

KIM JONG IL

LET US SERVE THE PEOPLE

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WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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ON FURTHER IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PEOPLE

**Speech at a Consultative Meeting of Senior
Officials of the Central Committee
of the Workers' Party of Korea**

February 16, 1984

Achieving a continuous improvement in the people's standard of living is the supreme principle governing our Party's activities.

Our Party bears full responsibility for the future of our people and strives to provide a more prosperous and cultured life for them. Our Party's efforts to build socialism and communism under the programme to model the whole society on the Juche idea are aimed, ultimately, at making the people more prosperous. There is no more important task for our fighting Party than that of improving the people's standard of living by conducting economic construction successfully.

A continuous improvement in the standard of living of the people is essential if we are to bring the superiority of our socialist system fully into play.

Our socialist system is the most superior social system in the world and under it the masses of the people are the

masters of everything in society and everything in society serves the masses. True, the genuine superiority of our socialist system is expressed in many fields of social life, but it is particularly evident in the fact that the state takes full responsibility for the material and cultural well-being of the people. In order to give full play to the advantages of our socialist system under which the masses of the people are masters of everything in society and everything in society serves them, we must radically improve the people's standard of living so that they can enjoy an independent and creative life to the full not only in the political sphere but also in the material and cultural fields.

A great improvement in the people's standard of living is also essential in order to reunify the country as soon as possible and enhance the dignity and prestige of our country abroad.

When we improve our people's standard of living radically, the south Korean people will make more vigorous efforts in their struggle for democracy in south Korean society and for national reunification, looking up to the northern half as a beacon of hope.

People throughout the world are calling our country the "homeland of Juche" and the "model socialist country." The authority and prestige of our country abroad are increasing daily and people around the world want to learn from our country. When we have improved the people's standard of living so that all our people lead a prosperous and cultured life to the full, the dignity and prestige of our country abroad will be enhanced still further.

We should improve the people's standard of living also to cope with war.

A very serious situation is prevailing in our country now, in which a war may break out any moment owing to the moves for aggression and war by the US imperialists and south Korean puppets. This situation demands that we fully prepare ourselves in all the political, economic and military fields to frustrate in time the moves by the US imperialists and south Korean puppets to ignite a new war and reliably defend our socialist country and the gains of the revolution.

What is most important in making preparations for a war is to improve the people's standard of living so as to prepare all the people and soldiers of the People's Army politically and ideologically to defend at the cost of their lives our socialist system provided by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the gains of the revolution achieved at the cost of blood.

It is only when the people are provided with a prosperous and cultured life through a great improvement in their standard of living that they will become keenly aware, through their own experience, of the genuine superiority of our socialist system and have a firm politico-ideological resolve to defend this beneficial system at the cost of their lives. This was eloquently proved by our experience in the Fatherland Liberation War.

When the war broke out our people were empty-handed because it was only five years after liberation. But they won a great victory in the war against the US imperialists, who had boasted of being "the strongest" in the world. At

that time our people and the soldiers of the People's Army fought against the US imperialists and their lackeys at the risk of their lives; and this was not at all because Party ideological work was conducted well. As a matter of fact, in the period of peaceful construction after liberation and during the Fatherland Liberation War anti-Party, counter-revolutionary factionalists established a foothold in Party ideological work. Instead of conducting education to arm Party members and other working people with the revolutionary ideas of the leader and the brilliant revolutionary traditions of our Party, they spread sycophancy, dogmatism and national nihilism by teaching our people the histories of foreign parties and other irrelevant things. Frankly speaking, at that time the Party was conducting practically no ideological work.

During the Fatherland Liberation War our people and the soldiers of the People's Army fought heroically for the Party and the leader, for the country and the people. This was because, while enjoying a happy life for the first time in their life under the care of the leader for the five years after liberation, they became keenly aware of how precious the country and the leader were. With the establishment of genuine people's power and the enforcement of agrarian reform, the nationalization of industry and other democratic reforms after liberation, all under the care of the leader, our people became the masters of the land and their factories, the dignified masters of the country, found the true worth of life and were able to enjoy a happy life to the full. So, the sons and daughters of the workers, peasants and other working people went to the front in high spirits as soon as

the war broke out, in order to prove themselves worthy of the benefits granted to them by the leader and to defend the country he had won back, and fought heroically with complete devotion in the struggle for the Party and the leader, for the country and the people. Hero Ri Su Bok covered the muzzle of an enemy's machine gun with his breast and ensured the advance of his unit. And Hero Ri Tae Hun fought against an enemy force over 50 000 strong to the last drop of his blood in defence of Wolmi Island. They were the sons of workers and peasants who, after liberation, came to enjoy a genuine life and happiness for the first time in their life under the care of the leader. Although our people had not received any systematic revolutionary education after liberation, a radical change was brought about in their world outlook because they clearly realized through their own experience the generosity of the leader and the genuine superiority of the people's democratic system.

Three decades have passed since the ceasefire and our people's demands with regard to their material and cultural lives are huge. The time is now past when you could say that the people's standard of living was reasonably good when compared with the past when they had worn hemp clothes. If you tell the people that the socialist system is good while their rice bowls are empty, they will neither understand its real advantages fully nor be equipped with socialist patriotism. If you are to make all the people rise up as one in the case of an emergency and fight for the Party and the leader, for the country and their fellow people at the risk of their lives, you must intensify ideological

education among the Party members and other working people and, at the same time, raise the material and cultural standard of living of the people one grade higher.

Because the matter of raising the people's standard of living is very important in the revolution and construction, our Party has always directed great attention to it in each period and at each stage of revolutionary development.

At the Sixth Party Congress the leader put forward the policy of radically improving the material and cultural standard of living of the people by speeding up socialist economic construction, as required by the historic cause of imbuing the whole society with the Juche idea, and he made clear in detailed terms the way to implement this policy. Recently, at a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and at some other meetings, he has said that we should raise the people's standard of living at an earlier date. It is our Party's firm resolve to improve the people's living standards as soon as possible.

You comrades must clearly understand the Party's intention and work hard to raise the material and cultural standard of living of our people one grade higher by fully displaying the revolutionary spirit and loyalty to the Party, to the working class and to the people.

In order to improve the people's living standards, you must, first of all, ensure that good crops are raised.

This is the way to produce large quantities of grain and various other farm products and ensure that the people have enough to eat.

With regard to the people's livelihood it is very important to supply them with enough food. We can put up

with a shortage of clothing and housing to some degree, but we cannot allay our hunger. The matter of food is very important in the life of the people. Therefore, at a recent meeting of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, the leader said that it was more correct to say food, clothing and housing rather than clothing, food and housing. If we are to provide sufficient food for the people, we must grow good crops and increase agricultural production.

In the past our Party, with a view to increasing agricultural production, put forward the agriculture-first policy and consistently paid close attention to it. As a result, irrigation and electrification of agriculture in our country were accomplished a long time ago and the comprehensive mechanization and the use of chemicals in agriculture have made good headway, and in this way solid material and technical foundations have been laid for the rural economy. However, last year our officials neither gave efficient guidance to farming, as demanded by the Juche farming method, nor increased investment in the agricultural sector, with the result that agricultural production has not increased. If we continue to farm as we did last year, we shall be able neither to increase agricultural production rapidly nor ensure that the people have enough to eat. We must do everything possible to raise good crops and so reach the goal of producing 15 million tons of grain annually, one of the ten long-term objectives of socialist economic construction for the 1980s.

In order to raise good crops, we should decisively increase investment in agriculture. This is essential to

consolidate the material and technical foundations of agriculture and ensure a continual increase in agricultural production. We must increase investment in agriculture and effect comprehensive mechanization and the widespread use of chemicals in the rural areas as soon as possible.

First of all, large quantities of fertilizer must be produced for the rural areas. Fertilizer is, in effect, rice. We must see to it that fertilizer factories are improved and reinforced promptly and operated at full capacity so that large amounts of a variety of effective fertilizers suited to the soil conditions in our country and the biological features of our crops are produced and supplied to the rural communities.

Large numbers of a variety of efficient farm machines should also be sent to the rural communities. This will make it possible to effect the comprehensive mechanization of agriculture and thus to reduce the differences between agricultural labour and industrial work, free the farmers from labour-intensive work and increase agricultural production steadily.

Tractors are the most important pieces of equipment in agricultural production, and the number of tractors available is the standard measure in assessing the level of mechanization in agriculture. Tractors do a variety of farming work such as ploughing, sowing, weeding, harvesting and haulage. If the rural areas are provided just with tractors, they will be able to increase the rate of mechanized farming to a considerable extent. Tractor plants must operate at full capacity so that a greater number of tractors are produced for the rural communities.

In addition to tractors, a large number and great variety of efficient medium-sized and small farm machines such as rice-seedling pullers, rice transplanters, rice harvesters and threshers as well as trailer farm machines should be produced and sent to the rural areas.

State investment must be made in the development of farm machine repair stations so that the capacity to repair farm machines is increased.

Sufficient quantities of oil, agricultural chemicals, plastic sheets and other farming materials must also be supplied to the rural communities. Such farming materials should be provided whenever they are needed by producing for ourselves those which are within our power to produce and by importing those which are difficult to produce domestically.

Conducting an energetic campaign to reclaim tidal flats and obtain new land is an important matter in increasing grain production.

Agricultural production in our country has become highly intensive and the per-hectare yield of crops has reached a very high level as a result of the dynamic promotion of the rural technological revolution and the thorough implementation of the Juche farming method. It is difficult now to continue to increase grain output merely by increasing the per-hectare yield of crops. If we are to boost grain production we should further expand the area of cultivated land by reclaiming tideland and obtaining wide tracts of new farmland at the same time as increasing the per-hectare yield of crops.

The entire Party, the whole state and all the people must

be roused for the energetic campaign to reclaim tideland and obtain new farmland and so increase the area of cultivated land.

Reclaiming 300 000 hectares of tidal flats is one of the ten long-term objectives of socialist economic construction for the 1980s; it is the most forward-looking way to increase the area of cultivated land considerably in a short time. Once 300 000 hectares of tidal flats have been reclaimed, the appearance of our country will have undergone a change and our country will have become a still more prosperous and beautiful paradise for the people.

If we are to promote the reclamation of tidal flats energetically, priority should be given to preparatory construction. Quarries and concrete building materials works should be developed to produce large quantities of the stone and concrete building materials needed in the reclamation of tidal flats; repair centres must be developed so that the equipment can be repaired whenever necessary and operated at full capacity. The construction of other projects such as of railways and power substations should also be stepped up so that it is completed as soon as possible.

In order for the work of reclaiming tidal flats to be done energetically, sufficient supplies must be provided. The reclamation of tidal flats is a grand nature-harnessing project to wall off the vast seas and obtain new land, so it requires large quantities of manpower, equipment and materials. Unless sufficient manpower, equipment and materials are provided it will be impossible to speed up the reclamation of tideland. The equipment and materials

needed in this project, such as excavators and bulldozers, tugboats and barges, steel and cement, should be produced and supplied without delay.

The technical innovation movement should be stepped up to increase the rate of mechanization continually in the reclamation of tidal flats; tideland reclamation should be speeded up still further by working out new methods of building and new techniques which suit the situation in our country and by introducing them boldly.

Constructing a good network of installations to permit the immediate cultivation of newly reclaimed tidal flats is no less important than making these flats available for farming. No matter how wide the area of reclaimed tideland is, it will be nothing more than waste land if it cannot be farmed immediately. The large-scale reclamation of tidal flats should be followed by the construction of a network of such installations as water channels, and water supply and drainage systems, and by the realignment of the land and the building of roads so that it becomes possible to farm the tidal flats soon after they have been reclaimed.

The movement to cultivate new land must also be stepped up. There is a wide area of unused land in our country which can be cultivated. Such land can be found throughout the country, in both mountainous and plain areas. A detailed investigation should be conducted into the area of land which can be brought under the plough and this area should be registered, a definite goal set for its cultivation and labour and machines made available in order to discover more new farmland.

If good crops are to be raised, the Juche farming method should be implemented thoroughly.

The Juche farming method is a most advanced and scientific farming method which the leader himself has created in the course of giving guidance to agriculture over many years. If farming is done as required by the Juche farming method, it is possible to ensure that the crops can grow in safety and that rich harvests are gathered however unfavourable the natural and climatic conditions are; using this method also makes it possible to increase agricultural production steadily.

An important requirement of the Juche farming method is to adhere to the principle of sowing the right variety in the right soil at the right time.

The agricultural sector should distribute varieties in conformity with the specific features of the given region and the given plot of land and with the biological characteristics of the crops and then sow the seeds at the right time. In particular, the varieties of rice and maize, our staple crops, should be distributed in conformity with the characteristics of the given region and the given field, and the rice seedlings and humus-cake maize seedlings should be transplanted at the right time.

In implementing the Juche farming method, it is important to establish a scientific fertilizing system and to apply fertilizers as required by this system. The amount of fertilizers to be applied should be determined accurately to suit the soil conditions of the given area and the biological characteristics of the crops, as required by the Juche farming method, and fertilizers should be used in

accordance with scientific and technical principles so that they are used as effectively as possible.

A proper system of seed production should be established and much better seed varieties should be developed. In response to the Party's policy on conducting the green revolution, the officials in the field of agricultural science have so far worked hard to develop better seed varieties and have achieved considerable success. However, we cannot rest content with this. If we are to increase grain production continually, given the conditions in our country where the area of arable land is limited and agriculture is already highly intensive, we should improve seed production and develop many more new, high-yielding varieties. The role of agricultural scientists and technicians should be enhanced so that many more new varieties which are suited to the weather and soil conditions in our country and which can yield rich and dependable harvests however unfavourable the natural and climatic conditions are, will be produced.

Green manure crops should be planted in paddy and non-paddy fields and large quantities of good-quality compost and mineral fertilizer produced as required by the Juche farming method, so that soil fertility can be increased.

If the Juche farming method is to be implemented thoroughly, it is necessary to encourage the officials in charge of agriculture and the farmers to form a clear understanding of it. The Juche farming method is a scientific and technical farming method; therefore, one cannot implement it if one does not fully understand its

essence. Short courses and demonstration lectures on the Juche farming method and meetings to pass on technical skills should be organized for the officials in charge of agriculture and the farmers so that they clearly understand the principles and requirements of this method and farm well along scientific and technological lines. We should also publish many technical instructions and reference materials on the Juche farming method and ensure that the officials in charge of agriculture and the farmers study them intensely.

In order to implement the Juche farming method fully, it is also necessary to launch a strong ideological campaign against anyone who works contrary to this method. Implementing the Juche farming method is a kind of revolution to overcome the old and create the new, so it cannot be conducted properly without a struggle. Party organizations should lose no time in calling to account anyone, even though his act is trifling, who, gripped by empiricism, conservatism or inaction, expresses doubt about the Juche farming method and disregards the requirements of this method; they must then conduct an intensive ideological campaign against him.

This is a significant year which marks the 20th anniversary of the publication of the leader's work *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country*. This year we must raise good crops, produce 10 million tons of grain and thus delight the leader and demonstrate to the world the correctness and vitality of the socialist rural theses.

If we are to farm well this year, we should conduct a proper review of last year's farming.

Working together with the guidance team for the review of the work to implement the rural theses, the rural Party organizations and the officials in charge of agriculture should identify the main shortcomings revealed in last year's farming and their causes and adopt revolutionary measures for raising good crops this year.

We should start now to make full preparations for this year's farming. Scrupulous preparations for farming, such as producing manure and preparing seedbeds, farm machines and small farm implements, should be made so that this year's farming will in no way be disrupted.

If we are to raise good crops this year, we should increase our assistance to agriculture. A variety of farming materials and manure should be produced in large quantities for the rural communities and responsible action should be taken to send there the number of people who are needed to support the rural areas when rice seeds are sown in cold-beds and rice seedlings are transplanted.

In order to improve the people's standard of living the fishing industry should be developed still further.

In our country, which is bounded by the sea on three sides, developing the fishing industry is a good way to provide sufficient non-staple food for the people.

Fishing boats should be made modern and multipurpose and scientific fishing methods introduced extensively so that fish are caught in large quantities.

At the same time as landing large amounts of fish, fish processing should be improved. No matter how much fish we catch, we will have wasted our efforts if we cannot process them properly. Cold-storage facilities and other

fish-processing equipment should be improved and reinforced and they should be operated at full capacity so that all the fish landed are processed promptly without a single one being spoilt.

If the people's standard of living is to be improved, a revolution should be effected in light industry.

It is only by doing this and producing a variety of good-quality consumer goods in large quantities that the life of the people will become richer and more refined. We should implement to the letter the Party's policy on effecting a revolution in light industry and make a new advance in the production of consumer goods.

Developing the textile industry and increasing the production of fabrics is of extreme importance in providing enough clothing for the people. For people the matter of clothing is no less important than that of food. One cannot talk about the well-being of the people apart from the matter of clothing. If we are to provide enough clothing for the people we must develop the textile industry and increase the production of fabrics.

One important aspect of boosting the output of fabrics is to use our own fibres in developing the textile industry. It is only when we produce fabrics from our own fibres that we can ensure the self-supporting and Juche character of the textile industry and provide enough clothing for the people ourselves. The textile industry should produce large quantities of a variety of durable fabrics with attractive patterns which suit the tastes of the people, using the chemical fibres which are produced in our country such as vinalon and staple fibre.

In the production of fabrics, it is important to increase the proportion of knitted fabrics. Less thread is needed for knitted fabrics than for other types of fabrics, and clothes made of knitted fabrics are comfortable and appeal to the eye. The trend worldwide is to produce knitted fabrics. The textile industry should produce a wide variety and large quantities of knitted fabrics which suit the tastes of our people.

In order to solve the problem of clothes for the people, the garment industry should produce various kinds of ready-made clothes including those for children, students and adults well so that they can look smart. The production of clothes should be specialized, the skills involved in garment manufacture developed steadily and the study of dress design conducted well so that a system of making attire which is suited to the socialist way of life and the forms of Koreans is established.

Developing the food industry is an important guarantee for improving the diet of our people and relieving women from the heavy burden of kitchen work. It is only when this industry is developed that the people can be supplied with a variety of tasty and nutritious processed foods to make their diet richer and more varied and that their life will become more refined.

The principle consistently maintained by our Party in food processing is to process those foods which are urgently needed by our people in such a way that they are delicious, cheap, and convenient to eat. The food-processing industry should firmly establish the Juche orientation and produce a wide variety of cheap foodstuffs

which are convenient to eat and which our people will enjoy eating.

The variety and quantity of processed foods should also be increased. The food-processing industry will have to produce large quantities of processed staple and non-staple food, foodstuffs for children and a variety of refreshing drinks.

If we are to increase the production of processed foods, processing should be industrialized and accelerated. The food-processing industry must widely introduce modern scientific and technological achievements and then process foodstuffs quickly by industrial methods and ensure a high level of cleanliness and hygiene in its work.

Shoes are an important kind of consumer goods and increasing their production is essential in improving the people's standard of living. Our Party has set the policy of effecting a revolutionary change in the production of shoes and producing a wide variety and large quantities of attractive, good-quality shoes. We should fully implement this policy and produce large numbers of quality shoes.

It is an important aspect of shoe production to increase the variety and quantity of shoes produced and improve their quality. Large quantities of various kinds and styles of shoes for both sexes and for people of different ages as well as for the different seasons and various occupations should be produced and the rate of production of winter shoes, particularly leather shoes, should be increased still further.

It is very important to produce different sizes of shoes. There is no point in increasing the output of shoes if only large quantities of shoes of one and the same size are

produced without taking into consideration the demands for different sizes. The footwear industry should do away with the practice of taking the easy way and producing large numbers of shoes of one and the same size and must produce different sizes of shoes to meet the demands of the working people.

The quality of shoes must also be improved. Although the number of pairs of shoes for each person is not small in our country, we are unable to meet the needs of the working people for shoes because the quality of shoes is not high. Good materials should be supplied to footwear factories and the level of the workers' technical skill raised so that durable shoes which are fashionable and liked by our people are produced. In particular, smart high-heeled shoes for women and canvas shoes should be made.

Daily necessities are important consumer goods which are indispensable to the life of the people.

Currently the greatest problem in the production of goods of mass consumption is daily necessities. The variety of daily necessities produced in our country is not wide and their quality is not high. Efforts should be directed to the daily necessities industry so that a wide variety of these goods is produced in large quantities for the working people.

Household goods and kitchen utensils are necessities of life which are urgently needed by the working people. A wide variety of kitchenware and of furniture and household appliances and utensils such as wardrobes, bedclothes chests, sewing machines, washing machines, rice bowls and refrigerators, should be produced in large quantities.

School articles and goods for cultural use should also be produced in large quantities. A wide variety and a great amount of stationery and articles for cultural use such as notebooks, pencils, television sets, watches and clocks, cameras, safety razors and toys, should be produced.

The production of sundry goods should also be augmented. Although these goods are minor items, any shortage of them will cause people inconvenience in their everyday life. We should put efforts into the production of sundry goods and increase their variety and quantity and radically improve their quality.

Sundry goods should be produced in a mass campaign.

The variety of these goods is wide and they are needed in huge quantities. Therefore, if these goods are produced only by some specialized factories, the people's demands for them cannot be met. If we are to meet the people's demands we must produce these goods not only at specialized factories but also in different branches of the national economy.

Factories and enterprises in different economic fields, such as metal works and machine factories, should each set up a well-equipped workshop or a workteam to engage in the production of sundry goods and produce a variety of sundry goods in large quantities by making use of its own by-products and waste materials. Neighbourhood units must organize housewives' workteams and also produce large quantities of these goods.

In order to effect a revolution in light industry, factories in this sector should be run at full capacity and production kept at a high and steady level.

Modern light industry factories have sprung up across the country under the wise guidance of the leader and their production potential is very great. Merely by running the existing light industry factories at full capacity and keeping production on a steady basis, we shall be able to bring about a great advance in the production of consumer goods and considerably improve the people's standard of living.

To this end, factories and enterprises must keep their equipment in a good state of repair.

Factories and enterprises must examine their equipment at regular intervals, repair it whenever necessary and look after it properly and have sufficient spare parts in reserve. They should strictly observe the technical regulations and standard rules of operation for the equipment, handle it carefully in conformity with the technical requirements and establish a strict system and order for handling the equipment. In particular, the model machine movement should be conducted forcefully among machine operators so that they take the greatest possible care of their machines and equipment.

If we are to run light industry factories at full capacity and put production on a steady basis, we must also provide sufficient raw and other materials. Currently many factories are failing to produce properly because of the shortage of these materials.

In order to supply sufficient raw and other materials to light industry factories it is necessary to develop the chemical industry and produce large quantities of a variety of chemical products. We should direct efforts to the chemical industry and produce a wide variety and a great

amount of chemical products such as chemical fibre, synthetic resin, caustic soda and sodium carbonate for light industry.

If it is to solve its shortage of raw and other materials light industry should develop reliable sources of raw materials for itself.

Local industry factories should not depend only on the central authorities for raw and other materials but create their own reliable sources of both cultivated and naturally occurring raw materials to suit the specific conditions of the given area and manage them well so as to make effective use of the raw materials. The provinces should develop medium-sized and small factories and produce a variety of raw and other materials in large quantities for light industry.

Since we cannot secure for ourselves all the raw and other materials our light industry needs, we shall have to import those which are either not produced in our country or are in short supply. Light industry must earn large amounts of foreign currency and buy such materials from abroad so that it can run its factories at full capacity.

Streamlining light industry factories is an important way of making a revolutionary change in this industry. It is only when this is done that it will be possible to give full play to existing production capacity and increase the production of consumer goods without any need for a large investment.

Light industry must press ahead with the technological revolution and so make its production facilities more modern, increase the operational speed of equipment and introduce comprehensive mechanization and automation in

its production processes. It must make any irrational production processes rational and efficient and introduce any missing processes, such as primary treatment and aftertreatment processes, so as to maintain a proper balance between main production processes and auxiliary production processes.

Improving the packaging of products is very important in effecting a revolutionary change in light industry. However good the consumer goods produced are, their quality will not be so good if they are poorly packaged. We shall have to effect a revolutionary change in the packaging of products so that they are packaged neatly and smartly.

The packaging of goods must be done according to different standards with the use of good packaging equipment and in such a way that their durability and a high level of cleanliness and hygiene is ensured and that they are easy to transport, store and use.

Solid bases for the production of packing materials must be developed, large quantities of a variety of packing materials produced and packing methods continually improved.

In order to bring about a revolutionary change in light industry, all branches of the national economy should give effective assistance to this industry.

The work to effect a revolution in light industry is worthy work for providing a prosperous and cultured life for the people; it is an honourable task which all officials in positions of leadership should undertake. Not only officials in light industry but also those in all the other economic spheres must be responsible for the production of consumer

goods. Unless the various branches of the national economy render every possible assistance to light industry it will be impossible to increase the production of consumer goods. Officials in all economic fields must adopt the attitude of masters who are responsible for the life of the people and render generous assistance to light industry.

An important aspect of helping light industry is to produce and supply equipment and raw and other materials without delay. The production of goods of mass consumption is closely linked to production in other fields; therefore, if the relevant spheres do not produce and supply equipment and raw and other materials whenever they are needed, light industry factories will be unable to put production on a steady basis.

The machine and metal industries and all the other branches of the national economy must produce equipment and raw and other materials and supply them to light industry whenever they are needed.

Delivering equipment and raw and other materials to light industry without delay is no less important than production. The transport sector must organize transport carefully and deliver these things for light industry without delay.

We should also act responsibly to solve those scientific and technical problems which are raised in streamlining light industry and putting it on a scientific basis. The state should mobilize its scientific and technical forces for light industry, provide them, in a planned way, with the materials and technical means which they need for their scientific research, such as laboratories, pilot factories,

equipment and materials, and also organize the work to introduce widely any developments made in scientific research into production.

We must also step up the revolution in public services.

This is the way to provide the people with more comfortable living conditions.

One important aspect of effecting a revolution in public services is to improve the supply of commodities for the people.

However many good-quality consumer goods are produced, the people's standard of living will not improve unless the goods are supplied satisfactorily. The public service sector must improve the supply of commodities so that it is conducted smoothly and in such a way that the people find it convenient to obtain commodities.

If we are to supply commodities to the people smoothly a system of ordering should be introduced. The system of ordering is the most popular system for supplying commodities and it makes it possible to provide consumer goods to all the working people according to a plan and on an equal basis. We should establish a proper system for supplying commodities which have been ordered and study the demands for commodities, acquire goods and distribute and supply them in a responsible manner. In particular, the public service sector should secure larger quantities of commodities by widely organizing processing work and allocate these commodities properly to suit the features of the different regions, seasons and social sections, as well as the demands for different goods, and work responsibly to supply them.

Commodity supply for the rural communities should be improved. If commodities are not supplied to the country areas properly it will be impossible to improve the farmers' standard of living quickly and rouse their enthusiasm to increase production. We should set aside a separate commodity fund for the rural communities and supply a wide variety and large quantities of the manufactured goods, foods and other commodities which are urgently needed by the farmers.

We must also pay close attention to the supply of goods for major industrial areas such as coal and ore mines and the front-line areas.

The supply of commodities for sale on trains must also be conducted well. A proper system for providing commodities for this should be set up and processed foods and special local products sold to those who are going on a journey.

A rational network of shops and the strengthening of the material and technical foundations of shops are an important requirement for improving commodity supply. This is the way to secure, store and look after commodities and supply them smoothly; this will also enable trade to make a better contribution to improving the people's standard of living. Manufactured goods shops, grocery shops, general stores, specialized shops and shops at workplaces should be sited in such a way that they are convenient for the people, and small booths and roadside stalls should be set up where they are needed. Shops should be neat to cater to modern tastes; they should have up-to-date trading facilities and equipment such as vending

machines, cash registers, goods depositories, showcases and weighing and measuring devices; cold-storage facilities should be installed in grocery shops.

Another important aspect of the revolution in public services is to improve public catering services.

Public catering services are an important service, and their aim is to improve the diet of the working people and relieve the women of household drudgery. With the increase in the income of the working people in our country, their demand for public catering services is growing. The public catering sector should improve its work to meet their growing demand and see that the daily lives of the people become pleasanter and that residential districts are lively.

The number of public catering establishments such as restaurants and soft-drinks stands should be greatly increased.

Large and up-to-date general restaurants and specialized restaurants should be established in cities to meet the demands and characteristics of the inhabitants; at the same time small restaurants should be set up in various places to offer a service to the working people. Soft-drinks stands should be set up in the urban districts of cities and in all other crowded places and a variety of soft drinks should be supplied so that the working people can buy as much to drink as they want.

Many rice cooking-houses and bakeries must be built in cities and workers' districts so that the residents can buy boiled rice, noodles and bread whenever they need them.

One important aspect of improving public catering

services is to increase the variety of food and improve its quality. The main stress should be laid on supplying large quantities of food and many dishes for the masses; the variety of foodstuffs should be increased on the principle of reflecting the specific features of our people and the characteristics of the various regions. The level of technical skill of the officials in the public catering sector should be raised as quickly as possible and the processing of food specialized and put on a scientific and modern basis so that the quality of food will be raised one grade higher.

The supplies needed for the public catering network should be provided smoothly. Then this network can put the processing of food on a steady basis, improve the quality of the food and supply it to the people without running out. We should see to it that a proper plan for the supply of the materials needed for public catering services is worked out after calculating the demand for these materials accurately, and a variety of materials are supplied to the public catering network regularly and in a balanced way.

People working in the public catering services should not depend only on the higher authorities for raw materials and other supplies, but work hard to produce them for themselves.

Communal service is an important part of the public welfare services. Providing a satisfactory communal service is the way to render great help to improving the material and cultural standard of living of the people and to protect and promote their health still better.

The communal service sector should establish good

service facilities by fully displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and radically improve the quality of its work by raising the technical and skill levels of service workers. Tailoring and the repair of daily necessities should be high in quality and an improvement should be brought about in personal services.

The variety of communal services should be increased to meet the growing demands of the people. Then this sector should offer a full service to the people.

Improving the organization and methods of service and enhancing the sense of serving is an important task arising in making a revolution in public services. The organization and methods of service should be steadily improved on the principle of providing the utmost conveniences to the people. Various forms and methods of service which meet the demands of the people, such as morning and evening services, circuit services and the delivery of goods which have been ordered, mobile sales and minor sales, should be introduced widely, and service hours fixed so that they do not interfere with production and yet are convenient for the people.

To serve properly is an important quality which is indispensable for service workers. People who do not know how to serve properly cannot work properly and are not entitled to work in the service sector. Education should be intensified among service workers so that they, with the full awareness of being the faithful servants of the people who are responsible for their comfort and feeling great honour in this, devote everything to providing the people with more comfort in their everyday lives and so that they

always treat their customers kindly and with propriety.

The construction of a large number of houses is a very important undertaking for providing the people with adequate conditions for a pleasant and secure life. However large the quantities of food and consumer goods produced are, the people will not be able to lead a stable life unless they have houses. We must show great concern for the construction of houses and build a great number of them in the towns and in the rural communities.

New houses should be built in such a way that they cater to modern tastes and are convenient for the people; the houses must be provided with a variety of furniture and household appliances and up-to-date kitchenware.

If we are to solve the housing problem, we should build houses in a mass movement. Institutions and enterprises should use every available building material in their province, any unused materials and any idle reserves of labour and construct a large number of houses for themselves.

We should work hard to raise our people's material and cultural standard of living one grade higher so that they lead a pleasanter and more prosperous life to the full.

OFFICIALS MUST WORK IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY BY DISPLAYING THE REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT

**Talk to Senior Officials of the Central Committee
of the Workers' Party of Korea**

October 10, 1988

The present situation is very complicated. The US imperialists are resorting to every conceivable scheme to disintegrate the socialist countries from within. The south Korean reactionaries are manoeuvring to open up a favourable phase for creating "two Koreas" by infiltrating into socialist countries with the backing of the US and Japanese imperialists. Meanwhile, some socialist countries have given up their class principle and are having economic relations with south Korean reactionaries. We are faced with many difficulties in socialist economic construction. We must not forget that in this situation waverers, defeatists, anti-Party elements and factionalists may appear in our ranks. The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said that when the situation was complicated and economic work was not going smoothly, factionalists might appear among economic officials, and that an economic faction would become a political faction. In view of the experience of the anti-factionalist struggle waged by our Party,

factionalists may appear in a situation like this. Officials must heighten their vigilance and work in a responsible way with a high revolutionary spirit.

Their revolutionary spirit must find expression in working with firm confidence in the victory of the revolution.

Confidence in the victory of the revolution is based on a firm belief in the justness of the revolutionary cause and in one's own strength. A man with this belief firmly follows the revolutionary road without hesitation and vacillation in any difficulties and trials.

Our revolutionary cause is just and its victory is assured. The great leader, the author of the immortal Juche idea, leads our revolution and construction to victory; we have the great Party, which has been tempered and seasoned in the arduous and complex revolutionary struggle, the masses of the people united firmly behind the Party and the leader and the powerful and independent national economy. The political and economic might of our country is now tremendous. On his return from on-the-spot guidance at the Sunchon Vinalon Complex, the great leader said that at the construction site he found our economic capability enormous. Some time ago I looked around the science exhibition hall of the Academy of Sciences and found that our country could make almost everything on its own.

Now the revolutionary people throughout the world envy the invincible might of our people and a large number of people are constantly visiting our country from across oceans and continents to learn from us. A foreign delegate

to the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of our Republic said that formerly people made pilgrimages to Jerusalem, the sacred place of Christianity, and after the victory of the socialist revolution in the Soviet Union, they went to Moscow, but now they are coming to Pyongyang to learn from the Juche idea.

Our revolutionary cause is just and we have inexhaustible strength to achieve it, but some people are afraid of temporary difficulties as they lack confidence. It is true that we experience difficulties in economic construction. However, such difficulties are temporary problems that may crop up in the course of advancing towards a higher goal. If we organize economic work well, we can push the national economy onto a higher stage and ensure that all our people live on rice and meat soup and in silk clothing and tile-roofed houses. This can be realized sooner, instead of later.

Officials must carry out their revolutionary work responsibly, with a firm conviction that the revolutionary cause of Juche is imperishable as long as we have the wise leadership of the great leader, the Workers' Party of Korea, which has been trained and seasoned in the arduous and complex struggle, the diligent and revolutionary people and the most advantageous socialist system. We must give the Party members and other working people a clear understanding of the greatness of the Party and the leader, the unconquerable strength of the unity and cohesion of our Party and the superiority of our socialist system so that they may fight through to the end to accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche with a firm

confidence in the victory of the revolution.

The officials' revolutionary spirit must also find expression in sticking to the Party's lines and policies and carrying them out consistently.

Party policy is the organized will of our Party and people and the guiding principle of all activities of cadres and Party members. Only when it is carried out accurately, without fail, can the revolutionary struggle and construction work be successful.

Officials now lack consistency in carrying out Party policy. Some units have not carried out the Party's policy on encouraging the people to plant soybeans on idle land for their own consumption; they have given it up halfway after less than three years. The people welcomed the idea of encouraging them to plant soybeans on idle land and make bean curd and bean paste for their own consumption. It is said, however, that some units had the harvested soybeans sold to the state. This amounts to forbidding the cultivation of soybeans on idle land. A policy published by the Party must be implemented with all consistency, instead of being discarded after a few years' effort. If the state purchases the soybeans cultivated on idle land when the Party has allowed their home consumption, the people will doubt the Party's policy. Having the crop sold to the state is a harmful act that damages the Party's authority. I do not understand why the officials of the economic departments of the Party Central Committee connive at this incident.

Officials must have a right attitude to Party policy, defend it staunchly and establish the discipline of carrying

it out without any question. The practice of doubting Party policy or hampering its implementation must be combated strongly and rectified promptly.

Officials' revolutionary spirit must be expressed in paying deep attention to the people's livelihood and endeavouring to improve it.

Now Pyongyang is not sufficiently supplying some essential consumer goods to the citizens. This is very bad. The officials of Pyongyang must be held responsible for the failure to supply these items. I have taken every opportunity to emphasize the need to ensure regular supplies of consumer goods to the citizens of Pyongyang, and recently I made sure that the city imported raw materials to make up for shortages and produced sufficient consumer goods for the citizens. However, Pyongyang has not taken measures for the regular production of consumer goods. Our officials are working in a slipshod manner.

The officials of the Light Industry Commission have not been working properly, either. They said they would import raw materials and other necessities needed for the production of essential consumer goods for Pyongyang through bonded processing trade, but they did not. It is seriously wrong to go back on what they have, in my presence, promised to do.

The officials of the economic departments of the Party Central Committee must also bear their share of responsibility for causing discomfort to the Pyongyang citizens in their everyday life because of the failure to ensure regular supplies of consumer goods. They have

neither organized the work of producing and supplying essential consumer goods to Pyongyang citizens, nor supervised this work, nor have they reported to me the undesirable situation. If they had reported this to me before it was too late, I could have taken appropriate measures.

Officials nowadays are not as loyal as the officials in the days immediately after liberation, when the Party, country and army were being built. Comrades Kim Chaek, Jong Jun Thae, Ri Ju Yon and Kang Yong Chang were revolutionaries and loyal men who built the Party, the country and the army in support of the leader in the first years after liberation. They reported to the leader all the problems that arose in the direction of economic work and implemented decisions made by the leader in connection with the problems. In those days the nation's economic work went smoothly.

We must take active measures to ensure regular supplies of essential consumer goods to the people.

In order to produce and supply toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and other consumer goods on a regular basis, we must ensure a regular supply of raw and other materials needed for the purpose. No matter how solid the foundation of the light industry, it will be impossible to regularly produce and supply a variety of consumer goods unless the raw materials and other necessities are supplied on time.

Officials of the economic departments of the Party Central Committee must not behave like children basking in parental care, but rack their brains and do their best to

solve the problems of the people's living conditions with a high revolutionary spirit.

We must also take measures to regularly supply the people with sweets and biscuits.

Only when children eat sweets and biscuits regularly can they be healthy and grow well.

In order to provide the people with confectionery, we shall have to import some sugar. In addition, all the cornstarch factories built in the provinces must be operated. Although cornstarch factories have been built in the provinces, they are not being operated at full capacity because of the short supply of maize. These factories should be repaired and supplied with maize so that they can be fully operated.

We must find a better solution to the problem of clothing for the people.

To this end, we must finish the construction of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex as soon as possible. If its construction is completed, not only the clothing problem of the people, but also their food and housing problems will be solved more satisfactorily. We must concentrate all our efforts on its construction. The technological problem arising in the construction of the carbide kiln for the factory has not yet been fully resolved. Professors of Kim Chaek University of Technology and other scientists and thermal and mechanical engineers must be sent to the vinalon complex for a scientific and technological examination of the kiln and to ensure its early completion.

When the vinalon complex starts production, the

existing textile mills may suffer shortages in their spinning capacities. Measures must also be taken to increase their spinning capacities.

Officials must display their revolutionary spirit in uncompromisingly combating unsound ideas that are contrary to our Party's revolutionary idea.

We are now living in the age of revolution, the age of struggle. The more the revolution and construction are intensified and the further socialist construction is advanced, the more we must sharpen the weapon of class struggle. Officials must view, analyze and judge all problems on Party principle and with keen class awareness. If the matter that is raised contradicts Party principle, they must combat it uncompromisingly. They must thus prevent even the slightest negative practice in our revolutionary ranks.

It is advisable to correct the method of an annual one-month training course for cadres so as to effectively conduct the officials' ideological training. The officials' one-month course is now conducted by the method of discussion after lectures are given. In addition to this, cadres should be provided with opportunities to critically review their work and life. We must study ways of making the one-month course for cadres a good means of ideological training.

For the present, good preparations must be made for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students.

As I have mentioned on several occasions, the festival is the first large international function to be held in our nation in its history. If we make good preparations and ensure the

success of the festival, we shall be able to build our international prestige and make a great contribution to world peace and security.

There is no major problem in making preparations for the festival. Some officials are worrying about our people's poor knowledge of foreign languages. That does not matter. That will not handicap us in ensuring the success of festival events. Some officials also say that Pyongyang still has a lot of things to be fitted out, but it is not a big problem, either. Now that we have built Pyongyang in a modern way, we will be fully able to host the festival, even with the present accommodations, if we put some things in order.

I am thinking of having the festival hosted in our own way. Since our country is to host the festival, we need not copy foreign precedents or seek foreign approval, but should host it in our own way to suit our conditions.

Officials must make substantial preparations for the festival, believing that they will be fully able to successfully host the festival if they plan and direct this work in detail.

Political functions to be held during the festival must be well prepared. As I have clarified the matters of principle regarding the organization and proceedings of the opening and closing ceremonies and other various political functions and examined the plan, the preparations for political functions to be held during the festival should be undertaken as approved.

Supply services for the festival must be done properly. Supplying sufficient materials and other goods is important. If they are not provided sufficiently, the

preparations cannot be made fully, no matter how hard we may try.

A large number of students must be enlisted in preparing the festival because we have a lot of things yet to do. Mobilizing the students will not pose a problem. In former days, students took part in many social projects. Students of Kim Il Sung University and other universities participated in social projects for about one year each, but their studies did not suffer.

OFFICIALS SHOULD BECOME DEVOTED SERVANTS OF THE PEOPLE

**Talk to Senior Officials of the Central
Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea**

October 28, Juche 92 (2003)

Since the Party put forward the slogan “We serve the people!” many changes have become evident in our officials’ way and spirit of working. In particular, in the course of learning from the Kanggye spirit created in the days of the Arduous March and forced march, they displayed more than ever before the spirit of working faithfully for the people. In those days they mixed with the people, sharing good times and bad with them, and, standing in the vanguard, achieved breakthroughs in carrying out the most challenging tasks. They also took the lead, working with complete sincerity, in such projects as developing small- and medium-sized power stations, land realignment, double-cropping, and building salt works, rural houses and goat farms. These officials are held in high esteem by the people. I have met many officials during my field guidance trips who are working faithfully for the people, and I have spoken highly of some of them in person.

The people refer to officials who work with devotion for them as our chief provincial Party secretary, our chief county Party secretary, our general manager, our management board chairman and our primary Party secretary, and they respect a neighbourhood head who cares for them as she would members of her own family, calling her our neighbourhood head.

In the army there are many officers and political workers who work with devotion for their soldiers and thus earn their respect and love. One such is the former political instructor of the reconnaissance company directly under a mechanized brigade, which I inspected recently. He had been promoted to political commissar of a reconnaissance battalion. Even after his promotion, the men of his former company still remembered him, calling him our political instructor.

Being fond of the word “our,” I repeat it in my mind now and then, and I am especially pleased whenever I hear, during my inspections of army units or civilian establishments, the soldiers or people call the senior officer of their respective units “our so-and-so.” Such officials are my revolutionary comrades-in-arms, my true comrades, with whom I can cast in my lot.

The word “our” is highly significant. When soldiers or people call the senior officers of their units “our so-and-so” and not simply “so-and-so,” the vocative has a different meaning. “Our” connotes neither an official post, nor an honorary title; it is the highest distinction and esteem awarded by soldiers and people to officials who devote themselves to their good, and it is an expression of

the respect, affection, trust and intimacy they feel for their true servants. It mirrors the genuine feature of our society, where the leader, the Party and the masses form an integral whole and all the people trust and love one another.

Ours is a genuine people's country and socialist society, centred on the masses. In this society the soldiers and people do not exist for the sake of the officials; the officials exist for the sake of the soldiers and people. The masses are the masters of the country, and the officials are the servants of the people. For officials who serve the people, there is no honour and pride greater than enjoying the people's support and affection while being called "our so-and-so" by them. Such honour does not come on a silver salver, nor is it awarded just because one desires it. It is awarded to officials who work with devotion for the benefit of the people with a sense of duty as servants of the people. Because I want officials to be called "our so-and-so" by the people, I have emphasized this matter from time to time in recent years. All officials should become true servants of the people and be called "our so-and-so," in line with the Party's wishes. Then, the single-hearted unity of the revolutionary ranks, the foundation of our revolution, will be further consolidated, the soldiers and people will have greater trust in the Party and follow it, our country will become prosperous, and the people's standard of living will be improved.

If officials are to be called "our so-and-so" by the people, they should defend the people's interests and serve them faithfully, in response to the Party's slogan, "We

serve the people!” Our revolution and our socialism defend and realize the people’s demands and interests. The people’s interests are the only yardstick by which the attitude and practice of our officials in serving the people faithfully can be judged. They should value the people’s interests, think about the people’s interests before anything else whenever they are planning a project, and set the realization of the people’s interests as the priority whenever they are organizing and promoting a project. If an official pays no heed to the people’s demands, thinking that it is all right if he lives well at the expense of the people’s interests, he cannot be called an official who serves the people. Officials should always place the people’s interests at the centre of their thinking and practice, and work with devotion for them; they should never infringe on the people’s interests, whatever the circumstances. Whatever they are doing in whatever capacity, they should find the value and worth of their life in bringing the people’s happiness and ideals to fruition, and work with devotion for them. Only officials, who work persistently for the interests of the people and accomplish tangible results with the attitude that the people must enjoy happiness even though they themselves may experience hardship, can command the people’s affection and respect.

It is particularly important today for officials, in serving the people, to strive to solve the problems affecting the people’s livelihood. The people’s livelihood is one of the matters of greatest concern for our Party today. Having had to carry out the revolution and construction in a situation of unprecedented direness, our people have not experienced a

moment of affluence or peace, but they have never complained or shown any sign of it, as they have cast in their lot with the Party. In the days of the Arduous March and forced march, when the country was experiencing great difficulties, they tightened their belts and turned out as one in the struggle to defend socialism and build a great, prosperous and powerful country under the Party's leadership. No people in the world are as faithful and loyal to their party and leader as our people. What can we not do if it is for the benefit of these laudable people? Waking and sleeping, I think about how to make our people's life richer. I intend to work wholeheartedly to ensure that our people lead, as soon as possible, a life in which they envy no one and can take pride in themselves. This is our Party's unshakeable will. And this is why, in the prevailing situation, our Party has established military affairs in the leading position in the affairs of state and, while giving priority to the munitions industry, put forward important policies that have a bearing on the people's livelihood, such as carrying out a revolution in agriculture, raising large numbers of grass-eating domestic animals, building modern chicken plants and fish farms on a wide scale, restructuring light-industry factories and increasing their consumer goods production, and building many modern houses in urban and rural areas, and is leading their implementation energetically. If these policies are implemented, our people will be well-off. The point is how officials work. As there is nothing more important than improving the people's standard of living, officials should be well aware of the Party's intentions, and work in a determined manner. Even

though they may sleep less and experience greater difficulties than those they are responsible for, they must work and work. They should solve without fail the problems of food, clothing and housing in line with the way and spirit of work of the People's Army, and strive to ensure that the people lead a richer life, enjoying the available social benefits to the full.

If officials are to serve the people faithfully, they should arm themselves with the idea that "The people are my God."

The Juche idea authored and put into practice by President Kim Il Sung is immediately the maxim "The people are my God." He regarded this maxim as his lifelong creed, and devoted his life to the struggle for the people's freedom and happiness. For the outstanding achievements he made for the cause of the independence of the masses, he still lives in the hearts of our people as their father and leader.

The maxim "The people are my God" is also my life's creed and political philosophy. The slogan "We serve the people!" put forward by the Party, along with the benevolent politics, the politics of love for the people, followed by the Party embody this idea. Taking care of the people to the end of their lives as a matter of responsibility, bringing a flower into bloom even on a rock if that is the people's wish, and sparing nothing for the people—such is the benevolent politics of our Party. True to President Kim Il Sung's intention, I regard the people as my God, devote my all to their well-being and look after the masses of the soldiers and people with affection, always mingling

with them. I find my happiness and pleasure in the happiness and pleasure they enjoy.

The spiritual and moral traits of officials should be identical to those of the Party and their leader. Officials, by regarding the maxim “The people are my God” as their life’s creed and cherishing the view that the masses are the masters of the revolution and construction and the creators of history, should ardently love them, respect them and serve them with devotion. When they cherish the maxim “The people are my God” as their faith and think, behave and work as demanded by it, they will become true officials who share the Party’s intentions and follow it sincerely, and faithful servants of the people.

If officials are to serve the people as they should, they must improve their qualifications. The times advance and our fighting objectives are high, and yet their qualifications fail to measure up. However hard they work, they will fail to leave a mark on the minds of the people if they do not improve their qualifications as demanded by the developing situation. Today officials’ work should be judged by their qualifications. Bearing in mind that they must have high qualifications if they are to work faithfully for the people at the posts entrusted to them by the people, they should strive to improve their qualifications. They should be well versed in the Party’s lines and policies, the Party’s policies concerning their respective sectors in particular. They should also be knowledgeable about politics, the economy, military affairs and culture; in particular, they should have some knowledge of modern science and technology and learn how to work with a computer. There is no limit to the

scope of the knowledge officials should be familiar with. They should make tireless efforts to acquire broad and multifaceted knowledge.

Mingling with the masses is an important requirement for officials in serving the people. They should make it their habit, an everyday occurrence, to go among the people. Only by doing so can they perform their duty as servants of the people. They should always mix with the people unceremoniously, and share good times and bad with them, learning what they are thinking and need, what their living conditions are and what difficulties they are experiencing in life, so that they can work to satisfy their needs and solve the problems they are experiencing in life. This is all the more necessary in the case of senior officials; they should listen to the opinions of the masses, promptly grasp the problems arising in the reality and solve them on their own responsibility. Party workers, who are responsible for the people's destiny and look after it, should pinpoint and promptly solve the problems locked away in the people's hearts, the problems related to their political integrity, however small they may be, and thus ensure there is not the slightest shadow in their hearts. Officials should always work by relying on the masses and forming a whole with them, motivate them by dint of powerful political work that can touch their heartstrings, and lead them by setting personal examples.

Officials should bring about a fresh change in the manner and spirit of their work, as required by the new century.

They should be sensitive to the Party's intentions and

demands, and plan their work accordingly in a big way, and develop it aggressively; the more difficult and challenging the situation, the more they should demonstrate the revolutionary spirit of carrying out the Party's policies without condition by throwing their full weight behind their implementation. They should establish the revolutionary and militant approach of pushing ahead with their work vigorously so as to implement their tasks excellently and carry them out to the end, without interruption, once they have started them.

Smashing stereotypes, outmoded patterns and conventional practices and formulae and undertaking all types of work in a creative and innovative fashion is an important characteristic of our Party's leadership method and work style. Officials, by adopting this method and style, should undertake all types of work in a creative and innovative way in conformity with the stage of our developing revolution and the changed circumstances.

Officials should rid their work of formalism and expediency, and undertake it in a conscientious and substantial way with the attitude that they are prepared to answer to the Party for what they have done. They cannot achieve success if they work without studying their work and without any methodology. They should always do their work scrupulously with methodology so that all their undertaking can be fruitful in reality.

Officials, who serve the people, ought to be possessed of people-oriented traits. Only then can they mix well with the people and be unceremonious in their relations with them.

Officials should always be modest and courteous; those who are not, are not welcomed by the people. This is why I say that officials should have a neck short in front and long behind, meaning that they must keep their heads modestly low in front of the people. Officials should behave in a modest and courteous manner; they should never ride roughshod over the people, holding their heads high as if there is no one better than them.

Officials should be humane. Humanity is a popular virtue. Just as a fragrant flower attracts butterflies and honey bees, so a humane official attracts many people. Officials, displaying the warm humanity of thinking of others before themselves and devoting themselves for the sake of others, should warmly love the masses and approach them openly.

The practices of abuse of authority and bureaucracy are still evident among our officials. This is a problem. Abuse of authority and bureaucracy have nothing to do with the people-oriented way of work, and they are a taboo for officials, who are supposed to serve the people. Officials must never resort to abuse of authority and bureaucracy. They must never pursue their self-interests or look for privileges and special treatment, and be upright in the economic and moral aspects.

Party organizations should continue to wage a powerful struggle to improve the method and style of work among officials, so as to train them all to be reliable people of the Party who are called “our so-and-so” by the people and enjoy their affection and respect.

KIM JONG IL
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