

**KIM JONG UN**

**LET US EXPEDITE THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
LIVESTOCK FARMING BASE  
IN THE SEPHO AREA AND  
BRING ABOUT A FRESH TURN  
IN DEVELOPING ANIMAL  
HUSBANDRY**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

# **KIM JONG UN**

**LET US EXPEDITE THE  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
LIVESTOCK FARMING BASE  
IN THE SEPHO AREA AND  
BRING ABOUT A FRESH TURN  
IN DEVELOPING ANIMAL  
HUSBANDRY**

Talk to Senior Officials of the Party and  
State Economic Organs  
January 28, Juche 104 (2015)

There is no more important task facing us at present than to bring about an improvement in the people's standard of living at the earliest possible date.

Our people are waging an intense struggle to build socialism, despite the difficulties created by the confrontation with the enemy; this being the situation, they are still not able to lead a comfortable life to their heart's content. I cannot sleep at night, whenever I am reminded of my failure to provide a rich life for these praiseworthy people who, in spite of their difficult living conditions, trust in and follow our Party and remain faithful to their pure sense of moral obligation to the great Comrades Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il. And whenever I receive a report that a difficulty the people have been experiencing, however insignificant, has been solved, or they have been supplied with something they need, however small the quantity, I am absolutely delighted. Our people entrust their all to the Party and stand by it in braving every manner of trial and hardship together with it, so we should provide them as soon as possible with the most comfortable and the happiest life in the world.

In order to raise the people's standard of living we should resolve the food problem, and we should do this by not only performing crop farming well, but also developing animal husbandry and fishing.

In my New Year Address for this year I set the task of resolving the food problem with crop farming, animal husbandry and fishing as the main points of the thrust. By developing these sectors actively, we can satisfactorily resolve the problem of providing the people with sufficient food.

In developing animal husbandry, our Party has put forward the policy of reclaiming the Sepho Plateau and turning it into a large-scale livestock farming base.

President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il both gave earnest instructions that this plateau should be reclaimed and turned into a major base of livestock farming. Even at the height of the Fatherland Liberation War the President, with an eye to the future after the country's victory, unfolded a far-reaching plan to develop animal husbandry by reclaiming the Sepho Plateau. While leading socialist construction after the war, he stressed the need to improve the living standards of the farmers in the Sepho area by raising domestic animals in large numbers on the grassland, and had a stockbreeding farm built there. The General, true to the President's intention, explained what needed to be done to develop animal husbandry on an extensive scale by reclaiming the plateau.

Today, in accordance with the Party's plan and arrangements to translate the wish of the President and the General into reality, a vigorous campaign is being waged to build a large-scale, modern livestock farming base in the Sepho area.

This is the first time for our country to create pasture covering tens of thousands of hectares and build a large-scale livestock farming base. The people who are building this base in the Sepho area, though they are inexperienced and though much of what they need is in short supply, are creating miracles and innovations, to the wonder and admiration of all, by giving full play to the fighting spirit of self-reliance and fortitude. The service personnel of the People's Army and the members of the shock brigade who have gone to the Sepho area in hearty response to the Party's call have faced up to the challenge from Nature and created tens of thousands of hectares of pasture in a relatively short time, and they have overfulfilled last year's target for grass production. Great successes have also been achieved in road-building and in the construction of houses, animal sheds, public facilities and other buildings.

Though the successes so far achieved are great, the future tasks are greater still. By building on the successes we have already achieved we should attain the targets we have set ourselves as soon as possible by raising the soaring spirit of the service personnel and shock-brigade members to a new high.

The key task in turning the Sepho area into a large-scale livestock farming base is to improve the soil and create pasture.

The soil in the Sepho area generally lacks humus and has become acidic, so the large quantities of grass needed for the animals' grazing cannot be produced by simply scattering seeds. The soil must be improved; the future of livestock farming in the Sepho area can be said to depend on how well the soil is improved.

We must not leave the infertile soil on the Sepho Plateau as it is. In the course of reclaiming the plateau a lot of bombs and bullets from the Fatherland Liberation War have been unearthed; we must never forget that every inch of the land was defended by our forefathers at the cost of their blood, even their lives. The country's land is priceless, as it is associated with the noble, patriotic aim of the President and the General and permeated with the red blood of our forefathers, and we should not allow a single inch of it to lie fallow, but turn it into fertile land where the people's happiness can blossom.

A saying goes that a good farmer does not complain about the land being bad; when we break a sweat and work with a determination to cultivate the land, it will become fertile, no matter what its original quality was. The builders of the livestock base in the Sepho area should work to enrich the soil of the plateau with a determination to bring flowers into bloom even on a rock and with a patriotic will to hold dear, and devote themselves heart and soul to looking after, every handful of earth and every blade of grass.

Based on a detailed analysis of the soil in the Sepho area, they should apply sufficient amounts of slaked lime, coal ash and *hukposan* and other organic fertilizers so as radically to increase the soil's nutrient content. They should make sustained efforts to improve the fertility of the pasture even after the livestock base project is completed. The soil on the plateau is mostly impervious to water, making it highly susceptible to damage from heavy rain, so due attention should be paid to making sure the drainage is good.

As the Sepho area is subject to strong winds throughout the year, the builders should create windbreaks, based on a long-term plan.

They should plant seeds of fine grass species in the area and adopt a scientific and technical approach to manuring and maintaining the pasture.

They should plant orchard grass, alfalfa, clover and other good species of grass for the animals to graze on. Sepho, Phyonggang and Ichon counties should produce for themselves the grass seeds to be sown on the pasture in their respective areas; at the same time, a nationwide campaign should be launched to supply them with superior seeds.

Since there are great variations in altitude and climate in the Sepho area, and since the topography is complex, we should ensure that the pasture grass and crop varieties are distributed appropriately, on the principle of planting the right ones in the right soil; we should also, in order to boost their productivity, perfect the methods of manuring and cultivating them in conformity with the local geographical features.

We should look after the pasture just as well as we do crop fields, applying fertilizers and agro-chemicals, and watering it. I have sent the officials concerned a book, *Cultivation of Pastures and Ranches*, for reference; we should adopt the good

experiences of other countries in cultivating pasture and adapt them to our specific conditions.

We should speed up the construction of houses, animal sheds, public facilities and other buildings, and step up road-building, ensuring that everything is completed at a high standard. We must, without fail, build a livestock research institute and a livestock processing base in the Sepho area. All the buildings there should be fit for purpose and should meet the scientific and technical requirements; they should also blend well with the natural landscape and be impeccable, even by the standards of the future. The guidance and supervision of building work should be effective, so as to ensure that the structures are of the best possible quality and befit a model livestock farming base of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The fuel, materials, manpower and equipment needed for the livestock farming base project should be supplied on a priority basis. The Cabinet and relevant units should provide cement, steel and other building materials and equipment as planned, and organize their transport properly so that the project can proceed according to the schedule.

We should prepare well for operating the livestock farming base in the Sepho area.

Construction of the livestock farming base is now in full swing, but the preparations for it to go into operation and begin production quickly, such as procuring animals, are not going well. We should send good animal breeds to the Sepho area and post enough stockbreeding technicians and breeders there ahead of time so that, once the livestock farming base is completed, it can quickly prove its worth. Breeding Station No. 621 of the Korean People's Army and the Ungok Area Combined Livestock Farm should send Boer goats and many other good breeds of grazing animals to the livestock farming base in the Sepho area.

We should also import animals from abroad for raising in this area.

The work of reclaiming the Sepho Plateau and building a livestock farming base there should be conducted as a campaign involving the whole Party and the entire country. I have ordered senior officers of the People's Army to play the leading role in reclaiming the plateau. The Party Central Committee, the Cabinet, and the various commissions, ministries and central agencies should all take an interest in and focus their efforts on the project.

At the same time as building the livestock farming base in the Sepho area, we should take drastic steps to improve livestock farming across the country.

A key objective of the Party in giving priority to this project is to create the momentum for a fresh advance in livestock farming nationwide.

We should normalize production at our modern livestock farming bases, which have been built under the Party's leadership.

Even in the testing times of the Arduous March and forced march, the General ensured that many modern livestock farming bases, including chicken, pig and cattle farms, were built across the country in order to improve the people's diet. The capacity of these bases, built under his energetic guidance, is enormous. By normalizing production at these bases we can ensure that they produce meat and eggs in large quantities for supplying to the people. However, several of them are not operating properly because officials failed to take the steps needed to ensure that they did so, after they were built.

Normalizing production at these livestock farming bases and thereby ensuring that the people are aware in their daily life of the General's love and benevolence is a duty devolving on our



officials, who are his soldiers and followers, and their moral obligation. Doing so is not merely an economic and technical matter but important political work for safeguarding and adding brilliance to his leadership exploits. Proper objectives and a scientific strategy for the operation and management of the livestock farming bases, which are associated with his leadership exploits, need to be worked out in order to normalize production at a high level, and economic work needs to be scrupulously organized so as to achieve a rapid increase in meat and egg production. During my on-site guidance at the Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm the other day I referred to the need for fruit farms to wage a production emulation drive among themselves. In the stockbreeding sector, too, units that are associated with the General's leadership exploits should raise the strong wind of a socialist emulation drive and bring about an upswing in livestock production.

A dynamic mass drive should be launched for increasing livestock production.

Collective livestock farming should be developed at cooperative farms, as should private livestock farming in rural households.

These forms of livestock farming account for a not insignificant share of the country's livestock production. Their development is an important way of increasing livestock production without large investment from the state.

All cooperative farms should strengthen their stockbreeding workteams and animal-fattening sub-workteams; they should also ensure that they are operating at a profit. It is important to give them targets for producing young animals and meat, and to ensure that they are met.

Rural households should be encouraged to undertake private livestock farming. Every house where domestic animals are

teeming enhances the image of the socialist countryside. Rural families should be encouraged to raise large numbers of pigs, goats, rabbits, chickens and other domestic animals so as to augment their income and improve their lives.

All units should undertake livestock farming. Several units, including the Songjin Steel Complex and Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, are currently in the spotlight because of their successful livestock farming and the effective supply services they provide for their employees. All organs and enterprises, regarding supply services as political work and part of the struggle to defend socialism, should promote livestock farming in conformity with their actual conditions. By doing so, they can instill greater enthusiasm for labour in their employees and inspire them to fulfil their revolutionary tasks.

In developing livestock farming, the problem of breeds and feed should be solved, the methods of raising the animals should be improved, and comprehensive veterinary services and anti-epizootic measures should be introduced. Superior breeds, sufficient feed, a scientific approach to rearing, and comprehensive veterinary services and anti-epizootic measures can be called the four key factors in developing livestock farming.

Identifying the right breeds is a prerequisite for developing livestock farming.

Breeds are to livestock farming what seeds are to crop cultivation. It is only by raising superior breeds of domestic animals that we can produce large quantities of meat and eggs with relatively little feed. If livestock farming is to be mass-based, the right breeds need to be chosen.

Superior animal breeds can be obtained through proper breeding. Efforts should be focused on developing breeds that grow quickly on relatively small amounts of feed, reproduce rapidly, and are

highly resistant to disease. It is particularly important to develop breeds that consume small amounts of cereals and become productive in a short span of time. We should develop superior animal breeds in large numbers through a Juche-oriented approach and by proactively applying the latest scientific and technical achievements, especially those in cell and genetic engineering. Breeding programmes should not be the preserve of the central research institute; they should also be conducted by local livestock farming bases and individuals so as to develop animal breeds that are suited to their specific conditions.

Brisk scientific and technical exchanges should be conducted with other countries in order to introduce superior breeds of domestic animals and, once proper evaluation has been carried out, raise them.

The state should step up its inspections of breeds to determine the purposes for which they will be used. A system should be put in place of registering and identifying the use of various breeds, whether they are domestically bred or introduced from abroad, after they have gone through inspection by the authorities.

It is important that farms for breeding pedigree and other breeds are built and a comprehensive system established for producing and supplying specific breeds. A nationwide effort should be focused on modernizing the farms for breeding pedigree and other breeds and supplying them with the feed they need on a preferential basis. Improvements should be made to the methods of producing pedigree and other breeds, based on the latest scientific and technical breakthroughs, and detailed arrangements should be made for supplying them. Along with this, a system should be established for preserving pedigree breeds in order to ensure that the best domestic animals neither degenerate nor become extinct. There are Korean breeds of

domestic animals, including pigs and chickens, which produce tasty meat with a unique flavour, and they should be well protected and propagated. In particular, the famous Korean pedigree breeds of oxen and Phungsan dogs should be well protected and propagated widely.

A decisive guarantee for developing livestock farming is to solve the problem of animal feed.

In developing livestock farming, the feed is no less important than the breed. No matter how excellent the breed, it is impossible to develop livestock farming without enough feed. Livestock farming prospered for a time in the past, but declined due to the failure to solve the problem of feed.

The way to solve the animal feed problem is to implement the Party's policy of "grass for meat". The aphorism "grass for meat" was first put forward by the President in the 1950s. It points to a scientific way of solving the animal feed problem which conforms to the actual conditions in our country and the basic orientation of livestock farming's development.

As the President instructed, we should develop livestock farming using grass instead of cereals. This being the case, it is important to create pasture in various parts of the country. Pasture, both artificial and natural, should be created in conformity with the local topographical features so as to cultivate grasses of high nutritional value and with a relatively high unit-area yield. The limited area of arable land and many mountains in our country make it necessary to introduce agroforestry on a wide scale to solve the animal feed problem and increase grain production. Livestock farming units should bring new land under the plough where nutritional grass can be planted and pergolas built for pumpkins; they should also cultivate arrowroot in mountainous areas and aquatic plants in areas with rivers and lakes. In this way, they can solve the feed problem on their own.

The cereals needed for livestock farming can be produced through good crop farming. The General, whenever he had the opportunity, always stressed that meat production and grain yields could be increased simultaneously by thoroughly establishing a food production cycle based on stockbreeding and crop farming. This food production cycle should be introduced widely, in accordance with the Party's policy, thereby boosting both grain and livestock output.

We should also solve the problem of providing protein-rich feed. The products of animal husbandry contain a great deal of protein, and not enough meat and eggs can be produced without the provision of protein-rich feed. The cultivation of soybeans should be encouraged in order to increase the production of defatted bean-cakes, and at the same time maximum use should be made of protein-rich insects and various other sources of protein.

We need to meet the demand for feed additives. A number of stockbreeding units are currently using imported feed additives; but this is not the proper way to run stockbreeding bases. Our country has factories that produce feed additives, but they also rely on imported basic materials. We should study the production of feed additives and perfect the method of producing them from locally-available materials, and then supply them to stockbreeding bases.

The production of animal feed should be industrialized, based on advanced science and technology. Assorted feed factories should be modernized and adequately supplied with raw materials so that they can produce large quantities of good compound feed containing various nutritive elements. We should also take steps to manufacture feed-processing machines and send them to stockbreeding units.

Animals should be raised in a scientific and rational way.

Livestock farming is a science. Just as a scientific approach guarantees the success of crop cultivation, so livestock farming should be based on science. Only then can livestock production be increased and become cost-effective.

Animals should be raised in conformity with their physiological features. The stockbreeding sector should set proper diets for the animals according to the purpose for which they are being raised and the stage of their growth, provide adequate conditions for them to grow, and raise them in line with their natural behaviour. It should also accurately identify the times when they are gestating and when they are to be slaughtered.

Animals should also be raised in conformity with the local geographical features. Just as the principle of the right crop for the right soil should be adhered to in crop cultivation, so the right breed of animal should be raised in the right area. Livestock farming should be based on detailed consideration of the natural and geological features and various conditions in the given area.

Livestock research institutes should play a greater role in introducing scientific raising methods. They should intensify the research into putting all the processes of livestock production on a scientific basis and establishing a rational approach to raising livestock. They should direct particular efforts to the research into increasing animals' weight with no, or less, grain feed and improving the methods of raising animals in the rainy and winter seasons. In addition, we should build up research bases, provide good working conditions for scientists and technicians, and establish a well-regulated scientific and technological guidance system.

If animals are to be raised in a scientific way, the officials and working people in the stockbreeding sector need specialist scientific knowledge and technical skills. The central scientific

research organ and stockbreeding units should be linked via a computer network so that the officials and working people can keep up-to-date with world trends in stockbreeding and introduce scientific raising methods. We should also arrange frequent exchanges of experience, demonstration lectures and the like among stockbreeding units so as to make the latest raising methods and good experience widely known.

Veterinary and anti-epizootic work is the lifeblood of animal husbandry.

The President and the General always said that the stockbreeding sector should direct primary attention to stepping up anti-epizootic work. By doing so, it can cut the death rates among animals and put livestock production on a secure basis. In this sector, anti-epizootic work equates to production.

All livestock farming units should equip themselves with proper anti-epizootic facilities, conduct regular medical checks of the animals, and disinfect their sheds. Livestock farming bases should restrict the access of outsiders and raise animals in a hygienic and cultured way so as to eliminate the root cause of outbreaks of disease, including epidemics and parasitosis. Since livestock diseases are spread around the world, doing serious harm to animal husbandry, anti-epizootic inspections should be stepped up at border crossings so as to prevent the entry of diseases from other countries. Special efforts should be made to keep out such highly contagious diseases as foot-and-mouth disease and avian flu. If there is an outbreak of an animal disease, or there is the danger of it happening, the affected area should be quarantined immediately and thoroughgoing anti-epizootic measures taken. There should be no compromise with regard to issues related to veterinary services and anti-epizootic work.

Firm material and technical foundations should be established for the veterinary and anti-epizootic sector. Organs in this sector

should build themselves up and equip themselves with all the modern diagnostic facilities, testing appliances and reagents they need. The state should adopt measures to produce and supply the disinfectants, medicines and instruments required for treating diseases among animals. Livestock farming units should make their own veterinary medicines, using herbs.

Party organizations should play a greater role in implementing the Party's policy of improving the people's standard of living by reenergizing the stockbreeding sector.

They should hold fast to the Party's policy on developing livestock farming and carry it out unflinchingly. They should, by keeping in mind our Party's plan and intention to provide the people with affluent living conditions by developing livestock farming, set out reasonable, scientific plans for reinvigorating livestock farming as suited to the specific features at their own units, and press on with the work until they see it prove its vitality in practice. They should never belittle livestock farming or give it up, hesitating or vacillating in the face of hardships and difficulties, as some of them did in the past.

Party organizations at all levels, those in the stockbreeding sector in particular, should launch a proactive political offensive to rouse officials and the working people to carry out the Party's policy on animal husbandry. They should ensure that officials and the working people implant in their hearts the ennobling love for the people cherished by the General throughout his life, and turn out enthusiastically in the effort to carry out the Party's policy. They should give wide publicity to those units and working people that, through their unflinching commitment to livestock farming, are reaping the benefits from it, and encourage others to follow their example.