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Kim Jong Un presides over Political Bureau meeting of WPK Central Committee

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, presided over the 16th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK.

The meeting held at the office building of the headquarters of the Party Central Committee on Thursday was attended by members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Politburo.

Present there as observers were directors, first deputy directors and deputy directors of the departments of the Party Central Committee, deputy premiers of the Cabinet, ministers, chairpersons of provincial Party committees, chairpersons of Party committees of ministries and national agencies, commanding officers of military organs and members of the Central Emergency Anti-epidemic Headquarters.

There was a briefing on the damage caused by the recent calamitous



downpours and floods.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un noted that the flood-stricken people must be suffering great pain as they are living in temporary dwelling places after losing their houses and other properties. At such a crucial time as now, he earnestly said, it is none other than our Party that should take full responsibility for them and go closer to them to share their hardship with them and relieve them of it.

He stated that our state faces two challenges: the anti-epidemic campaign to thoroughly cope with

the world health crisis and the unexpected natural disaster, and referred to the need for the Party and the government to indicate a correct policy direction for overcoming these two crises at the same time and display a seasoned leadership art in the three-dimensional and offensive struggle.

All necessary steps should promptly be organized and taken even though a great deal of obstacles and difficulties lie ahead of the protracted national emergency anti-epidemic effort, he ordered, urging Party organizations and government organs at all levels

to properly perform their roles.

He stressed that the rehabilitation should not be confined to merely the reconstruction for repairing the damage from natural calamities or the restoration of living conditions but be made an important political work for celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Party as a genuine holiday of the people and a revolutionary holiday cementing the single-minded unity.

He also pointed to the need to spruce up the flood-damaged area to meet the

demand and aspiration of the people and the high standard of the times, and qualitatively build structures in appropriate places based on the opinions of the local people so that they could be free from damage even if flood and other natural disasters occur in the future.

He suggested issuing a decision of the Politburo of the Party Central Committee and a joint order of the Party Central Committee, the Party Central Military Commission and the State Affairs Commission

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reflecting the immediate fighting tasks for finishing the most part of the rehabilitation and stabilizing the people's living by October 10 by dint of the great unity between the army and people loyal to the leadership of the Party and through their joint operation.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee expressed a unanimous approval for the ardent appeal of the Supreme Leader.

The meeting agreed on an issue of machinery for the establishment of a nationwide regular anti-epidemic work system, now that the emergency anti-epidemic campaign is protracted, and pointed to the need for the new organization to correctly exercise the authority it has been granted and enhance its responsibility and role.

It also decided to lift the lock-down of frontline areas including Kaesong, which has been enforced since July 24 due to the emergency incident that occurred in the forefront area, according to the scientific verification and guarantee by a professional anti-epidemic organ.

And it heard a report on the preparations for national functions to be held in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the WPK according to the decision of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Seventh WPK Central Committee, checked the issues arising in the preparation of every event and took due measures to distinctively prepare all the celebrations at the highest level as a great political festival to be provided as an excellent gift to the 75th founding anniversary



of the Party.

At the meeting, a matter of setting up a new department in the Party Central Committee was deliberated on and decided, before its functions and role were defined.

An organizational matter was also dealt with there.

Kim Tok Hun and Ri Pyong Chol were elected members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Pak Thae Dok was by-elected a member of the Party Central Committee and member of its Political Bureau.

Pak Myong Sun and Jon Kwang Ho were elected alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee to fill vacancies.

At the proposal of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, the Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission dismissed and appointed the premier of the DPRK Cabinet by exercising the power granted by the Socialist Constitution.

The Chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission appointed Kim Tok Hun as Premier of the DPRK

Cabinet.

Kim Jae Ryong and Pak Thae Dok were elected vice-chairmen of the Party Central Committee.

Kim Jae Ryong, Pak Thae Dok, Pak Myong Sun, Jon Kwang Ho and Kim Yong Su were appointed department directors of the Party Central Committee.

Kim Chol Sam was appointed chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee and Ri Jae Nam chairman of the Nampho City Party Committee.

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MEASURE

Giving top priority to people's lives and safety

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea prepared special aid materials for the people in totally blocked Kaesong City.

As regards the dangerous situation in Kaesong City that might lead to a deadly and destructive disaster, the WPK Central Committee made sure that the state emergency anti-epidemic system was upgraded to the top level and took one emergency measure after another for stabilizing the living of the people in the blockaded city.

A train carrying the special aid materials arrived at Kaesong Railway Station on the afternoon of August 7.

A meeting was held at the conference hall of the Kaesong City Committee of the WPK to convey the materials sent by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un to the Kaesong citizens.

Ri Man Gon, member of the Political Bureau and first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee, made a speech for conveying them.

The speaker said the Supreme Leader made sure

that emergency measures were taken for supplying food and medicines right after the city was totally blocked and this time he saw to it that lots of rice and subsidy were sent to the city.

The Supreme Leader said that the inconvenience suffered by citizens is precisely the pain of the Party, and taking care of them is the bounden duty of the motherly Party, encouraging the citizens who turned out in the campaign for checking the spread of the malignant virus that he would be with them all the time, he noted.

He was followed by other speeches.

The speakers said that the Supreme Leader paid close attention to the supply of food, cooking oil, living necessities, electricity and coal from the first day of the blockade of the city.

After the meeting, the participants expressed their deep gratitude and excited feelings.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un saw that food reserves of the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission were sent to the

people in the afflicted area as he took a series of measures to promptly stabilize the living of the inhabitants of Taechong-ri of Unpha County who were struck by an unexpected natural disaster.

A convoy of trucks carrying bags of grain arrived in Unpha County on the morning of August 9.

A meeting took place in the county town to convey the food sent by the Supreme Leader to the residents in the flood-stricken area.

It was attended by the county and ri officials and farmers.

Upon the authorization of the Supreme Leader, Ri Il Hwan, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, made a conveying address.

He said that upon receiving the report that lots of houses had been submerged by a flash flood in Unpha County, the Supreme Leader visited the flood-hit area, laying aside all other affairs. He referred to the fact that grief-stricken over the loss

of homes and all the possessions of the people, the leader took immediate measures to stabilize the living of the inhabitants as soon as possible.

The Supreme Leader visited several places in Taechong-ri along muddy roads early next morning and planned a grand operation for building model dwelling houses in a short time, he said.

Thanks to his warm love and care, misfortune will certainly turn into a blessing, he noted.

Recalling the deep gratitude they felt on the day when they met in tears the Supreme Leader who personally drove a car to the village, other speakers lauded him as the benevolent father of the people who spares nothing to relieve them of their sufferings.

They said they were determined to turn the Taechong area into a good place with redoubled efforts by keeping in mind the great care shown by the Supreme Leader, and demonstrate the truth that all blessings would come when they trust and follow their leader by gathering good harvest from the

fertile land they would restore.

Receiving the food sent by the Supreme Leader, the flood victims were moved to tears, extending their gratitude to him.

Trucks loaded with essential materials prepared by the departments of the WPK Central Committee and families of officials of its headquarters arrived at Unpha county town in North Hwanghae Province on Monday afternoon.

Leading officials of the WPK Central Committee handed the aid materials over to the officials and residents of Unpha County and Taechong-ri.

Learning about the living conditions of the people in the afflicted area, they encouraged them to cheer up and build their villages as socialist paradise.

Saying that they would give pleasure to the Party with the proud achievement of a high crop yield, the inhabitants of Taechong-ri expressed their hope that the Supreme Leader would not worry about their ir anymore.

ANNIVERSARY

Liberator of Korean nation

On August 15 1945 Korea was liberated from decades-long Japanese military rule.

The country had been suffering a total eclipse on the world map and its people could finally celebrate their national rebirth.

The landmark event of national liberation was brought about by President Kim Il Sung, legendary hero of the anti-Japanese war.

He embarked on the road of revolution with the firm determination never to return home before Korea achieved independence in his teens and set up a new type of revolutionary armed force to declare an all-out war on Japanese imperialism. During the anti-Japanese war, he waged an armed struggle in the vast areas of homeland and China's Manchuria as he crossed Amnok and Tuman rivers with Mt Paektu as the base.

The anti-Japanese armed struggle was an unprecedentedly arduous and rigorous course beyond human imagination as his Korean People's Revolutionary Army had to fight against the Japanese imperialists armed

to the teeth, without any state backing or assistance from a regular army.

The rigorous anti-Japanese revolution is epitomised by the ceaseless bloody battles with the enemy and the fight against the biting cold freezing and breaking even birch trees, constant hunger and diseases.

Kim Il Sung always stood in the van of the life-and-death struggle surmounting all difficulties in the indomitable spirit.

He brought death and terror to the Japanese aggressors by dint of his outstanding military strategy and guerrilla tactics.

Recorded in the history of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle are lots of military activities including the expeditions of the fledgling guerrilla army to north and south Manchuria that terrified the enemies, the battle to defend the guerrilla zone in China's Xiaowangqing in which the Koreans beat the over 5 000-strong enemy force equipped with large guns and aircraft, the battle of Pochonbo in which the KPRA smartly broke through the enemy

cordon on the border, which the Japanese had boasted of as impregnable, to deal a telling political and military blow to them and the battle on Jiansanfeng in which hundreds of KPRA soldiers defeated and wiped out thousands of Japanese troops.

The Korean people bravely turned out in the sacred anti-Japanese war led by General Kim Il Sung who overwhelmed the one million Japanese troops, as they venerated him as the Sun of the nation.

He kindled the fierce flames of all-people resistance by rallying all patriotic forces behind the anti-Japanese banner, and his wise leadership finally brought the Japanese imperialists who styled themselves the "leader of the Orient" to their knees.

It has been 75 years since Korea's liberation.

In order to add eternal brilliance to the President's imperishable exploits the Korean people are now out as one in the building of a powerful socialist country for making their country more prosperous and powerful.

By Pak Song Min PT

REHABILITATION

Nation concentrates on flood relief

In the DPRK, the state is giving top priority to stabilizing the life of flood victims.

With measures taken to clear away the aftermath of flood by Party and government organs and working people's organizations in the flood-stricken areas, state concern and investment are directed to Taechong-ri in Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province.

In early August the waterway levee gave way in this area, causing heavy damage with more than 730 single-storey houses and 600-odd hectares of paddy fields inundated and 179 blocks of dwelling houses destroyed.

Upon hearing the report on the flood damage in the area, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un drove his car along muddy roads to learn about the actual situation of the damage and take detailed measures for rehabilitation on the spot.

True to his instructions, immediate measures were taken to provide the homeless victims with shelters at office buildings, including those of the county Party and people's committees, public buildings and private houses, and supply the food reserve of the Chairman of

the State Affairs Commission and such essential supplies as bedding, daily necessities and medicines were offered by the departments of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and families of officials of its headquarters.

Construction forces of the Korean People's Army and designers of central units were committed to the area in order to build new houses for 800 families as a model in the flood-afflicted rural village in Unpha County.

According to the measures taken by the Party and state to stabilize the life of the flood victims and provide them with better homes as early as possible by turning misfortune into a blessing, the State Planning Commission, ministries and national agencies have turned out in its rehabilitation.

It is the determination and will of the WPK that there is no emergency more urgent than the people's distress and no revolutionary work more crucial than alleviating the people's sufferings.

In 2016 when a devastating flood hit the northern areas of North Hamgyong Province, the DPRK mobilized and concentrated all its human,

material and technical potential to work a miracle of building beautiful socialist villages in a little more than two months.

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

MONUMENT

Arch of Triumph tells about President's exploits of national liberation



A nocturnal view of the Arch of Triumph dedicated to President Kim Il Sung's national liberation exploits.

RYU KWANG HYOK

The Arch of Triumph is located near Moran Hill in Pyongyang.

The monument was erected to hand down the immortal exploits President Kim Il Sung performed to liberate Korea by waging the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle for 20 years.

On October 14 1945, Kim Il Sung exchanged warm greetings with his fellow countrymen in the then public playground at the foot of Moran Hill.

The Arch of Triumph erected on the road before the plaza reflects the mind of the Koreans to praise and hand down his exploits forever.

It was built with smoothly-trimmed quality granite in 1982 on the occasion of his 70th birthday, standing 60m high and measuring 52.5m wide.

Each of its four sides has an arch. The upper parts of the front

and rear bear the inscription of immortal revolutionary hymn *Song of General Kim Il Sung* and those of both sides the carved outline of Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution where he commanded the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Seen in relief at the upper parts of left and right pillars of the front and rear are "1925" and "1945", which represent respectively the year when he left his country with an aim of liberating it and the year when he returned home after achieving it, and at the lower parts of them are group sculptures depicting the Koreans turning out in the building of a new Korea, including the anti-Japanese war veterans who liberated the country under his commandship.

By Ri Sang Il PT

INSPECTION

Pak Pong Ju inspects flood-hit farm in Unpha County

Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, inspected the Taechong Cooperative Farm in Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province.

As he looked round different places of flood-stricken Taechong-ri, he learned about its rehabilitation and discussed measures to reflect the opinions of farmers in the construction of their dwelling houses and to ensure a prompt supply of building materials.

He underlined the need to rearrange all the waterways in

minimize damage in the rainy season by urgently restoring drain pumping stations and nourish afflicted crops in a

scientific and technological way.

KCNA



Senior official Pak Pong Ju (foreground) tours the flood-afflicted Taechong Cooperative Farm in Unpha County.

VEGETABLE FARMING

Great efforts put into vegetable cultivation to gather bumper harvest

Primary attention paid to growing seedlings

The Jungdan Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, grows vegetable seedlings scientifically.

“The farm has applied triple cropping to over 40 percent of the vegetable acreage to increase the per-hectare yield,” said Jo Chan Su, chairman of the farm management board.

It has over 170 blocks of arch-style greenhouses for growing vegetable seedlings.

As the arch-style greenhouses help hasten the cultivation of vegetable seedlings irrespective of climate, they enable the farm to shorten the period of vegetable production by over 50 days.

By raising three crops a year with the vegetable seedlings grown in the arch-style greenhouses, the farm is producing 250 tons of green vegetables per hectare on average, or over 150 tons of green and fruit vegetables

or root crops per hectare on average.

The farm also pays attention to selecting right soil for gradual cultivation of vegetables and breeding vegetable varieties with short growing period and

high productivity.

“We plan to research new vegetable varieties as well as cultivation technology,” said chief engineer An Jong Chol.

By Kim Il Jin PT



A farmer sprays fertilizer on cucumber at the Jungdan Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Rangnang District, Pyongyang.

KIM HYOK CHOL

Production boosted

The Mangyongdae Vegetable Farm in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, increases vegetable production.

“Our farm can be seen suitable for vegetable farming as it adjoins the Sunhwa River. We are paying special attention to greenhouse farming. We increase the production of such vegetables as cucumber, tomato, eggplant and red pepper by introducing good vegetable varieties,” said Kim Thae Hyon, chief engineer of the farm.

A noticeable thing is that the farm has proactively introduced latest research achievements.

A typical example is the application of effective low-association activated water

generator.

The device is designed to convert the irrigation water into the low-association activated water with the help of electric impulse.

The activated water has reduced water molecules with hydrogen bonds and oxidation-reduction potential. It promotes the metabolism of vegetables, mitigates soil acidification and performs other different actions.

“The device has a big capacity for treating water, but consumes less electricity and is easy to install. We first applied it to a vegetable workteam on an experimental basis and observed the growth of vegetables

according to their varieties,” said Kim Thae Hyon.

According to him, the growth condition of fruit vegetables has improved as they took roots and absorbed nutritive elements from soil better than before. And the fruits were so healthy that farmers have increased per-hectare yield by over 25 percent.

Based on such experience, the farm installed the device at a dozen pumping stations on the farm.

It also takes thorough measures for the prevention of damage by harmful insects by strengthening forecasting work and making effective use of agrochemicals.

“We acquire various technical knowledge related to vegetable cultivation at the agricultural sci-tech learning space of the farm. For example, the boiled and cooled water, water obtained by a high-speed centrifuge method or the water obtained from snow is effective in increasing vegetable yields. We also produce agrochemicals with liquid fertilizer and vegetable by-products,” said farmer Ri Kum Ok.

The farm has now finished the sowing of autumn bok choy on every field.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



SONG YONG SOK

Bok choys grow healthy at the Mangyongdae Vegetable Farm in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

To provide citizens with more vegetables

The Pyongyang Municipal Rural Economy Committee pays primary attention to solving urgent problems on the basis of comprehensive survey of the actual condition of vegetable producers.

First of all, it has taken decisive measures to readjust and strengthen the irrigation system of vegetable fields.

Districts and counties have correctly selected the objects to be restored to their original state before concentrating manpower and means on them and are expediting the supply of equipment and materials including water pump and motor according to a well thought-out plan.

The Taesong Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Taesong District increases the production of vegetables after completing the irrigation system on a high level.

The expansion of the area of triple cropping and reenergizing of greenhouse vegetable production bases are also progressing apace.

Vegetable varieties with short growing period and high productivity, the form of their cultivation and the method of manuring and growing them are introduced actively, along with the selection of right soil for the staged cultivation of vegetables.

The Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District has gathered good

harvest every year by distributing crops rationally and manuring and cultivating them in a scientific way in vegetable greenhouses covering over dozens of hectares.

Last year, it reconstructed tens of blocks of vegetable greenhouses according to a standard plan and improved soil at hundreds of blocks of greenhouses. On that basis, it planned to build modern vegetable greenhouses using renewable energies in a prospective way and is making thorough preparations to this end.

An undertaking is also in full swing to increase the vegetable acreage.

Farms in each districts and counties have brought a large area of new land under cultivation through land rezoning, improvement of rivers and reclamation of idle land, and are converting them into vegetable fields.

At present, the vegetable producers in Pyongyang are working hard to turn out more and better vegetables for the citizens.

They are now engaged in transplanting of bok choy seedlings in the wake of finishing the sowing of seeds of radish needed for winter kimchi-making until August 10.

Ri Jong Nam, head of an office at the Pyongyang Municipal Rural Economy Committee

Farm economizes greenhouse farming

The Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, concentrates efforts on increasing vegetable yield.

The farm puts big efforts into improving soil fertility to meet the specific features of crop rotation-based greenhouse vegetable farming.

To this end, it is effectively manuring and tending greenhouse vegetables according to their arrangement. It provides conditions favourable for the promotion of their growth by applying natural biological activators and homemade carbonic manure from the initial days of growth at intervals of a week. And it uses organic manures made

from urban manure and animal excrement as base fertilizer so as to improve the photosynthesis of vegetables and the active capacity of roots.

According to Cha Chol Jin, a staffer of the farm, the farm introduced a new cultivation technique to increase the per-hectare yield of fruit vegetables.

Every greenhouse takes proper measures, well aware of temperature, humidity and illuminance through the general greenhouse environment measuring device and disinfects greenhouses and vegetables with an automatic thermostat-vaporizer.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

VIRTUE

Woman with lots of children

Old people feel happy when they receive filial affection from their children in the twilight of their life.

Caring adult children are always concerned about their parents' living, including food, clothing and health. So Jae Ryol, an 80-year-old resident of Sojang-dong, Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, has more than 130 such children.

She greeted her 80th birthday on April 27. That day a stream of children flowed to her house to spend a happy and meaningful time with her.

"Eldest daughter" O Yong Sun living in Phalgol-dong No. 2 in Mangyongdae District invited the mother to her home to present her new clothes and show her a congratulatory performance staged by grandchildren in the run-up to her birthday.

The old woman who is warmly looked after has, in fact, no child by blood.

She dedicated her whole life to the prosperity of the country while taking care of her husband who was an honoured disabled soldier.

"Her life is the course of constant devotion. After finishing middle school, she became a military nurse and donated her blood and skin to treat patients. She unhesitatingly abandoned her plan to study at university of medical sciences she had been so eager to attend and got married to an honoured disabled soldier after her demob, although she knew too well that her husband Ri Jae Nam could neither live long nor father a child. Thanks to her devotion, he could prolong his life for over four decades," said O Yong Sun.

Since 1973 she has received dozens of certificates of assistance and such titles as "honorary stonemason at the mason workshop in the construction site of the



So Jae Ryol (second from left) receives birthday presents from her well-wishers.

Samjiyon revolutionary battle site" and "honorary smelter of UHP electric arc furnace at the Chollima Steel Complex".

"My husband and I were born in the period when the country was under Japanese military rule and enjoyed the benefit of liberation. And we keenly realized how precious the country is during the Fatherland Liberation War. As we believed that we were as good as dead if we had no country and socialist system, we promised to work for its prosperity at the time of marriage. I only tried to keep the promise," said So Jae Ryol.

Her greatest joy was to see the workers and builders, who were provided with the aid materials she prepared, make labour innovations and the scrap iron she collected every day be sent to iron and steel works to contribute to developing the country.

So was a passionate lover of life in her youth and her husband had an aptitude for literature. They co-produced lots of literary works singing of the stirring times and toured industrial establishments and construction sites. They converted a room of their house into a "literature classroom" and

became "after-school teachers" for children and students in the village.

She also planted trees of good species and beautiful flowers around important places and monumental structures, including the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance and their statues on Mansu Hill.

She is following her usual course of life though it is not easy to do so for her advancing years.

As her deeds move all the people, lots of them have become her children and grandchildren to copy her.

When she was living in Mangyongdae District, her children vied with each other to have her with their families, and Pak Ok Hui finally succeeded in having her in Sojang-dong in Pothonggang District.

"When I first met her, I admired her ennobling view of life and her sincere devotion. I want to fulfil my obligation as a junior to the seniors who dedicated their all to the prosperity of the country like our mother," said Pak.

By Sin Pyol PT

FLOWER

New varieties of flowers bred



Researchers examine seedlings grown by tissue culture at the Pyongyang Floriculture Institute.

PAK KWANG HUN

"Our institute acclimatizes beautiful flowers that suit the taste and emotion of our people to spread them throughout the country," said Ri Chol Jun, deputy director of the Pyongyang Floriculture Institute.

He said the institute bred over 100 varieties of flowers including large roses, cosmos and *Calceolaria crenatifolia* in various beautiful colours to contribute to urban landscaping.

It recently laid scientific and technological foundations for growing in large numbers such indoor flowering plants as *Cymbidium Manbokhwa*, *Phalaenopsis*, anthurium and cactus.

"We have solved problems arising in the management of nutrition and environment for beautiful indoor flowering plants of great ornamental effects and substrate for their

HEALTHCARE

District upgrades health service

"In recent years the district has been successful in attaining its goal of improving the public health service a level higher," said Choe Yong Suk, director of the public health department of the Moranbong District People's Committee in Pyongyang.

The Moranbong District People's Hospital and polyclinics have recently undergone facelifts in keeping with the health and hygienic requirements.

"We established a videoconferencing system connected to the operation rooms and increased the number of beds in wards and are pushing the work for digitizing case histories in the final stage," said Han Song Guk, director of the hospital, adding their several gynecologic treatment methods including one for sterility based on nerve ganglion blocking are counted among the nation's best.

The hospital organized technical lectures, presentations on clinical experiences and seminars on a regular basis and, consequently, raised the general technical qualifications of doctors last year.

In addition, it ensured the midwifing rate at 100 percent and saw that all polyclinics grasp the conditions of all expectant and nursing mothers and newborn babies and take necessary measures regularly.

With the household doctor system strengthened, a special attention is being paid to children, old people, women and chronic patients.

In particular, the district is scrupulously organizing the hygienic and anti-epidemic work for preventing COVID-19. It thoroughly carries on the supply of antiseptic solution, disinfection of the water supply and drainage system and sewage treatment in conformity with the standards.

In the meantime, many health workers performed laudable deeds touching the hearts of all.

Ri Yong Ok, doctor at the Kinmaul Polyclinic, and Kwon Chun Hui, doctor at the Inhung Polyclinic, devoted themselves for several years to the recovery of special-class disabled soldiers in the areas in their charge, so that they could recuperate and walk again.

"It is not easy to take charge and care of lives and health of people. However, the proactive measures of the state, the efforts of the district people's committee and the strong encouragement of the residents roused all health workers. We all find the pride and worth of life in our work," said Choe Yong Suk.

By Yun Ki Song PT



Surgeons hold a consultation for operation at the Moranbong District People's Hospital in Pyongyang.

KIM RYE YONG

cultivation as well," said Pang Hyon Im, section chief of the institute.

Cymbidium Manbokhwa, for example, could not be widely spread in the past as it was grown by relying on pine bark and sphagnum. But now it has become possible to cultivate the flower in large numbers using locally available charred rice husks, she added.

The mesotherm can easily be grown at home and in office as it is highly resistant to high and low temperatures and it is in great demand as a dozen flowers remain in bloom on a stem for three months.

The institute is also conducting research to enhance

the ornamental effects of cactuses.

Researchers came up with over 30 varieties of cactuses in bright colours by grafting cactuses onto different varieties of the plant.

"Cactuses are widely used in decorating rooms. Everyone likes them as they are beautiful in shape and colour and have great air purifying effects as well," said researcher Ri Myong Son.

According to him, the graft-bred cactuses grow two to ten times faster than those that are cultivated in common soil and produce flowers faster.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

EDUCATION

Teaching content improved to be practicable, comprehensive and up-to-the-minute

Faculty focuses on fostering creative ability

“Now that all the outcomes exist in the form of complexes of cross-disciplinary sciences, it is required to train talents whose knowledge is not limited to only one field but many-sided on the basis of the major subject and who can actively apply their knowledge,” said Prof. Kim Yong Il, PhD and dean of the electronics and automation faculty of Kim Il Sung University.

The faculty is constantly innovating the content of education as required by the developing times, he added.

It merged and rearranged the subjects limited to electronics

and automation to exclude some of them from the curricula and add more than ten subjects of adjacent disciplines.

According to lecturer Ryang Un Sun, information science, mathematics and dynamics are very closely related to electronics and automation. As they develop expertise in the adjacent subjects, the students got conspicuously better at completing the exercises of the major subject in a fresh and practical way.

The lecture structure is being upgraded.

The curricula which separated theoretical and experimental

lectures were redesigned to combine theoretical education with practice, exercises and scientific research.

To this end, the lecture rooms for such subjects as electronic engineering, digital signal processing, control devices and analog circuit were newly refurbished.

The faculty also increased the number of major labs including the computer control system lab, system management lab and intelligent control lab.

A comprehensive experimentation area is scheduled to be completed at the end of this year to provide graduate and postgraduate students with all conditions for doing experiments needed for designing and completing research tasks independently, said Kim.

The innovative teaching content and methods adopted by the faculty are already paying off.

Students of the faculty won gold at the university students' robot football competition of last year, and an increasing number of students have received the scientific search prize.

By Kil Chung Il PT



Lecturers discuss to employ robots in experimental lecture at the electronics and automation faculty of Kim Il Sung University.

RYU KWANG HYOK

Directing big efforts to practical training education

“Education through practice and hands-on experience is very important for our university that is tasked with the training of experts in the commercial service sector. Our faculty is proactively pushing ahead with innovative plans in order to enhance the education through practice and hands-on experience in subjects of special study,” said Ri Hu Nam, department chief of the service faculty at Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce.

The faculty recently rearranged subjects to build up students' practical and hands-on training abilities while consolidating their technical knowledge.

It integrated the teaching content of general elementary subjects into the basic subjects of special study so as to reduce the number of former subjects. On the contrary, it subdivided the latter subjects or added new practical and hands-on training ones.

“We divided the ‘integrated hotel service system’, a basic subject of special study, into the ‘diplomatic etiquette’ and ‘hotel service manner’ in order to offer more special and in-depth knowledge related to etiquette to students. And we set up a new subject of the organization and technology of hotel services to further raise students' practical and technical abilities,” said Ri Hu Nam.

The faculty is paying primary attention to giving practical and hands-on training according to the classes of special study.

It ensured that practical training of special study was given, divided according to the types of occupation and business in the service sector and doubled the time of practice as compared to before.

With activities to renew plans for lecture, exercise and practical training gaining momentum, such excellent teaching methods

as “education for improving students' theoretical cognitive faculty and practical and hands-on training level through debate-oriented teaching and virtual reality experience” have been created. And various programs conducive to further increasing

To make students proactive, inquisitive



Lecturers examine experimental apparatuses for introduction at the heat engineering faculty of Kim Chaek University of Technology.

KIM YONG CHAN

Kim Chaek University of Technology is combining teaching process, means, methods and forms in a harmonious and reasonable way.

The effective use of intranet has paid off in multi-functional classrooms.

The applied chemical engineering faculty has built a study database whose multimedia presentations contain lots of practical technologies and added special application programs to it to diversify study sources.

A question-and-answer

cognitive efficacy in education and guidance of practice have been developed and are under introduction.

The faculty organized a service team with students to raise the level of practical and hands-on training.

This year, it equipped itself with dozens of pieces of facilities and fixtures for practice, as well as some 120 demonstration materials.

By Pang Un Ju PT



Lecturers work on drink processing facilities at the service faculty of Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce.

JON KWANG HUN

teaching method combining discussion, debate and presentation on different themes during lecture and others make students find out elementary principles and rules by themselves.

The faculty has turned from the evaluation of students' cognition level into the real-time evaluation of their abilities.

The thermal engineering faculty raises the effectiveness of experiments by organically combining the LAN and modern experimental apparatuses.

It has set up a satisfactory database so that students can improve their practical abilities and hands-on experience while conducting experiments through the computer network and introduced a simulation experiment program, network communications program for experiment and scholarly performance evaluation program conducive to assessing the whole process of experiments of students in a quantitative way.

“The new experiment-based teaching method enables students to review the content of lectures through simulated experiments and map out their own experiment plans for comparable confirmation through experiments. Students will be able to proactively improve their quest ability in the course of analysing and evaluating the data from online experiments with application programs,” said lecturer Choe Kum Chol.

The university pays much heed to developing the students' planning, designing, making and operating faculties.

In line with their characteristic features, each faculty develops new subjects to this end.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

SOLIDARITY

Fidel Castro lives on with his legacy lasting

Fidel Castro Ruz was born in Oriente, Cuba, on August 13 1926.

He led an assault on the Moncada military barracks, a point of military importance of the Batista dictatorship, in July 1953, raising the beacon fire of an armed struggle. It marked a new turning point in the Cuban revolution.

Later, the Cuban revolution developed into an all-people resistance movement under his guidance and, finally, the pro-US dictatorship was overthrown in January 1959 and a revolutionary government was established in February.

Therefore, the Cuban people became genuine masters of the country and took the road of socialist construction.

Enjoying the absolute support of the people, Fidel Castro worked as first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of Cuba for a long time.

Even under the sanctions and blockade by hostile forces which had persisted for decades after the establishment of socialism in the country, he invariably adhered to the banner of socialism and wisely led the people to achieve social progress without interruption.

Under his guidance, the Cuban government and people firmly safeguarded the sovereignty and dignity

of the country and the gains of the revolution and attained numerous successes in various fields of social life.

A socialist system in which all people enjoy equal rights and freedom and learn and work to their heart's content was set up on the land where ignorance and darkness, poverty and backwardness were once prevalent, and remarkable development took place in politics, the economy, culture and other sectors of social life, completely changing the features of Cuba.

Fidel Castro Ruz met President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on his visit to the DPRK in March 1986 and directed

much effort to strengthening and developing the militant ties of fraternity and friendly and cooperative relations between the peoples of the two countries.

He was awarded the title of DPRK Hero and several orders of the DPRK.

The bilateral friendly ties provided by the preceding leaders of the DPRK and Cuba are now being carried forward invariably and developed further.

The feats performed by Fidel Castro Ruz for the cause of anti-imperialist independence will live in the mind of progressive mankind as well as the Cuban people.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

CONCERN

Worsening climate change, negative effects

The Earth is becoming warmer.

The World Meteorological Organization has estimated that global temperature will go up further to set a new record in its mean temperature in five years.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature in a report said that oxygen contents in sea water are diminishing due to global warming, warning of its deadly consequences.

According to information available, ten countries in eastern and southern Africa suffered damage from flood, drought and storm caused

by climate change last year, with the result that 33 million people went hungry with nearly half of them being children.

The damage induced by climate change recently alone has posed a serious threat to people's life and safety and all domains of economic and social life in all countries, agriculture in particular.

The mercury climbed to 41.9°C in the southwestern region of France on July 30 and its meteorological authorities sounded heat wave warnings in 29 areas including Paris the following day.

It is anticipated that Asia

inhabited by over half of world population will sustain serious damage by climate change.

The Indian disaster preparedness organ announced on July 31 that over 3.9 million people in 14 areas of Bihar in the country's eastern part were hit by floods and more than 5 300 villages in Assam submerged due to nearly 40 days of torrential rain. In the latter province as of July 28, more than 5.6 million people fell victim to flood, with over 110 found dead and tens of millions of hectares of arable land destroyed.

Bangladesh also suffered

great losses due to the worst flood since 1988. A great number of people were reduced to victims of the inundation that began in late June, with 120 people being drowned and lots of dwelling houses, roads and farmland damaged.

Many other countries such as Japan, Indonesia, Yemen and China also sustained heavy damage from flood.

The drastically worsening climate change and ensuing terrible catastrophes urgently require the positive reaction of the international community.

By Om Ryong PT

DISASTER

Storm, flood hit many countries

Many countries continue to suffer from storm and flash flood.

According to foreign news reports, a storm hit Evvoia Island of Greece on August 9, killing five people, leaving two missing and damaging 3 000 dwelling houses.

And streets were inundated and roads destroyed by flash floods.

The three-day-long downpour in several regions of Pakistan caused floods, leaving 64 people dead and dozens of others injured.

Four bridges collapsed, roads linking hundreds of villages were destroyed and over 300 dwelling houses damaged.

Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi, eastern city of Lahore and other big cities were flooded and a dam burst and villages were flooded in Sindh Province. Thousands of people were reportedly evacuated from the areas urgently. Relief work is now under way in the afflicted areas.

And it rained heavily for a week in Sanaa, Yemen. The capital city was reportedly flooded and many historical sites and dwelling houses were destroyed.

According to a report of the civil defence organization of Sudan on Monday, torrential rains in Kassala and other areas of the country have killed 21 people and injured

16 since last June.

In addition, some 9 350 dwelling houses were destroyed.

The Sudanese government called on the residents living near rivers including the Nile to take measures to prevent flood damage.

That day a heavy rain and flood hit Sanaa, Yemen, killing two, wounding five and destroying dozens of dwelling houses and roads.

Earlier on August 9, a river flooded in a province of Panama, leaving 11 dead and 13 missing.

It began to rain heavily on Monday in Sichuan Province of China, causing severe damage.

Six people were killed and

five others went missing in Yaan City as of Wednesday.

In the province 107 000 people suffered damage from the heavy rain and over 40 000 were urgently evacuated.

Meanwhile, downpours in the rainy season also hit Baluchistan in Pakistan, leaving 12 people dead and displacing several thousand as of Wednesday.

The provincial government announced that over 860 houses, roads, bridges, gas pipeline and other infrastructures were severely destroyed by the flood caused by heavy rain, creating a serious obstacle to social and economic activities.

Briefly

China

Xi Jinping orders to stamp out waste of food

Chinese President Xi Jinping has recently issued a prime directive on eliminating the wasteful use of food.

He said the legislation against and supervision over waste of food should be strengthened and effective measures taken in order to put an end to such acts.

A climate of regarding wasteful practices as shameful should pervade the whole society by way of intensifying information activities and education and cultivating a habit of saving, he noted.

South Africa

Empowerment of women highlighted

The South African President, in a speech made to mark women's day on August 9, said that the most important way to eliminate the discrimination against women is to provide them with favourable environment for taking part in production activities so as to improve their situation.

The government will take measures to enhance the role of women in the future, he added.

Russia

Military drill staged

Russia launched a military exercise on August 10.

The rehearsal is reportedly being staged in four different areas in Siberia and the basin of the Volga River with the involvement of more than 12 000 troops and over 3 000 pieces of combat technical equipment.

The commander of the central military district described the drill as an attack-and-defence manoeuvre between the two biggest combined army corps in Russia.

Iran

Petrochemicals production lines inaugurated

New petrochemicals production lines were inaugurated in Iran on August 7.

Two methanol production processes went into operation in Bushehr, while a polymer catalyser production process was completed in Luristan to start production.

Brazil

Efforts to boost grain output

Brazil is planning this year to expand its arable land 2.6 per cent more than last year in order to increase cereal production.

Its government announced on August 11 that when the plan is carried out, the national grain yield would increase by 3.8 per cent.

PROFILE

DPRK's first two-time Olympic gold medallist

Korean wrestlers left an indelible mark in the world history of the sport.

In recent years alone, they snatched gold medals at many international games including the Asian wrestling championships, seventh world military games and world wrestling championships.

Such successes are unthinkable apart from the devotion of seniors who have made every possible effort for the development of the country's wrestling.

Among them there is Kim Il.

He is a two-time Olympic title holder in wrestling loved by the Korean people.

Starting a wrestler's career in his childhood, he won the then national sports clubs' tournament on several occasions.

A man with a good brain and keen physical sense, he later honed his physical and technical skills at a professional sports club.

Since then, he had distinguished himself as a good wrestler on domestic and international fronts.

He was placed first in the 48kg division at the world youth freestyle wrestling championships held in former

Czechoslovakia in 1991 and the eighth Asian freestyle championships in Iran in 1992.

Without resting on his laurels, he put more spurs to his training, winning golds in the 48kg freestyle category at the 25th Olympic Games which were held in Spain in 1992, an international freestyle tournament in Mongolia in 1993 and other international games one after another.

Thus he emerged as a wrestling ace officially recognized by the international freestyle wrestling circles and Asian wrestling front.

However, he never felt contented.

His goal was to bag another Olympic gold.

He came first at the 26th Olympic Games, which were held in the US in 1996, thereby realizing his dream and giving pleasure to the local people.

He is now Labour Hero, People's Athlete and deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly and works as an official in charge of the development of the country's wrestling.

By Min Chol PT



Kim Il (second from left) talks with coaches.

KIM HYOK CHOL

ECOSYSTEM

Wetlands in Rason show off wide biodiversity

The wetlands of Rason, embracing the estuary of the Tuman River flowing along the northern frontier of the DPRK and the vast water area around the Rajin and Josan bays in the East Sea of Korea, have rich ecological diversity.

With a wide range of fauna and flora, the area includes the Rason Migratory Bird Reserve, Al Islet Seabird Breeding Reserve and Uam Fur Seal Reserve which are of international significance.

The Rason Migratory Bird Reserve covering an area

of more than 3 200 hectares in the Tuman River estuary is comprised of wetlands in various forms, such as lagoons Man, Tongbon and Sobon, mudflats, reed and paddy fields, estuaries and deltas.

Over 40 000 water birds in 228 species have been observed in the reserve so far.

Among them were 12 200 Eurasian widgeons which take up almost 2 percent of the population in East Asia, 6 500 mallards, 4 650 tufted ducks, 3 100 falcate ducks which account for 3 percent of the

global population, over 100 mute swans making up 7 percent of the estimated population on the regional flyway and more than 290 Temminck's cormorants.

Besides, over 1 990 long-tailed ducks known as a vulnerable species and more than 200 far eastern curlews, a globally endangered species, were found to be inhabiting the reserve.

The reserve was established in 1995 and inscribed on the list of wetlands of international importance (Ramsar site) in 2018.

The Al Islet Seabird Breeding Reserve is the breeding and feeding ground for dozens of seabird species.

The Uam Fur Seal Reserve located in the sea off Uam is home to many spotted seals and fur seals.

The quiet woods, crystal-clear lakes, mudflats and seashores in the Rason area unfold enjoyable biodiversity.



Rason Migratory Bird Reserve.

KCNA

HONOUR

Student at Kim Il Sung University wins int'l program contest

Jon Kum Song, student at Kim Il Sung University in the DPRK, took the first place at the Codechef, an international internet program contest, held in July.

The contest drew more than 31 000 university students and programmers from 80-odd countries including China, Russia, India and the UK.

Jon, a fifth-year student of the mathematics faculty at the university, got 1 000 points, the highest mark at the contest, by solving all 10 difficult problems, which required high concentration

and cognition, in ten days.

While studying at Pyongyang Middle School No. 1, he had won a gold medal at the 56th International Math Olympiad. After being enrolled at the university, he attended and won the Codechef contest several times.

According to Dr Sin Chang Hyon in his thirties, a lecturer at the university, the university students have participated in the Codechef contest since 2013, winning it 18 times.

KCNA

OLDIE

Arirang, iconic folk song of Korean nation

Arirang is known to the world as the most representative folk song of the Korean nation.

Many legends tell of the origin and etymology of *Arirang*. Typical of them is the folktale "Songbu and Rirang".

Songbu, looking at the passes her husband Rirang crossed as he left her, sang a song of yearning, which was said to have been passed down by word of mouth as *Arirang*.

While spreading among the Korean people, the song got to have many regional varieties such as *Sodo Arirang* of the Phyongan provincial area, *Kin Arirang* of Kyonggi Province and *Kangwondo Arirang* of Kangwon Province.

Their lyrics reflect working people's grudge against the exploitative society and their fervent desire for a happy life through the depiction of tender feelings shared between loved ones, such as sorrow of parting, yearning for the spouse and hope of reunion.

The Korean newspaper *Hwangsong Sinmun* wrote about the folk song in 1901 as follows: "*Arirang* is an old song which does not run counter to morality. These days it is widely sung among men and women, irrespective of social standings, in the fields and at parties. Especially, when it is sung with the accompaniment of a small drum and the like, the listeners unconsciously start dancing or beating time with their feet. The sad rhythm also brings sorrow to their hearts. So, is it an old song or

a modern one?"

During Japanese military rule, the song was rapidly spread among Koreans as it aroused the sorrow of a ruined nation and the spirit of resistance to the Japanese imperialists who deprived them of national sovereignty and the sense of national independence. Therefore, it gradually became the nation's iconic song, not confined to any one region or area, which embodies the nation's distress-torn history and evokes ardent love for the homeland.

It still enjoys wide popularity as it preserves national characteristics.

The song has been arranged as a symphony and adopted as the theme songs of artistic events. In the meantime, many new varieties of *Arirang* depicting the present reality and life came out. Typical of them are *Arirang of Reunification*, *Arirang of Prosperity*, *Arirang of Happiness* and *Arirang of Army-People Unity*.

The grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance "Arirang", which was staged in splendour in Pyongyang in the past, demonstrated the resourcefulness and spirit of the nation and struck the world people with wonder. It was awarded Kim Il Sung Prize and recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records in August 2007.

Folk song *Arirang* was inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List of ICH of Humanity.

By Song Jong Ho PT

