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Kim Jong Un watches demonstration fire of latest tactical guided missiles

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, watched the demonstration launch of new-type tactical guided missiles at daybreak on August 6.

The demonstration was seen by Pak Pong

Ju, Ri Man Gon, Pak Kwang Ho, Ri Su Yong, Kim Phyoung Hae, O Su Yong, An Jong Su, Pak Thae Dok and Pak Thae Song, who are vice-chairmen of the WPK Central Committee, Jo Yong Won and Ri Pyong Chol, first deputy department directors of the WPK Central Committee, and deputy department directors of the WPK Central Committee.

Also present there were Army General Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and Army General Pak Jong Chon, director of the Artillery Bureau of the KPA.

The Supreme Leader was greeted on the spot by Jang Chang Ha, Jon Il Ho and other leading officials of the defence science sector.

He heard a report on the plan for the demonstration fire at the observation post together with the accompanying officials, before seeing the launch.

Two tactical guided missiles that were launched at the western operational airfield flew across the sky over the capital area and the central inland region of the country to precisely hit the target islet in the

East Sea of Korea.

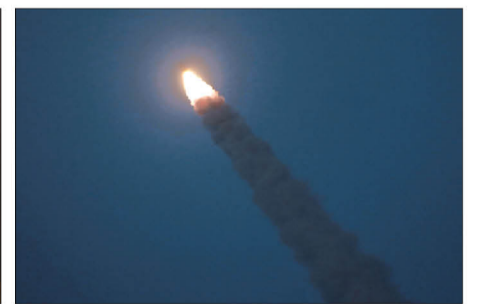
The demonstration clearly verified the reliability, security and combat efficiency of the new-type tactical guided weapon system.

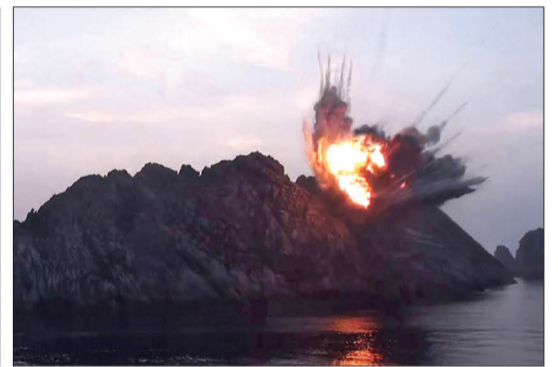
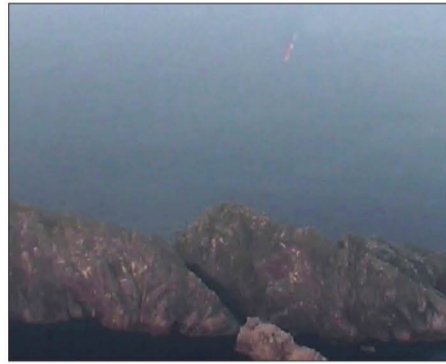
The Supreme Leader said that the demonstration launch was carried out satisfactorily as intended and the day's military action would be an occasion to send an adequate warning to

the joint military exercises the US and south Korean authorities are staging.

He met the leading officials and scientists in the defence science sector and munitions workers who successfully carried out the demonstration fire, and had a photo taken with them.

Compiled from KCNA





LEAD

Eternal lifeline for Korean revolution

The Korean people are now stepping up the general onward march of self-reliance to open up a period of upsurge in socialist construction.

They regard independence and self-reliance as their blood and self-reliance is their mode of revolution and principle of struggle.

The banner of self-reliant independence upheld by the first generation of the Korean revolution in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle has been succeeded and developed as the one of independence and self-reliance in the course of laying foundations of democracy from scratch after liberation and building socialism.

The Workers' Party of Korea has held up higher the banner of self-reliance, a manifestation of its unshakeable will to accomplish the cause of building a powerful socialist country by giving full play to the strength of self-reliance.

Self-reliance is the unequalled mode of revolution for safeguarding the independent dignity of the state and life of the people.

Dignity is more precious than life and it can be defended only by one's own strength and resources. As borrowing makes sorrowing, those who have not their own things cannot but live under the control of others and eat their salt and are eventually resigned to slavery.

It is easier said than done to take control of one's own destiny and shape it on one's own. The path of self-reliance followed by the Korean revolution was a rough road of serious political and class struggles to oppose imperialism and domination and overcome flunkeyism, dogmatism and revisionism as well as an untrodden path beset with severest hardships.

The DPRK built an independent economy and self-reliant defence capability on the ruins in order not to go cap in hand to others in any adversity, but to live honourably with its own efforts and things on its land for all ages.

It neither hesitated or wavered in the face of manifold difficulties nor despaired at its backwardness, but steadily built up its capacity to overtake the world.

In the face of the harsh sanctions and blockade that have incessantly been ratcheted up in recent years, the country broke through the cutting edge with a single leap and achieved spectacular successes in succession in the course of an intensive campaign for development and creation. If it had shrunk away from the difficulties and opted for total import and copying of others, it could not have achieved world-startling victories successively in such a short time.

Self-development is a powerful dynamic for building a powerful country, a mystic force that is unaffected by any change of the time and further increases to bring about fresh miracles. Even if the country's international environment and external economic activities improve, it is impossible to maintain the Juche-orientation of the national economy and its rapid growth without the strong capacity for independent development. This is the iron faith and will of the DPRK that holds fast to self-reliance.

By Pang Un Ju PT

Supreme People's Assembly to meet in late Aug

The Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly published a decision to call an SPA session.

According to the decision, the Second Session of the 14th SPA will be convened on August 29 2019 in

Pyongyang.

The decision was announced on August 8.

It said deputies to the SPA will be registered on August 27-28 2019.

Compiled from KCNA

STATEMENT

FM spokesperson raps US, s. Korea for war games

"This is an undisguised disregard for and a flagrant violation of the June 12 DPRK-US Joint Statement, Panmunjom Declaration and September Pyongyang Joint Declaration, agreements on establishing new DPRK-US relations and building a lasting and durable peace regime on the Korean peninsula," said a spokesperson for the DPRK Foreign Ministry in a statement on August 6.

The statement came as the United States and south Korean authorities have finally started the joint military exercises targeting the DPRK despite its

repeated warnings.

The US and south Korea have conducted joint military exercises in simulation of the surprise preemptive attack on the DPRK annually over the past 65 years since 1954, the year after the conclusion of the Armistice Agreement, it said.

More serious, it noted, is that the US increases military tension against the DPRK by shipping a large quantity of latest offensive military hardware into south Korea in disregard of the commitment to suspend joint

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Construction boom comes with local materials



Taedong River banks take on new looks over years

In the thick of the golden age of construction in the country monumental structures incorporating plastic arts and artistic techniques have sprung up on the banks of the Taedong River, which flows calmly through Pyongyang, adding to the magnificence of the capital city.

They include Changjon Street, Mirae Scientists Street, Munsu Water Park, Ryugyong Health Complex, People's Open-air Ice Rink, roller-skating rink, Rungna People's Recreation Ground, Pyongyang Baby Home, Pyongyang Orphanage, Pyongyang Old People's Home and Sci-Tech Complex.

All of them were built in a few years at the top level in design, execution, content and form, showcasing the development of the country's building materials industry.

At the central hall of the silver-white Sci-Tech Complex in the shape of a huge atomic structure a model of artificial earth satellite carrier rocket blasting off stands up to the third floor. The complex is also furnished with the basic science and technology hall, the applied science and technology hall, the children's dream hall, and indoor science and technology exhibition halls of all sectors.

Sprawling over some 100 000

square metres on the banks of the Taedong River, the Munsu Water Park is largely divided into indoor and outdoor wading pools and gym.

The two-storey indoor wading pool has a ball-trussed roof to let in bright sunshine. In it wading pools of all kinds filled with clear water are seen here and there and water slides spiral upward around the white support pillars. In the gym there are basketball, volleyball and badminton courts, bowling alley, trampoline and rock climbing apparatuses. The outdoor wading pool is designed to make an effective use of all spaces. There are water slides with various shapes and functions including the highest steep water slide and over a dozen pools of different sizes such as wave pool, several hundred metres long water flowing passage and small children's water park reminiscent of the fairy-tale world.

The People's Open-air Ice Rink, Rungna Dolphinarium, Pyongyang Taedonggang Fish Restaurant and other modern cultural and leisure activity centres look wonderful and stylish. But more dazzling is the view of Mirae Scientists Street with modern high-rise apartment buildings lining up

along the riverside.

Therefore, foreign visitors to Pyongyang give unstinting praise for the reality of the DPRK which has performed a world-startling miracle in only a few years in the face of the decades-long harsh sanctions imposed by the West.

This miraculous reality is inconceivable apart from the solid foundations of the independent building materials industry, as well as the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea and indomitable fighting spirit of the Korean people.

Almost all building materials needed for building the modern structures, including cement, tile and paints, were produced by the building materials industry bases across the country such as the Sangwon Cement Complex, Sunchon Cement Complex, Chollima Tile Factory and Taedonggang Building-materials Factory.

As it has the solid foundations of building materials industry, the country will bring about more brilliant changes on the banks of the Taedong River, the capital city and other cities and villages all over the country in the future.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



PHOTOS BY RI MYONG GUK / PICTORIAL KOREA

Different building materials are produced at the Chollima General Building-materials Factory and the Chollima Tile Factory.

Finishing materials widely put on local basis

The Pyongyang Jonghyang Building-materials Factory ensures the domestic production of finishing building materials.

Since the initial days of its establishment, the factory has directed big efforts to localizing major raw materials for the development of green finishing materials.

To this end, it intensified research into developing concrete additives, waterproof agents, heat insulating materials and paints by relying on locally-abundant raw materials while introducing the world's advanced technologies in the field of finishing materials.

At first, it buckled down to the production of concrete additives.

Here, the core factor was reactor.

According to Jong Yong Su, manager of the factory, a few officials insisted on the import of technically complex reaction equipment at that time, but technicians deepened their quest with courage that they can do everything when they believe in their own strength.

They made a reactor, agitator and ultrafine grinder in half a year in close collaboration with different scientific research units, relevant sectors and production units, thereby ensuring the industrial production of water-reducing agent, hardening accelerator and quick coagulator which can increase the concrete hardening speed three times and the hardening strength two times.

They volunteered to develop a highly-efficient concrete water-reducing agent a few years ago when the country's northern area was severely stricken by flood.

"What was needed at the time to provide the homeless residents with new houses in a few months was the highly-efficient concrete water-reducing agent conducive to pushing the construction of dwelling houses even in winter," said an official of the Ministry of Construction and Building-materials Industry.

Technicians completed the agent which helps increase construction speed nearly twice by accelerating the hardening of concrete in a short time.

They developed different kinds of concrete additives. They are very effective in the building of skyscrapers as they do not cause the corrosion of concrete-reinforcing bars, but help increase the strength of concrete 1.5 times. And they help speed up construction and raise quality while saving much labour and build two floors in three days under winter conditions as they make it possible to save tamping process, use large moulds and adopt the pressure construction method.

The factory also brought out a variety of functional paints, inorganic heat insulator and light burned magnesia plywood that can substitute for wood.

It established a strict inspection system for products by relying on advanced analysing equipment for measuring concrete strength, abrasion, corrosion of concrete-reinforcing bars, impact strength and glossiness.

A great number of finishing materials produced by the factory were highly appreciated at the construction of Mirae Scientists Street, Ryomyong Street, Sci-Tech Complex and other projects.

A dozen kinds of its building materials were registered as the best products in the country, and its seven construction manuals were adopted as construction laws and regulations, especially those for highly-efficient concrete water-reducing agent and organic water paint.

"The value of top-quality products is recognized when their production costs are reduced by relying on locally-available raw materials. We will continue to work to ensure the domestic production of finishing materials with a competitive edge around the world," said the manager.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

ENERGY-SAVING

Efforts directed to building an energy-effective economy

In alleviating the acute energy shortage in the country it is a matter of urgency to turn the economy into an energy-saving one.

According to experts, the investment made for building the capacity to produce energy is generally paid back after 10 to 15 years, but that for saving energy is repaid within one or two years.

Therefore, worldwide attention is paid to the saving of energy, likening it to the next energy resource after fossil energy.

In our country, too, nationwide efforts are being made to build an energy-saving economy.

The power industry readjusts and reinforces the existing independent power generation bases and rationally combines water and thermal power production with priority given to the former in order to increase the efficiency of generating facilities.

The sectors and units that use much electricity including metallurgical and chemical industries rearrange and update production lines with high power consumption as they

replace excessive-capacity facilities with appropriate ones. They install in equipment such electricity-saving devices as no-load breaker and idle roll baffle and carefully stagger production for production lines so as to make an efficient use of electricity.

The machine-building industry develops and manufactures power-saving facilities and the construction sector designs all buildings into electricity- and energy-saving structures by introducing the zero-energy technology.

They also take a variety of other necessary steps. They rationally build power systems and simplify the voltage step at each circuit to increase voltage, lower the line resistance using wire with large sectional area and replace transformers with huge power loss in transmission.

Our country is rich in natural energy resources, especially wind energy.

The wind power resources that are exploitable in the north of the Korean peninsula in a year amount to tens of billions

of kWh, which means that a power-generation capacity of millions of kW can be built.

The Kwangmyong LED Factory generates electricity amounting to 40 kWh on a daily average by effectively using wind and solar energy sources. The power produced is utilized in illuminating the factory compound with twenty-six 30W street lamps for ten hours every night and operating various electrical facilities. The factory developed a control system for producing electricity even by using wind with a velocity of 2 metres per second, thereby boosting the efficiency of wind power generators. The system has enabled the factory to save 960 kWh of state-supplied electricity on a monthly average.

This shows that renewables are exploitable in any part of the country.

More positive efforts will be made in the country to improve the energy production mode by dint of latest science and technology.

Ri Kye Sun

PHARMACEUTICAL

Koryo medicine production upgraded

Located in Kanggye City, Jagang Province, the Kanggye Koryo Medicine-processing Factory, is well known for producing a large quantity of highly-efficacious Koryo medicines.

The secret of success is the modernization of production.

“With the upgrading of production lines as an important goal of our business strategy, we manufactured multifunctional extracting equipment for the first time in the sector of local Koryo medicine production and put the production of extracts on an industrial footing on

the basis of the vacuum concentration method, thus building up the capacity to mass-produce Koryo medicine extracts. We also built a dust- and germ-free production site for the first time in the sector and different production processes won national GMP certification,” said manager Kim Myong Nam.

All the equipment and production processes of the factory are furnished with NC devices and monitoring system, and the factory was rated as the model of the nationwide integrated manufacturing system of Koryo medicines

a few years ago and awarded the diploma of model unit of informatization.

It set the purchase of fresh herbs, scientific production of extracts, quality improvement and new product development as its consistent business strategy and is pushing ahead with them.

It turns out over 100 items of Koryo medicines in some 30 kinds, household medicines and functional health foods which are effective for the treatment of cerebral nerve, cardiovascular, urinary and skin diseases.

It leads others in the production of Koryo medicinal extracts. Among its 20-odd kinds of extracts, five kinds including the extracts of barrenwort, parsley and *Eleutherococcus senticosus* won the December 15 Medal of Quality.

Big efforts are being channelled into research to develop new products by finding out medicinal elements in locally-abundant plants.

The factory’s “Jangjabong”-brand products are winning favour with local and foreign users.

In recent years, the factory introduced the nano technology into production to further improve the efficacy of medicines.

It takes an active part in various national exhibitions and to receive many diplomas and medals, and promotes technical cooperation and exchanges at home and abroad.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Kanggye Koryo Medicine-processing Factory turns out efficacious Koryo medicines.

FOOTWEAR

Straw footwear convenient and trendy

In this lingering heat everyone seeks airy garments and footwear.

Straw shoes can satisfy their driving need.

“When the shoes made of corn shucks were unveiled over a decade ago, they won sweeping popularity among customers as they are well-ventilated and good for health. Since then the number of their producers has increased and competition among them has got fiercer, resulting in a boost in their quality,” said So Il Dong, department director of the Ministry of Light Industry.

Several domestic producers presented a wide variety of straw footwear including shoes, sandals and slippers to the 22nd Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair. They came in different shapes, colours and sizes.

A draw was the counter of the Korea Sinhung Trading Corporation.

So said that the company was the first to develop straw footwear in the country and possesses high shoemaking technology.

“Generally, corn shucks are highly resistant to such external influence as moisture, sunlight, heat and harmful insects for their histomorphological structure. What is important in

ensuring their toughness is to keep lignin in them intact,” said key developer Ri Yong Il.

To this end, the company has perfected the special treatment and processing processes of corn shucks to make straw footwear which is as tough as leather shoes. It prevented corrosion by dyeing and ensured the thickness of straw, the thickness and stitch number of sewing needle and waterproof processing.

These days the company combines corn shucks and hemp fibre.

According to users, such straw footwear has remarkable skin-protecting and skin disease-preventing and treating effects, is so light that it lessens the burden on feet and removes sweat and odour from them. And it helps blood circulation and the woven patterns on the insoles have massaging effects to reduce pressure on feet.

The refreshing straw shoes of the company are functional and green products and came first at the spring national footwear exhibition-2019 last March.

“The world now prioritizes the life index in developing products as it goes for natural. We will continue to improve the quality of our straw footwear in keeping with the global trend,” said Ri.

By Jong Chol PT



CHAE MYONG RIM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A variety of straw sandals produced by the Korea Sinhung Trading Corporation.

Research results conducive to forest restoration

Amid the second-stage forest restoration campaign, scientists at the Academy of Forest Science have made signal achievements in their research.

They helped many forestry management stations transform the forests of pine-nut trees of native species into high-yielding ones, while solving lots of technical problems arising in breeding and growing paulownia tree.

They also contributed to turning well over a thousand hectares of *Evodia daniellii* forests into high-yielding ones in 10 cities and counties.

They made new microbial agrochemicals for exterminating the wilt of tree seedlings and standardized its usage to put the production of saplings on a more scientific basis.

Compiled from KCNA

SSR

Contest showcases students' memory talent

As the volume of information grows explosively, more and more students are interested in super speed reading.

The 11th national super speed reading contest of students of middle schools No. 1 and provincial foreign languages schools that ran between July 29 and August 2 was a showcase for local students' growing enthusiasm for super speed reading and their SSR level.

The contest which was held at Kim Jong Suk Middle School No. 1 in South Phyongan Province brought together over 100 senior second-year students selected from middle schools No. 1 and provincial foreign languages schools across the country.

Pang Un Sim, who won an International Grand Master of Memory, the top prize, at the 27th World Memory Championships last December as a student of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education, addressed the participants prior to the start of the competition.

She said that she had won the SSR contest during her school days and studied hard under the guidance of teachers and, eventually, triumphed at the world memory championships, instilling burning ambition and hope into the hearts of competitors.

The contest was divided into such categories as memory, mental calculation and reading.

"Events of the same standard with international memory championships were included in this contest for the first time," said Ri Ha Yong, teacher from Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 just before the contest. "But they won't be beyond the capacity of our students who were successful in previous contests."

According to Ri Jong Su, deputy director of the general education department of the Education Commission who was also involved in the organization of the contest, the SSR level of participants has risen remarkably every year

and, therefore, the judgment standards were raised in the recent event. "In the event of memorizing 500 decimal numbers in five minutes and remembering them within 10 minutes, the full marks are 40 points and 20 are cut down for one mistake, so there is no point left when two or more mistakes are made. And in the event of calculating square roots of six-digit numbers, students have to solve 10 problems in 15 minutes and write eight-digit answers including integer and decimal parts and round off the ninth digit. They get points according to the number of correct answers out of the full 1 000 marks."

The full marks were 20 000 points and the rankings were decided according to individuals, schools and provinces.

Choe Paek Ryong from Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 took first place in the contest.

He scored 286 points in the memory category, received full marks in the addition, multiplication and square root calculation in the mental calculation and read 75 359 letters in one minute with the comprehension of 90 percent, thus earning a total of 17 512.42.

Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 and Pyongyang Municipality came first in school and provincial rankings respectively.

"I could win the contest thanks to excellent teachers," said Choe. "Other students also got high marks so I must make more strenuous efforts in future."

By Jong Sun Bok PT



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Middle school students perform at the 11th national super speed reading contest.

EATERY

Restaurant noted for loach dishes

The Phyongchon Loach Soup House in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, lures many visitors these days.

"From time immemorial the Korean people have widely used loach as a health-promoting food. We started to grow loach ourselves in order to encourage and develop the traditional food of the nation," said Ri Chun Hwa, manager of the restaurant.

The restaurant has nine loach breeding grounds.

The employees of the restaurant learned the secrets of growing loach in the new situations: they use underground water instead of tap water, ensure water temperature in the tanks by using ice in summer

and hot water in winter and make assorted feed by mixing by-products of food processing and animal fodder.

"As we grow loaches by ourselves, it is very convenient for us to prepare and serve various kinds of loach dishes as we want," said the chef.

According to her, the restaurant serves over 30 kinds of foods made of loach.

Most popular are loach soup, nutritious health-promoting loach gruel, fried bean curd made with loach, loach cake fry and sliced raw loach.

Loach soup is made by boiling the middle part of loach with bean curd and vegetables, and nutritious health-promoting loach gruel is prepared by adding

rice, pine nuts or pumpkin and potatoes to give a white yet yellowish and greenish colour. Loach is fully steamed and bean curd is made by adding it before frying and the heads and tails of loaches are crushed to make loach cake and fry. Fresh loaches are sliced before serving with sauce to make it taste like sliced squid. All these dishes look attractive and make the visitors' mouths water.

Loach dishes of the restaurant were highly appreciated at

several cooking festivals and competitions.

In July, there was a national demonstration related to loach breeding at the restaurant.

Its loach breeding method has been introduced into many factories, enterprises, public catering facilities and even families.

"In the near future we will launch roast loach as a new dish," said the manager.

By Kim Il Jin PT



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Diners have hot dishes at the Phyongchon Loach Soup House in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang.

By Kil Chung Il PT

PROFILE

Scientist develops amino acid medicines



CHOE MI GYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Kim Myong Sim (centre), a researcher at the Pharmacology Institute of the Academy of Medical Science.

"Many people say I've built a successful career. Whenever I hear them, I keenly feel the advantages of and a sense of gratitude to the study-while-working system established by President Kim Il Sung," says Kim Myong Sim, PhD and researcher at the Pharmacology Institute of the Academy of Medical Science.

Kim graduated from the then Hungnam College of Chemical Engineering and began to work as an assistant at the institute in 1962.

With an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, she was enrolled at the Chemistry Department of Kim Il Sung University.

After finishing the five-year course summa cum laude, she was appointed as a researcher at the same institute.

She majored in protein and amino acid medicine.

Unlike other countries, the amino acid fermentation industry was restricted in the country. In full consideration

of the prevailing situation, she decided to develop medicines similar to those of other countries with natural protein and selected industrial by-products with locally abundant resources as their raw materials.

With years-long painstaking efforts, she invented a method of separating amino acids of branched chains from industrial by-products by ion-exchange resin and newly discovered that the composition of some amino acids can correct the imbalance of amino acids in diabetes.

Finally, she adopted a method of adjusting the rate of composition of natural protein in amino acids and developed and introduced into production a method of making neuamin, a complex amino acid fluid containing 17 kinds of amino acids which can replace imported moriamin or albesin.

Without resting on her laurels, she developed a technology of simultaneously producing Leuval infusion fluid against hepatitis, and alpamin capsule and fluid, a medicine for the treatment of diabetes. She also succeeded in establishing a method of making amino acids vitalizer and branamin tablets, fatigue relievers, from natural protein raw materials by intensifying research into them.

Her developments with marked treatment effect obtained national patents.

Over the past 40-odd years as a researcher she also worked as a lecturer at Kim Hyong Jik University of Education, training several MSc holders and published several books and dozens of essays.

In the course of it, she was awarded a wrist watch bearing the name of President Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il Prize, the title of People's Scientist, doctorate, associate professorship and the February 16 Science and Technology Prize, top honour for scientists in the country.

CONTEST

Children show off amazing art skills



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Contestants flaunt their calligraphic skills at the national contest of kindergarteners with amazing talents.

The national contest of kindergarteners with amazing talents is an annual event for finding out children with remarkable talents and sharing the successes and experience gained in the education and edification of children.

The competition, which was the 12th round this year, drew more than 200 children from across the country and they competed in intelligence, calligraphy, drawing and handicraft, and sports.

The Sci-Tech Complex provided the contestants with favourable environment for their contest.

Most of the children properly memorized words and numbers.

Those from Ryomyong Kindergarten in Taesong District of Pyongyang and Ponbu Kindergarten in Sinuiju, North Phyongan Province, won high appraisal at the storytelling and impromptu poem presentation by adding true and interesting content, details and impressions to meet the theme given.

Young prodigies manifested their talents in the calligraphy and drawing event.

"Print and semi-grass styles are handwriting by a brush which serves as the basics of calligraphy but is hard to acquire. At the event children should write compulsory and prepared letters in print and semi-grass styles, and all the competitors demonstrated their skills on a par with calligraphers," said Kim Yong Sim, deputy department director of the Education Commission.

Those who vied in the drawing and handicraft event represented well the stuffed animals at the forest exploration section of the children's dream hall in sketch, water painting and coloured plasticine in a little over half an hour.

A deer made of coloured plasticine by Hong Un Hung from Changgwang Kindergarten in Pyongyang was rated first for the vivid representation of deer's horns and white spots on its back and good cubic effect and harmony of colours.

Those who contended in

sports also showed off their skills.

They dribbled the ball along square, triangular and circular tracks, handled the ball more than 20 times with any part of the body without using hands, and put the ball in a cage two metres away.

Ball games require much practice, but many children proved their flawless skills.

Ri Sang Gyong from Kaeson Kindergarten attached to Pyongyang University of Education and the children from Pokchon Kindergarten in Tanchon, South Hamgyong Province, were valued high.

The latter have registered good results at the event every year and many of them are reportedly selected for Pyongyang International Football School and football groups of primary schools.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

CARE

War veterans enjoy life in good health

The sanatorium for war veterans in North Hwanghae Province is always animated with old health-seekers.

The general view of the institution in a pine forest halfway up picturesque Mt Kyongam is as graceful as a picture scroll.

Covering an area of 6 000 square metres, it has a building with the total floor space of 3 196 square metres and is provided with all necessary conditions for war veterans, including exercise, amusement and massage rooms and a bathroom.

The 2 970 square metres of green area and the pine forest filled with fresh pine fragrance offer a good environment for the stroll.

"We were deeply impressed by the sincerity the keepers, doctors, nurses and cooks show us. We could feel the great pride of being war veterans through their warm sincerity," said Ha Myong Ryon, an 87-year-old war veteran living in Jongsong-dong, Sariwon City.

Director Jo Ok Sil said that the employees regard it as their duty to take good care of war veterans who defended the country at the cost of their blood.

Doctors and nurses learn in detail their health conditions every morning and evening, while keepers show special concern for their living lest they feel any inconvenience.

Cook Ryang Kum Sun said

that she prepares new dishes for each meal so that the aged people can take enough nutrients.

Special birthday spreads are given to those who mark their birthdays during the period of health seeking.

"It seems to me that I have got ten years younger during my stay," said Hwang Un Thae, 86-year-old war veteran, living in Kuchon-dong of Sariwon City.

The day when the sanatorium receives a new batch of war veterans, a celebratory performance is given for them by artistes of the art troupe and students of the art school in the province, and amusement games and recreation parties are held every day according to the programme.

Janggi (Korean chess) matches according to rooms and *yut* and *kkoni* games

according to both sexes are exciting, but more interesting is the recreation party held at the amusement hall as it is an occasion for matching their skills according to their former services and arms.

They give full play to their skills as they did in concerts and recreation parties in trenches while playing frontline musical instruments after battles in their youthful days.

Wartime songs including *My Song in the Trench* and *At the Spring Site* they often sang in the front line would lead to chorus from solo or ensemble.

During their stay, the provincially famous Kyongam Noodle House is a destination and they also visit Sariwon Folklore Street.

The state supplies everything for the living of war veterans.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

War veterans have a good time at the sanatorium in North Hwanghae Province.

SWIMMING

School encourages swimming education

With swimming activities growing intense at schools across the country on the occasion of watersports months of July and August, Changgwang Senior Middle School in Central District, Pyongyang, is very enthusiastic about

watersports.

Slogans, watchwords and posters related to the sports have been put up in the school compound and at the swimming pool and sports notice boards set up to give information about general knowledge about the



RYANG KUM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Students warm up for swimming at Changgwang Senior Middle School in Central District, Pyongyang.

sports and various swimming methods.

The school repaired the swimming pool and carefully examined the swimming curriculum before these sports months.

Now it concentrates on polishing up swimming skills while teaching basic swimming movements and improving perseverance and running capacity in swimming lessons.

After forming groups according to the physical ability of each student after judging their swimming capacity, it organizes intensive training on the basis of setting phased goals.

The school also set a timetable for after-school swimming lessons of each grade and class and demands they do swimming training for two hours every day by themselves.

"The school judges the swimming skills of teachers once a week and organizes swimming competitions between classes in several swimming strokes. The

competition stimulated the students who were satisfied with only one swimming method in the past to master various swimming strokes. As the competition between classes and individuals grows fiercer with each passing day, the swimming capacity of students develops beyond recognition," said Principal Han Nam Su.

Over the past several decades the school has won many municipal senior middle school swimming contests as well as district ones and established it as a school tradition to hold a several-hundred-metre Taedong River crossing competition involving all students in August every year.

"I often hear that our school graduates are active as swimming players at universities, factories and enterprises. Whenever I hear about their victories in competitions, I feel pride in my job," said physical training instructor Kim Mun Hyang.

By Kim Ryong Jin PT

ASEAN

Bid for protection of eco-system

ASEAN's proactive moves towards the protection of ecological environment are increasingly the focus of international attention these days.

A Bangkok declaration on the fight against sea waste in the ASEAN region was adopted at the recent 34th ASEAN summit.

The declaration called for offering innovative solutions to preventing or decreasing sea waste and raising the utility factor of resources and for promoting information activities and taking measures to build up research capacity and raise public awareness to this end.

Sea waste has emerged as a serious international issue arousing great concern of many countries in recent years.

It not only pollutes the sea but also destroys marine eco-system, inflicting damage on sea animals and plants.

During their survey of over 270 minute particles of plastic materials collected at the seaside, Singaporean researchers confirmed that some of the 400

kinds of bacteria decolorize corals and cause harm to human beings as well.

It speaks volumes about the seriousness of the issue of plastic waste.

But some countries find a solution to it in exporting plastic waste to developing countries in Asia.

The United States, the world's biggest exporter of plastic waste, exported 200 000 tons to Malaysia, a 66 percent increase, and 110 000 tons to Thailand, a three-time increase.

Therefore, these nations have taken measures to restrict the import of these materials while returning the smuggled waste to relevant countries.

At the same time, scientific research projects are now under way in many Southeast Asian nations to make bio-plastic products which will do no harm to eco-system, while reducing plastic waste.

The Ho Chi Minh City government has set itself a goal to decrease the amount of plastic bags on sale in commercial institutions by 65 percent as against 2010 according to

the 2018-2020 environment programme.

Thailand has already prohibited the use of plastic containers and other insoluble products at over 150 tourist destinations including national parks, and plans to halve single-use plastic bags, canvas bags, portable water bottles and various other waste dumped in tourist resorts till 2020.

Having invented a method of making plastic products from apple and orange leftovers or the protein of cuttlefish, scientists and technicians in a country are intensifying research to find more bacteria and algae appropriate for the production of bio-plastic.

The declaration on the campaign against sea waste adopted at the recent ASEAN summit is recognized as a positive move of the Southeast Asian nations to prevent the destruction of eco-system by plastic waste and ensure sustainable economic growth in the region through close cooperation.

By Song Jong Ho PT

US

Quitting arms control pact prompts firestorm

The validity of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty between Russia and the US has brought to an official close.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement on August 2 that the effect of the treaty, which was signed between the former Soviet Union and the US in Washington in December 1987, stopped on August 2 at the instance of the US.

That day, the US also made public the termination of the treaty.

In an interview with TASS on the same day, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryavkov said that the US decision will have the most adverse effect on the strategic security of the world. It is a revelation of the US wilful line to break a series of important agreements in the field of arms control and an index showing that it has become a predominant trend in the country to try to create preconditions for gaining the upper hand in the relevant field, he noted.

The US is sadly mistaken if it thinks that it will be able to

get its desired results through pressure against its non-partners by force of arms, he said, adding that it will only increase the potentiality of conflict and the possibility of a new arms race.

Russia will never tolerate anyone who tries to deal with it based on the logic of pressure and force, he stressed.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying, in a press conference on the same day, expressed regret for the US persistence in the withdrawal from the treaty despite the opposition of the international community and resolutely opposed its decision.

The US withdrawal is another negative act to effect unilateralism in disregard of its international commitment and its real intention is to free itself from the fetters binding it up and seek unilateral military and strategic dominance, she asserted.

If the US enforces the development and deployment of intermediate- and short-range missiles after its secession, it will exert serious influence on the strategic balance and stability of the world, aggravate tension and distrust and pose threat to regional peace and stability.

That day the Belorussian Foreign Ministry issued a press release, in which it warned that the withdrawal would inflict a serious loss on the international safety and strategic stability and create preconditions for arms race in different regions of the world, especially in Europe.

By Om Ryong PT

Compiled from KCNA

AI

Artificial intelligence brought into wide application

Today artificial intelligence plays a bigger role worldwide.

The first international meeting on AI took place in the 1950s and the technology which was confined to some experts at its incipiency is now widely applied to various fields including science, technology, education, public health and sports. Lots of achievements are made as technological development intensifies.

A new waste disposal factory that introduced the world's advanced AI sorting technology has been built in China's Jiangsu Province. The factory sorts out building waste and divides it into 13 to 15 categories according to the properties and sizes of materials for specific uses.

Russia has developed a system that converts any farming machines into servo devices by dint of AI. Tractors or machines equipped with the new system are said to be able to shift any farming work into smart mode.

With the help of AI, teachers can acquire data on happenings in class and use it for reference.

For example, the data tells them how many students raise their hands to answer a question, which students fail to concentrate on their studies and which students require more

attention of teachers. It is of big help to teachers in improving their teaching methods.

Experts assert that traditional teaching methods will be sidelined when AI is combined with education and teachers will forge new partnership with students as architects for their studies instead of the present knowledge instructors.

AI is also applied to public health and sports sectors more widely.

Researchers of a country developed an AI system with which to automatically identify different types of cancer cells with microscope images and an AI device for accurately detecting gastric cancer with endoscope images.

Besides, researchers invented a nano sensor for promptly diagnosing influenza by combining AI with sensor technology and an AI apparatus conducive to the treatment of malignant brain tumour. A joint research team succeeded in endoscopic cholecystectomy by using an AI system which assists the operator.

The International Gymnastic Federation announced that it would introduce a new scoring support system using AI and 3D laser sensors for interpreting

the movements of players correctly.

The program interprets the movements of players in three dimensions and AI storing data about more than 1 300 technical movements identifies any

Statement: US, s. Korea likely to pay dearly

FROM PAGE 2

military exercises it made at the summit level on such occasions as the Singapore DPRK-US summit and the Panmunjom DPRK-US summit.

As such provocative hostilities it cited the recent Marine Corps joint exercise, "Alliance 19-1", joint aerial drill, "Proliferation Security Initiative" exercise, the test simulating the interception of the DPRK's ICBMs and the test fire of ICBM "Minuteman-3" and SLBM "Trident 2 D-5".

The statement also called the US to account for making clear its policy to oppose the ban on the use of nuclear weapons first against the DPRK in the "nuclear deterrence policy report" and branding it a "rogue state" and a "proliferator" of nuclear technology, chemical weapons and ballistic missiles.

technical movements including the number of rotations and the accuracy of movements in an instant.

Many countries have set AI as a development priority and channel big efforts into the field.

As of 2018, 17 countries released the development strategies related to this technology.

Most recently, F-35A stealth fighters were brought into south Korea and the US nuclear strategic submarine "Oklahoma City" entered the port of Pusan and the US is pushing forward with the introduction of even high-altitude reconnaissance drone "Global Hawk" into south Korea, it said.

Facts prove that the US and south Korean authorities do not have the political will at all to implement the joint statements in which they committed themselves to improving the DPRK-US and inter-Korean relations, and that they remain unchanged in their position to continue to treat the DPRK as an enemy, the statement noted.

They will never be able to evade their responsibilities for compelling the DPRK to take countermeasures to eliminate the potential and direct threats to its national security, it said.

They argue that the joint military drills are "defensive"

and an "essential element" for combat preparedness, and we are also compelled to develop, test and deploy the powerful physical means essential for national defence, it noted.

"We remain unchanged in our stand to settle the issue through dialogue. But as long as the hostile military actions continue, the dynamic of dialogue will fade away.

"The prevailing situation drastically dampens our enthusiasm for implementing the DPRK-US and inter-Korean agreements and also has a negative impact on the prospect of future dialogue."

If the US and south Korean authorities remain indifferent to the DPRK's repeated warnings seeking a stroke of good luck, the latter will make them pay for it as dearly as it would be worn out to do, the statement warned.

Compiled from KCNA

JUDO

Young judoists bag medals on Asian front

Korean players won two gold, one silver and two bronze medals in the Asian-Oceanian Cadets and Junior Judo Championships 2019 held in Chinese Taipei.

The championships drew over 310 young players from 26 countries and regions including the DPRK, Mongolia and India.

Kim Hyon A and Ri Chong Mi won gold medals in the juvenile women's 52kg and 57kg events respectively.

Mun Song Hui finished runner-up in the juvenile women's 57kg category and Kwon Kum Chong obtained a bronze medal in the juvenile men's 50kg division.

Ri Kum Song won a bronze medal in the junior men's 66kg event.

DPRK players Ri Un Ju and Kim Ye Yong won gold medals in the women's



DPRK gold medallists at the Asian-Oceanian Cadets and Junior Judo Championships 2019.

57kg and 78kg categories of the Asian Judo Open Men and Women Taipei 2019.

Ri Pok Hyang and Kim Jin Gang bagged bronze medals in the women's 63kg and 70kg events respectively.

The contest brought together more than 160 men and women players from 17 countries and regions including the DPRK, Vietnam, Mongolia and India.

Compiled from KCNA

RELIC

Observatory reveals astronomy of Koryo

Among the historical relics which show the Korean nation's resourcefulness is the Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory from the period of Koryo Kingdom (918-1392).

It is located in the northwestern part of Manwoltae, the royal palace site of the kingdom in Kaesong's Songak-dong, and estimated to have been built in the early days of Koryo Kingdom when it constructed the royal palace.

Originally there were astronomical instruments as well as the granite platform, which still remains at present.

The square-plane platform consists of five stone pillars and a dripstone. It is 2.8 metres high and 2.6 metres long at each side. The pillars are similar in arrangement to the square pillars of the Tabo Pagoda at the Pulguk Temple in Kyongju, North Kyongsang Province. The longitudinal section of each pillar is square and it is supported by a cornerstone.

A dripstone was composed of long square stones positioned vertically and horizontally to form a frame and plain rocks were placed

between them. The stones were fit together firmly.

The four sides of the platform face the cardinal points, while it is constructed accurately and its elements are dovetailed firmly, giving a glimpse into the contemporary high architectural skills of ancestors.

According to *History of Koryo Dynasty*, the kingdom had national agencies in charge of astronomical and meteorological observation and experts systematically recorded observation results in detail using instruments.

They recorded sunspots on more than 50 occasions between 1105 and the closing days of Koryo, which means that the Korean kingdom made systematic observation of sunspot hundreds of years earlier than European countries.



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The site of the Chomsongdae Observatory in Kaesong.

On the basis of the findings of astronomical observation, Koryo made and used five kinds of calendars already in the 11th century, which shows that its astronomy and mathematics were at a comparatively high level.

The Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory of the first unified state in Korean history was inscribed in the world cultural heritage list in June 2013.

Jon Kyong Il, researcher at the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences

FOOD

Korean dishes good against midsummer heat

With the sultry weather persisting in the country this summer, many housewives pay special attention to preparing health-promoting dishes of the dog days, the hottest season of the year.

As like cures like, it is the best way to drive out the heat with hot dishes.

From olden times, hot chicken soup boiled with insam (ginseng) and spicy meat soup have been known to be good for recovering from loss of energy caused by excessive perspiration in hot weather.

Especially, the chicken soup known as *samgyethang* is a highly nutritive food made by boiling in stone pot or

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Unity and production boosted with sports activities

The Onchon Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory in Onchon County, Nampho, is known across the county as a frontrunner in establishing a cultured way of production and life.

Production buildings are clean and cosy and the compound looks like a botanical garden with various kinds of fruit trees like peach, pear and jujube trees and dozens of medicinal herb species.

Employees overfulfil their production assignments every month to increase their incomes.

"The secret of our factory's success is the power of unity of our employees. Mass sporting activities have helped develop and build up the power," said manager O Song Sik.

The employees are very enthusiastic about sports.

Courts of basketball, volleyball, tennis, badminton and other sports are located effectively in the compound and the sports ground is furnished with various kinds of sports equipment.

Every morning employees do health-promoting Taekwon-Do and mass rhythmic exercise to the tune of light and lively music.

They play various sports games at lunch time or after work at the sports ground.

They flaunt their skills at inter-workteam matches held every Thursday which is sports day at factories.

The most popular are volleyball and basketball games

between production and raw material base workteams.

Only until a few years ago, the raw material base workteam was dominant as it had several players with special skills, but now other teams have overtaken it in techniques and therefore seesaw matches are often unfolded.

"Exercise and sports make me feel fit and refreshed. I began to learn volleyball though belatedly as I could stand no longer the defeat of our workteam. Now I am a volleyball player of the factory team. Sports activity is the best way to promote unity of the collective," said O Kwang Nam, a 54-year-old worker at the production workshop.

"Women were only interested in watching sports games in the past. But now all of them take an active part in sports and many of them have acquired good sports skills. As they took up sports activities, employees came to have stronger attachment to their workplace and greater devotion to the collective and the solidarity that was fostered in the course of this enhanced their sense of responsibility in sprucing up the factory and increasing production," said Sin Chun Hwa, the factory's trade union chief.

Last year, the factory won such events as volleyball, table tennis and basketball in the local industry factory category of the county workers games and has recently been awarded the title of model sports unit.

By Jong Tang Song PT

