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CAMPAIGN

80-day campaign effects great upsurge in output

Over 30 days have passed since the start of the 80-day campaign.

The electric power industry is stepping up power generation while improving the efficiency of generating equipment and reducing the production costs.

The machine building industry sector is pushing ahead with the production of custom-built equipment.

The Ryongsong Machine Complex has so far exceeded the custom-built equipment production assignments and the Huichon Precision Machine Factory produced more than 10 000 parts of vehicles.

Projects have simultaneously been undertaken at several chemical factories to build new production processes and renovate the old ones.

The February 8 Vinalon Complex established a polyvinyl chloride production process by means of a new polymerization method and succeeded in the production of trial products.

A trial run of the rayon pulp production process is now in full swing at the Chongjin Chemical Fibre Mill.

Projects are also well underway to establish the C1 chemical industry, build up the capacity in fertilizer production bases and modernize the Sinuiju Chemical Fibre Mill.

The metallurgical industry sector is hitting the pig iron, steel and rolled steel production targets every day in November.

The Puryong Ferroalloy Factory developed a working method to reduce the electrode connecting time and introduced an additive it made with locally available raw materials into the production of electrode to increase the operating time of furnace. It has also employed a variety of other technical innovation plans to raise the productivity and rate of operation of equipment.

The rail transport sector is overfulfilling the daily freight transport plans every day.

According to statistics, the freight transport volume has increased as against the same period of October.



Molten iron is turned out at the Chollima Steel Complex.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

SENTIMENT

Spirit of times inspiring people to perform feats

The Korean people are going on the continued offensive to make fresh achievements in the 80-day campaign towards the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The great spirit of the times has been created in the course of the development of the Korean revolution.

During the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the Korean People's Revolutionary Army displayed the revolutionary spirit of Paektu to accomplish the historic cause of national liberation.

The Korean people demonstrated to the world the dignity and mettle of heroic

Korea in the indomitable spirit of defending the country and completed industrialization.

They safeguarded the dignity of their socialist country and provided a springboard for building a powerful state in the revolutionary soldier spirit and the Kanggye spirit.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un made sure that the people and service personnel cherish the revolutionary spirit of Paektu as the pillar of their faith.

He set the spirit of the Paektusan hero youth and the spirit of Kangwon Province as the model spirit of the times.

KCNA



A greeting card issued to celebrate Mother's Day. SEE MOTHER'S DAY PAGE 6

HOUSING

New houses built in afflicted areas

New dwelling houses have been built in the disaster-stricken areas in Kim Chaek City of North Hamgyong Province and Riwon County of South Hamgyong Province, and the villagers moved into them.

Dances were held to the tune of peasants' music and people moved into new houses amid warm congratulations by the builders.

Jong Un Sun, farmer at the Sokho Cooperative Farm in Kim Chaek City, excitedly said she had never imagined enjoying such a blessing even in her dream and she would fulfil her duty as a farmer for the motherly Party and the socialist system.

"Our house is far from Pyongyang, but we are the happiest family who live with

our lots cast in with the Party Central Committee," said Kim Kum Il, farmer at the Haksadae



Disaster-stricken people move into new houses in Kim Chaek City, North Hamgyong Province.

Cooperative Farm in Riwon County as he entered the room of his house with his happy children.

People moved into new houses in 17 ris and workers' districts of Kimhwa County.

Ceremonies took place on

Wednesday to move into new homes.

Licences for the use of houses were given to the new house owners and people danced merrily in villages.

SEE PAGE 2



LEAD

WPK stays loyal to its leaders' ideology

The Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea will be convened at the outset of next year, or five years after the previous congress.

During the not-so-long period, the WPK has made remarkable achievements as it led the building of people-centred socialism.

It has provided the defence capabilities great enough to fully protect the dignity of the DPRK and the safety of the people and markedly enhanced the strategic position of the country in the international arena. It has also achieved outstanding results in economic and cultural construction as it has vigorously led the efforts to ensure the people's safety and improve their living standards, regarding making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of them as its mode of existence and its first and foremost mission.

All the successes attained by the WPK as the General Staff of the Korean revolution constitute the victory of its guiding ideology and a demonstration of its great leadership ability.

The WPK conducts all activities true to the lifetime intentions of the great leaders, guided by

Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, the revolutionary ideology of President Kim Il Sung who founded the Party and Chairman Kim Jong Il who is its eternal General Secretary.

The Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea defined the strengthening and development of the WPK into the party of the great leaders as its general task in Party building and the modelling of the whole Party on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as its strategic line.

The WPK has exerted itself to staunchly defend and add lustre to the undying leadership exploits of the great leaders by holding higher Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as its guiding ideology.

It has held fast to their revolutionary ideas and exploits as the lifeblood ensuring the continuity of its lineage and the banner of struggle and the source of victory propelling its building and its revolutionary cause and led its organizations at all levels, from the central committee down to its basic groups, to carry through their instructions, lines and policies without the slightest concession or deviation.

It has consolidated the whole Party into the epitome

of ideology and faith by imbuing it with Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and established an iron discipline of conducting Party building and activities as required by the ideology.

It convened the First Conference of Chairpersons of the Primary Committees of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Fifth Conference of WPK Cell Chairpersons true to the great leaders' original Party building line and their ideas of attaching importance to its basic organizations. The conferences marked a turning point in preparing all its members as genuine Kimilsungists-Kimjongilists and advancing the great leaders' cause by enhancing their role.

All the lines and policies of the WPK originate from Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and are consistent with it.

In the run-up to the Eighth Party Congress, the Korean people harden their resolve to remain loyal to the leadership of the WPK forever with a great sense of pride in the course of development of the WPK into the party of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

INSPECTION

Senior officials visit different units

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 DPRK State Affairs Commission and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the WPK, inspected various units in North Phyongan Province.

As he looked round the Sinuiju Chemical Fibre Mill, Pak referred to the need to upgrade equipment and solve the problems arising in the processing and transport of raw materials. He learned about the recycling efforts in the factory and inspected the construction of its gymnasium.

At the construction site of the second-stage Honggondo tideland reclamation project he said that the building of the emptying gate which is going on in the final stage should be stepped up to bring earlier the day of its completion.

He also acquainted himself with the Tongnaegang reservoir project and this year's farming in Kwaksan County.

Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, inspected the Sunchon Thermal Power Station, the Namhung Youth

Chemical Complex and the Chongchongang-Phyongnam irrigation waterway construction project.

He discussed the ways to increase power production and urged officials to meticulously organize the business management on the principle of socialist economic management and in line with the requirements of the socialist enterprise responsibility and management system.

At the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex he said gas producer, compressor and other equipment should be managed and operated meticulously and repaired regularly to ensure smooth production and supply of fertilizers.

The field consultative meetings called on the officials, scientists and technicians in the fields of power and chemical industries to take scientific and technological measures for putting the production on a normal basis through the domestic production of equipment and raw and other materials and recycling of them, and discussed the issues arising in qualitatively completing the waterway project.

KCNA

Housing: Typhoon victims move into new homes

FROM PAGE 1

"As the saying goes, 'nothing remains after flood though there are some in the wake of fire'. However, we have got new houses. It is a good fortune that can only be enjoyed in the era of the Workers' Party," said Ri Un Sik, war veteran living in

neighbourhood unit No. 85 of Kimhwa county town who was born in the county.

"We will never forget the benevolence of the Party which provided modern dwellings," said Pak Chol Nam, chairman of the Choso Cooperative Farm in Kimhwa County, adding that they would successfully wind up this year's farming by dedicating patriotic sweats.

Choe Song Hui, chairwoman of the Kimhwa County People's Committee, expressed her resolve to redouble efforts so as to make the county of glory visited by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un a land of self-sufficiency and perform her duty as the master responsible for the livelihood of the people in the county.

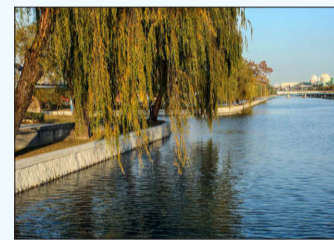
KCNA



Dwelling houses built in Kimhwa, Kangwon Province. Residents are overjoyed to receive house licences.

Nationwide

Pothong River takes on new looks



The appearance of the Pothong River is undergoing a radical change day after day to add more beauty to the scenery of Pyongyang.

Working people in the capital city wound up the project for refashioning promenades along the Pothong River, which required carrying out masonry extending dozens of kilometres in total, concrete paving of tens of thousands of square metres of walkways and roadways and site clearing, in the main in a matter of 20-odd days.

Changgwang Health Complex marks 40th anniversary

The Changgwang Health Complex celebrated its 40th founding anniversary.

The complex is a comprehensive welfare service centre most popular with Pyongyang citizens.

A meeting took place

on Tuesday to convey a congratulatory message sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the employees and officials of the complex on its 40th founding anniversary.

It was attended by Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Cement giant hits annual production target



The Sangwon Cement Complex completed its annual production assignments by November 4.

The Sangwon Limestone Mine, which supplies raw materials to the complex, secured large quantities of reserve ores at the beginning of this year, while the Samchong Mine finished the yearly mineral production plan till mid-September.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

ANJU

By relying on locally-available materials and resources

Costs of insulators cut by using local materials

“We now make various insulators using locally abundant raw materials as we develop and manufacture different kinds of new and high-grade insulating materials,” said An Jong Hak, manager of the Anju Insulator Factory in South Phyongan Province.

Instead of using petroleum, the factory rectifies a domestic material to extract a high-boiling solvent so as to use it as the main raw material.

It set up an insulating varnish production process to suit the local raw material. As a result, it has been able to save the time required for the ageing of insulators and the coal needed for ensuring temperature.

It also built a phthalic anhydride production process for recycling the plasticizer that is lost during production, thereby lowering the production costs to a third.

According to Choe Kyong Chol, staffer in charge of production, the factory turns out insulating varnishes at grades of 180 (H) and 150 (F).

The plants that manufacture electrical equipment using the factory’s insulators are said to have cut down the consumption of such nonferrous metal materials as copper and silicon steel sheets by a fifth, increased the service life of equipment over three times and decreased its volume.

“We are now pushing at the final stage the manufacture of a press for making laminated sheets that are used in the production of wedge and solid insulators,” said Ri Kwang Chol, staffer in charge of technical affairs.

By Kim Il Jin PT



A worker operates the machine at the Anju Insulator Factory.

KIM IL JIN

A variety of pumps manufactured

The Anju Pump Factory in South Phyongan Province increases the variety of products by dint of technical innovation.

“We are now producing more pumps than the same period of last year by actively introducing technical innovation plans,” said Jong Jong Song, deputy chief engineer of the factory.

A noticeable thing of the factory is that it scrupulously organizes the sci-tech deliberation for new technical innovations.

To this end, the factory organized a technical innovation team involving

young technicians in the fields of electricity, machinery and dynamics and made sure that they enhanced their role while keeping steps with the deliberation work of the factory’s science and technology which is held once a week.

It has recently made a counter centrifugal pump.

It also improved the efficiency of low-lift sewage pumps that can be used in sewage treatment plants.

As it had used motors of 75kW capacity to produce the pumps, their efficiency was low as compared to the consumption

of much electricity.

According to Han Thae Gun, staffer in charge of technology, the newly-developed pump decreases the consumption of electric power but increases its efficiency by 20 percent as it uses a motor of 22kW capacity.

Besides, the factory brought out different types of new pumps, namely excavating pump and self-suction vortex pump.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



SONG YONG SOK

A technician checks finished products at the Anju Pump Factory.

Factory presses on with equipment upgrading

The Anju Tractor Parts Factory increases production by channelling big efforts into the upgrading of equipment.

“This year, our factory has so far produced and supplied well over 10 000 pieces of tractor parts in some 10 kinds such as piston and cylinder bushes and various cogwheels and axles,” said Manager Rim Thae Bong.

The factory refashioned its medium frequency induction furnace into a cost-effective one. According to Choe Hyok Chol, member of the technological development team of the factory, the

Catering service worker basks in locals’ respect

Public catering establishments in Anju City of South Phyongan Province are favourite haunts of diners.

They prepare mouth-watering and highly-nutritious dishes and offer kind services to the customers. What is distinctive is that a special service is offered to more than a thousand labour innovators, war veterans and honoured disabled soldiers each month.

It was initiated by Kang Kum Hyang, directress of the Anju City Public Catering Agency.

“I visited a coal mine in the city at the beginning of this year. I was deeply moved as I saw coal miners struggling to mine even a bit of more coal in the pits deep underground. It motivated me to do something good for them,” recalled Kang.

Back to her agency, she worked out service schedules without delay for the labour innovators at leading industrial establishments in the city.

Among them were the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex, Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, Chongchongang Thermal Power Station, Anju Insulator Factory and Anju Pump Factory. It was really an uphill job.

But she could not give up. She heard news of labour feats performed there every day in the run-up to the 75th anniversary of the Workers’ Party of Korea, and she was greatly encouraged by that.

She made painstaking efforts to ensure that the supply base of her catering agency produced larger quantities of rice, meat,

eggs and vegetables.

The base was built after she was appointed as chief of the agency more than 10 years ago.

“Everyone was surprised at her suggestion of turning well over 10 hectares of swamp at the environs of the city into rice paddies. She encouraged us, saying that we should not remain content with what the state supplies us, but grow and crop rice by ourselves to provide the citizens with better service.”

Around the agency, they built a barn for pigs and hens and a greenhouse for growing such vegetables as cucumber, lettuce and crown daisy.

Recalling those days, the employees most of whom are women said that they could hardly believe they built such structures by their own efforts and that they feel pride in serving the citizens with dishes prepared from what they produce.

Under unfavourable climatic conditions this year, including low percentage of sunshine, the supply base established a food production cycle for scientific crop farming and animal husbandry, thus increasing per-unit yield of rice considerably and meat and egg outputs 1.5 times more than last year.

Kang Kum Hyang is hailed by the locals as she constantly strives to provide them with better service. She was elected to the Anju City People’s Assembly last year.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

air hammer for the forging process into a 500kg one to lay a foundation for forging various products while using less electricity.

In addition, it introduced an automatic protective device into the large high-voltage transformer in cooperation with a relevant unit and made a light insulating brick with locally-abundant raw materials to double productivity at the carburizer while reducing its power consumption.

“We are pushing at the final stage the remodelling of the high-frequency heat treatment process and the establishment of a process for desulphurizing pig iron in order to keep production going steadily,” said Chief Engineer Yun Kwang Su.

It also refashioned the 2-ton

By Kim Kum Myong PT

PERFUME

Natural essential oil produced to meet local needs

The Pyongyang Essential Oil Factory was inaugurated recently.

It turns out various kinds of natural essential oils, those for food and industrial use and perfumes.

The essential oil research institute of the factory has undertaken research projects to increase the intensity of essential oil by applying a variety of technologies including zymotechnics. After assessing the liking, intensity

and durability of the fragrance of essential oil, the researchers are working to develop new natural essential oils from local animals and plants.

According to senior engineer Jang Kwang Hyon, the factory has developed over 20 kinds of natural essential oils including that of *Pinus pumila*, thuja and peppermint by employing over a dozen extraction techniques.

Among them is green pine perfume. As it is made of

essence extracted from the needle-leaf tree, it is high in antibiotic action and has a light, fresh fragrance. There is also a gel perfume which can be used in office room or car.

Now the factory produces over 30 kinds of natural mixed perfumes by using some 20 kinds of natural essential oils to be supplied to various foodstuff and industrial goods factories in Pyongyang.

By Kim Il Jin PT



The recently inaugurated Pyongyang Essential Oil Factory produces a variety of natural, edible and industrial essential oils and perfumes.

KIM HYOK CHOL

CEMENT

White magnesia cement developed

Researchers of Kim Chaek University of Technology developed and introduced a technology of producing white magnesia cement with domestic raw materials.

“Originally, we worked on the domestic production of the filler between tiles,” said lead developer Ra Chung Ryol.

They paid attention to a rock with a high degree of whiteness which had been discovered in a local area a long time ago.

The rock had been regarded as unfit for industrial use until then.

The researchers ascertained that it can be used for making white cement in the course of delving into its mineralogical features.

They established the method and process of industrial production of white magnesia cement relying on the new raw material at the Chollima Tile Factory.

As a result, the rock which had been left idle until then came into use, which offered a prospect of ensuring the domestic production of high-quality white cement, most of

which were previously imported, in the construction sector.

The degree of whiteness of the factory’s cement is over 88 percent, and it is widely used as the filler between tiles and for the decorative plastering of outer walls of buildings.

According to developers, its production process requires a lower temperature and shorter time for calcination than that of dolomite cement, thus saving a great deal of fuel, manpower and time. Furthermore, the production process is simple and uses existing equipment of the factory.

“We intend to solve different problems including the improvement of its tolerance so as to expand its application,” said researcher Jo Yong Yon.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Farm benefits from methane gasification

Methane gasification has been introduced into many dwelling houses of the Ponghwa Cooperative Farm in Kangdong County, Pyongyang.

“It was the beginning of last year when our farm showed interest in and buckled down to the methane gasification of

dwellings,” said an official of the farm.

The farm adopted gasification in a unique way to meet the specific conditions of the farm so that its farmers could easily introduce it.

It made methane gas-collecting bags with vinyl sheets and built gas tanks to

suit the specific character of a rural community so as to lower production costs.

When the farm supplied methane gas for cooking and heating, even those who hesitated to apply the gasification got interested in the project.

So, the methane gasification could be pushed as a matter of farm-wide concern and now farmers benefit from it.

By Jong Chol PT

PROFILE

Ranger devotes himself to building forest



“I was motivated by the self-consciousness that every tree in my charge is part of the wealth of the country ... and I am responsible for it.”

Ri Myong Bom, a ranger in Pyoksong, South Hwanghae Province

Visitors to Nacho-ri of Pyoksong County, South Hwanghae Province, can see the mountains covered with thick forests of pine-nut, Changsong larch and northern pitch pine trees.

A large quantity of wild fruits and timber are gathered and produced here every year, making contributions to the people’s life in the province as well as the county. The thickly-wooded forests are unthinkable apart from the painstaking efforts of Ri Myong Bom (pictured), forest ranger in charge.

After serving the Korean People’s Army for decades, he was discharged and allowed to go to his native village in Anbyon County, Kangwon Province. But he volunteered to work as a forest ranger in Pyoksong.

Referring to his motive for doing it, he said: “One day 16 years back I came to have a talk with a forest ranger, an old acquaintance of mine. Hearing me saying that I was demobbed and would go to my native village, he felt very sorry and told me that as he got older, he felt it harder to go up and down the mountain paths. And he hoped that demobbed officers like me would play a part in the field.”

At that time Ri looked over the surrounding mountains from a fresh point of view, he recalled.

During the military service he, together with the soldiers, built a tree nursery and planted and grew many trees in the mountains around the barracks, but there still remained some traces of the Arduous March when the mountains were left bare.

He did not know why, but they brought painful recollection to him and it came to him that he could not disregard the advice of the forest ranger.

He made up his mind to follow in his footsteps and devote his whole life to covering all the mountains in Nacho-ri as well as those around the barracks in thick forests.

After he was appointed as a forest ranger in charge of Nacho-ri of the Pyoksong County

forest management station, he did everything vigorously and audaciously in an army style.

He had to walk a long way across the mountains some days to grasp the constitution of forests and topography of the area in charge and acquired knowledge of forestry, ranging from the production of tree saplings to the planting of forest and anti-blight measures at night.

He also organized a mountain workteam to build a new several hectare wide tree nursery and plant forest continuously every year.

When the whole country turned out for the reforestation campaign, he reclaimed a mountain slope covered with arrowroot vines and shrubs to plant more trees in the surrounding mountain areas.

“There was an empty plot of over 20 square metres covered with rocks at a mountain peak. The ranger called for planting larch trees there and we all workteam members removed stones, carried soil and manure and planted trees nine times repeatedly,” said a member of the workteam.

His painstaking efforts bore fruit: the mountains in Nacho-ri grew greener by the passage of time and the workteam made its name as a group with a high capacity in every work.

“In fact, it is not easy to keep a clear conscience in the mountain where there is no one to look at me. I was motivated by the self-consciousness that every tree in my charge is part of the wealth of the country and I am responsible for it,” Ri recalled.

A few years ago he was awarded the title of Merited Forest Ranger.

“Patriotism is not an abstract concept. It begins at home, from the tree we plant, I think. The green forests stretching far and wide beyond the horizon in Nacho-ri is just like a mirror which reflects his feeling of patriotism,” said Ri Won Jac, director of the county forest management station.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

HORTICULTURE

Fragrance emanates from 'flower home'

Neighbourhood Unit No. 62 in Tongan-dong No. 1 of Central District, Pyongyang, is well-known to the village for having many families good at growing flowers.

"Every household grows flowers well, but especially, Kim Yong Suk's family cultivates different kinds of ornamental plants in more than 70 flowerpots," said head of the unit Kim Hye Gyong.

Kim Yong Suk's balconies look like a flower garden.

Anyone can easily feel the noble sentiment of the family through the flowerpots in which

various species of plants grow in thick verdure in the autumn when all leaves fall off trees. Among them there are crown of thorns with bright red flowers, boat lily, greentip Kaffir lily, tufted bracket plant, cycad and cacti.

Kim Yong Suk who is devoted to houseplant growing has tastefully decorated her two sunny balconies with those plants.

"I make it a rule to admire our flowering plants as I breathe in fresh morning air before starting work, and I find pleasure in securing rare flowering plants,"

she says.

She keeps some books in which she has recorded the experiences she gained as she grew flowers at home for years and the knacks of floriculture she picked up at flower shops.

As her house is filled with sweet fragrance of flowers all the year round, the neighbours call hers "flower home" and frequently visit it to get seedlings and learn some knacks.

Kim willingly gives them flower seeds and seedlings and kindly tells them her experience in detail.

According to the head of the neighbourhood unit, the family has given the neighbours innumerable flower seedlings for six years since they moved into the new high-rise apartment house.

"Nothing is incomparable with enjoying the view of flowers appearing one after another on green leaves. Not only pleasant family atmosphere but harmony between neighbours comes from flowers, I think," says Kim Yong Suk.

The residents of her apartment building are all devotees of flower raising.



RYU KWANG HYOK

Jon Kun Su's family grows different species of flowering plants at home.

By Pang Un Ju PT

EDUCATION

Nation explores pedagogic orientation



practicability in mapping out the strategy.

We are also pressing on with research and introduction of advanced education achievements that meet the world's trend of educational development, with main emphasis put on training much more development- and innovation-driven and practice-oriented talents.

In the course of this, we have completed a 10-volume book "Comprehensive practical education course for building creative and application abilities" which is of importance in improving the quality of secondary general education.

This education course, free from the previous one-sided knowledge instruction-oriented education methods, helps kindergarten children, primary school pupils and junior middle school students conceive and make real things by themselves by applying knowledge in different fields, thereby enhancing their creative application capacities and problem-solving abilities.

In order to introduce the comprehensive practical

education method for the training of development- and innovation-oriented talents, vigorous efforts are being made to create a model and generalize it nationwide and to make multimedia presentations for guide lessons according to subjects that are geared to make students develop their inquiry and study abilities through the self-study of educational contents in line with the education programme.

Kim Song Il, vice-president in charge of scientific affairs of the Academy of Pedagogical Science

The DPRK is dynamically carrying on the work to put the country's overall education on a new scientific footing.

The main thing in this effort is to work out a national pedagogic development strategy.

The strategy reflects contents for the development of pedagogy in the sectors of higher education and general education and such projects for solving scientific problems arising in teaching and establishing a unified control and guidance system over pedagogic research and introduction and generalization of findings.

We are focusing on ensuring scientific accuracy and

RESEARCH

Robot introduced to lessons

"The education support robot we've developed analyses, assesses and displays the overall educational administrative work," said Pak Je Hyok, director of the educational technology institute of Pyongyang Teachers Training College.

The robot has teaching control and support functions. It tells lecturers optimal teaching methods as it analyses and assesses in real time their lectures and students' study processes in class.

It also gives them immediate answers to the questions the teachers find very difficult to respond to.

It displays information on lecturers' performances and tells them the relevant part of the analyses of their attainments, the merits and demerits revealed in lectures and other educational affairs.

For its interactive feature, the robot easily recognizes anyone's voice and explains its usage, which enables even non-professionals to use it readily.

However, there has been a considerable debate about whether to introduce such robot into lectures in different countries.

The opponents, above all, have misgivings about the new.

They argue that if a lecturer fails to operate the robot skilfully or it does not work properly in class, it will spoil the lecture. Moreover, they claim, it might result in students' inattention to lectures as they are at the inquisitive age.

They also assert it might hurt the authority and pride of lecturers.



RYANG KUM CHOL

Researchers at Pyongyang Teachers Training College test a humanoid robot to be used for lessons.

Such lecturers are dissatisfied with the "violation" of sacred lecture and platform. In particular, capable teachers question the necessity of the robot, saying they have done a good job without it.

"Of course, there are some valid points in their arguments as the robot is still on the way to be perfect. But I want to remind them of an episode about the 19th-century English physicist Faraday. He had asked a lady deriding his invention, DC dynamo, what babies were for," said Kim Hyon Sil, vice-rector for science at the college.

"Rapidly-developing reality annually generates a wealth of data, imposing more and more weight on lecturers. Education should go ahead of, not behind, the reality, and it cannot be claimed to be education without preparation for the future. Therefore, we will strive to nurture the 'baby' and enrich our experience through research into such cutting-edge technologies as artificial intelligence."

By Han Kwi Hun PT



KIM SONG JIN / RODONG SINMUN

A bird's eye view of Pyongyang's Ryomyong Street shrouded in early morning mist.

MOTHER'S DAY

Loving tribute to mothers



Mother's Day designated

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un made sure that Mother's Day was set in appreciation of the pains taken by mothers as they give birth to children, the future of families and the country, and devote their all to bringing them up.

Therefore, November 16 when President Kim Il Sung delivered a speech at the first national meeting of mothers in 1961 was designated as Mother's Day.

Since the fourth national meeting of mothers was held with splendour and the first Mother's Day was commemorated in 2012, the meaningful holiday of mothers became an annual celebration in the DPRK.

Among the excellent mothers are prolific mother heroines who brought up many children.

A man's life begins in the bosom of mother and everyone remembers their mother who gave birth to them and raised them up throughout their lives.

That is why no word is more sacred, intimate and precious than "mother", as the saying goes.

Every corner of a happy home is marked with the mother's effort and happy laughter oozing from a bright window in the evening is imbued with the affections of a warm-hearted mother.

Mothers always keep an eye on their children lest they get exhausted or sick even after they turn grey and worry about them even at the last moment of their lives.

On the occasion of Mother's Day, the Editorial Board of The Pyongyang Times extends the warmest greetings and regards to all mothers around the world.

In the DPRK, November 16 is Mother's Day when people prepare flowers and present them to their mothers to express their love for them.

As they look after their children, mothers in the DPRK devote themselves to social development with ardent love for the country.

Among Korean women are pilots, captains, professors, doctors, artists, athletes and deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly and Party and government officials.

Women take up 17.6 percent of the deputies to the 14th SPA of the DPRK.

Besides, many domains of society including education, healthcare, social security, culture, commerce and public service depend largely on women, and many women are revered as heroines of the nation. In the last eight years, nearly 60 women were awarded the title of Hero.

All of them are ordinary working people and mothers.

The mothers rightfully deserve congratulations of their sons and daughters for their self-sacrificial deeds.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Woman dovetails career with family commitments

Jon Mi Yong, PhD and associate professor, has worked as a lecturer in history at Kim Il Sung University for over 30 years since her maidenhood.

In those days, Jon newly systematized a foreign history subject and greatly contributed to the compilation of a Korean encyclopedia.

She authored 15 kinds of reference books, 10 kinds of textbooks and nearly 60 academic essays and received dozens of certificates of achievements and sci-tech festivals.

She came first at several national teaching competitions and received national commendations for achievements in pedagogical and scientific research.

Dozens of her disciples are academic degree and title holders who are playing their parts at educational institutions and research institutes.

In recognition of her distinguished service, the university put her forward as a delegate to the celebrations of the 75th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea, the greatest national event of this year.

Her success has been a tribute to hard work.

She went to university earlier than students every morning and left her office late at night in order to prepare for the next day's lectures.

She often travelled for days far from home to ascertain historical data for textbooks, reference books and essays or to attend international symposia.

However, she was not a career woman who only cares for studies.

Jon spared nothing for her only daughter and took an attentive care of house-keeping.

Thanks to her tutorial guidance which was given



“**You should be faithful to your duty both at work and home.**”

Jon Mi Yong, PhD and associate professor at Kim Il Sung University

almost every night, her daughter graduated from Kim Il Sung University with flying colours.

She often tells her daughter that she should be faithful to her duty both at work and home.

It was like a motto of her life.

She is accustomed to carrying out her obligations first both in the work or relations with other people.

The same was true for her family members.

Despite her busy work, she handled all household chores and took care of her daughter guiding her at every step of life.

“I came to know about my mother's hard effort only after I became a mother myself. In a word, her life was the one of responsibility and devotion. I am so proud of my mother,” said Jon's daughter Kang Jin Mi.

By Han Kwi Hun PT



Kim Hong Ju (right) living in Ansan-dong No. 2, Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, is happy to receive a greeting card and gifts from her children.

‘Mother’ of orphaned children

“I have many ‘mothers’ who are engaged in cooking, teaching, laundry, and even looking after me when I go to bed,” said Kim Kon Wi, a boy of the 3-2 class at Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans.

The “mothers” he mentioned are afterschool education teachers at the school.

They are all maidens who started their career as teachers at the school after graduating from Pyongyang Teachers Training

College.

Hwang Ryon Hui is an extracurricular education teacher in her twenties who has just graduated from the college.

“I still remember my mother said ‘Now you have become a teacher’ when I graduated from the college. But I have to become a mother before being a teacher,” said Hwang.

According to her, she sometimes spends a good time, attracted by the juvenile mind of innocent children, but she spends most of time of 24 hours taking care of them, rather than having a carefree time.

There are boys who were so energetic and vehement as to break down fixtures, and some girls are too introvert to speak all day long, only answering questions.

“Sometimes, our afterschool teachers get annoyed by children's mischief but refrain from

scolding them. They know well that love can do what scolding cannot,” said Choe Jong Hui, deputy headmistress in charge of school affairs.

Afterschool teachers devote themselves to repairing children's clothes at their playing time, and lay new socks and hairpins for them by their beds when they are asleep.

On the birthdays of orphaned children, they take photographs, prepare special dishes and sing songs for them while sharing joy.

Kim Il Sim, chief of the education section, keeps a book recording the painstaking efforts and motherly affection the afterschool teachers made and showed for the children.

Their devotion and love, which are cherished in the mind of innocent children, are reflected on children's report cards, diary books and pencil picture album “12 months of our school”.

According to Choe Jong Hui, they showed Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un their diary books and pencil picture album last year and those who graduated from the school this year wrote a letter mirroring their determination to grow up into the fine pillars of the country to the Supreme Leader to make him happy.

Maiden teachers of the school enjoy sincere blessings of orphaned children on the occasion of Mother's Day every year.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



CHAE MYONG RIM

A teacher presses the trousers of a child at Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans.

RUSSIA-JAPAN

Territorial dispute likely a Gordian knot

Friction has now been aggravated between Russia and Japan surrounding the southern Kuril Islands.

Russia asserts that there is no need to re-examine its sovereignty over the disputed islands as it was confirmed according to the results of the Second World War. Japan, however, insists on its dominion over the islands.

This year the dispute has entered into a fiercer phase with an exhibition held in Tokyo to verify "Japan's dominion over the southern Kurils" at the beginning of the year as a momentum.

In this respect the Russian Foreign Ministry called a resident Japanese diplomat in Moscow and brought it to his

Controversies in 2019

Referring to the situation concerning the opinions about changing the venues for marathon and walking races of the 2020 Olympic Games from Tokyo to Sapporo, the Tokyo governor jokingly suggested holding the events in the "northern territories" (the southern Kurils) in October last year.

The Russian Foreign Ministry retorted that "sports should not be used for joking to incite confrontation, but for uniting the people".

At the end of last year an opposition party leader of Japan issued a statement on declaring the southern Kurils as part of its territory. Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of the State Duma of Russia, said Russia regards it as a menace to its territorial integrity and sovereignty, arguing such a statement would only destroy trust between the two countries.

attention.

In late September the eastern military district of the Russian armed forces launched a military drill in simulation of an attack on the enemy landing

force in the southern Kurils with an involvement of over 1 500 troops.

The Japanese cabinet secretary immediately responded to it at a news

conference, expressing his stand that such a military exercise on the part of Russia was intolerable.

Russia staged a military exercise to move and deploy C-300B4 anti-aircraft rocket system of the eastern military district on an island of the Kurils at the end of October.

The Japanese prime minister argued that the "northern territories" are the islands on which Japan's sovereignty is exercised.

Analysts are expressing concern over it, saying the territorial dispute between the two countries is leading to a situation that is difficult to be resolved, like the Gordian knot.

By Om Ryong PT

CHINA

Fight against poverty bears fruit in minority communities

The Liangshan Yi autonomous region is located in Sichuan Province in the southwestern inland area of China.

Liangshan is the largest residential area of the ethnic minority in China and there are 14 races of people including the Han, Tibetan, Mongolian and Hui. While Sichuan Province that is home to 56 ethnic groups is the epitome of China, Liangshan can be called that of Sichuan.

Having switched from a slave society into a socialist society in the wake of the founding of the People's Republic of China, Liangshan had once been the remotest,

backward and extremely poor community in the country. The natural conditions were unfavourable and the industrial foundations were fragile. In the cold mountainous area with an altitude of thousands of metres, the residents were living in thatched adobe houses breeding domestic animals. The traffic condition was terrible and there was a constant lack of clean water. Moreover, it was hard to get access to health care and education facilities. All eleven counties of Liangshan were below the poverty line until 2013.

The Chinese Party and government paid particular

attention to the poverty relief effort in Liangshan.

President Xi Jinping in his New Year Address said that 2020 was a year for achieving a decisive victory in the fight against poverty and that all the poor in rural areas and poverty-stricken counties should be relieved according to the current criteria.

With the strong support from Guangdong and Zhejiang provinces and other units as well as the central government, Sichuan Province concentrated efforts on poverty relief and achieved remarkable results.

Tens of thousands of families moved down from alpine areas to new residential quarters.

State and provincial-level trunk roads were newly constructed, healthcare facilities refurbished and thousands of water supply facilities built or rebuilt.

Meanwhile, the development of special industries like vegetable and herb cultivation, livestock farming and country tourism is widely encouraged.

The old customs prevalent among rural people are giving way to the civilized way of life.

China is striving to achieve a comprehensive victory in the fight against poverty by the end of this year.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

ENVIRONMENT

Global warming to deplete fish resources

Shortly ago, a foreign research group released its finding that fish resources may be exhausted due to global warming.

According to it, as a result of climate change caused by humans the water temperature in 40 percent of the seas, rivers and lakes will rise so high at the end of the present century as to exert serious effects on spawning fishes or those with eggs.

This means that fishes may be extinct or compelled to change their mode of existence and breeding as well as their

habitats.

A scientist in the research group said that fishes may face a "dangerous time" in the future.

Last year, a large number of salmon died in warm seawater in the middle of migration and codfish roes were damaged in several rivers of Alaska, the US.

Ecologists and environmentalists said it served as a warning to mankind about the aftereffects of global warming.

The problem is that the rate of global warming grows faster

than before, resulting in the continuous melting of ice in the Arctic and Antarctic and the temperature rise in rivers and lakes.

According to the British magazine New Scientist, the seawater temperature will go up by five degrees centigrade by 2100 and some 60 percent of the fish species would be unable to exist in the sea.

It arouses serious concern among many people.

With the interest in health food growing, the demand for fish has risen sharply worldwide.

However, the fish catch dwindles due to the decrease of fish resources and the imbalance between demand and supply causes a sharp rise in the fish price.

It is said that if people fail to call a halt to global warming, they will lose the natural foundation of their daily life, especially the foods from the sea.

To restrain global warming now arises as one of the most pressing and vital issues facing the world.

By Song Jong Ho PT

Briefly

Russia

Day of people's unity commemorated

Russia commemorated the day of people's unity on November 4.

That day, Russian President Vladimir Putin presented a flower to a monument in Red Square together with youth delegates.

Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin published a message to congratulate the citizens on the day of people's unity.

Cuba

President calls for stepping up house construction

Cuban President Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez emphasized the need to push ahead with the construction of dwelling houses in a meeting on November 3.

Referring to the importance of improving people's living standards, he pointed to the need to create conditions for carrying out the house construction plan for the next year, including the setting up of more building-materials factories.

Zambia

Flood prevention called for

The Zambian President on November 5 underlined the need to take decisive measures to prevent flood damage.

Lusaka, the capital city of the country, is also prone to flood in the rainy season, he said, adding that the national disaster management institution should take urgent measures to cope with potential floods.

He said that the government needs to give a positive helping hand to improving the drainage system in flood-stricken areas.

Tanzania

President vow to shore up economy

Tanzanian President John Magufuli expressed his stand to boost the national economy in his inaugural speech on November 5.

He stressed that the government would work hard to eliminate corruption and poverty, provide people with jobs and conserve natural resources.

He called on all the people to turn out in the development of the economy.

Afghanistan

Terrorism wreaks havoc

The number of cases of terrorist attacks and armed clashes increased by 50 percent in Afghanistan in the third quarter of this year as against the previous quarter. In the period, the number of civilian victims went up by 43 percent, reaching more than 2 560.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

TAEKWON-DO



National martial art develops in technique and tactic

A few days ago, *The Pyongyang Times* reporter Kim Rye Yong interviewed Sok Min Chol, a section chief of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, about the developing trend of the Korean martial art.

When I see Taekwon-Do matches in recent years, I can notice at a glance that the degrees of difficulty of its movements have advanced.

You are right. Taekwon-Do is developing in the direction of its movements getting diverse and technical movements widely employed in games.

Move, hit, kick and other movements for attack and defence have become diversified and systemized and difficult technical movements widely applied in practice.

In particular, Taekwon-Do clubs are now paying attention to the training of players with



special techniques based on a good level of physical fitness. New movements are widely employed to fully exhibit their power.

It is also a tendency that the games are played at a fast pace, which means movements of the sport, especially hit and move, are performed at a very fast pace and the speed of reaction to the opponent is increasing

accordingly.

As Taekwon-Do itself consists of very fast, non-repetitive, powerful and sharp movements, to perform its movements fast is the most important in demonstrating the power of the martial art.

Would you mind telling me some of the changes in tactics in the playing of the games?

In general, as an attack-oriented martial art, Taekwon-Do has witnessed steady improvement in its attack techniques. Lots of changes have also been observed in defence techniques, with game tactics getting more diversified.

At present efforts are being made to perfect a tactical system which employs many offensive tactics.

What about the training mode of the players?

In short, the training of players is switching from the old training overload-oriented heavy-burden to a science-based one.

A training programme is now being implemented, which incorporates science-based imposition of physical burden, exhibition of capacity and nutrition management of players by introducing basic Taekwon-Do theories and knowledge of basic science of sports, especially sports biology.

At the same time, computer technology is widely applied to steadily improve the scientific level of training.

nutritive value.

The Korean housewives teach their children the general kimchi-making methods and the special recipes of their own as they make kimchi at homes. They also share their experience with neighbours, tasting each other's kimchi.

They exchange their experience and learn new techniques and recipes at national kimchi-making contests and shows held on several occasions such as national anniversaries and folk holidays.

Though kimchi is now mass-produced at factories, most Korean families prefer to make it by themselves by cultivating vegetables and collecting edible herbs, as their ancestors did in the past.

The traditional kimchi-making custom of the Korean people was inscribed on the world intangible cultural heritage list in 2015.

By Pang Un Ju PT



Taekwon-Do practitioners practise a jumping kick.

KIMCHI

Age-old kimchi-making custom carried on

From ancient times, the Korean people made good use of various vegetables in their dietary life.

Since the period of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668), they cultivated radish and mixed it with pickled fish to make preserves, which eventually gave birth to the kimchi-making custom.

Kimchi is a processed vegetable dish made through lactic fermentation after mixing bok choy, radish and other vegetables with seasonings and pickled fish.

It contains many minerals such as sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium and iron, as well as vitamin C.

The historical fact that there was a state agency in charge

of kimchi making in Koryo Kingdom (918-1392) proves the dish had already been very popular at that time.

During the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910), the main ingredient of kimchi changed from radish into bok choy and its recipe was further developed by mixing a variety of seasonings.

The Korean people make different kinds of kimchi according to seasons.

Especially in early November every year, all the households across the country are busy preparing kimchi for winter.

Kimchi is so important in the dietary life of Koreans as to be called the second staple food for winter. It is also regarded as their main side dish with a high

SSIRUM

Korean wrestling time-honoured

Ssirum is a wrestling peculiar to Koreans.

The sport dates back to the period of Ancient Joseon (early 30th century BC-108 BC) and it was widely spread with a further developed playing system in the period of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668).

Tomb murals from the Koguryo period show the scenes of *ssirum* matches.

A tomb mural portrays two players wearing shorts and thigh bands without upper wear and grappling with each other and an old referee standing by them with a stick to watch their play.

Ssirum was a major exercise for soldiers in the period of Koryo Kingdom (918-1392) and was widely played as a popular sport in the period of feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910).

People played the match on the edges of farm fields, sandy riverside and lawn during the break of farming work like rice-planting, weeding and harvesting. In particular, they got together at wrestling sites built at picturesque places on folk holidays to enjoy the matches.

Ssirum techniques are largely divided into hand, body and leg tricks which are subdivided into more detailed ones, over 200 in all. Many techniques including continuous moves are adopted using the thigh band.

At present, it is one of the most popular sports of the Koreans.

Ssirum was listed as an element of national intangible cultural heritage in 2013 and a world ICH element in 2018.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

RELIC

Temple dating back to 17th century

The Chonju Temple in Nyongbyon county town of North Phyongan Province was erected in the period of feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910).

Set on the southeastern hillside of Yaksandongdae, a famous scenic beauty, the temple was first built in 1684 when an old fortress was rebuilt, and it was reconstructed in 1722.

It consists of the Pogwang Hall as its main building, the Chonju Turret opposite the hall and some annexes on both sides of the courtyard.

There are a two-layer embankment that is 3.4 metres high between the courtyard and the Chonju Turret and a three-layer 3.9-metre-high one between the turret and the Pogwang Hall.

The hall is a gabled building with double eaves and is 10.28

metres long at the façade and 6.95 metres at the flank.

There is an altar below a Buddhist statue inside the building that is gaily decorated.

The Chonju Turret is adorned in an original way.

On both sides of the main garret, there are corridors topped off by protruding garrets that are connected like wings.

And behind the two garrets there stand annexes.

The temple is decorated with many pictures done in *tanchong*, or the traditional colourful painting.

For the classical architecture and the artistic value of *tanchong*, the temple is of significance in studying the history of traditional architecture.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

LIVING MONUMENT

Kumya ginkgo tree

Kumya ginkgo is over 2 130 years old.

Growing in the backyard of Anbul Temple in Tonghung-ri, Kumya County, South Hamgyong Province, the tree is 26.2 metres round at the base.

It is 42 metres tall and its branches spread 50 metres in diameter.

Yet, freshly green branches and leaves come out so thickly every year that it offers shade over an area of 2 000 square metres.

It annually bears 300kg of

fruits and its fallen leaves weigh two tons.

At the height of 1.5 metres from the root collar, there are two mamillations, or the nipples of ginkgo, which sprout every millennium.

It looks as if a small mountain stands when it is seen from far.

It is preserved as a living monument for its academic and ornamental significance.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

