

2025

Year of Great Events and Epochal Changes



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Preface

For the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 2025 was a year resplendent with amazing successes. This was a reward for the Korean people's strenuous and persevering efforts for the comprehensive development and prosperity of their country.

Despite the manifold challenges and trials, the country's major industrial sectors launched a dynamic struggle for increased production and economy, fulfilling their increased production plans in a responsible way; the agricultural sector recorded a crop yield higher than that in the previous year; and the construction sector completed many major projects. Thus the country attained economic development goals for 2025 and, at the same time, fulfilled the five-year plan.

A strong push was given to the projects for putting the major economic sectors on a modern basis and reinforcing their technical infrastructure, thus providing a firm guarantee and potential for embarking more confidently on the attaining of prospective goals at the next stage.

What was noteworthy was that some projects for implementing the regional development policy, which was further expanded, were started and completed in the year, bringing about praiseworthy results in realizing the people's ideals and wellbeing and demonstrating the nation's commitment to simultaneous development.

Thanks to the significant successes achieved in accordance with the Workers' Party of Korea's policy of modernizing the overall components of the national defence capabilities, many problems were resolved in an effective and proper way along the correct orientation, including those for ensuring the country's security and defence and safeguarding its interests in the face of geopolitical and technological

changes across the world.

Units of several arms of the Korean People's Army were seconded to the overseas military operations and achieved remarkable successes. This demonstrated to the world the prestige of the KPA, an invincible army, and of the DPRK, a genuine defender of international justice.

The celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK highlighted the absolute dignity and strength of the DPRK and its people, and inspired all the people with the will to build socialism with their wisdom, by their own efforts and in their own way.

Good successes were achieved in the sector of sports, too, which contributed to enhancing the country's prestige.

All in all, 2025 was a historic turning point, in which the Korean people confidently crossed the finish line of the efforts for carrying out the five-year plan with the soaring spirit of advance for comprehensive development and accumulated strength with which to dynamically switch over to a new stage.

Contents

Path to Leap Forward	5
Enlarged Meeting of the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea	6
Enlarged Meeting of the Twelfth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea	11
Important Policy Orientation of the DPRK Government	13
 Demonstrating the Country's Dignity and Might	 17
Joy of July 27, Commitment to Carrying Forward the Tradition of Victory	17
Celebrations of the 80 th Anniversary of Korea's Liberation	21
Celebrations of the 80 th Founding Anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea	27
For the Honour of the Country	39
 Carrying Out the National Economic Plan	 47
Demonstrating the Might of the Self-Supporting Economy	47
Gigantic Construction Campaign	56

Efflorescence of Socialist Culture	69
---	-----------

Building Up the National Defence

Capabilities to Be Formidable	76
--	-----------

Developing the Korean People's Army to Be Invincible	76
---	----

Rapid Development of National Defence Capabilities	89
---	----

Upholding the Ideals of Independence,

Peace and Friendship	100
-----------------------------------	------------

Opening a New Phase of DPRK-Russia Alliance	100
--	-----

For the Promotion of Friendship Between the DPRK and China	109
---	-----

Pyongyang Welcomes Goodwill Envoys of Other Countries	112
--	-----



**Let Us Strive Harder for Our Great State's
Prosperity and Development and
Our People's Wellbeing**

Path to Leap Forward

Noted for its lofty ideals based on the people-first principle and its seasoned leadership, the Workers' Party of Korea has brought about tremendous transformations and dynamic leaps forward in all fields of state building, crowning every passing year with renewed successes and victories.

Through its correct struggle programmes, strategic decisions and unshakable executive ability, the WPK turned 2025 into a year of transformations and leaps forward, filled with expanded successes even in the face of extreme difficulties.

The reality of the arrival of a new era of prosperity in socialist construction and the crucial changes—comprehensive development and prosperity—in which the capital city and regions change and prosper all together served as an inspiring cornerstone for achieving new victory which would be attained after the brilliant execution of the struggle programme advanced at the Eighth Congress of the WPK.



The enlarged meeting of the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held from December 23 to 27, 2024, to determine the orientation and strategy for the development of the Party and state affairs in 2025.

The plenary meeting set it as the general orientation of the work for 2025 to push forward with the preparations for the next stage of development in a substantial way while successfully completing the five-year plan, and clarified the policy-oriented tasks for its implementation.

The meeting clarified that main efforts should be directed to putting spurs to the growth and development of the overall national economy, indicating the goals to be attained by the key industrial sectors including metal, chemical, electric-power, machine-building and coal-mining industries and rail transport.

The meeting stressed the need to wage a massive construction struggle in 2025, too, and through this, make another leap forward to realize the people's ideals.

In 2025, building 50 000 flats in Pyongyang should be wound up through the fourth-stage housing construction in the Hwasong area, the construction of houses in the Komdok area completed, and housing construction in the rural communities continued without letup. In particular, efforts should be channelled into the construction of industrial and public facilities to accelerate the great cause of regional transformation, and, on the basis of the experience gained in the construction of the Sinpho City Offshore Farm, an offshore farm should be successfully built in another area on a trial basis.

The meeting underscored the need to improve afforestation, land administration and ecological environment protection, establish a strict and unified command system and order related to disaster prevention by the state, make full preparations for coping with the danger of disaster, including the storing of rescue equipment and relief materials, and ensure the scientific accuracy, correctness and promptness of flood warning so as to minimize the

damage caused by disaster.

It also stressed the need to successfully attain the expected economic growth goals by channelling efforts into resolving urgent methodological problems, like improving the system and method, planning and pricing for unified management of the overall economy in conformity with the economic structure and specific conditions of the country.

Noting that it was the main task set forth by the Eighth Congress of the WPK to bring about a substantial change in the people's living, the meeting underlined the need to push forward more vigorously with the major policy-oriented tasks which had been set forth and carried on for the people's living and thus achieve more remarkable successes the following year.

The meeting made it clear that the task facing the agricultural sector in 2025 was to attain the goal of grain production set by the WPK and lay the foundations for decisively increasing agricultural production during the new long-term plan period.

It referred to the measures for putting the country's agricultural production on a stable and sustainable track of development, including strengthening the material and technical foundations of the agricultural sector, attaching importance to scientific farming, and training in a systematic way and in a large number the ranks of talents who would shoulder the implementation of the rural revolution programme in the new era and transformation of the socialist countryside.

It stressed that the light industry sector should raise the improvement of quality as the primary task and direct efforts to improving the quality of condiments and consumer goods, and the socialist policy for the benefit of children and students should be implemented in a responsible manner. It also indicated practical ways for strengthening the material foundations of the fishing sector.

It put forth the enhancement of the role of the scientific and cultural fronts as an important task in the new year's advance.

The scientific circles should turn out as one to achieve successful results to fully support the victory of the final offensive for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the WPK and lead it to a new stage of development.

The public health sector should steadily bring the preventive and curative treatment closer to reality, improve the quality of medical service for the working people, and lay solid foundations for anti-epidemic work to cope with any global public health crisis.

The fields of art and literature, media and sports should stir the times, shake

the whole country and give a boost to its revolutionary spirit through creation of excellent works of art and literature, powerful media offensive and successes in sports.

The meeting clarified the strategy for the toughest anti-US counteraction to be launched aggressively by the DPRK for its long-term national interests and security.

It indicated the tasks for the field of external affairs to wage a dynamic struggle for defending the national sovereign rights on the principle of enhancing the prestige and defending the interests of the state and to positively promote the development of relations with the friendly countries that respect the dignity and interests of the DPRK.

It pointed to the special importance of preparing the Korean People's Army as an army strong in ideology and technology.

Holding fast to strengthening its politico-ideological might as its primary strategic task for building itself up, the KPA should develop itself into a revolutionary army that always emerges victorious by dint of ideology, train all its service personnel to be genuine patriots, most powerful in their spiritual strength, and in particular, dynamically conduct the ideological work aimed at fully equipping them with keen awareness of the enemy, an immutable outlook on the archenemy and firm will to fight a decisive battle against them.

In order to meet the demands and features of modern warfare and cope with the enemy's ever-changing war scenario and execution mode, it should enhance its capabilities for fighting a war by intensifying research into the tactics of Korean style, giving an uninterrupted spur to the work of putting its operations command on an IT and modern basis and steadily studying and applying scientific forms and methods of training.

The civil defence sector should push ahead with its preparations for possible war.

The meeting clarified the strategic and tactical policies for more reliably guaranteeing the bolstering of war deterrence for self-defence through accelerated progress of defence science and technology and radical development of the defence industry to cope with the ever-increasing military provocations of the United States and its vassal forces against the DPRK, and set forth the tasks for their implementation.

The tasks set forward by the meeting were a great action programme that would make it possible to scientifically guarantee the perfect attainment of the sacred fighting goal of the WPK, and to expand it massively and steadily.

The meeting discussed the third agenda item "On the new regional

development policy of our Party and its future tasks."

The Regional Development 20×10 Policy, which the WPK regards as a crucial political matter and the supreme task for fulfilling its cherished desire and is dynamically pushing forward as the top priority revolutionary task, is aimed at providing the people across the country with a new affluent and civilized life and rapidly raising the level of development in all regions in a matter of ten years.

To develop all the regions in the country in a balanced and simultaneous way was an important strategic task in building the Korean-style socialism, and at the same time, an immediate political task to more thoroughly embody and display the people-first principle, the main political ideal of the WPK and the government.

The policy is geared to developing the primary material and cultural living standard of the people across the country to a higher level in ten years by building modern regional-industry factories in 20 cities and counties every year with entire responsibility given to the WPK and the government. This policy was adopted at the 19th Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held in January 2024, and concrete measures were taken to this end.

Thanks to the efforts of the soldier-builders who stood in the vanguard of this struggle, new factories were erected as the first fruits of this policy.



The workers, scientists and technicians in several sectors who are in charge of supplying materials, equipment and technology, including the machine-building and building-materials industries, brought about precious fruition in carrying out their production plans and research work.

Along with it, in the city of Sinpho on the coast of the East Sea of Korea an offshore farm was built into a new model of aquaculture. This occasioned the creation of experience for coastal cities and counties to live on their own efforts and the acceleration of the work for achieving the characteristic development and growth of the economy in the regions.

The WPK, however, considered that construction of some regional-industry facilities in each city and county was not enough to completely eliminate the centuries-old backwardness remaining in the regions and put them on a sustainable development track, and it decided to additionally build hospitals, leisure complexes and grain storage facilities in the cities and counties across the country.

The plenary meeting proposed that the WPK's new regional development policy formally include the construction of advanced public health facilities, scientific, educational and leisure facilities and grain storage facilities in parallel with that of regional-industry facilities.

The meeting discussed the fourth agenda item "On the enforcement of a series of measures for strengthening the educational foundations of the country."

The meeting underlined that the WPK would always place education above all else, prioritize it, further arouse public interest in it and keep increasing state support for and investment in it the more the scale of creation and transformation was expanded and the greater the revolutionary tasks became.

The meeting adopted with unanimous approval the decisions "On carrying out the tasks for 2025 of the five-year plan set forth at the Eighth Party Congress," "On hastening the comprehensive rejuvenation of the state by vigorously pushing ahead with the implementation of the new regional development strategy" and "On taking a series of measures for strengthening the educational foundations of the country."



The enlarged meeting of the Twelfth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held from June 21 to 23, 2025.

The meeting was convened to conduct an interim review of the implementation of the major Party and state policies for 2025, which were assigned by the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, to reconfirm the central tasks of the work and the orientation of the struggle for the second half of the year and to discuss and decide on the issue arising in the course of expanding and deepening the short-, intermediate- and long-term plans for economic construction.

Great successes were achieved in the first half of the year in all fields of socialist construction, including politics, the economy, culture, science, education and national defence, in response to the call of the Central Committee of the WPK for glorifying the year 2025 as an epochal year of fulfilling the grand revolutionary programme set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK and a year of eye-opening turn in bringing about an upward trend towards a new stage of development.

The Central Committee of the WPK made a very affirmative appreciation of the remarkable results achieved in the struggle to implement the major Party and state policies in the first half of the year and the spirit of vigorous advance definitely prevailing in overall socialist construction.

The meeting examined and approved strategic adjustment of a series of the policy-oriented tasks of the WPK and the state and proposals for their timely implementation on the principle of positively promoting successes and experience and steadily drawing lessons and solutions in keeping with the features of the times, in which a gigantic struggle unprecedented in terms of the width and depth of the development of the state and the immensity of its goal was being waged, and with the changing objective situations.

A decision on convening the Ninth Congress of the WPK, which would be another watershed in the course of the development of the WPK and the revolution, received unanimous approval, and practical measures were taken

for the successful opening of the historic Congress.

The meeting discussed and decided on the tasks for radically accelerating the revitalization and modernization of major industrial sectors of the national economy standing in the vanguard of further strengthening the independent character and development potential of the national economy and guaranteeing its sustainable and stable comprehensive rejuvenation and growth.

It clarified that its main spirit was to thoroughly attain the goals set for 2025 by making more courageous, effective and intensive efforts in the most responsible course, in which the work for significantly celebrating the 80th anniversary of national liberation and the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK coincided with the campaign to greet the Ninth Congress of the WPK as a congress of victors, a glorious congress, and thus bringing about epochal achievements to be specially recorded in the history of the country.

The draft decisions, amended and supplemented on the basis of the constructive and dynamic opinions presented at the consultative meetings, were discussed at the 25th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK. The finally confirmed decisions were submitted to the plenary meeting and adopted with the unanimous approval of members of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Through the enlarged meeting of its Twelfth Plenary Meeting, the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK discussed and decided on practical measures for the comprehensive prosperity of Korean-style socialism.



Important Policy Orientation of the DPRK Government

The 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK was held on September 20 and 21. At the second-day sitting of the session the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, as the head of state, made an important speech.

In the speech he clarified the important policy orientation of the DPRK government.

He said that in 2025, great and important undertakings, which the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government had planned scientifically and more actively for the comprehensive development of the state, had been pushed forward in a powerful and balanced way and meaningful successes achieved.

At the moment, when the struggle to bring about the comprehensive prosperity of the state has entered a period of unprecedented upsurge, the WPK and people expect a more correct and proactive role from the government of the DPRK, he continued.

He advanced the following tasks facing the DPRK government:

The regional development policy should enter a new stage of expanded implementation, based on the previous year's successes and experience and the long-term demands for putting the regions on a track of diversified and sustained development. The state should establish a well-regulated system and order whereby the resources of talented personnel are mobilized and used to good effect and a guarantee is provided for the sustainable development of science and technology. Also, all sectors and all units should build up their own scientific and technological forces with a view to finding successful solutions to the technological problems arising in the course of actual work.

The education sector should, with the implementation of the second

universal 12-year compulsory education programme as a momentum, make full preparations for educating students at the advanced international level, and it should also ensure that universities and colleges properly implement the new discipline-specific teaching plans to produce a larger number of talented personnel as demanded by reality. The public health sector should work hard to renovate treatment and prevention institutions at all levels, fundamentally raise the quality of medical service, and solidify the material and technical foundations, pharmaceutical industry in particular, as demanded by the historic era of the healthcare revolution.

The socialist legal system should steadily be updated and the functions and role of law improved in the realms of state and social life. By relying on the powerful war deterrent it had already built up, the state should work responsibly to defend its sovereignty and security, and make constant efforts to increase its capabilities with which to counter all kinds of military threats.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a strict analysis of the trend of the situation on and around the Korean peninsula and clarified the principled stand of the DPRK government towards the United States and the puppet ROK.

He said:

At present, as global unrest and universal crisis are mounting due to the unreasonable ambitions of, and excessive use of force by, the camp led by the United States that is attempting to maintain its rapidly declining hegemony, the security structure surrounding the DPRK is still facing serious challenges.

In particular, the objective security situation around the Korean peninsula is literally renewing one worst record after another.

The United States and its vassal states, in disregard of the DPRK's security concern, have regularly committed provocative actions to exacerbate the tension.

According to the United States' hegemony-oriented Indo-Pacific strategy and the scenario for its implementation, the US-ROK and US-Japan military alliances and the US-Japan-ROK tripartite military cooperation system are mutating into increasingly offensive and aggressive entities, and the direct victim of this is none other than the security environment of our state.

Various kinds of bilateral and multilateral war games against the DPRK take place simultaneously and continue without any gap in time and space, involving more and more nuclear elements.

Even more serious is the fact that the nuclear operations guidelines presupposing the use of nukes against our state, which were formulated by the previous regimes of the United States and the ROK, have been inherited in their entirety by their current replacements and, accordingly, their nuclear war plan

has entered the stage of more practical and concrete implementation.

The United States and the ROK launched Iron Mace, another undisguised nuclear war rehearsal aimed at getting familiar with the procedures and mode for attacking our state with nukes according to the above-mentioned guidelines, while at the same time conducting a multi-realm joint military exercise with the involvement of Japan.

At the same time, the Japanese mainland witnessed a blitz deployment of the US forces' ground-based medium-range missile system for the first time in its history. As a result, the territorial depths of the regional nuclear powers including our state have become the constant, direct targets of the US military, which means they are exposed to an unprecedented security risk as well.

The security index for prevention of war has risen higher than it was in the past though the tension is getting worse with the passage of time and the fuse is burning.

It is because our nuclear forces are fully and perfectly performing their deterrent function for coping with and overwhelming all security challenges from outside.

In other words, the ever-increasing physical deterrent of our state, which is in direct proportion to the increasing use of military force by the United States and its allies, has completely sapped the will of its enemy states to unleash a war and ensured the balance of strength in the region.

No matter how harsh the objective situation may be, war will be fully deterred if the subjective factor, that is, the internal force, grows strong enough to keep it under its control and manage it.

Comrade Kim Jong Un clarified the DPRK's principled stand that it will never lay down its nukes and there will be no negotiations with its enemy states to exchange something with them, obsessed with trying to get free from their sanctions.

He continued to say:

As befitting a great political power, we will shore up our economy as we have planned, and ceaselessly update our position of being a world-class military power by stepping up the strengthening of our military capabilities, which constitutes our unmistakable strategic aim.

Our Party and government will invariably, firmly and without a slightest deviation defend the Constitution of the DPRK and the basic law on the nuclear force policy, which has permanently codified our possession of nukes, and thoroughly safeguard the supreme interests of our state.

Unless the nuclear threat to us coming from outside is terminated, and as

long as there exist the imperialist forces that use the nukes for the means of existence of their tyranny, we will never allow an interruption on our road of bolstering up our military capabilities to safeguard the security of our state and the wellbeing of our people both at present and in the future, but continue to move forward to maintain the edge of our overwhelming strength.

As for the relations with the ROK, Comrade Kim Jong Un stressed that the DPRK has no reason to sit together with the ROK and will do nothing together with it.

He stated that the government of the DPRK will, in the future, too, reliably defend the sovereignty, security and fundamental interests of the state and strongly promote peace and security in the Korean peninsula and the region surrounding it in a most responsible manner.

For the WPK, the government of the DPRK and its people, the absolute



lifeline is to remain faithful to the socialist line and hold higher the banner of socialism, he said, adding that there will be no change or deviation in the political platform of the WPK and the government and the DPRK will surely defend and advance socialism, which embody the people's aspirations and ideals, thus promoting the great prosperity of the state and ensuring the eternal wellbeing of the people.

Demonstrating the Country's Dignity and Might

Many political events were held in the country in 2025, particularly those marking the 72nd anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the country and the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea.

These events filled the Korean people with full confidence in the WPK and the great pride of victors who kept their dignity of independence and turned out in the great pioneering cause as befitting masters to demonstrate the position and reputation of the country through their fully conscious and indomitable struggle.

The ceremony of awarding state commendations to the service personnel of the Korean People's Army who had performed immortal feats in the overseas military operations demonstrated the combat capability of the KPA and instilled the people with warm affection and trust in it.

Joy of July 27, Commitment to Carrying Forward the Tradition of Victory

Back in July 1953, the DPRK won victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

In 2025 the Korean people greeted the anniversary of this victory with great pride in having glorified the great tradition of victory created by the first defenders of the DPRK with matchless bravery and heavy self-sacrifice generation after generation.

July 27 is a great holiday of the Korean people, the day when the two-year-old DPRK defeated the US imperialists who had boasted of being the "strongest" in the world.

The DPRK defended its dignity and honour and the environment for its independent development, checked the US imperialists' implementation of their strategy for world domination and prevented a new world war, thus saving peace and civilization of mankind on this planet. Herein lie the absolute value and historic weight of July 27. The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's outstanding military ideas, original art of command, superb strategy and tactics, and warm affection for and trust in the people were the decisive factors in



achieving victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The victory won by the generation of people who fought in the Fatherland Liberation War was great. Also great are the exploits the later generations have performed in defending the victory. For the Korean people, the 70-odd years after the war were a trying period during which they had to undergo as severe difficulties and hardship as in wartime. In other words, they had to fight a war without gunfire, unprecedented in terms of severity and fierceness. Yet, they firmly defended the dignity and sovereignty of their country, smashing every war moves of the imperialists with an indomitable will of resistance.

Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum on July 26 on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the victory in the war. This signified a declaration that the DPRK would win in the anti-imperialist, anti-US confrontation.

Comrade Kim Jong Un, together with war veterans, visited the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery, laid a flower before the wreath-laying stand “Soul of Heroes” and paid high tribute to them, praying for the immortality

of the Korean People's Army martyrs. He noted that the staunch spirit of defending the country and indomitable revolutionary faith of the victorious wartime generation, who created the great heroic era, are precious ideological and spiritual wealth all the people and the service personnel should carry forward and glorify forever.

A ceremony of the commemorative march of the columns symbolic of the units in the Fatherland Liberation War took place in Pyongyang on the evening of July 27 to mark the 72nd anniversary of the victory in the war. This demonstrated the people's determination to carry forward the fighting spirit displayed by the first generation of the Korean revolution and the heroic generation who won victory in the war. On the same day there was a meeting with the war veterans, followed by an artistic performance. These events highlighted the people's will to emerge victorious in the struggle for independence against imperialism and build a powerful army and a prosperous country.

Celebrations of the 80th Anniversary of Korea's Liberation

August 15, 1945 was for the Korean people a starting point of the turn of their destiny, when they regained the independent dignity that is as precious as their life itself, and is a day of great victory. The country's liberation checked the history of national ruin, which left the greatest disgrace in its history spanning five thousand years and was filled with its people's grudge and grief.

The Korean people celebrate their country's liberation not only as an auspicious event that brought a turn from a colony to an independent state but also as a laudable event to be remembered with reverence from one generation to the next. It is because it is associated with the priceless soul and sacrifices of the preceding generations.

The armed struggle of their fine sons and daughters against the militarist Japan that emerged as a power in Asia was a death-defying, bloody resistance they fought shouldering the destiny of their country and their descendants and overcoming severe ordeals and painful sacrifices; and the anti-Japanese revolutionary feats they performed from the consistent independent stand are clear proof of the course the Korean people pioneered to achieve independence by their own efforts.

It was in no way an accidental event in the course of history, but the victory won by the all-people anti-Japanese forces that fought unto death in the spirit of



independence. Herein lie the revolutionary character and political importance of the cause of liberation. With the day of August 15, the Korean people regained all that they had lost—their sovereignty, territory, resources, history and culture—and secured all possibilities for achieving their freedom and carving out their destiny, thus embarking with the dignity befitting masters on the road of their great pioneering cause of democratic development and wellbeing.

August 15 marked the day of victory when the Korean people accomplished their long-cherished desire for freedom and independence, as well as the start of their struggle to put an end to the history of sufferings for good.

The new historic mission, which the Korean communists and other people took upon themselves with August 15 as the watershed, turned out to be a truly formidable task which, from the beginning, demanded unprecedented pioneering efforts that could not be estimated by any existing conceptions or formulas and which was accompanied by unbearably arduous struggle against the hostile nations who lived on counter-revolution.

All of them, however, were not strong enough to dampen the strong sense of self-respect and tenacity inherent to the Korean people. The history of building a prosperous country with a powerful army, in which the Korean people have carried on in their own way the political, economic and defence construction in the most severe decades, is associated with the viability of the line of independence that has served as the invariable principle and duty in their state building and activities, as well as the perseverance peculiar to the people who never abandon the spirit of self-dependence even if it means giving up their lives.

People across the country celebrated the day of national liberation with reverence for the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners.

On August 14, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong. A wreath bearing his name was laid before the wreath-laying stand of the cemetery. He observed a moment's silence in memory of the revolutionary martyrs who had devoted their lives to the sacred cause for the liberation of the country, the defending of its sovereignty, the freedom of its people and the happiness of all the generations to come.

Looking round the cemetery, he laid flowers before the busts of O Jin U, O Paek Ryong, Kim Il, Choe Chun Guk, Kang Kon, Kim Chaek, An Kil, Ryu Kyong Su, Choe Hyon and Rim Chun Chu, recollecting with reverence the immortal feats and worthwhile life of the first generation of the revolution, who courageously turned out in the anti-Japanese war with a staunch spirit and ardent patriotism and achieved the independence of the country at the cost of their

blood. The liberation of the country, the first precious gain of the sacred Korean revolution, was the victory of Comrade Kim Il Sung's original idea of winning national independence and sovereignty and his sacred leadership practice covering 20 years, as well as the victory of the heroic struggle of the pioneering generation of the revolution, who cherished the firm faith that they would surely liberate the country as long as they were led by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

The history of the anti-Japanese war is so sacred as every bloody battle was associated with the spiritual world of revolutionary comradeship and with the indomitable struggle spirit of beating the enemy even though one might die a thousand times. The fighters who had created the spirit and traditions to be handed down through the generations are genuine revolutionaries and models of true patriots whom all the generations to come should remember and learn from.

A celebration of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation took place in Pyongyang on August 14.

Choe Ryong Hae, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, made a congratulatory speech.

Noting that the Korean people were greeting the 80th anniversary of the country's liberation, the first precious victory in the history of the Korean



revolution and an epoch-making event in 5 000 years of their history, the speaker paid immortal glory and highest tribute to Comrade Kim Il Sung who aroused the people, who had been forced to suffer the disgrace and misfortune of a ruined nation, to the anti-Japanese national salvation struggle, put an end to the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists, and thus achieved the epochal cause of restoring national sovereignty.

He said that the 40-odd-year struggle of the Korean people for the independence of their country teaches the truth that a country and people without correct leadership and strength cannot escape humiliation as a ruined nation and that the lost dignity can be regained and defended only on the strength of the powerful internal forces of the people themselves rallied closely around a great leader.

He continued that the revolutionary forerunners who provided the spiritual legacy that makes people rise up in the face of any difficulties and paved the way for victory are continuously encouraging and pushing the Korean people towards an uninterrupted advance, calling upon them to continue to wage a dynamic struggle for the eternal prosperity and rejuvenation of the country firmly united with the great ideal of patriotism, the state-first principle.

Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation,



made a congratulatory speech on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a speech on the occasion of the anniversary. The celebration ended with the playing of *The Internationale*.

The celebration demonstrated the faith and will of the Korean people to adorn the sacred history of the DPRK with proud annals of victory and miracles under the guidance of Comrade Kim Jong Un.

An artistic performance was given at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph on August 14 in celebration of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, adding to the people's joy and excitement. There was a collective landing stunt of paratroopers, decorating the prelude to the performance. The paratroopers, who were dropped from an altitude of 4 500 metres, displayed high stunts with their controlled parachutes, decorating the nocturnal sky.

When the flag of the DPRK fluttering by a paratrooper approached nearer, the audience paid respect to the sacred flag with applause and cheers.

Put on the stage were colourful numbers including all-people hymns to the leader, revolutionary songs and famous songs on the theme of patriotism.

The stage, filled with solemn memories, resounded with revolutionary songs and other songs created in the period of the anti-Japanese war, which depicted the images of the heroic anti-Japanese forerunners recorded on the first page of the history of the Korean revolution. A medley of Russian songs specially prepared for the envoys of friendship added more colours to the performance.

When the performance was over, fireworks were set off decorating the nocturnal sky.

Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the Liberation Tower on August 15 on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation. The national anthems of the Russian Federation and the DPRK were played and a wreath in the name of Comrade Kim Jong Un was laid before the tower amid the playing of the wreath-laying music. Written on the ribbon of the wreath were letters reading "We do not forget the exploits of the martyrs of the Soviet army."

Comrade Kim Jong Un paid high tribute to the martyrs of the Soviet army who had fought bravely in the sacred war for Korea's liberation and looked round the Liberation Tower together with the participants.

The sacred history of national liberation of the Korean people is associated with the matchless heroism and undying feats performed by the service personnel of the Soviet army in the anti-Japanese revolutionary war against the common enemy. The militant friendship and blood ties forged between the armies and the peoples of the two countries amid the fierce flames of war are a

true example of international justice and solidarity.

The peoples of the DPRK and the Russian Federation celebrated August 15, when the independence and sovereignty of Korea were achieved, as a common auspicious event and holiday.

An artistic performance was given at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on



August 15 by the Russian art mission on a visit to the DPRK on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

Comrade Kim Jong Un enjoyed the performance together with Russian friends. When he appeared in the auditorium together with Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, all the participants welcomed them with enthusiastic applause.

The artistic performance was given by Russian artistes of high repute, and the "Red Star" Song and Dance Ensemble of the Strategic Rocket Forces and the Airborne Forces Song and Dance Ensemble under the Ministry of Defence.

Put on the stage were a medley of songs on the theme of the Great Patriotic War which were full of matchless heroism, stubbornness, noble patriotism and optimism of the Russian army and people, and martial songs of the armed forces of the Russian Federation and other colourful numbers.

The performers also staged famous Russian songs full of national sentiments which reflected the traditional culture, customs and long history of Russia.

Such patriotic songs as *My Russia* and *We Will Rise* sung by Russian popular singer Shaman were enthusiastically acclaimed by the audience for the singer's rich artistic skills and vigorous representation.

Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed thanks to the Russian artistes for their performance in Pyongyang which added to the joy of the day of national liberation of the DPRK and made a tangible contribution to the ever-developing DPRK-Russia friendship. The performance given by Russian artistes in Pyongyang on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation served as an occasion for further strengthening the ties between the peoples of the two countries.

In addition, evening gala, fireworks display and oratorical meetings and a procession of youth and students were held on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation, which clearly demonstrated the faith and mettle of the people to carry forward the revolutionary spirit of the forerunners and develop theirs into a prosperous socialist power.

Celebrations of the 80th Founding Anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea

October 10, 2025 was the 80th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea. The secret behind the glory of the WPK's long course of leading the Korean people in implementing the cause of socialism lies in the consistency of its attention to ensuring invariable inheritance.

The socialism the founder generation opted for in the days of taking the first step towards building the Party in the liberated country was Korean-style socialism that conformed to the country's actual conditions, and the way of building it was from A to Z self-sustenance and self-determination, i.e., believing in the people and relying on their strength.

The Juche-oriented socialist ideology and theory which had displayed their scientific accuracy and vitality in the whole historic course of the socialist revolution and construction in the country demonstrated their unique power in fusing socialism and the people into one and oriented the WPK's ruling history towards a history of advancing and emerging victorious together with the people.

The key secret behind the WPK's recording of the longest ruling history in the socialist movement lies in the immortal vitality of the people-centred socialist ideology and the thoroughgoing and perfect succession of the ideology.

The other important factor that enabled the WPK to lead the socialist cause

along the road of victory for the past 80 years, is that it has given definite precedence to the building of an original ruling party that makes selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people by regarding them as the source of its life in carrying on the revolution and construction.

The history of the Korean revolution and socialist construction gives clear answers to the questions of how a party, the people and socialism can be bound together with shared destiny, how the party can gain the dignity and fame as an ever-victorious guide and how the ordinary and simple people can become a great people with a strong character and temperament.

Only when it is steadily strengthened and developed politically, organizationally and ideologically and cultivates people-oriented leadership traits and styles of work, can a party fighting for the people form one organism with them and organize and give the fullest play to their inexhaustible resourcefulness and strength and thus lead the socialist cause to ultimate victory.

The main feature of the building of the WPK is that it has been strengthened and developed into a political General Staff fused with the people, while forming the most solid body that is ideologically pure and integral whole in organization and action and conducting its activities among the masses of the people by putting forward the people-centred revolutionary ideology as its guiding ideology and ideals.

The history of working for the people, the history of relying on the strength of the people, is precisely the factor behind all victory and glory the WPK has won. There has been no mistake or error in the WPK's lines over the past 80 years because they encapsulated the people's opinions and requirements; it has won victory after victory without any slight setback or stagnation because it has been powered by the people's wisdom and strength.

As it has led the advance of history on the strength of the people's commitment and efforts, all projects, which the WPK planned for the revolution and construction, have turned into the affairs of the people themselves and reached successful completion. The 80-year ruling history of the WPK, which has been clearing an untrodden path in reflection of the desires, will and strength of the people and fulfilling the desire for a powerful country together with them, is etching a truth on the times and history once again.

A party that is among the people, not standing above them, a party that shares with them aspirations and ambitions, wisdom and strength, and sweets and bitters, can never disintegrate and does not lose vigour and vitality forever.

The WPK, while reviewing its 80-year history, feels infinite dignity and pride in having the loyal armed forces that can share the destiny with it.

The army is the priceless creation and brilliant embodiment of the WPK's ardent desire and firm will to safeguard and exalt the truthfulness of its ideals and the dignity of its people generation after generation.

The WPK regarded it as its sacred duty to take entire responsibility for the destiny and future of the country and the people; proceeding from this, it founded an army before the state, identified the character and mission of the army in reflection of the original ideals and spirit set forth when the Party was founded, and built regular revolutionary armed forces with the pioneer generation of the cause of party building as their backbone. This led to the beginning of the long history of army building, which has advanced along with the leadership history of the WPK, and also the beginning of the history of struggle of its cause, which has been firmly supported by strong arms.

The army, which has never been free from its heavy responsibility of containing the worst threat of aggression from the outset of its founding, left the traces of great feats, which no one could replace, on the key stages of reconstruction and socialist construction. This fact highlights the intrinsic nature and unique image of the army.

The Korean people remember that the precious gains and monumental edifices attesting to the great history of socialist Korea and symbolizing the dignity and honour of the state are associated with the noble blood and sweat and heavier self-sacrifice of the revolutionary army than anyone else, for which the people are eternally thankful generation after generation.

The WPK will always remain powerful and its future forever bright as the reliable officers and soldiers—the iron-willed service personnel that are identical in the spirit of absolute service—are sacrificing all their dreams and youth to the country and the people and stoutly supporting the WPK as unshakable pillars despite their difference in ranks.

The Korean people significantly celebrated the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the Party Founding Museum on October 8 on the occasion of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

That day he made a speech, underlining the need to carry forward the WPK's ennobling political ideals upheld by the forerunners in the initial days of its founding and specifying guidelines in demonstrating its prestige befitting a dignified socialist ruling party which struck its root deep among the masses of the people.

A meeting took place at the May Day Stadium in Pyongyang on October 9 to celebrate the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a speech, in which he proudly reviewed the 80-year history of the WPK, which glorified the whole course of socialist construction as a monumental chronicle of miracles and prosperity with the Juche idea as its guideline, and boosted the conviction in the validity of its cause, inevitability of victory and a brighter and rosier future. The speech made all the participants filled with strong emotion.

As the songs, which the Korean people were singing in praise of their guiding Party, which glorified the 80 years of victory and glory, were reverberating throughout the country, the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance *Long Live the Workers' Party of Korea* was given at May Day Stadium on the evening of October 9 to mark the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

The grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance started solemnly, with the emblem of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK shining brilliantly and the fierce torch flaring up.

The performance depicted the history of the WPK in a grand epic style.

To the tune of the songs of struggle and advance that resounded in every period of the revolution, the performers presented vigorous gymnastics and elegant dance movements in high praise of the immortal exploits of the WPK,

which had led the socialist cause of Juche to steady success and victories by regarding the people as the root of its existence and enlisting the inexhaustible spiritual strength of the masses of the people.

The songs praising the great era of Kim Jong Un when great victories and changes were brought about revved up the atmosphere of the performance.

The performance, which fully demonstrated the strong desire and enthusiasm of all the people across the country to glorify the socialist country forever, flying high the sacred red flag of the WPK as the ever-victorious banner, true to the leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un, ended with the finale *Our National Flag* amid the display of fireworks.

The grand mass gymnastics, which were refined in the sense of organization, discipline and unity, and the performance, which presented an impressive and fascinating world of art with the full combination of beautiful and elegant dances, vocal and instrumental music, acrobatics and stunts, ever-changing lighting and background stand, were acclaimed by the audience.

A military parade was held in celebration of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK at Kim Il Sung Square on October 10.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a speech at the event. When he finished his









speech, the participants broke into thunderous cheers representing the faith and iron will of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK to display courageously the matchless fighting spirit in the vanguard of the revolution.

The columns symbolic of the O Jung Hup-led 7th Regiment during the anti-Japanese war and the Guards units during the Fatherland Liberation War, the columns of the bodyguard units, the columns of the army, the columns of the Navy and Air Forces, the column of the special operations forces, the column of the Strategic Forces, the column of the mountain warfare units, the column of the seaborne assault units and the column of the overseas operations units marched past. They were followed by the columns of special corps and service personnel on duty, military schools at all levels, public security forces, revolutionary schools and the Academy of Defence Sciences. The dynamic march of the columns of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Children's Guards decorated the final of the march by the foot columns.

Then the columns of mechanized units made appearance at the parade, which are the creations of exploits of the self-reliant national defence-building of the WPK which pushed ahead with the bolstering of the national defence capability without a moment's delay and brought about a rapid leap forward despite all difficulties in the grim world where the confrontation between forces decides the rise and fall of a state and people. The audience welcomed with enthusiastic cheers the columns of the modern-type main battle tank *Chonma-20*, 155 mm-calibre self-propelled gun howitzer, 600 mm-calibre multiple rocket launcher, long-range strategic cruise missile, drone, surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missile systems, hypersonic gliding missile system and hypersonic intermediate-range strategic missile system, and ICBM *Hwasongpho-20*.

When the military parade was over, stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" rocked heaven and earth again and the night sky of October was alight with beautiful fireworks of celebration.

The military parade in celebration of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK was a grand political and military festival, which showed that thanks to the WPK, there are the immortal dignity and prestige of the state, the heroic life and future of the people and the fame and invincibility of the army. It was a historic event demonstrating to the whole world the unshakable will of all the people and service personnel to remain loyal to the cause of the WPK with one mind.

A state reception was given at the Mokran House on October 10 to celebrate the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the reception, together with leading officials of the state, heads of foreign parties and governments, foreign figures,

members of international democratic organizations, foreign guests, and heads of congratulatory groups and delegations of overseas compatriots.

The secretary for Organizational Affairs of the Central Committee of the WPK made a speech at the reception. All the participants toasted the peace and wellbeing of the Korean people and other peoples of the world.

Public and torchlight processions took place at Kim Il Sung Square on October 11 in celebration of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

The events fully demonstrated the true features of the single-minded unity peculiar to the DPRK where the WPK and the masses of the people have formed a harmonious whole, the bright future of the country and the invincible spirit of socialist Korea which is building an ideal society for the people under the leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Comrade Kim Jong Un congratulated on October 12 the participants in the celebrations and members of support teams who made a contribution to splendidly celebrating the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK through the military parade, grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance and public and torchlight processions which depicted in a grand epic style the revolutionary exploits of the WPK and saw the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance *Long Live the Workers' Party of Korea* together with them.

Having organized and guided the grand celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK, he visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun to offer the great glory won by the state to the great leaders President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

For the Honour of the Country

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea clarified as follows in its written stand sent to *Rodong Sinmun* and the Korean Central News Agency on April 27, 2025:

...

The operations for liberating the Kursk region to repel the adventurous invasion of the Russian Federation by the Ukrainian authorities were victoriously concluded.

The sub-units of our armed forces, which participated in the operations for liberating the Kursk region according to the order of the head of state of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, fully demonstrated their high fighting spirit and military temperament and made an important contribution

to annihilating the Ukrainian neo-Nazi forces and liberating the territory of the Russian Federation by displaying mass heroism, matchless bravery and self-sacrificing spirit. It is a source of pride for our state and a greatest dignity for our people to have such excellent soldiers.

The victorious conclusion of the operations for liberating the Kursk region is a victory of justice over injustice and, at the same time, a new chapter of history which demonstrated the highest strategic level of the firm militant friendship between the DPRK and Russia and the alliance and fraternal relations between the peoples of the two countries.

Thanks to the precious victory won by the armies of the DPRK and Russia while shedding blood fighting in the same trench shoulder to shoulder, the occupation of the Kursk region by the Ukrainian army for nearly nine months came to an end and the adventurous political and military attempt of the Western forces and the Ukrainian authorities to thwart the special military operations of Russia was frustrated.

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea extends the warmest and most ardent congratulations to the commanding officers of the special operations group and all officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the combat sub-units, who, participating in the operations for liberating the Kursk region, defended the precious honour of our army and performed immortal feats to be recorded with golden letters in the history of the development of the DPRK-Russia relations.

The Ukrainian authorities, coming forward as the vanguard and shock brigade of the imperialist powers in an attempt to inflict strategic defeat on Russia, launched a vigorous surprise attack on the Russian mainland in August 2024 by enlisting tens of thousands of elite troops armed with the Western-made state-of-the-art weapons and other combat and technical equipment with a sinister intention to reverse the war situation, in which they were thrown into tailspin, and thus occupied an area of over 1 200 square kilometres in the Kursk region, turning many residential districts into ruins and mercilessly killing many peaceful inhabitants.

The reckless military moves of the hostile forces that violently infringed upon the national sovereignty and security of Russia, the fraternal country, constitute a threat to the accomplishment of the common cause of the DPRK and Russia for realizing international justice and defending global peace against the imperialist high-handed and arbitrary practices and a grave challenge to the militant friendship and unity between the armies and peoples of the two countries.

On the basis of the analysis and judgment that the prevailing situation

conformed to the invocation of Article 4 of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership concluded between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, Comrade Kim Jong Un decided on the DPRK's armed forces' participation in the war, informed the Russian side of it and, in accordance with agreement, issued an order of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea to combat sub-units of the armed forces of the DPRK to annihilate and wipe out the Ukrainian neo-Nazi occupiers and liberate the Kursk region in cooperation with the Russian armed forces.

While making the decision on making the combat sub-units of the country's armed forces participate in the war, Comrade Kim Jong Un defined it as a sacred mission for further consolidating as firm as a rock the traditional friendship and solidarity between the DPRK and Russia, guaranteeing the development and prosperity of the two countries and defending the honour of the DPRK.

The military activities of the armed forces of the DPRK conducted within the territory of the Russian Federation fully conform to all the provisions and the spirit of the UN Charter and other international laws and the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the DPRK and Russia and serve as a good example and excellent paradigm of the most faithful expression of action to implement them.

Under the order of the head of state, the sub-units of the armed forces of the DPRK regarded the territory of Russia as the one of their own country and proved the firm alliance between the DPRK and Russia and recorded legendary tales of military feats with their high will of defence, do-or-die spirit and practical combat actions accompanied by sacrifice.

On the occasion of the liberation of Kursk, Comrade Kim Jong Un specially stressed the following:

“They, who fought for justice, are all heroes who represent the honour of their motherland.

“In commemoration of the heroism and bravery displayed by the proud sons of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a monument to their battle feats will soon be erected in our capital city, and before the tombstones of the fallen soldiers, flowers will be laid as a token of the motherland and the people praying for their immortality.

“The fighting spirit and heroism of the soldiers, who demonstrated the great name of the powerful and the glory of the victors, will shine for ever on the high platform of respect and honour generation after generation.”

The head of state of the DPRK said that he extended warm militant greetings to the Russian army and people who won a great victory, before continuing:

The government of the DPRK regards it as an honour to have an alliance with such a powerful state as the Russian Federation and is pleased that the participation of the sub-units of our armed forces in the war has further strengthened the militant ties between the two countries and contributed to Russia's conducting of special military operations.

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea is convinced that the invincible militant friendship between the two countries, verified at the cost of blood in the flames of battles, will greatly contribute to expanding and developing the future relations of friendship and cooperation between the DPRK and Russia in all aspects, and affirms, on the authorization of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK, that it will invariably and fully support the sacred cause of the Russian army and people in the future, too, and remain faithful as ever to any action based on the spirit of the DPRK-Russia treaty.

...
Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, issued a statement on April 28 as regards the participation of the combat sub-units of the armed forces of the DPRK in the operations for liberating the Kursk region of the Russian Federation.

The full text of the statement is as follows:

"On April 26, 2025, the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation finally defeated the group of Ukrainian militants that invaded the Kursk region, putting an end to the criminal provocation perpetrated by the Ukrainian authorities in an attempt to seize part of the Russian Federation territory.

"Units of the Korean People's Army played an active role in the fight that brought the defeat of the neo-Nazi formations of the Kiev regime that invaded our territory, in full compliance with international law and in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the Russian Federation and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of June 19, 2024—in particular, Article 4 of the Treaty, which requires each of the parties to provide immediate military assistance in the event of an armed attack against the other.

"Our Korean friends' move was guided by a sense of solidarity, justice and genuine comradeship. We highly appreciate this and are sincerely grateful, personally to Comrade Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the DPRK, as well as the entire leadership and the people of the DPRK.

"We commend the DPRK soldiers for displaying heroism, excellent training skills and spirit of devotion while fighting shoulder to shoulder with Russian

soldiers to defend our motherland as their own. They fulfilled their duty with honour and valour, covering themselves with unfading glory.

"The Russian people will never forget the heroism of the DPRK special forces. We will always honour the heroes who gave their lives for Russia, for our common freedom, fighting side by side with their Russian brothers in arms.

"We are confident that the strong bond of friendship, neighbourly relations and cooperation between our countries, tempered on the battlefield, will continue to grow and expand across the board."

The chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, a spokeswoman for the Foreign Ministry and military experts highly praised the combat sub-units of the armed forces of the DPRK for making a great contribution to annihilating the Ukrainian army which invaded the territory of Russia.

On April 26, Valery Gerasimov, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, reported to President Putin that the operations for liberating the Kursk region to repel the adventurous invasion by the Ukrainian authorities were victoriously concluded.

In his report he said as follows:

I want to point out the participation of service personnel from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the liberation of the Kursk region's border areas, who, in accordance with the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries, provided significant assistance in defeating the invading group of the Ukrainian armed forces.

Officers and men of the Korean People's Army, carrying out combat missions shoulder to shoulder with Russian service personnel, displayed high professionalism, fortitude, courage and heroism in repulsing the Ukrainian invasion.

The spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, Maria Zakharova, said that Russia would never forget the friends of the DPRK.

Service personnel of the DPRK participated in the operations for liberating the Kursk region under Article 4 of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership, she said, adding that the solidarity shown by the DPRK friends proved that the bilateral relations between the two countries were at a high ally level and that the Russian people were convinced that the bilateral relations would grow stronger in the future, too.

She continued: A new page was recorded in the glorious history of militant friendship between the Russian people and the DPRK people. The combatants of the Korean People's Army shed blood, fighting in the same trench shoulder to shoulder with Russian officers and men in the Kursk region. The combatants

of the Korean People's Army made a great contribution to liberating Russia's land from the enemy occupiers.

Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, said at a press conference in the Kremlin on May 11:

The service personnel of the DPRK, together with Russian combatants, successfully and faithfully carried out the tasks assigned to them in the operations to liberate the Kursk region from the units of the Kiev authorities.

I would like to emphasize that they displayed bravery and heroism.

I want to say again that they showed the highest combat capability and high level of combat readiness.

President Putin said he was pleased to have personally expressed thanks to the commanding officers of the Korean People's Army and sent the warmest regards to the soldiers and commanding officers of the special forces of the DPRK who fought near Kursk.

Comrade Kim Jong Un met major commanding officers of the Overseas Operations Unit of the KPA who returned home to attend the ceremony of awarding state commendations of the DPRK at the headquarters building of the Central Committee of the WPK on August 20.

After receiving a detailed report on the military activities in the overseas operations area by the combat units of the armed forces of the DPRK from the commanding officers, he highly praised them for skilfully commanding their units during the operations for liberating the Kursk region of the Russian Federation.



He asked them to convey his warm encouragement to all the other officers and combatants of the Kursk Liberation Operations Unit, who had repaid their motherland's trust by performing legendary military feats.

At the significant meeting, he praised the heroic spirit of the KPA, saying:

"Ours is a heroic army. It is because our army is made up of the sons whose lives were given by our heroic people and who have been raised by them. Our army has fully demonstrated its unique qualities."

A ceremony of awarding state commendations to the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas operations unit of the KPA was held at the headquarters building of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Officials of the Central Committee of the WPK warmly greeted the combatants as they entered its yard after travelling thousands of miles.

Secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK and other senior officials congratulated the laudable sons of the country, putting garlands around their necks and presenting bouquets to them.

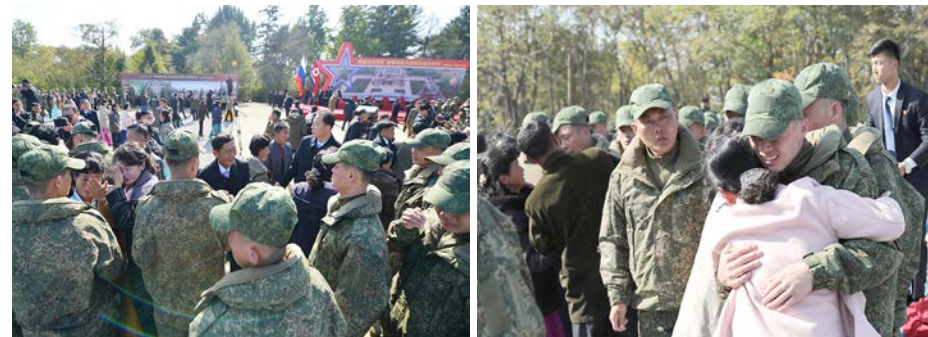
Comrade Kim Jong Un personally awarded the title of DPRK Hero to the skilled military commanding officers who led the combat units of the armed forces to victory and to the soldiers who performed distinguished feats.

He personally fixed the DPRK Hero Medal beside the portraits of the martyrs, laid a flower before the memorial wall and paid silent tribute.

He met the bereaved families of the martyrs and consoled them, sharing the pain of loss with them. These were special and valuable commendations conferred by the country and people on the honourable victors for their great feats that could be performed only in a bloody struggle.

An artistic performance was given in honour of the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas operations unit of the KPA.

On August 29, at the Mokran House, Comrade Kim Jong Un met the bereaved families of the martyrs who had performed distinguished feats in the



overseas military operations and consoled them.

He presented to the bereaved family members the photos of the martyrs wrapped in the national flag and made a consolatory speech before them.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the building of the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations took place on October 23.

With this project, two museums representing victories in the wars, the past one and the present one, would be sited in the capital city of Pyongyang. This proved in practice that the spirit of defending the country and indomitable heroism displayed by the victorious wartime generation in the 1950s, were not confined to any special period, but carried forward stoutly for more than 70 years, and developed onto a higher level to be respected by the great years and the heroic generation. This museum, in which the souls of the martyrs rest, is located in the Hwasong area, a symbol of Pyongyang. A new street was built in this area for the parents, wives and children of the martyrs.

On December 12 a ceremony took place at the plaza of the April 25 House of Culture in Pyongyang to welcome the 528th Regiment of Engineers that returned home after carrying out the combat order in the overseas operations area.

A commanding officer of the overseas engineer combat unit courteously reported to Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un of the DPRK's armed forces that the unit had carried out the combat order.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a speech in congratulation of the homecoming of the unit of engineers. He proclaimed that the motherland decided to award the regiment the Order of Freedom and Independence 1st Class and nine combatants fallen in the course of executing their military missions the title of DPRK Hero, the Order of the National Flag 1st Class and the Order of Soldier's Honour 1st Class in order to highly appreciate and add eternal lustre to the bravery displayed by the unit and its brilliant combat feats.

He fixed the order awarded to the colours of the regiment and had a photo taken with the soldiers of the regiment.

He visited the memorial wall at the central hall of the April 25 House of Culture. He fixed the DPRK Hero Medal, Order of the National Flag and Order of Soldier's Honour below the portraits of the martyrs who had dedicated their lives to the sacred war for defending the honour and dignity of the country. Then he laid a white flower before the memorial wall and observed a moment's silence. He met the bereaved families of the martyrs and warmly consoled them, sharing the pain of loss with them.

An artistic performance and a reception were given to congratulate the combatants on their return.

Carrying Out the National Economic Plan

The year 2025 was a historic watershed, a period of leaps and bounds in which a new speed of creation and transformation was etched in the history of the country.

This was the last year of the state's five-year plan for comprehensive development, when preparations for going over to a new, higher stage had to be made as well.

Across the country, the people rejoiced in seeing substantial successes coming one after another.

Demonstrating the Might of the Self-Supporting Economy

The Musan Mining Complex, a major iron ore producer, pushed ahead with the blasting projects of various sizes, including a one-million-cubic-metre blasting, and strove hard to boost production, thus raising the amount of overburden removal and iron ore production.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex maintained regular production by observing technical rules and standard regulations in managing the electric power system.

Pyongyang, East Pyongyang and Chongchongang thermal power stations increased the output per generator by taking timely measures for boosting steam production and raising the combustion efficiency of the boilers.

The hydropower generation sector increased the production of electric power by applying scientific methods for water control and improving the performance of generating equipment.

In particular, Kangwon Province completed the construction of the Hoeyang Army-People Power Station, the last on the list of the six hydropower projects it had planned, the other five being the army-people power stations in Ichon, Munchon, Sepho, Phyonggang and Kosong.

The province had set the building of these power stations as a priority task to be tackled in improving the regional economy and the people's material and cultural life. An inauguration ceremony of the Hoeyang Army-People Power Station was held in splendour on November 20.



Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the ceremony and delivered a speech. He stressed in the speech that the spirit of creating a history of transformation by braving challenges and the disposition and mettle of doing without fail what it is determined to do would inspire Kangwon Province more powerfully to lead the efforts for gigantic regional transformation, before cutting the ribbon.

The inauguration ceremony clearly demonstrated the validity and vitality of the Workers' Party of Korea's ideas and policies, designed to open up a broad avenue for comprehensive socialist development on the strength of self-reliance. It fully convinced the people that they could achieve eternal prosperity by carving out their future through their own efforts and with firm belief in their own strength.

Amid the fierce flames of the nationwide support for the coal-mining sector, the Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex made notable progress in tunnelling through continuous drilling and blasting and raised the capacity of transport, thus recording high production results.

The Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex, one of the country's coal-mining giants, increased the production of coal for power generation by improving the maintenance and repair of transport lines, electric cars and coal trucks. Officials and workers in the sector of machine-building industry focused on producing custom-built equipment.

The Ryongsong Machine Complex and the Taean Heavy Machine Complex

introduced effective schemes for technical innovation to upgrade their machines and equipment and ensure high precision in processing according to designs.

The Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326 fulfilled the plan for producing electric wires of different sizes by taking innovative steps for the scientific operation of the processes and by steadily improving the performance of equipment.



Officials and workers in the sector of mining industry made strenuous efforts to produce minerals and nonferrous metals.

The members of the Ri Song Il-led Youth Tunnelling Workteam of Discharged Soldiers at the April 5 pit of the Kumgol Mine under the Komdok Mining Complex fulfilled their plan for three years' tunnelling on December 10.

The Ministry of Forestry overfulfilled the timber production plan by 20 percent.

Officials and workers in the rail transport sector waged a dynamic drive for increased transport and overfulfilled the freight transport plan of the Ministry of Railways.

The Sangwon Cement Complex, one of the country's cement giants, raised the flames of great upsurge.

It fulfilled its quota of the national economic plan for the year ahead of schedule, along with the additional task of producing hundreds of thousands of tons of cement.

The extra quantity of cement it had to produce in the year was ten times the quantity it had produced additionally in 2024. This was a goal that could not be attained by conventional methods.

A brisk information and motivation campaign was conducted for enlisting the unquenchable spiritual strength and creativity of the producer masses

through an effective ideological and political work.

From the outset of the year, rather than considering the feasibility of the additional task and material conditions, the employees made effort to achieve innovative results in all the production lines and at all the relevant units.

The daily production of clinker increased by 5 percent over the same period of the previous year and the production of cement, by 14 percent.

The Sangwon Limestone Mine secured 200 000 tons of limestone ore reserves by conducting three blastings on January 4 alone.

The cement complex carried out its plan for January on the 28th, ahead of schedule, far surpassing the past records on all indices, and it fulfilled other monthly plans and quarterly plans without delay.

It established a strict system for quadruple shopfloor inspection to ensure the operation of equipment at full capacity and pushed forward with the readjustment and reinforcement projects while steadily enhancing the responsibility and role of the technicians and skilled workers.

The workers of the calcination workshop, fully aware that they were taking charge of the main process of cement production, focused on ensuring

the long-term operation of the main equipment, overhauling the equipment five or six times, not two times as they had done previously.

They worked out monthly, daily and shift plans in detail and kept the equipment in a good state of repair and maintenance by preparing necessary materials and spare parts in advance. They thus extended the operation time per machine.

They managed to replace the major parts of the kiln in a day, a task which they used to do for more than a week. This was testimony to the unexcelled creative spirit and persevering efforts of the workers of Sangwon, who were determined to break with the conventional concept and achieve a steady leap forward.

The cement complex carried out its plan for May ahead of schedule and the above additional task, recording the highest-ever production result in its history.

It made substantial progress in implementing the readjustment and reinforcement projects, including the one for improving the performance of equipment, thus significantly upgrading its technical equipment and increasing its productivity.

In 2025, it introduced more than 120 technical innovation schemes including several national sci-tech hits and inventions, all paying off in production.

While directing primary efforts to solving the fuel problem, it reduced the cost of production and increased productivity by taking prompt steps for optimizing the mixture of additives according to the usage of cement.

The technical team found a reasonable ratio of mixing requisite materials to increase the lifespan of heat-resistant concrete for furnaces and lengthen the repair cycle, and it also succeeded in making the essential spare parts of a clinker quencher through vacuum-casting based on a combustion pattern.

The Sangwon Limestone Mine drastically reduced the boulder-incidence rate by adopting advanced blasting technology and used the open-air storage area to increase the per-hour output and save fuel. As a result, the mine overfulfilled its yearly plan by 100 000 or so tons.

The Samchong Mine achieved a 2.8-fold increase in production as compared to the early days of its inauguration by strengthening its material and technical foundations—paying due concern to the recycling process, developing an efficient hydraulic loading machine by itself and reducing the round-trip time of the mine cars.

The Sangwon Cement Complex fulfilled the additional task of producing hundreds of thousands of tons of cement. As compared to the previous year,



the output of cement and gypsum increased by more than 7 percent, and tens of thousands of tons of clinker and over a hundred thousand tons of limestone were produced in addition to the planned amount. The cement complex fulfilled its production plan on all indices.

The flames of innovation were raised also in the country's leading fertilizer production bases—Namhung Youth Chemical Complex and Hungnam Fertilizer Complex.

After carrying out their yearly plans on December 3 and 6, respectively, these complexes focused on boosting the output of fertilizer.

The workers at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex set a goal of producing 40 000 tons of fertilizer by the end of the year. And those at the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex produced 20 000 tons of fertilizer by December 22, still working hard to produce more during the remaining days of the year.

The agricultural sector also achieved remarkable successes in 2025.

Across the country, the area for the cultivation of wheat increased by tens of thousands of hectares, as compared to the previous year, but the national plan for wheat production was overfulfilled by over 20 percent, with many regions and units reaping a good harvest. The yields of late crops were quite good and many farms held successful meetings for year-end account settlement and income distribution.



The seed revolution, double cropping, scientific farming and mechanized farming became part and parcel of boosting agricultural production, all the people's enthusiasm for sincerely assisting the farms soared, and the capability to cope with natural calamities that hampered farming every year was increased.

The rate of mechanization in farm work was raised and the goal of irrigation construction for the year was attained, which are the major factors in solidifying the foundations of agricultural production.

Such proud successes were the brilliant fruition of all the agricultural workers' high patriotic enthusiasm.

The WPK set agriculture as one of the major fronts in 2025, clarifying scientific ways for its sustainable development and taking a series of proactive steps to this end.

The whole countryside seethed with enthusiasm from the beginning of the year. Effective measures were adopted for providing the rural communities with fertilizer, agrochemicals, equipment, materials, fund, etc. From the beginning of the year all the regions, sectors and units rendered mental, material and labour support to the countryside.

In January alone, the large amount of manure secured by the organs, enterprises, factories, districts and counties was transported to several farms in Pyongyang, and the ministries and national agencies also gave manpower support to the farms, in addition to essential equipment and materials.

Such enthusiasm for helping the rural communities did not wane throughout the farming period.

The state took positive steps for encouraging officials and other people in the agricultural sector to give free rein to their patriotic enthusiasm in all farming operations.

Phyongwon County produced over 112 000 tons of manure and repaired hundreds of farm machines in the main by January 10. Hwangju County improved hundreds of hectares of acid soil, made over 100 farm machines and built scores of pumping stations in February. Many other regions and farms made good preparations for reaping a rich harvest in the year.

The farming operations for the spring season proceeded as planned, with the agricultural workers' enthusiasm growing for increasing the yields.

In early spring the weather was unstable with rain falling very often, but the transplanting of rice seedlings in the main paddy fields was completed in the right season and the yields of wheat were high thanks to the effective farming of early crops. Thirty-two counties and many farms and workteams became

high-yielding units, with 11 farms and over 170 workteams producing more than eight tons of wheat per hectare on average.

In 2025 many rural communities focused on introducing scientific methods.

Nutrient cold-bed rice seedlings were planted in most of the farms in the country, to say nothing of those in South Phyongan Province and other lowland areas.

The material and technical foundations of the rural economy were further strengthened in 2025.

By July the irrigation projects for some 160 000 hectares of paddy fields

were carried out and thousands of hectares of dry fields turned into paddies. The overhaul of the irrigation facilities for the Kaechon-Lake Thaesong waterway and Phyongnam irrigation waterway were done in a short period. North Phyongan Province ensured that enough water could reach the paddies of over 1 000 hectares that used to suffer from a shortage of water. The construction and repair of irrigation facilities for the Miru Plain waterway were completed ahead of schedule, contributing greatly to the farming work in the relevant areas.

Rapid progress was made in the mechanization of the rural economy.



The renovation projects were successfully completed for the Hamhung Tractor-drawn Farm Machine Factory, Kanggye Tractor Parts Factory and other major farm machine producers, building up the foundations for the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy.

As a result, most of the farms in lowland and mountainous regions, and even those that had lagged behind others in the past years, reaped a good harvest.

Singing *Harvest Song* at the meetings for year-end account settlement and income distribution, people in the rural communities pledged to gather a better harvest for the good of the country.

Gigantic Construction Campaign

The year 2025 witnessed completion of another street in the Hwasong area of Pyongyang.

The military and civilian builders successfully rounded off the third-stage construction project of the Hwasong area in a matter of a year through their ceaseless, strenuous and dynamic struggle, thus providing a decisive guarantee for carrying out the grand construction plan of 50 000 flats in the capital city.

Another new urban section, unlike those in the previous two stages, was formed—an ensemble of large-scale architectural group of high-rise and multi-storey apartment houses, educational and public health facilities, commercial and public catering facilities, technical and amusement facilities and other welfare service facilities.

Thus, the Hwasong area attained the political, economic and cultural functions as a full-fledged urban administrative district and turned into a centre and standard capable of leading other areas in the capital city to civilization and efflorescence.

The Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea put forward a task for making the Hwasong area fulfil its function as an administrative district by vigorously pushing ahead with the 10 000 flats construction project in the third-stage section in the Hwasong area, a project decisive in carrying out the five-year plan of capital city construction, in 2024, the fourth year of the 50 000-flat construction project in Pyongyang, and building bases for cultural and leisure activities.

Comrade Kim Jong Un guided more than 660 architectural designs in order to turn the third-stage section into that of unique features unlike those in

previous stages, and enable the residents to enjoy a higher level of material and cultural life.

All the builders buckled down with redoubled efforts and in high spirits to the new-stage construction project for implementing the five-year capital city construction plan. They had to build in an area of over 90 hectares apartment houses with a total floor space of nearly 1.52 million square metres as well as educational, public health, commercial and public catering facilities. In a word, the third stage was a project that surpassed the previous stages in terms of scale and quality.

More than 1.66 million cubic metres of earth was removed for the foundations of buildings in a short time after the groundbreaking ceremony, concrete foundations were laid as quickly as possible, and framework building was stepped up.

The builders erected many commercial and public catering facilities and technical and amusement service facilities, including the Hwasong Kumgang House built on an overpass with a strong symbolic and peculiar character.





Preparations for creating an excellent landscape going well with the modern urban district resulted in planting more than 69 400 trees and covering 300 000 square metres of land with turf.

On March 15, Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the construction site nearing completion, and clarified the tasks arising in achieving a clear change and progress of the area as suited to the new era by sustaining its modern character.

On April 3, he gave field guidance over the preparations for operating the major neighbourhood-serving amenities in this section. The instructions he gave that day were important in developing the capital city construction onto a higher plane and carrying out the policy of the WPK to radically improve the material and cultural wellbeing of the people across the country as well as the citizens of the capital city.

At the inauguration ceremony of the street on April 15, he cut the ribbon, met and encouraged military and civilian labour innovators who were making a great contribution to the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, and met the working people and the elderly who would move into new flats.

Kim Kyong Rok, an elderly who had lived in Neighbourhood Unit No. 29, Ryulgok-dong No. 1, Songyo District, repeatedly told Comrade Kim Jong Un, “Thank you very much, respected Marshal Kim Jong Un.”

O Kum Suk, another elderly, trudging with the help of a stick, who had lived in Neighbourhood Unit No. 2, Othan-dong, Central District, took part in the inauguration ceremony together with her family members. At the moment of meeting Comrade Kim Jong Un, she said, “I have eagerly wanted to see you. Today I received an excellent house thanks to the Party’s consideration. Now that I have seen you, I have nothing to wish for.”

Choe Myong Hun, an equipment inspector at the East Pyongyang Thermal Power Station, moved into a house in the street, and his son Hyon Song, a primary school student, presented a bouquet to Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Comrade Kim Jong Un embraced Chong Ye, daughter of Jo Myong Chol, who was a teacher at Ragwon Senior Middle School in Pothonggang District, and patted her cheeks with warm affection.

Kim Se Sik, an elderly who had lived in Neighbourhood Unit No. 16, Konguk-dong, Mangyongdae District, could hardly keep back his tears as he met Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Comrade Kim Jong Un said that he was sorry to provide the modern apartment houses only now, and that he was firmly determined to take upon himself more tasks for the people while seeing the citizens full of emotions and joy.

A campaign was being waged to rehabilitate the areas of North Phyongan,

Jagang and Ryanggang provinces, which had been hit by a natural disaster in 2024, and projects for a gigantic revolutionary stage, namely comprehensive development of the regions, were well in progress. In the midst of this, a large and splendid architectural group of 10 000 flats was built in Pyongyang. This was a demonstration of the spirit of uninterrupted revolution of the WPK and the inexhaustible potential of the DPRK.

In 2025 more than 32 000 houses were built in the countryside. In particular, the news of moving into new houses was reported almost every day since October; this gave the agricultural workers across the country a firm conviction and optimism for a new civilized life.

The WPK, having put forth a far-reaching plan to turn farm villages throughout the country into ideal socialist ones with regional features preserved and modern civilization encapsulated, indicated the orientation and ways of vigorously pushing forward with the construction of rural houses in 2025, too.

Accordingly, the rural housing construction developed onto a new, higher stage.

Mindful of the fact that ensuring quality is the first and foremost requirement in construction, officials of the headquarters for rural construction paid close attention to strengthening cooperation among designers, builders and inspectors.

They also ensured the foundations for producing requisite building materials were consolidated in the regions for the construction projects conducted in a big way across the country.

In the course of this, the provinces expanded the production capacity of their iron and steel production bases, newly built finishing materials production bases and renovated 60 or so similar bases.

Officials and builders across the country pushed ahead with rural housing construction. For example, Ryanggang Province in the northern highlands of the country built thousands of excellent houses in 20-odd farms despite unfavourable weather conditions. New rural houses were also built in the suburbs of Pyongyang, North Hamgyong and North Phyongan provinces, and the city of Rason.

Inauguration of the regional-industry factories in Jaeryong County and groundbreaking ceremonies of a hospital and leisure complex in Kangdong County, the largest-ever greenhouse farm and vegetable science research centre, the Ragwon County Offshore Farm and the fourth-stage project to build 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area—all these were the projects that were launched to blaze a trail in opening up a new realm and stage of comprehensive national development; however, they were part of the important, significant



and sacred cause for improving the people's wellbeing.

In the groundbreaking ceremonies of these projects, Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed his unshakable will to bear the whole responsibility for the significant and sacred cause for the betterment of the people and turn it into reality without fail, and stressed that he could not suppress the surging emotion as he thought of a new era when all parts of the country would be transformed once again.

He then inspired the builders and other people with confidence in victory and clearly indicated scientific goals.

With the groundbreaking of the projects, he gave field guidance at their construction sites—the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm on four occasions and Kangdong County Hospital and Kusong City Hospital on two occasions respectively, and the Ragwon County Offshore Farm, Pyongyang General Hospital and the third-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area when they were nearing completion, completed and nearing inauguration.

And he gave field guidance at Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp and a school things factory and school fixtures factory under construction,



and visited the construction sites of many regional-industry factories before their inauguration.

For the Korean people, 2025 was a year of inaugurations, in which they celebrated the opening of numerous structures, many in the presence of Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Throughout the year the whole country brimmed over with joy and happiness, with Comrade Kim Jong Un coming to the venues for inauguration ceremonies to see the locals rejoicing over the events and implant in them a high ambition for and firm trust in the future.

He made speeches at the inauguration ceremonies of the regional-industry factories in Jaeryong County, Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area, Ragwon County Offshore Farm, regional-industry factories and leisure complexes in other regions, expressing his pride and resolve to work harder for the good of the people.

It was very moving to see him give greetings to the local residents and talk casually with them at these ceremonies.

The year 2025 witnessed an incredible construction speed.





For example, it took 190-odd days for Ragwonpho to be built as a modern offshore farm with advanced production facilities, single- and multi-storey houses and neighbourhood-serving amenities that go well with the surrounding natural environment.

Also, the Korean people had to blaze a trail in building Kangdong County Hospital, but it took 280 or so days for the project, the groundbreaking of which portended a revolution in public health, to be completed—a functional building that ensures technical compatibility from the lowest units of infrastructure to every one of its medical equipment and devices.

The year 2025 began with the groundbreaking ceremonies for the above projects, which were held simultaneously in 20 cities and counties, and it ended with the splendid inauguration ceremonies for those projects.

Efflorescence of Socialist Culture

The sportspeople, too, brilliantly adorned the year 2025 with an ambition to live up to the expectations of their country.

At the international games held that year they won over 20 trophies and 270 medals, including more than 150 gold medals, setting over ten new world records.

The girls again created a new legend of Korean women's football. They won the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup as they had done in the previous year, grabbing the world limelight as the only team that had two consecutive wins in the history of the tournaments and the first team to lift the winner's trophy of the FIFA U-17 World Cup four times.

Many football experts, fans and spectators of the world expressed interest in the great spiritual strength and high physical and technical abilities the Korean girls displayed at every game.

The legend was symbolic of the potential and prospect of development of the Korean women's football. The indomitable spiritual strength emanating from patriotism was the trait peculiar to the Korean women's football and a decisive guarantee for winning victories.



The Korean weightlifters also shook the weightlifting circles of the world.

They achieved distinguished successes in 2025 IWF World Youth and Junior Championships, 2025 Asian Weightlifting Championships and other championships.

In particular, those who participated in the 2025 IWF World Championships bagged 17 gold medals, five silver medals and a bronze medal, 23 medals in total, and set ten new world records; the men's and women's teams topped in the country and regional medal tally; the women weightlifters set nine new world records among the 12 new records set at the championships, topping the country rankings in the holding of world records.

The six sportspersons who participated in the 2025 Qatar Cup weightlifting games won 18 gold medals.

At the 2025 World Wrestling Championship the DPRK players bagged three gold medals, two silver medals and two bronze medals—seven in total—and the women's team cup (second place).

The sportspersons distinguished themselves at the 2025 World



Aquatics Championships.

The Taekwon-Do practitioners displayed the prestige and dignity of their country, the motherland of Taekwon-Do.

At the 23rd Taekwon-Do World Championships, which brought together over 1 180 men and women players from more than 70 countries and regions, they won 74 medals including 46 golds and a trophy and came first in the country rankings.

The unbending spiritual strength and a strong sense of competition they displayed were something no player from any other country could imitate or copy.

The karatekas bagged eight gold, one silver and one bronze medals at the Second Asian Karate Championships and Cup.

The public health sector, too, witnessed innovations.

Modern medical facilities are indispensable in ensuring that the working people enjoy the rights granted to them by the state.

With the development of the times, people's requirements regarding the protection of their lives and the promotion of their health far exceed those regarding their material and economic life. A country's public health situation can be called a mirror and yardstick of its appearance and of the character of its social system.

Pyongyang General Hospital is a modern medical centre, the architectural style, components and environment of which are designed to help patients remain stable both mentally and psychologically, and which meets the general requirements of modern architecture.

The specialist facilities and equipment of all its systems meet every health and hygiene standard, and help ensure the scientific accuracy and smooth operation of its medical services.

All the plans conceived and pressed forward by the WPK are aimed at protecting the people's lives and improving their quality of life, and this certainly demands acceleration of the development of the public health sector.

Its strategy for modernizing the public health sector is, in essence, a strategy of simultaneous promotion.

In other words, it is to reinforce the public health sector all at once by simultaneously promoting the construction of central and regional hospitals, individual healthcare facilities and medical service infrastructure across the country, and combining medical treatment and services, personnel training and scientific research.

Pyongyang General Hospital can be referred to as the parent body of the country's modern public health service, a powerful engine that will play the



leading role in dynamically carrying out the public health revolution which had just begun and which the whole nation would witness.

As a centre of diagnosis and treatment, clinical study and dissemination, academic exchange and expert training, the hospital can play the pivotal and core role in modernizing the public health sector.

An engine, pacesetter and assistant in the development of public health, it can provide all the other hospitals to be built across the country with scientific, specialist and systematic guidance and human, material and technological assistance.

On October 6 the inauguration ceremony of Pyongyang General Hospital was held.

Comrade Kim Jong Un cut the ribbon.

On November 3, the hospital started medical service for the people.

A modern regional hospital greeted its inauguration, proving the vigorous spirit and bright prospects of the public health development; the inauguration ceremony of Kangdong County Hospital for the Regional Development 20×10 Policy was held on November 19.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a meaningful speech at the ceremony, cut the ribbon and went round different places of the hospital.

Going round the hospital, the participants in the ceremony were struck with admiration at the civilized treatment environment and conditions of the



hospital fully equipped with every condition for enabling the regional people to fully enjoy advanced medical services in their area like the citizens of the capital city.

The inauguration of the hospital served as a significant and auspicious event, which convinced the people of a new life and wellbeing that would come true in all parts of the country, as an occasion of leap and progress of great practical significance in further expanding and implementing the WPK's policy of the public health revolution.

On December 13, Kusong City Hospital that would make a contribution to the promotion of the regional people's health was inaugurated.

Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the ceremony, cut the ribbon and looked round different places of the hospital.

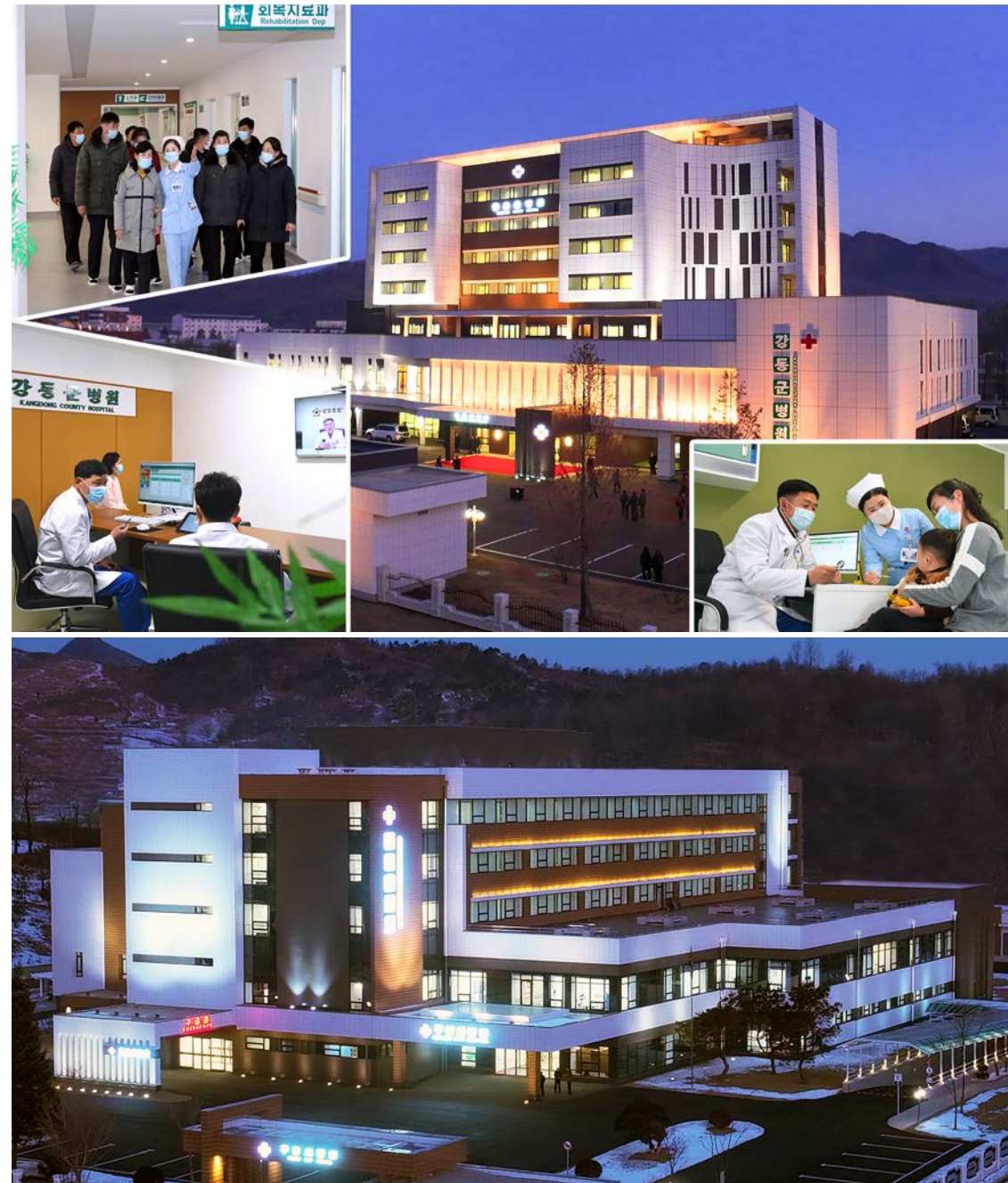
The hospital was another precious creation which further highlighted the meaning of 2025, the first year of the public health revolution.

The inauguration ceremony of the hospital and regional-industry factories in Ryonggang County of Nampho Municipality was held in splendour on December 29, rounding off the inauguration season in the year 2025.

Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the ceremony, cut the ribbon and looked round different places of the hospital.

The inauguration of the hospital and regional-industry factories in Ryonggang County marked the successful conclusion of the construction of model hospitals and leisure complexes and regional-industry factories in 20 cities and counties planned for the year and opened up a new phase for further hastening the comprehensive development of socialist construction by relying on the absolute support and patriotic zeal of the people.

The year 2025 was recorded as a historic period that proved more vividly in reality the validity and vitality of the regional development policy.



Building Up the National Defence Capabilities to Be Formidable

In 2025 the country's defence capabilities grew stronger.

The Korean People's Army, fully prepared to cope with any form of war, developed into steel-strong ranks amid the flames of politico-ideological strengthening and intensive training, and the defence industry developed and produced cutting-edge weapons.

These capabilities defended peace of the country and the happy laughter of its people despite the aggressive moves of the hostile forces.

Developing the Korean People's Army to Be Invincible

Entering the year 2025, the US and other hostile forces' moves for aggression against the DPRK continued.

On January 3 the Navy of the puppet ROK, mobilizing destroyers, escort ships and other vessels and aircraft, staged a war game on the east, west and south coasts, which was evidently a demonstration of its hostile policy towards the DPRK.

It was followed by simultaneous war drills of various kinds by the infantry, artillery and engineering units, and the armoured brigades joined them. Amid the joint large-scale firing drills of the United States and the puppet ROK to neutralize the long-range artillery force of the DPRK, the US-Japan-puppet ROK joint air drill was conducted in the sky over the Korean peninsula with the US strategic bomber B-1B involved on January 15 and, on the same day, the US and puppet ROK air forces staged an air live-shell firing drill.

Then, the US and puppet ROK air forces staged the Ssangmae joint air drill for several days, and a joint special war drill aimed at a sudden attack on the DPRK was conducted.

The US air force in the puppet ROK ended the month of January with the training for preemptive attack on the DPRK by making sorties of fighters despite heavy snowfall.

The DPRK-targeted war games, staged almost every day till the last day of

the first month of 2025, predicted that the United States and the puppet ROK would conduct unprecedentedly active military manoeuvres against the DPRK throughout the year.

The United States made public a plan to further expand the missile defense system to ensure the security of its mainland and its allies from the ever-increasing "strategic threats" from its so-called rivals.

In relation to this, the Institute for Disarmament and Peace of the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK made public a press release on February 2, in which it warned that this would inevitably touch off the security concerns of the regional countries, and that the DPRK would as ever counter the ever-increasing military threat of the hostile forces with the bolstering of its military muscle free from limitations and defend global peace and build a more stable regional security environment by dint of the powerful self-defensive strength.

The irresponsible acts by the United States and the puppet ROK of escalating the regional tension that started from the outset of the year went on until the end of the year.

The KPA is an army thoroughgoing in ideology, faith and morality, an army possessed of ever-victorious strategy and tactics, unparalleled mode of strike and perfect capability of fighting a war, an army equipped with the state-of-the-art military hardware, and an army of artists of civilization that realizes the cherished desires of the WPK in the vanguard.

In 2025, too, Comrade Kim Jong Un made energetic efforts to strengthen the KPA into ever-victorious, elite forces.

His army-building ideas and theories served as a guideline to this end.

On February 8, greeting the 77th founding anniversary of the KPA, Comrade Kim Jong Un paid a congratulatory visit to the Ministry of National Defence.

During the visit he delivered a speech.

Outlining the features of the world-wide changes in the political, military and geopolitical structures including the surrounding environment of the state, he stressed the need to more highly develop the war response posture of the DPRK's armed forces to proactively cope with any variable security situation.

He continued that the US nuclear strategic means constantly deployed on the Korean peninsula, the US-led bilateral and multilateral nuclear war simulation exercises staged on the level of actual war, the US-Japan-ROK tripartite military alliance system established according to the US regional military bloc scenario and the formation of the Asian version of NATO as its axis constituted a basic factor that caused military imbalance and a new conflicting structure on the

Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia, adding that they were raising a grave challenge to the security environment of the DPRK.

He then set forth important tasks which would serve as a guideline for further strengthening the KPA into a matchless revolutionary army, including those of making 2025 a year of training by further kindling the flames of the training revolution on the principle of increasing the combat capability of the KPA to the highest level, making war preparations more thoroughly as required by modern warfare and waging a fierce struggle to establish steel-like order and sound military discipline.

His visit to the Ministry of National Defence further highlighted the ennobling mission of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK to firmly guarantee the sure victory of the country with arms and vigorously propel the grand all-people advance for comprehensive national rejuvenation with a pioneering spirit and indomitable mettle.

On February 24, he visited Kim Il Sung University of Politics on its 80th founding anniversary.

In the speech he made during the visit, he said:

The political and ideological traits of the KPA have remained consistently honourable before and faithful to the army founding generation, the country and the people despite the passage of the long years and changes of history.

This is unthinkable separated from the exploits of this school which has steadfastly fulfilled its role in the key position guaranteeing the succession of the revolutionary armed forces.

It is a stark immutable truth that the ideological and moral superiority of the army means its qualitative superiority, Comrade Kim Jong Un stressed. Saying that imbuing the army with ideology before arming it with military technology is the core of army building, he expressed his new view that soldiers, weapons and ideology are three elements of the armed forces.

After looking round several places of the university, he met the students exemplary in studies and military service and warmly encouraged them.

His visit at the highest institution of political education of the army provided a powerful ideological and theoretical guideline for making the heroic KPA carry forward the brilliant honour of the politically, ideologically and morally strong army, which has been carried on from one century to the next, and for further consolidating the mightiness and matchlessness with which it can overwhelm any enemy and challenge at a stroke.

On February 25, Comrade Kim Jong Un visited Kang Kon Military

Academy, a prestigious commanding officers training base.

On arriving at the academy, he went to the bust of Kang Kon, an anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter, who was one of the most faithful comrades-in-arms of President Kim Il Sung and a competent commanding officer, and laid a wreath before it.

Written on the ribbon of the wreath were letters reading “Our army will remember your name, Kang Kon, forever.”

Recalling the distinguished feats of Kang Kon, the first chief of the KPA General Staff who dedicated as a solid cornerstone his precious life to the sacred cause for the birth and remarkable development of the DPRK’s regular revolutionary armed forces, Comrade Kim Jong Un paid high respects to the great army founding generation.

He reviewed a march-past of the teaching staff and students of the academy, saw a *kyoksul* (a Korean martial art) demonstration by the cadets and looked round several places of the academy.

He then saw the live shooting contest of teachers and cadets and their physical exercises with multi-purpose apparatuses.

His field guidance at the academy served as a decisive turning point that provided a foundation for vivid changes and progress in bringing about a radical improvement in military education in the new era and as an important occasion of landmark significance in developing the KPA into an invincible and matchless army forever.

On April 4, Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the training base of the special operations units of the KPA, and guided their general training.

The training was held with the aim at steadily exploring and applying new military tactics and methodologies of Korean style for bolstering up the special operations forces in keeping with the developing aspects and changing trend of modern warfare and making the combatants master them through practical training for real war so as to prepare all combatants more thoroughly to carry out reliably and skilfully their special operations tasks under any combat situation.

The brave combatants fully demonstrated the strong independent operations capability and the fighting spirit and crack-shot marksmanship of the country’s invincible army in all drills.

Comrade Kim Jong Un guided an automatic rifle firing drill and a sniper rifle firing drill of the combatants.

He personally conducted the test-fire of a sniper rifle to be newly supplied to special operations units and learned about its results, expressing great

satisfaction over the performance and power of the sniper rifle developed in the Korean way.

Then he oversaw the general special physical exercises of special operations unit combatants.

The combatants fully demonstrated their physical and technical abilities.

Comrade Kim Jong Un praised the officers and men who were further improving their strongest capability for an actual war in training with courage, pluck and towering self-confidence to counter any war and crisis without hesitation.

All the service personnel, who took part in the training, hardened their firm determination to more reliably prepare themselves as the spearhead of the elite revolutionary armed forces.

Entering May, the United States and its vassal states staged a series of nuclear operation drills on the Korean peninsula and in its vicinity after making a nuclear war against the DPRK a fait accompli and opening to the public an extremely adventurous nuclear war scenario. This reckless act of aggravating the situation required that the armed forces of the DPRK maintain a rapid reaction capability and thoroughgoing war posture.

On May 8, a joint striking drill was conducted to raise the fighting efficiency of long-range artillery and missile soldiers' sub-units on the eastern front amid intensive combat training at all levels of the KPA being organized and conducted to improve the whole army's overwhelming capability for countering a war.

Comrade Kim Jong Un oversaw the joint striking drill.

Mobilized in the drill were 600 mm-calibre multiple rocket launchers and tactical ballistic missile *Hwasongpho-11 Ka*.

The drill was aimed at making the relevant sub-units master the procedures for the operation of the above-mentioned guns and missile attack systems according to the national combined nuclear weapons management system.

A spokesman for the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK, introducing the drill, said that it would be a sufficient measure of action to show the rapid counteraction posture and capability of the armed forces of the DPRK capable of coping with the change of the military situation aggravated by the enemy in the sensitive region.

Prior to firing, the operational reliability of the *Haekpangasoe* system was inspected layer by layer.

There took place detailed trainings for making all the sub-units master the procedures and processes for rapidly switching over to the nuclear counterattack

posture and a separate special lecture for the commanding officers on the operation of the counterattack system.

Then, the firepower sub-units fired simultaneously and in order, and separately or jointly, at different enemy targets in the assigned direction and distance.

The goal of the drill was achieved, and the reliability of the command and mobilization system capable of quickly reacting to any nuclear crisis was verified.

Comrade Kim Jong Un set forth important tasks for further raising the combat reliability of the tactical nuclear weapon systems and steadily expanding their operations space in a combined way.

On May 13, a combined tactical drill of special operations sub-units for surpassing the standards for an all-mission battalion and a match and joint fire strike drill demonstration of tankmen's sub-units were held as a demonstration drill under the training course of the Conference of the Training Officers of the KPA.



Comrade Kim Jong Un visited Training Camp No. 60 of the Capital City Defence Corps of the KPA and watched the tactical drill demonstrations of different arms.

Various tactical drills conducted by special operations sub-units for surpassing the standards for an all-mission battalion and the match between tankmen's sub-units held afterwards aroused the spectators' special interest.

Comrade Kim Jong Un met the combatants of a sub-unit under the 11th Corps of the KPA, who surpassed the standards for an all-mission battalion, and appreciated and warmly encouraged them, saying that they played the role as vanguard fighters in bringing about a revolution in training and as a model in rounding off the war preparations.

On May 15, he visited a flying group of the Guards 1st Air Wing of the KPA and guided anti-air combat and air raid drills of flying corps of the Air Force.

After hearing the report on the results of the agreement between clients and producers on the development of air weapons and equipment and the long-term plan, he clarified the view of the Central Committee of the WPK as regards the development of the new-generation air assault and anti-air weapon systems of a high level, and advanced important tasks for its realization.

The drills were aimed at helping the flying corps, anti-air missile sub-units, radar sub-units and electronic warfare sub-units get skilled in the anti-air mission to detect, track and destroy the enemy cruise missiles and suicidal drones attacking from different directions and in the combat mission to make the enemy drones blind and destroy them with different electronic means.

There also took place an application test of new-type long-range precision guided glide bomb and a drill of flying corps' raid on targets.

In performing the anti-air defence tactical mission to detect, track and destroy enemy cruise missiles and suicidal drones attacking from different directions, the anti-air missile sub-units and detection and electronic warfare sub-units carried out only the task of detecting and tracking air targets, and the flying corps, while performing guard flight mission in the air duty area as in an actual war environment, detected, tracked and destroyed the attacking air targets.

The drills proved the anti-air defence capabilities of the groups of the Guards 1st Air Wing.

There took place a drill of destroying enemy drones with helicopter and flying corps' precision bombing of naval targets, followed by a demonstration flight of strategic reconnaissance drones and multi-mission drones.

On May 29, a firing contest among artillery sub-units of large combined units of the KPA was conducted.

At the contest overseen by Comrade Kim Jong Un, the commanders of the front-line large combined units commanded the firing.

The artillery sub-units at all levels that participated in the contest fully demonstrated the skilful artillery firing techniques.

On July 23, a firing practice contest among artillery sub-units of large combined units of the KPA was conducted.

Comrade Kim Jong Un oversaw the contest.

The contest was conducted in the way of deciding ranks by examining the capability of each artillery sub-unit for performing the night march, combat deployment and firing attack on an unexpected enemy target in coastal regional environment and conditions in summer, making them master the combat methods in modern artillery warfare and judging the result of fulfilling the firing missions.

The artillery sub-units, which received the order to fire, fully displayed the capability that they had firmly developed to master the combat manual of Korean style and punish the enemy at one blow, thus hitting the suddenly-set



marine targets in the set time.

Congratulating the combatants of the 2nd Battery of the 3rd Battalion of the 16th Artillery Regiment of the 28th Infantry Division of the 4th Corps of the KPA, who successfully attained all the goals set in the contest and won the contest with the highest score, Comrade Kim Jong Un invited the battery as special guests to the celebrations of the 72nd anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War as an award.

On July 26, he had a photo taken with the officers and men of the battery, who were invited as special guests to the above celebrations, in the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.

On August 11, a firing practice contest of tactical artillery sub-units under the large combined units of the KPA was held according to the combat drill plan of the KPA General Staff, with an aim to strictly check and judge the proficiency of the artillery sub-units of the tactical units in the fire support combat action method, and to propagate the example of the excellent sub-units across the army.

The contest was overseen by Marshal Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK.



The contest was attended by sub-units equipped with mortars of different calibres.

The mortar sub-units, which held the fire positions via the unfavourable obstacle area under the fire command of the commanding officers of the large combined units, started to carry out the missions of hitting the different enemy targets and major facilities according to the tactical duty.

Amid the rapid gun fire, the artillerymen hit and destroyed the targets in a fixed time with the crack-shot artillery marksmanship.

The contest fully verified the high combat ability and regular combat readiness that the artillery sub-units of the tactical units achieved in the course of steadily increasing the efficiency and operation of the artillery weapon systems.

The Chief of the General Staff of the KPA made public the standings of the large combined units. A citation of master gunner was awarded to the 82 mm-calibre mortar battery of the 6th Battalion of the 55th Mechanized Infantry Brigade of the 9th Corps which won the contest with the highest score, and medals and badges of master gunner were awarded to its soldiers.

The firing practice contest served as an occasion for demonstrating the strong will of the army to reliably defend the security and sovereignty of the inviolable state with overwhelming combat power.

On August 27, Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the special operations training base under the General Staff of the KPA.

At the training base he met snipers assembled for carrying out special missions and soldiers of the special operations unit and familiarized himself with the military equipment of the sub-units and their training.

He acquainted himself with the new-type sniper rifle being produced and supplied to units.

He appreciated the high-precision long-range sniping character and superiority of the new-type sniper rifle designed and developed in the Korean way by the DPRK Academy of Defence Sciences in the year to improve the ergonomic efficiency of the weapon and the tactical mobility of snipers, and satisfactorily said it was very good for the KPA units to have come to be armed with such sniping weapon of a new generation.

He instructed the Ministry of National Defence to produce quality camouflage uniforms to be supplied to the sniper sub-units from that year in conformity with the conditions and seasonal characteristics of the mission zones.

Then he watched the general special physical exercises of the combatants of the special operations unit.

The soldiers participating in the drill fully demonstrated their physical and technical abilities as they were preparing themselves as point-men of invincible combat unit.

Comrade Kim Jong Un had a photo taken with them.

That day he congratulated the three snipers who showed their distinguished marksmanship, fully displaying their high-precision long-range sniping capability, and had a photo taken with each of them. He also had a photo taken with the officers and soldiers of the sniper sub-unit.

On November 1, he inspected the headquarters of the 11th Corps of the KPA.

In the operation study room, he received a briefing from the commander of the corps on the plan of the military action of the large combined unit to provide for different circumstances of operations. He set forth the strategic policies and important tasks for strengthening and developing the special operations forces of the armed forces.

Seeing the training of the combatants fully demonstrating their unrivalled bravery and mettle, he expressed great satisfaction over the perfect war posture of the armed forces which were fully ready for carrying out the crucial mission



of thoroughly defending the sovereignty and development rights of the state and reliably safeguarding the destiny and future of the people against the meanest and most despicable enemies in the world. He warmly encouraged the soldiers who were devotedly fulfilling their sacred duty.

His visit to the headquarters of the 11th Corps of the KPA served as a historic occasion of great significance in developing the armed forces of the DPRK into a modernized and invincible army that will always emerge victorious in any form of war.

On November 28, a celebration event took place at Kalma Airport to mark the 80th founding anniversary of the KPA Air Force.

Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the celebration event.

He paid militant salute to the colours of the KPA Air Force and its subordinate units and reviewed the guard of honour of the Air Force. Then he went up to the observation platform and watched the demonstration flight of the Air Force marking the Day of Airmen.

Aircraft of heroic pilots took off one after another with deafening sound.

He warmly encouraged the admirable girl pilots, watching their demonstration flight in two-plane formation.

The pilots of the Air Force displayed their skilful flying technique to the full, giving off beautiful tricolour vapour trails and setting off fireworks in the clear and blue sky of the country.

He met the pilots after their demonstration flight and shook hands with every one of them, praising them for demonstrating a high level of aviation capable of perfectly carrying out any combat mission.

Then he had a photo session with the service personnel of the KPA Air Force greeting its 80th founding anniversary.

At the celebrations of the Day of Airmen he met the discharged generals who were specially invited, and highly appreciated the life of devotion and feats of the veteran generals of the Air Force who devoted their whole life to increasing the defence capability of the country's airspace.

He made a significant speech on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Air Force.

He announced that the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK adopted a decree on awarding the Order of Kim Jong Il to the Air Force marking its 80th founding anniversary at the proposal of the Central Committee and the Central Military Commission of the WPK, and conveyed a joint congratulatory message of the Central Committee

and the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

An artistic performance was given at the Myongsasimni Theatre to mark the holiday of the Air Force.

Comrade Kim Jong Un enjoyed the performance together with officers and men of the Air Force.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience as it impressively represented through excellent artistic depiction the high ideological and spiritual world of the service personnel of the Air Force and their devoted service for the country and the people.

That evening the Ministry of National Defence hosted a reception to mark the 80th founding anniversary of the Air Force.

Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the reception.

The celebrations held in the presence of Comrade Kim Jong Un marked a significant occasion in demonstrating the unshakable faith and will of the heroic people's Air Force to reliably defend the airspace of the country.



Rapid Development of National Defence Capabilities

Entering February, the United States officially notified the puppet ROK of two arms sales.

According to them, the arms sales included the equipment worth a total of 170.6 million US dollars including latest drones to be delivered to the puppet ROK Navy and the weapons parts worth 350 million US dollars.

Such support of strategic weapons continued from the beginning to the end of the year.

To cope with the acts of hostile forces—supporting strategic weapons and introducing them—the DPRK adhered to the policy of developing stronger strategic weapons.

A relevant sub-unit of the KPA's combined missile unit in the western area conducted a strategic cruise missile launching drill on the West Sea of Korea on the morning of February 26.

The purpose of the drill was to let the enemies, who were creating and escalating the confrontation environment while seriously violating the security environment of the DPRK, know the KPA's counterattack capability in any space and the readiness of its various nuke operation means, to demonstrate the reliability of the state's nuclear deterrent and to make the strategic cruise missile sub-units get adept at fulfilling their sudden firing mission.

Comrade Kim Jong Un oversaw the drill.

The strategic cruise missiles precisely hit the targets after making flights along a 1 587km-long oval trajectory for 7 961 and 7 973 seconds.

Continuously testing the reliability and operability of the components of nuclear deterrent of the DPRK and demonstrating their power was itself a responsible exercise of its war deterrent.

It was the responsible mission and duty of the DPRK's nuclear forces to durably defend the national sovereignty and security with the reliable nuclear shield by making them more thoroughly ready for combat and fully prepared for their use.

The Missile Administration of the DPRK conducted a test-fire of the latest anti-aircraft missile system on March 20 to examine the comprehensive performance of the system, which was put into full-scale production at a relevant munitions industry enterprise.

Comrade Kim Jong Un oversaw the test-fire together with major members of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

The test-fire proved that the combat quick response of the latest anti-aircraft missile system was advantageous and the overall weapon system was highly reliable.

Comrade Kim Jong Un guided the defence science research work of the Unmanned Aeronautical Technology Complex and the detective electronic warfare research group between March 25 and 26.

He learned about various kinds of reconnaissance and suicide attack drones, newly developed and being produced by an institute and enterprises under the Unmanned Aeronautical Technology Complex, and oversaw their performance test.

The test confirmed the innovative performance of a new-type strategic reconnaissance drone with the detective ability to track and monitor different strategic targets and enemy troops' activities in the land and sea. And fully demonstrated was the striking capability of suicidal drones to be used for various tactical attack missions.



Highly appreciated was the fact that the stages of the line of modernizing the army were being qualitatively attained thanks to the clear brains of the country's younger-generation defence science research group.

A new entity emerged to firmly guarantee the maritime sovereignty of the DPRK, demonstrating the modernity of the naval forces making rapid progress.

A ceremony of launching the newly-built destroyer was held in splendour at the Nampho Shipyard on April 25, the significant founding anniversary of the first armed forces of the Korean revolution, in the presence of Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The commemorative address reads:

The 5 000-tonnage destroyer, which is equipped with the most powerful weapons and which has been built by the workers in the field of our warship-building industry, will record a sacred new name of the defender in the blue seas of the country.

It is a very encouraging reality and an event marking decisive progress in the course of strengthening the war capability of the Navy that we have perfectly built the modern destroyer in a little over 400 days with our own strength and technology.

A written order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK on the grading regulations, name and number of the new-type multi-mission destroyer was announced and conveyed to the commander of the East Sea Fleet of the KPA Navy.

On the order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK signed by Comrade Kim Jong Un, the new-type 5 000-tonnage multi-mission destroyer was graded and classified as the *Choe Hyon* class and named after the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter Choe Hyon, a model military activist who had made boundless loyalty to the leader part of his mental qualities, an elder of the armed forces of the DPRK and a veteran general.

Comrade Kim Jong Un conferred the ensign of the destroyer *Choe Hyon* on the commanding officers of the East Sea Fleet of the KPA Navy.

The commander of the East Sea Fleet made a speech of pledge, saying that the earnest desire for the most powerful arms to overwhelmingly smash the naval supremacy of the arrogant imperialist pirates was fulfilled.

The minister of National Defence of the DPRK cut the rope in token of the ceremony of launching the destroyer.

Comrade Kim Jong Un mounted the destroyer.

After receiving the salute of the captain, he met with seamen and gave

them warm militant encouragement, going round the bow and stern of the warship.

The memorial relief image of anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter Choe Hyon was unveiled on the destroyer.

Comrade Kim Jong Un placed a flower before the relief image of Choe Hyon and paid tribute to him.

He got off the warship and met the meritorious persons of the Nampho Shipyard who contributed to the building of the destroyer.

Then he awarded commemorative copper coins to the commanders and other officers of the destroyer, before making a historic speech.

The destroyer, an ensemble of the self-reliant defence technology, is equipped not only with anti-air, anti-ship, anti-submarine and anti-ballistic missile capability but also with weapon systems for the most effective ground striking operations, like hypersonic strategic cruise missile, tactical ballistic missile and other means of strike. It is capable of performing multi-mission surface operations and thus increasing the possibility of direct intervention by the Navy in the ground operations.



The destroyer would be handed over to the Navy and launch into operation after going through necessary procedures, like assessment of its performance and capability for conducting operations and test of operation of its integrated equipment.

Though the career of Choe Hyon, a faithful comrade-in-arms of President Kim Il Sung, was not specially associated with sailors, the first destroyer of a new generation was named after him, who lives in the memory of the people as a symbol of bravery and mettle, with the hope that the sailors' spirit will be impregnated with his soul so that the Navy will achieve victory unprecedented in the annals of its history.

Kim Chaek, An Kil, Choe Hyon, Kang Kon and all the other commanding officers of guerrilla origin were genuine generals of practical abilities. They loyally supported the great leader and assisted him with unshakable faith and remarkable military qualifications; they performed considerable exploits in liberating their country by organizing armed ranks on the principle of fighting the Japanese independently, in building the state and army in their initial days and in repulsing the allied imperialist forces.

On the day, there were a reception given by the KPA Navy and a congratulatory performance by national-level art troupes in celebration of the ceremony of launching the new-type multi-mission destroyer.

After the performance, Comrade Kim Jong Un met discharged generals of the Navy.

He highly appreciated the feats performed by the generals of the past days, who, serving long at the Navy's important posts, recorded immortal exploits in the history of the Navy with boundless self-sacrificing spirit and indomitable mettle.

The ceremony of launching the new-type multi-mission destroyer was an auspicious event heralding a renewed development of the country's Navy, a great event that powerfully demonstrated before the whole world the spirit of advance and sure victory of the country and its people dynamically advancing towards the grand goal of building an advanced maritime power.

The Missile Administration, the Academy of Defence Sciences and the Detection and Electronic Warfare Administration launched a performance and combat application test of the weapon systems mounted on the *Choe Hyon*.

The first test of the weapon systems of the destroyer was conducted on April 28 and 29.

The test-fire of supersonic cruise missile, strategic cruise missile, anti-

aircraft missile and 127 mm-calibre shipboard automatic gun took place on April 28.

Comrade Kim Jong Un oversaw the first test-fire together with leading officials of the Missile Administration, the Academy of Defence Sciences, the Detection and Electronic Warfare Administration and the Nampho Shipyard.

He got on the destroyer that underwent the scheduled weapon systems test, and acquainted himself in detail with the phased schedule and contents of the



test from members of the weapon system examination group, before overseeing the first test-fire.

The power of the 127 mm-calibre shipboard automatic gun attracted close attention of the leading officials.

On April 29, the test-fire of anti-ship tactical guided weapon, various kinds of shipboard automatic guns and smoke and electronic jamming guns took place.

Comrade Kim Jong Un gave field guidance at a major tank factory in early May.

The Academy of Defence Sciences and the workers and technicians of the factory made remarkable progress and successes in developing Korean-style tanks and armoured weapons and improving their combat performance.

Therefore, more development-oriented prospect was opened up in the field of the tank industry and, in particular, the idea and policy of the Central Military Commission of the WPK on further perfecting the core technology of the main battle tank were being carried on through steady development and production success.

The tank industry upgraded the structural design of Korean-style tanks and composition of their firepower system to improve the service convenience of the tank crew, proved the scientific accuracy and reliability of the design of high-thrust engine and provided a firm guarantee for serial production.

The travelling and different other manoeuvring characteristics of tanks were improved through the development of integrated power transmission device and the new-type active protection system, passive protection means and electronic warfare system were updated in a more innovative way, and all these successes meant great progress in the core technology of Korean-style tanks.

A ceremony of launching a destroyer of the KPA Navy, the second of its kind, took place at the Rajin Shipyard on June 12.

At the ceremony, the minister of National Defence of the DPRK, announced an order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK on the grading regulations and naming of the destroyer which was signed by Comrade Kim Jong Un, and conveyed the certificate of the warship grading and naming to the commander of the East Sea Fleet of the Navy.

According to the order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, the newly-built destroyer was graded as the *Choe Hyon* class and named *Kang Kon*.

Comrade Kim Jong Un conferred the ensign of the destroyer *Kang Kon* on

the commanding officers of the East Sea Fleet of the KPA Navy.

He mounted the destroyer.

After receiving the salute of the captain, he gave the sailors warm encouragement, going round the bow and stern of the warship.

The memorial relief image of anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter Kang Kon, the first chief of the General Staff of the KPA, was unveiled on the destroyer.

Comrade Kim Jong Un placed a flower before the relief image of Kang Kon, a loyalist who rendered distinguished services for army building, and paid tribute to him.

An artistic performance was given to celebrate the launch of the destroyer.

The launching ceremony was a powerful demonstration of the unshakable decision and will of the WPK to firmly defend the national sovereignty, territorial integrity and security interests by rapidly developing the Navy into a powerful service in charge of part of the national nuclear deterrent, and a momentous occasion of injecting great vitality into the patriotic struggle of the people advancing dynamically towards the future of prosperity with a high ambition and ideals.

Comrade Kim Jong Un gave field guidance at a major munitions industry enterprise on June 13.

Making the rounds of various production sites of the enterprise, including press, spinning and assembly workshops, he learned in detail about shell production and the capacity expansion and modernization projects in the first half of 2025.

On September 18, he guided the performance test of the unmanned weapons and equipment being developed and produced by an institute and enterprises under the Unmanned Aeronautical Technology Complex.

The day's test clearly proved the military strategic value and innovative performance of the strategic unmanned surveillance aerial vehicle and the excellent combat effectiveness of *Kumsong*-series tactical attack drones.

Comrade Kim Jong Un met scientists and technicians in the nuclear field including those from the Nuclear Weapons Institute, and guided an important consultative meeting related to the production of nuclear materials and weapons on September 26.

He listened to a report on the implementation of the plan for 2025 to increase the capacity of the nuclear-material production field and learned about the recent work and major production activities of the Nuclear Weapons Institute.

Saying that the nuclear-material production field and the Nuclear Weapons

Institute thoroughly carried out two tasks according to the new important strategy, he noted with great satisfaction that as a result, major problems in highly developing the country's nuclear capability were perfectly solved.

The military hardware exhibition *Defence Development-2025* opened in splendour in Pyongyang on October 4, demonstrating the development of the national defence capabilities which was accelerating beyond precedents and limit.

Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the exhibition, reviewed the guard of honour of the KPA and the glorious colours of the three services, and delivered a significant commemorative speech.

The exhibition could be said to be the epitome of epochal leaps forward made by the country's defence science and technology, and of the comprehensive development of its munitions industry.

Looking round the exhibition, the participants were struck with admiration all the time at the entities of the defence capabilities, another development made just in a year.

The military hardware exhibition that opened adding excitement and joy to the whole country in the lead-up to the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK was a significant occasion that heralded the changes of the armed forces of the DPRK.

On October 5, Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the destroyer *Choe Hyon* of the KPA Navy according to the second-day schedule of visit to the military hardware exhibition.

That day a reception for service personnel of the Navy was given by the Central Military Commission of the WPK on the destroyer.

On December 25, Comrade Kim Jong Un provided on-the-spot guidance for the building of an 8 700-tonnage nuclear-powered strategic guided missile submarine.

He went round the site of the building of the nuclear submarine and received a report on its progress.

Workers, scientists and technicians in the warship-building field, who were all out in the honourable struggle for implementing the WPK's policy of modernizing the Navy, were pushing ahead with the building of a strategic nuclear attack submarine, one of the five major tasks for developing the defence capabilities set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK, by giving full play to the inexhaustible patriotic enthusiasm.

That day, Comrade Kim Jong Un learned in detail about the ongoing

research on the new secret underwater weapons under development, and clarified a strategic plan for reorganizing the naval forces and establishing new units.

On December 24, Comrade Kim Jong Un oversaw a test-fire of new-type anti-aircraft missiles.

The Missile Administration of the DPRK conducted on the East Sea of Korea a test-fire of new-type high-altitude long-range anti-aircraft missiles under development.

This was the first test-fire for assessing the tactical and technical features of the missile system.

The launched missiles accurately hit the mock flying targets 200 kilometres away.

The test-fire was part of the routine activities of the Missile Administration and its affiliated anti-aircraft weapon system research institutes for the rapid technological development of national air defence means.

Comrade Kim Jong Un visited major munitions industry enterprises to acquaint himself with the missile and shell production in the fourth quarter of the year.

These enterprises successfully fulfilled their production plans for 2025 and made a pivotal and core contribution to implementing the plan for developing the defence capabilities.

On December 28 a long-range strategic cruise missile launching drill was staged on the West Sea of Korea.

The drill was aimed at checking the counter-offensive response posture and combat capability of long-range missile sub-units, making missile soldiers proficient in manoeuvres and procedures of fulfilling firing missions, and inspecting the reliability of the relevant strategic weapon system.

Comrade Kim Jong Un oversaw the drill.

The strategic cruise missiles flew along the flight path set in the sky above the West Sea of Korea for 10 199 and 10 203 seconds, and hit the targets.

The result of the drill was the practical verification and clear demonstration of the absolute reliability and combat efficiency of the country's strategic counterattack capability.

On December 28, Comrade Kim Jong Un visited a major munitions industry enterprise to learn about the production of weapons and other combat equipment.

He learned about the production of multiple rocket launchers to be deployed

in major units of the KPA according to a decision of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

The multiple rocket launcher system would completely change the composition of the artillery forces of the KPA.

It is a super-powerful weapon system as it can annihilate the enemy through sudden and precise strike with high accuracy and devastating power and can also be used as a strategic attack means.

The field guidance given by Comrade Kim Jong Un that day served as a new milestone in increasing the country's war deterrent in a practical way.

Upholding the Ideals of Independence, Peace and Friendship

The Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK hold fast to the ideals of independence, peace and friendship in dealing with other countries, developing their relations with all those that are friendly to the DPRK.

The DPRK maintains the principles of complete equality, independence, mutual respect, noninterference in the internal affairs of others and mutual benefits in promoting diplomatic, political, economic and cultural relations with other countries.

The year 2025 witnessed a foreign tour by Comrade Kim Jong Un and several political events in the country, particularly the celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK attended by foreign delegations, special envoys and important personages of several countries. These events gave the world a better understanding of the DPRK and provided opportunities for other countries to improve their relations with it.

Opening a New Phase of DPRK-Russia Alliance

In 2025 the top leaders of the DPRK and the Russian Federation focused on strengthening the strategic partnership between the two countries.

In March Comrade Kim Jong Un met Sergei Shoigu, secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, on a visit to the DPRK leading a Security Council delegation of the Russian Federation.

He gladly received the Russian guest visiting Pyongyang again in six months and had a talk with him in a trustworthy and warm atmosphere.

Sergei Shoigu courteously conveyed the friendly greetings and an important autographed letter from Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, to the DPRK leader.

Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed his deep thanks for it, and asked Sergei Shoigu to convey his militant greetings to the respected Russian president.

At the talk, there was a wide-ranging exchange of views and opinions of the leaderships of the DPRK and Russia on the important issues for defending the security interests of the two countries and international justice and on the

regional and international situations. The talk confirmed the consensus of stand of the two sides.

Noting that the special military operations conducted by the Russian army and people served as a demonstration of their indomitable strength, patriotism and just cause, Comrade Kim Jong Un stated that it was the steadfast option and resolute will of the DPRK government to invariably support Russia in the struggle for defending its national sovereignty, territorial integrity and security interests in the future, too.

The talk expressed the willingness of the leaderships of the two countries to unconditionally implement the provisions of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership.

Comrade Kim Jong Un had an important and useful conversation with Sergei Shoigu on the prospective undertakings for further expanding and boosting exchanges and cooperation in security and other many-sided fields.

Hoping that victory, prosperity, happiness and fortune would always be in store for the Russian people, he sent his warm wishes to the respected President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of the Russian Federation and to its government, army and people.

The construction of a motor bridge linking the DPRK and Russian borders began, with practical measures being taken to strengthen bilateral exchanges and cooperation under the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries.

The start of the project served as a significant occasion in adding fresh dynamics to the development of the friendly relations between the two countries as it would provide a substantial guarantee for laying down and reinforcing the important infrastructure for economic cooperation and for vitalizing the bilateral cooperation including travel of persons, tourism and circulation of commodities in a many-sided way.

The groundbreaking ceremony took place simultaneously in Rason, a border city of the DPRK, and Khasan, a border city of the Russian Federation, on April 30 amid deep interest and expectations of the governments and peoples of the two countries.

Comrade Kim Jong Un paid a congratulatory visit to the Russian embassy in Pyongyang on May 9 on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Russia's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

He was courteously greeted by Aleksandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK, and major members of the embassy.

Saying that he was visiting the embassy to convey the best wishes of the WPK, government and people of the DPRK to the leadership of the Russian Federation and fraternal Russian people through the ambassador on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of victory in the war, he warmly congratulated the embassy staff on greeting the most sacred and auspicious holiday of their country.

The Russian ambassador and his embassy staff extended their heartfelt thanks to Comrade Kim Jong Un.

A flower basket of best wishes Comrade Kim Jong Un was sending to the Russian people on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War was conveyed.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a congratulatory speech.

He expressed his impression of having an opportunity to personally convey the tender feeling and intention of the Korean people running towards the Russian people on the occasion of Russia's great V-day. And on behalf of the WPK and government, armed forces of the DPRK and all the Korean people, he extended warm congratulations to the president of the Russian Federation, the leadership of Russia, the courageous Russian army, all the Russian people, war veterans and others who had performed meritorious wartime service.

He mentioned the historic traditions of relationship between the two countries that had written countless and indelible chapters of friendship and solidarity over the past more than 80 years, the immortal feats of the Soviet army and people who saved peace of the planet and destiny and civilization of mankind, the historic meaning of the May 9 holiday immutable along with those feats and the firmness of the DPRK-Russia alliance proved at the cost of blood. He expressed the belief that Russia would surely achieve the great cause of building a great power and wholeheartedly wished the Russian people lasting prosperity and happiness.

He personally conveyed to the Russian ambassador a joint congratulatory message sent by the Central Committee of the WPK, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK to the leadership of the Russian Federation and all the Russian people.

A flower basket in his name was laid before *The Eternal Flame*, symbolic of the heroic lives and feats of the unknown soldiers.

All the Russian embassy staff warmly saw off Comrade Kim Jong Un, who left a sacred footprint to be specially recorded in the annals of the

DPRK-Russia friendship and solidarity with a long history and good traditions.

On June 4, Comrade Kim Jong Un met and had a talk with Sergei Shoigu on a visit to the DPRK leading a delegation of the Security Council of the Russian Federation upon authorization of Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation.

Discussed in depth at the talk were a series of important matters for defending the common core interests by further developing the special and firm comprehensive strategic partnership between the DPRK and Russia and items of mutual cooperation in different fields. Also exchanged in a broad way at the talk were views and opinions of the leaderships of the two countries on the development of situation over the Ukrainian crisis and on the international and regional situations. The talk confirmed the consensus of stand of the two sides.

On June 17, Comrade Kim Jong Un met Sergei Shoigu who visited the DPRK again, leading a delegation of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, upon special authorization of Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation.

He welcomed Sergei Shoigu who visited Pyongyang at a significant time of marking the first anniversary of the conclusion of the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the DPRK and the Russian Federation, and had a warm talk with him.

Discussed and approved at the talk were a series of ideas and plans for handing down for ever the heroic feats displayed by the soldiers of units of the KPA in the operations for liberating the Kursk region.

Proceeding from a correct understanding of the special military operations and the current situation in the Kursk region, Comrade Kim Jong Un confirmed the contents of the DPRK's cooperation within the range of the treaty between the two countries, approved the relevant plans and discussed in detail the ways of necessary cooperation.

The talk proceeded in a congenial atmosphere, filled with the feeling of friendship and trust.

The peoples of the DPRK and the Russian Federation commemorated, as a common auspicious event, the first anniversary of the historic DPRK-Russia Pyongyang summit and the conclusion of the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the DPRK and the Russian Federation.

On June 29, Comrade Kim Jong Un met and had a talk with Minister of Culture Olga Lyubimova, who visited the DPRK on the occasion of the first anniversary of the conclusion of the new treaty between the DPRK and Russia,

leading a delegation of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation.

At the talk, the head of the Russian delegation extended her sincere greetings to Comrade Kim Jong Un for paying close attention to the delegation's visit to Pyongyang though he was very busy.

The talk proceeded in a warm atmosphere of friendship.

At the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre the Russian minister of Culture



showed Comrade Kim Jong Un the photos of grand monuments, famous architectural structures and beautiful natural scenery of Russia and landscapes of its major cities.

That day Comrade Kim Jong Un, together with the Russian minister of Culture, enjoyed a performance given by the Russian artistes on a visit to Pyongyang and a return performance given by the Korean artistes.

Saying goodbye to the delegation of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, Comrade Kim Jong Un asked Minister Olga Lyubimova to convey his best regards to the esteemed Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, and all the Russian people.

On July 12, the second strategic dialogue between Choe Son Hui, foreign minister of the DPRK, and Sergei Lavrov, foreign minister of the Russian Federation, took place in Wonsan.

The strategic dialogue between the DPRK and Russian foreign ministers discussed in depth the immediate practical issues arising in accelerating the dynamic development of the DPRK-Russia relations in line with the plans and intentions of the heads of state of the two countries. It reaffirmed the firm will to faithfully implement the spirit and all articles of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries and thus turn the DPRK-Russia relations with a long history and traditions into eternal strategic relations.

Both sides expressed once again the stand to further intensify the strategic communication and cooperation for defending the national sovereignty, territorial integrity and international justice while boosting mutual cooperation in the international arenas.

The DPRK and Russian foreign ministers agreed to continue exchange of views between the foreign policy organs of the two countries at various levels, including minister-level strategic dialogue.

The 2026-2027 exchange plan was signed between the DPRK Foreign Ministry and the Russian Foreign Ministry after the strategic dialogue.

The second strategic dialogue between the DPRK and Russian foreign ministers served as a significant occasion in expanding and developing the bilateral relations in an all-round way and strengthening the strategic and tactical cooperation and support and solidarity between the two countries in line with the new bilateral treaty.

On the same day Comrade Kim Jong Un met and had a talk with the Russian foreign minister who visited the DPRK to take part in the second strategic dialogue between the foreign ministers of the DPRK and Russia.

The talk widely exchanged the opinions of the leaderships of the two countries on a series of important matters for defending the common core interests by faithfully implementing the agreements made at the historic DPRK-Russia summit talks in June 2024, demonstrating the invincibility and vitality of the future-oriented DPRK-Russia relations in the new era and further developing the comprehensive strategic partnership between the DPRK and Russia, on the items of mutual cooperation in different fields and on the international and regional situations. And it confirmed the consensus of stand.

On the evening of that day, the DPRK government hosted a reception at Myongsasimni Hotel in the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area to welcome Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on a visit to the DPRK.

Comrade Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, held a phone conversation with Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, on August 12.

The heads of state of the two countries highly appreciated the further development of relations of cooperation in all fields in accordance with the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership concluded between the DPRK and the Russian Federation, confirming their will to strengthen cooperation in the future. They exchanged their views on the issues of mutual concern.

They agreed to keep closer contact in the future.

On the afternoon of August 14, Comrade Kim Jong Un met and had a talk with Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, who was on a congratulatory visit to the DPRK leading a delegation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

That day the Russian delegation visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun and paid tribute to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

And talks were held between the chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation.

The talks discussed the issue of building a new peaceful and just world and further developing bilateral cooperation for the welfare of the peoples of the two countries and the development of friendly relations between them through joint efforts, as well as the issues of mutual concern.

The Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK hosted a reception to welcome the delegation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation.

Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the Liberation Tower on August 15 on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

He paid a high tribute to the fallen martyrs of the Soviet army who had fought bravely in the sacred war for Korea's liberation.

The peoples of the DPRK and the Russian Federation, as an expression of their desire to further develop the new phase of unity and friendship, significantly celebrated August 15, when the independence and sovereignty of Korea were achieved, as a common auspicious event and holiday.

An artistic performance was given at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on August 15 by the Russian art mission on a visit to the DPRK on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

When Comrade Kim Jong Un appeared in the auditorium together with Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, all the participants welcomed them with enthusiastic applause.

The performance given by the Russian artistes served as an occasion for further strengthening the fraternal ties between the peoples of the two countries.

Comrade Kim Jong Un met and had talks with Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, who participated in the commemorations marking the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on the afternoon of September 3.

He had a photo taken with Comrade Putin in commemoration of their meeting in Beijing.

He had an open-minded exchange of views with the Russian leader on important international and regional issues.

The meeting proceeded in a comradely and friendly atmosphere.

Conveying warm greetings to the fraternal Russian people, Comrade Kim Jong Un exchanged warm farewells with Comrade Putin.

An artistic performance was given at the Mansudae Art Theatre on the afternoon of October 9 by the Russian art mission on a visit to Pyongyang with the best wishes and feelings of friendship of the Russian Federation significantly celebrating the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK as a common auspicious event and holiday.

Comrade Kim Jong Un enjoyed the performance, and said that it would make a distinctive contribution to boosting the ever-deepening friendly and fraternal relations between the two countries.

Talks were held at the Pyongyang Assembly Hall on October 9 between Jo Yong Won, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Dmitri Medvedev, president of the United Russia Party.

The participation of the delegation of the United Russia Party in the celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK marked a significant occasion in further developing the relations between the ruling parties of the DPRK and the Russian Federation and deepening comprehensive strategic partnership and alliance between the two countries.

On October 9, at the Pyongyang Assembly Hall, Choe Ryong Hae, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, met with Sergei Mironov, chairman of the Socialist Political Party "For Just Russia-Patriots-Truth" and chief of the party group of the State Duma, Leonid Slutski, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia and chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the State Duma, and Dmitri Novikov, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation and first vice-chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the State Duma, who were heads of the delegations of parliamentary political parties of Russia, and leading members of the delegations who paid a courtesy call on him, and had talks with them in a friendly atmosphere.

On October 10, Comrade Kim Jong Un met Dmitri Medvedev, president of the United Russia Party, who was paying a congratulatory visit to the DPRK as head of the delegation of the United Russia Party on the occasion of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

He warmly greeted Dmitri Medvedev and had a comradely and friendly talk with him.

At the talk, long-term plans for further revitalizing contacts and cooperation between the WPK and the United Russia Party were discussed and views on the issues of mutual concern including the international and regional situations were widely exchanged.

Choe Son Hui, foreign minister of the DPRK, who visited the Russian Federation at the invitation of its Foreign Ministry, met with Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, in the Kremlin of Moscow on October 27. That day, she also had talks with Sergei Lavrov, foreign minister of the Russian Federation.

The above-mentioned talks and meetings rendered a tangible contribution to further consolidating the relations between the DPRK and the Russian Federation.

For the Promotion of Friendship Between the DPRK and China

Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the Friendship Tower on July 26 on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

A wreath in his name was laid before the tower.

He said that the Korean people would never forget the combat feats and merits of the fallen fighters of the Chinese People's Volunteers recorded in the history of the great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

He arrived in Beijing, China, by his private train on the afternoon of September 2 to participate in the celebrations of the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War.

On September 3 he took part in the celebrations.

The great victory in the anti-Japanese war and the world anti-fascist war was a world historic event that brought about a fundamental turn in carving out the destiny of the peoples of the DPRK and China and the progressive mankind and powerfully encouraged the national liberation struggle in the colonial countries and the cause of independence for mankind.

He met Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and President of the People's Republic of China, and exchanged greetings and had a photo taken with heads of state and government of different countries and leaders of international organizations invited to the event.

He mounted the Rostrum of the Tiananmen Square, chatting with Comrade Xi Jinping.

He met the war veterans, who participated in the anti-Japanese war, at Tiananmen and warmly congratulated them on greeting the significant and splendid V-Day.

The commemorative rally began at 9:00 (local time) to mark the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War.

That day there was a reception for guests of honour at the Great Hall of the People to mark the anniversary.

Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the reception together with leaders of different countries.

He had talks with Comrade Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People on the afternoon of September 4.

He was warmly welcomed by Comrade Xi Jinping.

He exchanged greetings with delight with the Chinese leader, and had a photo taken with him against the background of the national flags of the two countries.

He expressed thanks to the Chinese party, government and people for having offered special hospitality to the DPRK delegation with sincerity and congratulated them on their holding of excellent and splendid commemorations marking the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War as a grand political festival. He said that China showed its firm determination to defend global peace and clearly demonstrated its important international position and influence on this occasion.

Comrade Xi Jinping warmly welcomed once again Comrade Kim Jong Un's visit to the People's Republic of China on behalf of the Chinese party, government and people and said that his participation in the commemorations served as an important occasion for showing the firm will of the DPRK side to resolutely defend the outcome of the victory in the Second World War and for further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties of China and the DPRK and between the two countries.

He said that China and the DPRK were good neighbours, good friends and good comrades who shared the destiny and helped each other. Noting that the Chinese party and government were attaching great importance to the traditional China-DPRK friendship, he expressed his willingness to successfully defend, consolidate and develop the bilateral relations.

Noting that no matter how the international situation might change, this stand would not change, he said that as in the past, the Chinese side would, in the future, too, support the DPRK in its struggle to steadily open up a new phase of the Korean-style socialist cause while taking the road of development suited to its actual conditions.

Comrade Kim Jong Un affirmed that the friendly feelings between the DPRK and China could not change no matter how the international situation might change and it was the steadfast will of the WPK and the government of the DPRK to steadily develop the DPRK-China relations, stressing that the DPRK would as ever fully and invariably support and encourage the stand and efforts of the CPC and the government of the PRC to defend the sovereignty,

territorial integrity and development interests of the state.

At the talks, the top leaders of the two countries had an open-hearted exchange of views on the issues of intensifying the high-level visits and strategic communication between the DPRK and China and informed each other of the independent policy stands maintained by the parties and governments of the two countries in the field of external relations.

They also referred to the issue of strengthening strategic cooperation and defending common interests in international and regional affairs.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

That evening Comrade Xi Jinping hosted a reception for Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Comrade Kim Jong Un left Beijing by his private train on the evening of September 4 after finishing his visit to China.

Comrade Kim Jong Un's visit to China marked a historic occasion for further strengthening the political trust and strategic cooperation between the two parties and two countries and demonstrating the invariability and invincibility of the DPRK-China friendly relations that were forged in the joint struggle for the victory of the socialist cause and overcame all sorts of trials and challenges.

Choe Son Hui, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and foreign minister of the DPRK, had talks with Wang Yi, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPC and foreign minister of the PRC, at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on September 28.

On October 9, Comrade Kim Jong Un met and had a friendly talk with Li Qiang, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPC and premier of the State Council of the PRC, who was paying an official goodwill visit to the DPRK as head of the delegation of the Party and government of the PRC.

That day a performance was given by Chinese artistes on a visit to the DPRK on the occasion of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre.

The performance marked an occasion in deepening the feelings of friendship and ties between the peoples of the two countries.

Pyongyang Welcomes Goodwill Envoys of Other Countries

On October 7, a ceremony was held to welcome Thongloun Sisoulith, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, who was paying a congratulatory visit to the DPRK on the occasion of the 80th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Comrade Kim Jong Un warmly greeted the Lao leader, and had a photo taken with him against the background of the national flags of the two countries.

A 21-gun salute was fired amid the playing of the national anthems of the two countries.

Guided by Comrade Kim Jong Un, the Lao leader reviewed the guard of honour of the Korean People's Army.

When the ceremony was over, the venue was filled with cheers of "Welcome" and "Friendship," reflecting the Korean people's feelings of friendship with the Lao people.

Referring to his impressions of visiting Pyongyang again after a lapse of 14 years, Comrade Thongloun Sisoulith expressed heartfelt thanks to the WPK and the government and people of the DPRK for their warm hospitality.

Leaders of the two countries held talks.

Comrade Kim Jong Un warmly welcomed Comrade Thongloun Sisoulith's visit to Pyongyang and said that his visit was an expression of the full support and encouragement of the Lao party, government and people for the cause of the WPK and the Korean people.

He said that the WPK and the government and people of the DPRK wished the Lao party and people greater successes in their struggle.

Comrade Thongloun Sisoulith conveyed the best wishes and comradely greetings of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the government and people of Laos to the WPK and the government and people of the DPRK significantly greeting the WPK's 80th founding anniversary. He said that Laos is always a close friend of the fraternal Korean people and it is the consistent stand of the state leadership of Laos to continue to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties and the two countries.

The talks introduced the experience gained by the two parties and the two countries in building their parties and states and discussed issues arising in

boosting mutual cooperation between the two countries.

The talks expressed expectation and conviction that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties and the two countries would grow stronger in conformity with the aspirations of the peoples of the two countries.

The talks proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

That evening Comrade Kim Jong Un hosted a reception in welcome of the Lao leader's visit to Pyongyang.

Leaders of the two countries made speeches at the reception.

The DPRK leader wished the Lao leader good health and great success in his important activities for leading the party and the state, and exchanged farewells with him.

There took place a ceremony on October 9 to welcome To Lam, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, on his state visit to the DPRK to attend the celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK.

Comrade Kim Jong Un warmly greeted Comrade To Lam and had a photo taken with him against the background of the national flags of the two countries.

A 21-gun salute was fired amid the playing of the national anthems of the two countries.

Guided by Comrade Kim Jong Un, Comrade To Lam reviewed the guard of honour of the Korean People's Army.

Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed his pleasure of meeting Comrade To Lam in Pyongyang at the meaningful time when the WPK and the DPRK people were greeting a great auspicious event.

Comrade To Lam expressed gratitude to Comrade Kim Jong Un, the WPK and the people of the DPRK for cordially welcoming him with the feeling of warm comradely friendship.

The two leaders had talks on October 9.

At the talks, there was an open-minded exchange of views on the issues arising in positively promoting the cause of building socialism in the DPRK and Vietnam and expanding the long-standing cooperative relations between the two parties and the two peoples as required by the times and other issues of mutual concern.

The general secretaries of the two parties expressed great satisfaction over the results of the talks.

That day, Comrade Kim Jong Un hosted a reception in welcome of

Comrade To Lam's visit to the DPRK. The reception proceeded in a comradely and friendly atmosphere.

Many other foreign delegations and personages visited Pyongyang to attend the celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK, including a delegation of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and government of Nicaragua, a delegation of the Workers' Party of Mexico, a delegation of the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea, delegations of the Brazilian Communist Party and the Brazilian Workers' Party, president of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, chairwoman of the Women's International Democratic Federation and her party, a representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions, a delegation of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela, a delegation of the Socialist Political Party "For Just Russia-Patriots-Truth," a delegation of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia and a delegation of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation.

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