

***ON FURTHER IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF
LIVING OF THE PEOPLE***

Speech at a Consultative Meeting of Senior Officials of the
Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea
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Achieving a continuous improvement in the people's standard of living is the supreme principle governing our Party's activities.

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

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

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

A great improvement in the people's standard of living is also essential in order to reunify the country as soon as

possible and enhance the dignity and prestige of our country abroad.

We must improve our people's standard of living radically and make the north and the south differ diametrically so far as the material and cultural standard of living of the people is concerned. When this is done, the south Korean people will make more vigorous efforts in their struggle for democracy in south Korean society and for national reunification, looking up to the northern half of the Republic as a beacon of hope.

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

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

When the war broke out our people were empty-handed because it was only five years after liberation. But they won a great victory in the war against the US imperialists, who had boasted of being '°the strongest'± in the world. At that time our people and the soldiers of the People's Army fought against the US imperialists and their lackeys at the risk of their lives; and this was not at all because Party ideological work was conducted well. As a matter of fact, in the period of peaceful construction after liberation and during the Fatherland Liberation War anti-Party, counter-revolutionary factionalists established a foothold in Party ideological work. Instead of conducting education to arm Party members and the working people with the revolutionary ideas of the leader and the brilliant revolutionary traditions of our Party, they spread sycophancy, dogmatism and national nihilism by teaching our people the histories of foreign parties and other

irrelevant things. Frankly speaking, at that time the Party was conducting practically no ideological work.

During the Fatherland Liberation War our people and the soldiers of the People's Army fought heroically for the Party and the leader, for the fatherland and the people. This was because, while enjoying a happy life for the first time in their life under the care of the leader for the five years after liberation, they became keenly aware of how precious the fatherland and the leader were. With the establishment of genuine people's power and the enforcement of agrarian reform, the nationalization of industry and other democratic reforms after liberation, all under the care of the leader, our people became the masters of the land and their factories, the dignified masters of the country, found the true worth of life and were able to enjoy a happy life to the full. So, the sons and daughters of the workers, peasants and other working people went to the front in high spirits as soon as war broke out, in order to prove themselves worthy of the benefits granted to them by the leader and to defend the fatherland he had won back and fought heroically with complete devotion in the struggle for the Party and the leader, for the fatherland and the people. Hero Li Su Bok covered the muzzle of an enemy's machine gun with his breast and ensured the advance of his unit. And Hero Li Dae Hun fought against an enemy force over 50,000 strong to the last drop of his blood in defence of Wolmi Island. They were the sons of a worker and a peasant who, after liberation, came to enjoy a genuine life and happiness for the first time in their lives under the care of the leader. Although our people had not received any systematic revolutionary education after liberation, a radical change was brought about in their world outlook because they clearly realized through their own experience the generosity of the leader and the genuine superiority of the people's democratic system.

Three decades have passed since the ceasefire and our people's demands with regard to their material and cultural lives are huge. The time is now past when you could say that the people's standard of living was reasonably good when compared with the past when they had worn hemp clothes. If you tell the people that the socialist system is good while their rice bowls are empty, they will neither understand its real advantages fully nor be

equipped with socialist patriotism. If you are to make all the people rise up as one in the case of an emergency and fight for the Party and the leader, for the fatherland and their fellow people at the risk of their lives, you must intensify ideological education among the Party members and working people and, at the same time, raise the material and cultural standard of living of the people one grade higher. Because the matter of raising the people's standard of living is very important in the revolution and construction, our Party has always directed great attention to it in each period and at each stage of revolutionary development. At the Sixth Party Congress the leader put forward the policy of radically improving the material and cultural standard of living of the people by speeding up socialist economic construction, as required by the historic cause of imbuing the whole society with the Juche idea, and he made clear in detailed terms the way to implement this policy. Recently, at a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and at some other meetings, he has said that we should hold the Seventh Party Congress once we have raised the people's standard of living to a higher level. It is our Party's firm resolve to improve the people's living standards further before the Seventh Party Congress.

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

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

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

With regard to the people's livelihood it is very important to supply them with enough food. We can put up with a shortage of clothing and housing to some degree, but we cannot allay our hunger.

The matter of food is very important in the life of the people. Therefore, at a recent meeting of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, the leader said that it was more correct to say food, clothing and housing rather than clothing, food and housing. If we are to provide

sufficient food for the people, we must grow good crops and increase agricultural production.

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

In order to raise good crops, we should decisively increase investment in agriculture. This is essential to consolidate the material and technical foundations of agriculture and ensure a continual increase in agricultural production. We must increase investment in agriculture and effect comprehensive mechanization and the widespread use of chemicals in the rural areas as soon as possible.

First of all, large quantities of fertilizer must be produced for the rural areas. Fertilizer is, in effect, rice. We must see to it that fertilizer factories are improved and reinforced promptly and operated at full capacity so that large amounts of a variety of effective fertilizers suited to the soil conditions in our country and the biological features of our crops are produced and supplied to the rural communities. Large numbers of a variety of efficient farm machines should also be sent to the rural communities. This will make it possible to effect the comprehensive mechanization of agriculture and thus to reduce the differences between agricultural labour and industrial work, free the farmers from labour-intensive work and increase agricultural production steadily.

Tractors are the most important pieces of equipment in

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

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

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

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

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

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

The entire Party, the whole state and all the people must be roused for the energetic campaign to reclaim tideland and obtain new farmland and so increase the area of cultivated land.

Reclaiming 300,000 hectares of tidal flats is one of the ten

long-term objectives of socialist economic construction for the 1980's; it is the most forward-looking way to increase the area of cultivated land considerably in a short time. Once 300,000 hectares of tidal flats have been reclaimed, the appearance of our country will have undergone a change and our country will have become a still more prosperous and beautiful paradise for the people. If we are to promote the reclamation of tidal flats energetically, priority should be given to preparatory construction. Quarries and concrete building materials works should be developed to produce large quantities of the stone and concrete building materials needed in the reclamation of tidal flats; repair centres must be developed so that the equipment can be repaired whenever necessary and operated at full capacity. The construction of other projects such as of railways and power substations should also be stepped up so that it is completed as soon as possible.

In order for the work of reclaiming tidal flats to be done energetically, sufficient supplies must be provided. The reclamation of tidal flats is a grand nature-harnessing project to wall off the vast seas and obtain new land, so it requires large quantities of manpower, equipment and materials. Unless sufficient manpower, equipment and materials are provided it will be impossible to speed up the reclamation of tideland. The equipment and materials needed in this project, such as excavators and bulldozers, tugboats and barges, steel and cement, should be produced and supplied without delay.

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

Constructing a good network of installations to permit the immediate cultivation of newly reclaimed tidal flats is no less important than making these flats available for fanning. No matter how wide the area of reclaimed tideland is, it will be nothing more than waste land if it cannot be farmed immediately. The large-scale reclamation of tidal flats should be followed by the construction of a network of such installations as water channels, and water supply and

drainage systems, and by the realignment of the land and the building of roads so that it becomes possible to farm the tidal flats soon after they have been reclaimed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

farming method, and fertilizers should be used in accordance with scientific and technical principles so that they are used as effectively as possible.

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

Green manure crops should be planted in paddy and non-paddy fields and large quantities of good-quality compost and mineral manure produced as required by the Juche farming method, so that soil fertility can be increased. If the Juche farming method is to be implemented thoroughly, it is necessary to encourage the officials in charge of agriculture and the farmers to form a clear understanding of it. The Juche farming method is a scientific and technical farming method; therefore one cannot implement it if one does not fully understand its essence. Short courses and demonstration lectures on the Juche farming method and meetings to pass on technical skills should be organized for the officials in charge of agriculture and the farmers so that they clearly understand the principles and requirements of this method and farm well along scientific and technological lines. We should also publish many technical instructions and reference materials on the Juche farming method and ensure that the officials in charge of agriculture and the farmers study them intensely.

In order to implement the Juche farming method fully, it is also necessary to launch a strong ideological campaign against anyone who works contrary to this method.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

At the same time as landing large amounts of fish, fish processing should be improved. No matter how much fish we catch, we will have wasted our efforts if we cannot process it properly. Cold-storage facilities and other fish-processing equipment should be improved and reinforced and they should be operated at full capacity so that all the fish landed is processed promptly without a single one being spoilt.

If the people's standard of living is to be improved, a revolution should be effected in light industry. It is only by doing this and producing a variety of good-quality consumer goods in large quantities that the life of the people will become richer and more refined.

We should implement to the letter the Party's policy on effecting a revolution in light industry and make a new advance in the production of consumer goods.

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

One important aspect of boosting the output of fabrics is to use our own fibres in developing the textile industry. It is only when we produce fabrics from our own fibres that we can ensure the self-supporting and Juche character of the textile industry and provide enough clothing for the people ourselves.

The textile industry should produce large quantities of a variety of durable fabrics with attractive patterns which suit the tastes of the people, using the chemical fibres which are produced in our country such as vinalon and staple fibre. In the production of fabrics it is important to increase the proportion of knitted fabrics. Less thread is needed for knitted fabrics than for other types of fabrics, and clothes made of knitted fabrics are comfortable and appeal to the eye. The trend worldwide is to produce knitted fabrics. The textile industry should produce a wide variety and large quantities of knitted fabrics which suit the tastes of our people.

If we are to ensure that the people are better dressed, the

clothing industry should produce a variety of well-cut, beautiful ready-made clothes for children, for pupils and students and for adults.

The production of clothes should be specialized, the skills involved in garment manufacture developed steadily and the study of dress design conducted well so that a system of making attire which is suited to the socialist way of life and the forms of Koreans is established.

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

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

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

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

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

It is an important aspect of shoe production to increase the variety and quantity of shoes produced and improve their quality. Large quantities of various kinds and styles of

shoes for both sexes and for people of different ages as well as for the different seasons and various occupations should be produced and the rate of production of winter shoes, particularly leather shoes, should be increased still further. It is very important to produce different sizes of shoes. There is no point in increasing the output of shoes if only large quantities of shoes of one and the same size are produced without taking into consideration the demands for different sizes. The footwear industry should do away with the practice of taking the easy way and producing large numbers of shoes of one and the same size and must produce different sizes of shoes to meet the demands of the working people.

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

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

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

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

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

The production of sundry goods should also be augmented.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

and equipment.

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

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

We should direct efforts to the chemical industry and produce a wide variety and a great amount of chemical products such as chemical fibre, synthetic resin, caustic soda and sodium carbonate for light industry.

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

Local industry factories should not depend only on the central authorities for raw and other materials but create their own reliable sources of both cultivated and naturally occurring raw materials to suit the specific conditions of the given area and manage them well so as to make effective use of the raw materials. The provinces should develop medium-sized and small factories and produce a variety of raw and other materials in large quantities for light industry. Since we cannot secure for ourselves all the raw and other materials our light industry needs, we shall have to import those which are either not produced in our country or are in short supply. Light industry must earn large amounts of foreign currency and buy such materials from abroad so that it can run its factories at full capacity.

Streamlining light industry factories is an important way of making a revolutionary change in this industry. It is only when this is done that it will be possible to give full play to existing production capacity and increase the production of consumer goods without any need for a large investment. Light industry must press ahead with the technical revolution and so make its production facilities more modern, increase the operational speed of equipment and introduce comprehensive mechanization and automation in its production processes. It must make any irrational

production processes rational and efficient and introduce any missing processes, such as primary treatment and after treatment processes, so as to maintain a proper balance between main production processes and auxiliary production processes.

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

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

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

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

The work to effect a revolution in light industry is worthy work for providing a prosperous and cultured life for the people; it is an honourable task which all officials in positions of leadership should undertake. Not only officials in light industry but also those in all the other economic spheres must be responsible for the production of consumer goods. Unless the various branches of the national economy render every possible assistance to light industry it will be impossible to increase the production of consumer goods. Officials in all economic fields must adopt the attitude of masters who are responsible for the life of the people and render generous assistance to light industry.

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

The machine and metal industries and all the other branches

of the national economy must produce equipment and raw and other materials and supply them to light industry whenever they are needed.

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

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

We must also step up the revolution in public services. This is the way to provide the people with more comfortable living conditions.

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

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

If we are to supply commodities to the people smoothly a system of ordering should be introduced.

The system of ordering is the most popular system for supplying commodities and it makes it possible to provide consumer goods to all the working people according to a plan and on an equal basis.

We should establish a proper system for supplying commodities which have been ordered and study the demands for commodities, acquire goods and distribute and supply them in a responsible manner. In particular, the public service sector should secure larger quantities of commodities by widely organizing processing work and allocate these commodities properly to suit the features of the different regions, seasons and social sections, as well as

the demands for different goods, and work responsibly to supply them.

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

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

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

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

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

Public catering services are an important service, and their aim is to improve the diet of the working people and relieve the women of household drudgery.

With the increase in the income of the working people in our country, their demand for public catering services is growing. The public catering sector should improve its

work to meet their growing demand and see that the daily lives of the people become more pleasant and that residential districts are lively.

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

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

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

One important aspect of improving public catering services is to increase the variety of food and improve its quality.

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

The supplies needed for the public catering network should be provided smoothly. Then this network can put the processing of food on a steady basis, improve the quality of the food and supply it to the people without running out.

We should see to it that a proper plan for the supply of the supplies needed for public catering services is worked out after calculating the demand for these materials accurately, and a variety of materials are supplied to the public catering network regularly and in a balanced way.

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

Communal service is an important part of the public

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

The communal service sector should establish good service facilities by fully displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and radically improve the quality of its work by raising the technical and skill levels of service workers.

Tailoring and the repair of daily necessities should be high in quality and an improvement should be brought about in personal services.

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

Improving the organization and methods of service and providing a better service are an important matter in effecting a revolution in public services.

The organization and methods of service should be steadily improved on the principle of providing the utmost conveniences to the people. Various forms and methods of service which meet the demands of the people, such as morning and evening services, circuit services and the delivery of goods which have been ordered, mobile sales and minor sales, should be introduced widely, and service hours fixed so that they do not interfere with production and yet are convenient for the people.

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

The construction of a large number of houses is a very important undertaking for providing the people with adequate conditions for a pleasant and secure life. However large the quantities of food and consumer goods produced are, the people will not be able to lead a stable life unless they have houses.

We must show great concern for the construction of houses

and build a great number of them in the towns and in the rural communities.

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

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

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

Korean Friendship Association (K.F.A)

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