

Administrative policy illuminates way for overall development in socialist construction

By Kim Rye Yong *PT*

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un clarified the administrative policy of the government at the Fifth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on September 29.

The historic administrative policy is an expression of the firm self-confidence of the Workers' Party of Korea which is determined to bring earlier the brighter future of Korean-style socialism.

At present, Korean socialism is making progress with fresh impetus.

Thanks to the consistent, in-depth and dynamic struggle of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state for increasing the country's own force, the internal motive force, the single-hearted unity between the Party and the people, which is the driving force of socialist construction, has been

cemented remarkably and a series of positive changes distinct from those of the past have taken place in economic construction. And as dynamic efforts have been made to innovate other fields, successes constituting a step forward have been attained to support the prosperity and development of the country.

However, the Korean people are confronted with mountains of obstacles and tasks in their advance towards a new victory in socialist construction.

In his policy speech, General Secretary Kim Jong Un said that the most crucial task facing the government is to prove the new development in the building of Korean-style socialism with practical achievements and substantial changes much waited for and welcomed by the people from the first year in implementing the five-year plan.

It is the WPK's will

to lead the people to a rosier future by further consolidating the popular nature in all fields of state affairs and bringing about fresh innovation, bold creation and steady progress on all fronts of socialist construction.

The seed of the administrative policy is to achieve overall prosperity and development of every sector of socialist construction.

The fresh development in the building of Korean socialism is not confined to certain specific sectors. It is the DPRK's outlook on development that all sections of society, not just a few sections, should be developed.

The administrative policy elucidated in an all-round way the issues arising in achieving the development of all sectors including those of channelling constant efforts into strengthening the political and ideological might, of powerfully promoting the

independent development of the state economy, achieving cultural progress peculiar to rural areas by carrying through the programme on socialist rural construction and making new development commensurate to the image of the country, and of consistently regarding the idea of attaching importance to science and technology as the core national policy and applying it to all fields and sectors. And it set carrying out those issues as the immediate task facing the WPK and the government.

The country is now entering a more urgent and crucial time in its long course of socialist construction.

Encouraged by the General Secretary's policy speech, all the Korean people are filled with a new confidence and resolve to conduct a vigorous struggle to achieve overall development on all fronts of socialist construction.

Land management accounted as prospective undertaking

By Jong Hwa Sun *PT*

The present situation in which calamitous meteorological phenomena are causing huge damage in all parts of the world brings the importance of land management into bolder relief.

In the past ten years, the DPRK has pushed ahead with land management as mid- and long-term undertakings.

Having personally assumed the command of the reforestation campaign, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un aroused the entire population to the campaign and sowed the seeds of creation and innovation throughout the country as he ensured that all buildings and structures were constructed to be flawless even after 50 or 100 years.

Following in his footsteps of devotion, the whole population turned out in land management.

They built tree nurseries in different parts to put tree sapling production on a scientific, industrial and intensive basis and planted trees in large areas, thereby carrying out the first-stage goal of the reforestation campaign. Now, they are engaged in the second stage and turning all mountains of the country into gold and treasure mountains.

Great progress was achieved in the sprucing up of Pyongyang, provincial capitals and other cities and rural villages according to local characteristics and in the management of rivers, roads, railways, coasts and

territorial waters as well as environmental protection and nature conservation.

Through the efforts for turning their hometowns, villages and workplaces into a socialist paradise, people have engraved in their hearts the preciousness of their country and the love for the future and volunteered to become road keepers, trackmen and others so as to join the increasing ranks of patriots who devote their all to the prosperity of the country.

In his speech at the Third Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and his policy speech at the Fifth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, General Secretary Kim Jong Un clarified that all the cities and counties should make their areas remain unperturbed and safe from any natural disasters by pushing forward land management and that the state should push ahead with land and environment conservation as mid- and long-term prospective undertakings.

At present, the country has mapped out an ambitious plan for completing river improvement, afforestation for erosion control, dyke maintenance and tide embankment projects in the main and entering into their regular management and the people are putting spurs to the effort for transforming their local areas into lands of happiness where they will enjoy practical well-being and civilization.

See Feature on p4

FM spokesman: Accusations of developing same weapon system expression of double-standards

Wrong action likely to cause more serious consequences, he warns

KCNA

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK gave the following answer to a question put by the KCNA on October 20 as regards the fact that the US is unreasonably picking a quarrel with the DPRK over its test-firing of a new-type SLBM:

The test-firing of the new-type SLBM by the Academy of Defence Science of the DPRK on October 19 was part of the normal activities for carrying out the medium- and long-term plan for the development of defence science and it did not pose any threat or damage to the security of the neighbouring

countries and region.

This notwithstanding, the spokespersons for the White House and the Department of State and the Indo-Pacific Command described the DPRK's exercise of its legitimate right to self-defence as a "violation of the resolution" of the UNSC and a "threat" to regional peace and stability, and the US is taking such extremely provocative moves as calling for convening an emergency meeting of the UNSC.

It truly concerns us that the US is showing abnormal reactions to the exercise of the right to self-defence proper and just to a sovereign state.

As already clarified, the

DPRK's deterrent does not aim at a specified state or forces but is for preventing the war itself and defending the sovereign rights. And the US and south Korea have been excluded from the list of our arch-enemies.

When doing the recent test-firing we did not have the US in mind nor aim at it, but it is the work which had already been planned purely for the defence of the country. So there is no need for the US to worry or trouble itself over the test-firing.

To criticize the DPRK for developing and test-firing the same weapon system as the one the US possesses or is developing

is a clear expression of double-standards and it only excites our suspicion about the "authenticity" of its statement that it does not antagonize the DPRK.

If the US does not take issue with the DPRK's regular and legitimate exercise of the sovereign right, no tension will be caused on the Korean peninsula. But if the US and its vassal forces persist with opting for a wrong action, it may act as a catalyst for more serious consequences.

We have already expressed strong concern over the fact that the US and the UNSC are tampering with a dangerous "time bomb".

INSIDE



Pobun Hermitage of Mt Ryongak

Related story, p12

Academy of Defence Science succeeds in test-fire of new-type SLBM

The tested submarine-launched ballistic missile incorporates advanced control guidance technologies including flank mobility and pull-up.

KCNA

The Academy of Defence Science of the DPRK test-fired a new-type submarine-launched ballistic missile on October 19.

The test-fire was directed by Yu Jin, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kim Jong Sik, deputy department director of the Munitions

Industry of the WPK Central Committee, and leading officials of the academy.

The academy said that it presented a report of loyalty to the Party Central Committee with pride and honour of succeeding in the test-launch of a new type of SLBM from the same ship August 24 Hero from which the first submarine-launched strategic ballistic missile was successfully launched five

years ago to demonstrate the military muscle of the DPRK.

It clarified that the new-type SLBM incorporating advanced control guidance technologies including flank mobility and pull-up will greatly contribute to putting the defence technology of the country on a high level and to enhancing the underwater operational capability of the navy.



The DPRK Academy of Defence Science conducts a successful test-launch of a new type of SLBM.

Premier inspects industrial sectors in North, South Hamgyong provinces

KCNA

Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, made a field survey of key industrial sectors of North and South Hamgyong provinces.

At the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex and the Chongjin Steel Works, the Premier said that the metal industry plays a very big role in achieving the independent and comprehensive development of the national economy and discussed economic and technical issues for putting production on a normal footing and expanding capacity.

He underscored the

need for the iron and steel works to scientifically manage equipment for the sustainable growth of iron and steel production, to push ahead with the work of putting production lines on an intensive basis and to step up the construction of an energy-efficient iron blast furnace.

After acquainting himself with production at the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, the February 8 Vinalon Complex and the Chongjin Chemical Fibre Mill, he called for pressing ahead with technical remodelling and producing plenty of basic chemicals needed for different economic sectors including agriculture and light and pharmaceutical industries.

Looking round the Jangjingang Power Station, he pointed to the need to reinforce hydraulic structures and overhaul generators in a qualitative way and ensure the stability of power production by securing water in a proper way.

The field consultative meetings stressed it was important for North and South Hamgyong and other industrial provinces to turn out in thoroughly implementing the tasks set forth in the administrative policy of the government, calling for heightening officials' sense of responsibility and increasing their role.

In addition, the Premier learned about the farming situation in Kumya County, the modernization of the grain-processing line of the Kowon County food administration station and the recovery from flood damage in Sinhung County.

HOME NEWS

KCNA

Nationwide Winter wheat, barley sowing finished

The sowing of winter wheat and barley has been completed across the DPRK.

Farmers in Pyongyang increased the area for sowing wheat and barley by 1.8 times.

Kangwon, North and South Phyongan, Jagang and North and South Hamgyong provinces and Nampho City have provided a guarantee for producing good yields in all the fields.

GFSTK Presentation of welding field held online

A national sci-tech presentation of the welding field took place from October 12 to 15.

Sponsored by the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea, the

event brought together lecturers, researchers, postgraduate students, field technicians and members of three-revolution teams from over 10 units, who presented 60 papers. During the presentation there was a lecture on the trend of development and prospect of laser welding technology.

Power industry Material, technical foundations consolidated

The thermal power generation sector further consolidates material and technical foundations for electricity production.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex pushed the readjustment and reinforcement of generating facilities to produce materials needed for the maintenance and repair of equipment.

Similar achievements were also made at Pyongyang, Chongchongang, East Pyongyang and Suncheon thermal power stations.

Jagang Yearly cocoon production plan fulfilled

Jagang Province has overfulfilled its yearly cocoon production plan by 2 percent.

Its several cities and counties applied efficient silkworm-raising methods including the low-temperature disinfection of silkworm eggs and multiple sericulture and took measures to cope with unfavourable weather conditions, thereby increasing the weight of each cocoon.

Pyongyang Irrigation system for vegetable farming completed

Farms in Pyongyang have installed irrigation facilities in several thousand hectares of fields and newly built or repaired hundreds of pumping stations so as to increase vegetable production in a sustainable way despite the continued extreme weather conditions like drought and intense heat.



The Defence Development Exhibition Self-Defence 2021 draws lots of visitors day after day. It closed on October 22.

FACTORY BUILDS UP ITS OWN TECHNICAL FORCES



The Ryongsong Disabled Soldiers' Injection-moulded Boots Factory puts primary efforts into boosting the capacity of employees to turn out various types of boots.

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Ryongsong Disabled Soldiers' Injection-moulded Boots Factory has recently won the title of the thrice model technical innovation unit.

"Our factory has completely switched to the mode of production based on recycling. We keep the quality of goods on a par with that of the products which were registered as February 2 Products," said manager Kim Yun Hwan.

More than 80 percent

of its employees have finished courses of regular universities, colleges under the study-while-you-work system or online courses at different universities or are enrolled at colleges. They form the backbone of its own technical forces.

They have so far conceived and introduced 21 new technical innovation plans since last year.

"Our production processes require specialists of different areas. For example, as we use polymer plastic as a raw material, we should

have chemical engineers, those specializing in the production of essential plastic goods, mechanical engineers, electricians and information engineers. So our factory selected some able employees to enrol them in a special education system," said senior engineer Han Jong Su.

The field technicians who graduated from Hamhung University of Chemical Industry are playing a pivotal role. They ensured the recycling of plastic waste to solve the knottiest problem of plasticizer in producing

injection-moulded boots.

The employees who obtained qualifications as engineers and specialists solved lots of technical problems including the development and application of a support program for evenly pouring suitable quantities of melts into the dies of injection moulding machines within prescribed time, the remodelling of moving blades of a plastic waste and fibre separator and the introduction of a vibrating body into an inclined screw for removing impurities.

New nano-cloth put into wider use

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

The applied nano-technology institute of the nano-engineering branch of the State Academy of Sciences has recently developed a hydrophobic antibiotic nano-cloth.

"It is a current worldwide trend in the textile industry to develop functional textile products with such effects as antibiosis, prevention of

electric charge, conductivity, infrared radiation, thermal insulation and ultraviolet screening by using nano-materials and applied nanotechnology," said developer Jong Un Sun, section chief of the institute, adding the hydrophobic antibiotic nano-cloth is an outcome of the rapid development of nanotechnology.

According to her, the new nano-cloth has various

advantages. Since its antibiotic resistance to *Staphylococcus citreus* and *Escherichia coli* is almost 100 percent, the new cloth can be widely applied in the production of surgical robes and white gowns in the health sector as well as the foodstuff and cosmetics industries.

Its hydrophobicity makes it effective in preventing pollution from water

and providing a clean environment at car washes and fishing stations and other places that use much water.

The new material can be also used in the production of different kinds of consumer goods like umbrella, suit and raincoat.

It was registered as a high-tech product last year, and now the popularity of and demand for the nano-cloth are constantly rising.

Following the road of patriotism

DEVELOPER OF A SALT PRODUCTION METHOD BASED ON UNDERGROUND ULTRA-BRINE WATER



Kim Ryong Hung, section chief of Kim Il Sung University

Now the term 'underground ultra-brine water' is in our people's everyday vocabulary and the salt produced with it is used in many fields, but it was nothing more than a conception until some ten years ago, said Kim Ryong Hung, section chief of Kim Il Sung University.

At that time Kim saw an article about salt production based on underground ultra-brine, a high-concentration underground water, in an international scientific journal.

Though it was appealing at first sight, it was an unfamiliar area for the authority on marine geology. And he had never heard about the existence of underground ultra-brine in the country.

In the course of intensifying the study of relevant literature he found that the salt production based on the water could boost hectare production two to five times and purity as well, while markedly decreasing the area of salt pans and production cycle as compared with the sun-drying method.

He put forward a scientific hypothesis that underground ultra-brine might exist in Korea which is bounded by the sea on its three sides and delved into the long historical process of the formation and evolution of the West Sea of Korea to prove it.

And he slopped through muddy places against gusty wind from the rough sea for over 40 kilometres a day in search of watercourse deep underground.

In the course of this, he discovered underground ultra-brine for the first time at a salt works.

Many were sceptical before boring was conducted. But he did not waver.

When high-concentration ultra-brine

spouted out of the depths of over 20 metres, the research group cried for joy.

"It was not once or twice that I admired the firm faith of the chief which is based on his own ability and Juche-oriented viewpoint and way of thinking," said a researcher of the department.

Chairman Kim Jong Il on his visit to Kim Il Sung University in April 2010 listened over again to the explanation about the development of underground ultra-brine advanced by Kim Ryong Hung and the research group, praised it as a good idea and solved problems arising in the research project.

Afterwards the development of underground ultra-brine was carried on in earnest and he came to form a close bond with salt works across the country.

As he explored many places in working clothes impregnated with salt, rain or snow, for over a decade, he established a new method of developing underground ultra-brine for the first time in the country, made a distribution chart of underground ultra-brine layers and developed a portable underground ultra-brine prospecting instrument.

The achievements of the research group have been introduced into different salt works to bring benefits.

A few years ago, General Secretary Kim Jong Un of the Workers' Party of Korea visited a salt production place where he conducted research and was very pleased to say that producing salt with underground ultra-brine water is like digging white gold out of earth.

Kim Ryong Hung keeps on searching the way to make salt production intensive and mechanize and modernize it.

Country develops into socialist paradise

By **Jong Hwa Sun** PT

A remarkable change brought about in the appearance of the country in the past decade is that its land has been enlarged.

The Korean people reclaimed the vast stretches of tidal flats that had remained idle for ages in North Phyongan and South Hwanghae provinces to expand farmland by building dykes across the rough West Sea of Korea.

More than 13 000 hectares of new land appeared in the places where there was the sea with the completion of the large-scale Honggondo tideland reclamation project stretching from Ansan-ri of Tongnim County to Sinmi Island of Sonchon County in North Phyongan Province and the Ryongmaedo tideland reclamation project from Sinsaeng-ri to Sinphung-ri of Chongdan County in South Hwanghae Province. Broad ring roads were constructed along the solidly-built embankments extending far and a boundless expanse

of cropland and breeding grounds for seafood and seaweed were built in an orderly manner.

A waterway project, which has been the largest so far in the gravity-fed irrigation network of the country, was also completed in South Hwanghae Province.

With the completion of the very long waterway threading through mountains and fields in the section between Pongchon and Chongdan counties and Ryongmae Island in the province and a large artificial lake, it has become able to sufficiently irrigate tens of thousands of hectares of farmland and Ryongmaedo tideland, produce high and safe yields by preventing damage from drought and flood, develop fish farming and provide the people with pleasant cultural recreation.

The capital city of Pyongyang witnessed the mushrooming of beautiful, distinctive streets, industrial establishments for improving the people's livelihood, modern medical service bases and cultural recreation

areas. Local areas also underwent a sea change.

The Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station rose up, the City of Samjiyon in Ryanggang Province unfolded a superb view leaving no trace of the past, a wonderful hot spring resort came into being in Yangdok where hot spring water had flowed idly since time immemorial and a holiday camp appeared for scientists and technicians on the picturesque shore of Lake Yonphung. A large-scale vegetable greenhouse farm was built to supply various kinds of vegetables to people in a northern area all season and the Koam-Tapchon railway was constructed over the waters of the East Sea of Korea as the first marine railway of the country. And new modern villages sprang up in different areas which were heavily hit by flood and typhoon in recent years.

The DPRK undergoes changes with each passing day in the face of all hardships and trials to realize all dreams and ideals of the people.

10 years of land management, amazing transformation



A bird's eye view of the reclaimed section of Ryongmaedo tideland.

'This is our home village'



From left: Unsan county town in North Phyongan Province undergoes facelift; two women tend turfs on the roof of the Unsan County Schoolchildren's Hall.

By **Yun Kyong Il** PT

Unsan County in North Phyongan Province is surrounded by high and low mountains on all sides and has a dense network of rivers. Therefore, it was prone to flooding in the rainy season and the local people would blame the mountains and rivers and were always envious of lowland people. But now all these became a thing of the past.

According to Ri Tok Jun, vice-chairman of the county

people's committee, they began to pay close attention to land management when the county suffered from a catastrophic flood in July eight years ago.

At that time, the embankments collapsed after more than 470mm of heavy rain came and thus the county was literally turned into ruins.

After experiencing the disaster, the locals pledged to build rock-firm banks so that such a tragedy would not happen again.

Strong embankments were built in different parts of the county including the county town which is located at the joining place of the Kuryong River and the Uhyon River, with the result that they gathered a rich harvest by reclaiming large acreages which had been lost in disasters.

The thousands-of-metre-long embankment of the Kuryong River became more than two metres higher than before and a 12-metre-wide road bypassing the county

town was built on it.

The county upgrades eight kilometres of roads every year according to a prospective plan.

In the course of this, it has improved many roads and passes, especially those in the county town and the Unsan-Hyangsan, Unsan-Pakchon and Sakju-Kujang roads.

The multi-storey houses and public buildings in unique styles stand in rows along the roads stretching out straight and evenly and new species of turf, various

kinds of roadside trees, flowerpot stands and flower beds bedecked with flowers in different colours add charm to the changed looks of the county.

The general view of the county town is as graceful as a picture.

It has cultural and welfare facilities including a gymnasium, schoolchildren's hall and youth park as well as nicely furnished primary and senior middle schools.

The Unsan County Catfish Farm takes advantage of

the county's rich hot spring resources to produce catfish that contributes to enriching local people's diet.

In August last year the county got a heavy rain which was almost three times as much as the one eight years ago, but the firm embankment remained unperturbed.

"As we build our liveable place by our own efforts, we no longer envy the lowlands or cities. This is our home village," said a resident of the county.

Songchon County benefits from land administration

By **Jong Chol** PT

Songchon County, South Phyongan Province, which is located in the middle of the DPRK, enjoys benefits from land administration.

Flood damage in the county was incurable as the county is surrounded by the Piryu and other large and small rivers some ten years ago. Every year, the county suffered damage from flood.

"We launched a gigantic nature-harnessing project to control nature and to protect ourselves by building firm banks," said Ju Chang Ryol, deputy department director of the county people's committee.

The county worked scrupulously to undertake a river improvement project for thoroughly preventing damage from flood and protecting the cropland in line with the characteristics of the county adjoining the Piryu

River.

First of all, it carried out afforestation for erosion

control and embankment projects from the starting points of rivers.



From top left clockwise: Songchon County Hall of Culture; dwelling houses in the shape of tobacco leaves in Songchon County of South Phyongan Province.

"While building over 450km-long banks by strenuously pushing ahead with river improvement projects including digging up river-beds and banking in the past ten-odd years, we have improved well over a hundred hectares of cold and humid land and restored farmland to its original state," said Ju Chang Ryol.

The county steadily pushes forward with reforestation and afforestation projects.

Kim Song Hyok, chief engineer of the Songchon County Forestry Management Station, said that the county built a modern parent nursery to annually produce well over ten million tree saplings.

The county also steps up the construction of dwelling houses to turn it into a socialist fairyland.

It built nearly 90 blocks of apartment houses for over 1 700 households in the township and about 200

homes for rural families and newly built or reconstructed dozens of public buildings in the recent three years, including apartment houses in the shape of tobacco leaves to remind viewers of that it is a tobacco-growing area, in the county seat and farm villages.

Today, Songchon County is making strenuous efforts to achieve the independent and diversified development of the county.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

30 years of development in Juche-oriented fine art showcased



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Visitors watch works of fine arts at the national art exhibition.

By Pak Yong Il PT

A national art exhibition is now running on after being opened at the Okryu Exhibition Hall on the banks of the picturesque Taedong River in Pyongyang to mark the 30th anniversary of the publication of Chairman Kim Jong Il's work *On Fine Art*.

Not only fine art experts and fans, but also working and other young people visit it in succession.

In his classic work *On Fine Art*, which was published on October 16 1991, Chairman Kim Jong Il generalized and systematized the idea of building the Juche-oriented fine art, theory of representation and method of creating fine art in an integral way.

The fine art of the DPRK has made great progress since the publication of the immortal work.

On display at the venue of the exhibition are lots of excellent works showcasing the development aspect of the Korean-style fine art.

Korean jewel painting "Saying it is nice to have originated jewel painting" and Korean painting "To make Korean painting 'The evening glow over Kangson' a masterpiece of the times" which are hanging at the centre of the venue depict the undying exploits performed by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il for the development of

Juche fine art with refined techniques and unique portrayal.

"Lots of masterpieces which correctly reflect the aspirations of the times and the people's demands and win favour of the people have been created under the meticulous care of the Chairman. His immortal classic work made it possible for the Korean painting to enter the road of development," says Hong Song Gwan, People's Artist at the Mansudae Art Studio.

"People say that I have unusual talent. However, what little success I have made as an artist of a new generation is the outcome of my steady efforts to do as the Chairman taught in the work, I think," said Ri Ju Song of the North Hamgyong provincial art studio.

Eye-catchers also include Korean paintings "Blizzards of Mt Paektu", "Bugle call of 7th Regiment", "An echo of a new Korea" and "My song in the trench" and oil paintings "Winter in 1938", "The Hwanghae iron and steel works springing up on debris" and "Daughters of the Workers' Party of Korea".

Other works based on realities also deeply impress visitors as they show in a variety of themes and vivid details the looks of the Korean people who are advancing vigorously towards a new victory overcoming manifold difficulties and trials.

Exhibition features fresh progress in industrial design

By Ri Sung Ik PT

A national industrial design exhibition in celebration of the 76th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea was opened on October 6.

The exhibition on the theme of "Our style, our strength and our effort" features over 110 pieces of designs that were highly appreciated at nationwide events this year, more than 800 pieces of various designs, products and models presented by industrial art production units at central and provincial levels, and artists, lecturers, researchers, students and amateurs from industrial establishments and educational institutions.

The event, which is expected to go on until early November, is attracting the interest of experts and others.

The most noticeable items on show are designs of a 110-horsepower tractor, 15-ton truck, multifunctional

tractor, self-loading truck and electric car in the heavy industrial designs section and those of a small bicycle, street-cleaning bicycle,

water-saving washing machine and different types of shoes and bags for men and women in the light industrial designs section.

Also on display were architectural designs for the layouts of Haegumgang Hotel which looks like a sailingboat and a 4-D cinema,

architectural decoration of terraced houses, inflatable amusement facilities and others and decoration designs for flower parks.

More than 3 170 pieces of items in 112 kinds are exhibited in the products section.

They include new styles of smart and elegant clothes, shoes and bags among many others, but the most eye-catching are quality furniture pieces which were designed to save space.

"It seems to me that the

designs will be realized in the not too distant future. They are really wonderful. The time will soon come when any idea or design can become reality," said Kim Myong Sil, worker at the Sosong District public service station.

"I looked round the exhibition hall with interest and surprise, hope and conviction," said So Sok Chol, worker at the Phyongchon District Water Supply and Drainage System Management Station.



Students examine designs and miniatures at the national industrial design exhibition.



JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Interactive visual aids applied to teaching

By Kil Chung Il PT

Teachers of a school have come up with electronic visual aids in an effort to use every space of school for facilitating students' study.

"Our school has dozens of visual aids on the walls of corridors. We thought that 'interactive visual aids' would be very helpful to developing students' cognitive faculties," said Kim Song Chol, principal of Jungsin Senior Middle School in Sosong District, Pyongyang.

Last year, its teachers analysed the cognitive effects of visual aids on students. The analysis showed that they were effective for freshers, but not so productive for students in the second and

third years as the aids were already familiar to them.

This prompted the teachers to make visual aids which give students fresh feelings and interest and allow them to have direct communication with the aids.

They included in a visual aid the synthesis of contents of each subject of each year or the synthesis of related contents on the principle of optimization, while designing them in such a way as to change the content on a constant basis.

The other principle they adhered to in designing them was to stimulate students' interest and get them to develop their cognitive faculties as much as possible while operating and experiencing the aids.

Thus, they devised several



RA PHYONG RYOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Electronic visual aids help students consolidate what they learn in classes at Jungsin Senior Middle School in Sosong District, Pyongyang.

forms of visual aids, including the one that allows students to listen to questions, choose answers and get marks, the one with buttons that are pressed to know what the users are specially interested in, the audio-visual one and the other one that enables students to consolidate what they learnt at school through

operation and experiencing like in physics.

The periodic table in the chemistry hall is seen through a TV screen.

Students press "education" or "test" button to learn about any chemical elements or test themselves as they listen to recorded materials and see images.

The contents of visual aids are changed periodically with the alteration of the contents of RAM.

"The electronic visual aids has also enabled students to recognize the usefulness of recycling by practice. Because lots of used electronics devices and elements collected by them as

well as by teachers were used in making the visual aids," said section chief Ho Yong Ho. "The utilization rate of visual aids has jumped since we displayed the electronic visual aids."

The school's interactive visual aids are widely being generalized through a nationwide demonstration.

Girl endowed with creative talent

By Pang Un Ju PT

Kim Il Mi, a third-year student of the junior course at Pyongyang Music School No. 2, came first in the recent major artistry presentation of the school again after last year.

It was the unanimous verdict of the judges that the 13-year-old girl is a perfect reserve singer as she not only flawlessly sang her compulsory and prepared songs with her clean and soft voice and rich volume, but also is pretty and has an attractive figure.

According to Jon Song I, a vocal music instructor, Il Mi majors in popular song, but she plays the piano as nicely as those who major in piano and her forte is impromptu accompaniment.

"I came to see the songs written and composed by her when I visited her house, and I was very surprised. The words of the songs were poetic and the melodies were diverse and distinctive. I wanted to cultivate her creative talent," said Kim Ryon Suk, head of the philology and literature department.

Il Mi is very good at finding

out interesting subjects in ordinary life and expressing them in poetic rhythms, Kim said, adding that such literary talent was nurtured in her primary school years.

According to Kim Sun Ok, her mother, Il Mi was so sensitive to music that she played the piano well, enjoyed reading and kept interesting diaries of what she saw and felt when she was a kindergartener and she only thought that her daughter was a good girl. But her primary school teacher Ri Hyang Ok discovered the natural aptitude of her daughter for music and literature and taught her the knack of expressing her thought and feelings in simple poetic words and melodies to suit the juvenile mind, she added.

She produced a variety of songs including the one which sings that our country is the best as it is led by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who blesses the Children's Union members throughout the country wishing they would study hard and become masters of the prosperous country and shows boundless love for them and the one

which sings her great joy of having received a stylish Sonamu-brand satchel and quality school things. The songs impressively sang of her excitement and joy she experienced and felt in her school life.

They include lyric songs, marches including "The

Proud Korean Children's Union" and those with merry folk melodies.

Il Mi dreams of becoming a good singer and creator.

In May, she sent the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un a collection of her eight songs "My Earnest Desire".



Kim Il Mi plays the piano in the concert hall of Pyongyang Music School No. 2.

Newly developed devices promote education

By Sin Pyol PT

The high-tech products development institute under Kim Chol Ju University of Education has developed a mobile three-dimensional image virtual display and a general meteorological information measuring device which are helpful to education.

Generally, TV, goggles, program and material are needed to show images in a three-dimensional way.

But the 3D image virtual display can show three-dimensional images virtually without 3D TV, giving lifelike representation of them to students.

"Research into using the 3D image virtual display based on the principle of light reflection in education has been encouraged and the display widely introduced into educational practice worldwide. At present, various means including four-face virtual display are introduced and generalized," said Jong Se Yong, director of the institute.

But as the four-face virtual display is an immovable object, it is inconvenient to use in any place.

So, the institute made a mobile three-dimensional image virtual display which can be used in any lecture room and show not only 3D images but also ordinary multimedia presentations.

To produce marked 3D effects, researchers darkened the brightness of the surroundings by focusing on providing a stark contrast to images and used opaque material for side glass.

The institute also designed and made the ultrasonic meteorological information measuring device for educational purposes.

"Unlike the previous wind direction and speed measuring devices, the new device can correctly measure the wind speed and direction by precisely calculating the time required for the transmission of supersonic waves that change minutely according to the wind speed with the help of one-chip computer," said Kim Hyang Song, section chief of the institute.

The mobile three-dimensional image virtual display and general meteorological information measuring device were registered as national inventions in 2019.

With

great devotion to their duty

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Our hospital has restored lots of children to health over the past eight years since its inauguration, said Ri Kwang Chon, deputy director for technical affairs of the Okryu Children's Hospital.

Such a remarkable achievement is attributable to the intense, selfless devotion of health workers

of this hospital. They regard it as an iron rule to bring to life any patient without fail and nurse them back to health.

It was not long ago when eight-month-old Kim Kun Phyoung in Waudu District, Nampho City, was committed to the hospital. The baby's health was worse than it had been when they consulted through telemedicine.

A consultative meeting

of doctors was held immediately, an emergency treatment group formed and a life-saving surgical operation performed.

The hours-long operation was successful, but it was just the beginning of a treatment campaign to bring the baby back to life.

Health workers studied the ever-changing vital signs of the patient day and night and continued the intensive treatment day by day.

"It was really unbelievable when my son whom I thought would be dead came back to life. To save my son modern medical treatment facilities were unsparingly used, expensive drugs continued to be injected into his body and medical workers mounted an intensive treatment campaign. He has been reborn at the Okryu Children's Hospital," said Ri Hyon Ju, mother of Kun Phyoung, when he finally

recovered his health.

Whenever I see little patients who are taken to hospital in emergency as severest cases, I first think what I should do if they were my children. Such a thought gives me new ideas or ways of treatment when I give them medical treatment," said Mun Jong Sun, a doctor at the department of neurology.

In mid-March a three-month-old child was taken

to the neurology department of the hospital with cranial cerebral haemorrhage.

The patient had deformity in the vein and jaundice in the whole body with respiration in the wing of the nose due to four to five complications of pneumonia, anaemia and others, breathing the last breath.

Health workers formed a theoretical treatment plan to save the child and launched a treatment campaign while injecting drugs and helping it produce bile. They continuously injected a large amount of plasma to treat anaemia, patted its back all night and cleared its throat of phlegm.

Their devotion bore fruit: four days later the child's pneumonia symptoms were relieved and after ten days all the vital signs returned to normal.

"We only wanted to convey the loving care of the Workers' Party of Korea that spares nothing for the good of the children," say the medical workers of the hospital whenever they receive greetings of thanks from the parents of patients and many other people for their devoted efforts.



Medical workers do their utmost to improve young patients' health at the Okryu Children's Hospital.



CHAE MYONG RIM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

New medical appliances introduced into dental treatment

By Ri Myong Jun PT

Our hospital has developed new medical appliances and introduced them into clinical practice, said So Yong Chang, deputy director of the Ryugyong Dental Hospital.

According to him, the hospital has developed and applied to medical service dozens of appliances including dental implant treatment apparatuses and gingival vibrator and sonic canal washer which are conducive to improving the quality of dental treatment.

A variety of appliances are used in the process of dental implantation which involves implanting an artificial tooth in the jawbone and applying dental prosthesis with the implant as a pillar.

The hospital has applied the new implant apparatuses in clinical practice, which helped improve the curative effects, lessen the physical stress on patients and shorten the treatment period.

These appliances are simple in structure and convenient to use and their manufacturing cost is lower than the imported ones.

The hospital has also made a drill for harvesting alveolar bones, hand-operated spanners, among other medical appliances.

Patients usually feel fear and uneasiness when they are anesthetized and some even complain of pains and get surprised at the moment of anesthesia, said Pyon Suk Yong, doctor at the hospital. She added that the gingival vibrator relieves pain when anesthetics are

injected and lets patients positively respond to the treatment and, accordingly, increases the curative effectiveness.

The sonic canal washer combines sonic vibration and manual washing to improve the washing efficiency, shorten the time of treatment and increase the success rate of endodontic treatment.

A total of over 400 000 patients received dental treatments at the hospital in the past eight years since its inauguration.

Ri Jong Bom living in Pothonggang District of Pyongyang was diagnosed with spondylitis ankylopoietica caused by rheumatism at the age of 20 and spent five years bedridden.

But he became able to rise up thanks to the medical workers of the massage treatment department of the Pyongyang Municipal Koryo Medicine Hospital.

With remarkable prowess at traditional medicine, they grasped detailed information about the case's disease and enabled him to sit up by himself in three months by dint of massage treatment, to walk by himself after five months and run just like ordinary people in one year.

"The secret is not



RYANG KUM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A dentist applies prosthesis on a patient at the Ryugyong Dental Hospital.

Hospital works to promote traditional medicine

By Kil Chung Il PT

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"The secret is not

attributable to any mysterious medicine. I simply got the knack of physiology of human body and Koryo medicine and made the most of them," said Kwon Tok Sang, department chief who is called a "doctor with mysterious hands" by patients.

Pak Yong Ae, chief of the gynaecology department, also excels in treatment, winning favour with patients.

She completely cures hysteromyoma that presupposes operation in many cases by combining traditional Korean medicine with moxibustion and acupuncture.

And she successfully cures such diseases as toxemia of pregnancy and postpartum diseases peculiar to women by using the method.



Special dishes, good environment delight diners

Popular dishes of restaurant

By Kim Rye Yong PT

The Okryu Restaurant, the best one of the cateries in the DPRK, has won greater fame for its Delicacy House.

Terrapin, sturgeon, quail, *sinsollo* and other rare and world-famous dishes are served in this restaurant and the number of dishes amounts to over 100.

Its well-experienced and skilful cooks prepare tasty dishes flawlessly to give delight to diners.

Terrapin dishes are diverse in kind including broth, stew, hard-boiled foods, fries and gruel, and they satisfy different tastes and nutritive value according to their processing methods.

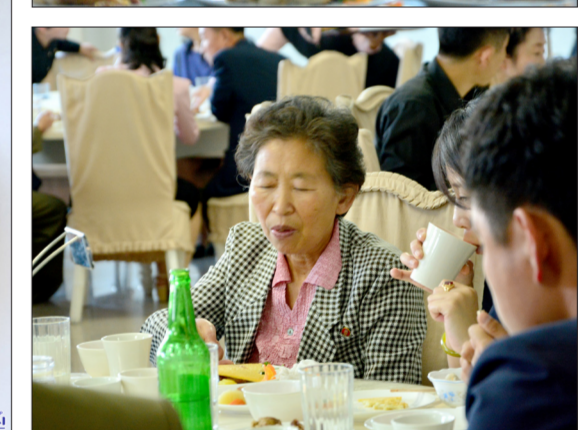
"The main thing in preparing terrapin dishes is to remove unpleasant taste and ensure good flavouring. We are trying to preserve the original features of the dishes, while using subsidiary materials in a rational way according to different processing methods of broth, stew and hard-boiled meat," said O Su Bong, chef specializing in cooking terrapin dishes.

Terrapin broth, steamed terrapin and hard-boiled terrapin made with a whole terrapin or prepared by quartering it are a must for diners, together with terrapin blood liquor which has been regarded as a tonic since olden times.

Cook Ri Mun Thae said that cold boiled sturgeon is highly demanded by seasoning sturgeon chips with flavourings and spices, wrapping them in cellophane paper before steaming and freezing.



The Delicacy House under Okryu Restaurant serves special dishes made from terrapins and sturgeons.



Dark society where virtue, affection wither away

By Cha Hye Gyong



Cha Hye Gyong

Respecting and taking good care of the elderly and holding them up as seniors of the family and society are noble virtue and universal ethics of human society.

Contrary phenomena, however, are widespread in Japanese society where the aged are subjected to maltreatment, contempt and abuse, far from receiving deserved attention and care of the family and society. They are thus spending the remaining years of their lives in misery, misfortunes and sufferings, prompting public astonishment.

News are breaking on shocking crimes, which are

on her sick mother's back and breaks her ribs to death", and "A 95-year-old mother and 71-year-old daughter-in-law commit suicide together in Niigata Prefecture".

According to information available, nearly 6,500 people aged over 65 committed suicide in 2018 alone.

It is no mere coincidence that the Japanese media reported that it is becoming a household phrase among the aged that "life in retirement is tantamount to a period of reprieve".

A dark society is not something abstract. It is the society bereft of love, virtue and affection toward humans, where human beings are turning bestial, being reduced to the

slaves of capital.

The rampant practices of all hues of crimes and immorality and depravity in Japan are attributable to the anti-popular policy of its government, and these are the inevitable products of a corrupt society where extreme hatred of human beings and selfishness are omnipresent.

All these are only magnifying scepticism about the true meaning of "freedom, democracy and respect for human rights" hyped so much by Japan in the international arena.

The author is researcher at the Institute for Studies of Japan of the DPRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs

VIEW

Racial discrimination deep-rooted malignant tumour of American society

Still vivid in the memories of people is the incident where a black man named George Floyd in his forties was forced to meet miserable death with his neck being pressed by the knee of a white policeman in Minnesota of the United States in late May 2020.

"I can't breathe"—these are the last words George Floyd cried before dying, and these words are still resounding as an outcry from the anti-racism protesters and as a synonym for laying bare the true picture of deep-rooted racist system in the US.

Yet again much to the public consternation, another fact has recently been disclosed. The officials of the fire department and the white policemen in New York City exchanged cellphone messages when anti-racism demonstrations were going on in all parts of the US in the wake of the murdering of Floyd. In the messages, they despised and mocked black people.

According to the recent issue of *The New York Times*, the messages were about the discussion between high-ranking officials of the fire department on the option of throwing water at the demonstrators with fire hose, and some mocked the demonstrators, saying "this option will not be effective, 'cause wild animals like water."

And a white policeman said "I am pleased, 'cause I can legally blast black children", and he even said that he would not get paid for it.

More alarming is the fact that as black firefighters protested at it, high-

ranking officials of the fire department suspended them from their duties for days and even six months, and didn't pay wages.

This is a typical example revealing the true picture of extreme racial discrimination in American society where black people are treated as animals.

The practices of deep-rooted racial discrimination are rampant also in the sector of education.

Seventy-five percent of famous universities in the US have now established a system whereby preference is given to the applicants for entrance exam in case one of their parents is a graduate of one of these universities. But, its beneficiaries are practically the children of rich whites.

More to the point as an example, the probability of entering Harvard University by those applicants who benefit from the said system is six times higher than normal applicants. In case of Yale University, the number of students who matriculated during the fall semester of 2021 owing to this system has reportedly reached as many as 14%.

The number of high school graduates among American blacks and Latinos is far less than the whites.

The high-ranking officials of the US government have once officially admitted that the elements of discrimination based on the racial origins of students run deep in the education sector.

This is the actual feature of the United States which is decaying by the extreme hate, contempt and racism.

Audiovisual heritage provides window to world



Choe Ok Gyong
Department chief of the Grand People's Study House

Many things of the past are handed down to younger generations through audiovisual materials including audio and video recordings.

Conserving the valuable source of knowledge reflecting political events, scientific achievements and human life is of great importance.

For instance, through the audiovisual documents, the present generations hear the voices of people from the past and see their life and achievements with their own eyes and understand the world of those times.

Audiovisual heritage provides a window to the

past and the world.

Therefore, UNESCO included the protection of audiovisual heritage in the Memory of the World Programme and strives to increase international and national interest in it.

As part of the effort, it set October 27 as the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage, when it conducts various activities to raise general awareness of the importance of audiovisual documents and to attract social interest in the matters arising in the protection of audiovisual heritage objects.

Today, many cultural heritage elements are reduced to ashes as a result of aggression and

destruction committed worldwide under all sorts of reasons such as regional and religious disputes, coups, "counter-terrorism" and even "democracy" and "humanitarianism", and among them are audiovisual documents.

The reality clearly shows that the protection of audiovisual heritage is not confined to technical matters but requires national and international efforts.

The DPRK has put it forward as a state policy to preserve and manage valuable cultural heritage objects of the nation since Korea's liberation and paid much attention to it.

The National Archive,

the National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage and some other government organizations are dedicated to the responsible work for protecting and managing the valuable cultural wealth in a well-organized work system, and the science and education sectors and the mass media are assisting their work.

The month for the protection of national heritage was set and the conservation and management of cultural heritage objects and documents is encouraged throughout society as a patriotic work.

In the meantime, the country promotes exchange and cooperation with international organizations including UNESCO and other countries.

BYWORD

My workplace

Korean workers love their jobs and call the place where they work "my workplace".

They feel great pride and joy in that their labour contributes to the country's

prosperity and the people's well-being and, therefore, think that how they do their work is more important than what they do where.

That is why those who put down roots in difficult

and labour-consuming workplaces, where others hesitate to go, and devote their whole life sincerely and unassumingly, earn the respect of all, and many of them become heroes and

labour innovators.

Often seen at factories and enterprises in the DPRK are the slogan "If you want to know my thought, look at my workplace, my machine and my products".

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Briefly

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Palestine

Mahmud Abbas censures Israel's occupational policy

Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas in a meeting with entrepreneurs of the country on October 17 referred to the fact that the situation in the West Bank, East al-Quds and the Gaza Strip is getting unbearable due to Israel's aggressive moves, and asserted that a measure should be taken as soon as possible to put an end to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory.

That day, the Palestinian foreign minister requested the UN Security Council to hold an emergency meeting concerning Israel's expansion of Jewish settlements in Palestine.

China

Representative to UN demands non-interference

The permanent representative of China to the United Nations, addressing a recent meeting of the UN Security Council, appealed for support to the developing countries' struggle for safeguarding unity and achieving development and against interference from outside forces.

All children of the country enjoy state benefits before their birth and the country has developed the pharmaceutical industry to manufacture many kinds of biological medicines. In the past 60 years, it made notable successes in preventing infectious diseases including infantile paralysis, meningitis, influenza and typhoid.

Great efforts have been channelled into the development of sports, with the result that Cuba's sports have reached a high level that is incomparable with that before the revolution.

Meanwhile, it inherits and develops national cultural heritage to meet the ideology and emotion of the people.

The culture of Cuba has many development potentials.

Iran

Navy rescues oiler from pirates

The Iranian navy beat off pirates' attack on its oil tanker and ensured its safety in the Gulf of Aden on October 16.

In recent years, Iran has protected vessels of different countries from pirates on over 300 occasions by dispatching warships to the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden.

Afghanistan

Bomb attacks kill dozens

According to a foreign media report, a bomb attack caused many casualties in Kandahar, Afghanistan, on October 15.

The explosion occurred in the middle of a Friday prayer meeting at a mosque, killing over 40 people and wounding 70.

Germany

Climate change affects most of world population

German scientists made a comprehensive map showing the situation of global climate change by using a new technology and more than 100,000 pieces of information on climate.

According to the map, 85 percent of the world population live in the regions which are directly affected by climate change.

JAPAN THREATENS GLOBAL PEACE, STABILITY



Choe Yong Nam
Columnist for Japanese affairs

Shortly ago, Japan conducted a take-off and landing test of latest stealth fighter F-35B after remodelling escort ship *Izumo* into an aircraft carrier. Its Defence Ministry announced a plan to transform another escort ship *Kaga* into an aircraft carrier.

It is a latest move of Japan in its

desperate bid to realize the wild ambition for overseas expansion.

Although Japan advertises that the remodelling of *Izumo* is aimed at containing China's advance to the ocean, it is a mere trick to cover up its ambition for overseas expansion. It can be said that starting from the same aim, it recently dispatched the

patrol planes of the Maritime Self-Defence Force to the sea off Somalia under the pretext of coping with pirates.

Japan which is going wild to realize the ambition for overseas expansion has already overstepped the mark in its military moves.

It is hell-bent on importing sophisticated weapons in large numbers and developing and introducing new offensive military hardware. It also tries to organize missile- and space-related units and equip them with up-to-date hardware, while running amuck with beefing up its naval and air

forces through the building of various kinds of warships and remodelling of fighter jets.

Its current constitution stipulates the renunciation of war and combat capacity.

It is so natural that the international community aspiring after peace and stability expresses great concern over the fact that it has already possessed military strength on a par with big powers and is making desperate attempts at overseas expansion.

The reality clearly shows who really disturbs regional and global peace and stability.

Developing culture of Cuba

To mark the day of culture of Cuba, Min Chol explores the potential of the island nation

By Min Chol PT

October 20 is the day of culture of Cuba.

The Cuban people spend the day significantly every year.

In the past, Cuba made great progress in the cultural field.

Before its revolutionary victory in 1959, over a million people were illiterate among the 6.5 million Cuban population, and 600,000 children between 6 and 12 had no opportunity of receiving education.

The Communist Party of Cuba and the revolutionary government adopted a decision on organizing the national committee for abolition of illiteracy three days after the victorious revolution and carried out a vigorous campaign against illiteracy. Thanks to the nationwide and all-people campaign, all the Cuban people became able to read

and write letters in a short time. This meant that Cuba became the first country that has no unlettered person among Latin American countries.

Its general education and higher education also made rapid progress. The number of universities of the country where there were only three universities in 1958 has now increased remarkably and many students receive higher education.

Cuba also developed science, public health, art and literature, sports and other cultural fields, to say nothing of educational sector.

Great progress has been made in the scientific research work. Lots of scientific and technical research centres and groups including the Academy of Sciences of Cuba and research institutes are now in operation to promote the country's development of science

and technology and advanced scientific research institutions have been organized to successfully carry on research projects. Typically, the government put forward the nano-technology development strategy until 2030 and, based on it, plans to produce nano-parts and, furthermore, advanced nano-products as well.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said recently in an article posted on Twitter account that the wisdom of the Cuban people and high intellectual level of society showed that they had potentials great enough to resolve arising problems, while calling for attaching importance to science and technology.

Remarkable achievements have been made in the work of promoting the people's health thanks to the establishment of a well-knit public

health network in all regions of the country.

All children of the country enjoy state benefits before their birth and the country has developed the pharmaceutical industry to manufacture many kinds of biological medicines. In the past 60 years, it made notable successes in preventing infectious diseases including infantile paralysis, meningitis, influenza and typhoid.

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The culture of Cuba has many development potentials.

International efforts enhanced to protect ecosphere

By Om Ryong PT

Amid the dynamic worldwide push to protect the ecological environment of the earth, India has recently come up with a plan to reduce carbon dioxide emission by popularizing the means of transportation using clean energy.

The Indian minister of land and maritime transport and highway said on October 5 that the government would tightly control the standard of gas emission in order to step up the spread of means of transportation based on clean energy, especially electric cars, and attain the goal of greenhouse gas reduction, adding that it would cut carbon emission until 2030 by 33 to 35 percent as against 2005 as part of the efforts to implement the Paris agreement on climate change.

India plans to expand the scale of use of battery cars, hydrogen fuel cars and means of transportation using biological ethanol and to increase the rate of electric cars by 30 percent and the marketing ratio of two-wheelers and tricycles using

electricity by 40 percent in the total volume of sales of local cars until 2030.

Russia also strives to protect environment.

At the conference of government members on environmental protection on October 5, Russian President Putin asserted that greenhouse gas absorption plans take an important share, saying it is insufficient to solve the issue of global warming by decreasing greenhouse gas emission alone.

He said it is needed to increase the effectiveness of utilizing forests and land several times in order to make the best use of the potentiality of greenhouse gas absorption in forests, tundra, farmland, marshland and oceans of the country. He also referred to the need to expand forest restoration area, find out virgin land and introduce new agricultural techniques.

As part of the efforts to protect ecological environment, North Macedonia also decided to forbid the use of plastic bags. On October 4, the minister of environment of the country announced that it would ban the use of plastic bags

from December 1 according to the national plan of waste management (between 2021 and 2031), use only bags made of biodegradable materials and the fee which is imposed during the purchase of plastic bags will be accumulated in the environmental protection fund.

In order to significantly cut the amount of exhaust gas emission of vehicles, Nigeria has recently discussed the issue of using power-driven natural gas and decided to set up filling stations for injecting gas into natural gas-powered cars in different cities.

It also makes positive efforts to use liquefied natural gas or clean and effective fuel with a high calorific value in place of cooking firewood.

South Africa made public a plan to build a hydrogen valley, which will reportedly produce clean electricity by using hydrogen, substitute for gasoline and a variety of other fuels.

International efforts will get bricker to protect the ecological environment of the earth in the future.

WEIGHTLIFTING ACE



RI HI BONG



By Han Kwi Hun PT

Ri Hi Bong (pictured) is one of the DPRK's renowned weightlifters who won the Asian championships five times and world championships twice. He bagged over 40 medals

including 19 golds in different international games.

Born into an office worker's family, he started his sporting career at the then Pyongyang Municipal Sports Team at the age of 14.

"I had never dreamed of becoming a sportsman before then, especially weightlifter. Attracted by the arts, I was practising the piano and accordion like my elder sisters. But, as I happened to meet weightlifting coach Kim Su Won, my life totally turned to the other course," said Ri.

Soon after he began weightlifting under the coaching of Kim, he cut a conspicuous figure at the national junior games and won a gold medal in the men's 52kg category at the 1979 national championships.

He made his international debut at the junior weightlifting championships of socialist nations held in 1980.

He finished runner-up in total at the championships which drew world-famous aces.

Many experts were optimistic about his bright future after seeing his lifting at that time.

"Ri would achieve the goal he set with confidence, possessed good sportsmanship and psychological qualifications and knew no pessimism even though he made some failures," said Kim Kwang Dok, former secretary general of the national weightlifting federation.

He participated in the 60kg category event at the 1983 Asian Weightlifting Championships to take the first place in total and hold

the Asian championship. Later, he overpowered all the rivals with a big margin in the consecutive four Asian weightlifting championships.

Later, he made strenuous efforts and won a gold at the 67.5kg category event of the 1990 World Weightlifting Championships by jerking 190kg and became a two-time world champion by winning the world championships the following year.

In recognition of his merits, he was awarded the title of People's Athlete. After retiring from his sport, he worked as deputy secretary general and secretary general of the DPRK Weightlifting Association to contribute to developing the country's weightlifting.

He is nearly 60 and is exerting himself to train promising reserves.

High sense of responsibility developed to protect historical sites

By Kim Kum Myong PT

The Mangyongdae District national heritage protection and management station protects and manages historical sites in a proper way.

It keeps up with the state of preservation of Pobun Hermitage, Ryonggok Confucian School, Sosan Fort and dolmen from the period of Ancient Joseon (between the early 30th century BC and 108 BC) to take scientific protection and management measures lest historical sites are afflicted by natural disasters caused by abnormal weather conditions.

In particular, it makes sure that caretakers are permanently stationed at historical sites of isolated areas like Pobun Hermitage of Mt Ryongak so that they can carefully arrange work for the protection of the sites in collaboration with the station on a constant basis.

"Pobun Hermitage is a temple built in the period of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668) and rebuilt during the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910). I feel pride in and responsible for taking charge of such a valuable

historical site," said Sin Chol Ryong, a caretaker at the station.

The station also carries on projects in a planned way to refashion the historical education yard of Sosan Fort for enhancing natural beauty, plant new species of flowering shrubs and lay out a green area around the site.

Besides, measures are

taken in an effective way to tend and prevent damage to such living monuments as *Styphnolobium japonicum* and zelkova of Mt Ryongak.

"A sustainable and long-term project, the protection and management work of historical sites requires perseverance and responsibility. Therefore, some caretakers settled

in uninhabited depths of mountains and have been engaged in the protection and management of sites for over a decade. Thanks to their sincere and devoted efforts, invaluable assets of the country are firmly protected, I think," said Kim Jin Hyok, senior staffer of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

An employee of the Mangyongdae District national heritage protection and management station repaints the roof of the historic relic of Pobun Hermitage on Mt Ryongak.



Paeksan tea traditional drink of Korea

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

Paeksan tea began to be widely drunk after it was eclipsed for 2 000 years though it was known to neighbouring countries in the period of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668).

Long history

According to *Samguksagi*, or *Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms*, and other historical records, a drink called Songnam tea, predecessor of Paeksan tea, was popular in the period of Koguryo.

A plant belonging to the rhododendron family growing on Mt Paektu, it grows on clean rocks and its leaves look like willow leaves. Koreans dried them to use them as raw materials for the tea.

According to a record, the Qing dynasty under the reign of Emperor Qianlong in the 18th century imported a great deal of leaves of *Ledum hypoleucum* from Korea.

Due to the severe expropriation and sycophancy of noble ruling circles in the closing years of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910) and the policy of obliterating the Korean national culture pursued by the Japanese imperialists during their military occupation of Korea between 1905 and 1945, the plant faded out. But it made a recovery thanks to the DPRK's national culture preservation policy.

Natural flavour, fragrance

Paeksan tea is becoming a fresh natural drink as it is made from the leaves of *Ledum hypoleucum* growing on the rocks in northern highlands whose height is over 2 000 metres above sea level around the pollution-free Mt Paektu area.

Since it is rich in medicinal components that raise immunity and resistance, it helps invigorate humans and improve their health.

It is irresistible for its somewhat sweet and savoury taste, bluish-yellow colour and the combination of different fragrances peculiar to azalea blossom, rose, peppermint, pine and mugwort.

Round twisted yet properly straightened and crispy dried leaves feel nice. Dark green, vivid and brilliant tea reflects the emotions of life inherent to the Korean people who like mellow taste and smell.

The processing method of the tea was registered as a DPRK patent. It enhances the unique flavour, aroma and colour, while preserving the medicinal effects and shapes of leaves.

Tea drinkers tell

In general, tea has its recommended daily amount and time for consumption.

It is because it contains caffeine, a stimulant of the central nervous system.

However, there is no limit in the amount and time for daily consumption as Paeksan tea contains a moderate amount of caffeine.

The most unique effect of the tea is that it helps clear their brains, improves their judgment and memory and makes them feel mental stability by activating brain activities.

"As it contains much vitamin C, it relieves the fatigue of sports players when they drink the tea during a break. And it is good for improving the resistance of players and has high haemostatic and sterilizing effects on wounds," said Kim Hung Chun, wrestling head coach of the Kigwanha Sports Club.

