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INAUGURATION

Musical art museum opens to public

The Juche-oriented Musical Art Museum has been opened at the Mansudae Art Theatre to mark the Day of the Shining Star, one of the greatest national holidays in the DPRK.

The museum houses materials on famous music pieces including hymns to the great leaders which left indelible mark on the long course of the Korean revolution and on the activities of Korean creators and artistes, and it can be claimed to be a treasure trove of music of socialist Korea as it gives a comprehensive, visual panorama of the history of the DPRK's revolutionary music art which has made a steady development from the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle through generations.

The inaugural ceremony of the museum was held on February 16.

It was attended by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the

Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, other senior officials of the Party Central Committee, officials and creative and performing artists in the sector of art and literature and the managing staff and employees of the museum.

The inaugural address was delivered by Pak Kwang Ho, member of the Political Bureau and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee.

President Kim Il Sung, with his outstanding idea of art and literature and leadership, gave birth to Juche-oriented music and its invaluable tradition, he noted, adding that Chairman Kim Jong Il administered politics of music unprecedented in world history throughout his revolutionary leadership and created a great symphony of the Korean revolution.



The Juche-oriented Musical Art Museum opens to public on February 16, the Day of the Shining Star. KCNA

Thanks to their Juche-based ideas and theories on musical aesthetics and superb leadership, he said, the Koreans grew to be an indomitable and powerful people who advance and perform miracles along with songs and the DPRK came to attain the fame as a country of art and politics of music.

He attributed the completion of the wonderful museum to

the noble will and energetic guidance of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who is determined to staunchly defend and add eternal brilliance to the exploits the great leaders had performed to develop musical art.

After the ceremony was over, the participants looked round the museum.

Compiled from KCNA

Commemorative plaques put on Russian building

The commemorative plaques honouring President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il have been erected at the Russia-DPRK friendship pavilion in Khasan, Russia to mark the Day of the Shining Star.

The plaques read in Korean and Russian "Kim Il Sung, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the Russia-DPRK friendship pavilion on July 1 1984 and July 6 1988" and "Kim Jong Il, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission, visited the Russia-DPRK friendship pavilion on August 18 2001 and August 24 2002."

An unveiling ceremony was held on February 15.

It was attended by personages from the Maritime Territory Administration of the Russian Federation, Far Eastern railway bureau, Vladivostok-based office of the Russian Foreign Ministry and other units, locals from all walks of life, Vladivostok-based DPRK consul general and other consuls and relevant officials.

The commemorative plaques were unveiled amid enthusiastic applause of the participants.

They laid bouquets and flowers at the plaques.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Compiled from KCNA

STEEL INDUSTRY

Molten iron produced from oxygen blast furnace

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex is turning out Juche molten iron with the newly built oxygen blast furnace.

The start of molten iron production with local raw materials and fuel in the wake of

the successful trial run has opened up prospects for realizing Juche-based iron and steel production at a higher level.

This is the precious fruition of the indomitable spirit of scientists, technicians, officials and builders

in the metallurgical industry sector and relevant units.

To put iron and steel production at the complex on a Juche basis they removed tens of thousands of cubic metres of earth in a short period and finished concrete tamping for the foundations of the furnace body, ventilator and air intake tower of the oxygen plant in a matter of some days, instead of conventional ten-odd days, by introducing unique construction methods. They recycled hundreds of tons of steel structures and shaped steel to manufacture dozens of kinds of necessary

facilities and completed the uphill task of dismantling a lime kiln in a short time, thereby providing a material and technical guarantee for producing iron and steel with locally-available materials.

Workers and technicians of the complex moved a tower crane as far as hundreds of metres without disassembling it, thus making it possible to carry out the construction of the dust-collecting system, which had been regarded as a bottleneck, as planned. They also pushed ahead with the assembly of equipment and installations and construction work in a three-dimensional way so as to ensure the successful trial run of the conveyor system and pressure test for the waste-heat boiler system. As a result, the heat insulation work for the waste-heat boiler, which had been thought to take over ten days, was carried out in three days.

Workers of the Chongjin Metal Construction Complex installed the large oxygen plant and built a pumping station for it by applying new construction methods. They also fixed several large pumps and filters in an intensive manner to complete the project successfully.



Molten iron is tapped from the oxygen blast furnace at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex.

LEADING ARTICLE

DPRK's foremost strength

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said in his New Year Address that the political and ideological might is the first and foremost strength of the DPRK and the great propellant for opening up an avenue for building a powerful socialist country.

The DPRK's political and ideological might is the most powerful strength that guarantees the invincibility of socialism of Juche.

The most powerful weapon to defend socialism is the single-minded unity of all service personnel and people with the leader at the centre. A socialist state which is weak in political and ideological terms is like a castle built on sand even if it has a strong military capacity and much economic potential. The solidity of political and ideological position precisely means the invincibility of socialism.

People-centred Korean-style socialism which is closely associated with the careers of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il is an invincible one which has taken root deep in the mind of the Korean people. It wins victory after victory in any tempest of history because all the Korean service personnel and people form a community that shares life and death with socialism. During the period of global turmoil for socialism in the past century the DPRK army and people rallied more closely around the leader and the DPRK's socialism remained steadfast in its political and ideological position though times and generations changed. The unity and cohesion of the Party and the revolutionary ranks with the leader as their single centre was the motive force which enabled the DPRK to raise its profile and shine brightly as the socialist bulwark in the worst adversity.

Today the DPRK service personnel and people unremittably push ahead with the building of a socialist power in acute confrontation with the imperialists. The US and its vassal forces resort to every crafty means and trick while pursuing the most brutal sanctions and blockade in a desperate bid to keep in check the dynamic advance of socialist Korea. However, as the service personnel and people who have firm confidence in the validity of the socialist cause of Juche and its victory are closely united behind the Workers' Party of Korea, the last-ditch attempt of the enemy is impotent and futile.

The DPRK's political and ideological might is also a powerful propellant for developing the military, economy, culture and all other fields onto the height of a

socialist power.

Socialist Korea is achieving world-startling and eye-opening successes simultaneously and in succession by relying on its political and ideological strength. Today the DPRK has risen to a nuclear state of Juche and a world military power, makes marked progress in building a power in scientific, technological and economic terms and is dashing towards the peak of a civilized power. All these have been achieved not by any supernatural power, but by the might of single-minded unity of all service personnel and people who have risen up to translate into brilliant reality the patriotic desire of the President and the Chairman, the desire to build a powerful country.

The DPRK's political and ideological might constitutes the fundamental source of encouragement for the service personnel and people to step up the building of a powerful socialist country to the maximum.

The WPK's mode of activity is offensive and the rate at which Juche Korea advances depends on the application of the idea of indomitable attack of the Party.

For the Korean service personnel and people the WPK's plan and decision are science, truth and practice. So they do everything at lightning speed and carry out the tasks set forth by the Supreme Leader in a shortest time and at the fastest speed in keeping with his heartbeat and pace of advance. The ever-changing looks of the country are unthinkable apart from the fighting spirit of implementing the tasks assigned by the Supreme Leader at the cost of their lives. The service personnel and people perform any tasks, however enormous and difficult, like a lit fuse and a storm and on the principle of taking responsibility for the safety of any project and guarantee its absolute quality for all eternity.

Reality clearly proves that there is limit to physical strength, but no limit to ideological strength and the might of unity, and that a people with powerful political and ideological strength can create world-startling and legendary construction speed and work miracles unprecedented in history.

Today all the service personnel and people are working hard to win victory in the building of a socialist power by dint of the invincible political and ideological might, the first and foremost strength of the country, united more closely behind Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

Kim Kum Hui

CELEBRATION

Flower festival highlights Kim Jong Il's birthday



KCNA

The 22nd Kimjongilia Festival is a major event in the celebrations of Chairman Kim Jong Il's birth anniversary.

The 22nd Kimjongilia Festival that kicked off on February 13 in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star, birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il, came to a close on February 20.

The annual event which also marked the 30th anniversary of the naming of Kimjongilia put on show tens of thousands of potted Kimjongilias grown by military organs, ministries, national agencies and many other units, individuals, schoolchildren, the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and other overseas Koreans' organizations, overseas Koreans, foreign diplomatic missions and country offices of international organizations in Pyongyang, foreign friendship and solidarity organizations and foreigners.

Many participating units

renewed display form and structure by presenting more flowers than before, showcasing the will of Koreans to uphold the exploits, ideology and cause of the Chairman who had devoted his all to the country and people's well-being throughout his life.

Many locals and foreigners visited the venue with immense yearning for the Chairman to mark the February holiday and looked round the booths which formed a sea of flowers with full-blown Kimjongilias.

The Ministry of Construction and Building-Materials Industry, Ministry of Light Industry, Ponghwa Guidance Bureau and some other units showed their firm faith and will to hold the Chairman in high esteem as the eternal leader of the Party and revolution and

achieve a fresh victory in the ongoing great Mallima advance under the leadership of the Party by launching a revolutionary general offensive.

Judgment results were announced at a closing ceremony held on February 20.

Festival diplomas bearing the beaming image of the Chairman were awarded to many local units, officials, cultivators and individuals as well as the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, overseas Korean compatriots and foreigners.

Certificates bearing the Chairman's beaming image were also conferred on the participating units and individuals.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

AFFORESTATION

Meeting reviews greening campaign

Officials in the sector of forest restoration and land and environmental protection got together at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on February 21.

The meeting was attended by Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and premier of the Cabinet, other senior Party and government officials and officials from ministries, national agencies, local Party and government organs and relevant sectors including forest restoration and land and environmental protection.

Also present were Pak Yong Sik and other military officials.

The meeting analysed and reviewed the fulfilment of the first-stage assignments in the forest restoration campaign and the achievements and lessons gained from last year's general mobilization for land administration and discussed measures to be taken this year.

A video was screened showing the fulfilment of the first-stage assignments and last year's general mobilization work.

And then speeches were made to analyse and review the deviations revealed in reforestation and land administration.

Speakers stressed the need to work out detailed plans for hitting the second-stage targets and to make effective timber production plans, establish

proper order for its supply and tighten control over the work in the forestry sector true to the Party's policy on cyclic felling.

They also pointed to the necessity to carry on planning of and guidance over the forest restoration campaign in a responsible manner and to make persistent efforts to reduce dependence on forest by the railway and coal industry sectors.

The meeting discussed the matters of actively conducting socialist emulation and other mass movements by working people's organizations for a successful reforestation campaign, developing forest science and technology and tightening legal control to prevent forest fire.

It called for improving the technical conditions of roads, putting river improvement on normal track and conducting environmental protection scientifically and in a responsible manner.

Compiled from KCNA

ECONOMY

Tangible achievements made in industrial sectors

Innovations are being made in economic sectors.

A project for laying temporary power lines has been wound up in a short time at the construction site of the Wonsan-Kalma coastal tourist zone.

The Ministry of Electric Power Industry gave precedence to the supply of electric equipment and materials, while the Kangwon Provincial Power Distribution Station drew out a realistic design on the basis of route survey. The Pyongyang Electric Cable Factory 326 and the Kyongsong Insulator Factory produced and supplied electric wires, insulators, breakers and disconnectors needed for the project on a preferential basis. The provincial power distribution station and others in Wonsan, Munchon and Anbyon built utility poles, laid electric wires and installed insulators in a three-dimensional way in the section between the field headquarters and construction sites.

The Sodusu Power Station increases power generation every day.

It distributes generated electricity scientifically on the basis of detailed survey of water

level and inflow in reservoirs in keeping with the less storage of water as compared to previous years. It also ensures full operation of generators by repairing equipment and devices in a short time.

The Tukjang Coal-mining Machine Factory brings about a drastic turn in the production of various parts and small tools needed for mining including the wheels for electric cars and coal

wagons and large and small gears.

Factories under the Ministry of Machine-building Industry are pushing ahead with the production of farming machine parts and materials.

The electric wire production plan for the first half of the year has been carried out earlier than scheduled and the insulator production assignment for the first quarter of the year



The Pyongyang Dental Hygiene Supplies Factory turns out quality products.

PRODUCTION

Putting production and management on scientific basis

The Phyongwon Unha Garment Factory has marked its 30th anniversary. Recently the factory held a showcase for scientific business as a role model for all entities under the Korea Unha Trading Group.

Cosy and neat with modern architecture, the factory has overfulfilled its annual

production plan to become a model unit of the group last year.

Over the past three decades it has focused on building up its own technical staff and making production and management science-based to meet the growing demand and the trend of the industry.

It boasts a computer-controlled integrated production system, image transmission system for real-time production control, and latest equipment including automatic embroiderer and automatic duck feather filling machine, which help it put production control and management on an IT basis.

It sets norms for the consumption of materials per unit properly, increases production every year while reducing the production costs and introduces technical innovation plans into production.

Most noticeable among them are paper patterning and design by plotter which raises the general utilization rate of cloth up to over 98 percent and overhead mobile socket, adhesive tape cutter, trolley-

style cloth spreading machine and other devices which are greatly helpful to increasing production.

A sci-tech learning space run by the factory is a great help to the employees who conduct technical study there related to current production.

They have access to database Kwangmyong to broaden their horizons of knowledge. Many of them have become technicians and many others enrolled on the distance education course of Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce.

To improve the material and cultural living standards of the employees, it has built a hostel, welfare service facilities and livestock farming bases.

The factory has increased production by far as compared to its early period. Last year alone, it overfulfilled the production plan, which was set 1.25 times higher than the year before, by 37.3 percent till November.

Its products, especially padded clothes, sportswear and trousers, are winning growing popularity among customers at Pyongyang Department Store No. 1, Pyongyang Children's Department Store and other public service centres.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Employees at the Phyongwon Unha Garment Factory work to improve quality of clothes.

overfulfilled. The production of diverse tractor spare parts is underway in full swing.

The Kwangmyongsong and Wonsan salt works have gathered first salt this year.

The Kwangmyongsong Salt Works conducted all work including rolling and levelling of evaporating and crystallization ponds and waterways as required by technical regulations even in the face of adverse weather conditions, and the Wonsan Salt Works introduced such advanced salt production methods as seawater freezing and salinity raising in reserve reservoir to suit the characteristics of east coastal areas.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT

in brief

Gym inaugurated

The Jagang Provincial Gymnasium has opened to the public.

The gymnasium built on the banks of the Jangja River flowing through Kanggye City has a multirole hall where a variety of sports like five-a-side can be played, training rooms for Taekwon-Do, *ssirum* (Korean wrestling) and judo and a sports achievement exhibition hall.

The facility will help local athletes and enthusiasts develop their sports skills and enjoy sporting activities every day.

Children's camp rebuilt

The Jangjasan Children's Camp has been rebuilt in Jagang Province.

The camp blending in well with the graceful scenery of Mt Jangja consists of two buildings for campers, a hall and others. It is well furnished and will be favoured by young campers.

Power generated by coal gasification

The Drinks Factory in Sunchon has set up a power system by adopting anthracite gasification.

The system consists of a gas producer, cooler, motor and generator, and is able to produce dozens of kW instantaneously.

It will help the factory supply itself with power needed for its production and business activities by using small amounts of coal each month.

Cuisine contest

South Hamgyong Province has held the 8th cuisine contest to mark the Day of the Shining Star, the birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The contest, which drew restaurants in Hamhung and other local eateries in the province, featured dishes made with fish, meat and vegetable, and sweet foods.

There was also a contest of serving folk dishes as part of the event.

Among the appreciated dishes were steamed rabbit hind legs, roast loach balls and bellflower root salad.

Fine art show

A fine art show has opened at the Kangwon Provincial Art Gallery.

It put on display paintings and sketches drawn by local artists, enthusiasts and schoolchildren.

Most of the works depict the Wonsan Army-People Power Station project which gave birth to the spirit of Kangwon Province and daily lives of people.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

SCIENCE

Treasure trove of self-development

The Scientific Achievement Exhibition House in Unjong District, Pyongyang is drawing an endless stream of visitors.

It houses lots of creations by scientists of the State Academy of Sciences.

It was inaugurated in 1982 to mark the 30th anniversary of the academy.

The establishment that serves as a base for diffusing sci-tech achievements was wonderfully rebuilt last year.

It consists of three halls displaying well over a thousand pieces of research hits in hundreds of kinds including over a hundred pictorial representations of research achievements.

Hall No. 1 is dedicated to such basic sciences as mathematics and physics and such core basic technologies as information technology as well as nanotechnology and bioengineering, Hall No. 2 to energy and metallurgical, chemical, machine-building and mining industries as well as modernization projects for major industrial establishments and Hall No. 3 to light industry, agriculture, public health and other sectors.

Every exhibit mirrors the great dignity, grits and patriotic

zeal of the scientists who work hard to lead the world in every sci-tech field.

Among the achievements made in the course of conducting the campaign to break through the cutting edge are advanced theories and techniques which gave answers to basic science problems of worldwide significance, a sci-tech computing system relying on high-performance parallel computer, distributed control system Mirae 102 and CT control system. Rices highly resistant to salt and cold and a sugar reed with high sugar content and salt tolerance are worthy of particular note.

Eye-catchers also include research hits that go a long way towards strengthening the independence and Juche character of the national economy, such as a circulating fluidized-bed boiler that burns coal completely, ion-exchange membrane for mechanical salt making that opened up prospects of salt production by industrial method, manganese concentrate production technology based on low-grade wad which made a breakthrough for domestic production of ferromanganese which was imported previously,

integrated control system of hot rolling process and horizontal tube extruding press.

Visitors have greater pride as they see domestically made products including a laser 3D foot measuring device to make accurate shoetrees, seawater purifying device to make drinking water, artificial eye

lens manufacturing facility for patients with vision disorder, cataract or glaucoma, digital electric operation device and functional tourmaline and paper.

The research findings on display have already been introduced into different economic establishments such as the Kim Chaek and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes, February 8 Vinalon Complex, Jaeryong Mine, Ryuwon Footwear Factory and Pyongyang Hosiery Factory.

“Though hostile forces are blowing the cold wind of sanctions to us, we cultivate

lots of seeds of happiness on our own soil of intelligence and resourcefulness. Each exhibit augurs well for the future of our country when our people will enjoy all blessings,” said Kim Jong Hoe, chief of the exhibition house.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un on his visit to the exhibition house last January said the creations of the brains of Korean scientists are really great, describing the house as a treasure trove of self-reliance and self-development and the academy as their birthplace.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Visitors look at the research hits on display at the Scientific Achievement Exhibition House of the State Academy of Sciences.

SOFTWARE

Weather service app for farming developed

The State Hydro-Meteorological Administration has developed the “Agricultural weather”, a weather service app for smartphones.

The program gives smartphone users access to agricultural weather service and other data related to seasonal weather conditions.

Users can read information about weather forecast, temperature, precipitation,

accumulated temperature, initial date of critical temperature, soil temperature, depth of frozen ground, and initial date of frost or cold. And users can input relevant factors of the accumulated temperature and calculate it by themselves.

They can also get the growth forecast of crops and keep the data as a file.

Besides, regional short- and extended-range forecasts,

fortnight’s tendency forecasts and monthly and seasonal forecasts are also available. Users are timely given warnings against bad weather to take action.

All data are designed to be displayed along with normal, previous and current year data, allowing users to analyse them.

Since the data are made with ri as a unit in all indices, users can select necessary regions to acquire data in an all-round way by combining them with the past and present ones and predictions.

They can also read necessary technological measures and common knowledge with regard to seasonal weather conditions.

The app was appreciated as one of the best products at the national IT achievements show last year.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



KCNA

Employees at the State Hydro-Meteorological Administration try to provide correct weather information.

MACHINERY

New farm machines manufactured

The Farm Machine Institute is now concentrating on developing new farm machines.

It has remodelled or newly developed dozens of kinds of farm machines in recent years. They include a simultaneous precision manuring and weeding plough machine, rice and maize combines and maize, wheat and barley sowing machines.

The newly developed simultaneous precision manuring and weeding plough machine is a tractor-drawn machine which can do weeding ploughing while applying fertilizer according to the conditions of growth of every crop at the same time.

It is a modern trailer which is useful for putting farm work on an IT basis at a high level as it consists of a GPS receiver with which to locate the working places, HMC control device to which the distribution chart of soil is uploaded, driving system to control the amount of fertilizer to be applied and various sensors that monitor the load of fertilizer and its application. It makes it possible to apply fertilizer in line with the crop and soil conditions

by overcoming the defect of giving fertilizer to the designated fields indiscriminately in the previous manuring machine, and as the plough is added to it, weeding ploughing has become unnecessary.

The remodelled rice combine is a multi-purpose self-propelled harvester which cuts and collects rice, wheat, barley, and other grain crops. It shortens the threshing and selecting time and improves work efficiency more than the existing ones, thereby saving hundreds-of-strong manpower a day on average. If necessary, it can cut only ears or crush the straw before spreading it.

The maize combine is a new trailer to be drawn by Chollima-804 tractor. It is lighter and more efficient than the old ones. It can work day and night irrespective of weather conditions, and its per-hectare harvesting speed is several times faster than before.

Others include new models of farm machines for livestock and fruit farming and grassland management.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT

HEALTH

Pharmaceutical factory updated

The Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory is on top gear in the production of popular medicines.

It works to ensure hygienic safety and quality on a higher level by modernizing the production lines.

It added several up-to-date compounding processes to the Koryo medicine production line in line with the growing demand. It applied supercritical fluid, ultrasonic, pressure reflux and other new extraction techniques to the extraction process. Especially, the supercritical fluid extraction device is very effective in separating substances as it carries out distillation and extraction at the same time. Part of its advantages is that it produces no waste materials as the solvent is recycled and the loss in compounding is lower than 0.5 percent. The factory also introduced a vacuum concentrator using heat pump to raise the effective content of Koryo medicinal materials.

The quality has been improved since a modern coating technology was introduced into mainstream production. All the coating materials including film forming ones, plasticizer, colorant and solvent are satisfied

with locally available materials. The coating equipment has been updated to apply rotating, suspending, compressing and other coating methods. The equipment is efficient enough to automatically control the whole process according to kinds and compounding methods.

The factory has upgraded air, water and waste water purification processes and perfected sterilization and hygienic management. In particular, it ensures waste water is settled in two stages and goes through an oxidation process to be purified according to the standards of discharge, thereby preventing river pollution. It also conducts all production and management activities from storage and handling of raw materials and products to quality inspection and product tracking in line with the internationally recognized medicine production and quality management standards. Its quality inspection and product tracking system conforms with the WHO's GMP standards.

The factory is now working to further build up its capacity while increasing the output of popular medicines.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
A woman worker controls the production line at the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory.

SOLIDARITY

Meeting discusses activities with Cuba

The annual meeting of the Korean Committee for Solidarity with Cuba was held in Pyongyang on February 20.

It was attended by Kim Sung Du, chairman of the Education Commission who is also chairman of the KCSC, So Ho Won, vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, other members of the KCSC, Cuban ambassador Jesus De Los

Angeles Aise Sotolongo and his embassy staff members.

The meeting reviewed last year's work of the KCSC to fully support the just cause of the friendly Cuban people who are struggling against imperialism and for independence and socialism under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba, and discussed the action plan for 2018.

Compiled from KCNA

MEDICAL SERVICE

Institute earns popularity for good service for women

One day Kim Myong Hak living in Jungsin-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang, could not go to sleep till late at night.

He heard that his wife Ju Yong Ran was diagnosed with breast cancer by medical workers from the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, who visited their neighbourhood unit for a regular check-up according to a state project for prevention of mastopathy.

At first he was devastated. He felt it was just a matter of time before she would die even if she would undergo an operation.

Tears welled up in his eyes when he thought about their yet young two children and his spouse in her early forties.

When the couple visited the Breast Tumour Institute, the medical workers encouraged them, saying she should not fall captive to the disease and she would recover her health after surgery.

So, she was hospitalized in September last year.

Department chief Ri Ryong Gil and other

doctors buckled down to the treatment so as to help her gear up for receiving an operation.

Two months later, she had a successful operation.

Treatment continued even after the operation to prevent the recurrence with an anticancer remedy given.

Ju Yong Ran left the hospital in good health in January this year after more than 90 days of treatment. That day she made an entry in the visitor's book full of tears of gratitude.

"...I have believed cancer is an illness that causes inevitable death. However, I came to free myself from

the misfortune thanks to the great medical skills and warm sincerity of the doctors at this hospital. An ordinary worker, I've keenly realized what a good society I live in. I had an expensive operation and treatment without paying even a penny while being provided with nutritive meals every day. I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who ensured that such a splendid hospital is built for women."

Now she lives happily with her children and husband.

By Pang Un Ju PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Medical workers at the Breast Tumour Institute of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital conduct a mammary gland check-up.

R&D

Researchers develop effective turf nutrient

Scientists of the Turf Research Branch under the State Academy of Sciences have developed a new nutritive solution for greening turfs and promoting their recovery.

Generally, turfs dry up in some unfavourable conditions, for example in cases of high temperature, high humidity, malnutrition and damage by blights and harmful insects, reducing ornamental effects of the lawn. Agrochemicals and fertilizers are used to recover the nutritive state of the lawn, but it takes much time.

However, there are many cases in which the lost ornamental effect of the lawn should be improved immediately. It can be done by replacing the unhealthy part with new ones, but it needs much labour and the colour of the original turf may differ from that of newly planted one.

Therefore, it has become

a world trend to develop reinforcing agents which will help dry turf green immediately and use them to maintain the ornamental quality of turfs until they recover their physiological state.

The researchers set themselves an ambitious goal to develop a more efficient nutritive solution for greening turf which would accelerate the physiological recovery of turf while raising its ornamental effects immediately.

During their research, they solved many technical problems arising in developing the nutritive solution, including the selection of various raw materials and additives to sharpen the green colour and increase green-covering and adoption of rational mixing method and ratio of various materials to maximize their water-resisting qualities. They also established the process

of its making and applied it to practice.

As a result, they successfully developed a new nutritive solution, Songyong 2, in a matter of only half a year. The solution accelerates the recovery of physiological state by promoting the growth of turfs while turning their leaves green immediately.

Test results show that it hastens the recovery of turfs by promoting their growth while immediately improving the ornamental value of the lawn which dries up for various reasons in summer and also helps maintain the quality of lawns on a high level from late autumn to early spring the following year.

Songyong 2 was registered as a national sci-tech hit and obtained national patent last year.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

PROFILE

Family of scientists

Han Chung Hwan's family is called a family of scientists. He is a professor, PhD and lecturer at Pyongyang Medical College of Kim Il Sung University.

His wife is also a professor, PhD and lecturer at the foreign languages department of Kim Il Sung University. His son, daughter, son-in-law and daughter-in-law are all university graduates and scholars.

Though advanced in age, Han's couple are still working energetically, pooling their wisdom with a sincere mind to become the basis for the growth of the future pillars of the country.

They often come back home late at night as they are busy giving lectures and making teaching plans.

But they do not feel fatigue with an eagerness to devote their all to training talents who would contribute to the country's prosperity.

They are helpful to each other both in housework and

profession, so they often exchange their experience and knowledge, especially in the matter of teaching method.

Once they argued, but their arguments led to rational and practicable teaching techniques and research findings.

In his early 30s, Han Chung Hwan began to pioneer new subjects and developed original treatment methods and medicines while publishing several scientific papers, thereby cutting a conspicuous figure in academia.

Though calm and introvert in life, he gets extraordinarily passionate and enterprising when it comes to scientific research. That is why he has been able to pursue the new for decades without the slightest stagnation and standstill.

The over-70-year-old does every work with vigour, including lecture, presentation, examination of papers and guidance in writing them.

He has obtained more

than 70 certificates showing his scientific achievements including over 20 certificates of national sci-tech hits and some 15 patents.

He wrote dozens of books in healthcare, including "Organic medicine manual", "Information on how to use clinical medicines" and "Pharmaceutical dictionary", making a remarkable contribution to the development of the country's medical science.

He obtained the title of candidate academician last year.

Han's wife, 72, is also successful in her career.

Her students are eager to attend her lectures, fascinated by her wide knowledge.

She is highly praised as she develops efficient and advantageous teaching methods and programs conducive to improving their practical abilities.

Han's children are following in their footsteps.

"Our parents are role models for us as they have devoted everything to education and scientific research. We redouble our efforts as we model ourselves on them," said their son Han Yu Jong, Doctor of Bioengineering.

A debate at night has become a routine in the family.

They exchange their views as they discuss problems arising in their work.

All their minds are concentrated on opening up a broad avenue to the building of a socialist power on the strength of science and technology.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Han Chung Hwan (first from right) with his family members.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

R&D

Research achievements for agriculture

Phytase-producing technology

Researchers of the bioindustry laboratory of the Cutting-edge Science Research Institute at Kim Il Sung University have developed a technology for mass-producing phytase in a bioengineering way.

Phytase is regarded as an enzyme which is very effective as a feed additive in animal husbandry, but only a few countries have succeeded in using the enzyme as feed additive.

Cereals contain a considerable amount of phosphorus, most of which exists in the form of phytic acid that is hardly degradable. So when raw cereals are used to feed animals and fishes phosphorus is hard to be absorbed by them. And this results in phosphorus deficiency and environmental pollution.

An enzyme that degrades the phytic acid, phytase facilitates digestion of almost all nutrients in cereals including phosphorus and other minerals.

The enzyme is expected to greatly benefit animal husbandry. Previously the common solution to phosphorus deficiency has been phosphate that is imported. But phytase is thought to prevent lack of phosphorus and raise the fattening rate.

The researchers bred in a bionic way a bacterial strain of phytase that is 300 times as high in enzyme activation as the source bacteria and much higher than world-recognized recombinant strains. They went on to succeed in the high-density cell cultivation of a follow-up.

Reagents for plant tissue cultivation

Lecturers and researchers at Sukchon University of

DRESSMAKING

National costume refashioned



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Designers at the traditional costume and folklore articles centre of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Art and Literature of Korea share opinions about their new designs.

Korean traditional costume is being diversified in terms of form and decoration.

This can be witnessed through a large number of traditional clothes presented to the 15th national Korean costume show held last year.

The traditional costume and folklore articles centre of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Art and Literature of Korea drew the focus of attention. It exhibited casual and holiday clothes which carry on traditional manners and properly harmonize elegant colours and refined decorative techniques in keeping with the fashion.

Traditional men's attire *paji* and *jogori*, *turumagi* (overcoat) that preserves traditional beauty and modernity, and *chima* and *jogori* (women's skirt and jacket) in good harmony with colours took first place at the show.

The centre, which has engaged in the research, production and propagation of traditional costume for years, plays a big part in carrying on and developing the original manners of Korean clothes which reflect national sentiment and talents.

On the basis of historical study of national costume, experts refashion the clothes to meet modern taste so as to promote their good qualities and beauty.

The principle they maintain in the production of Korean clothes is to combine the harmony of colours with decorative elements

in a way that preserves the traditional beauty, represents the spirit of the times and conforms to local tastes.

Their holiday clothes are featured by a harmonious arrangement of colours in accordance with seasons and ages and application of such decorative techniques as manual embroidery, pictures and ornaments. And casuals are easy to wear.

The centre encourages the application of manual embroidery and other traditional methods to processing and decoration.

"Traditional ornaments in Korean clothes are part of the heritage of national culture and an important factor which helps preserve individuality in attire. Diverse folklore articles that represent women's likings and aesthetic desires as well as exquisite and modern tastes add more to the quality and value of Korean clothes," said So Mi Sun, head of the centre.

With its popularity growing, the centre tries to enhance the formative beauty by adding handbag, trinkets and pocket to the attire and diversifying ornaments in keeping with season, age, profession, taste, environment and condition.

It also pays attention to external exchange in a bid to help overseas Koreans have greater pride and dignity in the national costume.

By Jong Tang Song PT

Agriculture in South Phyongan Province have developed new reagents for cultivating plant tissues.

The new reagents are appreciated for their unusual capacities for controlling growth. Notably, purine base and auxin are proved to be highly effective.

A breakthrough was made in research after a purine base activator was built to satisfy the low-temperature and high-pressure conditions most suitable for the practical

situation. The developers also managed to build a stable auxin synthesizer and explore the optimum reaction conditions.

The Central Experiment and Analysis Laboratory of the State Academy of Sciences confirmed that the reagents fully meet the technical indices and are applicable to tissue culture and mass-breeding of such rare species as *Aronia melanocarpa* and *Actinidia chinensis*.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

VIEW

US 'national security strategy' intended for aggression

The US is ever more undisguised in its arrogance to make the world serve its own interests. A typical example is the "national security strategy" report US president Trump unveiled at the end of last year.

In the report Trump set four core goals, namely the "protection of the US mainland, American citizens and American way of life", "promotion of US prosperity", "maintenance of peace by force" and "expansion of US influence". As a result, "America First", a slogan he has hyped since the presidential campaign, has finally been adopted as a US policy.

To establish a world order that only serves its interests by expanding its political, economic and military domination over the world—this is the fundamental purpose of the US security strategy.

Trump's new national security strategy is a risky confrontation- and domination-oriented one which is most likely to place global peace at irretrievable risk.

"Maintenance of peace by force", one of those four goals, mirrors the US ambition to realize world domination by relying on its military superiority. The US thinks it can

readily handle any international issue by force.

In order to implement the strategy Trump named China and Russia as "revisionist nations" that try to alter the established world order and "rivals" that challenge the US and branded the DPRK and Iran as "rogue states" that seek weapons of mass destruction and support terrorism and "dictatorships", setting them all as "principal security threats".

Worse still, referring to the DPRK, Trump said that the "maximum pressure campaign against the north Korean regime has resulted in the most powerful sanctions, but there are still more things to do yet" and he would "take all necessary steps", and called the DPRK a "global threat which requires global response".

Trump set it as a top priority task to strengthen the missile defence systems in the US, south Korea, Japan and other regions and insisted on the maximum pressure and isolation campaign against the DPRK.

He also asserted that he would maintain the "balance of power" in the US interests in the India-Pacific, Europe, Middle East and other important areas of the world while pushing

forward with the rebuilding of US military capacity, capacity enhancement in the fields of outer and cyber spaces, tightened border control and reform of immigration system.

The new security strategy of the US further reveals war maniac Trump's wild ambition to realize world domination by ensuring the US' absolute edge in power.

He even argued that "America First" should be applied in making every decision, while decrying the Paris agreement on climate change and the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement as unfair and said he would not look on with folded arms.

Now the international community raises voices of protest and denunciation against the Trump administration, which is fully obsessed with the anachronistic "America First" doctrine, over the release of the new security strategy report.

World media dub Trump's new strategy an "unbalanced, prejudiced and foolish one consistent with Cold War mentality and vain attempt".

The US administration had better lend an ear to such voices of the international community.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

JAPAN

Mean act

Rodong Sinmun, the organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on February 18 carried Kim Yon I's comment titled "Sissies of the insular nation cannot part with wickedness".

According to the comment, Japanese Prime Minister Abe, who stayed in south Korea for two days and one night to participate in the opening ceremony of the ongoing 23rd Winter Olympics, fully revealed his servility and immaturity to be the butt of the world's ridicule.

Decrying US Vice-President Pence and Abe for coming to south Korea to spoil the peaceful Olympics, the comment said that if the US and Japan arranged their own "spoilage contest of Olympics", the former might have won the top prize and the latter the first prize.

Abe behaved nastily as he dangled after Pence during photo session and reception for foreign delegations and the joint entry of sportspeople of the north and south of Korea, it said.

It also dubbed him a "despicable interloper" as he poured cold water on the inter-Korean détente, feeling extremely uneasy about north-south concord, rather than making an apology and reparations for the sinful past.

He flippantly babbled that

south Korea should stage joint military exercises with the US immediately after the Olympics, it said, describing the utterance as a reckless remark revealing the wicked intention of Japanese reactionaries in a concentrated manner and the arguments about "north Korea threat" and "security crisis" as his sole political life preserver.

However badly the Abe clan behaves, much upset by the peaceful atmosphere in the Korean peninsula, the current of the times will flow along its course laughing at the narrow-minded Japanese politicians, it noted.

It said Abe brought shame on himself by coming out with the agreement on the "comfort women" issue once again in south Korea and returned home after trying in vain to sprinkle a bundle of ash over other's feast table, and urged him to clearly hear the shout for peace resounding in the Korean peninsula.

Japan should reflect on why the world calls Abe and other Japanese politicians "political dwarfs", why the Korean people continue to harbour enmity towards it for so long and why it only gets the cold shoulder and is shunned by different countries though it flings money about, it said, adding the quicker its soul-searching and awakening the better.

COMMENT

Ridiculous

The Trump clan is asserting that they cannot but opt for a military option if the "north Korean nuclear issue" fails to be resolved by diplomatic means.

Trump openly hinted at military option on several occasions, saying that "the selective plan for resolving the north Korean nuclear issue includes both military and non-military methods", "we wish for a peaceful settlement of the issue, but there is much possibility that things may not go as desired".

US Vice-President Pence and other top aides of Trump also spread a rumour that "if north Korea does not turn to dialogue and negotiation, it will trigger a military action" and "if the diplomatic solution turns out to be a failure, there will be no other option but a military one".

In particular, US Secretary of State Tillerson and Defense Secretary Mattis are showing sympathy to it, asserting that the "rogue regime" is posing a threat to the world and they will settle militarily if a diplomatic method is unworkable.

It is the stark reality recognized by the world community that the DPRK is ready both for

dialogue and war.

This notwithstanding, the advertising hype for a military way presupposing the failure of diplomatic method is part of the scheme to threaten the DPRK so as to prevent it from taking additional military measures and guide it to the negotiating table for denuclearization and to find the rationale for launching a risky preemptive attack in the worst case by spreading the rumour about "north Korea's nuclear threat".

Like a hunter's puppy having no fear of a tiger, the US is foolish enough to threaten the DPRK with such nonsense.

The DPRK is a Juche-oriented nuclear power with strong military force capable of striking the US mainland including its strategic positions at any time and in any place.

The Trump clan is advertising that tourists should write their wills before going to the DPRK. If the US starts a war against the DPRK, the service members and people of the DPRK will wipe out all Americans so that no one will be alive to keep their wills and bury their coffins.

By Han Jong Chol PT

SOUTH KOREA

Like running heads against the wall

The DPRK's dispatch of a high-level delegation as well as artistes, players and boosters to the ongoing Winter Olympics in south Korea has injected fresh air into inter-Korean relations, attracting the focus of attention at home and abroad.

Much upset, however, the south Korean conservatives are trying more frantically to check inter-Korean fence-mending.

Hong Jun Phyng and others of the Liberty Korea Party censure the authorities, saying that "the government has been duped by the north's harassing tactics and is neutralizing the UN's anti-north sanctions network by itself, and it should make the north well aware that the abandonment of its nuclear programme is the only way to ensure the safety of its system".

In particular, they expressed "serious concern over the authorities' inhospitable treatment of the US and excessively cordial reception of the north's high-level delegation," arguing that the "president received a showy

present of personal message and summit from the north" and "his visit to the north without its abandonment of nuclear programme will be tantamount to congratulating its nuclear development, which is an apparent enemy-benefiting act".

Choson Ilbo, Dong-A Ilbo and other conservative media outlets maintained a stream of invective and abuse against the activities of the DPRK's delegations, describing them as "acting as a host in other's feast" and a "hidden intention to induce south Korea-US discord for neutralizing anti-north sanctions". And the conservative groups acted rashly by flocking to wherever the northern personnel go and staging anti-DPRK protests, waving the south Korean flag and the Stars and Stripes.

Such reckless acts against the thaw in inter-Korean relations are nothing but an epileptic frenzy of mad dogs who are blind to the trend of the times towards détente.

It seems to the conservatives

of the Liberty Korea Party that the songs sung by the northern artistes, the resounding cheer of the northern rooters that "Korea is one" and the excited reply of the south Korean public sound like the death knell.

With them intact, it is natural that the growing atmosphere of inter-Korean reconciliation and the enthusiasm for national reunification cannot but be a nightmare.

They only make desperate efforts to put a damper on the hard-won atmosphere of inter-Korean rapprochement regardless of whether the Olympics would be spoiled or a war may break out in a bid to sustain the remainder of their lives.

The more noisily they bark to stop the trend toward détente and national unity, the more clearly they will reveal their true colours as dregs of society.

A handful of conservatives should behave themselves, well aware that they are running their heads against a wall.

By Song Jong Ho PT

SOCCER

Hwaepul gets berth for 2018 AFC Cup finals

A soccer match took place at Kim Il Sung Stadium in Pyongyang on February 20 between the DPRK's Hwaepul and Mongolia's Erchim belonging to Group I (East Asia) of the 2018 AFC Cup.

Erchim led other domestic clubs in last year's annual rankings and lifted the trophy 11 times at the Mongolian premier league matches.

It has taken part in different Asian League Cup tournaments by representing the Mongolian football clubs and competed with April 25, Kigwancha and

other Korean clubs on several occasions.

Hwaepul was placed second in last year's annual rankings among the local first-division clubs and is now acknowledged as a promising club in the country as it has made rapid progress in a short period.

For the club which was established in 2013, the forthcoming tournament, if it manages to attend, will be its international debut. Hwaepul thrashed out Erchim 4-0 in the away match at Erchim's base

stadium, the football centre of the Mongolian Football Association, on February 13.

The team which would win the two home and away games would be qualified for the 2018 AFC Cup finals.

The second leg was very fierce from the kick-off as both clubs had some knowledge about each other.

In the 27th minute, Hwaepul scored from a corner kick to open the scoring.

It controlled the midfield and mounted continuous attacks. It scored again in the 41st minute by dint of fast break.

Erchim attempted shooting several times to make up for the loss, but in vain.

Hwaepul took the firm initiative and speeded up offensive to score the third goal in the closing time.

The second half ended scoreless though both sides unfolded thrilling scenes in the goal area.

As a result, Hwaepul beat Erchim 3-0, earning automatic qualification for the 2018 AFC Cup finals.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Hwaepul's forward tries to kick the ball into Erchim's net.

By Jong Tang Song PT

HISTORY

Monument tells about ancient victory

There is a historical relic in Josan village about 12 kilometres from the Tuman River in the Sonbong area of Rason City in northeast Korea.

It is a monument to the victory in a battle the Korean ancestors fought against foreign invaders.

It was built in 1762 to praise the exploits performed by Ri Sun Sin, a 16th-century patriotic general (1545-1598), in repelling the Jurchen attack on the northern extremity of the country.

Standing on a stone pedestal, the monument is inscribed at the front with the large word "Sungjondae (Pavilion of Victory)" and at the back with a record of his feats which says that Ri who was guarding the place ambushed and defeated Jurchen invaders with a small number of soldiers in 1587 and that a later generation of people called the place Sungjondae.

At the age of 42, Ri Sun Sin was a military officer in Hamgyong Province for the feudal Joson dynasty and performed great feats in defence of the northern frontier.

Soldiers and people rejoiced at his exploits and under his command the turbulent northeastern border area turned into an impregnable fortress in a little over a year.

As a result, he got much better known to the people.

During the 1592-98 Imjin Patriotic War he commanded the navy and made a great contribution to winning the war.

Later, Josan people named the mountain peak northeast of the village "Sungjon Peak" in praise of his achievements during his Josan days. The villagers carried stones up to the peak to erect a tower which was over 1.5 fathoms high.

Afterwards, the commander

of the Kwanbuk area, what is now Hamgyong provincial region, saw the tower on an inspection tour and he made sure that the present monument was built, saying the tower was too small for his great feats.

By Yang Ryon Hui PT



Sungjondae (Pavilion of Victory).

Jon Son Il

SPORTS

Paektusan Prize Games proceed



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Men's short-track speed skating event of the Paektusan Prize Games in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star.

The senior and junior-level short-track speed skating competitions took place at the Ice Rink as part of the Paektusan Prize Games to celebrate the Day of the Shining Star, attracting great interest of experts and fans.

The event drew over 80 players from the Taesongsan, Korea University of Physical Education, Jangsan, Jangjasan, Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and other local sports clubs.

Though it was just the beginning, the competition was fierce and the audiences cheered the players enthusiastically.

Men and women skaters from Taesongsan won high acclaim from the spectators as they showed high levels of techniques and tactics in the 1 500 m category.

They employed various playing tactics of reducing turning radius on the circular track, position taking, departure from it and others.

More attractive was the 500

m short-track speed skating. It was really breathtaking.

As it is the speed game and the rankings are decided in an extremely short time, the players ran neck-and-neck with each other at high speed from the beginning and accelerated the pace on the last round, causing tension and anxiety among the spectators as well as competitors.

Kim Chol Gwang and Ri Ji Ryon from Taesongsan won the men's and women's 1 500 m and 500 m categories to qualify for the next round.

Although Pang Mi Hyang from Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry also secured a berth for the next round by coming third in the 500 m, she was highly appreciated by experts as a "promising player".

"Pang has a good physical fitness and is especially good at stroke. And she performed well. Her future games will be interesting," they commented.

By Ri Sung Ik PT