

On the occasion of May Day, the international holiday of the working people over the world!

## **Festive Atmosphere on May Day**

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea celebrates May Day as a national holiday, holding colourful events including a national meeting. The streets in Pyongyang and provinces are decorated with billboards and national flags. Artistic performances, dancing parties, and sports and recreational games can be seen at factories, enterprises and cooperative farms, as well as in parks and pleasure grounds.

Senior officials in the capital city and provinces mingle with working people, giving pep talks to meritorious workers and visiting workers' dormitories and houses to encourage them to achieve greater successes in their work. They watch artistic performances and participate in sports and recreational games including volleyball, basketball, tug of war, *ssirum* (Korean wrestling), and *yut* game.

For working people in the country, May Day is a joyous holiday for demonstrating their rights and dignity.

The DPRK's socio-political system assures them a social position and role as befitting masters of the country and society.

The rights to elect and to be elected to state power organs are regarded as the main criterion for assessing the citizens' political status. In the DPRK all citizens aged 17 or above enjoy these rights, irrespective of sex, nationality, occupation, length of residence, property status, education, party affiliation, political view or religious belief. To cite another example, all the working people in the country are entitled to state and social benefits, particularly free access to medical care, education and houses built at the expense of the state. They are also provided with stable jobs in accordance with their wishes and skills. They all live and work on an equal footing and there is no one who wanders the streets in search of jobs.

These benevolent policies are based on the Juche idea, the principles of which are that everything must be considered centering on the masses of the people and everything must serve them. This will partly explain why the working people of the country devote themselves for their country's prosperity with unshakable trust in their government and social system, even though they are undergoing manifold difficulties. In recent years they have adjusted the country's independent economic structure, strengthened the Juche character of the economy and stepped up its modernization. As May Day comes round, they harden their determination to develop theirs into a powerful socialist country.



