

People-First Principle

The people-first principle applied in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is drawing the attention of the international community.

The principle implies that one should believe in the people as in heaven and make selfless, devoted efforts for them; in other words, it demands that one regard the people as the most powerful being in the world, love them, place absolute trust in them, make devoted efforts for them and always rely on them.

This principle is the motto of **Kim Jong Un**, Supreme Leader of the country.

Saying that the spirit of making selfless, devoted efforts for the people is his sole and only view of life, he visits any place, where there are people, day and night, rain or shine. When moving to new houses started on the newly constructed Changjon Street in the central part of the capital city of Pyongyang, he visited the flats of a worker and a teacher to congratulate them; on receiving the report that a not-so-large footwear factory in a province won the first place in a national footwear exhibition with its products enjoying popularity among the people, he went to the factory to share the happiness with its workers when modern amusements were installed at a pleasure park, he had a try on

them, saying that he should confirm that they were safe to use because the people would use them; when he was inspecting a ski resort yet to be completed, he climbed on the summit of a mountain on a chairlift, which was on a trial run, thus confirming its safety and convenience.

All the things related with people's living, ranging from provisions, salt and other condiments, footwear, cosmetics, drinking water, houses, service outlets to such school things as notebook, uniform and bag, are items of his concern.

Every place where the people live carries along his people-first principle in all the things and monumental edifices they enjoy.

In late August a few years ago the city of Rason in the northeasternmost part of the country suffered unprecedented flood damage not only damage; not only industrial establishments and cropland were damaged but many people lost their houses. To make matters worse, a critical situation was prevailing in the country. Supreme Leader **Kim Jong Un** ensured that rehabilitation of the city was put on the agenda of an enlarged meeting of the Central Military Commission of the ruling Worker's Party of Korea, which was to discuss strategic problems related with national defence, most important of affairs of the state. He then led the rehabilitation project in person; in

September that year, wearing canvas shoes, he inspected the site and said that houses better than the previous ones should be built for the people at an earlier date. As a result after only over 30 days the flood victims moved to new houses carrying with them daily necessities, ranging from TV sets, clothes, foodstuffs to matchboxes and toilet paper, provided by the state free of charge.

His thoroughgoing people-first principle is reflected in the major slogan of the ruling party and power organs, Everything for the people and everything by relying on them.