

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

KIM IL SUNG

LET US BRING ABOUT A FRESH TURN IN SOCIALIST ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION

Concluding Speech at the Eighth Plenary
Meeting of the Sixth Central Committee
of the Workers' Party of Korea
November 29-December 1, 1983

**Foreign Languages Publishing House
DPR Korea
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This plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee has discussed the national economic development plan for 1984.

As was noted in the report, next year's plan anticipates an unprecedented, high speed of growth. It is important for all sectors of the national economy to carry the plan out. Only then can the targets in the Second Seven-Year Plan be attained successfully and significant progress be made towards achieving the ten long-term objectives of socialist economic construction.

The main purpose of our discussion of the national economic development plan for 1984 at this plenary meeting is to rouse the entire Party and all the people to the struggle to implement it. Party organizations at all levels should bring about a fresh turn in socialist economic construction by waging a vigorous struggle to carry out the plan for next year.

The key issue facing our country's economic construction at the moment is to increase coal production.

The national coal supply is currently under great strain. Many factories and enterprises are not running

at full capacity or are experiencing difficulty in fulfilling their potential because of a lack of coal. Carrying out our export plan is also problematic. Due to the shortage of coal, some officials are even diverting coal for export to thermal power stations, in violation of state law.

The coal supply is under strain not because our country's coal deposits are not large or our Party is ignoring the coal-mining sector.

There are huge coal deposits in our country. In the Anju area alone they amount to 16 billion tons. Few countries in the world have such huge coal deposits. Donbas in the Soviet Union is said to be famous for its vast coal deposits. The Anju area in our country is comparable with Donbas. If we wage a vigorous struggle to renovate and expand the coal mines in the Anju area, we can meet the national economy's demand for coal. That is why I often say that the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex is the lifeline of our national economy.

Our Party has been paying close attention to the coal industry and has taken various steps to increase coal production. We set up a coal-mining complex in the Anju area, with its large coal deposits, as well as various other coal complexes, including those in

Sunchon, Tokchon, Kaecheon and Kujang. Notably, the Party ensured that equipment for producing modern coal cutters was imported and sent to the May 10 Factory, and the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex was supplied with modern coal cutters, safety lamps, safety helmets and complete sets of small tools. However, the coal-mining sector has failed to increase coal production, and the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex continues to experience fluctuations in production. Evidence of the severity of these fluctuations is the frequent rises and falls in coal production.

The failure to increase coal production lies entirely with the ineffective guidance and supply of equipment by the Administration Council and the relevant commissions and ministries.

Coal mines are currently experiencing production difficulties due to a lack of props, but the Administration Council is doing nothing to solve the problem. If it is hard to supply props, it should supply cement instead for making concrete props. But it has not done this, either. Producing concrete props does not require large quantities of cement. We now have the capacity to produce 8 to 9 million tons of cement a year; if officials were to pay even the slightest

attention, the cement needed for making props could be supplied.

Recently, because coal production there was unsatisfactory, the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex was provided with modern coal cutters. So, I could not understand why coal production there remained unsatisfactory. I asked the reason, and the answer was that it had been provided with coal cutters produced by the May 10 Factory, but they could not be operated as the electric motors and other parts had not been supplied. I called a senior official of the Administration Council and criticized him, saying: You should have ensured that the main parts of the coal cutters were assembled at a factory such as the East Pyongyang Machine Factory and that they were tested before being sent to the complex, but you did not do this. A project like this one should be overseen by the Ministry of the Machine-Building Industry No. 2. Once the Party had solved the major problems arising in producing modern coal cutters, the ministry should have done its job properly. But this was not the case.

The Administration Council is not providing the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex with the equipment and materials it needs for building tunnels. We even

sent army engineers there to help it plan and build tunnels and develop new mines. Had those young army engineers been provided with sufficient equipment and materials, a number of tunnels could have been opened up. But instead, they are now facing difficulties.

This points to the fact that officials are still not aware of the Party's intention when it emphasizes that the complex is the lifeline of our national economy. If officials work lackadaisically without fully understanding the Party's intention, coal production will never increase.

As I have said on several occasions, the most important task in socialist economic construction today is, above all else, to focus our efforts on the coal industry and increase coal production. Only then can thermal power stations and factory boilers be fully operational and production in all the sectors of the national economy be put on a normal footing. The Administration Council should focus every effort on the coal industry, in line with the Party's policy.

The coal mines should be provided, without fail, with mining equipment, including modern coal cutters and coal wagons.

In building coal-mining equipment it is important

to produce it so that it can be assembled according to the thickness of the coal seams. Coal seams are not all the same; some are a metre thick, others two metres thick. This being the case, if coal cutters are assembled according to a single standard, the miners may have to abandon a pit before all the coal is extracted, even though the tunnels have been dug. The Ministry of the Machine-Building Industry No. 2 should pay due attention to this.

The Administration Council should provide the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex with the conditions it needs for building tunnels on a large scale. Then the complex will be able to produce the planned amount of coal next year. The complex should carry out its coal production plan next year without fail, and increase production from the following year, first to 10 million tons, 20 million tons and 30 million tons, and then to 50 million tons. If the complex is to produce all the coal planned next year, it should regularly produce 20 000 tons of coal a day.

If we are to achieve a rapid increase in coal production, we should also focus our efforts on the coal mines in the northern area. Only when they increase their production will it be possible to operate at full capacity the factories and enterprises in the

northern area, including the Kim Chaek Iron Works, as well as the Chongjin Thermal Power Station, which is yet to be inaugurated.

Since the Chongjin Thermal Power Station is being built to solve the electricity problem in the northern area and supply steam to the Kim Chaek Iron Works, it is important that the mines in the northern area provide it with a steady supply of coal. The State Planning Commission, when drawing up next year's national economic plan, intended to solve the acute electricity problem in the northern area by operating the June 16 Thermal Power Station. But I said that was not a good idea. We do not know yet whether it will be possible to buy crude oil from abroad as planned. Since the June 16 Thermal Power Station is supposed to operate on imported crude oil, and if the oil cannot be imported, it will not run and steel production will be affected. So, I told the State Planning Commission to abandon the idea and solve the electricity problem in the northern area by stepping up the construction of the Chongjin Thermal Power Station, which will rely on domestic fuel. The coal mines in the northern area should, without fail, produce the coal needed for running the Chongjin Thermal Power Station.

The railway sector should transport the coal produced by the coal mines, as and when needed.

The next key issue currently facing economic construction in our country is to ease the shortage of electricity.

Electricity is the main source of power for production, and the electric power industry, together with rail transport, is the engine of the national economy. Unless priority is given to the electric power industry, fluctuations in production at factories and enterprises are unavoidable. Because this industry is so important, I have long stressed that it should be given priority over the other branches of the national economy.

Yet there remains a serious problem with power shortages. The recent drop of the electric frequency is causing difficulties in production. This is connected to the ineffectiveness of officials in the electric power sector and senior officials of provincial Party committees in waging a struggle to expand electricity production capacity to meet the ever-increasing demand. The irresponsible attitude of officials has led to generator No. 16 not yet being installed at the Pukchang Thermal Power Station, even though it was imported a long time ago, and to the construction of

boiler No. 12 at the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station being delayed.

Construction of the Chongjin Thermal Power Station is not progressing as planned. The plan was for two generators to be installed by the end of this year, but only one has been set up. If senior officials of the Chongjin City Party Committee had pushed ahead with this project, both generators would have been installed, since they have already been imported. However, they have not stepped up this project, despite being assigned with expanding the Kim Chaek Iron Works. On receiving a report on this, I criticized them. Although they are now guiding the project on site after being criticized, I think it will be difficult to install generator No. 2 within this year. They say they will install it by February 16 and generator No. 3 by April 15 next year. Even if they do so, it will still mean the construction of the Chongjin Thermal Power Station will be delayed by several months.

If our officials had made proper arrangements for installing generator No. 16 at the Pukchang Thermal Power Station, completing the construction of generator No. 12 at the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station and pushing ahead with the construction of the Chongjin Thermal Power Station as planned,

production would not have been impeded as it is now due to the low frequency of electricity.

Officials in the electricity industry and senior officials of provincial Party committees should step up the construction of power stations and hasten their commissioning.

Next, steel production should be further increased.

Only when steel production is increased can capital construction be guaranteed and machine factories operate at full capacity to produce the various machines and spare parts required by various branches of the national economy. I long ago put forward the slogan “Iron and machines are the king of industry.” Increased steel production is a fundamental condition for boosting industrial production. Other branches of industry can also develop quickly if they are provided with enough steel.

Next year’s plan for steel production should be carried out without fail. Hundreds of thousands of tons of steel should be produced a month if next year’s steel production plan is to be fulfilled.

To this end, the production of steel developed in our country should be increased and its quality further improved.

In recent years I have overseen the adoption of a

new method of iron production and thrown my full weight behind it, with the result that iron production is now proceeding well and the prospects for the metallurgical industry are very good. The steel production goal for next year is quite high, but there is no need to worry. By increasing the output of iron by use of the new method, we are certain to achieve it.

Thanks to the development of this new method, we have also found a way of shortening the time it takes to harden unbaked pellets. This year, during a visit to the Songjin Steel Plant, I saw that it takes at least a week to harden unbaked pellets naturally. This is not the way to meet the growing demand for iron. So, I assigned the task of putting the hardening of unbaked pellets on an industrial footing. I have been told that this task was completed recently, and the hardening time has been significantly reduced. This is another huge step forward towards producing iron by the new method. Because the time taken to harden the unbaked pellets has been shortened, the space needed for hardening has become much smaller.

Making steel by relying on the new method of iron production is far better than that of using pig iron. Producing pig iron involves heating iron ore concentrate in a sintering furnace and forming it into

lumps, producing coke in a coke oven using imported coking coal and melting the mixture of sintered ore and coke in a blast furnace. The new method of iron production, however, does not require coking coal, a sintering furnace or a coke oven.

As I often say, iron production was invented in a country with its own coking coal, so coke was used in producing iron in a blast furnace, as it is today. If it had been invented in a country such as ours where there is no coking coal, then a method of making iron without coking coal would have been developed. Our new method of producing iron is excellent. It can be called a revolution in the metallurgical industry. Officials and workers in the metallurgical industry are now celebrating the successful development of the new iron-making method; this is a very good thing. The Party Central Committee is delighted with this.

The metallurgical industry should make the most of the new iron production capacity and build more furnaces for using the new method so as to achieve a radical increase in iron production.

The quality of the iron produced by the new method should be further improved. Only then can steel plants shorten the time taken for making steel, consume less fuel and improve the steel's quality.

First of all, the quality of the concentrated ores needs to be raised. The Musan and other mines should produce iron ore concentrate that is finer than it is at present, and raise the grade of their iron.

The quality of anthracite should also be improved. Coal mines are currently supplying steel plants with poorly-dressed anthracite that has a high ash and sulphur content. They must not do this. For coal mines, building dressing facilities and raising the efficiency of dressing is not a great challenge. It is nothing when compared with the difficulty of importing coking coal and producing coke. Instead of importing coking coal to produce pig iron, we should produce iron by mining the anthracite which is abundant in our country and dressing it with due care.

The Ministry of the Coal Industry should identify those mines that are extracting anthracite with a low ash and sulphur content, which can be used in the production of anthracite needed for applying the new method, and it should provide them with effective dressing equipment so that they can produce good-quality anthracite.

In order to improve the quality of iron produced by the new method, the State Planning Commission should ensure that the crushing equipment for the

Chongjin Steel Plant, Songjin Steel Plant, April 13 Iron Works and other enterprises which have adopted the new method, are manufactured and supplied according to the national plan for next year.

If steel production is to be increased, the electric furnaces need to be upgraded.

Since the new method is being adopted on an extensive scale, it is essential that the electric furnaces are upgraded so that the iron made by this method can be used in steel production. This will help to boost steel production while making smelting work easier by freeing the smelters from harmful and heat-affected labour.

When I visited the Songjin Steel Plant this summer, I found that the working conditions for its smelters were outdated, leaving them exposed to the heat from old electric furnaces. I tasked a senior official at the plant with modernizing the electric furnaces in such a way that the raw materials were fed automatically and the molten iron extracted from the bottom of the furnaces. And I suggested building a 50-ton electric steel furnace on a trial basis to produce steel using iron made by the new method. Before long, the workers at the Songjin Steel Plant had built a modern electric steel furnace. The plant should now complete

the newly-built 50-ton electric steel furnace and normalize production.

The Kim Chaek Iron Works is currently building a new type of 100-ton electric steel furnace. Metallurgical factories should strive to modernize all their old-fashioned electric furnaces.

The metallurgical industry should increase the production of steel of various sizes and second-stage processed metals.

High-pressure pipes, silicon steel plates and the like are currently in short supply, hindering the production of various machines and equipment, including motors and transformers. The relevant sector should, as soon as possible, import the equipment needed for building a high-pressure pipe factory and a silicon steel plate factory. Next year the Kangson Steel Complex should complete the factory producing high-pressure pipes and silicon steel plates.

Next year, metallurgical factories should step up production and increase the output of various types of rolled steel, drawn pipes, steel plates and wire ropes, and improve their quality.

In the future, if we build a high-pressure pipe factory and a silicon steel plate factory and equip metallurgical factories with rolling machines from the

Tae'an General Heavy Machine Works, we will be able to produce for ourselves the steel of different sizes needed in our country. This will bring about a fresh turning point in the development of our machine-building industry.

Next year the whole Party should assist the effort to attain the goal for steel production, so that more capacity for steel production is created at the Kim Chaek Iron Works, a high-pressure pipe factory and a silicon steel plate factory are built at the Kangson Steel Complex, regular production is maintained as planned at the Ryongdae Oval Briquette Manufactory, and a new fuel production base and dwarf furnaces are built at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex. If this is done, we can establish the Juche orientation in the metallurgical industry. For the present, even without help from other countries, we can definitely produce 10 million tons and, in the future, 15 million tons of steel.

Next, we must step up the production of nonferrous metals and actively develop the nonferrous metal-processing industry.

A dynamic campaign is underway in our country to attain the goal of 1.5 million tons of nonferrous metals.

Taking the Komdok General Mining Enterprise as an example, next year it will produce a quantity of nonferrous minerals several times greater than in the past. It would be good if the enterprise were to aim for a higher production goal next year than that which has been set for it. If it is to fulfil its production plan for next year, the enterprise should ensure that the newly-built ore-dressing plant No. 3 is in good condition and put into operation as soon as possible. It should also improve supply services so that the workers are provided with sufficient fish, oil and other non-staple foodstuffs. Being not far from the sea, it can supply its workers with plenty of fish.

It is very important, at the same time as increasing the production of nonferrous metals, to develop the industry for processing them.

In most cases, we have been exporting lead, zinc and other nonferrous metals in nugget form. At the port of Nampho you can still see piles of zinc nuggets. But it is a shame to be exporting nuggets of nonferrous metals. If we continue to export nonferrous metals in nugget form as we are doing now, our country may become a raw materials supplier for other countries. From now on, we should not export nuggets of nonferrous metals. Instead we should make various

kinds of goods with them and sell them.

If we make various kinds of goods from nonferrous metals and sell them, we can earn a large amount of foreign currency, which can be used to help steadily improve the people's standard of living. It is not good enough simply to try and earn foreign currency by selling fabrics and the like; instead, we should think of how to make various kinds of goods with nonferrous metals for export. No matter how good the quality of our fabrics is, it is impossible to export them in large quantities. Even if we could do so, this is not the way to solve the problem.

These days I am giving a great deal of thought to how we can produce more iron by the new method and better process nonferrous metals for export. Our country is currently producing lead and zinc in large amounts. Yet, no one cares about how they are being processed. Not even scientists are paying any attention to this. They have no idea what can be made from lead and zinc.

A while ago I read a book, which gave some interesting information about how zinc can be used for plating, alloying metals and making chemical goods. So, I told some officials that money could be made by exporting zinc-galvanized plate, zinc alloys and zinc

chemicals, whereas selling zinc nuggets abroad would bring no great benefits.

Other countries keep it strictly confidential, how they produce zinc alloys. A while ago I watched a foreign video about the method of processing zinc. But it only gave information about galvanizing it, not about making zinc alloys. Our scientists should, whatever the cost, study how to make various kinds of zinc products, with the aim of developing zinc-galvanized, zinc-alloy and zinc chemical products. We will be producing large amounts of zinc in the near future, and if we export various zinc products we will be able to earn several times more foreign currency than we did by selling zinc nuggets, and we will demonstrate to the whole world the might of our socialist industrial state. In view of the huge importance of developing the nonferrous metal-processing industry, I have particularly emphasized this matter at this plenary meeting.

In order to develop the nonferrous metal-processing industry, we must build up a solid base for it.

It may be a little difficult to complete the nonferrous metal processing base next year. Next year we should send technicians abroad to learn about processing nonferrous metals and investigate the types

of equipment we should import for constructing this base. Until this base is built, we should make effective use of the existing equipment to process nonferrous metals. Simply by using the existing equipment, we can process a large quantity of nonferrous metals and earn a significant amount of foreign currency. Members of the Party Central Committee and leading officials should explore how effective use can be made of the nonferrous metal processing equipment available in their sectors and process them through the second and third stages.

A zinc-galvanized iron plate production line is operating at the Kim Chaek Iron Works, and we should put it to good use. Zinc-galvanized iron plates and zinc alloys have a broad range of applications. In one country, it makes building materials with zinc-galvanized iron plates and zinc-galvanized pipes, carrying out light construction projects speedily. They also make toys and furniture using zinc-galvanized iron plates. If we produce large quantities of zinc-galvanized iron plates on the production line at the Kim Chaek Iron Works, we can make effective use of them in rural housing construction. The zinc-galvanized iron plate production plan has been set for next year; it will be

good if we as achieve the planned output.

The electric wire and motor factories should be operated at full capacity to process copper and lead. The short supply of copper and lead means these factories are not running properly. Next year we will be producing a large amount of copper, so we should supply these factories with enough copper for them to produce large quantities of cable wires, enamel wires and electric motors. I have heard that cable wires are very expensive on the international market. We should also boost the output of the plastic needed for producing wires. Only then can we produce various types of wires in large amounts.

We should also make red lead and the like from lead.

We are exporting lead and zinc to some countries under long-term contracts. We should start selling various processed products to these countries, step by step.

We should develop the titanium industry.

A light metal, titanium does not corrode and is highly resistant to heat. We should develop our country's rich titanium resources and produce a large amount of titanium alloy. Our country is not rich in nickel, but if we produce titanium alloy we can make

effective use of it in several fields of the national economy.

Next, we should further develop the machine-building industry.

Since iron ore and anthracite are abundant in our country and we have good prospects for increasing steel production, it is very important to develop the machine-building industry. Only when we develop the machine-building industry and produce and export large amounts of machinery can our country become rich.

Switzerland in Europe, though a small country, is rich because it manufactures and exports watches. Czechoslovakia, though also not large, thrives by manufacturing and selling a large amount of machinery. Before we launched the anti-Japanese armed struggle, Czechoslovakia was manufacturing machine guns and selling them to several countries. Our anti-Japanese guerrillas liked those machine guns, which were lighter and more durable than the Japanese models.

If we make good machinery, we can sell it on the international market. Some time ago, trade representatives from several Southeast Asian countries visited our country. After visiting our machine-tool

factories, they said that if we remodeled our machine tools a little, they would buy tens of thousands of them. It is also said that our machine tools conform to the technical standards of some developing countries.

However, officials in the machine-building industry and the trade sector are not making proper arrangements for producing machine tools that meet the requirements of developing countries, or for selling them. If they had organized the work well and produced suitable machine tools, they would have already exported them in large numbers. We should continue to develop the machine-building industry under the slogan “Iron and machines are the king of industry!” which we upheld in the postwar period, and increase the output of various high-quality machines.

The machine-building industry should focus on developing a large-capacity oxygen plant.

This is a vital and urgent priority in raising our industry to a higher level.

Only when we have such an oxygen plant can we introduce the method of producing carbide through oxygen-blasting and radically increase carbide production. This method is our invention. The Chongsu Chemical Factory is now running trials on the production of carbide by this method, and the

results are very good. The production of carbide by oxygen-blasting is a tried-and-tested method. In order to produce the carbide needed for the production of 100 000 tons of vinalon at the Sunchon Vinalon Factory, we need several large-capacity oxygen plants.

The project to expand the Kim Chaek Iron Works is underway. If a large-capacity oxygen plant is installed there, we can increase its steel production capacity. Large-capacity oxygen plants are also needed at the Kangson Steel Complex and various smelteries. In the final analysis, large-capacity oxygen plants will help us to rapidly develop our iron- and steel-making, smelting and carbide industries while saving fuel and electricity.

We should do whatever it takes to produce large-capacity oxygen plants by ourselves. A failure to do so would mean we have to import them, but there is no country we can turn to for them. Worldwide, there are few countries that manufacture these oxygen plants. Only a handful of the socialist countries can make them. These countries are not willing to export their oxygen plants. Even when they do sell them, they demand an exorbitant price. If we succeed in developing a large-capacity oxygen plant by ourselves, it will be more significant than developing a

rocket, and our country's industry will reach the level of the developed industrial states.

The Party Central Committee entrusted the workers of the Ragwon Machine Factory with developing a large-capacity oxygen plant. Whenever the Party has been faced with a difficult task, the workers of Ragwon have worked hard in support of its line. It was the workers of Ragwon who produced crane cars and large water pumps in the challenging period of postwar reconstruction.

During post-war reconstruction we needed crane cars in large numbers. We imported a crane car, and it cost several times more than a truck. Our country's foreign currency situation did not allow us to continue buying such expensive crane cars. So I had the issue of producing our own crane cars discussed at a Cabinet meeting, and assigned the task to the workers of Ragwon. By displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, they carried out with credit the task assigned to them by the Party.

After the war when we launched irrigation projects, we imported a large water pump. But this only happened after we had written several times to the government of the country concerned; it took a long time and was very expensive. Under the

circumstances, we could not carry out irrigation projects by using imported pumps. We decided to make our own pumps, and called on the workers of Ragwon. Once again, they overcame the difficulties and hardships and succeeded in manufacturing large water pumps.

The Party has assigned the task of building large-capacity oxygen plants to the workers of the Ragwon Machine Factory, and they should do everything in their power to carry it out.

Building a large-capacity oxygen plant is not so difficult. Nothing special is needed to build one, since it is also a machine. People who have seen an oxygen plant built in other countries also say that it seemed nothing special. If officials are fully confident and buckle down to building one, they can do so successfully. The Ragwon Machine Factory should build at least a dozen of them next year.

Our Party has high expectations of the workers of Ragwon. It believes that they will carry out the task without fail by emulating the indomitable fighting spirit of the ten Party members at their factory in the past. The factory Party committee should inform all the Party members and other workers there of the Party Central Committee's intention and rouse them

forcefully to the campaign for producing large-capacity oxygen plants.

Given the importance of building them, the Central Committee and the North Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Party and the Administration Council should also actively support the Ragwon Machine Factory. And scientists and technicians should promptly solve any problems arising in the production of the oxygen plants.

The machine-building industrial sector should strive to increase the production of mining equipment. Coal and ore mines are in need of considerable quantities of it, and the railway projects in the northern inland areas require compressors, drills, high-speed tunnelling machines and other high-performance mining equipment. The relevant factories and enterprises should produce high-performance mining equipment in larger quantities and send it to mines and construction sites.

Next, we need to develop the building-materials industry further.

An important task facing this sector is to normalize production at the Sunchon Cement Factory. Of all the cement to be produced next year, this factory will have to produce 3 million tons. It should maintain its

equipment properly in order to prevent accidents and put production on a high and normal basis. Then, it will be able to produce 3 million tons of cement a year without difficulty.

Next, capital construction should be undertaken properly.

Quite a number of new factories are not operating properly, as their design was irrational and they were built in a slipshod manner.

In recent years we have undertaken extensive capital construction. Since 1980, a considerable amount of construction has been done.

In the electric power sector, generators Nos. 13, 14 and 15 were installed at the Pukchang Thermal Power Station. In the mining-industry sector, ore-dressing plant No. 3 at the Komdok General Mining Enterprise, ore-dressing plant No. 2 at the Sangnong Mine and some production lines at the August 24 Factory were built. In the metal-industry sector a cold-rolling workshop was installed at the rolling mill of the Kim Chaek Iron Works, as were a line for producing steel by a new method at the Songjin Steel Plant. Also, the Ryongdae Oval Briquette Factory, ore-dressing plant No. 2 at the Musan Mine and four revolving kilns at the Chongjin Steel Plant were built. In the

machine-building industry sector, the Tae'an General Heavy Machine Works, the Moranbong Automation Appliances Factory and a bearing factory were built. In the chemical-industry sector a movilon workshop at the February 8 Vinalon Complex, the Taedonggang Battery Factory, a caustic soda workshop at the Kilju Pulp Mill and others were constructed. In the building-materials industry sector, the August 2 Cement Factory, a refractory branch factory at the Sunchon Cement Factory and a rolled glass workshop at the Nampho Glass Factory were completed. In the light-industry sector a fluorescent lamp and children's foodstuff production bases and a plastic wallpaper production base at the Hamhung Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory were built. Other construction projects were also completed. Scores of factories were built in the last four years, at the rate of a dozen each year.

Of course, a number of them are operating dly. The Taedonggang Power Station is running fairly well. Of the four generators at the station, the two produced in our country are running properly, but this is not the case with the two that were imported. So, technicians from the country concerned are repairing them. The fact that the imported generators

are not operating properly is the fault of the ineffective work done by the Ministry of External Economic Affairs.

Part of the reason for some of the new factories' failure to operate properly is that they are not being supplied with raw and other materials in sufficient amounts. But the main reason is that they were built without going through pilot operation. Factories should be built after tests are carried out at a pilot plant. But recently, a number of factories were built, based on laboratory data and foreign literature.

If the August 2 Cement Factory had assembled its equipment in line with the design, it would already be producing large quantities of cement. However, production was affected by its attempts to introduce the suspension-preheater flash calciner method. The Chonnaeri Cement Factory disassembled the equipment a long time ago, claiming that it would introduce the same method, but the method is yet to be perfected. It should be introduced after a small pilot plant is built and a full understanding of it is gained by running the plant. But these cement factories did not do this.

Proper draft designs of the ordered equipment are currently not being examined. The General Bureau of

Machine Designing under the Ministry of the Machine Building No. 1 did the design work in a slipshod manner and was irresponsible with regard to examining draft designs. As a result, many parts of the designs had to be revised when the ordered equipment was being produced. The August 8 Factory revised many of the equipment designs drawn up in the first quarter of this year because irrationalities were found in them while making the equipment. Designers at the Ryongsong Machine Complex and officials of the Charyongwan Mining Equipment Design Office made the vibratory sieves for the ore-dressing plant No. 3 at the Komdok General Mining Enterprise without holding proper technical consultations on the diameter of the holes, so several of the sieves had to be disassembled and repaired. Several similar examples can be cited.

Ideally, an independent organ should exist that examines draft designs before ordered equipment is built. But as this is not the case now, designs have to be corrected in the process of producing the equipment, or equipment has to be repaired or rebuilt because it does not work properly after being built.

Machinery should be operated on a trial basis after it is produced and assembled according to the design,

but this is not being done satisfactorily. The way ordered equipment is being built now, the parts are produced in different places—the head part, body part, arm part and leg part here and there. Whether the equipment has been built properly is only known after the individual parts are assembled. But as this is not being done, some ordered equipment is being built with unbalanced “heads,” “bodies,” “arms” and “legs.” The low quality of ordered equipment means that the commissioning of factories is being delayed and factories that have begun operation are not running properly. Ore-dressing plant No. 3 at the Komdok General Mining Enterprise is not operating properly because its equipment needs to be repaired or replaced. Many senior officials, including some from the First Department of Economic Affairs and the Department of Construction and Transport Affairs of the Central Committee of the Party, from the Administration Council and from the South Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee, have given guidance at Komdok, but they failed to identify the problems and rectify them. This shows that our officials’ way of working is wrong, and that they lack the spirit of performing the tasks assigned to them assiduously, as befits masters. The failure properly to

run factories that have been built at huge state expense is a grave crime against the Party and the people.

Next year we are planning many structures in the capital construction sector. If the defects revealed in capital construction are not rectified, it will be pointless, no matter how many we build. Officials of the Party Central Committee and all leading economic officials should focus on capital construction and take comprehensive steps to rectify the defects.

If capital construction is to be stepped up, the State Construction Commission should be strengthened and its role enhanced. Senior officials of the commission are incapable of guiding capital construction in the country. The commission should be staffed with capable officials and they should properly deliberate the draft designs and examine whether factories are properly located and the ordered equipment is well-built. Also, strict discipline should be established in capital construction and a system should be created whereby the equipment that forms a production line is assembled in one place and sent as a complete set.

Next, existing factories should be operated at full capacity.

As was pointed out in the report, the economy should be run so that the existing factories can operate

at full capacity. There are many factories in our country, but some of them are not running properly because of the lack of raw and other materials, coal and electricity.

According to a report by the Organizational Leadership Department of the Party Central Committee, the ceramics factories in Kyongsong County in the city of Chongjin are not operating as they should. There are several ceramics factories in the county. Jingdezhen in China is a place that is famous for producing porcelain. Once, when I was giving guidance at Kyongsong County, I said that the county should be turned into a place as famous as Jingdezhen in China for the production of porcelain. But the county's ceramics factories are not operating properly because of a lack of coal.

A number of factories using imported equipment are also not running properly, due to a lack of raw and other materials.

I have found that the injection-molded boots produced by the Pyongyang Footwear Factory are just as good as those made in other, industrially-developed countries in terms of quality. Had officials taken steps to find export markets for these boots, the necessary raw and other materials could have been imported for

the factory to operate normally.

The Phyongsong Synthetic Leather Factory has a production capacity of 5 million square metres, yet it is not operating properly, either. I said several years ago that most of its products should be used at home and the remainder exported and the necessary raw and other materials imported in exchange. But as the officials did not do this, the factory is not operating properly. Next year, the factory should be operated properly without fail. Then it will be able to carry out the plan for synthetic leather production.

The quality of the braces and sock garters made by the Phyongsong Elastic Cord Factory is much higher than those produced in other countries. The quality of the braces and sock garters made by the Phyongsong Elastic Cord Factory is much higher than those produced in other countries. If the factory had been allowed to solve the problem of raw and other materials by exporting its quality products, it would be running properly now. Some time ago the factory's manager asked me if it could export some of its products in order to import raw and other materials, saying that he would then be able to run his factory at full capacity. I agreed to his suggestion.

Factories using imported equipment are not

operating properly in other sectors, as well as in light industry. The February 10 Factory, which has the capacity to produce 30 000 tons of tinplate, is a modern factory. But it is not running properly due to a shortage of raw and other materials. If officials had operated this factory using imported raw and other materials, it could be earning a lot of foreign currency. The factory's manager and chief engineer have not taken any steps to improve the way the factory operates, and senior officials of the North Hwanghae Provincial Party Committee have not visited the factory to see whether it is running properly, even though it is located near their office building. I think the factory's managing officials and senior officials of the North Hwanghae Provincial Party Committee should feel a sense of responsibility for this as Party members.

It is truly heartbreaking to see factories with modern imported machinery not operating properly. Had leading economic officials organized economic work effectively and ensured that their products were exported in exchange for the raw and other materials they are short of, these problems would not have occurred.

Our officials do not appreciate the value of money,

and they have no worries about their food, housing and clothing and the education of their children, thanks to our free medical care and free compulsory education. They think they can continue as they are even if their work is careless. But they are misguided.

Because factories using imported equipment are not operating properly, I recently convened a consultative meeting of senior officials of the Administration Council, where I stressed the need for all these factories to be operated. The State Planning Commission subsequently submitted a report after learning of the situation at some of them. However, the data they submitted were guesswork, and examining them provided no way of understanding the true situation. So I emphasized again that the State Planning Commission should identify all the factories using imported equipment that are not running properly, and adopt appropriate measures when they draw up next year's plan.

It is not just some officials' fault that a number of factories are not operating properly. It is also attributable to senior officials of the departments concerned of the Party Central Committee, the Administration Council, the relevant commissions and ministries of the Administration Council, provincial

Party committees, provincial economic guidance committees, and officials of city, county and factory Party committees concerned. In recent years our officials have been irresponsible in their management of the economy.

Next year we should run all the existing factories properly; in particular, those using imported equipment should be operating at full capacity. If not all the factories can be operated at full capacity due to a lack of foreign exchange next year, about 80% of them should be, and then 100% the following year. In this way, these factories should be running at full capacity within one or two years. If factories are not working, it is tantamount to leaving money idle. If we run all our factories properly, our economy will be strengthened.

In order to run the existing factories properly, we should export some of their products to import the raw and other materials they need. To this end, we saw to it that commissions and ministries of the Administration Council each run a trading company. Commissions and ministries should strengthen the trading companies with able personnel and enhance their role. These officials should be allowed to go to Singapore, Thailand, India and any other countries

where they need to conduct business.

In order to run the existing factories properly, the State Planning Commission should draw up detailed plans for dovetailing the supply of raw and other materials. In particular, all the sectors of the national economy should be dovetailed regarding the supply of coal.

Some officials are accusing the State Planning Commission of drawing up over-ambitious plans without any knowledge of the country's economic conditions. But they are wrong. Of course, the State Planning Commission has so far not drawn up any plans that can give full play to the production potential of several sectors of the national economy. Whether plans have been drawn up properly or not can be seen when the indices of the plans are compared to the production capacities of the factories. Some time ago, I received a report drawn up by senior officials of the Administration Council after they had visited the Huichon Machine-tool Factory and acquainted themselves with the situation there. I told them to define it as a "forced march" factory and provide it with the materials it needed without fail. If, starting next January, the factory operates its production facilities at full capacity with enough materials, we

will discover its production capacity.

The Chongjin Chemical Fibre Mill has an estimated capacity of 30 000 tons of staple fibre and rayon yarn. However, this figure cannot be considered as correct since the mill has not been provided with sufficient main materials including pulp, caustic soda and sulphuric acid to run at full capacity. As for textile mills, there is a standard concerning the fixed amount of thread from a spindle, so their estimated capacity can be fairly correct. But such correct standards have not been set for other factories.

One of the reasons for the lack of correct standards is the ineffective labour administration and equipment management.

The factories that are provided with plenty of raw and other materials and are effective in the management of their equipment and labour administration are operating at full capacity. The February 8 Vinalon Complex, since it is fed with enough materials in an intensive way, has maintained regular production and radically increased its output of vinalon. This experience shows that careful arrangements are the key to maintaining full capacity in vinalon production.

Now no one can correctly estimate the actual

capacity of factories, so some may claim that the State Planning Commission is ineffective in its detailed planning. However, we cannot say that the figures for its plans are unreasonably high.

Next year, if we supply factories with enough raw and other materials and operate them at full capacity, they will run normally and they will know whether their plans are reasonable or not. Factories whose capacities are lower than the set plans may fail to fulfil them, and those with a larger capacity may overfulfil them. Next year, if we make an effort to operate factories at full capacity, we will find out what needs to be done to increase their production capacity, i.e., whether to improve labour administration or to adopt technical measures to renovate machines and equipment.

True, the figures in next year's plans are higher than those for this year. But there is no need for our officials to worry. It is natural for the figures in next year's plans to be high but, essentially, they are not too high. They seem to be high because factories have not been running at full capacity. The quotas for some items have been set lower than the relevant factories' capacity in consideration of their past production levels. Next year, leading economic officials should

ensure that all factories run at full capacity and maintain a high level of production to fulfill their quotas under the national plan.

Next, we must further develop foreign trade.

Unless we do so, we cannot develop our economy quickly. Such a small country as ours cannot make everything we need on our own. Those things we can make, we should produce and export to other countries. And those we cannot make or we do not have in our country, we should import.

Given that our country has a limited area of arable land and cannot produce much vegetable oil, we should import cooking and other oils, such as palm oil, for industrial use. We should import oil to solve the problem of cooking oil for our people and to produce paint and other materials for painting coaches and buses, machines and equipment. We also need to import crude rubber and crude oil which are not available in our country, as well as the alloys we need for developing our metallurgical industry. And there are many other things we must import, including adhesives and latex.

Next year we should make good arrangements for foreign trade and import the materials we need from other countries so that we can operate our factories at

full capacity. Success or failure in implementing the national economic plan for next year depends largely on how we organize foreign trade.

In order to import what we need, we should develop foreign trade and earn foreign currency. We need a lot of foreign currency so that we can import at least one million tons of crude oil.

In order to develop foreign trade, our Party put forward the foreign-trade-first principle and credit-first principle, the policy on making trade multilateral and diverse, and the slogan “Export means production.” However, there has as yet been no radical transformation in foreign trade.

Our officials are not good at conducting trade. They are worse than foreigners at it. As I often say, they are not effective traders even though our country is near such good foreign markets as the Far Eastern Region of the Soviet Union and Northeast China. If we process tobacco well and sell it to the Far Eastern Region of the Soviet Union or Northeast China, we can earn a lot of foreign currency and buy a lot of things we are in need of. Of the tobacco we produced this year, apart from that for domestic consumption, we can sell a lot to other countries.

There is currently a tendency among our officials

of trying to buy things from capitalist markets that are available on socialist markets. That is wrong. Senior officials at the Taaen General Heavy Machine Works asked for a certain amount of sterling to buy from a capitalist market something it needed for manufacturing a 50 000-kilowatt generator and 210-ton boiler. But such materials as high-pressure pipes which are needed for manufacturing boilers can be imported from socialist countries such as Romania, the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia. Now that we are selling nonferrous metals to a socialist country, we can buy high-pressure pipes if we negotiate with them well. As for the materials needed for an oxygen plant, our officials asked for a certain amount of sterling as they planned to import them from a capitalist market. This should also be reviewed. There is no rule that materials needed for developing an oxygen plant must be imported from capitalist countries. We used to import such things as sugar and oil from socialist countries, but now there is a tendency towards importing them from capitalist countries. Our officials are blindly asking for sterling without even bargaining with socialist countries over the purchase of materials. This is extremely misguided.

Because they are not good at business, our trade officials are sometimes tricked by foreigners. We make transformers using expensive silicon steel plates imported from a capitalist market and sell them cheaply to socialist countries, ultimately losing on the deal. This should not be happening.

To raise the efficiency of our foreign trade, trade officials should conduct brisk external activities during visits overseas. But they do not do this, so things are not going well. And those in our foreign missions are not conducting brisk foreign trade, either. By failing to do it, they are wasting valuable foreign currency.

If we are to radically develop our foreign trade, we should work out reasonable trade plans. The Ministry of Foreign Trade and the State Planning Commission should work together and draw up reasonable trade plans, and Party organizations should throw their weight behind implementing them to the letter.

It is important to increase the quality of our goods, pack them well and guarantee to meet the scheduled date of delivery. This is the way to win the confidence of our foreign trade partners. If we do not increase the quality of our export goods or meet the scheduled date of delivery, we may lose even those markets we have

already opened. To cite magnesia clinker as an example; if its quality is not good enough, we will not get a fair price for it, and this will result in losing our market to another country.

We should conduct brisk trade with many countries of the world. In particular, we should develop trade with the socialist countries so as to import as many things as possible from the socialist market. Of course, we should import from the capitalist market anything we cannot get from the socialist market.

We should adopt a flexible approach to conducting trade. We should buy raw and other materials from the socialist market and sell processed goods to the capitalist market, and vice versa. In addition, our trade officials should learn how to conduct trade skilfully. They should not work in a coercive manner.

As they are in charge of trade companies, the chairpersons of commissions and the ministers of the Administration Council should conduct trade effectively on their own responsibility.

Our country currently has great production potential. If we conduct foreign trade so well that we import the materials we need from other countries so as to operate all our factories and enterprises at full capacity, we will be much better off than we are now.

Because we are stressing the importance of foreign currency, some officials are asking for payment in foreign currency for things produced as export goods but consumed domestically or for things that were planned to be imported but were produced at home. This is tantamount to asking for foreign currency to be used domestically. Those claiming that foreign currency should be used domestically do not have even an elementary sense of economics. Such disgraceful people who are ignorant of economic laws and take no account of the dignity and prestige of their country have appeared among us because we have not conducted effective education among our officials. We should strengthen education among our officials so that this phenomenon is not repeated.

Next, we should improve the people's living standards.

Our Party has always shown close concern for the people's livelihood and built many modern factories needed for improving their lives. The production capacity of light industry is already considerable. Our country now has many textile mills, knitwear factories, footwear factories including leather-shoe and plastic-shoe factories, factories producing various household goods, and food-processing factories,

including cornstarch and flour-processing factories. Every province has a cornstarch factory. Pyongyang and Pukchang each has a cornstarch factory which can process 100 000 tons of maize every year, and Hamhung, Uiju, Kanggye and Wonsan have a cornstarch factory which can process tens of thousands of tons of maize.

We also have many modern chicken, duck, pig and rabbit farms and meat-processing factories. In Pyongyang alone, there are many chicken, duck and pig farms, including the Mangyongdae Chicken Farm capable of producing 100 million eggs, the Ryongsong Chicken Farm capable of producing 5 000 tons of chicken, the Tudan Duck Farm capable of producing 5 000 tons of duck and the Pyongyang Pig Farm capable of producing 10 000 tons of pork. Pyongyang's overall egg production capacity is 200 million.

Our Party has really done a lot for the sake of the people's livelihood. If we operate the country's light-industry factories and chicken, duck and pig farms well, we will be able to raise living standards even higher. But many factories built to support people's livelihoods are not running properly. To take just Pyongyang as an example; many of its

light-industry factories are not running properly. Worse still, even the factory presented to me by Chongryon is not being run properly. The same is the case with factories the Party imported to raise the living standards of Pyongyang citizens. Also, cornstarch factories in the provinces are idle as they are not being supplied with maize. Chicken, duck and pig farms are not producing a lot of eggs and meat due to the shortage of feed. This being the case, shops are short of goods and they are not supplying the people with enough cooking oil, sugar, meat and eggs.

Light-industry factories and chicken, duck and pig farms are not running well partly because officials' economic management is inefficient. The major reason, however, is that they lack the spirit of serving the people and the revolutionary trait of striving all-out to fulfill their revolutionary tasks.

For a revolutionary, it is natural to serve the people. Our revolution is, in the final analysis, aimed at making the people well off. However, our officials lack the spirit of serving the people. There are a large number of officials in the Party Central Committee, Central People's Committee, Administration Council, provincial Party committees and provincial people's committees, but not many of them are working with

devotion to raise the people's living standards. Light-industry factories imported from abroad are currently not operating properly, but senior officials of the Administration Council and the State Planning Commission have not even inspected them. As officials in charge of economic work, they should naturally inspect these factories that are associated with the people's livelihood. I do not understand why they do not do so. Some officials sometimes go to these factories, but they simply look round and come back without inquiring about the problems facing them or taking steps to solve them. This shows that they lack a revolutionary style of work.

Our officials' lack of the serve-the-people spirit finds expression also in their failure to ensure that cornstarch factories are run well.

This is not the first time that I have stressed this problem. I have been emphasizing it for a long time.

We have built cornstarch factories in the provinces and worked hard to supply people with enough cooking oil. The distances I have covered on field-guidance to solve the problem of oil probably total thousands of kilometres. Although I am going to such lengths to ensure that people have enough oil, officials are not making proactive efforts to this end.

That is wrong. Officials are in charge of carrying out the Party's lines and policies, and if they do not work hard, it is pointless for me to make any effort to ensure the provision of oil to the people.

If all our cornstarch factories are running, we can process more than 500 000 tons of maize. If we process 500 000 tons of maize, we can obtain 15 000 tons of oil. Maize oil tastes no worse than sesame oil. Before liberation, the Japanese imperialists took all the maize oil from the cornstarch factories without giving a single gram to the Korean people.

By running our cornstarch factories well, we will be able to produce not only oil but also sweets, biscuits and corn syrup for the people. Then we will not need to import sweets.

However, senior officials of the Administration Council, as well as the chief secretaries of the provincial Party committees and chairpersons of the provincial people's committees, are paying no attention to increasing the output of oil and other foodstuffs by operating cornstarch factories well. Even the members of the Party Central Committee who are attending this meeting do not care whether cornstarch factories are operated or not. I have been told that senior officials of the Commission of Public Welfare

are not supplying enough maize to the cornstarch factories, on the excuse of food balance. This is wrong.

When we were building cornstarch factories, we promised people that they would get oil, biscuits, sweets and corn syrup. If we do not keep this promise, people will be disappointed. If maize from our country is in short supply, officials should import some to ensure that cornstarch factories can operate normally. But they are not doing so.

As I said a few days ago to senior officials of the Administration Council, it is economically beneficial for us to import maize for operating cornstarch factories. If we import maize, process it into starch and syrup and sell them on the international market, we can cover the cost of the maize imports. This means we will gain cooking oil and animal feed for next to nothing.

Not only maize oil but also chufa oil is not being supplied in sufficient quantities to the people. Chufa is being cultivated in the counties, but the chief secretaries of county Party committees and chairpersons of county cooperative farm management committees and county people's committees are not willing to supply enough chufa oil to the people by

processing the chufa well. As a result, they are careless in the way they deal with its cultivation and storage.

A socialist state takes full responsibility for the people's livelihood, and the socialist economy is based on collectivist management. In socialist society, if leading state economic officials fail to take care of the people's livelihood, there will not be enough oil, sweets, biscuits and corn syrup.

Our officials are not working hard enough to supply people with sufficient meat and eggs.

If the existing chicken, duck and pig farms are operated well, people can be supplied with plenty of meat and eggs. However, the shortage of protein-rich feed is preventing chicken and duck farms from producing enough meat and eggs. Pyongyang, for instance, is supposed to produce about 700 000 eggs every day, but it does not. Worse still, its daily output of eggs has fallen recently. Because chicken farms are not being supplied with enough protein-rich feed, many chickens are not laying eggs, despite being fed. The amount of grain feed these chickens consume will not be small.

A few days ago, I inquired about one chicken farm's efforts to breed earthworms and maggots to

solve the problem of protein-rich feed. I discovered that it was not doing so. It is actually not so difficult to breed earthworms. Placing a few earthworms beneath some compost is all you need to do. Then they breed by themselves. Earthworms are a good animal-protein feed. Only a few earthworms per day are enough for a chicken. So, I had a demonstration arranged on the matter of solving the problem of protein-rich feed by breeding earthworms and maggots. Yet this chicken farm still refuses to solve the problem of protein-rich feed by breeding earthworms and maggots. It is careless about its management. Poor management of the heating means the indoor temperature is not maintained. If the indoor temperature is too low, chickens do not lay eggs, but still eat a lot to maintain their body temperature. This is the situation of the chicken farm. Yet its officials are doing nothing about it.

The same is true of the Kwangpho Duck Farm.

We had duck eggs transported by plane for this farm from a foreign country, and we have subsequently shown close concern for its development. Under the Party's guidance it has developed into a large, modern farm capable of producing 10 000 tons of meat. Yet it is unable to

produce this much, and this is due to the lack of protein-rich feed. A movie has been made about this farm, but last year it failed to produce meat to its full capacity. We enlisted many workers in Hamhung for the construction of the duck farm, assuring them they would get enough meat. But if we fail to fulfill our promise, they will blame our officials.

Senior officials of the South Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee pledged to produce 10 000 tons of duck by all means, so I actively supported them. However, they are not working hard to make good on this pledge. The Party entrusted senior officials of a provincial Party committee with running the province's economy, in an expression of its confidence in them. Therefore, they should organize the economy of their provinces in a responsible manner, but this is not the case. If they cannot run the Kwangpho Duck Farm properly because of the shortage of protein-rich feed, officials may sell 1 000 tons or so of canned or smoked duck to another country. By doing so, they will be able to solve the problem of protein-rich feed needed for operating the 10 000-ton-capacity farm.

It is not only senior officials of the provincial Party committees but also leading economic officials who

are unconcerned about the fact that chicken, duck and pig farms are consuming large quantities of cereals every year but not producing meat and eggs properly. Worse still, they are making no efforts to solve the problem of protein-rich feed.

Another reason why some light-industry factories and chicken, duck and pig farms are failing to put production on a normal footing is the lack of strict Party and legal control over them.

In the past, if a factory suspended production even for a few hours it was regarded as a serious incident, and the Party made an issue of it and strong legal punishment followed. These days, however, if a factory stops operation this is not regarded as a serious matter and it is not called to account by the Party and under the law. Though they are aware of the fact that the Party's policy on operating cornstarch factories properly is not being implemented, senior officials of the provincial Party committees, as well as officials of the relevant departments of the Party Central Committee and State Inspection Commission, are doing nothing about it. If a factory is not operating properly, the Party should call it to account and punish it severely, and the judicial and procuratorial organs should also regard it as a breach of the

law and impose legal sanctions.

Next year, a revolution should be carried out in light industry so as to bring about a fresh turn in improving the people's standard of living. In this way, we can ensure that shops are full of goods and provide people with a richer life. Our Party has defined next year as a year of boosting light industry by carrying out a revolution in this field.

We should supply light-industry factories with abundant quantities of raw and other materials next year so as to decisively increase consumer goods production.

Various foodstuffs, including cooking oil, should be produced in large amounts.

Cooking oil is an indispensable part of people's diet. With cooking oil, vegetables can be made to taste better.

In order to increase oil production, cornstarch factories need to operate at full capacity by being supplied with maize. We need to appropriate a certain amount of cereals if we are to supply people with cooking oil. We should take proactive steps to import maize so that cornstarch factories can operate.

Meat and egg production should be increased. If this is to be done by operating chicken, duck and pig

farms at full capacity, a decisive solution needs to be found to the problem of protein-rich feed. Feeding animals on cereals alone is not a way to produce meat and eggs in large amounts. In order to solve the problems of cooking oil and protein-rich feed for chicken, duck and pig farms, the Party has decided to import 60 000 tons of soya beans next year. If possible, 100 000 tons should be imported. After the soya beans are imported, we should produce cooking oil with them and supply it to the workers and the defatted bean-cakes to the chicken, duck and pig farms. Next year, the Kwangpho Duck Farm should produce 5 000 tons of meat and from the following year, 10 000 tons—its production capacity.

Fruit production should be increased.

Since the Pukchong Enlarged Meeting of the Presidium of the Party Central Committee, we have created many orchards in various parts of the country. However, as they have not been tended properly, the apple and pear trees are failing to bear good fruit. Kwail County, the whole area of which is covered with orchards, is well publicized, but fruit production even in this region is not good. Once, while I was giving on-site guidance at the county, I said that even if a man is given a flying horse, he may fall off if he

does not know how to ride it. We can say that Kwail County has not yet fallen off the “flying horse,” but it is struggling to ride it.

A few days ago, the Party decided to organize a shock brigade of young women for Kwail County to tend the orchards there. I said this was a good idea.

We should take proactive measures to tend orchards effectively and increase fruit production. Windfalls are not being gathered quickly enough, so they go rotten. They should all be gathered and processed. If they are sliced and dried, they are good to eat. If dried fruits are powdered and packed, they can be exported or supplied to our nurseries and kindergartens. Powdered dry fruits are rich in vitamins, so they are good for children’s health. If fallen fruits are sent to children’s foodstuff factories, they will process them well.

We need to catch more fish.

Next year, we should catch about two million tons of pollack. Then we can freeze some of it and keep people supplied with it all year round.

Fish should be supplied first to the workers engaged in heavy labour in the Anju, Sunchon, Kaechon and Tanchon areas. Pollack caught and frozen this year should be supplied to the workers

there, without running short, until the start of the pollack season next year.

Public welfare services should be undertaken in a proper way.

Public welfare services are far more backward than other work in our country. If they are conducted properly, we will not only improve the people's standard of living but also increase the state's financial revenue. It is wrong to obtain state revenue in a forced manner without searching for sources of financial revenue. If the Party decides and all the officials actively turn out in the struggle to improve public welfare services, a transformation can be brought about in this sector, too.

For this, we should produce various kinds of foodstuffs and daily necessities in large quantities and sell them at commercial outlets. We should produce and sell large amounts of sweets and biscuits, as well as popcorn. If some 100 000 tons of soya beans are imported, we will be able to make and sell bean curd, bean curd dregs, bean soup and the like in Pyongyang.

We should pay attention also to improving people's diet. We should ensure that they have various side dishes processed with cooking oil, meat and vegetables. Eating many side dishes will reduce grain

consumption, since lees rice will be consumed. This is also good for the health.

In order to improve their diet, people should be encouraged to eat various kinds of soup. If oil, meat, eggs and vegetables are mass-produced and supplied to the people, they can make delicious soups to suit their diet, which means they will eat less rice. In future, we should ensure that they eat many kinds of soup including meat soup, fish soup and vegetable soup.

It is not bad to have flour-based food at one meal a day. Flour-based food helps with the absorption of nutritive elements and with the digestion, preventing gastric disorders.

Next, we need to increase agricultural production.

Agricultural officials of the central organs should review this year's farming. And provincial officials should convene a conference for reviewing farming in their provinces.

Leading officials in the agricultural sector are failing to guide farming properly, so it is not done in accordance with the Juche farming method. Instead, they are guilty of empty talk. Some senior officials in this sector claim that sowing rice and maize directly is better than transplanting the seedlings. They are

misguided. Transplanting rice and maize seedlings after growing them for a certain period is better than sowing the seeds directly. This is a conclusion we have reached after tests lasting several years.

We conducted a test for direct sowing in Chongsan-ri and various other regions a long time ago. The results showed that direct sowing yielded 500kg per hectare less than transplanting. It is true that in newly-reclaimed tidal flats rice seeds sown directly may yield slightly more than those transplanted in the early period. Rice seeds sown directly in reclaimed tidal flats grow quite well as they are rooted in desalinated soil. But if they are transplanted, they strike deep root in the still-salinated soil, with the result that they are affected by salt and yield less than when they are sown directly. Rice seeds transplanted in salt-free earth grow better than those sown directly. Senior officials in the agricultural sector insisted on several occasions that direct sowing is better than transplanting, so I had the method tested again this year. But the per-hectare yield was still hundreds of kilogrammes less.

The claim that sowing maize seeds directly is better than transplanting humus-cake seedlings is also illogical. How can directly-sown maize seeds yield

more than humus-cake seedlings, unless the humus cakes are made carelessly? Such a theory cuts no ice anywhere.

Leading officials of the rural economy and of the organizations of the Union of Agricultural Workers have not been giving farmers effective ideological education, so there has appeared the tendency among them of being unwilling to make humus cakes for seedlings. Leading officials in the agricultural sector should have waged a strong ideological struggle against such a tendency, but instead they are taking their side. This shows that even leading officials have the same idea.

Recently, they suggested that it would be a good idea to plant an early-ripening strain of maize as the first crop and bok choy as the second crop, claiming that the per-hectare yield of the early- and late-ripening strains of maize is similar. According to my tests, the early-ripening strain yields less per hectare than the late-ripening one. Let us assume that the early-ripening strain yields one ton less per hectare; so, if 200 000 hectares are planted with this strain, we will lose 200 000 tons of maize. Therefore, I ensured that the early-ripening strain was planted in a relatively small area at cooperative farms. However,

leading officials in the agricultural sector, heeding certain scientists' opinions, had the early-ripening strain planted in tens of thousands of hectares, causing a fall in maize production. This is absolutely wrong. That they, though I had given instructions after conducting tests in person, should insist on showing off their limited wisdom and still say that direct-sowing is good and that planting the early-ripening strain of maize is good, can be described as behaving arrogantly towards the Party.

The data for reviewing this year's farming have not been compiled correctly. Some senior officials at the Secretariat of the Administration Council claim that the maize crop suffered damage as a result of being planted too early and the rice crop suffered from high temperatures, but they are wrong. To say that maize was planted too early and the plant developed tassels in the hot season, and that this affected the bearing of grain, makes no sense. Maize grows well even in countries near the equator, so it is wrong to say that maize cannot bear grain well in our country because of the high temperature. The earlier crops are planted and harvested, the better. If they are planted late, they may suffer damage from frost. To say rice suffered from high temperatures this year is not correct, either. One

year when rice suffered from high temperatures, the roots went rotten and shoots did not sprout after harvesting. However, this year shoots sprouted from the stumps after the rice was harvested. This means the plant did not suffer because of the high temperature.

The reason for this year's poor farming is neither that maize was planted too early nor that rice suffered damage from the high temperature. Furthermore, it is by no means true that our rural position has been weakened. In the past, because it was being said that the rural position was weak, we dispatched three-revolution team members and youth rural support corps to the rural areas. This year, too, we sent many workers.

Then, what is the reason for this year's poor farming?

First, not enough fertilizer was applied. In the year when our country recorded its highest grain yield, large amounts of nitrogen, phosphatic, silicon and slightly-burnt magnesia fertilizers were supplied for every hectare of paddy fields. So, the rice plants were as thick and sturdy as reeds, insects did not damage them and photosynthesis was satisfactory. The rice and maize leaves were green until harvesting.

However, this year the amount of these fertilizers applied was less than that year. Silicon fertilizer was produced in large quantities, but it was not transported on time, affecting its application. So, naturally, these factors led to the decrease of grain production.

Second, the fertility of paddy and non-paddy fields has fallen. In the past, farmers used to dig silt and spread it over the crop fields, and carpeted them with fresh soil. But they have not been doing this recently. Cultivating the same crops in fields without spreading enough manure for several years has led to decreased soil fertility.

The rural economic sector should conduct an effective review of this year's farming and ensure that next year's farming is done in accordance with the Juche farming method.

Next year we should produce large quantities of chemical fertilizers and spread them in proper amounts over paddy and non-paddy fields. Sufficient amounts of silicon and slightly-burnt magnesia fertilizers, in particular, should be supplied.

We should adopt proactive measures to improve the fertility of crop fields. To this end, manure should be applied in large quantities. A campaign to raise pigs and cattle should be waged in rural areas to

produce plenty of manure. Farmers are currently unable to raise many pigs as they lack feed; this problem should be solved so that every rural household can raise pigs.

To improve the fertility of crop fields, we should plant cover crops. The application of herbicides to non-paddy fields may inhibit the growth of cover crops, so herbicides should not be applied to maize fields for three years, and cover crops planted instead. Given the conditions, it is important to weed the fields properly. In future, the people supporting rural communities should not return home as soon as they have transplanted the humus-cake maize seedlings, but after weeding the fields as well.

If fields are spread with plenty of manure and planted with cover crops for the next three years, their fertility may improve and grain production will increase significantly.

Once, an official proposed introducing crop rotation in our country. I criticized him, and one day when I was talking to some foreign agronomists visiting our country, I told them: Our officials, who studied in your country, are insisting on crop rotation; that method of farming may work well in your country as it has a large area under cultivation; however, in our

country it is not so large, so we find it difficult to do so. Then one of the agronomists said there was no need to introduce such a method if plenty of manure was spread on non-paddy fields, adding that farmers spread a lot of manure on their kitchen gardens, improving soil fertility, and that though potato and maize are planted continuously, they grow well. I agreed with him.

If the fertility of non-paddy fields is improved, we can gather a rich harvest even if we continue to plant the same crop. In an experimental field, I have been planting maize for over ten years as a test. I spread plenty of manure over the field, irrigate it and spread fertilizer in accordance with the Juche farming method. The yield has been over nine tons per hectare every year. We should, by all means, ensure that cooperative farms improve the fertility of their fields by spreading plenty of manure and planting cover crops.

In future, in regions like Ongjin, Kangnyong and Jangyon counties in South Hwanghae Province, which are vulnerable to typhoons, it will be good to do double cropping. A reserve for grain production in South Hwanghae Province lies in double cropping. Tests have shown that, in regions that are vulnerable

to typhoons, barley or wheat should be planted as the first crop and dwarf sorghum as the second crop.

It is important in doing double cropping to adopt proper measures for drying the wheat and barley. Wheat and barley are harvested in the rainy season, so if no steps are taken to dry the crops, they will rot. One year we conducted a test on double cropping. But we took no steps for drying the wheat, so after being harvested it went rotten even before it was threshed. Therefore, steps should be taken beforehand to dry wheat and barley.

We should launch an energetic campaign to reclaim tideland.

Recently, we have built many factories, roads and various other facilities, resulting in a not inconsiderable decrease in the area of land under cultivation. To take paddy fields as an example; they have been reduced by tens of thousands of hectares. On the other hand, the population is increasing year by year. However, we are not bringing more land under cultivation or reclaiming tideland well. Worse still, no proper networks of facilities have been built on reclaimed tideland. Therefore, the land under cultivation has not increased by much. We should make efforts to reclaim tideland so as to decisively

increase the area of land under cultivation.

North Phyongan Province is a little ahead of others in reclaiming tideland. Party committees of other provinces are not paying attention to this work. To reclaim tideland as soon as possible, they should have built a proper quarry and many ships, but they have not adopted proper measures to this end.

If provincial Party committees focus only a little, they can make hot-bulb engines and build ships on their own. The structure of a hot-bulb engine is simple, so it is easy to make and it does not break down readily. And as it runs on heavy oil, the problem of fuel can be easily solved. Therefore, after the war we made hot-bulb engines and installed them on fishing boats. As this type of engine is good, I tasked the Fisheries Commission several years ago with building some.

Provinces should build as many quarries, hot-bulb engines and wooden ships as possible by enlisting the masses. In this way, they can bring about a fresh turn in reclaiming tideland.

Next, we need to develop rail transport.

Rail transport is now a bottleneck in the country's economic development. Owing to the inefficient rail transport, finished goods are not transported properly,

hindering the development of several sectors of the national economy.

The reason is that the state has failed to invest in this sector properly. For several years, the Administration Council has not been investing sufficiently in this sector. It has not taken steps to produce cargo wagons and heavy-duty rails. Many wagons break down every year, but the sector is unable to replace them as they are not being manufactured in sufficient numbers. If we work in this way, we cannot improve rail transport. As the amount of cargo to be transported by rail is increasing year after year, we need to increase state investment in this sector.

As I have always said, the rail transport sector is the driver of the national economy. Just as the standard-bearer stands in the vanguard of the advancing ranks, so the rail transport sector should advance ahead of other sectors of the national economy. Without giving precedence to this sector, we cannot solve other problems successfully.

The struggle to shore up the rail transport sector should be conducted as a Party- and state-wide drive.

The production of heavy-duty rails should be increased decisively.

Electrification of the railways has been realized and locomotives can carry huge cargos. Given the circumstances, if we do not replace light-duty rails with heavy-duty ones, accidents may occur. In future, light-duty rails should be replaced with heavy-duty ones on a planned basis every year.

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex should run its heavy-duty rail producing equipment at full capacity so as to produce and supply sufficient heavy-duty rails to the rail transport sector.

Concrete sleepers should be produced in large quantities. As timber is in short supply, sleepers should not be made only with timber but also with concrete. The Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry should produce the high-strength wire needed for making concrete sleepers.

The production of locomotives and cargo wagons should be increased.

Next year, electric locomotives and heavy-duty wagons should be produced as planned. In future, if we produce 5 000 heavy-duty wagons every year, we can sell 1 000 of them abroad.

In addition to increasing the production of wagons, damaged ones should be repaired promptly. Large factories and enterprises are damaging many wagons.

A strict order should be established whereby the factory or enterprise that has damaged a wagon repairs it. Also, legal sanctions should be imposed on them.

The rail transport sector should establish strong discipline as in the army and keep the trains running on schedule.

The sector should widely introduce containers in transport, organize unit-train transport rationally and strengthen combined transport. Unit-train transport is good, since trains have to stop at fewer stations while carrying cargo over long distances. For example, if coal is to be transported from the February 8 Jiktong Coal Mine to the Kim Chaek Iron Works, the train should not stop on the way to load or unload other cargo, but should head directly from the coal mine to the sidings at the iron works. If this type of transport is organized well, raw and other materials can be supplied to factories and enterprises on time.

The Administration Council and the General Bureau of Land Transport under the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport should organize road transport well. In this way they can strengthen combined rail and road transport. This will lighten the burden on the railways. However, road transport is not being organized well at present, leaving

one-ton weights of cargo to be transported by the railways. The railway sector is not willing to transport such trifling amounts of cargo promptly, regarding it as too much trouble. Such cargo should naturally be transported by truck. We should form more truck convoys and organize road transport in a flexible way so that a small amount of cargo or that to be transported a short distance should be carried by trucks.

Next year, the national economy will require that large amounts of cargo are transported. If we invest heavily in the rail transport sector and improve rail transport, we can meet this demand.

Provincial Party organizations and other Party organizations at all levels should enhance the role they are playing in socialist economic construction.

The tasks facing the provinces in implementing next year's national economic plan are huge. To successfully implement these tasks, provincial and other Party organizations at various levels should decisively enhance their role.

The South Phyongan Provincial Party Committee is facing a very heavy task.

The province is the leading coal producer in our country, with coal-mining complexes in the Anju,

Sunchon, Tokchon and Kaechon areas. Next year, the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex and Sunchon Area Coal-mining Complex should produce coal as planned. The province is responsible for producing more than 60% of the coal needed in our country. When it produces coal as planned, a new method of iron production can be developed and other problems can be successfully solved. If it fails to do so, this will have a major impact on factories and enterprises throughout the country. Without coal, boilers at factories, as well as thermal power stations, cannot operate, leading to the suspension of production. Therefore, the province should pay primary attention to coal production.

The entire Party and the whole country should render active support to the coal mines in South Phyongan Province. The cement, timber, steel and the like needed by these coal mines should be supplied on a preferential basis. The Ministry of Forestry must supply, without fail, the props the coal mines require.

The province also plays a very important role in generating electricity. It is responsible for a large proportion of the electricity generated in our country. There are the Pukchang and Chongchongang thermal

power stations and the Taedonggang Power Station, and we plan to build thermal power stations in Sunchon and Anju. The electricity, as well as coal, produced in this province can be called the lifeblood of our country's economic development. In future, we should build a thermal power station that can be fed with low-heat coal from the Tokchon area. The low-heat coal in this area has high heat-value compared to the meta-anthracite in Kangwon Province. So we should not waste it.

South Phyongan Province produces a large amount of cement. Its cement production capacity is now the largest in the country. It has the three-million-ton-capacity Sunchon Cement Factory, as well as the Pusanri Cement Factory.

It also has the Namhung Youth General Chemical Works, which can produce chemical fertilizer and acrylic fibre.

In accordance with the decisions of the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the Party, a large-scale vinalon factory is now under construction in the Sunchon area in this province. First, we should create a 30 000-ton production capacity at the factory, and the remaining capacity later. At the time of creating the remaining

production capacity, we should decide whether to do so at once or in two stages.

There is also a large motor works in South Phyongan Province. If the Sungni General Motor Works fails to build trucks, we cannot supply construction sites and stopes with trucks. However, the South Phyongan Provincial Party Committee is not paying particular attention to this enterprise. The provincial Party committee should pay close attention to building trucks.

In order successfully to implement the huge tasks for economic construction arising in every province, provincial Party committees should ensure that their subordinate organizations are proactive in their political work and are enlisting Party members and other working people to turn out in the struggle for socialist economic construction.

Provincial and other Party organizations at all levels should pay close attention to supply services for the working people.

We now have all the conditions we need for providing satisfactory supply services for the working people. If the chicken, duck and pig farms, refrigerator plants, cornstarch factories and riced corn factories which our Party has built for the supply services for

the working people are operated at full capacity, we can improve the quality of the working people's diet. However, our officials are now behaving aristocratically; they are not paying attention to the people's livelihood or making devoted efforts for them, and they are failing to ensure that these factories are fully operational. In future, they should correct this mistake.

Officials of Party organizations and government organs at all levels should pay close attention to the livelihood of the working people and work hard to provide them with a rich diet.

In doing supply services, primary concern should be directed to those working in fields involving heavy labour, coal miners in particular. Coal mining is very challenging. Coal miners should eat sufficient quantities of fish, oil and confectionary to restore their energy quickly so they can work effectively. Office workers can work without eating much food, but coal miners cannot work unless they eat well. If they are provided with good food, they will significantly increase coal production.

Sufficient quantities of fish should be supplied for coal miners. In order to supply fish to the coal miners all year round, the Party ensured that a refrigerator

plant was built in every coal-mining area. South Phyongan Province has many facilities which can store large amounts of frozen fish. The Fisheries Commission should supply pollack to the coal-mining areas and the Ministry of Railways should transport it there on a preferential basis. The coal-mining areas should store the pollack in refrigerating facilities first, and then transport it by trucks or refrigerator vans to the coal-miners' villages. In this way we can supply enough pollack to the coal miners, even though we cannot supply them with enough pork for the moment.

Coal miners should also be supplied with sufficient cooking oil.

If the existing cornstarch and riced corn factories are run well, they can produce large amounts of cooking oil. As a lot of maize is produced in the Pukchang area, I ensured that a large cornstarch factory was built there. If the factory is operated at full capacity, it can produce 3 000 tons of cooking oil, enough to supply to the coal miners in South Phyongan Province without running short. The Commission of Public Welfare should ensure that the Pukchang Cornstarch Factory is run at full capacity. If the factory is operating well, it can produce large amounts of sweets and biscuits for the coal miners.

The miners should also be supplied with chicken, eggs and duck.

There are chicken and duck farms in Tokchon, Kaechon, Pukchang and Unsan in South Phyongan Province. But these farms are not being well run, and this is affecting the supply of chicken, eggs and duck to the coal miners. In future, chicken farms should be operated at full capacity by making protein-rich feed from imported beans. It would be a good idea to supply these beans preferentially to South Phyongan Province and the city of Chongjin, where many workers engaged in heavy labour live. If protein-rich feed is available, chicken, eggs and duck can be produced. The coal miners should also be supplied with sufficient quantities of vegetables.

We should eliminate departmentalism and the bureaucratic style of work among Party officials.

Departmentalism and bureaucracy have nothing in common with the work style of revolutionaries. If Party officials practise departmentalism and work in a bureaucratic manner, it will do a great deal of harm to the revolution and construction. However, some Party officials are guilty of departmentalism and bureaucracy in their work.

Departmentalism is glaringly evident among senior

officials of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee and Chongjin City Party Committee. I have heard that Chongjin is reluctant to supply cement to North Hamgyong Province and the latter, coal to the former. A senior official of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee is putting pressure on Chongjin by means of coal; and a senior official of the Chongjin City Party Committee is putting pressure on North Hamgyong Province by means of cement. They are both guilty of departmentalism. They have been criticized for this departmentalist attitude, but have yet to correct it.

If the Kim Chaek Iron Works is to operate its cold-rolling workshop, it needs to be supplied with hundreds of tons of coal a day from North Hamgyong Province. However, the province is not supplying coal on time, hindering rolled steel production, which is of great importance in the country's economic development. This is a serious criminal act. This year, as the cold-rolling workshop failed to operate properly, we had to import cold-rolled products, spending a large sum of foreign currency.

The departments of the Party Central Committee concerned should have waged a powerful struggle against departmentalism and a bureaucratic style of

work among Party officials, but they did not. In future, we should step up education and criticism among Party officials so as to prevent them from practising departmentalism and working in a bureaucratic manner. Senior officials of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee and the Chongjin City Party Committee should eliminate departmentalism, and help each other to solve the problems arising in their economic work.

On the basis of the decisions of the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee, the Administration Council should draw up provincial and national economic sector-specific plan indexes and send them to the relevant organs. When they receive these indexes, provincial and county Party committees and other Party organizations at all levels should convene Party conferences and general Party membership meetings and should hold extensive discussions with a view to actively identifying reserves for implementing the plans. They should also enlist all Party members and other working people in the struggle for implementing next year's national economic plan.

The national economic plan we must implement next year is challenging and huge, but if the entire Party and all the people turn out and wage a struggle,

we can fulfil it without fail.

I firmly believe that all Party organizations, true to the decisions of this meeting, will enlist Party members and the other working people in the struggle to implement these decisions, and thus brilliantly fulfil next year's national economic plan and bring about a fresh turn in socialist construction.

KIM IL SUNG
LET US BRING ABOUT A
FRESH TURN IN SOCIALIST
ECONOMIC CONSTRUCTION

Published by Foreign Languages Publishing House
DPR Korea

Issued in May Juche 113 (2024)

No. 2481204

