construction workforce and huge amounts of funds and building materials for the project.

The soldiers and the civilian builders worked for a year to complete the project in the Songsin and Songhwa area.

In particular the soldiers took charge of building an 80-storey apartment house with nearly 900 flats with a total floor space of 160 000m², an iconic building in the project, and worked racing against time, removing 102 000m³ of earth and tamping 34 000m³ of concrete for foundation work.

The designers presented standard designs that represented the aspirations of the people and features of the times in the

shortest time possible; the technicians and skilled workers reduced the project period by scores of days by presenting the method of setting up decoration structures at a stroke with arch-type prefab parts, and ensured speedy and scientific calculation of workload and command of construction by developing 3D modelling of their sections; the citizens of the capital city volunteered to work at the construction sites in the evening after doing their own work. Thus, the project was completed within a year.

The inauguration ceremony of the new street was held on April 11, 2022.

Songhwa Street built at the eastern gate to the capital was a cradle of the people provided by the WPK, which intends to create more stable and civilized living conditions for them and solve the housing problem for the citizens of the capital city, and the first entity, symbolic of the new era of comprehensive development.

Kim Jong Un participated in the inauguration ceremony, and cut the ribbon of inauguration in the midst of the cheers of the people, wishing the occupants of the new houses all the best.

Two days later the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District was inaugurated. The district, built in the place where President Kim Il Sung once lived, is an edifice of the new era, epitomizing the people-first principle of the Central Committee of the WPK and the development strategy of the

Juche-oriented architecture. It sustains its formative and artistic beauty, usability and convenience on the highest level in the meaningful place at the centre of the capital city, providing a new standard for housing construction and a splendid place where the people could enjoy a new civilization of socialism.

Kim Jong Un personally named the district Kyongru-dong, meaning a pavilion of beads.

On April 13, 2022, Kim Jong Un participated in the inauguration ceremony of the district and cut the ribbon.

Looking round the new houses and congratulating the occupants, Kim Jong Un said to them, who extended over and over again their thanks to him, that for the WPK, whose trait is unconditional service for the people, the expression *world of people* was not a catchphrase, and that the people who support their state power with labour feats should enjoy all the civilization and happiness on this land.

Noting that the inauguration of the district built in the place still scented by the presence of Kim Il Sung on the Day of the Sun, a meaningful national holiday, reminded him of the late President, he said: It is the due obligation and noble duty of the descendants of President Kim Il Sung to follow his will; our Party has just followed his will; if he had known that the house where he once lived was removed and houses for patriots and meritorious persons were built in the place today, he must have felt satisfied; he must have felt quite pleased as if he were

embracing the people he so much loved throughout his life.

Construction of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area was promoted at its last stage in 2022. It was a reflection of the steadfast will of the WPK not to suspend for a moment to do something it has aspired to do even in the face of trials and difficulties.

The year 2022 witnessed ushering in of a new era of rural rejuvenation in the country.

For the country, sprucing up the countryside is people-oriented work welcomed by all the people, political work for planting socialist civilization in the countryside, and a historic undertaking for promoting the overall development of the country.

According to the programme of the rural revolution put forward by Kim Jong Un at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held in December 2021, construction of dwelling houses in the countryside was launched.

In order to push ahead with regional construction, rural construction in particular, the WPK and the DPRK government made it a policy and law to provide all the cities and counties with cement every year on a regular basis. And the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK put forward the strategic task for building all the rural villages to sustain the features of the country's style of socialism and regional features.

Kim Jong Un gave instructions on designing rural houses,

the order of priorities in construction, establishing powerful state guidance and building materials supply systems, and consolidating the construction workforce and material and technological foundations in the cities and counties.

Thanks to the measures he took, hundreds of designs for building houses in the countryside were completed to sustain the political, modern, cultural, diversified and regional features.

In 2022, the first year of rural construction, model rural houses were built, reflecting the features of mountain, lowland and coastal areas, heralding the arrival of the new era of rural development.

In the midst of nationwide drive for building houses in the countryside, houses, epitomizing modern civilization, were built in many villages including Solbong-ri in Kosan County, Kangwon Province, and Changhyo-ri in the city of Hoeryong, North Hamgyong Province.

These houses built in difficult times proved the scientific accuracy, justness and vitality of the programme of the rural revolution in the new era.

Building houses has also been promoted vigorously in the Komdok area in the northern part of the country. In this area, a large-scale mineral producer, a biggest-ever mountain gorge town, with 25 000 houses and neighbourhood-serving amenities, will be built in five years, beginning from the year 2021, with 5 000 houses each year.

The area was heavily hit by typhoon No. 9, which affected the east coast and northern inland areas in September 2020.

At the Sixth Enlarged Meeting of the Seventh Central Military Commission of the WPK held on September 8, 2020, Kim Jong Un assigned the Korean People's Army with the work of rehabilitation of the Komdok area.

And next month he personally went to the area along the railways, which had been temporarily laid.

He said he had realized that the damage done to the area was much greater than he had thought, and highly appreciated the labour exploits of the KPA soldiers, who had completely removed the aftermaths of the serious damage and were undertaking foundation work for the rehabilitation project. When he saw some outdated, one-storey houses crowded on the slopes on his way to the construction site of the houses, he presented a far-reaching plan of completely removing the centuries-old backwardness in the area and turning it into a model mountain town for the country, next to the city of Samjiyon, by building modern houses as suited to the demands of the new era, thereby creating another model of regional construction.

Upon receiving his order, the KPA soldiers buckled down to housing construction; they built 2 300 one-storey and terraced houses and low-rise and high-rise apartment houses by the end of 2020, so that the victims could move into them. They further kindled the flames of collective innovation in step with the speed

of offensive of the WPK which does not know satisfaction in its work for the people.

By the end of 2021, one-storyed houses, low-rise, high-rise apartment houses and terraced houses, numbering thousands, were built in the gorge.

Housing construction, aimed at providing the local people with new civilization, is still going on in the area.

Assets for Prosperity Increased

On October 10, 2022, marking the founding anniversary of the WPK, the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm was built as another gigantic structure.

Kim Jong Un attended its inauguration ceremony and cut the ribbon.

The farm, built as a leading greenhouse farm, a farm on a high level of automation and a base of creation of the Korean-style rural civilization, according to the decision of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, is an asset the WPK presented to the people for their prosperity and a new entity showcasing the socialist rural rejuvenation.

The WPK and the DPRK government had long paid close attention to the building of greenhouse farms.

In recent years in particular, they had formulated it as a

policy to build modern and cost-effective greenhouse farms on a large scale across the country to supply the people with various kinds of fresh vegetables all year round, and steadily strived to implement it.

Accordingly, the country started building large-scale greenhouse farms, first in the areas where vegetable production is not suitable for their natural and climatic conditions, and, as part of this effort, wonderfully built the Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm in North Hamgyong Province in the northern area of the country in 2019.

In 2022, with a view to building a large-scale greenhouse farm in the Ryonpho area to supply the people in Hamhung, an industrial and science city, and in other areas in South Hamgyong Province with fresh vegetables in and out of season, the country decided the project as the most important part of the construction policy task for the year, and translated it into reality.

How much importance the country attached to building the greenhouse farms can be seen from the fact that the sites of the two greenhouse farms had been used as important military bases.

What is also noteworthy is their scale, modernization level and construction speed.

The Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm inaugurated in December 2019 was the largest-scale, modern greenhouse farm at that time.

The farm consists of 320 hydroponic and other greenhouses, including 300 semi-arched double-covered vinyl greenhouses,

each covering an area of 1 000m², hundreds of houses and a large number of public and production buildings.

The farm with a high level of modernization in greenhouse management and vegetable cultivation was built in a little over one year.

Compared to it, the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm was twice the farm in scale and production capacity.

The greenhouse farm in Ryonpho is a large farming area; covering an area of 280 hectares with over 850 hydroponic and other greenhouses of 100 hectares, in which production is put on a modern, intensive and industrial footing and whose annual production capacity is tens of thousands of tons, the farm also consists of over 1 000 houses, schools, a house of culture and a comprehensive service centre, which all preserve the regional features and go well by section.

As a new model greenhouse farm for practical education that disseminates advanced agricultural techniques, the farm can mass-produce various leaf and fruit vegetables in all seasons; it is monumental in its functional, architectural and quality aspects, and the coming generations as well as the present one can enjoy benefits from it.

The whole course of its building was days filled with trials—persistent provocative moves by the hostile forces, an anti-epidemic crisis unprecedented since the founding of the Republic and the successive natural disasters.

In this situation, the service personnel created a miracle of building it in 230 days true to the noble intention of the WPK.

It was the will of the WPK and the DPRK government that the project, a promise with people for the promotion of their well-being, must be done at any cost.

True to this unshakable will, the service personnel raced against time, creating new standards and miracles in the area; with the thoughts that they had no right to fall down before implementing the project which the WPK was aspiring to and that the more they toiled, the greater the happiness of the people grew, they waged a fierce 24-7 struggle even though they suffered from high fever, braving strong sand winds and heavy rains.

In November 2022, a ceremony for moving into new houses took place in the farm amid dancing, singing and smiling of the occupants of the houses.

As it was an asset of the people provided when the state and people were experiencing worst-ever difficulties, the farm inspired not only the people in South Hamgyong Province but also all the other people with confidence in the bright future and with great strength.

In order to hand down to posterity the immortal exploits of the great man, who set an ambitious goal, formulated a plan for a bright future and opened the new phase of national development by ushering in a heyday of construction for the people even in the extreme trials unprecedented in the country's

history, the local people built a mosaic mural painting depicting Kim Jong Un in the meaningful Ryonpho area.

The year 2022 was the first year of the fresh development of socialist countryside in the DPRK.

At the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, Kim Jong Un advanced a new rural revolution programme in the new era, aimed at putting the country's agriculture on an upward track and opening up a new great era of effecting drastic development in the countryside by vigorously pushing forward rural rejuvenation.

Clarifying the goal and the present central tasks for socialist rural construction, the programme sets forth comprehensive and detailed guidelines for turning all the farms in the country into socialist paradises that are rich and good to live in, including the issues of powerfully expediting the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—increasing agricultural production in a sustained way, increasing state investment in agriculture, and drastically transforming the appearances and environment of the rural areas.

Amid the struggle to implement the programme, the material and technical foundations for mechanization of farm work was consolidated.

In the year 2022, 5 500 high-performance farm machines produced by the working class in the munitions industry and hundreds of rice combine harvesters by the working class in the

machine-building industry sector were provided to all the farms and their workteams in South Hwanghae Province. The new-type farm machines are designed to be easy to use and ensure high efficiency.

The regional-industry factories in Kimhwa County, turned into models for the renovation of the regional industry in 2022, are another asset for prosperity.

In order to implement the line of strengthening cities and counties set forth at its Eighth Congress and to create new standards for the regional-industry factories, the WPK decided to remove the backward factories in a county and build new ones that can represent the standard of the times and regional civilization, and designated the regional-industry factories in Kimhwa, a mountainous county with poor living conditions and weak economic foundations, for their renovation as standards and models for the whole country.

To this end, effective measures were taken.

As a result, the factories in the county were turned into standards and models for the whole country.

Their production processes were set up so as to utilize the agricultural produce and forest resources to the maximum as suited to the local features. At present, the foodstuff, garment, daily-necessities and paper factories are turning out more than one hundred categories of foodstuffs and consumer goods of scores of kinds.

The country is now waging a struggle to renovate the regional-industry factories across the country with those in Kimhwa County as models.

Study and research are being made to modernize the production lines in all these factories and increase the production of quality consumer goods by relying on the local products and resources.

In addition, the Taesongsan Ice Cream Factory, Orangchon Power Station and first-stage renovation of the Kumsong Tractor Factory were inaugurated, and a large-scale sodium carbonate production line was installed at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex.

These are all assets provided for prosperity in the face of manifold harsh trials.

For the Rising Generation

The Sixth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea held in February 2022 adopted the Law of the DPRK on Childcare.

At the Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held in June 2021, Kim Jong Un proposed as its sixth agenda item the task of improving the WRK's policy on childcare.

Kim Jong Un said that there is no more important revolutionary work than the work of bringing up children, the future of the country, to be strong and sound, and that it is the most important policy and supreme cherished desire of the Party and the state to provide more improved conditions for bringing them up even by investing a huge sum of money; and he added: If the children who are born and grow up on this land eat well and are raised healthily in a good environment from their childhood, that much vitality and vigour will overflow in our society after 20 or 30 years and the national power of the DPRK will grow greater.

The fact is that the DPRK had established in the late 1940s a system of bringing up and educating children under public care by diverting a large sum of state money to building nurseries and kindergartens in different parts of the country and operating them.

In 1976 the government enshrined this system in the Law of the DPRK on the Upbringing and Education of Children.

After the law was adopted, the number of nurseries increased, and the children's nourishment became further improved.

Later, this law was revised and supplemented several times.

However, the economic difficulties caused by the pernicious and brigandish sanctions by the hostile forces and the protracted pandemic created a series of troubles in the work of bringing the children up.

At the plenary meeting of the WPK Central Committee, Kim Jong Un said that supplying all the children across the country with nourishing foodstuffs including dairy produce at state expense should be formulated as a policy of the Party, and indicated the detailed tasks and methods for its implementation.

It was easier said than done for the country with weak foundations for producing dairy produce to feed children with these produce all year round.

Kim Jong Un stressed: The worse the situation is, the greater affection we should bestow on our children, and take dynamic steps forward towards the future of communism with the might of that affection. This has to be the way of advance and development of our revolution. Their days in nursery and kindergarten are the most important one in the children's growth and development. It should be the Party's policy to supply all the children across the country with nourishing foodstuffs including dairy produce at state expense.

Setting forth detailed tasks and ways to this end, he ardently said that all the officials should pay particular attention to providing sufficient foodstuffs to the children at nurseries and kindergartens with their real parents' affection and get their loyalty to the Party and the revolution, the country and the people verified by making a tangible contribution to implementing the Party's childcare policy.

The meeting deliberated his proposal, and adopted a relevant

decision with unanimous approval.

After the meeting was over, practical measures were taken to implement the childcare policy.

This is how the decision of the plenary meeting was enshrined in law.

As a subsidiary to the Law of the DPRK on the Upbringing and Education of Children, the law on childcare, consisting of 61 articles in four chapters, stipulates issues concerning production and supply of nutritious foodstuffs for children and providing conditions for bringing them up, like using materials whose quality is guaranteed for producing powdered milk, producing powdered milk that conforms to the national standards by modernizing its production lines and equipment and developing its processing techniques. It even stipulates such issues as supplying necessary equipment, musical instruments, toys and others to nurseries and kindergartens, ensuring room temperature in their rooms, and providing electricity needed and fuel for heating and cooking.

After the law was adopted, the whole country conducted more vigorously the work of supplying nourishing foodstuffs including dairy produce to children on a regular basis and creating excellent conditions for childcare; provinces, cities and counties pushed forward with the work of building milch cow and goat farms equipped with milk and feed processing factories, expanding or renovating the existing ones, thus

increasing the number of milch cows and goats and raising the output of dairy produce greatly in comparison to the same period of the previous year; these units and supply units were equipped with necessary conditions including vehicles, freezing and storing equipment and transport containers so that children could be provided always with fresh dairy produce.

This led to the remarkable decrease of the rate of outbreak of illness including diarrhea, undernutrition and respiratory disease among children and increase of their heights and weights in the year to the delight of their parents and other people.

Greeting the new school year of 2022, freshers of primary, junior middle and senior middle schools, colleges and universities across the country were supplied with new school uniforms, shoes, bags and stationery. And greeting the founding anniversary of the WPK, orphans across the country were supplied with padded coats, sporting uniforms and shoes for the coming winter.

Seeing the holding of the Ninth Congress of the Korean Children's Union in late December 2022 and Kim Jong Un having a photo session with the delegates to the congress on the first morning of the year 2023, the Korean people were convinced of a brighter future of their country and renewed their pledge to make sincerer efforts for the development of their country.



Irreversible Military Supremacy

2022 was a year when the DPRK fully displayed its prestige and absolute might as a world-class military power.

The miraculous successes achieved in the sector of national defence brought the world to realize that which is a righteous country, a superpower, in defending peace of mankind.

The largest-ever military exercises, conducted in a war atmosphere to cope with the enemy's repeated reckless military provocations, demonstrated the country's resolute stand and iron will to neutralize the enemy's provocations and defend its dignity and sovereignty on its consistent principle of power for power and with powerful nuclear counteractions, and made the world realize its nuclear forces' features, combat efficiency and capability of fighting a war.

In addition, the successes, which the sectors of military science and munitions industry achieved one after another in developing cutting-edge

military hardware of new generations, were events of historic significance, which made the modern character of the country's armed forces and its supremacy in military technology more irreversible.

Powerful Military Countermeasures

Entering the year 2022, the US imperialists and their vassal forces clung to a reckless military confrontation manoeuvres by mobilizing their large forces.

After making an agreement on further intensifying the provision of the “expanded deterrence” to south Korea on the pretext of coping with the DPRK's enshrining its nuclear forces policy in law, the United States further aggravated the regional tension by dispatching a *Ronald Reagan*-led carrier strike group to the waters around the Korean peninsula on September 23, 2022 as the first demonstration and conducting military exercises from September 26 to October 8.

It conducted joint naval drills with the south Korean bellicose forces in the East Sea of Korea from September 26 to 29 for four consecutive days and on September 30, conducted a joint anti-submarine drill with Japan and south Korea.

It re-dispatched the carrier strike group, which had left the waters of the East Sea of Korea, and imposed military

threat on the DPRK by staging a joint missile defence drill on October 6 and a combined marine manoeuvring drill on October 7 and 8.

It also conducted Vigilant Storm, the largest-ever US-south Korean joint air drill, from October 31 to November 5 by mobilizing hundreds of various fighter jets including strategic nuclear bombers.

These military provocations, with a strong aggressive character, were dangerous war games, which targeted the DPRK.

In late September the Central Military Commission of the WPK held discussions on the political and military developments on the Korean peninsula and their perspective, and adopted a decision on organizing military exercises of various levels in real-war atmosphere in order to send warnings of powerful military countermeasures against the enemy.

According to the decision, the armed forces of the DPRK conducted intensive military exercises by mobilizing the tactical nuclear operation units, the flying corps and the frontline long-range artillery sub-units of the Korean People's Army.

The tactical nuclear operation units conducted a ballistic missile launching drill under the simulation of loading tactical nuclear warheads at a silo under a reservoir in a northwestern part of the DPRK at the dawn of September 25, 2022. And on

September 28, they conducted a ballistic missile launching drill under the simulation of loading tactical nuclear warheads for the purpose of neutralizing the airports in the operation zones in south Korea.

On September 29 and October 1, they conducted launching drills of tactical ballistic missiles of different kinds and hit the preset targets with the combination of explosion in the air and direct precision and dispersion bomb strikes, verifying the accuracy and power of the weapon systems.

In order to send a more powerful and clear warning to the enemy, the KPA units for operation of tactical nukes hit the preset water area in the Pacific 4 500 kilometres away across the Japanese archipelago with a new-type ground-to-ground IRBM on October 4.

The launch of the IRBM was dangerous in that it had to be done only with a determination to fight even a war and, worse still, the enemy's strike on the launching site had to be expected.

Kim Jong Un went to the launching site in a northern area far away from Pyongyang early that morning, and guided its launch.

As the new-type ground-to-ground IRBM was fired across the territory of Japan for the first time in the historic period when the nation's nuclear forces policy was enshrined in law, the DPRK has become able to strike the targets not only on the East Sea of Korea but also on the waters of the Pacific.

The great victory, achieved on October 4 demonstrating the military supremacy of the Eastern nuclear power, was a historic event, which took revenge on Japan that had enforced sufferings, pains and the destiny of colonial slavery on the Korean people, with the firing of a missile over it and which gave a heavy political and military blow to the US, Japanese reactionaries and south Korean puppets.

When the DPRK launched the missile that can fly over Guam, where the US concentrated its strategic nuclear assets for an emergency in the Korean peninsula, the enemy's camp was thrown into utter confusion.

The Japanese authorities, who were anxious that a missile might fall on their land, instructed the people in the northeastern area to evacuate, resulting in the suspension of train service in Hokkaido and Aomori Prefecture and the subway service in Sapporo.

The KPA staged a joint strike drill of the long-range artillery sub-units on the western front and the flying corps in the western part of the country on October 6 and a large-scale combined air-strike drill by flying more than a hundred fighter jets of different missions simultaneously on October 8, neutralizing the enemy's provocations and displaying its posture of war readiness and capability for counter-strike.

To cope with enemy's military exercise, named, Vigilant Storm, the General Staff of the KPA organized military

operations from November 2 to 5, including a large-scale all-out combat sortie operation by the Air Force.

They started with the launch of tactical ballistic missiles, followed by launch of ground-to-air missiles, retaliatory strike with strategic cruise missiles, a test-fire of ballistic missile, and firing of super-large multiple launch rockets, tactical ballistic missiles of various missions and long-range multiple launch rockets.

Particularly, the large-scale all-out combat sortie operation staged by hundreds of fighters of various missions showed the enemy the KPA's thoroughgoing will for counterattack, completely crushing their assertion of "air supremacy."

Displayed to the full through the launching drills of the tactical nuclear operation units were the actuality of the nuclear combat forces of the country and their combat effectiveness and actual war capabilities, which are fully ready to deal a strike at any set scope of any set targets from any set places at any set time.

It was a clear warning that anyone who dares to provoke the DPRK can never escape from a powerful pre-emptive nuclear strike, a merciless punishment.

The military drills and operations inspired the Korean people with the faith in sure victory of the socialist cause.

The faith in sure victory of the socialist cause is not inborn in people from the start, and it does not remain permanent

after being cherished in them. It becomes solid when they are fully aware of the advantages of socialism, receive ceaseless education and feel the national power and prestige of their country.

After seeing and hearing the news of military drills, exercises and operations through newspapers, TV and radio, the Korean people learned more about the might of their revolutionary army, and further solidified their faith that thanks to this might, no one can challenge their dignity, sovereignty and right to existence and check their country's advance toward achieving the comprehensive development of socialism.

Nuke for Nuke

The reckless moves for military confrontation by the US and hostile forces, persistently driving the military and political situation on the Korean peninsula towards a danger line, went beyond the limit and the hypocritical and brigandish sophistry of slandering the right to self-defence of the sovereign state was being justified on the UN arena. These circumstances demanded that the WPK and the government of the DPRK accelerate practical improvement of their overwhelming nuclear deterrent and take practical actions aimed at showing more clearly the will of tougher retaliation.

Under the direct guidance of Kim Jong Un, new-type ICBM *Hwasongpho-17* was launched successfully on November 18, 2022, demonstrating the unshakable will of the WPK and powerful strength of Juche Korea.

The launch on the day was an event of great national significance, which displayed the practical strength of the military power to the world.

It is a struggling principle of the WPK that if the US attempts to pose threat by recourse to nuke, the country will do so by recourse to nuke, and if the US attacks it with nuke, it will counter it with nuke.

Under the actual circumstances, the WPK demonstrated, through the successful test-launch of a new-type ICBM, its unshakable will of tougher countermeasure of nuke for nuke and head-on confrontation with head-on confrontation.

The DPRK will not step back even an inch on the road of strengthening its nuclear forces in any case unless the US hostile policy and nuclear threat against it are removed; the more the hostile forces intensify their frenzied attempts and offensive, the more it will accelerate the qualitative and quantitative buildup of its self-defensive nuclear forces; the moves for military countermeasure of the US and its followers against the country will surely lead them to their self-destruction—this is the significance of the test-launch of a new-type ICBM.

November 18 was a day, which demonstrated the prestige of the DPRK that has built up a great strength for safeguarding peace.

It is the aspiration of humankind to live in a peaceful world free from aggression and war, but peace does not come of its own accord. In the current world, where the logic of power prevails, one can defend the present and future of his country and nation only when he is strong. It is a truth that the more powerful his striking ability is, the stronger the strength of restraining the aggression is.

The new-type ICBM *Hwasongpho-17*, launched at Pyongyang International Airport, travelled up to a maximum altitude of 6 040.9 km and flew a distance of 999.2 km for 4 135 seconds before accurately landing on the preset area in the open waters of the East Sea of Korea.

The successful test-fire of the ICBM, which would represent the strategic force of the DPRK, verified the reliability of its system and its combat capacity as the most powerful strategic weapon in the world, demonstrating the country's strategic, absolute strength that is increasing rapidly on the road of carrying out the WPK's far-reaching cause of building the country into a powerful country.

Remarkable Development of Defence Capability

The defence industry of the DPRK, which manifested the country's superiority in military technology by completing the great cause of building the country's nuclear forces in five years, clearly showed the hostile forces the fact that the country had not said empty words by developing the Juche-oriented weapons of new generations one after another from the outset of 2022, demonstrating to the world the level of its development.

In the face of the harshest-ever hardships in this century and unprecedented pressure in history, Kim Jong Un saw to it that his country possessed all the absolute weapons, a monopoly of the nuclear powers, in a few years, not in scores of years, and, on the basis of this, developed and perfected never-seen Juche-oriented weapons through a single leap forward.

The defence scientists of the country developed and perfected Juche-oriented weapons of new generations one after another, which are capable of firmly maintaining the superiority of the military technology of the revolutionary armed forces and reliably safeguarding the peace and security of the country.

In 2022 the defence scientists succeeded in a test-fire of a hypersonic missile and the ICBM *Hwasongpho-17*, another powerful means of nuclear strike, fully demonstrating the speed of development of strategic weapons and their might.

In 2021, it had succeeded in test-firing a tactical guided missile of a new type, newly-developed long-range cruise missile, anti-aircraft missile and new-type SLBM.

But the renewal speed of military hardware in 2022 was surprising.

January witnessed successful test-firing of a hypersonic missile, firing drill for inspection of a railway mobile missile regiment in North Phyongan Province, and test-firing for renewing the long-range cruise missile system and for confirming the power of conventional warhead for surface-to-surface tactical guided missile.

The country test-fired new-type ICBM *Hwasongpho-17* in March and a new-type tactical guided weapon in April, conducted a ballistic missile launching drill under the simulation of loading tactical nuclear warheads at a silo under a reservoir in September and test-fired a long-range cruise missile in October. All these were demonstrations of the high speed of development no one could follow and of the capability to strike the enemy in any place, at any time, for any purpose and in any mode.

The awe-inspiring super-large ICBM *Hwasongpho-17* gave

a glimpse into the modern character and striking power of the strategic force of the DPRK.

New-type leading tanks, self-propelled gun howitzers, super-large MLRSs—the first of its kind in the world—anti-armour weapons, electronic weaponry and reconnaissance means of various kinds, tactical missiles of the latest versions, *Pukkuk-song*-series submarine-launched and ground-based ballistic missiles and *Hwasongpho*-series IRBMs and ICBMs and anti-aircraft missile systems were all on the world-class level.

The success of static firing test of high-thrust solid-fuel motor with a thrust of 140 ton-force held in December 2022 provided a firm scientific and technological guarantee for developing another new-type strategic weapon system and successfully solved another important problem in carrying out the five top-priority tasks facing the strategic weapon field under the five-year plan for the development of defence science and weapon systems set forth by the Eighth Party Congress.

Why the world was surprised at the development of the Juche-oriented defence industry of the country is that each weapon has the world-class power and that the means of application of nuclear warhead became diversified and space of their application was expanded. It clearly learned how the DPRK defends itself.

Frightened by the might of *Hwasongpho* ICBM, the US,

Japan and the south Korean puppets said that “the missile launched recently is directly threatening the US as it can carry nuclear warhead to the US mainland,” and that “the test-fire by the north is as good as a signal to the US that ‘we can tighten your throat.’”

The continuous development of Juche-oriented weapons of new generations demonstrated the strategic power and war deterrent that have become more consolidated and perfected to firmly defend the security and future of the state and people. They also vigorously encouraged the Korean people in their struggle to glorify the year 2022.

The remarkable defence development in 2022 served as a source for the Korean people to create many more and better creations, exemplary models of the times and eye-opening changes of self-reliance and self-development with the pride of being citizens of a powerful country possessing tremendous military strength that controls the hostile forces and with self-confidence, courage, fortitude and passion and mettle.



The Korean people, who overcame the harsh difficulties and demonstrated the prestige of their country in 2022, have reaffirmed the accuracy of the orientation of their advance and

mode of development, and are full of enthusiasm to redouble their efforts to bring a brighter future earlier by relying on their own strength.

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held in December 2022 indicated the orientation and ways of struggle for the year 2023.

As they have a great programme that guarantees the long-term plan of the Juche revolution, the powerful self-supporting economy, invincible single-hearted unity of the Party and the people, matchless military strength and valuable experiences accumulated while overcoming hardships, the Korean people will surely turn their dreams and ideals into reality.

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