

## Assessment Criterion

One day, President **Kim Il Sung** happened to see a rare breed of chicken while taking a stroll in the garden.

It was a pet chicken, called “hairy-legged” as its heels were covered with feathers of different colours. The cute chicken was provided by the officials who, worried about his excessive load of work, wanted him to have a pleasant time even for a moment during his stroll.

President **Kim Il Sung** watched the chicken with curiosity for a while before asking an official how many eggs it could lay a year. The official answered about 80 eggs.

Then, the President looked back at him with a disappointed look on his face.

He said: Ordinary hens lay 200 to 250 eggs a year. But she lays 80 eggs. What is the use of it?

The official told him that the chicken was not for obtaining meat or eggs but for petting. Then, the President said that a hen, however good-looking, was of no use if she could not lay many eggs and that he would come to enjoy a hen every day if she could lay many eggs, however ugly she might look, and continued: I wish I had a breed of hen that can lay about 400 eggs a year; then our people will be provided with more eggs.

The absolute criterion for him in assessing the value of anything was the people’s interests and happiness as he always thought about the ways for providing people with better living conditions.

However splendid and uncommon something might be, it is useless if it offered no substantial benefit to the people. This was his criterion of judgment of everything.