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## Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un presides over CMC enlarged meeting

The First Enlarged Meeting of the Seventh Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea was held at a time when the entire Party, the whole army and all the people are dynamically waging the general offensive to achieve a fresh victory in the revolution by demonstrating the mettle of heroic Korea—true to the spirit of the Seventh Party Congress and the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, presided over the enlarged meeting that brought together members of the CMC of the WPK, commanding officers at service and corps levels, senior officials of military organs and those of the Party Central Committee.

The agenda items included organizational measures to be taken in order to strengthen the People's



Army into a revolutionary army of the Party militarily and politically and improve the national defence affairs as a whole, on the basis of the comprehensive analysis of the requirements of the developing revolution and the current situation of the People's Army.

The meeting also dealt with the organizational issue on dismissing and appointing some members of the Party Central Military Commission

and removing, transferring and appointing senior officials of military organs.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un reviewed how the People's Army has carried out its military and political tasks since the Seventh Party Congress and specified the main direction and ways of army building and military activities, stressing the need to further establish the Party's unified command system across the revolutionary

forces and exercise the revolutionary military discipline, to consistently implement the Party's policies on effecting a radical turn in training and ideological work and modernizing the army, and to improve the soldiers' living standards.

He called on the whole army to safeguard and guarantee by dint of arms the all-people efforts to implement the decisions of the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Party Central Committee.

He highly appreciated the People's Army that is fulfilling its duty as the vanguard ranks and main force of the revolution on every major front of socialist

economic construction upholding the banner of "Let us take upon ourselves both national defence and socialist construction!" And he was hopeful that the People's Army would maintain its revolutionary nature and features as the army of the Party and leader and fulfil the sacred mission and duty it assumes on behalf of the country and people.

*Compiled from KCNA*

### STATEMENT

## US urged to roll back anti-DPRK policy

With a strategic decision to put an end to the bitter history of the DPRK-US relationship, Kim Jong Un, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, met with US State Secretary Pompeo in Pyongyang on two occasions and has taken crucial and generous measures to seek peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and beyond, said Kim Kye Gwan, first vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK.

"I positively appreciated the fact that US President Trump voiced his readiness to do away

with the long-standing hostility between the two countries and improve bilateral relations in response to the Chairman's initiative, and believed that the upcoming DPRK-US summit talks would mark a big step to promoting the détente on the peninsula and building a fine future," he said in a statement on May 16.

"But I've been disappointed that reckless remarks getting on the nerves of the dialogue partner are being heard from

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### PRESS RELEASE

## KCNA report slams joint military rehearsal

The DPRK will closely watch the ensuing behaviour of the US and the south Korean authorities, said KCNA in its report on May 16.

The report came after the south Korean authorities launched a large-scale 2018 Max Thunder combined aerial combat drill with the US across south Korea on May 11 in a bid to mount a preemptive air strike against the DPRK and gain air supremacy.

The air drill will go on till May 25 under the supervision of the US forces in south Korea and the south Korean air force

with an involvement of over 100 warplanes including USAF's B-52 strategic nuclear bombers and F-22 Raptor stealth fighters, the report said.

The public at home and abroad is of the opinion that it is the largest ever in scale, it said, noting it is the reflection of the unchanged stand of the US and south Korea to continue to impose "maximum pressure and sanctions" on the DPRK.

It denounced the drill as an open challenge to the Panmunjom Declaration and an intentional military provocation

that goes against the trend of the favourably developing Korean peninsula situation.

Saying that the north and south of Korea solemnly announced the beginning of a new era of peace in the Panmunjom Declaration, it noted they agreed to work together to ease the acute military tension on the Korean peninsula and substantially remove the danger of war and the US expressed full support to it.

By launching the large-scale combined air drill against the

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## LEADING ARTICLE

# Self-reliance a dynamic of socialist economic development

The April 2018 plenary meeting of the Workers' Party of Korea set forth a new strategic line of concentrating all efforts on socialist economic construction.

The fundamental principle of the Party's new strategic line is self-reliance.

With the successful implementation of the historic tasks of the strategic line of pushing economic construction and nuclear buildup in parallel, the DPRK's socialist economic construction has taken a straight course to victory. Self-reliance is the only way to hit a high target of socialist economic construction by putting spurs to continued offensive, innovation and advance.

The DPRK's socialist economic construction spanning

over half a century has advanced and proved successful by dint of self-reliance.

The Korean people laid a solid foundation for the self-supporting economy on this land, which had been subject to centuries-old backwardness and poverty, by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude and effected socialist industrialization in a matter of 14 years on the debris of war, though the enemy blustered the Koreans would not rise up again in a hundred years. In recent years, they have worked new miracles in a matter of one year, if not a few months. This tells that nothing is more powerful than the strength of the people who have turned out with the belief of their own strength, and only the

confidence in their strength can bring about eye-opening successes in any hardships and trials.

The goal the DPRK has set today to build a powerful socialist economy is to put the national economy on a Juche, modern, IT and scientific basis and provide all the people with affluent and civilized life. The shortcut to the goal is to rely on its own efforts and exercise perseverance.

Self-reliance serves as the powerful driving force of socialist economic construction.

When the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance prevails across the country, the ongoing revolutionary general offensive, the grand march of economic construction, will advance more briskly towards

a new victory.

Full conditions and possibilities are provided in the country so that it can solve all problems arising in economic construction with its own efforts. It has a firm economic foundation laid by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, as well as an army of sci-tech personnel and abundant resources.

Today's self-reliance is to be based on modern science and technology, which constitutes a powerful treasured sword that should be held fast to by those who are strong in the spirit of self-reliance.

When all sectors and units attach importance to science and push ahead with production and construction at a high speed by dint of self-reliance based on modern science

and technology, they can meet the demand for fuel and power with their own efforts and technology by making the most of the country's natural resources, production potentials and latent reserves, and turn the national economy into an independent and modern socialist economy, knowledge-based one, by putting the economy on Juche, modern, IT and scientific footing.

A dynamic effort is being made in all economic sectors and units to continuously enhance self-development and to effect a surge and leap forward in production on the basis of science and technology holding up the slogan of self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

Han Yun Ho

## Statement: Abandon time-worn approach

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the US just ahead of the summit talks," Kim added.

He questioned the current allegations by national security adviser Bolton and other senior US officials of the White House and the Department of State, who have brought up "nuclear abandonment first, compensation later" while talking about the Libyan style of nuclear abandonment, "complete, verifiable and irrevocable denuclearization", and "complete abandonment of nuclear, missile and biochemical weapon programmes".

He said that these allegations are far from any negotiated settlement of the issue and they reveal a sinister scheme to impose on the DPRK what Libya and Iraq suffered after leaving themselves at the mercy of powers.

"I am absolutely livid about such behaviour of the US and also doubtful about whether the US really intends to improve relations through sound dialogue and negotiations," Kim noted.

"The world understands well that our country is different from Libya and Iraq that ended up in destruction," he added.

He described as stupid any comparison between Libya, whose nuclear programme was yet in its infancy, and the DPRK as a full-fledged nuclear state.

Making no bones about the prejudice against Bolton, he blamed him for the setbacks in the previous DPRK-US negotiations.

"If the Trump administration forgets such experience and follows the pseudo-patriots who talk about something like Libya-style nuclear abandonment, it is quite clear how the overall DPRK-US relationship, namely

the scheduled summit talks, would develop," he said.

We have already expressed our willingness to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and reaffirmed repeatedly that a precondition for it is the cessation of the US' anti-DPRK policy and nuclear threats, he stated.

Mistaking our magnanimity and generous measures for expression of weakness, he noted, the US is trying to bill them as the results of their sanctions and pressure campaign.

The US advertises the fact that it would offer economic compensation and benefits in return for our nuclear abandonment, but we have never built our own economy relying on the US nor will we do that kind of deal in the future, he said.

It is just a childish comedy that the Trump administration which asserts it would seek a path different from its predecessors remains indecisive about their time-worn approach toward the DPRK, which had its nuclear arms programme in the making yet, he said.

He warned that if Trump follows in his predecessors' footsteps he would likely be a failed president who is worse than any of the successive US presidents—the antithesis of his original intention to achieve the best results his predecessors have ever won.

The Trump administration will meet our due response when it comes to the negotiating table with sincerity towards improved bilateral relations, Kim said. And he added that if it tries to drive us to a tight corner to push our unilateral nuclear abandonment we will not be interested in that negotiation anymore but reconsider our approach towards the summit talks.

## INSPECTION

# Premier inspects industrial establishments in Suncheon

Premier Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, made a survey trip to different units in Suncheon City.

The Suncheon Cement Complex concentrates efforts on putting production lines on a modern and scientific basis at a higher level to effect an upsurge in production.

At an on-site consultative meeting, measures were taken to ensure a sufficient supply of equipment and parts by relevant units so as to put cement production on a normal track.

The Premier also visited the construction sites for



Premier Pak Pong Ju (second from right) on a survey trip to the Suncheon Cement Complex.

the establishment of the C1 Factory.

Compiled from KCNA

## Press release: There are limits for goodwill to show

FROM PAGE 1

DPRK in less than a month after the historic April 27 declaration, the south Korean authorities and the US reply to all the peace-loving efforts and goodwill the DPRK has shown so far with impertinent and reckless provocation, arousing great concern and disappointment among the Korean nationals and the international community desirous of implementing the declaration, it said.

"If the US and the south Korean authorities regard improved inter-Korean relations and scheduled DPRK-US dialogue provided by the proactive and broadminded efforts and measures of the DPRK

as something which allows them to stage war games at any time, they are sadly mistaken," it noted.

"The south Korean authorities, in particular, resort to such improper acts quite contrary to their promise to make efforts for peace, prosperity and reunification of the peninsula together with the DPRK, and even allowed human scum to abuse the dignity of the supreme leadership of the DPRK and its system and slander the Panmunjom Declaration at the national assembly.

"There are limits for the goodwill to show and opportunities to offer.

"The historic Panmunjom Declaration cannot be implemented by the unilateral efforts of any one side, but it can produce good results only

when both sides work together to create favourable conditions and environment for it.

"Under the current situation in which the reckless north-targeted war game and confrontation racket have kicked off in south Korea, we cannot but take a step to suspend the north-south high-level talks scheduled for May 16.

"The south Korean authorities that have lost their senses and act stupidly are wholly to blame for the suspension of the high-level talks that may have consequences on the nascent rapprochement process.

"The US will have to think twice about the fate of the scheduled DPRK-US summit, given the provocative military moves against the DPRK it has made in league with the south Korean authorities."



## CONSTRUCTION

# Gravity-fed waterway project makes brisk headway

The Yoltusamcholli Plain is a vast expanse of farmland embracing most of Mundok and Sukchon counties and Chongnam Ward and some parts of Phyongwon County and Anju City of South Phyongan Province. However, water of Lake Yonphung, the main source of irrigation for the granary, has markedly dwindled due to abnormal weather conditions caused by lingering global warming, immensely impeding the agricultural development in the area.

To cope with such a situation a waterway project for linking the Chongchon River with the Phyongnam irrigation system is going on to irrigate the plain

with the river water. When the long gravity-fed waterway is completed, the Chongchon emptying into the sea through hydropower stations built in tiers along the river will supply water to tens of thousands of hectares of farm fields and help preserve the ecological environment of the area around the picturesque Lake Yonphung, while bringing big economic profits.

At present, the overall project is proceeding faster than scheduled with the introduction of many technical innovation plans that ensure both the speed and quality of construction work.

Irrigation engineers realigned the waterway tunnel to cut the

distance of the tunnel and earth watercourse by hundreds of metres without changing the water level.

Builders rationally fixed the sites of working pits in keeping with the changed watercourse, thereby completing the preparation work 15 days earlier than the set date. They are now speeding up tunnelling by introducing advanced drilling and tunnelling methods.

Innovative methods have been applied at the construction sites of bridges, drainage culverts and inverted siphons so as to save much cement and steel and ensure the quality and speed of construction of all structures.

Builders of dams are leading others. They worked uninterruptedly even in winter by building cofferdams and taking protective measures against cold before starting concrete placing for foundations.

“The completion of the project will free the Yoltusamcholli Plain from drought,” said field manager Ri Hung Gyu.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The dam construction for the Chongchon River-Phyongnam Irrigation Waterway progresses apace.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

## PRODUCTION

# Foodstuff factory better known for quality aquatic products

Products of the Kalma Foodstuff Factory enjoy growing popularity among consumers. Though it is not long after inauguration, the factory mass-produces distinctive and tasty processed seafood. The attractively packaged Kalma-brand foodstuffs have strong flavour peculiar to the seafood of the East Sea of Korea and are highly nutritious.

The factory has increased the variety and quality of products on a constant basis by renovating processing equipment and introducing advanced processing methods in keeping with the global trend. It produces dozens of products and all of them are very popular with customers, including lyophilized walleye pollack, dried squid slice, instant soup material, pickled fishes and powdered spice.

Shortly ago, it introduced a walleye pollack disembowelling device and needle-type flavouring method

into processing to increase production capacity more than 2.5 times and improve the taste of dried fish products. The products processed by directly injecting seasoning liquid into fish slices taste better than others, and the walleye pollack disembowelling device made by its technicians helps remove manual work on the assembly line and save much manpower. They added extracted offshore seafood to the seasoning liquid so as to promote the taste and flavour peculiar to seafood, and used a nano-class natural material as additive to prolong the storage time of products three times without using any antiseptic.

The installation of a new operating program on a modern vacuum drying oven made it possible to further raise the informatized level in equipment operation and production. The oven geared to making frozen raw materials into finished products by creating the state

of vacuum in the airtight oven is a modern processing facility with high productivity which preserves the original taste and colour of marine products. The introduction of a multilayer drying method as required by the drying oven's capacity helped reduce the consumption of electricity and shorten the time of processing. The factory also turns out instant materials for soup favoured by housewives. Especially, they can prepare the walleye pollack soup in a short time with the help of the walleye pollack soup material without adding other spices.

The factory channels big efforts into developing new products while pushing the undertaking for refashioning equipment and boosting output. Newly-developed nutritious tangle drops and cod-liver oil drops are functional ones which prove effective in developing the intelligence of children and improving

## DRESSMAKING

# Technical innovation pushes production activity



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Fashionable clothes are produced at the Tongdaewon Unha Garment Factory.

The Tongdaewon Unha Garment Factory boasts a large production capacity.

It started with the production of children's clothes, traditional Korean clothes and shirts with only dozens of treadle-sewing machines. Now it is equipped with such modern garment processing facilities as high-speed power and special sewing machines to make various clothing products. In particular, it is well known to other countries for the fashionable styles and good quality of its major products, namely men's white shirts, men's suits, men's and women's short overcoats and various kinds of trousers.

The secret of the success is that the technical and practical skills of its employees are high and technical innovation plans are widely introduced into production.

The factory runs a vocational school that teaches subjects related to clothes-making such as cutting, processing and finishing. Most of the employees of the factory are “graduates” of the school.

They continue to learn in order to keep abreast of the trend of the industry and new technologies by receiving

online lectures, browsing the national network and attending lectures on computer practice.

Seeing science and technology as the key to increased production, the factory encourages employees to conceive new ideas and introduce various jigs and systems into production.

In the past it used much labour to make a kind of product which went through several processes. But the technical staff applied various jigs to reduce the production processes while speeding up the processing of products.

For example, a jig was introduced to make four-layer waist linings of trousers, which had been made through four working processes, in one process, ensuring the highest processing speed and quality per unit of products and further increasing the production efficiency.

Light sensor, power management support system and other technical innovation plans have been applied to fixed cutter and other equipment, which are greatly helpful for putting production on a normal track.

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PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A variety of aquatic products are processed at the Kalma Foodstuff Factory.

their eyesight. Particularly, the fermented walleye pollack made of its branchiae which were thrown away in the past is winning popularity for its good chewing and hot taste.

The factory's several products have been highly appreciated in different shows and registered as excellent products.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT



STUDY

# Learning of advanced technology in vogue

Sci-tech learning spaces have been built in almost all factories and enterprises in recent years in line with the requirements of the knowledge economy era.

They are always crowded with employees who come to acquire modern science and technology and ample knowledge.

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill is one of the units which are very good at running sci-tech learning spaces.

Many of its employees have enrolled at the distance education colleges of various universities.

As their enthusiasm for learning grows, their technical skills improve and a series of valuable technical innovation plans are proposed and introduced in turn, which gives boost to production.

“As employees learn advanced technologies in the sci-tech learning space, science

and technology is closely combined with production and the production is put on a Juche and modern basis at a high level,” chief engineer Choe Song Hun said.

The sci-tech learning space is a favourite haunt of the employees at the Phyongsong Synthetic Leather Factory.

The e-reading room built in the sci-tech learning space gives them access to any necessary information and e-books through sites of several units such as the Sci-Tech Complex, the Grand People’s Study House and the Central Information Agency for Science and Technology.

Workers attend lectures at the online lecture room and learn latest science and technology to their heart’s content in their workplaces. They call the sci-tech learning space “a reliable assistant” that helps them build up the tower of knowledge and

properly solve scientific and technological problems arising in reality.

Officials and workers of the Ryuwon Footwear Factory, which plays an important role in the country’s shoe-making industry, often visit the sci-tech learning space to solve the problems arising in diversifying products in kind, shape and colour by dint of science and technology.

New scientific and technological data in various domains of the industry are added to the database on a regular basis so that they can keep abreast of the developing trend and technical matters.

With the level of knowledge and technical skills of the employees improving, a growing number of them are raising new designs and innovative plans.

By Pang Un Ju PT



Employees at the Unha Daesong Foodstuff Factory acquire advanced technologies at the sci-tech learning space.

SPECIALITY

# Songi mushroom

Songi mushroom is a world-famous Korean speciality, along with *Panax schinseng* and Koryo insam, for its food value and pharmacological features.

It is distributed in pine groves in almost all regions of the country and its major habitat is the forest zone mainly consisting of granite, quartz trachyte, sandstone and quartzite.

The fungus widely proliferates in autumn in sunny pine forests with a shallow humus layer through which water drains well or the mixed forests of pines and broadleaf trees, to form mushroom groups in certain areas.

The cap is semicircular initially and gradually spreads as widely as 5-15 centimetres in diameter. The surface is grayish and dry and has yellowish

brown trichoid scales. The flesh is white and thick and emits special fragrance.

The stem is 6-20 centimetres tall and 2-3 centimetres thick.

The mushroom is rich with crude protein, crude fat, coarse fibre, carbohydrate and various essential amino acids and such vitamins as C, B group and E. It also contains many kinds of essential microelements good for health including phosphorus and potassium. Its oil is used as a good flavouring material.

It helps build up body and develop it harmoniously, promotes digestion and stops pain.

The mushroom with unique flavour tastes fresh and is highly nutritious. It can be eaten raw or cooked by roasting, steaming and frying, or used as spices by drying and pulverizing it.

It is difficult to artificially cultivate the mushroom that lives along with pines and,



Songi mushroom (left) and liquor distilled with it.

R&D

# Device for making the most of solar energy developed

With the rapid development of the semiconductor technique the solar cell costs have seen a steady decrease every year, and the solar power generating costs in turn have become as low as the thermal power generating ones. At present, the global solar power output combined has reached dozens of GW.

Therefore, many countries conduct research competitively for the effective application of the power generation system based on sunlight.

The system is classified into the one linked with the power grid and the independent one.

The former helps maximize the utilization rate of solar energy as a system whereby electricity generated by sunlight flows into the power network when solar power output is higher than electricity in use whereas electricity is supplied from the power network when the output is lower.

The independent system aims to generate electricity by exploiting solar energy at such remote places as islands and mountain villages that are off the grid. But as it requires battery and accessory equipment, it is costly and unhandy.

That is why the grid-linked solar system accounts for 98 percent of the world solar power output.

Under this system, public facilities and homes that generate electricity by solar energy can exchange power with the grid, which means they can fully satisfy off-grid needs while contributing to the on-grid supply.

Here, it is imperative to correctly meet the grid’s demand in the linking.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

It is especially important in the DPRK at present, given that such large systems have been established in many units including the Sci-Tech Complex.

Researchers of the electric power industry institute under the Ministry of Electric Power Industry developed a system parallel inverter, the kernel in meeting such demand.

They completed a slide control technique to transfer electricity, unaffected by the voltage, frequency and wave distortion of the power system, to meet the country’s specific conditions, as well as the peak output tracking technique to maximize electricity generation. The inverter to which these techniques are applied can link solar power system with the national grid uninterruptedly under any unfavourable conditions, ensure independent operation in case of power failure and perform reactive power compensation function when it is cloudy and dark. It does not require expensive batteries while increasing the power factor of the distributing system.

The introduction of the inverter into many units including the Samcholli Lighting Appliances Factory shows that the efficiency of solar cells is improved and the generating costs are reduced by half.

The inverter was highly appreciated at the 33rd national sci-tech festival and other shows. It is efficiently used in various fields including the application of wind and tidal powers.

therefore, its artificial cultivation relying on pure culture is still impossible. But there has been certain progress in the development of the method of artificial culture of hyphae and a technology of half-artificial cultivation is being researched and developed to multiply it in natural conditions.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

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## Factory: Technical innovation encouraged

As the light sensor is fitted to fixed cutter, its motor works only when the operator puts the materials to be cut onto the knife. As a result, it increases the lifetime of electric motor and saves much electricity.

The distribution board momentary and power consumption statistics program, a power management support system, enables users to tighten the grasp and control of momentary state and power consumption in units and save power.

The factory, whose production and management activities such as planning and process control are put on an IT and scientific basis, celebrated its 60th anniversary recently.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

# Association works hard for happy families

May 15 is International Family Day.

It is everyone's dream to build a happy family with healthy children, which is guaranteed by reproductive health.

Growing attention is being paid by government and non-governmental organizations to ensuring reproductive health.

The government pays special attention to reproductive health as it enforces universal free medical care by regarding humans as the most valuable beings.

All hospitals and clinics across the country have an obstetrics and gynaecology department and there are modern maternity hospitals in Pyongyang and provinces.

Constant efforts are made to enhance the reproductive health rights and provide women with

quality services.

In such efforts, the Korean Family Planning & Maternal Child Health Association (KFP&MCHA) is an active player.

It strives to champion sexual and reproductive health and rights and provide such services for all, especially the underserved. In recent years, the association, in cooperation with the government and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), has improved SRHR and channelled efforts into IEC activities to raise the awareness of adolescents about SRH, while consolidating material and technical foundations for safe abortion service.

According to its strategic plan 2016-2020, the association carries on brisk publicity

activities related to SRH while encouraging young people to take an active part in the activities.

Reproductive health services through FP clinics and outreach service teams of the association are winning favour with residents.

The association has implemented the project for the establishment of associated clinics since 2016 and set up and operated well over 100 such clinics in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, local government organs and health service institutions.

This has helped deepen the contents of services including the utilization of decision making tools in FP services, counselling skills and selection of appropriate FP methods and management of side-effects, thereby remarkably improving the quality of care.

When public awareness of reproductive health is increased and when people's demand is fully met, families and society will have a happier and more beautiful future.

By Kim Yong PT



The KFP&MCHA takes an active part in international health-related events.

By Kim Yong PT

APPLIANCE

# Home-made endoscopes highly appreciated

The Pyongyang Endoscope Technical Exchange Company has made remarkable successes in the domestic production of different kinds of endoscopes over the past decades.

Deputy director Han Hye Chol and the research group of the company have persistently conducted research with an eye to manufacturing endoscopes with local efforts and technologies.

The researchers first focused on increasing their image resolution to ensure the accuracy of checkup.

They converted the former expensive optical fibre lighting system into a cheap LED lighting one and realized an electronic image expansion system based on CCD chips, thereby increasing the resolution dozens of times more than previously. And as they recorded the still images and animations obtained by the endoscopes, they made them compatible with computer.

In the efforts to make them smaller and lighter they completed a technology of manufacturing micro objective lens to decrease lens diameter to one third of that of an advanced country and minimized the external diameters of working parts.

They finally unrolled over 20 kinds of inflexible, flexible and electronic image endoscopes including those for stomach, digestive tract, thoracic and abdominal cavities, ENT, urinary organs, uterus, cerebral ventricle, galactophore and tear ducts.

In particular, endoscopes for galactophore and tear ducts are 0.6mm and 0.8mm respectively in the external diameters of working parts.

Most recently, they developed an endoscope with which to observe organic tissues at a cell level for the first time in the country.

The company also produces various industrial endoscopes. Its endoscopes are being

used at the health sector and several economic sectors and as they bring great benefits they are popular with foreign customers.

According to Han Hye Chol, foreign participants in the 26th international health exhibition held in Russia's Moscow in December 2016 admired the DPRK's endoscopes as they were technically on a par with the products of internationally-recognized foreign companies and better than them in some indexes.

By Pang Un Ju PT



Sets of endoscope.

PROFILE

# Devoting four decades to child education



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Ri Kyong Suk (middle) with schoolchildren.

Ri Kyong Suk, headmistress of Hasin Primary School in Sosong District, Pyongyang, has dedicated herself to education for more than four decades.

The 61-year-old is enjoying respect of her pupils and their parents as she has cultivated the future of the country with conscience and boundless devotion.

After graduating from a teachers training college, she became a teacher as she wished.

The then 18-year-old teacher asked herself "What sincerity should teachers devote to younger generation?"

She thought that it would be to add the sincerity and wishes of mothers who hope for their children's success to high credentials and clear conscience.

Though she was still young with bobbed hair, she threw herself into training.

In her maidenhood, her qualifications and passion stood out at national teaching contests and she was promoted to schoolmistress in her early 40s.

Since then, she has worked hard to improve edification and educational environment, and update its conditions over the past two decades.

She believes that only when they work in a creative manner, can educationists train children to be creative beings.

Busy as she was with administrative work, she continued her speculation and quest to acquire multifarious knowledge.

In the course of making research to arouse the intellectual interest of children to meet their psychological features, she conceived an idea to introduce information technology into

teaching as required by the IT era.

Accordingly, the school carried out a huge undertaking for converting all teaching contents into hundreds of multimedia presentations, creating a new teaching method.

A video "Honour pupil" among the multimedia presentations is appreciated as a role model throughout the country as it proves effective in scientifically impressing schoolchildren with teaching contents and cultivating their intellectual faculties.

The generalization of model teaching methods for many subjects is also attributable to the painstaking efforts of Ri Kyong Suk.

She also paid attention to the extracurricular education.

Her school runs such hobby groups as table tennis, national musical instruments and vocal music on a regular basis to help pupils develop their talent.

Many of its graduates have entered schools of higher grade.

She never feels contented with her work.

Her uncommon efforts to renovate the educational conditions and environment are closely associated with multifunctional classrooms, laboratories and teaching forest.

She has been honoured to attend the national conference of educationists and other meetings and awarded titles of merited and people's teacher.

Many of her pupils who are now scientists, artistes and sportspeople often visit the school to see her.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



CHOE WON CHOL



## RED CROSS

## IFRC advocates SMILE in RC activities

An event was held at the Taedonggang Diplomatic Club in Pyongyang on May 17 to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

It was attended by Paek Yong Ho, executive vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society, relevant officials, members of the country offices of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international organizations as well as members of the diplomatic community in the country.

Ri Ho Rim, secretary general of the DPRK Red Cross Society, in his presentation, referred to the strategic plan 2016-2020 of the national society, saying the overall vision of the plan is to build safer, healthier and resilient communities by mobilizing power of humanity. He added that the society has focused on the integrated programme of community-based projects.

Joseph Muyambo, acting head of

the IFRC country office, said that the theme of this year's World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is "Smile" and pointed to the need for RC staff and volunteers to bring smile and hope to people, treating them all with hospitality, dignity and humanity.

And Bart Tony Vermeiren, head of the ICRC country office, said the international committee has worked with the national society and relevant ministries of the DPRK since 2002, conducting activities in such fields as physical rehabilitation, peri-urban water supply, health and support on removal of old lethal remnants of war dating back to the Korean war. He added that the ICRC sincerely welcomes the April 27 Panmunjom Declaration adopted by both the north and south of Korea.

The participants watched a video showing the activities of the national society to prevent flu.

By Song Jong Ho PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is highlighted with an event at the Taedonggang Diplomatic Club.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## National workshop focuses on wetland conservation

A National Workshop on the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands in the DPRK took place at the Taedonggang Diplomatic Club in Pyongyang on May 16 under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection.

The event was attended by officials of the State Commission of Science and Technology, Ministry of Land and Environment Protection, National Tourism Administration, National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, management station of the Mundok migratory bird reserve, Rason City People's Committee and various other related units, wetland experts, a delegation of foreign wetland experts led by Dr. Lew Young, chief executive of the EAAFP (East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership), and staff members of resident foreign diplomatic missions and those of international organizations.

The DPRK conducted positive activities to join the Ramsar Convention. It inscribed the Mundok and Rason migratory bird reserves on the list of wetlands of international importance, or the Ramsar wetland list, and submitted applications to join the Ramsar Convention and as a partner of the EAAFP in January.

The EAAFP confirmed that these wetlands fully conform with the Ramsar standards 2, 5 and 6 for the selection of wetlands of



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A National Workshop on the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands is held in Pyongyang.

international importance and selected them as the first Ramsar sites in the DPRK. According to the admission procedures, the DPRK's accession came into effect on May 16. It also selected the Kumya and Mundok migratory bird reserves as the East Asian Australasian flyway network sites in April.

The workshop aimed to review activities conducted in the DPRK for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and share experience and lessons in other countries.

There were presentations on the themes of "Wetland conservation in the DPRK", "Flyway network sites in DPRK: the Mundok and Kumya migratory bird reserves", "Ramsar sites in DPRK: the Mundok and Rason migratory bird reserves", "The international environment cooperation with DPRK and in the region" and others. The event also featured a video show "Future of humankind and environment" (10) and a photo exhibition showing the situation of migratory bird reserves.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

## LEISURE

## New February 2 products registered

More than 40 kinds of products have newly been registered as February 2 Products in the first quarter of this year.

Among them are the maize jelly and other foodstuffs from the Sonhung Foodstuff Factory, the bottled water from the Kangso Mineral Water Factory and the caramel from the Kyonghung Unhasu Foodstuff Factory.

They also include an overcoat and jacket for children and the mirrors favoured by people.

In the first quarter, the crosslinking polyethylene insulation electric cable from the Pyongyang Electric Cable Factory 326 was certified for quality while production processes of sweets and cakes, bread, rice cake, meat and drink from the Kumkhop General Foodstuff Factory for Sportspeople certified for management system.

Compiled from KCNA

## Paduk centre crowded with kids

Amidst the growing public interest in and enthusiasm for paduk, or go, the Sinwon Paduk Centre in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, is drawing many enthusiasts every day.

Most of them are children aged from five to six.

A dozen years back when the centre was opened visitors covered a wide range of age groups. As time passed, "small visitors" gradually and spontaneously replaced the old ones.

The paduk hall has now turned into a "children's paduk classroom".

The cosy yet small hall accommodates dozens of children, who learn paduk from the rudiments to high skills and various playing methods and brilliant tactical moves in various circumstances.

The centre is widely known for its higher levels of education than others in the city.

For example, the trainees

of the centre win the national contests as well as the spring and autumn Pyongyang municipal competitions.

The centre decides grades and levels of the children one or two times every month while teaching playing methods, rules and techniques to suit their psychological features and often organizes games of various forms and methods.

Such contests attract the interest of parents and experts and fans as well, as they are as much breathtaking as those of seniors.

Since 2009 when it first produced the winner of the Pyongyang municipal competition, 15 of its "students" have won and over 20 reached the podium or obtained technical prizes in several competitions.

Six-year-olds Kim

Kyong Un and Song Hyo Un and five-year-old Kwon Se Won won the recent Pyongyang municipal spring tournament, recording 10 straight wins by the centre.

Kwon Se Won began to learn paduk when he was three.

"Paduk has special effect on

the development of children's intelligence. Parents are all so pleased that they say paduk has helped their children improve observation and inquiry and developed their ability to analyse the evolution and changes of matters and phenomena," says Ha Ok Ryon, manageress of the centre.

"The centre will work hard to train more paduk talents by promoting paduk."

By Jong Sun Bok PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Sinwon Paduk Centre is packed with young enthusiasts.



# Full report praises leader's distinguished services for inter-Korean reconciliation, peace and prosperity

*The Information Department for Reunification of the DPRK Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Country released on May 12 a detailed report on the great exploits Kim Jong Un, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, has performed to usher in a new era of national unity, reunification, peace and prosperity.*

*The following are the excerpts from it:*

In his New Year Address Chairman Kim Jong Un offered an initiative to do a U-turn on inter-Korean relations that had been frozen by the anti-DPRK sanctions and pressure campaign and frantic war moves of the anti-reunification hawkish forces at home and abroad.

He voiced his willingness to take necessary measures for the 23rd Winter Olympics in south Korea including the dispatch of a delegation, and referred to early authority-level talks in this regard. And he said it was quite natural to share the pleasure of the fellow countrymen and join their celebrations. Such remarks prompted a whirlwind of reaction within and outside.

Afterwards, he took a series of measures to put his initiative into practice.

On January 9, amid the keen

interest and attention of the Koreans and the international community, high-ranking officials of the north and the south met together in the southern part of Panmunjom, which was followed by working-level talks for the successful holding of the Winter Olympics, dispatch of an advance group, joint training at the Masikryong Ski Resort and other inter-Korean events.

The peerlessly great man's ardent love of the nation brought a warm wave of national reconciliation and unity to south Korea that hosted the 23rd Winter Olympics despite the mid-winter cold.

The dispatched Samjiyon Orchestra and contingents of athletes and supporters of the DPRK conducted sincere activities in south Korea, filling the locals with fraternity and enthusiasm for reunification.

The participating athletes of the north and the south marched hand in hand—to the tune of the oldie *Arirang*—around the venue of the opening ceremony while waving the flags bearing the Korean map, which demonstrated to the world the Korean people's feeling of inseparable fraternity and determined spirit to unite and live together.

Notably, a high-level delegation's visit to attend

the opening ceremony of the 23rd Winter Olympics marked an occasion in showing the DPRK's firm will to achieve national reconciliation and unity and improve inter-Korean relations.

Chairman Kim Jong Un sent a high-level delegation again to the closing ceremony on February 25 and dispatched a delegation and a contingent of athletes to the following Winter Paralympics in south Korea in March, revealing the DPRK's steady readiness to seek inter-Korean reconciliation and improve relations.

When he met with the members of the high-level delegation back home, he said that the ardent desire and common determination of the north and the south brought an atmosphere favourable to reconciliation and dialogue on the occasion of the Olympic Games. Stressing the need to further promote such tendency and pile up fine results, he set forth the concrete direction of the improvement of the relationship and gave important instructions to the relevant sector to adopt practical measures in this regard.

Such seasoned leadership and close concern have injected new impetus to national reconciliation and unity, dashing the schemes of the anti-reunification forces at home and abroad who were

desperately attempting to sow distrust between the fellow countrymen.

On March 5, Chairman Kim Jong Un met with the south Korean presidential mission and reaffirmed that it is the DPRK's consistent and principled stand and his own firm will to join efforts of the Korean nation in order to advance the inter-Korean relationship vigorously and open a new chapter for national reunification proudly for all to see.

Despite his tight political schedule, he took time to meet the key members of a south Korean art troupe on its visit to Pyongyang. After seeing its performance "Spring Comes", he said the performance brought spring of peace to all the fellow countrymen in the north and south. When such positive atmosphere is kept and built up with care, he noted, there will always be a balmy spring with all things coming to life and a fruitful autumn with rich harvest ahead of the Korean people.

Later working-level talks were held successively true to the ennobling intention of the great man to gear up for the inter-Korean summit meeting and talks, with arrangements completed one by one to this end.

On April 27, Kim Jong Un

who is also chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea came to Panmunjom to hold the summit meeting and talks.

As the first of its kind in the national history, the scene of the top leaders of the north and the south breaking down the forbidden line, the wall of division, by crossing over the demarcation line hand in hand caused a great stir all around the world.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un held talks with south Korean counterpart Moon Jae In at the House of Peace in the southern part of Panmunjom and reached consensus over the agenda items. They signed the Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Reunification of the Korean Peninsula and exchanged their own copies.

The Panmunjom Declaration pulsating with Kim Jong Un's will of independent reunification is a signal flare that was fired at the starting line of opening a new page for inter-Korean relations.

The historic Panmunjom summit and talks and the April 27 Declaration have set the reunification clock that had stopped for 11 years back into motion and ushered in a new era of independent reunification, peace and prosperity.

## NUCLEAR ISSUE

### US withdrawal from Iranian nuclear deal sparks reaction

The US decided to withdraw from the Iranian nuclear deal on May 8.

This has provoked a strong reaction of Iran.

On May 9 Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said the US has made a big mistake, denouncing that what it makes an issue of is not Iran's nuclear programme, but its existence and missile programme and if Iran accepts them the US will raise other issues.

President Hassan Rouhani said that, unlike the US, Iran has always fulfilled its commitments to the nuclear deal. Iran has experienced such a decision historically, he noted.

Saying that he has already ordered the country's atomic energy organization to get ready for resuming nuclear enrichment on an industrial level, he stated that from now on all will be decided according to the national interests.

The speaker of the Iranian parliament said the US has played a diplomatic game over the nuclear deal for over a year. If Iran fails to achieve its

goals according to the nuclear agreement, it will seek its own interests irrespective of its commitments, he noted.

The US decision has come under criticism of the international community.

The Russian Foreign Ministry, in a statement on May 8, expressed concern over the US' withdrawal from the Iranian nuclear deal.

The US unilaterally refused to implement the multinational joint action plan on Iran's nuclear programme concluded in 2015 and decided to resume anti-Iran sanctions, the statement said, criticizing it as a gross violation of the norms of international law in disregard of the opinion of the majority of the countries and in pursuit of self-interests.

The decision has newly confirmed that the US is unable to carry out the agreement, it said, and it also shows that the US dissatisfaction with Iran's legitimate nuclear activities is nothing but a cover for settling political accounts with this

country.

The spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, in a news conference on May 9, expressed regret about the US decision.

He said that the nuclear deal is a multilateral agreement and therefore each party should honestly implement and defend it.

Under the present situation China calls on each party to work hard to ensure that the agreement continues to be implemented by maintaining the direction of political and diplomatic solution and reasonably managing and controlling the differences of opinion with responsible approach, he noted.

European nations also express dissatisfaction with the US over the decision to withdraw from the Iranian nuclear deal.

The French president expressed apprehension saying the US decision has placed the nuclear non-proliferation system at risk.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

## EPIDEMIC

### Africa on high alert for Ebola reappearance

The Ebola fever known as a fatal disease has broken out again in the Democratic Republic of Congo to arouse serious concern of the international community.

The Congolese Ministry of Public Health on May 8 confirmed that 17 residents in Equator Province died of the disease and another 21 people were infected with the Ebola virus.

The filovirus that causes haemorrhagic fevers broke out near the Ebola River in the country in 1976 for the first time and rapidly spread to the middle and eastern regions of Africa, taking a heavy toll of lives.

Between late 2013 and 2016 it speedily found its way to West Africa and other continents, killing more than 11 000 and infecting nearly 30 000, and gave rise to Ebola phobia around the world.

The World Health Organization sounded a note of alarm over the recent loss of life in the African country and appealed for taking substantial measures to prevent its

transmission.

African countries are taking proactive steps to this end.

The Kenyan government has sent 100 medical experts to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport for the strict screening of travellers from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Health workers who were dispatched to the western border and ports have set up clinical wards and ambulances are on standby to provide against emergencies.

Ghana has established a system of informing a relevant organ of any similar symptoms of the disease at ports and border areas and intensified hygienic information activities to raise public awareness of the epidemic.

Burundi, Zambia, Tanzania and other African countries have declared a state of emergency.

They are taking scrupulous preventive measures in close cooperation with relevant international organizations.

By Song Jong Ho PT



## SOCCER

# April 25 tops group preliminaries for AFC Cup finals

Group I (East Asian region) preliminary matches for the 2018 AFC Cup soccer finals have come to an end.

There was the second preliminary match on May 16 between April 25 of the DPRK and Hang Yuen FC of Chinese Taipei, both belonging to Group I.

Earlier, both teams had played five group league matches.

April 25 won the two rounds of home and away matches with China's Benfica Macau and Hwaepul of the DPRK and the first match with Hang Yuen FC to earn 15 points in total, and Hang Yuen lost all five matches and came to play the final match with no points.

The first leg at Hang Yuen's home stadium on March 14 ended with April 25's 5-1 win.

The second match at May Day Stadium, April 25's base, started with Hang Yuen FC's kickoff.

Both teams played with full vigour as they had already experienced the first encounter.

April 25 opened the scoring with Hang Yuen FC's own goal.

In the 24th minute April 25's forward No. 22 Ri Hyong Jin dribbled past along the left side of the opponent's goal area and gave a strong shot, which hit the body of Hang Yuen FC's centre back into the net.

In the 26th minute Hang Yuen FC was awarded a penalty and scored an equalizer. But a few minutes later April 25 scored another goal with a header from corner kick to lead the opponent

2-1.

April 25 continued to hold the initiative and threatened the goal area of Hang Yuen FC with well-knit person-to-person combinations, fast breaks, long-distance shots and free kicks, raising points in the 34th and 40th minutes.

April 25 was still dominant with unilateral offensive in the second half which began with its 4-1 lead.

In the 77th minute April 25's forward No. 13 Rim Chol Min headed in a volley from the right side, raising its score to 5-1.

Hang Yuen FC attempted several counterattacks, but in vain.

Finally, April 25 topped the group to secure a berth for the 2018 AFC Cup finals.

By Jong Tang Song PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The DPRK's April 25 overpowers Hang Yuen FC of Chinese Taipei 5-1 in the preliminary group match for 2018 AFC Cup finals.

## TABLE TENNIS

# Disabled persons exhibit skills



KCNA  
A scene from the 2018 spring table-tennis competition of persons with disabilities and amateurs.

The 2018 spring table-tennis competition of persons with disabilities and amateurs took place at the gymnasium of Kim Il Sung University between May 7 and 13.

It was held divided into the disabled-amateur category, the amateur category by ages and the mixed amateur doubles category and drawing more than 310 players including over 40 persons with disabilities and some ten foreign amateurs.

Through the games disabled players showed off the skills they had honed while enjoying the benefits of the government policy on protecting the disabled.

In the doubles event of the disabled and amateur, Yu Myong Sin (one-wrist amputee) and Jong Song Ryol beat all opponents to come first by properly combining prearranged serve with instantaneous hit and short and long balls.

Kim Yong Rok, two-forearm amputee who had won the disabled category last year, drew special attention of spectators.

He formed a pair with amateur Ri Myong Chon to compete with amateurs in their 40s-50s and came third.

Spectators enthusiastically

cheered him as he exhibited such high techniques as counterattack with quick movement, pushing and instantaneous hit to overpower his opponents.

In the award ceremony amateur Ri Hyon Bin was awarded the technical prize for his powerful drive, pushing and instantaneous hit.

The fighting spirit prize went to Jo Chi Hwa in his 70s, the forte prize to Ho Hwi in his 60s, the popularity prize to Ri Yu Il, an official at Kim Chaek University of Technology, and the morality prize to Kim Jong Hup, a man with disabilities.

"Players make remarkable progress in table-tennis technique amid growing public interest in the competition of persons with disabilities and amateurs," said Ri Pun Hui, secretary general of the Korean Sports Association of the Disabled under the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled. "Persons with disabilities, in particular, feel the worth of their life through the games, hardening their confidence that they can also make a contribution to social development as members of society."

By Yun Kyong Il PT

## ARCHAEOLOGY

# Remains shed light on primitive Korean society

The archaeological site of Sophohang in Kulpho-ri has several cultural layers that represent the country's Paleolithic, Neolithic and Bronze ages. It is located at Sopho port of Kulpho-dong in Rason City.

It borders the sea and lake on the east, west and south and mountains on the northeast.

It covers about 4 000 square metres and the cultural layers of several historical ages are 4

metres thick.

Primitive relics and remains dating back to the Bronze and Neolithic ages were first discovered at the site in 1947 and those of the Paleolithic age were unearthed in 1962.

Artifacts of the Paleolithic era include such working tools as sharp-edge marble scraper which are believed to be used by primitive men in the era for skinning animals and removing the fur.

The site is estimated to trace back to the middle or later period of the Paleolithic Age in view of characteristics (shape, workmanship and others) of the relics discovered there.

The discovery scientifically proved that the Korean ancestors had been living in the country with their unique and long cultural traditions since time immemorial. It also made it possible to see the history of primitive Korean society which

has so far been unknown.

For the great academic value of the heritage site, the culture representing the relics and remains from the site is called "Kulpho culture".

A piece of information of the Rason City History Museum says: "According to the excavation and survey conducted by the museum between 1947 and 1948, relics of a primitive community were found. At the time the site was believed to cover about 400 square metres and belong to the Bronze Age."

An old record of the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences says: "In 1957 when there was a boom in local industry,

ancient earthenware pieces were discovered in the course of digging up oyster shells by the Sonbong Foodstuff Factory. As soon as it was reported, the site unearthing began, resulting in a discovery of the relics of the Neolithic Age. From 1960 many house sites and stone implements from the Neolithic and Bronze ages were also unearthed. Later, even those of the Paleolithic Age were found, a great event in the country's history."

The Sophohang site in Kulpho-ri refutes the arguments of Japanese scholars that there had never been a Paleolithic Age in Korea.

By Yang Ryon Hui PT