

# The Pyongyang Times

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

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## Kim Jong Un congratulates Chongryon chief on his birthday

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, sent a congratulatory message on Feb 21 to Ho Jong Man, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, on the occasion of his 85th birthday.

In the message the Supreme

Leader highly appreciated Ho's loyalty and the heroic feats he has performed for strengthening Chongryon and wished him good health and all his family members happiness, hoping that he, despite his advanced age, would lead more vigorously the struggle for adding eternal brilliance to the idea on the Juche-oriented movement of overseas compatriots and immortal leadership exploits of President Kim Il Sung

and Chairman Kim Jong Il and hastening a fresh heyday in the movement of Koreans in Japan.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK issued a decree on Feb 14 to award Ho Jong Man the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK, Gold Medal (Hammer and Sickle) and Order of the National Flag 1st Class.

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## Sympathy extended to bereaved family of Soviet marshal

Kim Jong Un sent a message of condolence on Feb 25 over the death of Dmitry Yazov, former defence minister and marshal of the Soviet Union, after a long illness.

In the message the DPRK leader described Dmitry Yazov as a prominent military and political activist, genuine patriot and model of war

veteran who joined the army in his early years to perform feats in the sacred patriotic war against the fascist German aggressors and devoted all his life to boosting the defence capability of the country.

Yazov sincerely respected and admired Chairman Kim Jong Il, the great leader of the Korean people, and made a great contribution

to cementing the friendship between the peoples of the DPRK and Russia, he said, adding his exploits will be remembered forever by the peoples of the two countries.

The DPRK leader also sent a wreath in deep grief over the death of the former Soviet marshal.

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### PREVENTION

## Nation keeps constant vigilance against COVID-19

All nurseries in the DPRK shut from Feb 24 as part of nationwide emergency steps to combat COVID-19.

All kindergartens, primary schools, junior and senior middle schools, colleges and universities already started a month vacation from Feb 20.

As part of the emergency effort for preventing COVID-19, the DPRK government on Feb 25 imposed a temporary ban on the operation of public amenities.

As a result, the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort does not receive tourists except bathers and public service facilities including the Rungna People's Recreation Ground, Rungna Dolphinarium and People's Open-air Ice Rink shut down for the time being.

Effective preventive measures have been taken across the country to block every transmission route of COVID-19.

The hygienic and anti-

epidemic centres in Pyongyang intensify anti-epidemic work to prevent novel CoV infection.

South Hwanghae Province

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Health workers sterilize facilities at a beauty salon in Rungna District, Pyongyang.

### TOUR

## SPA deputies tour revolutionary sites



Deputies to the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly are on a study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area.

Deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly set off on a study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu after holding a meeting in front of the statue of Chairman Kim Jong Il in Samjiyon City on Feb 23.

The study tourists left for the Rimyongsu Revolutionary Site.

At the site, they were offered a general explanation in front of the monument to the field guidance by President Kim Il Sung and looked round different places.

That day they toured the Chongbong Bivouac where the statue of General Kim Il Sung formulating a plan for the offensive operation in the Musan area stands and the Konchang Bivouac.

As they looked round the site of the headquarters, the place where anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk cooked rice, slogan-bearing trees and others, they keenly realized once again the feats of the guerrillas who wrote the first page of the history of the Korean revolution holding the President in high esteem as the centre of unity and leadership.

They visited Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp on Feb 24.

They looked round the historical relics preserved at the camp and several other places including the Headquarters log cabin, the monument inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's autographic poem, the shallow well used by anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk and trees bearing revolutionary slogans written by her and log cabins for soldiers.

That day they toured the Sajabong Secret Camp.

They held a study session of the reminiscences of the anti-Japanese guerrillas during the tour.

They marched through the thick forests of Mt Paektu, singing revolutionary songs in chorus.

They climbed up Mt Paektu on Feb 26.

They camped in the open air as anti-Japanese guerrillas did.

They visited the bivouac site in Pegae Hill and the log cabin in Samhogong and several places in Samjiyon a day earlier.

They held a revolutionary song contest and poem recital during the tour.

Officials of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea made a study tour of the Mt Paektu area between Feb 19 and 24.

During the tour, the officials studied the revolutionary history and exploits of President Kim Il Sung and learnt the indomitable spirit of the anti-Japanese guerrilla fighters as they made the rounds of the revolutionary battle sites.

Officials of the youth league from across the country also made a study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu.

They visited Mupho Bivouac where President Kim Il Sung camped during the advance into the homeland by leading the main unit of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in May 1939.

They recalled the revolutionary career of Chairman Kim Jong Il at the Mupho Angling Site where he developed the plan for accomplishing the cause of modelling the whole society on Kimilsungism.

By Pang Un Ju PT



## LEAD

# DPRK advances by dint of self-reliance

The over half a century history of socialist construction in the DPRK is marked by victorious advance on the strength of self-reliance.

The origins of self-reliance in the DPRK go back to the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

The anti-Japanese struggle the Korean people had waged was an unprecedentedly arduous war to defeat the Japanese imperialists, who were armed to the teeth, with no support of the state rear or regular army.

The anti-Japanese fighters built arsenals in the guerrilla bases to make gun powder and Yongil bomb and made everything needed for guerrilla warfare by themselves including weapons, ammunition and uniforms.

The spirit of self-reliance, the invaluable product of the anti-Japanese revolution, served as the banner of a new Korea building in the minds of all the Korean people after Korea's liberation from Japanese military rule.

They built a new Korea as masters of factories, land and the country and won the Fatherland Liberation War by ensuring wartime production by their own efforts.

In the period of postwar rehabilitation they gave birth to the legendary Chollima spirit on the ruins of war and carried out industrialization in a matter of 14 years.

Though they faced a multitude of difficulties in the later periods, they boosted the economy by relying on the foundations of the independent economy with their own efforts, technology and resources.

In those years Korean-style iron, fibre and fertilizer production systems were established and power stations mushroomed across the country.

Today the Korean people work hard to bring about a revolutionary upturn on all fronts of socialist construction by grasping self-reliance, which has served as the banner of

struggle and the dynamic of a leap forward in the whole course of the Korean revolution, as the treasured sword for prosperity.

A model mountainous city of culture encapsulating modern civilization was built in the Mt Paektu area, the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm, tree nursery and Yangdok Hot Spring Resort were completed and state-of-the-art weapon systems were test fired, rocking heaven and earth.

Facts show that nothing is more powerful than the strength of the people who have turned out by relying on their own and that confidence in their own strength works a miracle even in the face of any difficulties and hardships.

The Korean people have launched an offensive for a frontal breakthrough to build a powerful socialist country this year on the strength of the spirit of self-reliance they have carried on decades after decades.

By Pang Un Ju PT

## CELEBRATION

# Day of the Shining Star marked abroad

Latin American regional online seminar "The Juche idea and self-reliance" took place in Brazil to mark the Day of the Shining Star (February 16).

It brought together chiefs of regional Juche idea study organizations and followers in Latin America.

Lucas Rubio, chairman of the Brazilian Centre for the Study of Songun Politics, made a keynote report at the seminar.

Several personages made speeches, including the heads of Juche idea study organizations in Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, Chile and Colombia.

A congratulatory message to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un was adopted at the meeting.

The Nordic progressive political parties and friendship organizations gathered in Sweden on Feb 15 to hold a joint celebratory meeting on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Present at the meeting were personages from progressive political parties, organizations for friendship and solidarity with the Korean people and Juche idea study organizations in Nordic countries including Finland, Norway and Sweden and the DPRK ambassador to Sweden and his embassy staff

members.

Speeches were made by the vice-chairman of the Finnish Communists' League, the chairman of the Sweden-Korea Friendship Association and the chairman of the Ostfold County Committee of the Communist Party of Norway.

The meeting adopted a congratulatory message to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il, or the Day of the Shining Star, celebratory meetings, book and photo exhibitions, film shows and receptions were held between Feb 6 and 16 at the DPRK missions in Cuba, Laos, Nepal, Malaysia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Syria, Iran, Indonesia, India, Cambodia, Pakistan, Kuwait, Nigeria, South Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya, Algeria, Uganda, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Romania, Bulgaria, Belarus, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, the Czech Republic, Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela and the DPRK permanent mission to the UN Office and international organizations in Geneva, and the DPRK permanent mission to the UN.

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## Nationwide

### 497th triplets born in DPRK

The 497th triplets were born on Jan 23 in the DPRK.

The mother of two male and one female triplets is a housewife from Sariwon in North Hwanghae Province.

Having weighed 1.63kg, 1.82kg and 1.61kg respectively at the time of births, the babies are healthy and will leave the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital after a month.

Earlier on Jan 5, a farmer from Kim Chack in North Hamgyong Province gave birth to all-male triplets at the hospital.

### Spring water crosses Taedong River to Tokchon

Tokchon City in South Phyongan Province has carried out a project to draw spring water across the Taedong River in order to supply the citizens with quality spring water.

Members of an international organization on a visit to the city admired the pumping station there for its high capacity.

### New types of trainers turned out

The Ryuwon Footwear Factory in Pyongyang brought out over ten kinds of new trainers, whose production lines are simple and which are light, while saving more cost and manpower than before.

It is planning to develop new-type training shoes including the knit one in the near future.

### Canvas production for school bags completed

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill has finished the canvas production for school bags for the new school year.

The cloths have been supplied to bag factories across the country to produce satchels for kindergarteners, schoolchildren and students.

### Greenhouse vegetable production on the rise

Jagang Province is channelling big efforts into the production of greenhouse vegetables.

The province has put the operation of vegetable greenhouses on a scientific basis, thereby increasing production 1.3 times as compared to the same period of last year.

### Hundreds of millions of tree saplings grown



According to information available, more than 470 million tree saplings needed for spring afforestation have been produced across the country.

The parent nurseries in Kangwon Province built modern plastic panel greenhouses for saplings.

Jagang and South Hamgyong provinces carried out the plans

for the production of spring saplings at more than two times.

### Multi-use sterilizing products released

The Sinuiju Cosmetics Factory developed a perfume, hand-washing gel and hand-sterilizing soap with germicidal power of over 99 percent.

The latter two can destroy pathogenic bacteria like colon bacillus and candida within a minute so as to shorten the time of washing hands. The former can sterilize air-tight rooms, buses, handles and others while giving off sweet scent.

### Housewives volunteer as bus drivers

Most of the trolley bus drivers in Wonsan, Kangwon Province, are married women.

When he visited the Kangwon provincial tree nursery on a summer day two years ago, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un dropped in on a couple of discharged soldiers and tenderly asked them about their military service and the household. He got to know that their son had to walk a long way to go to school.

Later, he saw that newly produced trolley buses were sent to the city to liven up the local public transport.

Since then, many housewives in the city volunteered to work as drivers.

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## COVID: Nation keeps steady vigilance

FROM PAGE 1

has intensified motivational, hygienic information and anti-epidemic activities in the areas along the Military Demarcation Line.

Kyonghung and other counties in North Hamgyong Province conduct hygienic information activities effectively in various forms and ways and demand all people drink boiled water.

South Phyongan Province, Nampho City and others concentrate all efforts on the anti-epidemic fight to completely prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Scientific research institutions in the country have intensified research to develop vaccines against COVID-19 to provide against the rapid spread of the disease worldwide.

The Medical Biology Institute and Pharmacology Institute of the Academy of Medical Sciences are stepping up the development of antiviral drugs.

The national microbial examination office announced the broad-spectrum anti-viral injection developed by the Bioengineering Branch under the State Academy of Sciences passed the avirulence test.

The faculty of pharmacy of Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences newly developed a gel

against cold which is effective in preventing influenza virus, bird flu virus and coronavirus and has already conducted enough clinical examinations.

Researchers of the Koryo Medicine General Hospital now focus on research into a garlic-wormwood cold spray, a Koryo medicinal anti-viral drug, while intensifying research into using anti-virus elements of Koryo medicinal herbs like *Reynoutria japonica*, rhubarb and *Trichosanthes kirilowii*.

Efforts are also being directed to enhancing the efficacy of the existing anti-viral drugs.

Researchers at the State Academy of Sciences have established a method of medical checkup to suit the specific conditions of the country, making it possible for the units, in which visitors to foreign countries, those who met them and cases of cold and acute respiratory diseases are isolated, to carry out medical observation of them more correctly.

At the same time, reference data and technical directions have promptly been made and distributed to suit the conditions of the country on the basis of the general analysis of research materials published in other countries.

The DPRK is also intensifying the inspection and quarantine of imported materials.

By Ri Sang Il PT



SPECIAL

# Kangwon leads the way, creating its own success

## Province sets an example by fending for itself

Kangwon Province has taken the lead in the current offensive for a frontal breakthrough in the country.

"In fact, Kangwon Province has the most unfavourable conditions for development in the country as compared to other provinces. It lacks natural resources and has poor industrial foundations, bad weather and infertile land," said a Cabinet official.

Such a province produces everything it needs by itself, ranging from cement and steel to metal fittings, tiles, sanitary ceramic ware and even all kinds of insulators needed for the construction of the network of transmission and supply of electricity. After properly solving the problem of salt and spring water shortage, it produces antibiotics like berberine hydrosulfate injection as well as Koryo medicines with locally abundant medicinal materials. New cultivation methods are widely employed in agricultural production to increase crop yield in low-yielding fields which account for the most of the farmland in the province.

"All these achievements are credited to the efforts of the provincial population to meet their needs by themselves under the banner of self-reliance," said Kwon Chol Nam, vice-chairman of the provincial people's committee.

In recent years alone the province has built the provincial tree nursery with an annual production capacity of over 20 million saplings, a fishery station, spring water factory, old people's home

and other big structures in succession and now the construction of Ichon Army-People Power Station is nearing completion.

Among them the provincial fishery station, which has been built as a modern marine products production and processing base in the area of Thongchon county town, is a clear testimony to the spirit of the Kangwon provincial population to achieve prosperity by themselves.

Though they had no experience of construction on the sea and special equipment or means to build embankment across the rough sea, the builders employed effective construction methods to finish the foundation work of its building, which was estimated to take several years, in a matter of a few months and complete the construction of dozens of metres long breakwater, which was regarded as impossible.

The provincial ranks of talents have been strengthened and the groundwork for its independent growth solidified.

The Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory has made an automatic sole pasting machine, laser cutter and other equipment and developed new products one after another, while the Wonsan City Corn Processing Factory has set up a large-capacity potato farina production process. A great deal of energies has been directed to improving soil fertility and widely applying advanced farming methods, with the result that a good example of producing high

yield has been set last year in such mountainous areas as Kumgang County and many farmers reaped a rich harvest of crops, or over 10 tons per hectare.

Thanks to the painstaking efforts of the provincial population, roads, rivers and streams, streets and villages in the province have undergone a facelift and marked progress has been made in the restoration of forests.

"Now we are pressing on with the construction of six power stations including Phyonggang and Kosong army-people power stations and over a dozen major projects such as the construction of a greenhouse farm, fishery station and cannery. We will show the fresh appearance of Kangwon Province in October this year, the 75th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea," said Kwon.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

## Scientific farming widely introduced

Kangwon Province has researched efficient farming methods and introduced them into agricultural production.

According to Pak Jong Ho, chairman of the Kangwon Provincial Rural Economy Committee, agricultural scientists of the province have researched and introduced modern farming methods that suit the characteristics of the mountainous area, thereby spurring the agricultural development in the province.

The Kangwon Provincial Institute of Agricultural Science developed an effective circular maize growing method which ensures large output in the fields with low yield in line with the features of the province with limited land under plough.

In such fields an average of 1.5 holes with a certain diameter and depth were dug per *phyong*, manure was put into them and 12-18 plants of maize were planted around each hole. The introduction of the new method increased the number of plants

per *phyong* by about 1.5 times as compared to the previous method.

The application of manure in a concentrated way ensures high efficiency of fertilizing, the deep and rapid growth of roots, high resistance to heat and drought and an increase in crop yield.

In order to promote crop growth and markedly increase crop output per hectare in the low-yield fields, researchers developed and introduced farming methods that improve the soil texture and increase water-storing capacity by carpeting the sandy fields with a shallow soil layer with clay and that prevent water evaporation and increase soil fertility by spreading green grass.

"At present, farms in the province are all enthusiastic about scientific farming," said Ri Hyong Chan, an official of the provincial rural economy committee.

By Kim Il Jin PT

## Local needs for finishing materials satisfied

Kangwon Province is ratcheting up its finishing materials production capacity.

At present, the kinds of finishing materials made from locally available materials including various paints, tiles and sanitary ware are steadily on the rise.

The heat-proof glass, which was developed in the province, was introduced into

several provincial construction projects including that for the Maebongsan Spring Water Factory, contributing to ensuring the formative art and modern aesthetic beauty of structures.

In particular, the plastic pipes of all sizes, artificial stone products and metal furnishings are said to be on a par with those of the country's leading building materials producers in terms of quality.

"In fact, our province has unfavourable conditions as compared to others: it is featured by limited resources, feeble industrial foundations and unfavourable climatic and geological conditions," said Choe Chol, department director at the Kangwon Provincial People's Committee, adding the provincial population brought about today's dramatic change under the banner of self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

The Anbyon Ceramic Factory is a vivid example of their success.

Thanks to their painstaking efforts, the factory which had been more or less at a standstill was able to turn into a powerful finishing materials production base capable of putting the

production of various tiles, sanitary ware and functional heat-insulating materials on normal track. Now it is equipped with modern facilities and provided with material and technical foundations for manufacturing tiles of any sizes or patterns.

The Wonsan Furniture Factory which used to import all production materials except timber from other countries is gradually upgrading its equipment and raising the rate of reliance on domestic materials, while the Wonsan Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory established a plastic pipe production line recycling industrial waste.

The Kangwon provincial architectural decoration institute turns out handrails and newels with locally-available cement and sand.

The plastering method using colour glass beads and stones devised by the Wonsan Glass Bottle Factory and the Wonsan finishing materials decoration company proved its superiority in different construction sites in the province.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



PHOTOS BY PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A power station, leather shoes factory, salt works, tree nursery and seaside scenery are some of the achievements the people in Kangwon Province are proud of.



## CORN



# Processing techniques improved to raise quality

The Pyongyang Corn Processing Factory located in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, produces a variety of processed corn products.

"From olden times, corn has been likened to gold and gems as it is a precious grain. Our factory produces dozens of kinds of tasty processed goods with corn with delicate and sweet flavours," said Pak Sung Gol, chief of the technical preparation room.

According to him, the most important thing in corn processing is to ensure the appropriate particle size of corn by crushing it by the right method and on the right heat.

"We employ a cold crushing method to pulverize corn as fine as wheat flour. Therefore, the quality of our processed goods improves, microorganisms cannot infiltrate into it and so there is no problem in storing it," said Pak.

The factory also ensures the maturity, an important qualitative index of processed corn products, at over 85 percent.

The corn noodles and riced corn processed thus are high in glossiness and transparency.

The noodles, in particular, are smooth, chewy and nice to eat and dissolve little when parboiling.

"Perhaps those who lived in the 1970s would remember the riced corn supplied at food rationing stations. The food was nearly done one, so it was spread

over nearly cooked rice to steam it before mixing them. But if rice was cooked imperfectly the riced corn would dissolve to reduce the food to something like gruel or rice cake," said an employee of the factory.

But the factory's riced corn is said to be very easy to cook. It is mixed with rice at the ratio of 3:7 or 5:5 and washed in water before being put into a pot. When the food is done, the riced corn swells 2.2 times more than the original size and the cooked rice tastes good, is highly digestible and does not readily harden.

The factory produces various soft, tasty and fragrant foodstuffs with the corn syrup and starch from the Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory and the milk and other dairy products from the Kubin Stockbreeding Cooperative

Farm in Kangdong County, including steamed bread, fry, cake, sweet jelly and tea.

The factory ensures hygienic safety of its products based on the strict microbial analysis system.

Its products find their way to over a dozen corn food restaurants and several commercial service facilities in Pyongyang.

"Now we can claim to have possessed perfect corn processing techniques. We are pushing ahead with the development of new products," said staffer Song Kwang Min.

The Pyongyang Corn Processing Factory plays a pacesetter role for other corn processors throughout the country.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



Riced corn cakes roll off the line at the Pyongyang Corn Processing Factory.

## ROUND-UP

## Local industrial establishments fare well

Yonhan County in North Hwanghae Province has gathered dozens of tons of *Iris pallasii* to use it as a raw material for paper.

And its foodstuff factory has built a power generating system based on coal gasification and other locally-run factories are securing raw materials for production by recycling waste including scrap paper and vinyl.

Sunchon City in South Phyongan Province is pushing the production of consumer goods after setting up the power production process based on coal gasification at over ten local-industry factories to meet the favourable conditions of the area with rich coal resources.

The Kungsim Coal Mine of the Onsong Area Coal-mining Complex in North Hamgyong Province has introduced a wide pillar-free mining

method to suit the 0.5m low-seam conditions, reducing the consumption of materials while improving the safety of coal pits and raising coal productivity 1.2 times.

It has also introduced a new large electric drill to increase the tunnelling speed.

The Kangson Industrial Construction Company in Nampho has introduced a new aerial working method into putting on the cover over the cadoxene electric furnace. According to the new method, the 45-ton cover was lifted and turned over in the air and fireproof materials were fixed over it. It reduced the construction period to a week.

The construction of a rayon pulp production process is pushed at the final stage at the Chongjin Chemical Fibre Factory in North Hamgyong Province.

The factory is now doing a no-

load trial run of the equipment of all processes after setting up major production processes including those of raw materials preparation and selection. It made hundreds of pieces of equipment like pressure dehydrator and centrifugal concentrator.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

## OCEANOLOGY

## Deep-sea research project undertaken

DPRK researchers are intensifying the research for using water at an ocean depth of over 900 metres in various industrial sectors.

The water in the depths of the East Sea of Korea is reckoned to be of high industrial value



A wide variety of bags are turned out at the Pyongyang Bag Factory as the new school year term approaches.

## MACHINE

## Farm machines produced to meet local needs

The Sariwon City Farm Machine Station in North Hwanghae Province produces different kinds of farm machines to send them to cooperative farms in the city.

"While putting main stress on the production of tractor parts, our station not only repairs tractors but also produces different farm machines for cooperative farms in the city," said chief engineer Han Jong Ho.

According to him, the station contrived and made machines for digging circular holes needed for the close planting of maize, mobile maize and

rice threshers, agitators which are used to produce organic fertilizer and others last year to send them to cooperative farms and the microorganism compound fertilizer factory. They are very popular with users, he added.

In January, it sent six-furrow gang ploughs to different cooperative farms.

At present, the station is pushing ahead with the production of ground-cover vinyl sheets for preventing damage by drought and high temperature by recycling waste vinyl.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

## MUSHROOM

## Cultivation process automated

The Pyongyang Mushroom Farm recently established a new mushroom growing process which can produce *Agaricus bisporus*, *Auricularia polytricha* and other kinds of mushrooms according to seasons.

The completion of the process has provided the farm with a guarantee for turning out 1.3 times more mushrooms of various species, free from seasonal influence.

The farm has further completed the automation of fermentation and disinfection processes by building and introducing machines for sowing, charging mushroom

substrates and washing mushroom containers as well as a disinfection pump.

It introduced a forced ventilation system which also adjusts the temperature and humidity and carbon dioxide content suited to the growth of mushrooms, paving the way for increasing yield in a stable manner.

It is also pressing on with some research projects at the final stage including that for upgrading the air-tight door in the automatic high-pressure sterilizing oven.

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The primary and secondary processing technologies have already been established and such water introduced into the production of livestock products, medicines and cosmetics.

Besides, the technologies for marine ecosystem control, industrial indoor culture ground construction, ocean culture and fish farming, desalination and composition of artificial seawater are being widely applied.

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## EDUCATION

# Steps taken to develop general education

Measures are being taken to radically improve general education in the DPRK.

Detailed plans are drawn up to perfect the educational system. To make the teaching content practicable, comprehensive and up-to-the-minute, the programme of the universal 12-year compulsory education has been revised and supplemented, advanced teaching methods have been introduced and hobby groups have been run in a distinctive way according to the aptitudes of students.

Schools have not given students homework for this

winter vacation. Instead, they have run many more extracurricular hobby groups.

Information technology senior middle schools will be increased to nearly 200 across the country in the new school year and preparations are being made for increasing the kind of technical senior middle schools in line with the economic and geographical features of the relevant local areas.

And a project for improving educational conditions and environment will be pushed in earnest while turning more than 300 schools into model schools

nationwide this year.

According to an official of the general education bureau of the Education Commission, an undertaking is being carried on to improve the method of assessing students' scholarly performance and the system of admitting students to schools of higher grade, and it is planned to develop and introduce the integrated educational management information system in the general education sector and make and popularize more multimedia.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

# Hundreds of extracurricular education bases built in seven decades

More than 210 schoolchildren's palaces, halls of schoolchildren and Children's Union camps have been built across the country over the past 70 years since President Kim Il Sung issued a directive of the Premier of the DPRK Cabinet on establishing children's palaces on Feb 23 1950.

Completed in September 1963, the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace is an extracurricular education base for schoolchildren equipped with over 200 rooms for hobby group activities, over 500 other rooms, a 1 100-seat theatre, outdoor practice ground, gymnasium and library.

Chairman Kim Jong Il saw that the bases for schoolchildren's after-school education were built one after another, including the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, the

"1 000-ri Journey for National Liberation" Schoolchildren's Palace, the Kim Song Ju Schoolchildren's Palace, the Samjiyon Schoolchildren's Palace and the Chongjin Schoolchildren's Palace.

In May 2013, Supreme

Leader Kim Jong Un gave instructions to remodel all the schoolchildren's palaces and halls of schoolchildren across the country as required by the new century.

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The newly built Samjiyon Children's Camp.

KIM KUM CHOL / PICTORIAL KOREA

## R&amp;D

# Sci-tech achievements

## Medicine made from poultry waste

Researchers of the Academy of Medical Sciences have developed a medicine, called sugar-coated chenodiol tablet, with strong digestive and remarkable liver function recuperating and gallstone dissolving actions.

"We have illuminated that the main ingredient of poultry waste includes 10 percent of chenodeoxycholic acid which is used as a solvent of cholesterol gallstone," said lead developer Kim Ki Chol.

He established a method of separating chenodeoxycholic acid from the poultry waste, refining it and making its quantitative analysis

and improved quantity management.

He also contrived a manufacturing method conducive to addressing some difficult problems arising in the application and absorption of the medicine and maximizing its efficacy before ensuring mass-production.

No reagent is said to be used in the production of the medicine.

The sugar-coated chenodiol tablet, which has passed full clinical examination, is winning popularity in clinical practice as it proves effective in the treatment of gastritis hypoacida, biliary dyskinesia and fatty liver.

Its manufacturing technology obtained a national patent.

## New type of single-use injector produced

The Taedonggang Syringe Factory in the DPRK brought out a two-part retracting syringe.

Composed of a cylinder and piston, the syringe cannot be used a second time as the needle retracts into the cylinder after use. It is also said to consume less materials than previously produced disposable syringes.

## Coke-free phosphate fertilizer process in the making

Korean technicians have invented a new method of using coal instead of coke in the production of phosphate fertilizer. They established a moulding and processing technology based on locally available raw materials by making a binder.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

## ERA

# Chollima era still remembered as miraculous

In the DPRK's history of socialist construction, there are the glorious annals recorded as the Chollima era.

In the period the Korean people performed such miracles as producing 120 000 tons of steel materials with the blooming mill with a capacity of 60 000 tons and 270 000 tons of pig iron with the iron-making facility with a capacity of 190 000 tons, building a flat in a matter of 14 minutes, raising the gross industrial output value by 36.6 percent on a yearly average between 1957 and 1960 and realizing socialist industrialization in a matter of 14 years.

Such a world-startling era was ushered in on this land under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung.

In the arduous postwar period Kim Il Sung decided to overcome the difficulties by mobilizing the people with absolute trust in them and visited the then Kangson Steel Works (Chollima Steel Complex at present) in December 1956 to encourage its workers to take the lead in a great revolutionary upsurge, saying that the country would be relieved if it had 10 000 tons of more steel materials.

And he visited the then Hwanghae Iron Works (Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex at present) in January the following year and many other industrial establishments and farms across the country to arouse all the people to the grand Chollima advance.

His absolute trust in the people and energetic leadership served as the motive power in performing miracles and feats uninterruptedly in socialist construction.

Under the slogans "Charge at the speed of Chollima!" and "One for all and all for one!", all the economic sectors including the metallurgical and machine industries made signal achievements and the collectivist spirit prevailed throughout the country.

The spirit of Chollima Korea was also displayed in the fields of sports and art and literature.

Indeed, the Chollima era was a great age that trained ordinary workers, farmers and intellectuals into ardent patriots, masters of creation and construction and persons strong in the spirit of self-reliance.

KCNA

## CLIMATE CHANGE

# Temperature rises in winter

The temperature in winter is rising above the average in the DPRK.

"The daily lowest temperature rose above zero in most of the middle and southern regions of the country even on around *Sohan*, the beginning of the severest cold, or the 23rd of the 24 seasonal divisions according to the lunar calendar that falls on around Jan 6, and it frequently rained this winter. It is largely because the low atmospheric pressure of the Yangtze River, which had an influence on the weather of the DPRK in spring and autumn, has appeared too early," said Kim Chol Min, section chief of the State Hydro-Meteorological Administration.

According to him, abnormal weather conditions have often been observed in the country as the overall seawater temperature along the equator and subtropical regions has risen due to global warming in recent years, moving a large quantity of heat to the middle latitudes.

Such a climatic change has caused serious concern in

various fields.

The public health sector worries about it as the temperature rise and the increase in humidity and rainfall foster the multiplication of various kinds of viruses, parasites and mosquitoes, resulting in the outbreak of various diseases such as malaria.

There is a fear that the agricultural and fruit farming sectors would seriously be affected by harmful insects.

Cold weather played a significant part in preventing the propagation of blights, said Jon Sang Ryol, researcher at the Academy of Agricultural Science. "If the temperature rises continuously as it does today, we will no longer 'benefit' from the cold winter. And the agricultural sector should take proper measures to reduce damage from harmful insects as much as possible, I think."

In case fruit tree blossoms come out and wilt early, it is hard to predict how seriously it would affect the fruit yield, he added.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



## TOWN

# Mountain villagers enjoy lives in better environment

Two months have passed since Samjiyon City was inaugurated in Ryanggang Province.

According to the locals, the northern mountain folks took delight in hearing the sound of chopping wood with great heating power here and there in Samjiyon and looking at piles of firewood at houses as its average temperature in winter reaches more than 10 degrees centigrade below zero and cold days take a larger proportion there.

At present, however, no chimney is seen at dwelling houses and public buildings.

Every house is equipped with the electric heating system and every household prepares meal with electricity. Therefore, the locals say that new born babies will learn about firewood only

through books or movies.

A resident in neighbourhood unit No. 7 of Kwangmyongsong-dong, who moved to Samjiyon from Hyesan in the same province over 20 years ago, is said to have moved house in the city several times.

According to him, he had moved into a flat of a newly-built low-storey apartment house in the 2000s and decided not to move again for the rest of his life as the apartment left nothing to be desired.

But this time, he moved to a perfect flat in the city which was rebuilt into a model of modern mountainous city, he said.

In the city there are lots of such happy people who moved from new houses to newer ones.

Jang Chung Sil and Jang Po Dap, the unmarried triplet

sisters of Jang Un Hye living in Ponnamu-dong, also received new houses on the same day.

The locals are happy with the city people's hospital, which is equipped with modern medical facilities like central hospitals, as they do not need to go to provincial hospitals with referrals.

They also enjoy skiing like at the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort.

Residents in other cities are said to come to the city to relish the exciting glide.

All the Samjiyon citizens, who have been transformed from remote mountain villagers into masters of the civilized city envied by others, say: "Our city is best!"

By Ko Kwang Yon PT



KIM KUM CHOL / PICTORIAL KOREA

Samjiyon City in the northern part of the DPRK transforms into a model mountain town.

## MOVEMENT

# Increasing numbers of units get innovation-minded

The number of model technical innovation units continue to increase in the DPRK amid the all-out campaign to develop science and technology.

This title is awarded to the units that are exemplary in putting production processes and equipment on Juche, modern, IT and scientific basis.

As regards this, *The Pyongyang Times* reporter Kwon Hyo Song interviewed officials of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

*I have heard many units have earned the title of model technical innovation unit this year, though only two months have passed.*

Cha Man Baek, department director: That's right. More than 40 units have obtained the title. As a result, the number of the title winners has added

up to over 1 000 nationwide including those that obtained the title thrice or twice.

As these units have found the reserves for increased production and economization in science and technology, they have conducted a vigorous mass technical innovation drive and introduced lots of technical innovation plans into production and business activities, thereby increasing production to bring great benefits to the country and contribute to developing the national economy and improving the people's livelihood.

At present, all production units have their own sci-tech learning spaces and their employees assiduously study advanced technologies there and come up with valuable ideas, discoveries and inventions.

The number of inventors continues to increase at every

factory and enterprise.

This has instilled the confidence of "I can do it, too" into many and greatly encouraged the mass technical innovation drive.

The zeal of industrial establishments for winning the title also acts as a spur to the drive.

*What do you think is important in the technical innovation drive at present?*

Pak Sang Chol, senior official: It is to formulate and implement a correct plan for scientific and technological development and phased target for technical innovation by fully relying on our own resources, technology and efforts and in conformity with the actual situation of each unit.

It is also important to promote creative cooperation between workers and technicians and between production units and scientific research institutions.

## LAUNCH

# Heritage protection fund opens webpage

The Korea National Heritage Protection Fund recently established a webpage on the internet.

Entitled "Let us defend the soul of the nation", the page has links into introduction of the fund, contents and fields of donation, introduction of national heritage elements, historical data, introduction of donors and news items.

It highlights the immortal exploits of the peerlessly great persons who added lustre to the time-honoured

and brilliant culture of the nation.

It also explains the establishment of the fund and its logo, mission, organizational structure, principles of donation, credentials issuing, supervision and management system and business affairs.

The fund is located in Taedongmun-dong in Central District, Pyongyang.

The URL is <http://www.nacnara.com.kp/sites/national>.

KCNA

## ALTRUISM

# Family do good jobs for the public

Locals call the family of Kim Ok Hui living in neighbourhood unit No. 61 of Ryonmot-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang, a family with many sources of pride.

"The family of Kim Ok Hui is a family of ordinary workers. But you can see many aid and conference participation certificates there, a clear testimony to their noble view of life," said Ri Yong Hui, head of the neighbourhood unit.

Ok Hui has been doing good things for the sake of society for 25 years.

She volunteered to work at the construction sites of factories, hospitals and cultural and recreational facilities and donated a large amount of aid materials.

She dedicated her sincerity to many construction projects including Mirae Scientists Street, the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery and Samjiyon County which was renamed Samjiyon City.

She has also taken good care of disabled soldier Kim Kwang Ho in Tongdaewon District of

Pyongyang for over 10 years like her own flesh and blood.

"I call her my elder sister. She always cares for my health and living. And now my family feel a sense of kinship with her and her sons," said Kwang Ho.

"We could not understand our mother's mind when we were young. We were too puerile to understand her unselfish concern for public welfare. Only when we attained our years of discretion, we were aware that it was a civic duty and worth of life as we saw many people respected our mother and the country highly appreciated our family's deeds. So my younger brother and I embarked on the road of assistance for others following in our mother's footsteps," said her son Yu Myong Do.

"Though we are workers, our couple have been living in a cosy dwelling house without any worries and our children study at universities. We only tried to repay the favour shown by society even a bit," said Ok Hui.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

## SOFTWARE

# Apps promote traditional Koryo medicine

The Koryo Medicine General Hospital in Pyongyang has developed software products including a medical service system.

The traditional medical service support system Koryo Medicine 3.5 is composed of a telemedicine service, technological database and e-dictionary on Koryo medicine, and health self-examination support systems.

Another one is Koryo Medical Dictionary 1.0 with over 30 000 entries. It has already

been introduced into more than 450 public health institutions. It helps people broaden common knowledge about Koryo medicine. It is also helpful to the prevention and treatment of diseases.

Others include Collection of Folk Remedies 1.0 and Kkotmangul 1.0. The former details folk therapies for the treatment of hundreds of kinds of diseases and the latter is very popular among the women with children under two years old.

KCNA



## EDITORIAL

# DPRK, Vietnam boost ties as required by new era

The history of friendship between the DPRK and Vietnam was pioneered and advanced by preceding leaders in the joint struggle against imperialist aggression and for the accomplishment of the socialist cause.

President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il rendered positive material and moral support and encouragement to the Vietnamese people in their efforts to achieve the country's independence and national liberation and build socialism, while President Ho Chi Minh and other Vietnamese leaders made positive efforts to support the just cause of the DPRK and bolster up bilateral relations.

The long-standing ties

of friendship between the two countries reached new heights with Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un's official goodwill visit to Vietnam as a momentum.

In early March last year, the Supreme Leader met with President Nguyen Phu Trong who is also general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the prime minister, the chairwoman of the National Assembly and other senior officials of the country and affirmed his will to further consolidate and develop the bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation as required by the new era and work together in the efforts to ensure the well-

being and rosy future of the peoples of the two countries.

The President and other leading Vietnamese officials also expressed their stand to always attach importance to bilateral relations and bolster up the relationship between the two Parties and the two countries in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and regional peace and stability.

Today, the Vietnamese people are working to attain the "goal for rich people and a prosperous, democratic, fair and civilized state" under the banner of socialism, closely rallied around the Communist Party of Vietnam in the face of intricate international situation.

One of the world's leading

rice producers and exporters, Vietnam pays primary attention to the agricultural sector.

It shores up agricultural production and stabilizes people's livelihood by pushing ahead with different projects.

The coffee and natural rubber producer exported over 1.3 million tons of natural rubber, or a 7.6 percent increase, as of late October last year, and it is expected to achieve a higher economic growth this year, too.

It is working towards a goal of training over a million technical personnel.

The DPRK and Vietnam will promote cooperation and exchanges in all fields of politics, the economy and culture and bolster up mutual cooperation on the international arena in order to achieve genuine international justice, true to the intention of the preceding leaders and top leaders of the two countries, in this year of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations.

## Briefly

### Russia

#### Putin pays floral tribute to fallen soldiers

Russian President Vladimir Putin laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier beside the Kremlin walls in Moscow and observed a moment's silence in memory of all those who had fallen in defence of the country to mark the Day of Defenders of the Motherland on Feb 23.

The wreath-laying ceremony was attended by the Prime Minister, the chairwoman of the Russian Federation Council, the speaker of the State Duma, the vice-chairman and secretary general of the Security Council, defence minister, other government officials and representatives of war veterans' organizations.

### China

#### FM spokesman warns Wall Street Journal

"China will never remain an onlooker to such acts of maliciously defaming it and tarnishing its image," a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Feb 24.

Given that *The Wall Street Journal* insisted on its assertion, it should be held wholly responsible for the consequences, he added.

Shortly ago, China urged the newspaper administration to change the title "China is really the 'sickly' of Asia" of an article it had carried, but the newspaper answered by mail that they remained unchanged in their stand.

### Palestine

#### US-Israel joint mapping of West Bank decried

Such maps violating the UN resolutions cannot change a fait accompli and only the map of Palestine based on the demarcation line before the 1967 Six-Day War and with East al-Quds as its capital will be acknowledged, said a spokesman for the Palestinian president on Feb 24.

His remarks came as the US and Israel are making a joint attempt to draw maps of the West Bank in anticipation of the annexation of it.

### Cuba

#### Caribbean nations critical of anti-Cuba embargo

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez on Feb 20 said on Twitter that the US' sanctions harm the world trade and aggravate international tensions.

The heads of state of the CARICOM member nations in a meeting held in Barbados on Feb 19 expressed concern over the US administration's buildup of economic, trade and financial embargo against Cuba.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

## US

## Arms race: Pandora's box opened

The US halted the performance of its obligation under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty on the pretext of Russia's breach of the treaty in February last year and unilaterally withdrew from the pact in August.

The problem is that the US test-fired a banned missile using MK-41 launcher 16 days after its withdrawal. The event revealed that the US rocket launcher deployed in Eastern Europe is capable of launching not only interceptor missiles but also offensive missiles.

Once the US' intermediate-range missiles are deployed in Europe, it will take only 10-12 minutes for a missile to reach Moscow, which means a serious threat to Russia.

At present, the US is putting spurs to military buildup including the modernization of intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarines and strategic bombers, while claiming that it falls behind other powers in the Asia-Pacific region in the development of a series of strategic weapons.

A typical example is the test-fire of ICBM Minuteman 3

at the Vandenberg air base in California on Feb 5 this year.

Russia declared that it would not deploy intermediate-range missiles first, but take countermeasures if the US does so in Europe, warning that any country that deploys the US' intermediate-range missiles will be a potential target of nuclear attack of Russia.

President Putin stated his country is willing to work for making new agreements in the field of arms control, but before such a process begins it will continue to build up its nuclear forces by reequipping

the Strategic Rocket Forces with modern missile systems and the naval nuclear force with modern submarines.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman asserted that the real intention of the US withdrawal from the treaty is to free itself from the fetters and develop advanced missiles at will so as to hold in check China and Russia and furthermore get the absolute military upper hand.

The world media and experts comment that given the US' abrogation of the INF Treaty has removed the actual brake to arms race and nuclear war, the Pandora's box containing arms race has been opened.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

till 2017.

A relevant Kenyan institution said that about 1 000 rhinoceroses remain in the country, though it was a home of many rhinoceroses in the past.

According to information available, 90 percent of bull elephants in Sri Lanka have no ivory, with Borneo male elephants in jeopardy evolving into the state with no ivory.

Some scientists suggest the possibility that elephants will evolve in a direction of having no ivory for fear of poaching threat.

Facts clearly show that living creatures are decreasing very fast due to humans' greedy activities.

If living creatures are extinct on the earth, how will be the fate of humans?

By Min Chol PT

"another Saenuri Party" and that the tie-up of conservative forces who were politically sentenced to death along with the impeachment of Park Geun Hye will only precipitate its destruction.

KCNA

## WILDLIFE

## Living creatures face rising risk of extinction

There have been five rounds of mass extinction all together on the earth so far. However, nobody knows whether the sixth one is approaching, said a foreign magazine.

This is a passage from an article recently carried on a foreign magazine.

Last year, the International Union for Conservation of Nature newly added over 7 000 species of plants and animals on the verge of extinction to the "red list" of endangered species and warned that living creatures

were becoming extinct at unprecedented speed due to the destruction of nature.

Extinction of living creatures means the destruction of biodiversity and it indicates the foundations of human life also disappear along with it.

The wildfire in Australia this year and other natural disasters, which have been sweeping the world since the outset of this year, are a good testimony of red light to biodiversity protection.

And the ecological environment is also witnessing destruction due to climate change, reckless

deforestation and reclamation of farmland, and what is more serious is the indiscriminate poaching for personal interests.

Typically, seven kinds of whales among 13 breeds are facing extinction due to the indiscriminate whaling by humans and other reasons, said the chief of the South African sea creature research institute.

In South Africa, a habitat for more than 80 percent of rhinoceroses in the world, the number of rhinoceroses killed by poachers reportedly amounted to 7 000 in ten years

## S. KOREA

## A crow cannot be whiter for often washing

The conservative forces of south Korea have recently formed a "United Future Party".

Many south Korean people, however, say that "However hard they may try to beautify it, the UFP is nothing more

than a fascist political party which has succeeded the military clique of Park Chung Hee and Chun Doo Hwan and



## FOLKTALE

# Legends tell more about Mt Kumgang

## Remedy for neuralgia

Once upon a time a kind-hearted and diligent man, called Jonggap, lived in a village near Lake Sijung of Mt Kumgang.

One day, as he took a rest by the lakeside after gathering firewood, he happened to save a crab caught by a heron.

A few years later, he sometimes felt too severe pains in his joints with his limbs benumbed to walk.

But he gathered firewood despite his poor health one day and had a short rest in the lakeside, before falling fast asleep.

When he woke up, he found that his whole body was covered with mud and a big crab was sitting beside him with its legs huddled as it looked at him.

It was the crab he had saved previously.

With a strange idea coming across his mind, he moved his arms and legs, but he felt no pain.

He told villagers this wonder and brought mud for those who suffered from the same illness with him to apply it to them. After that they completely recovered from the trouble.

Since then, the mud of Lake Sijung has widely been known as a remedy for neuralgia.

## Sejon Peak

According to an old story, only females existed in human world.

One day, a woman living in a valley of Mt Kumgang climbed the present-day Sejon Peak in the Kuryong Pool section of Outer Kumgang as she picked edible wild greens.

She cooled herself in a bracing wind blowing towards the peak that commanded a bird's-eye view of the East Sea of Korea, before letting fresh air in her private part.

She exposed herself so long in the fresh wind, oblivious of the sunset, that her belly was

filled with air.

Though she stroked her belly for hard breathing, the air did not go out.

She could not help going down to the valley with her bloated stomach uncured.

She was ill in bed for about a year. One day, something suddenly came out of her privates with her swollen belly returning to normal. It was a male infant.

It is said that it was the first man in the world, and the peak was called Sejon in the meaning that it is the one that humans should respect.

By Min Chol PT



A curious rock on Sujong Peak in Outer Kumgang.

## DISH

## Specialities of Hwanghae

The Hwanghae provincial area comprising today's North and South Hwanghae provinces in the mid-western part of Korea has been well known as a rice bowl since olden times.

The foods of Hwanghae Province are characterized by delicate taste, simple appearance, appropriate saltiness and appetizing aroma.

Its special dishes include the Haeju boiled rice with assorted mixtures, steamed nonglutinous rice cake, mung bean starch noodles, mung bean jelly, laver soup and coriander kimchi.

The Haeju boiled rice with assorted mixtures, also called Haeju *kyoban*, is prepared by

putting cooked rice in a vessel, covering it with seasoned meat, fried and sliced bean curd, mushrooms, parsley, broad bellflower roots and bracken and sprinkling crushed roast laver over them.

An old record also contains Haeju *kyoban*.

The steamed nonglutinous rice cake is made by mixing sugar and water with salted rice flour to boil them properly and steaming it in a steamer along with mung beans and powdered sesame coating for rice-cakes.

It is a traditional custom peculiar to Hwanghae Province to have mung bean starch noodles and mung bean jelly

in summer, as they believe that they can be healthy when they eat mung bean starch more than once every year.

The mung bean starch noodles are prepared by putting a coil of noodle strips made of mung bean starch in a large bowl and garnishing it with kimchi, meat, cucumber and condiments before pouring juice over them.

Laver from Ongjin Bay of Hwanghae Province is famous nationwide for the good taste.

The kimchi seasoned with condiments made with the leaves of coriander is one of local specialities of Hwanghae Province.

The locals widely use the fruits, stems and leaves of the plant as seasonings.

At present coriander is used for seasoning kimchi not only in Hwanghae Province but also in other parts of the country.

By Choe Yong Nam PT



Steamed Ongjin trepang stuffed with shrimp.



Parboiled and sliced West Sea squid



Coriander kimchi

PHOTOS BY PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

## WETLAND

## Field survey scheduled to check new wetland reserves

This year the DPRK plans to carry out an intensive survey to confirm new wetland reserves on the west coast, an important position of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, an official of the Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea told KCNA.

According to statistics of the union, *Eurynorhynchus pygmeus* (spoon-billed sandpiper) which is recognized as a species on the verge of extinction in the world stays in South Hwanghae Province of the country in April-May and August-September and *Platalea leucorodia* (blackfaced spoonbill) reproduces itself in the coastal areas of South Hwanghae and North and South Phyongan provinces in April.

The union will confirm new wetland reserves after correctly finding the stopover and breeding places of these birds through field survey, said the

official.

It also plans to confirm relevant places of national, regional and global significance on the west coast of the country like Sindo and Mundok migratory bird reserves in North and South Phyongan provinces and register them on the list of natural heritage of the World Heritage Convention and the list of wetlands of international importance (Ramsar wetland list) in conformity with the decisions of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The west coast of the DPRK is a habitat, breeding place and stopover place of migratory birds in the Northeast Asian region as it has geological and climatic features that continental and oceanic climates alternate and rich biodiversity.

KCNA

## PRESERVATION

## Cultural heritage sites under good protection

Remarkable successes have been made in the discovery and restoration of historical relics and sites.

A research team of the department of history of Kim Il Sung University and the Archaeology Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences unearthed a site dating back to the earlier Palaeolithic age in Tongam-dong in Suncheon, South Phyongan Province, and scientifically proved once again that Korea is one of the cradles of human civilization.

They found four metal types at Manwoltae, the site of the royal palace of Koryo in Kaesong, and shadow-casting rocks from the primitive times and two dolmens, a dwelling site and over 1 000 pieces of relics from the ancient times in Ungsang-dong of the Sonbong area in Rason City and a large group of tombs dating back to Koguryo Kingdom in Chondok-ri of Pongsan County, North Hwanghae Province.

The Family Tree of the Ris of Toksu was put on display at a museum last year, the tomb of Hyejong, the second king of Koryo, was discovered in Kaesong and many other historical sites and relics were unearthed and restored. Three objects were inscribed as world intangible cultural heritage elements and over 90 as national and local ICH elements.

Besides, 40 objects including the tomb of the 15th king of Koryo in Sonjok-ri, Kaesong, and the site of the Kwangbok Temple in Sadong-ri of Phangyo County, Kangwon Province, were registered as national treasures and relics.

Folk song *Arirang*, kimchi-making custom and *ssirum* (Korean wrestling) were inscribed as world ICH elements.

More than 80 objects related to social practices, working life, traditional medicine and cuisine and life customs such as the Korean roofing style, silk production technique and *janggi* (Korean chess) were inscribed as national ICH elements, while the recipe for Pyongyang *onban* (meat soup with rice in it), *Song of Jongbangsan Fort* with distinct musical characteristics and the age-old stone sauna and Samdaem sand bath in Kaesong have won local ICH status.

Goshawk which is the national bird of the DPRK, Kwangpho duck, the Ryongaksan and Kumgang spring waters, Kumya poplar and Anhak-dong semi-cultivation soybean were designated as natural monuments and many other achievements were made in the efforts to preserve and take care of natural heritage elements.

By Jong Chol PT

