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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspects reconstructed village in North Hwanghae

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, inspected Kangbuk-ri of Kumchon County, North Hwanghae Province, which has been rebuilt after being damaged by downpour and strong wind.

He was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae, Pak Pong Ju and other senior Party and government officials.

He was greeted on the spot by Pak Chang Ho, chairman of the North Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the WPK, and commanding officers of the KPA units involved in the reconstruction project.

After learning about the fact that Kangbuk-ri was in a dangerous situation as it suffered severe damage from the recent downpour and strong wind and the dwelling houses and public buildings had not been properly repaired though it was hit by natural disasters every year, the Supreme Leader immediately issued an order to the KPA units to pull

down and newly build all buildings in the ri seat and give it a facelift.

According to his order, officers and men of the KPA units newly built the Kangbuk-ri seat flawlessly and reported the first victory on the front for recovery from natural disasters to the Party Central Committee.

Feasting his eyes on the model village of socialist rural community, he expressed great satisfaction, saying he feels as if he is looking over at another world and another item of the Party's grand plan for rural construction and its policy on

local construction has successfully been implemented correctly by the patriotic devotion and efforts of the service personnel.

He said that whenever he received the news about the heroic endeavour made every day by the service personnel who play a leading role on every front for reconstruction recently formed in several parts of the country, he deeply felt the inexhaustible and infinite spiritual strength, ardent patriotism and boundless loyalty to the Party and people of all the

country and people, their Party and revolutionary cause, he said proudly.

As he looked round the dwelling houses and public buildings constructed in the ri, he repeatedly praised soldier-builders, saying they were neatly and cleanly built and both the interior and exterior were flawless.

He discussed the direction to be permanently followed by the Party in rural construction with accompanying

KPA officers and men and could not but bow his head to them for their devotion and pains.

The real might of the KPA lies not in the number of its troops or the power of its bullets and shells, but in the fact that it has spiritual strength characterized by love and trust, such ardent love for their state and people and firm confidence in their Party and the cause of revolution, and it is the greatest pride of our Party and state and the greatest blessing for him to have such a powerful revolutionary army that is faithful to



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Kim Jong Un revisits Taechong-ri area to inspect reconstruction project

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, inspected the reconstruction site of the flood-hit Taechong-ri area of Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province.

He was accompanied by the chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, leading officials of the WPK Central Committee and the chairman of the North Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the WPK.

Making the rounds of the reconstruction site, the Supreme Leader acquainted himself with the progress of the reconstruction and the project schedule in detail.

He said that he was right to give the instruction to build one-block-one-family dwelling houses without considering the amount of building materials needed or land-saving aspect as demanded by the farmers he met during his last visit and approve the design, adding that it would be worthwhile to build houses newly with much effort only when they meet the demands of the farmers and are liked by them.

That such a fairyland village has taken shape in a little over 30 days is a miracle which can be created only by the service personnel of the Korean People's Army who are loyal to the Party and ardently love the people, he said, adding that no natural disasters and catastrophes can deprive our people of their happiness and laughter as long as the country has the People's Army that is boundlessly loyal to the WPK and its revolutionary cause and no force on earth can break the faith and will of the WPK that fights for its people.

He repeatedly told commanding



officers of the KPA units mobilized in the construction about the intention of the Party that called upon the KPA to turn out in dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters and about the importance of the rehabilitation.

Saying that our people might pin their hope only on our Party and wait for a measure to be taken by the Party in such a hard time as now and we should not make them feel disheartened by or suffer any inconvenience in their living even a moment from the natural disaster, he emphasized that our Party started an unprecedentedly great reconstruction

campaign by mobilizing all the state potentials in the work for defending the people's happiness and put forward the revolutionary army of the Party as the main force on the front for recovering from the damage by the natural disasters across the country.

Learning in detail about the growth of the crops in the paddy fields that had been flooded, he earnestly requested officials and other working people in the agricultural field to make redoubled efforts to minimize the damage to the crops and increase the yield assiduously and

responsibly to the last.

Though it is beset by worries and anguish due to the great damage caused by the recent consecutive heavy rain and typhoons, our Party will take every possible measure for the sake of the great people by regarding it as the highest honour to go through agony for them and will live up to their great expectations without fail, he said, expressing his determination to energetically overcome the current trials together with the People's Army.

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senior Party and government officials.

He stressed the need to set the long-term objectives for local construction, especially rural construction, in a more realistic and planned way, accelerate the civilized development of the countryside to steadily spruce it up and remarkably boost state assistance in the responsible and important work for turning it into a rich and cultured

socialist rural community equipped with modern technology.

It is a matter of urgency to make a more serious study of our Party's immediate tasks for the present and its long-term objectives for completing at the earliest possible date the grand programme for socialist rural construction planned by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il and to take necessary measures, he said, adding the Party Congress would give a

correct answer to this important question.

He asked over and over again if the residents of Kangbuk-ri, the farmers, were pleased, and said that he was really glad to hear that they were delighted and that our Party was undoubtedly right to initiate the construction if they were pleased, extending thanks to the service personnel of the People's Army who fulfilled another long-cherished desire of the Party.

He then advised the chairman of

the provincial Party committee to quickly make the people move into new houses and said he wanted to see them move into new homes as early as possible.

He swells with pride and his steps get light once again after a while, he said very happily, and heartily wished the residents a happy life with attachment to the new village and houses and the locality eternal good luck.

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HOUSE MOVING

Stricken villagers move into new houses as cheers fill the air

A ceremony of moving to new houses took place in the reconstructed seat of Kangbuk-ri of Kumchon County, North Hwanghae Province, on Thursday.

The event was attended by Pak Chang Ho, chairman of the North Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the

Workers' Party of Korea, Im Hun, chairman of the North Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, relevant officials, residents of the seat and soldier builders.

Pak Chang Ho made a congratulatory speech.

He said that the Supreme Leader, upon receiving a

report about the damage done to Kangbuk-ri, made sure that service personnel of the Korean People's Army were dispatched there to spruce it up, and solved all the problems arising in the construction right away.

The KPA officers and men who rushed to the damaged area on his order reconstructed

the seat by waging a fierce battle and presented to the WPK Central Committee the first report of victory on the front for the recovery from natural disaster, Pak noted.

The Supreme Leader visited Kangbuk-ri that underwent a radical change and took a benevolent measure to quickly

get the people to move to the new houses.

Pak called on all the officials and agricultural workers to bear in mind the boundless loving care and benevolence of the Party, which would be handed down forever, and defend socialism and the revolution with rice.

House licenses were given to the residents in the afflicted area at the ceremony.

And then they entered new homes amid the congratulations.

The officials of the province and commanding officers of the KPA unit which participated in the construction visited families that moved to new houses. They shared joy with the residents, who were happy with the modern houses equipped with all good living conditions, as they congratulated them and gave them daily necessities.



All are happy on the house-moving day in Kangbuk-ri, Kumchon County, North Hwanghae Province.

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INSPECTION

Senior officials inspect different projects

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 Central Committee of the WPK, inspected the newly completed Ansok tideland on Tuesday.

He gave pep talks to the officials and working people of the General Tideland Reclamation Enterprise of South Phyongan Province.

He referred to the need to hasten the building of the network of facilities of the reclaimed tideland by giving precedence to supplying such materials as cement, take measures for the supply of irrigation water and intensify research into rice varieties highly resistant to salt to produce high and stable yield in the tideland-turned rice field.

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is also member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, inspected the eastern part of the country to learn about reconstruction efforts.

In the reconstruction sites in South and North Hamgyong provinces, he referred to

the need to timely supply cement and structural steel for the reconstruction project, take emergency measures to transport materials to the Komdok area and other reconstruction sites and concentrate efforts on the repair of railway lines and roads.

Making the rounds of Thongchon County, Munchon City, Changdo County and Kungang County of Kangwon Province, he said that breakwaters and embankment facilities should be rebuilt according to the standard method of construction on the basis of correct mechanical calculation so that they can withstand any tidal wave and typhoon, and that hydraulic engineering research institutes should design them well in line with the requirements of natural and geographical conditions and changed global ecological environment.

The field consultative meetings discussed measures to timely produce and supply materials and equipment for the reconstruction projects in different sectors and make the rail transport sector organize and guide transport dynamically from the viewpoint of ensuring wartime transport.

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DISASTER RELIEF

Rehabilitation campaign progresses apace in afflicted areas

Builders of the divisions of Party members of the capital city are performing fresh labour feats in the reconstruction of typhoon-hit areas of North and South Hamgyong provinces by continuing to stage the offensive drive.

Combatants from the 1st division of Party members of the capital city, who carried out the block-laying for walls in Unpho and Kyongpho workers' districts in Hongwon County, South Hamgyong Province, in a single day, completed the formwork for slab and the assembly of reinforcement bars in succession, before finishing the concrete placing for slab in a short time.

Those of the 2nd division of Party members of the capital city almost wound up the site clearing for house construction in the area of Unho-ri in Kim Chaek City, North Hamgyong Province, in a single day of September 14 while overcoming unfavourable conditions.

Members of 2nd division, who took charge of the construction of dwelling houses in the Chundong-ri area of Kim Chaek City, are pushing the construction of dwelling houses and the repair of roads simultaneously while carrying on the work to secure as much sand, gravel and rubble stone necessary for the project as possible.

As the construction of frameworks of thousands of dwelling houses is completed one after another, roofing and plastering of their interiors and exteriors are being pushed in the afflicted areas of Kangwon Province.

In Kimhwa County, service personnel finished the construction of frameworks of hundreds of flats in a short span of time and are pressing on with the roofing of them.

Soldier-builders have finished over 60 percent of total plastering in Cholwon County.

In Phangyo County, builders of the North Phyongan provincial and Pyongyang municipal construction brigades finished the construction of frameworks of houses including concrete laying of slabs ahead of others and are making a good job of roofing and plastering.

Those in Kungang, Hoeyang, Ichon, Changdo and Phyonggang counties are carrying on the work of each building process in a responsible manner as required by construction methods in order to ensure the quality of structures.

On the basis of detailed surveys of the situations of the areas hit by heavy rain and tidal waves, North Hamgyong Province is prioritizing the restoration of roads, railways, bridges and communication.

Manpower, vehicles and heavy

machines have all been mobilized in relinking roads at dozens of severed places to open routes in Kilju, Orang and other counties.

The workers of the Chongjin Railway Bureau are waging a campaign for repairing railways and bridges to ensure urgent transport, and forestry and mine prop production stations under the North Hamgyong Provincial Forestry Management Bureau have turned out lots of timbers for reconstruction.

Kim Chaek City and Myongchon County recovered communication with the province, cities and counties.

Farmers in Hoeryong City and Onsong and Hwadae counties are clearing out ditches and applying liquid nutrients for improving the growth conditions of rice and maize in order to minimize crop damage.

Meanwhile, youth league organizations across the country are rendering sincere assistance to the people in the afflicted areas in North and South Hamgyong provinces and the reconstruction campaign as well.

Officials and members of those organizations in all parts of the country including Pyongyang sent building materials and apparatuses amounting to over 5 400 pieces in over 30 kinds and other supplies.

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LEAD

Meetings permeated with serve-the-people spirit

The Workers' Party of Korea convened various meetings on several occasions this year.

The meetings of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee that were made public alone have numbered seven until now.

Their main theme was to intensify the national emergency anti-epidemic work. Also put on the agenda were the issues of developing the country's chemical industry, guaranteeing the living of citizens in the capital city and speeding up the construction of the Pyongyang General Hospital aimed at providing the people with top-quality medical services.

A new item "repairing of flood damage" was added to the agenda of the meetings held in August.

Because different areas of the country suffered great damage at the same time from successive floods and typhoons from August to early September.

As a result, the DPRK was faced with two challenges: the anti-epidemic work in the current world health crisis and the rehabilitation campaign

against unexpected natural disasters.

The 16th meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh Central Committee of the WPK and the 17th enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh WPK Central Committee held respectively on August 13 and 25 set forth immediate tasks for completing the rehabilitation campaign in the main and providing the local victims with a stable life by October 10 through the joint operation of the army and people.

The Executive Policy Council of the Party Central Committee convened an enlarged meeting on the spot on September 5 to organize a campaign to repair damage from Typhoon Maysak and the sixth enlarged meeting of the Seventh Central Military Commission of the WPK took place on September 8 to take national measures for restoring the Komdok area in South Hamgyong Province badly damaged by the typhoon which hit the east coastal areas and some northern inland areas of the country.

The meetings particularly

highlighted the complete prevention of loss of life from flood and typhoon.

They also stressed the need to make the rehabilitation campaign an occasion for providing local people with better living environment, not confining it to recovery from damage or the restoration of living conditions.

The meetings pervaded with warm affection for the people showcased the revolutionary character of the WPK which takes full responsibility for the destiny of the people and warm care of them, regarding the improvement of their living standards as the cardinal principle in its activities.

Since it was founded unfurling its red flag bearing a hammer, a sickle and a writing brush, the WPK has never been separated from the people, but always held them in highest esteem and relied on them as it has advanced the revolution.

In the new century of the Juche era, the Party put forward the idea of giving top and absolute priority to the people's interests and has held up the slogan of "Everything for the people

and everything by relying on them!"

Under its leadership geared to translating the people's dreams and ideals into reality at an early date, modern structures, pleasure grounds and holiday camps were built in different parts of the country in recent years alone and people-oriented policies continue to be in force even at the present hard time.

October 10 this year is the 75th founding anniversary of the WPK.

A series of plans had been carried on to celebrate the holiday with splendour from the outset of the year, but the unexpected health crisis and natural calamities compelled the WPK to arouse its members and all other people to the anti-epidemic and rehabilitation campaigns.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un looked round Taechong-ri in Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province, and South Hwanghae and South Hamgyong provinces hit by floods and typhoons and said that we should not get the flood victims to celebrate the October holiday in the open but repair the flood damage as

early as possible and stabilize their life. He described today's rehabilitation campaign as a struggle for defending the country and people and specified tasks and ways for the campaign. And on September 5 he wrote an open letter appealing to the Party members in Pyongyang to take the lead in the campaign for restoring North and South Hamgyong provinces hit by Maysak. In hearty response to his patriotic appeal, the whole country turned out.

October 10 is drawing nearer, the tasks to be carried out are enormous and there is not enough time.

However, the service personnel and builders urgently dispatched to different parts of the country for the rehabilitation campaign are waging a 24-7 struggle to achieve good results in succession. The local residents are also playing a positive role in the campaign, filled with confidence that they will surely achieve greater happiness after overcoming temporary difficulties under the leadership of the WPK.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

PROJECT

Ansok tideland reclamation project completed in three years

The Ansok tideland project was recently completed on the west coast of the DPRK.

The major task of the project was to build an embankment across the sea between Ansok-ri

and Sokchi-ri of Onchon County in South Phyongan Province by carrying out more than 1.2 million cubic metres of earth piling and over 300 000 square metres of stone covering.

The construction of the first section was launched in May 2017.

The General Tideland Reclamation Enterprise of South Phyongan Province extended

the embankment by 80-100m every day.

In particular, it prevented the loss of earth and ensured the safety of the dyke by stepping up the stone covering work.

Despite the crashing waves and heavy rains, the builders finished the construction of thousands-of-metre-long embankment No. 1 by digging up earth from the seabed at low tide and forming a gabbroid layer and built the floodgate at

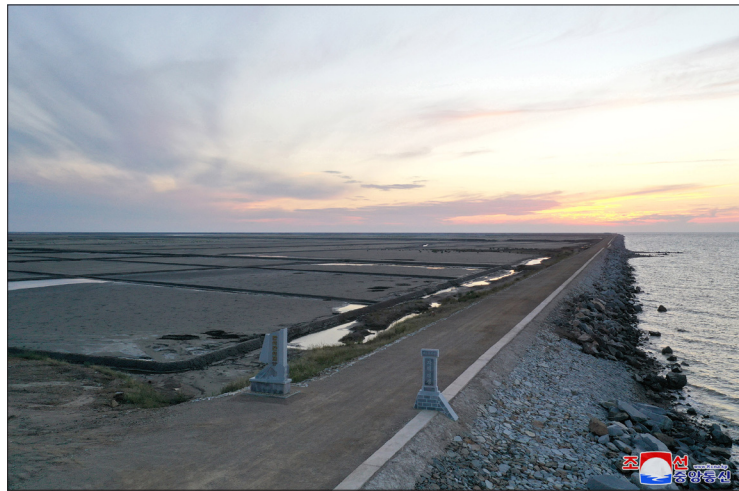
the same time by pushing the cofferdam construction in a three-dimensional way. In the construction of embankment No. 2, they stepped up the outside stone covering to prevent the loss and hollowing of earth by seawater and completed the earth piling and covering of slopes.

The construction of the second section was confronted with a difficult problem from the beginning.

A great deal of piled earth was lost in the waves which became even more violent by the effect of seasonal winds, and the working rate of vehicles was very low due to the constantly adverse climate conditions.

However, the builders introduced the electric blasting method to raise the blasting efficiency and trebled the stone covering area as compared to previously on a daily average. Besides, they developed and introduced many advanced construction methods to speed up the building of embankment No. 3 and completed the primary dam ahead of schedule. As a result, the primary dam construction of the Ansok tideland was successfully completed in March 2019 and several intake and drainage gates were built in a few months.

Thanks to the devoted efforts of the builders, the Ansok tideland project was completed in a little over three years as a valuable asset that would contribute to the development of the country's agriculture.



PROFILE

People honoured for distinguished services to the public

Kim sisters win heart with devotion

Among the Korean women who devote themselves to the good of the people are the two sisters, Kim Hyang Suk, manager of the Jonsung Seafood Store in Moranbong District of Pyongyang, and Kim Hyang Sim, supplier at the Mangyongdae District Fuel Service Station in the same city.

Their father often asked their children to be good persons who repay the favour bestowed by the benevolent system.

Bearing her father's earnest request in her mind, Hyang Suk joined the army after finishing her middle school course and set about working at the seafood store after her demob.

As a saleswoman, she worked with great enthusiasm and felt pride in her work for the residents.

On her way back home she would provide delivery services to the families of working couples who failed to be supplied with fish in time.

"I've been to every fishery station on the east and west coasts of the country to receive seafood. But I was fully relieved of fatigue whenever I was welcomed by the residents in my charge," Hyang Suk recalled.

After becoming the manager of the store, the enterprising and affable woman combined the efforts of her employees to give a fresh facelift to the shop.

As she worked for over 30



Kim Hyang Sim (left) and Kim Hyang Suk (right).

PAK KWANG HUN

years as manager, she also took warm care of the war veterans and special-class disabled soldiers in the surrounding residential areas and rendered unstinting assistance to grand socialist construction sites.

Hyang Sim at the fuel service station has no less enthusiasm for work than her elder sister.

Early in the 2000s when the country was undergoing difficulties due to the economic blockade by the imperialists, she succeeded in developing a blower-type heat-preserving firebox after painstaking research, thereby contributing to solving the fuel problem of residents, and she made her name as a worker inventor.

Her invention was hailed not

only in Mangyongdae District but all across the country.

The supportive woman always found work for the good of residents and therefore she was elected as deputy to the district people's assembly and honoured with the title of meritorious person of socialist patriotism with their blessing.

Finding their happiness and worth of life in devoting all their wisdom and efforts for the good of the people, the sisters usually share their opinions to better serve customers and encourage each other whenever they face difficulties in work. Both of them are determined to do more good things for the people.

By Pang Un Ju PT

Doctor throws himself into endoscopic development

Choe Chol, doctor at the Kim Man Yu Hospital, is known as an experienced physician in the field of endoscopic medical science.

He contributed greatly to the development of the country's endoscopic medical technology for 35 years since he established

relations with the endoscope.

Whenever he sees those, who said that they could receive timely treatment since they had been given correct early diagnosis, the nearly 70-year-old endoscopist recalls the course of his life with deep emotion.



KIM YONG CHAN

Choe Chol, endoscopist at Kim Man Yu Hospital, checks the field of operation.

Choe Chol became the doctor of a hospital after graduating from the clinical medicine faculty of Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences as he had wished in his early years.

He was transferred to the Kim Man Yu Hospital as it was newly set up in 1985 and changed his major field of study to the endoscopic department.

Because there were only a small number of endoscopists at the time in the country, yet with many problems to be settled.

He worked hard to improve the insertion technology of reaching the target area of endoscope.

In the course of this, he established several treatment methods including a new colon endoscopy and directed much effort to research for detecting cancer early through endoscopy.

In the wake of issuing a study paper on the endoscopic diagnosis of cancer of large bowel, he wrote several books and reference books one after another.

Ordinary worker with unassuming manner

Railway watchman who ensures accident-free transport, farmer working for rich harvest on fields throughout the year, forest ranger cultivating thick forests and many others are devoting themselves to their jobs whoever see or not.

In the DPRK, such people are awarded the title of meritorious persons of socialist patriotism.

Among them is Ri Ho Chol, manager of the turbine workshop of the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex.

Born in Sangmae-dong of Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province, he moved to Pyongyang as his father was appointed to a position there and attended Pyongyang College of Electrical Engineering at the time (1985).

During his internship at the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex, he was scolded by the workshop manager as he attempted to touch a machine out of curiosity.

By strange chance, he came to be assigned to the complex after graduating from the college and came to learn how to work under that workshop manager.

"The first word I have heard from him was that I should take care of machine like my own flesh and the last word was that there might be the end of

human life, but there should be no end of limitation in the life span of machines generating the electricity of the country," recalled Ho Chol.

Ho Chol became the workshop manager in later time.

He came to realize that he could not ensure the normal operation of equipment without having knowledge of science and technology. So he accumulated the profound knowledge of generating facilities as he was involved in the study-while-you-work system.

He is now working on research for the remoulding of turbine wing. When the research is successful, it will be introduced into thermal power complexes across the country to generate much more electricity.

Asked how such an ordinary official in plain clothes could invariably work for decades and bring about many technical innovations, he would avoid giving an answer while thinking little of them.

His neighbour, who has lived for decades with him, said that citizens live without worry thanks to such ordinary people.

The deputy to the district people's assembly always says that he has done few works.

By Kim Kum Myong PT



RYANG KUM CHOL

Ri Ho Chol (right), manager of the turbine workshop of the Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex, works on an overhaul project.

When he succeeded in research into the diagnosis and treatment of early cancer of large bowel by pigment endoscope, which uses the locally available pigments, many advised him to write a thesis for doctorate, but he did not take up his pen hurriedly.

He only wished that his research success would contribute to the country's endoscopic medical development in practice.

While having practical training abroad, he provided

more than 30 endoscopic facilities for the country.

The country put forward him as meritorious man of socialist patriotism in recognition of his devotion to the development of the country's medical technology.

At present, the old medical worker is doubling as chairman of the digestive endoscopy commission of the Medical Association of Korea.

By Sin Pyol PT

CITY

Seaside town gets a fresh facelift

The port city of Nampho on the west coast of the DPRK has had a facelift.

“Our city has undergone a total change in appearance in keeping with the features of a seaside town, according to the state policy of building local cities into distinctive towns,” said Kim Chol U, department director of the Nampho City People’s Committee.

According to him, the builders buckled down to remodelling the city last year as they selected the dark blue colour reminding people of the waves of the West Sea of Korea to decorate the exteriors of buildings.

Some buildings have been painted in orange, verdant green and brown colours, but most of them have been given the finishing touches in navy blue to bring the features of the port city into relief.

By taking advantage of the country’s glass industry concentrated in the city, glass panes have been fixed at balconies of many multi-storey apartment houses and coloured tiles, coloured roofing tiles and plastic window sashes fitted at houses and public buildings.

The elements of buildings



A partial view of the refurbished street in Nampho.

are decorated in relief in such shapes as water drops, waves, seagulls, anchors, sailing boats and lifebelts, and flowers in marble flowerbeds in streets give off fragrant smell.

“In the morning we go to work relishing the beautiful sights of multi-storey buildings, spectacular commercial service centres and fragrant flowers and in the evening we go back home enjoying the illuminated streets,” said Kim Su Hyang, teacher at Kyesung Primary School in Hanggu District.

The city authorities solved

such essential and vital problems as the supply of water and electricity and traffic service in order to offer more convenience to citizens.

“In the past we had an insufficient supply of water due to topographical conditions. But now, we have an abundant supply of clean water. Furthermore, bus stops have increased to the convenience of passengers,” said Choe Kyong Suk, resident in Hoechang-dong of Hanggu District.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

PHARMACY

Woman studies poisonous animals for medical purposes

Snake venom began to be used in the medical field a long time ago, but the therapy using it was based on scientific grounds only in the 20th century.

According to documentary records, Korean ancestors had used different parts of poisonous snakes as well as their venom since the 16th century.

The records also say that they used the gall bladders of poisonous snakes for treating back pain, their skins for colitis and dysentery, their eyes for epilepsy, their tails for breast disorders and dermatitis and their meat as a genital stimulant, and that needles were dipped into venom and stuck into acupoints to cure lymphatic tuberculosis, thyroid swelling and pleurisy.

Hong Son Hui, researcher at the zoology institute of the State Academy of Sciences, studied for over four decades the rational methods of collecting and using the venom of different lower and higher animals and the techniques of



RYU KWANG HYOK

Hong Son Hui, researcher at the zoology institute of the State Academy of Sciences, extracts snake venom.

separating poisonous substances and completed various pharmaceutical techniques.

Kim Tu Sam, Hong’s first section chief, entrusted her with the research into poisonous snakes, saying, “You cannot succeed if you follow an easy, well-trodden path. You can reap the fruits only when you follow the untrodden path.”

“If you cannot do that, you may go back to university,” Kim told Hong who hesitated in the first place, gripped by fear.

But she made her mind up finally and delved into the

biological features of snake venom and unknown fields of its application one by one.

As she deepened the study of the poisonous substances of snakes, new ideas came to her mind one after another and she got eager to apply them to practice.

She fully cured her bursitis using snake venom, which boosted her confidence.

She went on to develop medicines for many diseases such as arthritis, neuralgia,

epilepsy and women’s diseases.

“Particularly a small amount of their venom is enough to produce great pharmacological effects and it is the focus of attention in the treatment of incurable diseases,” she said.

The PhD and associate professor has also laid the scientific and technological foundations for widely applying various other poisonous animals and their venoms to the promotion of people’s well-being.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

PRECIPITATION

Heavy rainfall observed this summer

The DPRK had much rain with frequent downpour this summer due to the effect of the strengthened seasonal rainy front.

According to the statistics released by the State Hydro-Meteorological Administration, the average summer precipitation throughout the country this year was 852.3mm, which is 146.1 percent of the average year and 217.5 percent of last year.

It accounts for 88 percent of the annual precipitation, the second highest record in the past 25 years.

It rained cats and dogs in August, in particular, due to the seasonal rainy front, which was strengthened by the low pressure as Typhoon No. 4 weakened, and directly affected by Typhoon No. 8. The rainfall

amounted to 560.5mm, 255.7 percent of the average year.

It rained more than 800-1 000mm in almost all parts of the country except the northern inland areas, and 1 330.9mm of rainfall was recorded in Kangwon Province, an all-time high since meteorological observation.

During the summer, the rainfall in 50 cities and counties on the east and west coasts, including Anju City of South Phyongan Province, Kusong City of North Phyongan Province, Phyongsan County of North Hwanghae Province and Paechon County of South Hwanghae Province, was 855 to 1 748mm, exceeding the regional annual average precipitation of 745 to 1 357mm.

KCNA

WORK

Good harmony makes demanding job enjoyable

Everyone at the Tongdaewon District publications distribution agency says that happiness is what they achieve and create by themselves.

Their job is to distribute new books and other publications as soon as they come out and give explanations of them among the locals.

The agency has only some ten women employees and, when most of them set off to deliver newspapers and other publications, there are only a few left in the agency. Also, their returning times were varied, making it even harder for them to gather at one place.

Due to the occupational peculiarity, they seemed a little awkward with each other and some felt it hard to be attached to their job.

Pak Pok Sil, director of the agency, was very much concerned about this problem.

At that time, a great news arrived at the agency. The agency’s distributor Sok Hye Sim was specially appreciated at the 17th national book narrating contest of book and publications distributing agents in November 2018.

“Though it was the achievement by one distributor, all of us were really delighted by the news,” recalled Pak. “At that time, an idea flashed through my mind that it could become an occasion for creating an amicable atmosphere in the agency.”

The agency arranged Sok’s narrating demonstration.

“It was really impressive,” said her colleague Jo Chun Hui

after listening to Sok’s narration. “I’ve also read that book and narrated it before many workers of factories and enterprises, but I could see that her narration was qualitatively different from mine.”

Since then, everyone tried to improve their book narrating abilities and some even suggested adorning the end of narrating sessions with singing and dancing.

In the course of this, they developed the traits of helping and leading each other forward and came up with a collective method of narrating books and Choe Hye Gyong, Kim Ok Song and some other distributors remarkably improved their narrating and singing abilities to win favour with the audience as “noted singers” who always get an encore.

According to Pak, all the employees now regard the agency as their own homes and are deeply attached to their job.

Last year, they had table tennis matches, amusement games and poetry and song recitals on holidays and visited various construction sites including Samjiyon City to encourage the builders with book narration meetings and song and dance performances.

“Our work is a continuation of song and laughter, pleasure and excitement,” the distributors at the Tongdaewon District publications distribution agency say. “That’s why we are so proud of and attached to our job.”

By Pang Un Ju PT

COMMENT

Japan's militaristic moves bode ill for world community

The ominous military moves of Japan are now drawing the attention of the international community.

Now Japan plans to dispatch an escort ship of the Maritime Self-Defence Force to the Middle East again, following the one in June, a problem which should not go unnoticed.

Because a sinister design lurks behind its signboard of "coping with piracy" and "protection".

Late in 2013, the Japanese authorities drew up a defence programme which shifted the emphasis of security to international security from national one, talking about the "worsening security

environment around Japan". Accordingly, they have extended the scope of overseas military operations bit by bit.

The Japanese politicians are advertising that the Mideast-bound dispatch constitutes a contribution to global peace and stability, in a bid to lull neighbouring countries and the world.

But the dispatch is meeting with strong public opposition and protest actions at home and the analyses of it by the world's pundits arouse stronger suspicion of their hype.

Most recently, there was a large-scale military exercise in Japan's Hokkaido, involving

nearly 17 000 troops including an amphibious corps. It was conducted in the name of the "defence" of a remote island.

The insular country has increased defence spending and military capabilities on the pretext of "threat" from other countries.

The recent military drill should be considered in the context of this.

A government source on September 5 said that the government is planning to build an anti-ballistic missile warship instead of introducing the US-made ground-based missile defence system Aegis Ashore, and it is expected that the

government will announce in the near future its stand concerning missile including the capacity for attacking the missile bases of foreign countries.

As a matter of fact, Japan already possessed the preemptive strike capacity a long time ago. And when it throws off the shackles of the nominal "pacifist constitution", it will be able to go for overseas aggression in earnest.

If Japan is left to keep moving towards militarization, the world will inevitably suffer another tragic misfortune and pain as it experienced in the last century.

By Om Ryong PT

DISASTER

Natural calamities wreak havoc on many countries

Natural calamities are doing severe damage to many countries and regions of the world.

China's Guizhou Province was hit by heavy rain from September 3 for the 17th time this year, which reportedly afflicted more than 100 000 people.

Heilongjiang Province was hit by a typhoon on September 4.

The storm wreaked havoc on approximately 1 160 dwelling houses in its over 90 counties and regions and crops in 369 100 hectares of farmland. Of them, the crops in 15 600 hectares totally failed.

In August alone, more than 150 people were dead or missing and well over a million

were urgently evacuated in the country due to different kinds of natural disasters including typhoon, downpour and flood.

Kyushu and other parts of Japan also suffered damage from typhoon on September 7.

According to the Kyodo News Service, several people were killed in Saga and Kagoshima prefectures and 108 injured in 15 prefectures of Kyushu, Kinki and Chugoku, while several people went missing in a rural area of Miyazaki Prefecture.

Traffic and communications were disrupted and power supply cut off for about 150 000 households.

Roofs and walls of dwelling houses collapsed due to torrential rain to kill 10 people

in Pakistan's Punjab Province on September 4. The greatest downpour ever in 36 years hit the city of Karachi in Sindh Province in southern Pakistan in August, causing human and material losses huge enough to declare a state of emergency.

Owing to deluge, roofs of houses collapsed and other accidents occurred, causing hundreds of casualties and submerging roads in different parts.

In late August, an over 100km/h hurricane hit Cuba to destroy more than 3 800 dwelling houses, cut off communications and electricity and water supply and play havoc with many crops. According to the media, the heaviest damage was sustained by Santiago de

Cuba, Guantanamo and Pinar del Rio.

In the same month many houses and farmland were destroyed and casualties inflicted by downpour and floods in India, Afghanistan, Sudan, Niger and elsewhere.

Some countries suffered great damage due to forest fires.

Nearly 92 500 hectares of forests are on fire in Russia. A state of emergency has been declared in Krasnoyarsk Territory and two districts in Irkutsk which have suffered the greatest damage.

Many acres of forests were burned and thousands of residents were evacuated in Canada's Ontario and France's southeastern part.

Experts are expressing concern over the serious damage from abnormal weather induced by global warming in all parts of the world.

By Song Jong Ho PT

WOD

Protection of ozone layer common cause of mankind

The ozone layer which is wrapping the earth plays the role of an "UV umbrella" which protects living things on this planet from harmful ultraviolet rays from the sun.

If the ozone layer was completely depleted and let through UV light onto the earth's surface, it would cause many diseases including cutaneous cancer and cataract among people and also have harmful effects on heredity and immunity of living things.

According to information available, only one-percent depletion in the present ozone layer might increase the number of cutaneous cancer cases by

over four percent, and some 20 percent increase in the UV radiation of the sun due to ozone depletion might reduce the global grain output by 20 percent.

The extinction of 100 000-200 000 species of organisms every year is said to be closely associated with the ozone depletion.

Though it assumes such an important role, the ozone layer is being dissipated and even punctured due to pollutants in the air like CFCs which are produced in the course of the development of mankind. Therefore, various kinds of activities are conducted around the globe to restrict the

production and consumption of ozone depleting substances.

In 1985, the Vienna Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer was adopted in Austria and the ODS were pointed out.

On September 16 1987, the Montreal Protocol on ODS was adopted to restrict the production and use of Freon gas.

Since then, the UN designated September 16 as the World Ozone Day and organized international events for the protection of the ozone layer on that day every year.

On the occasion of this year's WOD, the UN coined the slogan "Ozone for life" and called on all nations to go on with the

protection of the ozone layer as a common effort of the world.

Having joined the Vienna Convention in January 1995, the DPRK has carefully observed all the regulations related to the ozone layer protection in international conventions.

In a bid to protect the atmospheric environment, it adopted the law on environmental protection in 1986. Later in 2012, it adopted the air pollution prevention law which stipulates that all institutions, enterprises, organizations and citizens should reduce to the utmost the production, import, sale and use of ODS and the facilities and products containing them. It is also encouraging the activities for scrapping ODS and the introduction of alternative technologies.

Jang In Ae, researcher at the Central Committee of the DPRK Nature Conservation Union

Briefly

India

PM appeals for encouraging vernacular languages

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a recent meeting of the education sector said language is a means of education and referred to the need to use the languages students can understand easily in education.

He noted it is important to teach them in vernacular or relevant local languages.

AL

Arab League chief blasts Israeli territorial bid

Ahmed Abu al-Gheit, secretary general of the League of Arab States, in a recent meeting of foreign ministers of the Arab League member nations, branded Israel's attempt to annex part of the Palestinian territory as a war crime, saying he flatly rejects any plan or agreement infringing the rights of the Palestinians and lowering the status of al-Quds.

Palestine's cause will remain as an issue common to all Arab countries, he added.

EU

Anti-Russia sanctions lengthened again

The EU announced on September 10 that it would prolong the sanctions against Russian individuals and entities six months more by March 15 2021.

The travel ban and freezing of assets will be reportedly applied to 175 individuals and 44 entities.

China

Poverty relief effort in China's Sichuan

The Sichuan provincial government of China is concentrating efforts on relieving needy people.

The Xinhua News Agency reported on September 9 that 6.05 million people emerged from poverty in the province in six years until 2019 and the incidence of the poor decreased by 0.3 percent as of late last year.

The province has now set itself the target of giving relief to 200 000 people in need.

UN

UN General Assembly opens

The 75th UN General Assembly opened on Tuesday.

The UN Secretary General in his opening address underlined the need for the UN to continue to counter the immediate effects of COVID-19 by strengthening public health system and facilitating the development of treatment methods and vaccines against the virus and their fair distribution.

TAEKWON-DO

Couple work to promote orthodox martial art

There is a "family Taekwon-Do team" in Yangji-dong, Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province.

The family got the nickname not just because all the family members are connected with the national martial art.

Taekwon-Do has been the dream and life as well as love of Pak Chung Song and his wife Ri Un Ju.

Pak has been in the sport for over 20 years.

Born into an ordinary farmer's family in Namchil-ri, Anju, South Phyongan Province, he loved Taekwon-Do very much from his childhood. As a young boy, he used to deftly imitate forceful and swift movements of Taekwon-Doists shown on TV.

He started learning the martial art when he was 13 at the then South Phyongan provincial Taekwon-Do extramural school. After graduation, he came a Taekwon-Do practitioner as he wished and produced good results in national competitions.

Later, his strong passion for the sport spurred him to get involved in the training of future Taekwon-Doists. Having worked as a coach for some time, he is now the assistant manager of the South Phyongan provincial Taekwon-Do club.

His wife Ri Un Ju is a coach of the same club. Hailing from Sunchon, South Phyongan Province, she learned Taekwon-Do in a hobby group during her middle

school days. After graduating from the school, she collected many medals in national and local events as a player of the club.

Their common desire to add glory to the nation's orthodox martial art in the international arena matured into love, and they got to devote all their energy to training young practitioners together.

Ri Sung Chon, manager of the club, praised them as excellent coaches who think about Taekwon-Do more than their family life.

"The couple are like soft-hearted brother and sister in family life, but once they are in the training ground they are strict teachers and uncompromising coaches. Their top priority in training is the culture of mind," said

Taekwon-Do instructor Ri Song Hui, adding they have taught many instructors.

Their assiduous efforts never failed to bear fruit.

Their disciples won a lot of medals at international events including the 21st Taekwon-Do World Championships last year.

The couple took part in the 7th National Conference of Sportspersons.

"My parents often say that Taekwon-Do is the orthodox martial art of the nation before it is a sport," said their son Pak Su Jin who is a Taekwon-Do practitioner. "Their motto is 'Bear in mind the soul and spirit of the nation through Taekwon-Do and add lustre to it in the world arena'."

By Kil Chung Il PT



Pak Chung Song gives a pep talk to his family members before training.

CHAE MYONG RIM

RELICS

Pohyon Temple houses many national architectural assets

Pohyon Temple, a building in the period of Koryo Kingdom, is located on Mt Myohyang, one of the celebrated mountains of Korea.

After the construction of the temple in 1042, the temple was

rebuilt on several occasions, and the remaining buildings were reconstructed between 1441 and 1775.

The temple consisted of 24 buildings and towers, but more than 20 blocks of buildings

and tens of thousands of historical relics were destroyed and burned away due to the indiscriminate bombing of the enemies during the past Fatherland Liberation War.

After the war, several buildings including Tacung Hall and Manse Pavilion were restored to their original states.

The Tacung Hall, main building of the temple, is the most magnificent and majestic among the buildings of the Pohyon Temple with elegant form of roof, golden paintings in silk pattern, delicate ornamental sculptures and colourful paintings over all building parts and elements.

The Manse Pavilion standing uniquely on the sloping geographical position fully



The Taeung Hall and octagonal 13-storey pagoda at the Pohyon Temple in Mt Myohyang.

BOOK

New historical novels published

The Social Science Book Publishing House has recently brought out two new historical novels "Paktal Nation Rises Again" and "Dream of Konhung" (Vol. 1).

"Paktal Nation Rises Again" deals with the struggle of the ruined people of Ancient Joson (early 30th century BC-108 BC) to rebuild a powerful country of Tangun's nation, together with their fellow countrymen, the people of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668) after their country collapsed.

Through the description of the integration of the units of ruined people of Ancient Joson and their struggle by leaning on Koguryo, the book shows the truth that the sovereignty and territory of a nation can be defended only when all its members are united for the great work common to the nation,

instead of seeking individual interests.

"Dream of Konhung" (Vol. 1) tells about the struggle of Tae In Su, the 10th king of Palhae Kingdom (698-926) which inherited Koguryo Kingdom, and the patriotic people to realize the dream of national revival.

During his rule from 817 to 830, Tae instituted the name of hiseraas "Konhung" (prosperity) and expanded the territory while overcoming the scramble for power. He streamlined the state machinery and developed the economy, culture, science, technology and diplomacy.

The historical novels were reportedly written by consulting Samguksagi (the Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms) edited in 1145.

KCNA

ICH

Mud therapy

There is Lake Sijung in Thongchon County, Kangwon Province. Covering an area of 2.72 square kilometres, it is 3.8km long and 0.7km wide on average.

This lagoon had long been famous for the pine groves, white sand beaches and rolling waves. And it developed into a scenic attraction combining tourism and therapy as the medicinal effects of the mud on the lake bottom came to be widely known.

The lake bed is covered with peloid 4 to 5 metres thick. The mud contains various organic and inorganic substances and gas components that are efficacious in treating such diseases as arthritis, liver disorders and chronic gastritis.

Therefore, Lake Sijung draws lots of tourists and cure-seekers between May and September every year.

As the mud of the lake is rich in substances good for health and keeps warmth well, it has greater curative power than others.

The pelotherapy includes the systemic and local bath in a tub filled with a certain amount of peloid and water, the application of the mud to lesions and the combination of mud therapy with ultrasonic and light therapies.

The mud therapy at Lake Sijung was inscribed on the list of national intangible cultural heritage on October 10 2018.

By Yun Ki Song PT

exhibits the gracefulness of the building in perfect harmony with gorgeous red and blue paintings and nine-storey pagoda in the front yard.

As the Pohyon Temple keeps the 80 000 Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures and their wood blocks in their original state, it adds dignity to the building which had been famous historically as the major base of the spread of Buddhism in Korea.

The temple is also associated with the patriotic struggle of ancestors.

When foreign invaders set fire to the temple of Mt Myohyang in 1216, the Koryo people fought against

aggressors and killed over 2 400 enemies including their commander.

During the Imjin Patriotic War between 1592 and 1598, Saint Sosan aroused monks across the country to organize the army and fought bravely despite his advanced age of over 70, rendering distinguished services in the fight against foreign invaders.

The Pohyon Temple, along with the beautiful scenery of Mt Myohyang, is well preserved and managed as one of the priceless national cultural heritages showing the medieval architecture of Korea.

By Jong Chol PT

