

For Better Protection of Persons with Disabilities

The Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held in December 2024 discussed the issues of building up the country's educational foundation and establishing a state system of educational assistance for persons with disabilities. The fact that the issue of education for persons with disabilities was discussed at the important meeting of the ruling party intuitively shows that the DPRK is paying close attention to ensuring the rights of such people.

Characteristically, the protection of the disabled in the country is provided on a nationwide scale with the direct assistance from the state and under its care, rather than by the humanitarian activities of a certain number of individual organizations.

By adopting the Law on the Provision of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the state fully provides the disabled with stable and favourable living environment and conditions in all fields of social life and thoroughly ensures their rights and interests.

According to local media, the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Disabled, the Korea Sports Association of Persons with Disabilities and the Korea Art Association of Persons with Disabilities engage in the work to rehabilitate the disabled, improve their working conditions, develop vocational and other types of education for them and raise public awareness of the protection for them.

The state ensures that persons with disabilities are given suitable jobs according to their will, aspiration, degree of disability, sex, age and physical constitution, and provided with adequate conditions for work, rehabilitation and rest. Subsidies are allocated to those who have completely lost their working ability, and priority is given to them for their recreation at sanatoria and holiday camps in scenic spots.

Schools set up for the disabled in different parts of the country give them a rich knowledge of the nature and society and help them develop their aptitudes and talents. The Sci-Tech Complex in the middle of the Taedong River in the capital city of Pyongyang has a reading space for them to study IT and other advanced science and technology. Vocational technical schools cater for the needs of persons with disabilities to acquire different kinds of techniques such as garment processing, IT, woodworking, musical instruments making and hairdressing.



A person with hearing impairment makes a violin.



Scenes from a performance given by the art group of the Korea Art Association of Persons with Disabilities





A Korean paddler with disabilities in an international game