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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspects new railway

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, inspected the completed Koam-Tapchon railway.

He was accompanied by Kim Yong Su and Jo Yong Won, senior officials of the WPK Central Committee.

A few years ago, the Supreme Leader unrolled a plan for building a large-scale fishing zone in the areas of Koam, Tapchon and Chonapho which have favourable conditions for developing the fishing industry and set forth a task to build the Koam-Tapchon railway in a modern fashion as a preceding process.

Builders, scientists and technicians wonderfully built a railway bridge across the rough sea of Sokjon Bay by overcoming unfavourable conditions and a multitude of difficulties with the do-or-die will and the spirit of self-reliance, thus performing a



great feat of breaking new ground in the country's history of railway construction.

He was very satisfied to see the railway line stretching far across the rough sea, saying that it looks so wonderful, he seems to see a work of art and another problem of the Party's concern has been settled.

Noting that the completion of the railway linking Koam with the Songjon peninsula opened up a broad avenue to rapidly stepping up the construction of the Tapchon fishing zone and satisfactorily transporting caught fish as planned by the Party, he highly praised the builders, scientists and technicians

for having successfully carried out the uphill project with their own efforts.

The completion of the Koam-Tapchon railway helps remarkably raise the revolutionary spirit and working zeal of the Korean people who are dynamically speeding up the grand march for economic construction true to the decisions made at the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee, he said, adding that it once again convinced them of the powerful Juche-based strength of our state which is making leaps forward continuously on the basis of the solid groundwork of the self-supporting economy.

He gave thanks to the builders and officials in the name of the WPK Central Committee in high appreciation of the exploits of them who successfully completed the Koam-Tapchon railway through an indefatigable heroic struggle.

Compiled from KCNA

STATEMENT

Regret expressed about US sudden decision

Kim Kye Gwan, first vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK, on May 25 issued the following statement upon authorization:

A historic summit meeting has been high on the agenda between the DPRK and the US amid extraordinary interest of the world, and preparations for it have been pushed at the final stage.

The DPRK's sincere pursuit and proactive efforts have won unanimous sympathy and support from home and abroad as they are geared to eliminating the decades-long hostile relationship and distrust and paving the way for improved bilateral relations.

But all of a sudden, US President Trump announced

an official stand on May 24 to cancel the bilateral summit which has been a fait accompli.

As to the reason for that, he said that the statement of Choe Son Hui, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK, carries "tremendous anger and open hostility", adding that the precious meeting that has long been planned is inopportune at present.

I would like to conclude that the announcement of his stand on the bilateral summit fails to conform to the desire of mankind for peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and beyond.

The "tremendous anger and open hostility" he referred to is nothing more than a backlash

against the intemperate remarks of the US side that has pressurized the DPRK into unilateral nuclear abandonment in the run-up to the bilateral summit.

Such unsavoury events vividly show the gravity of the current deep-rooted hostility between the DPRK and the US and the urgency of the summit meeting to remove it.

As far as the historic DPRK-US summit is concerned, we have highly appreciated inwardly and as ever the fact that President Trump made the courageous decision no former US presidents dared to make and worked hard for such a crucial event.

His announcement of the sudden and unilateral

cancellation of the talks is something unexpected to us and we cannot but feel great regret about it.

Whether he lacks the will for the summit or feels unconfident, it is hard to guess the reason. But on our part, we have made sincere efforts in the hope that the historic summit meeting and talks, as the first step towards a negotiated settlement, would mark a meaningful starting point for peace and security in the region and the rest of the world and for improved bilateral relationship.

We also inwardly hoped that what is called "Trump formula" would be a wise plan that would clear both sides of their worries, accommodate our needs and have substantial effects on the settlement of the issue.

The Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK has concentrated on the preparations for the summit,

saying that the meeting with President Trump could help get off to a good start.

The US side's unilateral cancellation, however, compels us to reconsider if we were truly right to have made efforts for it so far and to have opted for the new path.

But we remain unchanged in our commitment to peace and stability for the Korean peninsula and mankind and we are still willing to offer the US side time and opportunity with broad- and open-mindedness.

We cannot expect too much from the first meeting, but solving even one at a time in a phased way would better relations rather than worsen them. The US needs to ponder over this.

We would like to express our readiness again to come face to face with the US side to resolve issues regardless of time and procedure.

MESSAGE

NAM's support to Palestine urgently needed

Kim Yong Nam, president of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, on May 21 sent a letter to Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro Moros, who chairs the Non-Aligned Movement, in connection with Israel's bloody crackdown on the Palestinian demonstrators against the US relocation of its embassy to al-Quds or Jerusalem, which ended up in thousands of casualties.

Kim strongly condemned Israel for the brutal killing and indiscriminate violence against the peaceful Palestinian demonstrators demanding their legitimate rights.

He politely reminded the Venezuelan President of Paragraph 289 of Chapter 2 of the final document of the 17th NAM summit which called for directing efforts to helping Palestine establish a legitimate

state of the Palestinian people and exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and freedom to build an independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

He emphasized the need for NAM to criticize the bloody crackdown and atrocities committed by Israel and take an immediate action to express support and solidarity with the just cause of the Palestinian people, in accordance with the decision of the abovesaid document.

Kim Yong Nam reaffirmed the DPRK's stand to further promote cooperation with the NAM member states including Venezuela in maintaining the principles and objectives and enhancing the role of the movement.

The letter was distributed to the NAM member states.

Compiled from KCNA

CONSTRUCTION

Project for C1 chemical industry makes progress

Construction projects are being pushed for the establishment of the C1 chemical industry.

The frameworks of over a dozen buildings and other structures have been completed and the installation of a huge pipeline is nearing completion.

Now interior work and assembly of various pieces of equipment, pillars and beams are under way in a three-dimensional way.

Over the past one month alone, builders carried out 1 100 cubic metres of concrete tamping for foundations, making and assembly of hundreds of tons of various steel structures and the production of more than 2 000 cubic metres of gravel, thereby finishing the frameworks of the desalinating field, thawing store, methanol storage tank and others.

The Chemical Construction Complex is making innovations in different works.

Construction Workshop No. 1 and the Anju Chemical Construction Company speeded up the making of well over a hundred concrete pillars and beams to provide a guarantee for completing the construction of the slag

treatment ground and coal yard. The Ponghak Chemical Construction Company erected the steel structures of the huge methanol storage tank and assembled the wall block for the methanol loading platform in a short time and carry on plastering and other internal work. The Namhung Construction Machine Factory built the framework of the thawing store and hastened the welding and pipe connection for the pipe network.

The Suncheon Chemical Complex ensures high speed and quality in the building of the main framework of the pumping station for circulating water as it covers an area of more than 1 000 square metres with temperature-preserving housing, and pushes the production of concrete mixture. It has finished the monolithic concrete tamping for beams of the pumping station for circulating water while making well over a hundred floor building parts. It is now working on the construction of the power distribution station for gas purification, oxygen plant and frequency converter room.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Northern nuclear test site dismantled

The northern nuclear test site of the DPRK has completely been dismantled according to the decision of the Third Plenary Meeting of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

After the publication of the decision on dismantling the nuclear test site at the April plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee, the DPRK Nuclear Weapons Institute and relevant institutions immediately stopped all preparations and projects related to nuclear tests and have conducted phased dismantlement.

The tunnels and all kinds of equipment, information communications and power systems, and construction and operation equipment that had been installed at the observation and control centres and research institute of the test site were dismantled and removed.

An event took place on May

24 to dismantle the nuclear test site.

The dismantlement was covered by journalists from China, Russia, the US, Britain and south Korea on the spot.

After being briefed on the method and order of dismantlement of the test site, members of the international press corps looked round the tunnels, in which nuclear tests had been carried out, as well as the ones which were ready for immediately conducting safe and powerful nuclear tests, and the observation centres.

The work of collapsing all the tunnels in the way of explosion, blocking their entrances and exploding all ground structures including the observation centres was carried out transparently in order.

After the explosion, a statement of the DPRK Nuclear Weapons Institute was issued on the spot.

The statement said that there was a ceremony of completely

dismantling the northern nuclear test site on May 24 2018 to transparently guarantee the discontinuation of nuclear tests, and it was confirmed that there were neither leakage of radiation nor any negative impact on the surrounding ecological environment.

"The dismantling of the nuclear test site in high transparency has clearly proved once again the proactive and peace-loving efforts of the DPRK government working for peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and beyond.

"The discontinuation of nuclear test is an important process for global nuclear disarmament, and the DPRK will closely work together with the world's peace-loving people to build a new independent world, nuclear-free and peaceful, where the dreams and ideals of humankind are realized," the statement noted.

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POWER GENERATION

Provinces carry on power station construction

Projects are now dynamically pushed forward across the country to build power stations that suit local conditions.

Kangwon Province has launched projects to build several minor power stations, as part of its effort to ensure self-reliance in power supply in the near future.

The excavation and concrete tamping for the dam foundation was completed for the project of the Ichon Army-People Power Station. The dam construction, waterway tunnelling and the building of generator rooms are going on in a three-dimensional way at the construction sites in Kosong, Sepho, Hoeyang and

Phyonggang counties.

As minor power stations are being built simultaneously in several places, the provincial army-people power station construction headquarters give priority to technical innovation in order to hasten the construction. This year alone saw the development of a new blast gas neutralizing agent with locally abundant raw materials to be introduced into waterway tunnelling, invention of construction methods which help speed up the project while saving manpower and materials and the introduction of a new portable electric blasting device which is cost-effective.

The Hungju Youth Power Station Unit 4 project is going full steam ahead in Kanggye, Jagang Province.

The power station is expected to be profitable as it is furnished with a power production system based on an air-filling rubber dam. Simple in structure, this kind of dam can be built much faster than previously with a less amount of building materials and costs. The builders set up a process to carry out all works continuously from selection of aggregate to concrete mixing and found aggregate resources in the nearby areas to increase the construction speed.

Those of Orangchon Power Station Unit 5 in North Hamgyong Province have already finished tunnelling a waterway, installing inverted siphons, building a surge tank, and making and fixing a pressure iron pipeline, and assembled the equipment for the substation and generator in a short time and tested the generator.

After finishing the hydrotechnical construction, those of Ryesonggang Youth Power Station Unit 5 are now concentrating on the fabrication of equipment.



JON SON IL

Rason Youth Power Station Unit 2 increases power generation.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

PRODUCTION

Machine factory meets demand for custom-built equipment

The Ragwon Machine Complex increases the production of hydraulic excavators and equipment needed for major construction projects.

Marked progress has been made in the technical upgrading of the production line of one cubic metre hydraulic excavators as well as for improving the performance of equipment. The technical staff introduced a new technology into making high-pressure hoses, confirmed the rational rate of mixture of oil-resistant rubber and improved the structure of joint head to more than double the performance of the hydraulic system. They also reformed the quality of materials for bucket and renewed the geometric curve of its shape, thereby making an efficient

excavator bucket to be used in various working conditions. The new excavators are much better than the previous ones in the performance of hydraulic system and bucket and the mobility of the rotating body while working.

The complex has increased the production of major parts and equipment.

The technical personnel transformed the air-lubrication mode into oil-lubrication one in the production of turbine blades of large oxygen plant to lengthen the lifetime of blade axis and save much equipment and labour in the preparation process. It is now very popular with various production units equipped with large oxygen plants such as Hwanghae and Kim Chaek iron and steel

complexes and the complex steps up the technical upgrading in the production of efficient turbine blades and increases their production.

The complex also mass-produces dozens of kinds of equipment including diving pumps which are widely used in coal and other mines and the construction sector, and concrete forcing pumps and vacuum pumps which are helpful to increasing the construction speed. It makes bearings of various kinds to be used for the production of diving pumps from industrial by-products and supplies highly efficient concrete forcing pumps which can deliver dozens of cubic metres of concrete mixture per hour up to several hundred metres high buildings.

In particular, it increases the production of 0.1 cubic metre tractor excavators to be sent to farms across the country as the farming season has begun. A trailer drawn by Chollima tractors, the excavator is in great demand at farms as it is easy to handle and highly efficient in digging and loading.

The complex is now pressing on with the modernization project for production processes.



RA PHYONG RYOL

Backhoes made by the Ragwon Machine Complex are on the way to construction sites.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT

FRUIT-GROWING

Institute breeds good fruit tree species

The Pomology Institute under the Academy of Agricultural Science in Sukchon County, South Phyongan Province, plays its part as a unit in direct charge of scientific fruit farming.

It has grown well over a

hundred good species of fruit trees and worked to spread them across the country.

Newly-bred species include very early and late varieties, especially peach and apricot species that are reaped 10 days

earlier in early June, and apple and pear trees which ripen early as well as peach and apricot species whose fruits are picked in autumn and a grape variety whose clusters hang till late autumn.

Researchers selected and grew the varieties which ripen earlier but have bigger fruits with higher sugar content. Among them, there are pear and peach trees which are short but favourable to close planting. They are very productive for good fruit bearing fructification and heavy weight.

The new apple and pear species are featured by strong fragrance,



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High-yielding varieties are bred at the Pomology Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science.

FOODSTUFF

Production processes upgraded

Though small, the Songyo Foodstuff Factory is widely known for the high quality and mass-production of confectionery.

The secret of success is the modernization of production lines, they say.

The factory has already automated several production processes including those for bread, sweets and beverage while putting them on assembly line.

Home-made equipment in the upgraded processes accounts for more than 95 percent.

Every production process from feeding of raw materials to packaging is equipped with the machines the employees designed and manufactured by themselves.

In particular, dozens of facilities have been upgraded including rotating oven, conveyor for dough, drops moulding machine, beverage injector and dough feeder. At the bread production line, the main production process of the factory, a fermenting room has been furnished for the automatic control of temperature and humidity, thereby sharply increasing

fermenting capacity.

The factory has also established an integrated manufacturing system over all production processes to manage them technically and monitor and control overall production and realized the informatization of business by forming a LAN.

According to Kim Myong Ae, chief of the technical arrangement section, the upgrading of production processes has markedly reduced the costs of products and improved their quality.

The factory turns out dozens of foods that match up to nutritional and hygienic standards, such as yeast bread, sponge cake, peppermint drops, sweets with cream fillings and nutritious peanut paste. Many products have been registered as February 2 Products and highly appreciated at several exhibitions.

Especially, yeast breads of various shapes are mouth-watering.

The factory is stepping up the upgrading of other production processes.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Songyo Foodstuff Factory produces a variety of bread.

good chewing taste and rich juice. Among the grapes which ripen till October, there is a reddish species that tastes sweet, contains rich juice and is fragrant with the scent of rose.

The new species are highly resistant to cold and blight and bear fruits in a short time after planting.

The institute also directs big efforts into developing agrochemicals that suit the local conditions.

It completed a study into the utilization and effect of nanogermicide in redressing blight. Agrochemical "Jaryok No. 1" won a national patent.

The fruit tree growing and blights forecasting research office monitors the growth of fruit trees by gathering the data from survey posts across the country every ten days and every month and informs

relevant units of solutions for manuring and tending.

The institute is well furnished with various research rooms, an online consultation room and a tissue culture and acclimatization greenhouse, and provides scientific and technical guidance over fruit farms in a unified way.

It established an integrated production system for the tissue culture of fruit trees and informatized the management system as well to put business management on a scientific and IT basis, thereby laying scientific and theoretical, material and technical foundations for establishing a system of breeding pedigree species and ensuring an enough supply of good species of saplings to fruit farms across the country.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

EXHIBITION

Pyongyang hosts trade fair

The 21st Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair ran at the Three-Revolution Exhibition House in Pyongyang between May 21 and 25.

On display were products presented by more than 260 domestic and foreign companies in electronic, machine-building and building-materials industries, transport, public health, light industry and food and consumer goods industries.

Many local goods drew the attention of visitors for their high quality.

The Achim PC Joint Venture Co Ltd and Phurun Hanul Corporation presented sophisticated electronic products including different sizes of LCD TV sets, digital signal converter and mobile LED projector. The digital TV signal converter, in particular, is an improved version which ensures high resolution of TV images unaffected by local conditions and makes it possible to watch again already-broadcast films and other programmes and prearrange automatic recording. And

a newly developed digital TV aerial picks up even fine relay signals to ensure vivid images. The Samchollu Lighting Technology Trading Company presented a variety of chandeliers that add grace to buildings, power-saving lighting appliances and decorative illumination balloons that suit child psychology.

Other eye-catchers were the booths of the Chollima Tile Factory and the Pyongyang Sangwon Cement Joint Venture Company arranged with dozens of kinds of building materials. Tiles and other finishing materials came in different sizes and shapes with beautiful colours and patterns and they were far better than previous ones in quality and costs.

Sci-tech service providers such as the Jonjin Taeryun, Pothonggang economic and cutting-edge bioengineering technology companies unfolded hundreds of high-tech and intellectual products.

Crowd-pullers were the booths of medicines, foodstuffs,

consumer goods and light industrial goods.

Most favoured products were efficacious Koryo medicines and sophisticated medical appliances presented by dozens of medical research and pharmaceutical establishments including the Thosong Pharmaceutical Factory, Jongsong General Pharmaceutical Factory and Kumgangsan Trading Company, various functional health drinks from the Oil, Songi and Minbong companies and functional cosmetics from the Pyongyang and Sinuiju cosmetics factories and Myohyang Chonho Joint Venture Company.

Scores of foreign companies exhibited lots of goods. On display were hundreds of products from 15 countries including China, Iran, Italy, Mongolia, Indonesia, Syria, Cuba, Germany, Russia, New Zealand and Thailand.

Trade and other business activities were conducted to promote economic cooperation and development.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The 21st Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair runs at the Three-Revolution Exhibition House.

IT

E-atlas details local nature

The global environment information institute of the State Academy of Sciences has unveiled a national e-atlas (nature).

The e-atlas contains 216 maps, divided into nine parts, namely geology, topography, climate, hydrology, soil, sea, animals, plants and resources.

With a digital collection of the Korean physiography and other data, it provides quick and detailed information about weather forecasts, accumulated temperatures, frost, wind, precipitation and other

meteorological indexes.

Users can see digital images of seabed ruggedness, distribution of sea water temperatures, fauna and flora, underground and other resources like hot water, climate, water, tide, forestry, land and seafood, soil cover, and solar energy distribution.

The digital map is featured by high accuracy and zooming in and out.

It can be widely applied to land management, agriculture, scientific research, education and other fields. An assessment

model helps users understand data fully.

"The e-atlas will be a boon for those who study earth science," said Jon Chang Il, chief of the e-map laboratory of the global environment information institute. "It will offer fundamental space information needed to exploit natural environment and resources in such sectors as agriculture, forestry and land management. It will also help students and people broaden their horizons."

By Jong Tang Song PT

COMPETITION

Technical innovation competition proves effective

The national technical innovation competition of the April 15 technical innovation shock brigade is in full swing throughout the country to mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

The movement of the April 15 technical innovation shock brigade which was organized in 1980 on the initiative of Chairman Kim Jong Il is a collective technical innovation drive aimed at intensifying the creative cooperation between scientists and technicians and workers. The shock brigades are playing a great role in solving the scientific and technological problems arising in all industrial establishments across the country. The shock brigade members have contributed greatly to the domestic production of raw materials, fuel and equipment and the modernization of production processes by introducing into production millions of pieces of technical innovation plans over the past several decades. Typical achievements are the completion of the Juche iron production system and Juche-based production of magnesia clinker.

The current competition, which is being held under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea, is focusing on making all major industrial establishments boost production this year by giving definite precedence to science and technology, pooling wisdom and intelligence of their own technical personnel and workers and mounting a mass technical innovation drive.

The competition runs from February to September, drawing the April 15 technical innovation shock brigades active in many units of electric power, metal, chemical, machine-building

and coal industries and the rail transport sector. It is held in the form of hitting the technical innovation targets set high in each unit and reviewed quarterly for each stage. It will be reviewed in general in Pyongyang in November.

All participating units have built up the shock brigades with competent technicians and skilled workers and given tasks to them in detail, while encouraging them to introduce valuable technical ideas and enlisting as many workers as possible.

For the review in each stage the achievements are exhibited in the form of chart, multimedia presentation and model or real object.

Notable achievements have been made in several months since the beginning of the competition. Hundreds of technical innovation goals were hit in the first quarter of the year alone.

Leading units include the Chollima Steel Complex, the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the Pyongyang and Pukchang thermal power complexes, the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, the Ragwon Machine Complex, the Kumsong Tractor Factory, the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine, and the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps of the Pyongyang Railway Bureau.

The steel workshop of the Chollima Steel Complex has set up a production process of micro alloy steel, a goal for the first half of the year, and the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex completed a method of making a material for the oxygen blast furnace without pitch and the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex a powdered coal removing technology through screen-type conveyor belt respectively.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



KCNA

Members of the April 15 technical innovation shock brigade at the Pyongyang Electric Cable Factory 326 discuss an innovation plan.

MEDICAL SERVICE

Burnt baby brought to life after forty days

It was mid-January when Kim Mi Ryong, daughter of a farmers' family on the Munam Farm of Kangnam County, Pyongyang, was brought to the county people's hospital.

The then nine-month-old child was at death's door due to unexpectedly severe burns.

With a second-degree burn on the whole face and third-degree one on the left arm a large part of the baby's skin was already damaged and stripped, and fingers began to deform due to the aftermath of the burns.

Doctors of the hospital had a good experience in the treatment of burnt patients, but they were at a loss what to do as the case was too young.

Some argued that she

had to be committed to the Okryu Children's Hospital immediately.

But no one could answer the hospital director's question if the case could endure the transportation.

At this very juncture Ho Ji Yong, head of the surgical department who checked the patient's condition first, volunteered to take charge of her operation.

"It pained me a lot as her mother pleaded with me to save her child's life with tears in her eyes. What if she were my child...? At the moment I only thought that I had to do anything to bring her baby back to life," said Ho later.

That day Ho and other

surgeons launched an intensive treatment.

With the damaged parts wider than imagined, the patient often had convulsion with fever, so they had to pay constant attention to her.

They focused on resuscitating the patient while taking anti-shock and anti-convulsion treatment measures.

Consultative meetings were held dozens of times.

Intensive care for over a dozen days stabilized the vital signs of the baby, but a large amount of skin was needed to restore the damaged skin tissue and fingers.

Han Jae Gun, assistant director for technical affairs, and several other doctors and nurses donated skin for the child.

Three times of skin grafting were carried out successfully.

And the medical workers also worked hard to ensure post-surgery recovery by preparing various kinds of nutritious gruel for the baby.

"My daughter was born twice under the free medical care system of the country. Thank you, health workers and my homeland," said Kim Un Gyong, mother of the baby who was discharged after a 40-odd-day hospitalization.

By Jong Tang Song PT



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Medical workers at the Kangnam County People's Hospital in Pyongyang discuss the ways to cure a patient.

EDUCATION

School noted for training promising singers



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Schoolchildren at Pyongyang Tongan Senior Middle School are taught how to produce rich sounds.

Tongan Senior Middle School in Central District, Pyongyang, situated on the banks of the Taedong River, runs an early vocal music course.

The course recently celebrated its 35th anniversary.

"Early vocal music education, which started in May 1983 according to Chairman Kim Jong Il's far-reaching plan for promoting such education to raise excellent vocal and instrumental soloists, has produced lots of talents over the past decades to demonstrate its vitality," said Ri In Hui, People's Teacher, deputy headmistress and also section chief of the course.

To bring up talented vocalists through early education was a difficult task to break new ground in vocal education. There arose lots of problems at the outset of the early education.

Whether to change students' voice before their age or to wait for it to change was the focus of attention. Teachers did not think the significance of the early education was confined to hastening their vocal age.

As sturdy roots guarantee the growth of a large tree, they believed they should build a firm vocal basis of students from their early age in order to make their future promising. So they launched early education based on the change of their voice before age.

After years of painstaking efforts they resolved the issue of vocal change and obtained rich scientific, theoretical and practical experiences.

The school proceeded to develop a local-style vocalization, and studied and established the teaching programme and many other practical matters related to early vocal education, thereby setting the pace in this field.

Teachers have been devoted and shown extraordinary sincerity to raising future vocalists.

As excellent vocalists, they have thrown themselves into cultivating the buds of students.

Thanks to their unsung efforts, the course has produced hundreds of prize winners including dozens of champions in the annual national artistic individual contest of schoolchildren.

Among them are People's Artistes Ri Hyang Suk and Jang Yong Ok and Merited Artiste Kim Ok Gyong.

Many of the former students, now in their 20s and 30s, perform at national art troupes and play the leading parts in the five representative revolutionary operas including *The Sea of Blood* and *The Flower Girl*, adding fame to their alma mater.

These days the school has further developed the early education in line with the requirements of the developing times.

It intensifies basic education according to the order and system of technical development in the early education stage and constantly updates teaching content in keeping with the global trend.

It also promotes tutorship to give free rein to students' individuality and adopts efficient teaching methods to foster their ability to put knowledge into practice while doing away with imitation and mannerism.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

ENVIRONMENT

Presentation on nature conservation held

A national sci-tech presentation took place on May 23 at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang, with officials, scientists, technicians and lecturers in the field of nature conservation in attendance.

Kim Song Nam, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Nature Conservation Union, made opening remarks.

Over 280 pieces of papers selected from the provincial presentations were presented to the panels for the protection of forest, plant, garden and land, environmental protection, management of water resources and protection of animals and aquatic and underground resources.

Certificates and prizes were awarded to the participants who presented good papers.

Compiled from KCNA

CHILDREN'S HEALTH DAY

Children given protective inoculation

With much attention being paid to child health, inoculation was given to children and activities were conducted to spread general hygienic information in the DPRK on May 21 to mark Children's Health Day.

Vitamin A (100 000 unit) was inoculated to children between 6 and 11 months old and vitamin A (200 000 unit) and mebendazole to those between 1 and 5 years old, together with zinc pill, oral rehydration solution and compound micronutrient with the cooperation of UNICEF.

Pyongyang-based members of the UNICEF mission and country offices of international organizations and Russian, Swedish and German embassy staff members visited the people's hospital and nursery in Samjigang-ri, Jaeryong County, South Hwanghae Province, to inspect the vaccination.

They were accompanied by relevant officials of the Ministry of Public Health.

That day, resident UNFPA officers and British and Polish

embassy staff members visited Ryomyong Kindergarten in Taesong District, Pyongyang, while the Swedish and Bulgarian diplomats went to Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province to see inoculation.

Inoculation was given at all polyclinics and nurseries throughout the country.

By Pang Un Ju PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Pyongyang-based embassy staff visit the Samjigang-ri People's Hospital in Jaeryong County, South Hwanghae Province, to inspect the inoculation on Children's Health Day.

BIODIVERSITY

Biodiversity ensures sustained development

It is 25 years since the convention on biodiversity took effect.

In the period a great deal of efforts have been directed to the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity across the world.

But still great biological threats loom ahead.

According to statistics, the number of wild vertebrate animal species dwindled by nearly a third between 1970 and 2006. Especially, the biological species living in rivers, lakes and wetlands shrank by nearly 41 percent, and the kinds of fish in the North Atlantic decreased by 66 percent in the past 50 years.

In Europe 23 percent of amphibians and 21 percent of reptiles are currently threatened with extinction and over 7 000 species of animals and plants face extinction in the world.

The international community has selected "Celebrating 25

years of action for biodiversity" as the theme for this year's International Biodiversity Day (May 22) and appeals to all countries and nations to pay attention once again to the serious loss of biodiversity and deal with it with united efforts for the existence, development and future of humanity.

A variety of activities were conducted in the DPRK for biodiversity conservation in the past.

Legal framework was established for biodiversity conservation and the period for the protection of useful animals and a month for the protection of aquatic resources were set to encourage wider participation in the protection of useful animals and aquatic resources.

And sanctuaries and reserves for the protection of biosphere, nature, animals and plants, migratory birds (wetland), aquatic resources and others have been designated across the

country, over 200 in all, which are surveyed regularly.

At the same time indigenous species, like tiger, water-deer, white-bellied black woodpecker, *Rana nigromaculata* *Hallowell* and *Hucho ishikawai*, rare and endangered species and their habitats and breeding places are strictly protected and efforts are made to increase their number.

A red list of endangered animals and plants was published in 2004 as part of the effort to protect the country's biological resources, and it was updated in 2015 on the basis of a 10-year-long overall survey conducted since 2005.

International exchange and cooperation are also under way.

Only when all nations are committed to this effort, will the biodiversity of the globe, home to humanity, be successfully conserved.

By Choe Yong Nam PT



BY COURTESY OF THE DPRK NATURE CONSERVATION UNION
Naturalists from the DPRK Nature Conservation Union and the New Zealand Miranda Naturalists' Trust conducted a joint survey of migratory birds in April on Pidan Island in the West Sea of Korea.

MEDICINE

Amino acid medicines made with natural protein

Protein that is essential to metabolism is composed of amino acids. As it has been confirmed that the metabolic imbalance of amino acids causes diseases, many amino acid preparations are available in clinical practice around the world.

In keeping with the global trend, the pharmaceutical institute of the Academy of Medical Science has conducted research to develop such medicines to suit the specific conditions of the country and made a series of achievements.

Kim Myong Sim, PhD, and other researchers of the protein medicine lab have worked for more than a decade to develop amino acid medicines with natural protein.

After setting an industrial by-product that is locally abundant as their raw material they established a method of separating branched chain amino acid from it using ion exchange resin and ascertained that other forms of amino acid composition can redress amino acid imbalance in diabetes cases.

They proceeded to establish a method of controlling the composition rate of amino acids in natural protein and, on this basis, developed a technique of simultaneously producing leucine and valine hepatitis drips for the treatment of liver cirrhosis and alanine and praline capsule and drips for the cure of diabetes.

The leucine and valine hepatitis drips are fourth-generation amino acid that helps

correct hepatic insufficiency and redress the imbalance of amino acids in blood caused by dyshepatia. The medicine has been introduced into clinical practice.

Alanine and praline capsule and drips put right amino acid imbalance that occurs in diabetes cases by dint of natural physiological activator as well as metabolic impediment of amino acids and trouble in transferring nutrients, thereby raising the curative efficiency by over 80 percent. These highly efficacious medicines are patented products.

Without resting on their laurels, the researchers intensified research to develop an amino acid energizer for relieving fatigue with natural protein and succeeded in establishing its manufacturing method.

The energizer is favoured as health food for sportspersons as it reduces muscular injury caused by physical exhaustion and consumption of nutrients as well, while inhibiting the breakdown of muscular protein and promoting the synthesis of protein.

The general technique of manufacturing amino acid medicines using natural protein from the industrial by-product is not restricted by the availability of raw materials and, therefore, it is very cost-effective.

It won the first prize in the recent 33rd national sci-tech festival.

By Jong Sun Bok PT

COSMETICS

Symposium focuses on cosmetics development

A national symposium on cosmetics took place at the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

It drew scientists, technicians, lecturers and officials from the Ministry of Consumer Goods Industry, Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory, Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory, State Academy of Sciences, Kim Il Sung University, Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry and other units.

The symposium was held divided into the panels of quality raising and analysis of products and the domestic production of raw and other materials and equipment with an eye to intensifying the research into the development of cosmetics,

quality control, present situation of the global cosmetics industry and development strategy of the local cosmetics industry, as well as academic exchange.

More than 60 study papers were introduced at the meeting.

The papers related to the development and quality raising of cosmetics including the functional ones for skin protection, medical treatment and cleansing, the Juche-orientation of raw materials for cosmetics and their quality evaluation method, making of production processes germ-free and dust-free and the establishment of the integrated production system drew special attention of the participants for their practical importance.

There were also a lecture and video show.

Compiled from KCNA

IT

Pacesetter in nation's IT development

Amid the dynamic drive to put the national economy on Juche, modern, IT and scientific basis, the Korea IT Corporation plays a big role in the development of the country's information technology.

The corporation provides world competitive IT solutions and products by relying on its own technical staff and other local experts, with an eye to leading the country's IT industry.

It has several affiliates including IT trading companies, provincial, city and county e-business research institutes and IT service centres.

Its major business activities are to informatize governance, business management and socio-cultural fields and to research and develop

information security and artificial intelligence technologies.

The corporation tenders for IT projects of national importance with mandate and sets up and operates them, while overseeing joint R&D projects, sales and services. And it standardizes IT products and certifies quality control systems and products of IT companies. It also sponsors a national exhibition of IT achievements every year.

In the past the corporation made successes in the efforts to implement the national informatization development strategy by speeding up the informatization of the country and the development of the IT industry.

Its software developers

mapped out a general plan for an intelligent power grid. They developed and carried out the trial operation of the integrated settlement relay system in the mobile communications network.

In addition, they developed an intelligent classroom system for diversifying teaching methods and enhancing the visual quality of education and a mass medical care system.

The corporation also conducts a variety of technological exchanges including joint R&D with foreign partners, outsourcing, training of technicians and joint venture and attraction of investment in the telematic sector.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

US

Sanctions against Venezuela do not produce good results

The US is intensifying the attempts to stifle Venezuela.

Most recently the US Treasury Department added Venezuelan high-ranking officials and 20 companies run by Venezuelans at home and abroad to the sanctions list.

The chairman of the Venezuelan constituent national assembly said his country will never acknowledge the US sanctions, criticizing the US for pursuing unilateralism while constantly violating international law.

With its eyes set on Venezuela, one of the 10 oil producers in the world located in a place of strategic importance in Latin America, the US has long pursued sanctions and intervention against Venezuela in a bid to overthrow its anti-US and independent government.

Last year when Venezuela established a constituent national assembly for revising

its constitution to straighten out the local political disturbance, the US denounced it as “strengthening dictatorship” and applied sanctions against the Venezuelan president and high-ranking officials. It argued that the US sanctions are aimed to show its decision to call into account those involved in corruption scandals in Venezuela, and the US appeals to all partners in the world to join its “endeavours” to further isolate the “oppressive regime”.

This year the US also made desperate attempts to prevent Maduro from being re-elected as Venezuelan President and former US State Secretary Tillerson, on a visit to Latin American nations, instructed them to approach the Venezuelan issue with vigilance, in an attempt to increase international pressure on the country.

Sanctions are the same old trick to which the US often

resorts to dominate and repress other countries and find excuses for interference.

US sanctions against Venezuela are also a grave act of infringement on the sovereign rights of an independent country and a wanton violation of international law and the UN Charter on mutual respect and benefits and non-interference in other’s internal affairs.

The more the US increases pressure on Venezuela, the higher the anti-Americanism runs.

The local people extend full support to the Maduro government which maintains a tough stance towards the US.

Analysts say that the US sanctions against Venezuela only reveal political incompetency and lack of means for the White House to use to realize its aggressive foreign policy.

By Song Jong Ho PT

JAPAN

Attempt at overseas military activities brings self-ruin

Busy with military resurgence, Japan recently staged the first joint drill of its Ground and Maritime Self-Defence Forces.

The military exercise ran between May 8 and 24, involving the Ground SDF’s amphibious corps specializing in recapturing solitary islands, the first helicopter corps and Maritime SDF’s transport and escort ships.

It is too evident that for Japan, an island country, building up amphibious operation capacity will lead to overseas invasion.

Japan’s moves towards the revision of the “pacifist constitution” arouse strong apprehension at home and abroad.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party headed by prime minister Abe has set it as the party policy to revise Article 9 of the current constitution, which says that Japan shall renounce war as a sovereign right and will never maintain war potential, and is trying to do anything to make 2020 a year when a new constitution will come into effect.

The Abe regime clamours for the revision of the constitution irrespective of time and place and repeatedly submits the powder-reeking constitutional revision bill to the diet despite the strong public rejection, urging the diet and opposition parties to have a constructive discussion over it. It even invents public opinion that “the general public supports the constitutional revision”.

Excessive are the moves towards overseas expansion of Japan which has lost control of itself.

The authorities made it possible to dispatch the SDF anywhere the US forces are in the world by revising the Japan-US defence cooperation

guidelines and widely expanded the conditions for the SDF’s overseas advance on the pretexts of “countering pirates”, “anti-terrorism”, “mine sweeping in sea routes” and “protection of Japanese”. They even enacted a special law which allows the SDF’s advance abroad without UN resolution or diet approval. As a result, now it is possible for the SDF to conduct military activities overseas according to the decision of the authorities.

They have become ever more undisguised in their attempts at the SDF’s advance into the Indian-Pacific region in which the security crisis is growing due to the US’ hegemony-seeking policy and the conflicting interests of the regional countries, arguing for a “free and open Indian-Pacific strategy”.

Recently SDF warships entered the military port of Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia and the Subic naval base in the Philippines, and the SDF joined the largest-ever multinational military exercise in Southeast Asia staged in Thailand and mounted a joint drill with the British navy for the first time in the sea off the Kanto region of Japan.

The international community, therefore, has been keeping close watch on Japan, seeing it as a “chariot of militarism without headlight” and ridicules Abe as a “man dreaming of becoming Hitler”.

The Second World War had already given a severe punishment to Japan for its overseas invasion.

If the Japanese authorities are oblivious of the mistakes in history, they will meet the same fate.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

AFRICA

For development of the continent

The African people make concerted efforts to seek an independent progress and development of the continent.

Member nations of the African Union are working out a road map for regional integration including free passage without visa and gradual abolition of tariffs.

Dynamic efforts are being made to establish a continent-wide free trade zone. Plans related to commodity trade and service, investment and protection of intellectual property rights are in the making.

The AU also channels big efforts into developing

education.

A declaration on educational development of the African continent was adopted in the joint name of education ministers at the recent pan-African meeting of the educational authorities held in Nairobi, Kenya.

The AU set this year as a “year of fight against corruption” and focuses on combating corruption among the member states. The 30th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union which was held in early this year in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, called on all the

member nations to put an end to corruption and poverty as early as possible, boost unity and cooperation and speed up the establishment of a continent-wide free trade zone for the future development of Africa.

The AU’s initiative and efforts to cope with foreign domination and interference and achieve sustainable economic development by achieving the unity between the member nations are winning positive support from the international community.

May 25 is the Day of Africa.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

around world

Israel cracks down on Palestinians

Israelis harshly cracked down on Palestinians who rose up against the removal of the US embassy.

At the end of last year the US recognized Jerusalem, which Palestinians refer to as al Quds, as the capital of Israel and announced it would move its embassy in Tel Aviv there.

It held a ceremony to open the embassy to mark the 70th anniversary of the “independence of Israel”.

That day, Palestinians

launched a mass demonstration in the Gaza Strip.

The protest action called a “march of a million Palestinians” drew numerous Palestinians, young and middle-aged, women and children.

Hurling stones and Molotov cocktails at the Israeli soldiers, the demonstrators vehemently resisted the Israeli troops and criticized the US for its embassy relocation.

The Israeli troops clamped down on the protestors, leaving over 60 dead and about 2 800 wounded.

An official of the public health authorities in the Gaza

Strip said that ambulances and medical workers also came under attack.

Foreign countries and international organizations hit out at Israel’s brutal response.

Iran hits out at Israel’s massacre

The Iranian foreign minister demanded an international investigation into the massacre of civilians by the Israeli troops as he addressed a meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on May 18.

An investigation should be made in a transparent way, he said, stressing the need to bring those responsible to justice so as to lay bare the crimes of Israel which persists in heinous

apartheid.

That day, there were massive protest actions throughout Iran.

Chanting anti-US and anti-Israel slogans, the protestors condemned the US for moving its Israel-based embassy to Jerusalem and Israel for brutally killing the demonstrators in the Gaza Strip who rose up against the location.

Extending support and solidarity to the Palestinians, they called on Islamic countries to work together for the liberation of Jerusalem.

UN official expresses concern over growing racism in UK

The UN special rapporteur

on racism expressed serious apprehension over growing racial discrimination in Britain.

Propaganda activities inciting racism are prevalent in British society, he said, adding it has particularly become common for high-ranking officials to spit out insulting remarks featured by misanthropy.

Young ethnic minority people including black people are on the blacklist and branded as criminals without any ground, he noted.

He said the British government needs to adopt a correct policy and abolish racial discrimination.

Compiled from KCNA

SOCCER

Amnokgang takes the lead in women's premier league

The women's 2017-2018 premier league soccer tournament is now at its height in May.

Most of the participating clubs played 9-10 matches out of 11 games for the first stage.

Amnokgang leads others with eight wins and one loss in nine matches, recording 24 points.

The club has burst onto the scene while pushing aside one by one through fierce "pursuit battles".

Fans keep an eye on it with great expectation and see it as a hopeful.

Pyongyang is next to Amnokgang with 23 points—seven wins and two draws.

With the first stage approaching an end, many expect that one of these two clubs will come off victor.

Wolmido is not up to scratch. Last year it topped the annual rankings and won two

consecutive Mangyongdae Prize Games in celebration of the Day of the Sun.

But it has earned 16 points so far with four wins, four draws and one loss.

There was a match between Wolmido and Ponghwasan at Kim Il Sung Stadium on May 22.

They have competed with each other on several occasions, with most of the games ending in a draw or in favour of Wolmido.

Wolmido beat Ponghwasan 3-1 in the semi-finals of the women's first-division tournament held as part of the Mangyongdae Prize Games last April.

The first half started with the kick-off by Ponghwasan.

Wolmido sought scoring chances by breaking through the right side, while Ponghwasan bombarded at the rival's goal

as it breached the defence line by dint of rapid two- or three-person passes.

In the 63rd minute, Ponghwasan opened the scoring with fast break and Wolmido headed the corner kick to score an equalizer five minutes later.

Though both teams tried hard to score, there was no more goal and the game ended in a 1-1 draw.

"I can't say whether the past victory will entirely assure a future victory. Wolmido, however, has potentials. It fields newcomers under 18 and works to carry on the position as a power. I think its young players will be instrumental in the second-stage matches," said Kim Mun Chol, a football enthusiast in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, who said he is a fan of the team.

By Jong Tang Song PT



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the match between Jebi and Ministry of Light Industry teams.

HISTORY

Old book sheds light on Koryo

History of Koryo is an old book that chronicles the history of feudal Koryo dynasty, the first unified state in the Korean history.

The compilation of the book was launched in 1392, the first year when the feudal Joseon dynasty was founded, and mostly completed in 1440s. It was finished in 1451 by Kim Jong So, Jong Rin Ji and other scholars.

The 139-volume book was written on the basis of *Koryo Sillok* (Chronicles of Koryo), *Phyonnyonkangmok*,

Kumkyongnok, *Saryak* and other history books.

It chronicles the reigns of 32 Koryo kings, except the two ruling periods of kings U and Chang, and systematizes its contents according to sectors including astronomy, geography, almanac, military affairs, agriculture, music and others.

It carries the biographies of typical figures who were active in the Koryo period.

It also introduces the then scientific and cultural achievements.

It sheds light on Koryo's

political structure, economy, national defence and people's struggle against oppression and foreign invasion.

There is some information about China, Japan, Mongolia and other countries of the Orient as well as Jurchen which failed to leave their own history records.

The book is of great importance in studying the history of Koryo and Orient for its abundance in terms of quantity, coverage and data.

By Yun Kyong II PT

Sports roundup

DPRK players acquitted themselves well at the 10th Konstantin Korotkov international boxing tournament.

The competition which ran in Khabarovsk, Russia, from May 15 to 20 brought together more than 160 boxers from over 20 countries and regions including the DPRK, China, Russia, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Choe Chol Man and Choe Hye Song overpowered all their opponents to claim the men's and women's 60kg categories.

Meanwhile, Pang Chol Mi, Ri Ok Byol and Pak Un Sim finished runners-up in the women's 51kg, 57kg and 75kg

categories respectively and Kim Jang Ryong came third in the men's 49kg category.

The DPRK's Jong Myong Suk and Mun Hyon Gyong claimed the women's freestyle 55kg and 59kg titles respectively at the 33rd World Military Wrestling Championships in Moscow, Russia.

Meanwhile, Pak Un Gwang finished runner-up in the men's freestyle 57kg event and Yon Jo Hwa in the women's 57kg event. Kwon Un Nam came third in the men's Greco-Roman 55kg event.

Compiled from KCNA

PROFILE

A promising gymnast

The 11th world cup artistic gymnastics individual apparatus tournament of the International Gymnastic Federation took place in Qatar last March.

The women's floor exercises attracted the special interest of experts and fans as the event brought together many aces from across the world.

Prior to the tournament, pundits predicted that either the Italian or the Belgian, who had won prizes in the previous competition, would be the winner of the floor exercises. The preliminary drew 49 players and only nine of them were selected for the finals. Among the finalists was Kim Su Jong from the DPRK.

In the final match she perfectly performed the combined turning movements of high degrees of difficulty by dint of her refined skills and rhythms and snatched a gold medal.

At the awards ceremony, the chief of the International Gymnastic Federation said that the DPRK player led others both in the performance of movements and artistic quality, hoping she would make greater successes in the future.

Kim Su Jong began artistic gymnastics at the then juvenile

sports school of the Athletics Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang at the age of eight.

Two years later she began to steal the show by winning prizes at domestic games in succession.

She enrolled in the Pyongyang Sports Club in December 2012, and she honed her skills under the guidance of Coach Kim Un Ju to be an all-round gymnast and a local star.

She obtained 35 gold medals at such local events as the national championships.

She made her international debut at the 2017 Asian Games. And she became the Asian floor exercise champion by beating all other aces from different countries.

"I was very happy when I received a gold medal at my first international appearance. To be winner is important and to retain the honour is more important, I think. I'll work harder without resting on my laurels," she said.

She was awarded the title of Merited Athlete last year and selected as one of the top ten players of the year 2017.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Kim Su Jong in training session.