Kim Jong Un presides over first workshop for Party chiefs at city, county levels

The first short course for chief secretaries of city and county Party committees was opened at the conference hall of the office building of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea on Wednesday.

The course drew chief secretaries of city and county Party committees across the country and chief secretaries and officials of relevant departments of provincial Party committees.

It was also attended by secretaries of the Party Central Committee, directors and first deputy directors of its relevant departments and its officials related to local Party affairs.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, appeared at the hall to guide the short course.

In the opening address, Kim Jong Un said that the short course was organized before anything else after the dissemination of the ideas of the Eighth Party Congress and the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee by attaching special importance to the significance of innovating city and county Party work in developing all sectors of socialist construction onto a new stage and promoting the balanced and simultaneous development of the whole country.

The General Secretary referred to the importance of the city and county as the lowest-level guidance and executive units for the implementation of Party policies, as the regional bases directing the rural and local economies and as the powerful fortresses supporting the comprehensive development of the country, and to the position of their Party committees.

Our socialist construction that has entered a new phase urgently requires providing great traction power to promote the development of cities and counties on a full scale, he said, noting that the role of chief secretaries of their Party committees, who are delegates sent by the Party Central Committee, is very important in making the city and county Party organizations steer the development of their regions.

He described the chief secretaries of city and county Party committees as the hard core of the Party in charge of regional bases for socialist construction and the field political workers who bear the heavy responsibility of taking care of people while living nearest to them, and emphasized that the decisions of the Party congress can be carried out and Korean-style socialism can advance and develop rapidly when the chief secretaries bring about fundamental changes in their work with revolutionary political awareness.

Saying that now that the Eighth Party Congress clarified important policy orientations for developing cities and counties across the country in an independent and many-sided way, everything depends on the strenuous efforts and role of the chief secretaries, he noted that under the present situation, the Party Central Committee decided to raise the level of their working ability and improve their style of work above all to provide a new turning point in the development of cities and counties and specially arranged the short course with much effort.

He said that through the course, the chief secretaries should review their work in an all-round way before the Party Central Committee and study in a positive, responsible and earnest manner to find definite ways for shoring up their cities and
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counties as they exchange and share good experiences with a correct understanding of the importance and political needs of the strengthening of the regions.

He stressed that the chief secretaries should be deeply conscious of their heavy duty and responsibility of being the important strategic fortresses and bases of the Party and the state and earnestly study how to turn the regions in their charge into socialist paradises in order to meet the demands of the people and live up to their great expectations and how to turn them into steel fortress and solid cornerstone irreparably defending the Party and the state.

He urged the chief secretaries to deeply grasp the principles and methods of Juche-oriented Party work, embodying the people-first principle and bear in mind the methodologies one by one for effecting a decisive turn in city and county Party work with a view to acquiring substantial political and practical qualifications and abilities to lead their regions.

He expressed his belief that the short course as the first sectional meeting for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress would be an important occasion in fundamentally innovating the ideological viewpoint, work style, qualification and spiritual and moral traits of the chief secretaries of city and county Party committees and providing a fresh turning point for the development of cities and counties as planned and intended by the Party Central Committee, before declaring the first short course open.

As part of the short course, a meeting was held to comprehensively analyse the work done by the chief secretaries of city and county Party committees in recent years, review success, experience, mistakes and their reasons and take measures for practical improvement.

Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary in charge of organizational affairs of the Party Central Committee, made a report calling on the chief secretaries to thoroughly implement the Party’s line and policy of strengthening cities and counties by concentrating their efforts on Party work.

The report made an anatomical analysis of shortcomings being revealed in the work of some chief secretaries and some city and county Party committees.

The meeting announced the city and county standings decided by the Party Central Committee on the basis of the appraisal of the result of work done by city and county Party committees to implement Party policies.

The speakers, in their speeches, referred to the successes and experience gained in the Party work, economic work, improvement of the people’s standards of living and development of education in their cities and counties.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un made an important concluding speech.

Saying that improving the work of the city and county Party committees now presents itself as a more important issue in strengthening the entire Party, enhancing its leadership function and role and accelerating the development of cities and counties, he noted that only when the city and county Party committees across the country fulfil their mission and role, can the overall work of the Party and the state go well and the overall development of Korean-style socialism be promoted.

He said that if the Party Central Committee is the supreme General Staff of the Korean revolution, the city and county Party committees are the political general staff organizing and guiding every work in their areas, and success or failure of the work of the city and county Party committees holding such an important position entirely depends on the ability and activities of their chief secretaries.

He set forth important tasks and ways for enhancing the role of chief secretaries in intensifying the Party work and developing cities and counties.

He underscored the need to direct efforts to internal Party work before anything else to firmly cement the revolutionary position, class position.

Saying that internal Party work is an important part of the Party work for strengthening the WPK organizationally and ideologically, training the officials and Party members to be fighters faithful to the Party and revolution and rallying all the people closely around the Party to vigorously stimulate them to implement Party policies, he noted that the chief secretaries should keep up the internal Party work as an iron rule and main task whatever difficulties.

Special efforts should be directed to building up the ranks of cadres, he said, specifying the tasks to be tackled in forming the ranks of cadres with elite ones by strictly observing the Party principles, revolutionary principles in the personnel administration and improving the personnel administration system in an innovative way to this end.

He referred to the need to conduct the work of increasing Party membership and control over the Party ranks in a responsible manner, strengthen basic Party organizations and effectively organize and guide the Party life of officials and Party members.

He said that the chief secretaries should bear in mind the intention of the Party Central Committee which attaches importance to basic Party organizations and turn the work with primary Party committees and Party cells into that of the city and county Party committees, thus leading the basic Party organizations well to improve their work as required by the developing reality.

He said that as it is a main link of the whole chain of the Party work and a guarantee for consolidating the Party ranks organizationally and ideologically to intensify Party life, the city and county Party committees should make sure that the basic Party organizations organize the organizational and ideological life of Party members like meeting for review of their life and study of the Party’s line and policies in a regular and effective way and steadily improve the method of conducting Party meetings to raise the level of Party life of officials and Party members.

He stressed the need for them to pay particular attention to intensifying the study of the newly-amended Rules of the Party and the Explanations about the Rules of the Party, establishing the habit of thoroughly observing the rules in the whole Party and orienting the organization of and guidance to Party life to the implementation of the decisions made at the Party congress.

Referring to the importance of other working people to success in the rural communities by strengthening the rural Party work, he said that the city and county party committees should build up the ranks of rural junior officials like secretaries of ri Party committees... should improve the cadre training of farm management boards and strengthen the Party guidance to enhance their role and sense of responsibility.

He noted that the chief secretaries should not lay stress only on the farming in their guidance to rural areas, but concentrate on pushing ahead with the three revolutions and boosting the work of ri Party committees.

He stressed that city and county Party organizations should constantly seek and apply effective methods of educating and awakening the masses so as to make the revolutionary and sound way of life definitely prevail in the whole society and turn the struggle for suppressing and eradicating anti-socialist and non-socialist practices into the work of the masses themselves.

He said the chief secretaries should strengthen guidance and control over the departments of city and county Party committees to correctly organize and conduct every work of cities and counties as intended by the Party Central Committee and should inspire officials, Party members and other working people to successfully carry out revolutionary tasks.

Since they are leading Party officials responsible for the overall work of relevant areas, the chief secretaries of city and county Party committees should decisively enhance their political and practical qualifications and work ability and steadily improve their style of work and personality traits, he stressed, and went on:

The most important criterion for the chief secretaries, the chief delegates of the Party Central Committee, is the strong Party spirit and political and practical qualifications.

The chief secretaries of city and county Party committees should make strenuous and purposeful efforts to be
It is the most general and basic requirements for making our Party maintain its mode of existence and revolutionary Party traits and realize the people-first politics that county Party committees should become the parental home to which the people come to open their hearts and the committees which take root deep among the people and that their chief secretaries should become the "mothers" of counties, he said.

He strictly pointed out the practices devoid of loyalty to the Party and revolution, devotion to the people, respect for comrades and sincere attitude towards work which are being revealed in the work and life of some chief secretaries, and cleared up their ideological origin.

He told the chief secretaries to train and cultivate themselves in a revolutionary and thoroughly way and become examples of cadres and Party members in terms of loyalty to the Party and revolution above all.

He also said that the chief secretaries should be the first to grasp and apply the proper methods of Party work for rousing Party organizations and members to action and prioritizing political work and educate their subordinate officials with practical examples.

Kim Jong Un underscored the need for the chief secretaries of city and county Party committees to apply efficient methods of mass work.

He said that they should naturally become standard-bearers and models in applying the Party’s popular character and people-first politics, calling on them to become genuine Party officials who prioritize the work of eliminating the people’s suffering in living, treat everyone like their own parents and children and know how to read their minds from their eyes, expression and common words and take due measures.

And he stressed that they should find themselves among the masses to depend on them, stimulate their spiritual strength and wisdom and achieve successes in work on that strength by following the Party’s traditional methods of mass work.

He said that they should become examples for the masses in all aspects and, to this end, they should not regard themselves as the privileged, but respect their subordinates and the people anywhere and anytime and honour revolutionary seniors.

He noted that the chief secretaries should become examples in observing the proprieties, always bearing in mind the dignity and prestige of the Party Central Committee, which dispatched them, and the revolutionary climate of the Party.

They should not abuse power and indulge in bureaucracy, irregularities and corruption but be honest in their work and life, he said, stressing the need for them to remain upright before the Party and people, keep their families and relatives from seeking after selfish interests and desires and hold under strict control all the officials in their counties to keep them from abusing power and indulging in bureaucracy, irregularities and corruption.

Noting that the chief secretaries should bring definite and actual results in the economic work of their cities and counties and the improvement of the people’s living standards by scrupulously planning and guiding the work to implement the tasks set forth at the Eighth Party Congress and the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee, he continued:

The primary economic task for the chief secretaries of the city and county Party committees is to decisively increase agricultural production.

They should always attach importance to vigorously rousing agricultural officials and workers to the struggle for carrying out the Party’s agricultural policy and concentrate the Party-wide efforts on it.

They should raise strong demand to make cooperative farm management committees of their cities and counties map out farming plans in a scientific and detailed way in conformity with their regional characters and thoroughly carry them out, and help the management committees substantially guide the farming of their cities and counties by supporting their authority in work.

In particular, it is necessary to wage an intensive struggle for getting rid of the habit of talking big taking root deep in the agricultural sector.

It is the natural duty of the chief secretaries to spur up their counties and make their residents well off, he said, emphasizing the need to map out a realistic plan for sprucing up their cities, county towns and rural villages as required by the civilization of the times and rely on their own skilled working forces and construction equipment in dynamically pushing ahead with local construction.
He called for taking advantage of their own natural and geographical conditions to revitalize local industrial establishments and increase the production of consumer goods and for improving the people’s living standards by promoting animal husbandry including the raising of grass-eating domestic animals and breeding fishes.

He told the chief secretaries about detailed ways of working out correct strategy to develop their cities and counties and improve the people’s standard of living and of making the most of their economic foundations and potentials.

He stressed that the chief secretaries shouldering the heaviest tasks in upholding the great people should certainly become genuine revolutionaries and communists and, to this end, they should make constant efforts to share the idea, intention and will with the Party Central Committee.

He expressed the belief that the short course would serve as an occasion for the chief secretaries to further develop their discrimination and heighten their political consciousness and revolutionary zeal and thus they would take a fresh stride in turning their cities and counties into well-off and civilized socialist paradises.

They should bear in mind that this year, too, we are faced with gigantic tasks, conditions are unfavourable and the people’s expectations for the Party and their desire are greater than ever before, he said, adding that it is high time to thoroughly maintain the correct line set forth by the Party Central Committee and provide correct political leadership. That is why the responsibilities given to the chief secretaries of the city and county Party committees are very heavy yet important, he stressed again and again.

He ardently called on the chief secretaries, who are filled with surging excitement and fresh confidence, to join efforts to fight for the great Party and great people.

The short course continues.
The word “woman” has been used as a synonym for love and affection from time immemorial. Family, society and furthermore humankind are unthinkable without women. To mark March 8 International Women’s Day, we extend warm congratulations to all women who, with all-burning love and passion, devote themselves to the development of families, society and the prosperity of their countries.

Korean women could signiﬁcantly celebrate their international holiday only after their country was liberated from Japanese military rule in 1945. The DPRK has moved forward the women who had been maltreated and oppressed in the past as legitimate masters of the two wheels of social development. They work side by side with men and respecting them.

Their status in the DPRK is highlighted by the Chollima Statue in the capital city on which one of the two riders is the socialist patriots. “Women carrying a sheaf of rice and the three-person group sculpture at the Tower of the Juche Idea standing high on the banks of the Taedong River which represents a working woman. Women form the absolute majority of workers in all sectors as education, public health, culture and commercial service and many women hold important office at state organs.

Women exercise the same right as all men in domains of politics, the economy and culture and enjoy such social beneﬁts as maternity leave. Preferential treatment is accorded by society to them including preferential health care service for proliﬁc women mothers.

Basking in love and respect in society, Korean women dedicate their all to national prosperity as they infuse vigour and optimism into the grand harmonious socialist family.

On the International Women’s Day (at that time) after graduating from a middle school in September 1994. She chose the job, thinking how happy she would be to see the people wearing beautiful clothes made with cloth she wove. She volunteered to work at weaving workshop No. 1 of the combined weaving workshop. "I felt proud of the workshop as I knew that it had produced heroines in the Chollima era. At that time I was so evious of heroine weavers who was working with me and wanted to live and work like them," said Myong Sun.

As a beginner she took charge of four looms. Higher technique and skill were required to operate more. “Ri Myong Sun made untiring efforts for improving her skill and two years later it was enhanced to the level of skilled workers with 10-year working career,” recalled weaver Ri Sang Hui. Accordingly, the number of looms she operated increased to sixteen and so did her working circuit. The increase in her working circuit also brought up the volume of production and she carried out the production plan for two years in seven months in 1999.

That year she met Chairman Kim Jong Il who visited the mill on July 30, the anniversary of the promulgation of the Law on Sex Equality. The Chairman shook her hand, calling her a labour innovator of the new generation and had a photo taken with her. Ri made up her mind to work harder to live up to his expectations.

After finishing her annual production tasks, she set higher goals and worked harder to attain them. She came up with a novel idea to double the daily production of cloth per loom by newly improving the method of weaving. "She has so far woven well over two million metres of cloth, which is the longest among the weavers." An ofﬁcial of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill
University contributes to music development of country

Pyongyang Kim Won Gun University of Music was founded on March 1 1949. The university is named after Kim Won Gun, who created many famous works of music like Song of General Kim Il Sung and Patriotic Song, and it is the country’s reliable training centre of talents in musical art.

Lecturers of the Western vocal music department hold a discussion as they hear the song of a teacher at Pyongyang Kim Won Gun University of Music.

Besides, it has the institute of Korean national music and the two-wing instruction orchestra. According to university president Ryom Teng Son, its educational system is all unified, from primary education to higher education. The university selects and admits students with artistic talents, natures and skills and only those who have passed an examination of promotion from the second grade can be moved up to the fourth grade.

Most graduates of the university play active part in central art organizations. Lecturers are experienced artists who engaged in artistic production activities at central art troupes in the past and many of them conduct both artistic creation and education work. The university deals with lots of works related with national music in its teaching courses, as well as world-famous works from classical music to modern music.

It has recently developed new educational presentations and programs to increase pedagogical efficiency. Typical examples include programs for studying songs, Korean tunes and folk songs and basic piano accompaniment practice for vocal training. It has so far produced a large number of excellent talents in musical art after its establishment.

The bust of Kim Won Gyun stands in front of its main centre of talents in musical art. University is named after Kim Won Gyun, who created many famous works of music. Kim Won Gyun, who created many famous works of music, was the first composer of the university between 1961 and 1963.

The university has such faculties as composition, vocal music, national and Western instrumental music, piano, instrument manufacture, primary and secondary education and pedagogy.

ANNIVERSARY

Reform transforms age-old feudal land ownership

March 5 this year was the 75th anniversary of the promulgation of the Law on Agrarian Reform in the DPRK.

The land problem arose as the most urgent task facing the Korean revolution in the period of building a new Korea after its liberation in 1945. The issue was to realize the centuries-old desire of peasants who took the majority of the then national population.

President Kim Il Sung set agrarian reform as the primary task in carrying out the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution after liberation.

In February 1946 he visited a thatched house in a village in the then Sijok Sub-county of Taedong County, South Phyongan Province, and had a chat with the house owner to acquaint himself with the rural situation and demands of peasants.

As he visited several rural areas and talked with peasants without reserve between December 1945 and February 1946, he made an in-depth analysis of the complicated feudal land ownership and was convinced that without carrying out land reform, it would be impossible to free peasants from feudal exploitation and subordination and revive and develop the backward rural economy and the overall national economy.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

On the basis of meticulous preparations, he promulgated the Law on Agrarian Reform in North Korea on March 5 1946.

Kim Il Sung put forward the slogan “Land to the tillers!” and set it as the basic principle of agrarian reform to make peasants owners of land, before advancing a policy for applying the principle.

For a successful land reform, students of the Pyongyang Institute and vanguard workers were dispatched to rural areas to support it.

As a result, the agrarian reform to eliminate centuries-old backwardness and penury and bring about a great social change was carried out in less than a month.

Through the reform, over a million hectares of land owned by the Japanese imperialists, pro-Japanese elements, traitors to the nation and landlords were confiscated without compensation and distributed gratis to peasants with no or less land of more than 720 000 households.

The land reform was a historic event which put an end to feudal exploitation relations that held sway over the countryside for thousands of years and which promoted Korean peasants to the status of owners of land and the country.

Ji Myong Chon

FLOWER

Beautiful flowers in bloom

Beautiful flower buds have burst as if to add cheerful spring mood at greenhouses of the Pyongyang Floriculture Institute.

“Our institute widely cultivates world-famous flower species after acclimatizing them to meet the ever-growing aesthetic demand of people,” said Ri Chol Jun, deputy director of the institute.

He added that 20-odd microtherm and mesotherm flower species bloomed in February.

Cyclamen persicum with different flower colours, Cymbidium Manbokhwa with large flower blossoms in white, pink and red colours, Cymbidium virescens with different coloured flowers including white, yellow and light pink, and Gypsophila paniculata, which is claimed to produce ten thousand flowers on a pot, give peace and warmth for their freshness and beauty.

Especially Cymbidium Manbokhwa, a mesotherm flower, is highly resistant to low and high temperatures, can be easily cultivated in families and offices and produces 15-20 flowers on a stalk in the period between December and the following April.

“Flowers cultivated by our institute win popularity and are widely spread for their beauty,” said Kim Song Hui, researcher of the institute.

The flowers cultivated at the institute are used to decorate flower beds on streets and supplied to flower shops.

By Sin Pyol PT

Pak Kwang Hun

Pyongyang Kim Won Gun University of Music contributes to music development of country

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