

Sixth Session of 13th SPA Held

Pyongyang, April 12 (KCNA) -- The Sixth Session of the 13th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK took place here on Wednesday.

Attending it were Kim Yong Nam, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the SPA Presidium of the DPRK; Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C., WPK, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the C.C., WPK; Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C., WPK, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet; leading officials of the Party and government, the chairman of the C.C., Korean Social Democratic Party, deputies to the SPA, members of the SPA Presidium and senior officials of the armed forces organs.

Officials of party, armed forces and power organs, the Cabinet, social organizations, ministries and national institutions, factories, enterprises, co-op farms and educational and scientific research organs were on hand as observers.

The agenda items of the Sixth Session of the 13th SPA were decided at the session.

1. On review of the Cabinet's work for Juche 106 (2017) for carrying out the five-year strategy for national economic development, and tasks for Juche 107 (2018)
2. On summing up the execution of the state budget of the DPRK for Juche 106 (2017) and state budget for Juche 107 (2018)
3. Organizational matters

Deputy Pak Pong Ju, premier of the Cabinet, made a report on the first agenda item at the session.

Deputy Ki Kwang Ho, minister of Finance, made a report on the second agenda item.

Deputies made speeches on the first and second agenda items.

Speakers said that last year the army and people of the DPRK made great progress in implementing the five-year strategy for the national economic development set forth at the Seventh Congress of the WPK.

They noted that the work of the Cabinet and the execution of state budget for last year were correctly reviewed and settled. Saying that the tasks of the Cabinet and the state budget for this year were properly set out, they expressed support and approval for them.

They expressed their will to fulfill their responsibility and role in the drive for strengthening the independence and Juche character of the national economy and improving the people's standard of living.

Adopted at the session were a decision of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK "On approving the report on the work of the DPRK Cabinet and the summing up of the execution of the state budget for Juche 106 (2017)" and an ordinance of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK "On state budget of the DPRK for Juche 107 (2018)".

Organizational matters, the third agenda item, were discussed at the session.

At the proposal of the chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, Deputy Hwang Pyong So was dismissed from the post of its vice-chairman and Deputy Kim Ki Nam, Deputy Ri Man Gon and Kim Won Hong were dismissed from the posts of its members.

Upon the authorization of the respected Supreme Leader **Kim Jong Un**, Deputies Kim Jong Gak, Pak Kwang Ho, Thae Jong Su and Jong Kyong Thae were elected as members of the SAC of the DPRK to fill vacancies.

Upon the authorization of the C.C., WPK, Deputy Pak Thae Song was dismissed from the post of member of the SPA Presidium due to the transfer to other post and Deputy Jong Yong Guk was elected as secretary general of the SPA Presidium and Deputies Kim Su Gil, Pak Chol Min and Kim Chang Yop as members of the SPA Presidium to fill vacancies.

Deputy Pak Thae Dok was dismissed from the post of member of the Legislation Committee of the SPA and Deputies Ryang Jong Hun and Kim Myong Gil were elected as members of the Legislation Committee of the SPA to fill vacancies. -0-

Report on Fulfillment of Cabinet Work for Last Year and Its Tasks for This Year

Pyongyang, April 12 (KCNA) -- Deputy Pak Pong Ju, premier of the Cabinet, delivered a report on the fulfillment of the work of the Cabinet for Juche 106 (2017) for carrying out the five-year strategy for national economic development and its tasks for Juche 107 (2018) at the Sixth Session of the 13th Supreme People's Assembly held on Wednesday.

Last year was a year of great victory in which a great progress had been made in carrying out the five-year strategy for the national economic development under the outstanding and seasoned guidance of the respected Supreme Leader **Kim Jong Un**, repelling unprecedentedly grave challenges stemming our advance, the reporter said.

According to the report, last year the Cabinet organized a drive for putting the nation's overall economy on a higher stage with a main emphasis put on revitalizing the production by locally producing equipment, raw and other materials on the principle of self-support and self-

sufficiency while focusing the state efforts on augmenting the foundation for electricity production, rounding off the system of Juche iron production and realizing the independence of chemical industry in line with the five-year strategy for national economic development set forth by the Party.

All sectors and units of the national economy carried out a high-pitched drive for creation in the spirit of self-development and, as a result, lots of factories and enterprises honored their yearly gross industrial output value plans and those units associated with the leadership feats of our Party carried out their yearly national economy assignments.

The achievements made last year, a year of crucial importance in carrying out the five-year strategy for national economic development, proved once again that no desperate sanctions and pressure moves of the U.S. and its vassal forces to destroy the sovereignty of the DPRK and its rights to existence and development can ever check the progress of the Korean people dynamically advancing with firm faith in the validity of their cause and its final victory under the wise guidance of the Party and that the cause of building a powerful socialist country is sure to be accomplished.

Saying that this year we are faced with the tasks to make a breakthrough of revitalization in the economic front as a whole while frustrating the challenges of the hostile forces, who are making last-ditch efforts, through all-people offensive under the militant slogan of "Let us launch a revolutionary general offensive to achieve fresh victory on all fronts of building a powerful socialist country!", the reporter specified them.

The fighting goals for the third year of the five-year strategy for national economic development should be attained without fail with a firm hold on the key tasks of strengthening the independence and Juche character of the national economy and improving the standard of people's living.

The power industrial sector should put defective generating equipment into good shape and reinforce them, take scientific and technological measures for lowering the standard of coal consumption at thermal power plants and put the operation of generating equipment additionally installed at the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex on a normal track and thus increase the electricity production with the use of thermal power source onto a high stage.

The coal industrial field should attain the monthly and quarterly coal production goals and create more coal fields so as to fully meet the demand for coal increasing in different sectors of the national economy.

In the field of metal industry, Korean-style Juche-based iron making production system should be further perfected by the use of oxygen heat blast furnace and efforts be put into improving the quality of steel and diversifying the kinds of steels through introduction of advanced technologies so as to fully meet the demand for iron and steel of the national economy.

The field of chemical industry should unconditionally hit the fertilizer production target to timely provide nitrogenous fertilizer to the agricultural field ahead of farming processes. The production

at the February 8 Vinalon Complex should be invigorated to fully supply various chemical products including vinalon, caustic soda and vinyl chloride to various sectors of the national economy.

Along with the establishment of various catalyst production bases, the construction of main production processes should be pushed forward at the Sunchon Phosphate Fertilizer Factory and the process for production of carbonate of soda with glauberite as starting raw material should be renovated and perfected.

The machine industrial sector has to step up the modernization of machine factories, unconditionally hit the target for production of tractors and trucks and put the quality of machinery on the world level.

Advanced mining methods should be widely introduced to increase the production of minerals and nonferrous metal.

The railway transport sector should ensure in a responsible manner the transportation of materials necessary for various sectors of the national economy and capital construction projects.

The Cabinet will bring about a remarkable turn in improving the standard of people's living through production surge in the fields of light industry, agriculture and fisheries this year.

Equipment and production processes should be rearranged on a manpower-saving and electricity-saving basis, diverse and quality light industrial goods produced on a larger quantity with locally available raw and other materials, and local economy should be developed in a peculiar way with reliance on the domestic resources.

High-yielding farming methods should be positively introduced and the proportion of farm work done by machines should be drastically increased to attain the grain production goal for this year without fail.

The fisheries field should unconditionally hit the fish production target and at the same time finish the construction of projects for consolidating the material and technical foundation of fisheries ahead of schedule.

Big efforts should be directed to sprucing up Samjiyon County into a standard and model county under socialism and the construction of the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist area should be finished within specified date. And such capital construction projects as the Tanchon Power Station and the second-phase waterway project in South Hwanghae Province should be pushed forward.

The rate of rooting of saplings should be ensured at more than 90 percent through efficient tree planting and meticulous cultivation of planted trees and the appearance of the country be bettered through the technical renovation and repairing of highways and tourist roads in a qualitative way and the rearrangement of key rivers and streams based on an all-people movement.

All the sectors and units should solve the sci-tech problems arising in completing the domestic production of materials and equipment and the structure of self-supporting economy with firm reliance on science and technology.

The reporter stressed that the Cabinet and other state economic guidance organs would work out in a practical way an operation plan for hitting this year's targets and push forward its implementation in a responsible manner through skillful operation and command to successfully attain the fighting goals set forth by the Party and thus fully discharge their responsibility and duty in glorifying this year marking the 70th anniversary of the DPRK as a year of victory to be specially recorded in the history of the country. -0-

Report on Fulfillment of State Budget for Last Year and on State Budget for This Year

Pyongyang, April 12 (KCNA) -- Deputy Ki Kwang Ho, minister of Finance, made a report on the fulfillment of state budget for Juche 106 (2017) and on the state budget for Juche 107 (2018) of the DPRK at the 6th Session of the 13th Supreme People's Assembly held on Wednesday.

According to the report, last year the state budgetary revenue plan was over-fulfilled by 1.7 percent or 4.9 percent increase from the previous year.

The local budgetary revenue plan was carried out at 100.5 percent.

Last year the state budgetary expenditure plan was carried out at 99.8 percent.

15.8 percent of the total expenditure was earmarked for the increasing of the military capabilities of the country and 47.7 percent for the development of the national economy.

Investment in the field of science and technology increased 8.5 percent as over the previous year, thus contributing to settling the scientific and technological problems arising in the economic development and to accomplishing the tasks for studying ultra-modern field.

5.2 percent more fund was allocated to key sectors of the national economy and for the improvement of people's livelihood than the previous year, thus actively promoting the drive for putting power, coal, metal, chemical, machinery and light industrial fields on a Juche basis and updating their production processes. In particular, it helped build a Korean-style oxygen heat blast furnace at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex and attain the goal of producing new type tractors and trucks.

2.6 percent more investment was made for the construction field than the previous year, while 36.3 percent of the total expenditure was directed to facilitating the building of a highly-civilized socialist power, thus contributing to the implementation of the Party's policies of prioritizing the education and health care and to the development of sports and literature and arts.

According to the report, the state budgetary revenue and expenditure for this year have been shaped in such a way as to carry out the five-year strategy for the national economic development.

The state budgetary revenue envisages 3.2 percent increase over last year, of which the transaction tax, key item of the budgetary revenue, is expected to swell 2.5 percent while the profits from state enterprises is expected to grow 3.6 percent, to hold 85.3 percent of the total revenue.

The income from cooperative organizations is expected to grow 0.9 percent, the real estate rent 1.8 percent, the social insurance fee 1.2 percent, while the revenue from property sales and price differences is to grow 0.5 percent and other revenue 0.8 percent. The revenue from economic trade zones is expected to increase 2.5 percent.

The central budgetary revenue out of the state budgetary revenue stands at 73.9 percent which means that the revenue from the central economy holds an overwhelming proportion. Provinces, cities and counties are expected to balance expenditure with their own revenue and contribute lots of funds to the central budget.

The state budgetary expenditure is to grow 5.1 percent over last year's.

An investment in strengthening the independence and Juche character of the national economy and improving the standard of people's living will increase 4.9 percent as against last year and thus relevant fund will go to 47.6 percent of the total expenditure.

An investment in the field of science and technology will increase 7.3 percent.

Expenditure for the overall national economy including power, metal, coal, chemical and machine industries, railway transport, light industry, agriculture and fisheries will increase 5.5 percent.

The financing necessary for actively promoting the capital construction and further expanding the achievements of forest restoration campaign will swell 4.9 percent.

5.9 percent more fund will go to the education field, 6 percent more fund to public health, 5.1 percent more to sports field and 3 percent more to literature and art.

15.9 percent of the total expenditure will go to increasing the military capabilities for self-defence.

This year also, lots of educational aid fund and stipends will be sent for the children of Koreans in Japan.

The reporter said that the state budget for this year will be successfully carried out through meticulous organization of economic operation and command and thus financially back the building of a powerful socialist country. -0-