

Self-reliance and Reality of the DPRK

The Workers' Party of Korea, the ruling party of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sticks to the principle of self-reliance in dealing with the issues arising in national development and improvement of the people's living standards. Such governance enables the national economy to lay independent foundations and the entire population to cultivate the spirit of self-sustenance and self-determination with which to overcome all sorts of trials and difficulties by relying on their strength.

A typical example is what the WPK did to rehabilitate the flood-stricken northwestern part of the country in 2024. At that time some countries and international organizations expressed their willingness to offer assistance. The WPK, however, decided to conduct the massive rehabilitation work on its own efforts, regarding it not so much as the one for clearing the damage from an unexpected natural disaster but as an undertaking to bring about an epoch-making change with a responsible attitude towards the future. Under the leadership of the WPK, the Korean people built thousands of modern flats in less than half a year and erected a large-scale greenhouse farm in February 2026, pioneering a new phase of regional development.

Over the past five years, they built tens of thousands of flats and a single modern administrative district in their capital city of Pyongyang, as well as more than 110 000 rural houses throughout the country, by dint of self-reliance. Besides, according to the WPK's Regional Development 20×10 Policy, they have been building modern regional-industry factories in 20 cities and counties every year since 2024.

Leading steel production bases and key industrial establishments, such as the Kumsong Tractor Factory and the Ryongsong Machine Complex, are undergoing renovation and modernization on their own, thereby ensuring sustainable and stable economic growth.

Local media say that what self-reliance results in is first and foremost the swelling pride of and self-confidence in their own things, and patriotism inspired by them.

Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the DPRK, said that the absolutely correct road to prosperity is to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency as he delivered a

policy speech at the First Session of the 15th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK in March this year.