

General Secretary Kim Jong Un watches hypersonic missile test-fire

ADS succeeds in test-fire of hypersonic missile in succession



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, inspected the test-fire of hypersonic missile conducted by the Academy of Defence Sciences on January 11.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary for Organizational Affairs of the WPK Central Committee, vice-directors of the relevant departments of the Party Central Committee and leading officials in the sector of national defence science.

The Eighth Congress of the WPK assigned a strategic task of developing the hypersonic missile section on a preferential basis to the sector of national defence scientific research in order to bolster up the country's war deterrent, and the Party Central Committee has

powerfully led the whole process of development of the hypersonic weapon system for implementing the task.

Kim Jong Un was briefed on the hypersonic missile weapon system by the president of the Academy of Defence Sciences before the test-fire.

The test launch was aimed at the final verification of overall technical specifications of the developed hypersonic weapon system.

Towards daybreak, the sound of blast-off of the Juche weapon representing the might of the DPRK rocked heaven and earth with the flames heating the earth hot as it broke the stillness and drew aside the grey curtain of early morn to soar into the sky, in the presence of the General Secretary.

After being separated from the missile, the hypersonic glide vehicle made glide jump flight from the 600km area before making a 240km corkscrew manoeuvring

from the initial launch azimuth to the target azimuth and hitting the set target in the waters 1 000km off.

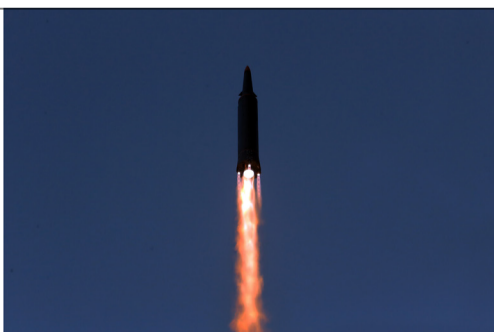
The superior manoeuvrability of the hypersonic glide vehicle was more strikingly verified through the final test-fire.

Kim Jong Un highly appreciated the practical achievements of the scientists, technicians and officials of the missile research sector and the relevant Party organizations, which brought the great success in the field of hypersonic weapon development which is of most important strategic significance out of the five core tasks that are included in the five-year plan for increasing national defence capability set forth at the Eighth Party Congress, and gave them special thanks on behalf of the Party Central Committee.

Referring to the need to step up the efforts for steadily expanding the

country's strategic military capability both in quality and quantity and further modernizing the army, he encouraged the defence scientific research sector to continuously achieve admirable successes in the sacred historic cause of remarkably boosting the war deterrent of the country, true to the Party's defence development policy and strategic plan.

That day he called the core members in the field of hypersonic weapon research and development to the office building of the Party Central Committee and warmly congratulated them. He had a photo session with them, expressing great expectation and conviction that they would continue to achieve success in research into ultra-modern defence science so as to bolster the war deterrent of the country and reliably guarantee the sovereignty and security of the state.



Full of resolve to implement decisions of Party plenum



A meeting is held by young people to vow to implement the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in Pyongyang.

Young people pledge to become vanguard and shock troops in the efforts for national prosperity and development

KCNA

A meeting of young vanguard to pledge to thoroughly implement the decisions made at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the

Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held at the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Park Open-Air Theatre on January 10.

It was attended by Ri Tu Song, department director of

the WPK Central Committee, officials of the youth league and relevant organs and youth students in Pyongyang.

Mun Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth

League, delivered a report. General Secretary Kim Jong Un highly appreciated that last year when the Party Congress was held, many young people volunteered to work in difficult and labour-consuming sectors and did good deeds impressing the people and that it was a remarkable success that young people became high-spirited, the reporter noted. Young people are faced

with the honourable task of making a breakthrough for new victory on all fronts of socialist construction by thoroughly carrying out the decisions of the historic Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee, he added. The speakers called on young people to take charge of difficult and laborious parts and make a breakthrough in bringing about a great upsurge, normalize and revitalize

production to firmly ensure the implementation of the five-year plan and fire up the flames of collective and joint innovation continuously. A letter of pledge to General Secretary Kim Jong Un was adopted amid enthusiastic applause. Then there was a march of young vanguard. Holding up militant placards and slogans, they marched along the streets of Pyongyang in high spirits.



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Visual aids put up for encouraging people to carry out decisions of Party plenum



Posters and slogans posted on streets inspire people to carry out the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.



KCNA

Slogans, watchwords and posters have been put up in streets of Pyongyang, provincial capitals, seats of each city, county and ri and workplaces to encourage working people to turn out in implementing the

decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. "Let us carry out the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of

Korea!", "For the new victory of socialist rural construction!" and other slogans, watchwords and posters show well the revolutionary spirit of the Koreans to work hard to achieve prosperity and development of the country and welfare of the people.

HOME NEWS

KCNA

Mining industry Innovation in mining complex

The Musan Mining Complex is making innovations every day in the new year.

The open-air branch mine has fulfilled its daily production plans without fail and several mining areas and the blasting workshop have produced more iron ore than planned.

The ore-conveying station is expanding its successes in transporting iron ore, while the overburden conveyor station and ore dressing workshop No. 2 are increasing the production of concentrated ore.

Performance Children's New Year celebration goes on



Schoolchildren's New Year celebration in 2022 "Twelve Months of Our Home" is being held every day at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in Pyongyang.

The performance has been seen by youth and schoolchildren and working

people in the capital city. The performers stage a variety of artistic pieces including instrumental ensemble, song and celebratory and fairy tale dances which represent bright and cheerful looks of rising generations who are filled with the joy of greeting the hope-filled New Year and who learn to their heart's content as they enjoy the happiest life in the world.

Coal-mining industry New conveyor belt starts operation

The Ryongdae Youth Coal Mine has started the operation of a conveyor belt in the new year after making a trial run of it which was completed until the end of last year.

The coal mine conducted tunnelling for a section of hundreds of metres, propped up pits and installed the conveyor belt running thousands of metres to the coal yard on the ground.

This has made it possible to increase the transport ability of the coal mine and boost coal production to a high level.

Coal-mining complex overfulfills daily production plans

Workers of the Kujang Area Coal-mining Complex have overfulfilled their daily production plans.

The complex gives priority

to prospecting and conducts a vigorous campaign for high-speed tunnelling to increase coal fields.

Meanwhile, different coal mines of the complex pushed ahead with preliminary tunnelling and raised the operating rate of pit equipment to produce more coal than planned.

Public health Outreach health services in full swing from beginning of new year

Medical workers of public health institutions in the DPRK have launched their outreach health services in different parts of the country bustling with efforts for effecting a great upswing.

Medical workers from Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital and the Kim Man Yu Hospital set up medical posts at the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station and the East Pyongyang Thermal Power Station and gave workers health check-ups and provided them with devoted medical services to ensure that they boost production in good health.

Medical workers from curative and preventive institutions at all levels in North and South Hamgyong provinces are also involved in outreach health services at hundreds of units in the provinces.

Different economic sectors make innovations one after another

By Yun Kyong Il PT

Upholding the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, workers of the metallurgical industry sector are making innovations in iron and steel production every day.

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex perseveringly works to increase molten iron output per charge while actively exploring and introducing the rational operating technology of oxygen-blast furnace.

The branch factory of oxygen plant works to guarantee the increased production of iron and steel by pushing ahead with the efforts to raise the technical knowledge and skills of new workers while solving technical problems arising in producing good-quality oxygen.

The blasting furnace workshop of the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex steps up production as it positively explores and introduces the rational furnace operating method for shortening the melting time and improving the quality of molten iron.

Units in charge of rolled steel production solve

technical problems arising in round steel production as they carefully manage equipment and technology.

The steel workshop of the Chollima Steel Complex registers high records one after another while shortening the melting time and checking and repairing equipment by applying rational working methods.

The rolling workshop actively conducts a mass-based technical innovation drive for improving the performance of equipment while securing enough spare parts and strictly observing the requirements of technical regulations and standard operating methods so as to ensure the full operation of rolling equipment and heating furnace.

Technicians of the complex set the development and completion of technology of great importance in making the metallurgical industry Juche-oriented as the main task and intensify research to that end.

The electric-power industry sector works hard to keep production going at a high level as it ensures a satisfactory supply of electricity to meet the immediate demand for it.

The Pukchang Thermal

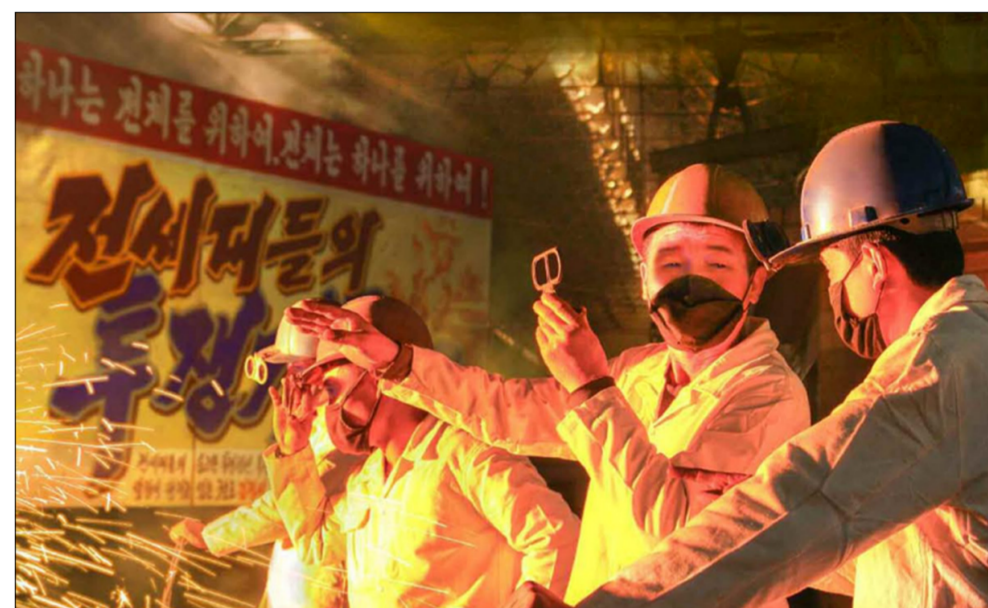
Power Complex improves the operating rate of equipment and develops a high sense of responsibility of technicians and operators.

The Pyongyang, Sunchon, Chongchongang and other thermal power stations fulfil their daily production plans by scrupulously organizing work to meet winter conditions and strictly observing technical regulations and standard regulations of operation.

Hydropower stations across the country make sure that sufficient water is secured, hydraulic structures are kept in good conditions and a strict system of checking and repairs is established, while ensuring the full operation of generating facilities.

Especially, they concentrate efforts on putting on a scientific basis the technical management of generating facilities including water turbines and water control.

The Sunchon, Tokchon and Kaechon area coal-mining complexes and Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex in the coal-mining industry sector actively introduce advanced blasting methods, further increase tunnelling speed and set up repair shops to hasten the repair and maintenance of coal wagons and their production.



A surge is effected in production at different economic sectors including the metallurgical and coal industries.

The Chonnac, Anju, Kujang and Hamnam area coal-mining complexes are waging a dynamic struggle to produce more coal. Building-materials production units in all parts of

the country make innovations every day while prioritizing the securing of enough raw materials for production as they ensure the normal operation of equipment on the strength of science and technology.

The machine-building industry, rail transport, mining industry and forestry sectors are making strenuous efforts in the campaign for overall development of the national economy.

'We'll support Party's new socialist rural construction programme with practical successes'



Jong In Nam, department director of the Ministry of Agriculture

Every line of the report made by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, which serves as a long-range plan and blueprint for the settlement of socialist rural question in the new century, is run through with his love for and trust in our agricultural workers, moving them to tears.

Everyone glows with emotion to think that in the flames of the rural revolution, agricultural workers will improve in

their ideological level, agricultural productivity will go up rapidly and all the rural villages of the country will turn into rich and cultural socialist rural areas equipped with modern technology and civilization.

The Ministry of Agriculture is concentrating all energies on correct planning and designing for putting the country's agriculture on the track of sustainable development and bringing about tremendous changes in the countryside.

For the present, we attach primary importance to hitting this year's grain production target without fail.

In every cooperative field throughout the country, you can see agricultural workers who are devoted to preparations for this year's farming out of a desire to repay the Party's love and trust with increased grain production.

The results of last year's farming show once again that the basic way to hit the high-

yield target lies in scientific farming.

In order to boost crop yields by actively introducing scientific farming methods, farmers should be masters of scientific farming as befit those who are directly in charge of farming.

The ministry will work carefully to propagate in time the successes and experiences made and obtained by high-yield units and farmers in various forms and methods, as well as advanced farming techniques.

In addition, we will enhance unified, planned and sci-tech guidance over the overall agricultural production of the country, give full play to the advantages of the Korean-style agricultural guidance system that puts main stress on county cooperative farm management committees and make constant efforts to readjust and reinforce the country's irrigation system as a whole so that we can do farming safely, unaffected by any drought and flood.

'We will step up consumer goods production by tapping all reserves'



Kim Chol Bok, department director of the Ministry of Light Industry

Officials and workers of the light industry sector have launched into a campaign for decisively boosting the production of high-quality consumer goods that would contribute to improving the people's living standards in the new year.

Last year, light industry factories across the country achieved a series of successes by putting efforts into increasing the self-supply rate of raw

and other materials and bringing about technical upgrading of production processes.

A key task that should be undertaken this year is the domestic production of raw and other materials and the activation of production.

Only when this task is carried out by relying on the development potentials of their own sectors, units and areas, can they improve the quality of goods and increase their varieties while minimizing their costs.

Therefore, every factory should implement the task according to their definite plan, regarding it as an important task directly connected with the development of the national economy and the improvement of the people's living standards, not simply an economic business.

Textile and knitting industries are strictly observing technical and other standard regulations with the view that the operational

rate of equipment is just the production result.

Shoes producers are also exploring all reserves and potentials and solving the problems of raw and other materials in order to develop more new products that meet the taste and demand of the people.

Daily necessities and cosmetics industries are concentrating on turning out high-quality consumer goods in larger quantities by dint of science and technology.

Accordingly, the Ministry of Light Industry continues to pay close attention to the domestic production of raw and other materials and recycling for a sufficient supply of materials needed for production so as to expand successes.

Efforts are also being made to achieve better successes while actively transferring and sharing advanced technologies and experiences.



Medical appliances factory develops advanced equipment, boosts production

Factory has developed more than 40 kinds of modern medical appliances

By Ri Myong Jun PT

The Myohyangsan Medical Appliances Factory developed over 40 kinds of medical appliances in a little over a year since its inauguration, including universal dentist's

chair, universal ear-nose-throat-treating chair, multi-purpose operating table and obstetric table. Last year, the factory produced and sent dozens of kinds of medical appliances to clinics in Samjiyon and city and county people's hospitals

in North Phyongan, South Hamgyong and Kangwon provinces and Rason. Soon after its inauguration, the factory, equipped with modern production processes from that for processing materials to that for assembly, started production in earnest

and broadened its experience in medical appliances production. The factory set it as a target to continuously develop and produce medical appliances perfect in technology, function and elaborateness. Scientists and technicians of

relevant units developed a new technology of plastic moulding by casting that ensures the production of small quantities and a large variety of goods with quick mould making, that of plastic plate vacuum moulding for producing smart fittings, and so on in succession, thus providing a scientific and technological guarantee for the factory to produce various kinds of medical appliances as much as it intends. Consulting beds for

women, obstetric tables and operating tables developed by the factory are not only equipped with all necessary functions and tools but also designed and manufactured conveniently to meet the modern aesthetic taste. Dentist's stools, high-pressure steam sterilizers and ultraviolet lamp sterilizers of the factory are so simple and easy to use that they are in great demand at people's hospitals and clinics in rural areas.



Employees produce a variety of medical appliances at the Myohyangsan Medical Appliances Factory.



JU TAE HYOK / RODONG SINMUN

Bus factory consolidates foundation to increase production

By Kim Il Jin PT

Our factory strengthens the foundation for reenergizing production by constantly introducing new technologies, said Pak Kyong Hak, chief engineer of the Pyongyang Bus Factory. The factory established a production line of traction motor that takes a large share

in the production of a new model of tram. According to the factory's technicians, important things in the process are to provide the motor with a cooling condition and set a performance test stage for motor rotors. It made a traction motor provided with the cooling condition by using ventilating blades and a dynamic balancing machine for

testing the efficiency of the motor rotor in cooperation with the planning institute of the Pyongyang Municipal General Passenger Traffic Service Enterprise. "The new method has lowered the production cost of traction motor by 40 percent as compared to previously and remarkably reduced the overload on the motor, thus greatly increasing the running

time of tramcars," said the chief engineer. The factory has also laid a foundation for producing the friction piece brake and brake valve at the bogie. In that course it introduced over 10 technical innovation plans. In addition, it concentrates on melting and moulding to produce castings needed for a new model of bus.



Workers assemble internal fittings of a bus at the Pyongyang Bus Factory.

RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Printing plant saves costs through recycling

By Kim Kum Myong PT

The Kyongrim disabled soldiers' printing plant in Central District, Pyongyang, directs big efforts to saving costs. As part of the efforts it recycles used printing plates. The plant buckled down to the recycling some years ago. The printing plate it was using at that time was an imported disposable. Each of its several flat printing presses used one plate a day. The recycling of it could surely save production costs. The plant solved technical problems to make a plate recycler. This machine removes the printing elements on the plate that served its time by using domestic materials instead of chemical reagents.

"We use a recycled plate four times. As a result, the production cost went down to one fourth of the previous cost," said manager Hong Hu Gun. The plant also collects used plates of other printing works on a regular basis. And it efficiently uses scraps from the printing process. Several scraps of paper are stuck together to make cardboard, which is mosaicked so as to make different sizes of book covers and different shapes of pen stands. Such pen stands are favoured by users as they are not inferior to those made of wood. "As we have lowered production costs, we are able to carry out our plan every year without suffering from shortage of materials," said the manager.



Top quality medal-winning products

Factory turns out functional health drinks

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Last year, the December 15 Medal of Quality was awarded to the bifid yogurt, activated bacteria ice cream and ice cream with egg and milk taste of the O-il General Health Drink Factory. According to Kim Un Hui, manageress of the factory, bifid bacteria play an important role as enteric bacteria in maintaining the health of the human body as they live in the intestines of humans, especially in the colon. Especially, they ferment sugar in the intestines to generate acetic and lactic acids and the generated acids restrain the growth of colon bacillus, dysentery bacillus and putrefactive bacteria to improve intestinal flora and prevent the increase of ammonia caused by diarrhoea, constipation and abnormal fermentation. They also detoxify toxic compounds and stick to intestinal mucosa to prevent the infiltration of pathogen

and the induction of the carcinoma of colon. With benefits of bifid bacteria increasing continuously, different countries widely use the bacteria to develop health products which retard the aging of the human body and maintain the youth of cell. Among them, fermented products take the lion's share. The factory's bifid bacteria yogurt is a product designed to improve the physiological functions of bifid and enhance digestive absorption and immunizing power to the maximum. It has become the favourite food of both children and adults as it harmoniously combines the fragrance and taste of fermentation and soft sense of mouth, prevents indigestion and boosts immunity. The ice cream with egg and milk taste has the fragrance of egg and the activated bacteria ice cream has originally fragrant and refreshing taste.

"The lactic acid ice cream, which is also called probiotic bacteria ice cream, is being developed in the way of cultivating and adding the bacteria that are useful for the human body," said Jin Song Sim, section chief of the factory. The factory's activated bacteria ice cream is made by combining three probiotic bacteria, which are known worldwide as highly effective lactic acid bacteria, and fermenting them before keeping lactic acid bacteria alive in products and the factory continues to improve its melting point, swelling rate and sense of mouth. The ice cream with egg and milk taste contributes to improving intestinal flora by adding fructo-oligosaccharide, a nutritious source of probiotic bacteria. The factory makes these ice creams in different shapes to arouse the feeling of liveliness and intimacy to meet the psychology of consumers.



The country's top-rated products made by the O-il General Health Drink Factory.

KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Highly efficacious traditional medicines of repute

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Among the products that received medals for the best quality last year are Angunguhwangwan, Uhwangchongsimhwan, Kwibihwan and Ryukmihwan pills from the Sogam Pharmaceutical Factory. The factory reduced the fineness of Koryo medicinal powder to less than dozens of μm to make sure that it is well absorbed in the human body and takes effect soon and to the maximum. It also automated the processes of extraction and concentration and applied a spray dryer to make

extraction and concentration possible at a lower temperature than before, thus preventing the dissolution of effective ingredients and increasing the medicinal properties of products. It ensures the hygienic stability of products at a high level by conducting the quality test and process management according to the standard of quality guarantee in the overall production line from the feeding of raw materials to the packaging of products. It also ensures the quality of products on a scientific basis using modern analysis equipment including a high-speed liquid

chromatographical device and an ultraviolet spectrophotometer, and makes the production processes free from germ and dust using a fine particle meter and an airflow and wind gauge. Angunguhwangwan and Uhwangchongsimhwan have remarkable effects in the treatment of brain hemorrhage, cerebral thrombosis and cerebral contusion, the removal of fever and the reduction of blood pressure, Kwibihwan is highly effective in the treatment of various symptoms caused by nervous weakness including cardiac neurosis, sleep disturbance and amnesia and that of metrorrhagia and Ryukmihwan



Winners of the December 15 Medal of Quality produced by the Korea Oriental Instant Medicine Development Centre.

AN YONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Medicines grow popular for immediate treatment effects

By Yun Ki Song PT

The products of the Korea Oriental Instant Medicine Development Centre attract particular interest of the public health sector at home and abroad for their immediate and remarkable therapeutic effects. Among them are Tongbang anticancer agent, Angung-musk, blood vessel washing agent, carcinoma-C.R. injection (A, B, C, D) and NeoViagra Y.R. Made with local natural resources including Kaesong Koryo insam, *Atractylodes japonica* and barrenwort as their main ingredients by unconventional methods, these products have marked effects in the treatment of various diseases like liver and lung cancers, renal diseases, sexual dysfunction, arthritis, cerebral thrombosis and cerebral haemorrhage. Especially, carcinoma-C.R. injection helps prolong life of patients or restores them to health by killing and dissolving only tumours selectively without damaging normal tissues and Angung-musk shortens the

resuscitating and awakening time of patients with cerebral thrombosis and cerebral hemorrhage and restores them to health. Completed after 13-year-long research, the blood vessel washing agent is an essential health food for everyone who is over 40 years old. It has special effects on the treatment of hyperlipemic cerebral arteriosclerosis, cardiovascular diseases and hepatitis and beauty treatment of women. Tongbang anticancer agent is a selective molecule-trace anticancer medicine and NeoViagra Y.R. helps old people recover from sexual dysfunction, neuralgia, pain in the joint, hypertension and heart diseases and regain physical vigour. According to Director Ryu Il Nam, candidate academician and People's Scientist, these medicines have been registered in public health institutions at home and in different countries including China, Russia and Ukraine and was awarded the top quality medal of the country last year.



Winners of the country's top quality medal manufactured by the Sogam Pharmaceutical Factory.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

is good for treating nephritis, cystitis, impotence and migraine. Such products were highly appreciated in international exhibitions and shows held in Russia, Mongolia, Vietnam, China and other countries as well as in those at home.

76 years of patriotic enthusiasm



The venue of the tenth congress of the youth league in April 2021 (top). Young people dedicate their wisdom and energy in major fields of socialist construction.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The Democratic Youth League of North Korea was formed on January 17 1946. Later it developed into the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League and Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League and was renamed the Socialist Patriotic Youth League at the 10th congress

of the youth league held in April last year. The youth organization was renamed as required by the developing era and revolution, but the patriotic nature of the youth league has never changed. Young people always made breakthroughs for advance when they built a new democratic Korea singing the song *March of Democratic Youth* when they fought

to defend every inch of the national territory during the three-year-long Fatherland Liberation War and when they created a socialist paradise on the ruins of war. Their inexhaustible patriotic zeal resulted in miracles of the Chollima era. Regarding it as the greatest honour to volunteer first to work on major fronts as intended by the country, they distinguished

themselves as Chollima riders in their workplaces like factories and cooperative farms. They turned the vast sea into a theatre of their activity and volunteered to work at coal mines and on mountains to perform laudable feats. Their tradition of heroic struggle to make breakthroughs for socialist construction by dint of great creation and innovation was constantly

carried on through the decades of the revolution and construction. They fully demonstrated their might as the advance force and death-defying corps by volunteering to work in the labour-consuming sectors of socialist construction in the 1970s and the 1980s and also in the 1990s when the country and the revolution encountered manifold difficulties and hardships.

In the new era of the Juche revolution the Korean youth grew into stronger pillars of the socialist country and a golden age of the youth movement was opened under the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who carries on President Kim Il Sung's and Chairman Kim Jong Il's noble idea of attaching importance to youth and loving them.

Bearing in mind the great trust of General Secretary Kim Jong Un who said that the prosperous future will be accelerated thanks to the dynamic efforts of young people, the youth shock brigade created the heroic youth spirit of Mt Paektu, the legend of the heroic youth, by building a dam and cutting a waterway tunnel even in the face of severe cold of the northern area of the country.

Over 1.2 million young people brought about collective innovations during the 70-day campaign to celebrate the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with a high sense of political enthusiasm and shining labour exploits. And the Korean youth turned out as one in the struggle to make breakthroughs for the implementation of a new five-year plan along the orientation of advance indicated by the Eighth Congress of the WPK.

The Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee, which set forth a new orientation of advance this year after reviewing the struggle of last year, appreciated that it was a remarkable political success that many young people volunteered to work in difficult and labour-consuming sectors and did good deeds, which moved the people, true to the decision of the Eighth Congress of the WPK and that their spirit became very high.

The Korean youth are now performing miracles and feats on major fronts of socialist construction with the determination to continue to glorify their history with victory, honour and pride as before.

FEATS OF KOREAN YOUTH: FACTS AND FIGURES

By Song Jong Ho PT

The year 1954: In the year after the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War, 113 youth shock brigades were dispatched to hundreds of reconstruction sites across the country to restore 915 coal and other mines and enterprises, 317 irrigation facilities and over 10 000 hectares of land. **1958:** After the national conference of young builders of socialism was held in March, over 2 300 young men and women volunteered to develop coalfields in South Phyongan Province and other young people completed in August the broad-gauge railway line between Haju and Hasong, which had been thought to take three-four years, in a matter of 75 days. **June-November in 1959:** More than 6 000 youths volunteered for

fishery stations in the East and West Seas of Korea. **1961-1969:** Over 1.5 million young men and women volunteered to work at difficult and labour-consuming sectors and some 2.6 million joined 70 000-odd youth shock brigades, while the numbers of youth workteams, youth workshops (pits) and machines named after Minchong (Democratic Youth League of North Korea) and Sarochong (League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea) increased respectively to at least 3 580, some 520 and 3 800. **Early 1970s:** A railway line was laid between Ichon and Sepho, during which 13 young people earned the title of Labour Hero and lots of others received official commendations. **1975:** To mark the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea, youths

constructed railways extending for 34 kilometres, electrified railway lines stretching for 111 kilometres, improved more than 44 330 hectares of cold and damp land, picked out stones in over 167 290 hectares of land, manufactured some 940 machines named after Chongnyon Chungsong (youth's loyalty) and built 980-odd pits, over 20 000 hectares of youth fields and 1 280 youth fish farms. **Late 1970s:** After middle school graduates volunteered as farmers to form the youth sub-workteam for the first time in August 1977, the number of such sub-workteams increased to hundreds in 1978 and 2 009 in 1979 across the country. **1983-1988:** Young people completed the first stage of the northern railways construction project despite the biting cold of northern areas.

Late 1990s-2000: At least 50 000 young men and women turned out to build the Youth Hero Motorway in a little over 700 days. **2015:** On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea, young people carried out a huge amount of work, or the equivalent of ten years' task, in a little over 120 days in the construction project of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, thereby creating the legend of heroic youth of finishing the dam of its unit 1. **2016:** A total of over 1.2 million young people participated in the shock brigade activities on the occasion of the Seventh Congress of the WPK. **2021:** More than 10 000 young men and women volunteered to take difficult and challenging jobs, true to the spirit of the Eighth Congress of the WPK.

Props for socialist Korea

By Ri Sang Il PT

The DPRK, though small in territory and population, is going its way toward development and doing everything it is determined to do despite the hostile forces' vicious sanctions that others might have failed to stand even a few days, plus natural disasters and many other obstacles. It succeeds in such formidable tasks which the countries that are claimed to be rich and advanced cannot even think of. What then makes this possible? There is a woman named Kim Chun Hwa at the Hoan Youth Coal Mine of the Pukchang Area Youth

Coal-mining Complex, who is the wife of a special-class honoured disabled soldier and mother of two soldier sons. She was not obliged to work at any coal mine thanks to lots of state benefits provided to the wives of special-class honoured disabled soldiers. But she volunteered to work at the mine as supply service worker and made devoted efforts for coal miners as she sometimes helped those at the high-speed tunnelling workteam of Pit No. 3 in which she is registered as an honorary member. She collected materials lying idle to contribute to making labour safety

supplies for decades, made many work gloves with cloth scraps for coal miners and conducted supply service work in a big way as she raised pigs. On the day when she was awarded the Order of Honour of Service at the Extractive Industries, she said she was overwhelmed with deep gratitude as she received the award that is given to meritorious coal miners though she did what she ought to do. There is also a heart-warming story about Labour Hero Ri Phyoung Gyu who is called phoenix. He was diagnosed with paraplegia caused by the intercurrent of slipped disk and myelitis in

his 30s. But he was not disheartened. Though not obliged, he proceeded to work at a workshop for light workers and repaired more than 10 000 lorry generators and starters for over 30 years to bring benefits to the country. In the DPRK there are many such faithful citizens, persons of merit who are devoted to the country, and they constitute the props for socialist Korea. They differ from each other in place of residence and job, but they all share a passionate love for their motherland and socialist system. Supported by such noble feeling, socialist Korea is well-established.

'I have only strived to do my duty to call of country'



HONG KWANG IL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The paper engineering institute of the State Academy of Sciences has left an indelible imprint on economic development by developing and producing dozens of kinds of high-tech functional papers in recent years. The HEPA-class high-performance air filter, diaphragm paper for high-power battery and multi-layer water filter tip developed by the institute are much needed for economic development and their economic effectiveness is very high. Only a few developed countries produce them at present.

When I became director, I found that the work as a director is different from that as a researcher. We encountered lots of difficulties as we had to carry out our research projects while creating necessary conditions afresh in the institute, but the urgent national demand did not allow us to idle away time," Ri Yong Il recalled. He inspired researchers to display their spiritual strength so as to create necessary research conditions by their own efforts, develop high-tech functional papers and build their production foundations.

While overseeing difficult and huge work, he undertook a priority research task and burnt the midnight oil trying to achieve research successes in the van. "We will be unable to say that we are genuine scientists, if we fail to lighten the burden of the country with scientific research successes, while placing our individual interests above the country's at the time when it is having a hard time. I have only strived to do my duty as a scientist to the call of the country," said the director.

He had the honour of having a photo taken with the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un on several occasions for his remarkable scientific research findings for over 10 years and earned the titles of Merited Scientist and professor and PhD degree. He was also nominated as one of top national scientists and technicians in 2017. A meritorious person of socialist patriotism, he has been working as a deputy to the Pyongyang Municipal People's Assembly since 2017.

20-year-long devotion to job, society

By Han Jong Ho PT

A national celebration of the DPRK founding anniversary took place in Pyongyang with great rejoicing, the reserved seats for invited guests of Kim Il Sung Square being taken by many people who devoted themselves to the prosperity of the country. Among them was Ri Myong Ok (pictured), workteam leader of the Moranbong District road facilities management station and a Central Meritorious Person of Socialist Patriotism.

It was not easy to become the wife of an honoured disabled soldier, but more difficult was to do what I have to do as his wife."

Ri Myong Ok, workteam leader of the Moranbong District road facilities management station



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

She rightly deserves respect from others only for it. And surprisingly, she is the wife of a special-class honoured disabled soldier who shoulders a heavy burden as a woman who has a house to keep. It was over 20 years ago that she had made a decision to get married to a disabled soldier. She was just a girl in the prime of life at the time when lots of young people in the capital city of Pyongyang had turned the great sorrow over the loss of President Kim Il Sung into strength and courage and volunteered to work at labour-consuming sectors. One day, she happened to know a special-class honoured disabled soldier. Seeing him unable to use the lower half of his body

and even two hands, she imagined herself being in the shoes of the wife of this man. She felt an irresistible urge to jump into the trend of the times as a youth. But deciding what was required and actually doing it were two different things. She faced strong opposition from the disabled soldier and his mother and even the nurse in charge of him, who she had believed would willingly support her decision, dissuaded her. She could understand the man and his mother who didn't want others to sacrifice themselves for him, but was stunned by the nurse's attitude, Ri recalled.

So Ri visited her house one evening. "To my surprise, I was greeted by her husband who was also an honoured disabled soldier. The sight of him brought back into my mind her remark that if I stopped halfway, it would rub salt into the wound of the disabled soldier," she said. After reconsidering her decision, she hardened her resolve. She visited his house more frequently and finally tied the knot with him. "It was not easy to become the wife of an honoured disabled soldier, but more difficult was to discharge my duty as his wife," said Myong Ok.

She had to change the position of his body frequently and attend to the invalid from washing to feeding and putting on/off clothes. While tending her husband with sincerity for 20-odd years, she went to work without a day's absence and was always the first to look round the roads and correct any faults whenever it rained or snowed. She also volunteered to work at night at construction sites, while making strenuous efforts to turn her workteam into a harmonious group overflowing with virtue and affection. She is also deputy to the district people's assembly.

Story about 'girl mother' of yesterday

A single girl adopted an orphaned child who was a paraplegic

By Pang Un Ju PT

Last year, another beautiful story was woven to touch the people's heartstrings.

It was a story about Choe Son Hui, employee of the materials supply station for schools for orphans under the Ministry of Public Security, who devoted her true heart to and adopted an orphaned child who was a paraplegic at Tonghae School for Orphans.

Seven years ago when she was tasked with taking care of health of orphans at the school, Son Hui became familiar with An Jong Sim.

After being orphaned, Jong Sim was admitted to the school and unexpectedly diagnosed with spine cancer and paraplegia with her life hanging by a thread.

Thanks to medical

workers' sincere devotion, she recovered her health miraculously and became able to walk, but she had to be under the medical care of doctors and nurses since she was still far from normal conditions in the medical point of view.

For that reason, Son Hui paid special attention to Jong Sim.

Whenever Jong Sim developed a fever, Son Hui sat up all night to take care of her. Whenever she lost her appetite, Son Hui prepared her favourite food and sometimes she was wet with sweat for her functional recovery treatment.

And every night, she would tell Jong Sim interesting stories in bed and sing songs for her before falling asleep with the girl in her arms.

But at that time Son Hui

did not realize how Jong Sim received her affection.

"I felt mother's affection from her whenever she carried me on her back for the treatment of paraplegia and cared so much for me for the recovery of health as she embraced me so affectionately in bed. One night I asked her 'May I call you mom?'" Jong Sim recalled.

"I couldn't readily answer her sudden question. A variety of thoughts flooded me. But next moment, I feared she would not have a meal thinking of me. So I let her call me mom," Son Hui said.

So, the unmarried girl became the mother of Jong Sim and the latter was brought to Son Hui's home in Pyongyang.

When Son Hui adopted the sick child, who was not



RI RYON SONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Choe Son Hui, an employee of the materials supply station for schools for orphans under the Ministry of Public Security, combs the hair of her adopted child.

her blood relative, all her neighbours were surprised and worried about her future, said Pak Hwa Sil, head of neighbourhood unit No. 13 in Ryonhwa-dong No. 2, Central District, Pyongyang. But all of them were so impressed by her steady devotion to the girl's treatment and study, Pak

added.

In June last year, a young man named Yun Myong Sik called on Son Hui's after hearing about her deeds. He proposed to her, saying he would become the father of Jong Sim.

Soon after, Choe Son Hui and Yun Myong Sik tied the knot amid the blessings

of their neighbours and colleagues and many others who became Jong Sim's brothers, sisters and uncles, being deeply impressed by their deeds.

That day, Jong Sim sang the song *We Are the Happiest in the World* together with her father and mother.

Martyr's family brims with warm affection



HONG KWANG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Many people visit Jong Ok Gyong, the mother of a juvenile martyr, on New Year's Day.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

Lots of people visited Jong Ok Gyong's house in Neighbourhood Unit No. 59 in Yoram-dong of Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province, on New Year's Day.

Among them were neighbours, teachers and students of Yoram Senior

Middle School, the parents of the students, officials of the South Phyongan Provincial People's Committee, and officials and employees of the material supply station for schools for orphans in Phyongsong.

They all offered their warmest New Year greetings to Jong, the wife of a patriotic martyr and mother of a

juvenile martyr who had her eldest son stand at a post for defence of the country.

Ri Pong Nam, her husband, was a special-class honoured disabled soldier and patriotic martyr, who had dedicated himself to defending the country and been faithful to his duty for decades.

Ri's couple always educated their two children

'I lost my husband and a son, but the number of my family members has increased to hundreds'

to think of the country before their parents and family. The slogan "Let us learn for Korea!" and the words of *Song of Comradeship* that they had pasted on the walls of their rooms are preserved at the South Phyongan provincial youth movement museum.

Thanks to such education of the parents, the great motherland was already embedded as something great in the minds of their sons Ri Jong Chol and Ri Jong Dok in their childhood.

Thus, Jong Chol left for an army post after graduating from middle school with honours, and Jong Dok died a heroic death after saving the youth forest of his school from an unexpected forest fire at the age of 15.

In recognition of his feat, the country awarded Kim Jong Il Youth Honour Prize, the top honour for the Korean youth, and a certificate of socialist patriotic death to

him, and made sure that his remains were buried in the patriotic martyrs cemetery in the province.

After he died, his parents turned their kitchen garden into a tree nursery and sent a large number of saplings from the nursery to the youth forest of the school.

Then her husband died at his workplace last year as his incurable disease took a turn for the worse.

Ok Gyong became a widow, but an endless stream of people flows to her home as it is widely known to the whole country as well as the city.

Officials of the city youth league made concerted efforts to spruce up the house of the juvenile martyr, and the family is under the warm care of institutions, enterprises, organizations, universities, schools and villages.

With the will to become fine youth league members like Jong Dok, students of

Yoram Senior Middle School hold Ok Gyong in respect, calling her "our mother". In particular, Jon Kyong Ryong, deputy head of the children's union of the school, and her mother Rim Hye Un visit his house every holiday and Sunday to give pleasure to his mother.

Kwon Hyon Jun and Ryu Hyon Chol, who took charge of Jong Dok's organizational life in the children's union and the youth league, still show concern for her like her children although they were transferred to other posts.

"I lost my husband and a son, but the number of my family members has increased to hundreds. I am always inspired by the proud life of my husband and son, the warm embrace of the country that values and adds lustre to their life and the warm affection many people show for me," said Jong Ok Gyong.



Visitors show keen interest in the underwater creatures at the aquarium of the Central Zoo.

"Each of the tanks is distinctive and the natural beauty section looks like a real one as if beautiful natural scenes of mountains and rivers have been removed here," said Ri Ji Hyang, resident of Sonnae-dong in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

The six-metre-long cave representing the seabed of 400 million years ago leads to a 20-metre-long submerged cave, where visitors cannot repress a sigh of admiration as they have photos taken against the background of fishes.

After looking round the submerged cave, which can be claimed to be excellent in the aquarium section, they

continue to experience pleasant feelings at the tank representing the seaside where visitors can touch water and the house of hawksbill, green and other turtles.

"I could get a wealth of knowledge since there are noticeboards on common sense of fishes and the protection and proliferation of marine resources and the country's marine resources distribution chart as well," said Ri Ae Ryong, student from Kumsong Middle School No. 2.

Once they come to the aquarium, visitors are reluctant to leave it and want to come time and again.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The Central Zoo is located at the foot of Mt Taesong in Pyongyang.

After passing through the entrance representing the head of a Korean tiger with its mouth wide open as if to swallow its prey at once, an eye-catcher is the aquarium built over the pond crisscrossed by bridges.

This aquarium, which harmoniously incorporates immediacy and formative arts, is the favourite haunt of visitors, especially children.

Covering a total floor space of over 5 300 square metres, it includes 32 water tanks including a submerged cave containing over 900 cubic metres of water and a shark tank containing 300 cubic metres of water.

The total volume of water in the aquariums is 2 000 cubic metres and the quantity of seawater amounts to 1 500 cubic metres. There are over 5 700 fishes, amphibians, reptiles and invertebrate animals in some 250 species including nearly 2 000 sea fishes in over 90 kinds.

"The fish aquariums decorated with illuminations and other elements remind me of an underwater world in a fairytale," said O Tong Suk, resident of Rungna-dong No. 2 in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang.

There are freshwater fish tanks at the entrance to the aquarium.

Visitors are unaware of passing of the time as they see fishes living in the temperate regions including sturgeons, grass fish and rainbow trout and freshwater fishes from tropical regions like Amazon butterflyfish, electric eel and piranha.



JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Kim Il Sung Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea, 40 years on

January 13 is the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Kim Il Sung Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea. To mark the day, we recollect with deep emotion the heartwarming story about the establishment of the institute of agricultural science in Guinea—a long way off beyond the continent and the ocean—which shines as a symbol of friendship between the two countries along with the august name of President Kim Il Sung.

of its solutions, he proposed establishing an institute of agricultural science in Guinea.

In November that year, he dispatched our agro-experts to Guinea as a field survey mission to establish the institute. He also took an immediate step to send materials and equipment such as cement, steel materials and tractors needed for building and operating the institute, saying that it should be built well to stand as an example in Africa even though it costs a lot of money.

Under such meticulous care of President Kim Il Sung, the institute of agricultural science came to be built splendidly in Kindia Province, Guinea, on January 13 1982.

The then President, Ahmed Sékou Touré, high-ranking officials and other Guinean people agreed to name the institute after President Kim Il Sung out of their boundless gratitude to and admiration for him who had rendered both material

and moral support for the agricultural development of their country.

Kim Il Sung Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea achieved wonderful sci-tech successes from the first year of its inception. It made a great contribution to producing as much as 5-8 tons of rice and corn per hectare even without applying fertilizer on the land which had produced only 1 ton previously. From that time on, the institute has been trying to develop and introduce new varieties of grain seeds and cultivating techniques suitable for the climatic and soil conditions of Guinea.

Today, the institute is playing an important role in training the agro-technicians in Guinea and other West African countries and in developing and disseminating advanced agricultural methods and producing seeds.

President Kim Il Sung took benevolent steps of dispatching our competent agro-experts and technicians to several African

countries including Guinea, Uganda and Equatorial Guinea in order to help these countries build their own experimental farms.

Kim Il Sung Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea, which was built in the African continent as a symbol of DPRK-Guinea friendship, will hand down forever the immortal exploits of President Kim Il Sung who showed sincere devotion to the agricultural development in Guinea and assisted African countries with all sincerity in their efforts to develop agriculture and solve food problems.

The Korea-Africa Association highly appreciates the Guinean people for their efforts to meet the food need by developing agriculture. It will make an active contribution to expanding and developing cooperative relations between the two countries and peoples in agriculture and other fields.

The Korea-Africa Association

OPINION

Criminal treaty forged under threats, blackmails, plots

By Om Ryong PT

The Japanese imperialists forced the feudal Joseon dynasty to sign the heinous “Hansong treaty” by all sorts of plots, threats and blackmails on January 9, 137 years ago.

The Hansong treaty was another unequal treaty which paved the way for Japan to violently trample down the dignity and sovereignty of the Korean nation and further strengthen its aggression against Korea.

Japan coercively cooked up the treaty as it threatened and blackmailed the Korean feudal government by mobilizing its aggression forces. As was widely known to the world, Japan frustrated the Kapsin coup staged in Korea in 1884 to block its way towards modern development in the latter half of the 19th century and make a breakthrough in its invasion of Korea before other powers. After driving the coup to failure, Japanese shifted the blame for the crime committed during the coup on to the Korean feudal government and set fire to its legation by themselves with an eye to providing an excuse for aggression.

In order to use the complicated Korea-Japan relations created on the occasion of the Kapsin coup in enforcing the aggression policy toward Korea, Japan plotted a plan to reduce the Korean feudal government to submission in the way of military threats and dispatched two battalions of troops and seven warships to the port of Incheon.

And then it demanded the conclusion of gangster-like treaty that the Korean government should compensate for the damage it had suffered at the time of the Kapsin coup.

As historical facts show, the treaty was nothing more than a faked document devoid of validity in view of international law as its fabrication process was coercive. The “conventional international law” of the modern era and the “Vienna treaty on treaty-making law” stipulate that a treaty is invalid if it is concluded by coercing the representative of a state. It is quite obvious that the Korean feudal government could not present its own voluntary intention under Japan’s threat of the use of armed forces.

In the Hansong treaty, Japan defined that Korea should express an apology to Japan by sending its sovereign’s message and interrogate and arrest a Korean who killed a Japanese captain called Isobayashi, and sentence him to a severe punishment. By doing so, the Japanese shifted responsibilities of all cases that happened in relation with the Kapsin coup in 1884 onto the Korean feudal government. In addition, it included in the treaty an article which says that the Korean government should pay over a hundred thousand won as compensation for the loss suffered by Japanese merchants and for the rebuilding of Japan’s legation.

The fabrication of the treaty clearly shows the aggressive nature and viciousness of the ferocious and heinous Japanese militarism.

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UNITED STATES KINGDOM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKERS

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently, the US has picked on our country, China, Russia, Cuba, Syria and other anti-US countries, claiming that they are the “states of human trafficking”.

Before commenting on human trafficking, we want to ask the US politicians, who are in the habit of speaking ill of others without any reason, whether they ever read the historical novel “Roots”.

The novel was written in 1976 and is widely known as the best

work in the American literature on black people. The work shows a deep historical picture that the past of the US bloodstained with the extermination of Native Americans and the slave trade in black people is just the historical roots of American society.

Today, the roots have branched out into all kinds of trunks and boughs of forced labour, sexual slavery and kidnapping of children, forming a giant tree of human trafficking. This is just the actual condition of American society.

According to data available, there are more than 500 000 child farmworkers and over 300 000

women and children are victims of sexual slavery in the US. Up to 100 000 people have been trafficked into the US for forced labour annually over the past five years.

It is by no means accidental that the spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China ridiculed the US some time ago, saying that it is always trying to prescribe medicines for other countries even though its body is chronically infected with the disease of human rights issue and that the country which has a stack of criminal records in the issue of human traffic is not entitled to judging other

countries.

The reality clearly shows that the US is commonly acknowledged as a kingdom of human traffickers and that it is the criminal state of human rights which should look back on its bloodstained traces in human trafficking before finding fault with others.

If Alex Haley who dug up the crime-ridden history of the founding of the US is still alive, he would continue to create a series of “Roots” to expose and denounce once again the reactionary nature of American society, the worst kingdom of human traffickers in the world.

UK should behave with principle

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Some time ago, the Minister of State for Security and Borders of the Home Office of the United Kingdom, in his interview with *The Telegraph* newspaper, asserted that our country is one of the “most egregious hostile nations” together with China, Russia and Iran which pose security threats to the UK.

It is nothing new as it is an extension of the same old words and deeds by the successive UK government officials. But this shows vividly to what extent the UK’s persecution complex has reached out of its complete ignorance, blind prejudice and hostility towards the DPRK.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Israel’s outrageous moves to expand its territory and acts of aggression are inviting the blame and denunciation from the international community.

It is getting more undisguised in its scheme to perpetuate its occupation of Syria’s Golan Heights.

Some time ago, it approved a plan to build houses for more than 7 300 families in the area in a special Cabinet session.

The general secretary of the League of Arab States described the plan for the expansion of Jewish settlements as a violation of international law in a press conference, adding that it has been acknowledged by international law for Syria to liberate its whole territory and achieve territorial integrity.

The Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates issued

In 2017, the Minister of State of the Home Office of the UK connected the DPRK for no good reason with the extra-large cyber-hacking incident which took place at medical facilities in his country. In the meantime, the Secretary of State for Defence talked about a “threat to London”, arguing that London is placed nearer than Los Angeles, the US, in the range of missile of Pyongyang.

Recently, a high-ranking official of the Defence Ministry of the UK spread a strange conjecture without any clear evidence that the DPRK might be connected with the cyber-attack which crashed the computer network of the Academy of Defence Science of the UK in 2021, inviting only ridicule from the world.

a statement to stress that Golan belongs to the Syrian territory by international law and it is the firm will of the government to recover it.

As is known, Israel started the

If he is in charge of security sector of his country, he ought to have power of discernment to see the root that threatens the security of his country and that of the world.

The UK has an unpleasant past of dispatching a large number of its troops to the Korean War in the 1950s, toeing the US line. However, we stated our position more than once that we do not regard the UK as an enemy as the two countries established formal state relations in the new century.

On every possible occasion, we also affirmed our principled stand of opposing all forms of terrorism, and expressed deep sympathy and consolation to Britons when they had suffered heartrending loss from the successive acts of terrorism.

Nevertheless, the UK politicians are making irrational insistence that the DPRK poses a threat to them. This cannot be construed otherwise than a servile act of the UK to curry favour with the US, which is inciting international cooperation to isolate and pressure the DPRK by tarnishing the reputation of our Republic and “demonizing” us.

If the UK, a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, tries to blindly follow its master this way, it will only result in losing its face before the world and being a target of criticism that the “British Empire” is a vassal state of the US.

The UK would need to regain its sense of reality soon and behave itself with its own principle.

aggressors’ control. After occupying Golan, Israel built Jewish settlements there on a full scale and tempted lots of Jews into emigrating to the area. It unilaterally adopted a law on

Syria is branding it as a flagrant breach of international law, while the international community is voicing recognition of Syria’s sovereignty over Golan.

Nevertheless, Israel is trying in every way to own it as it is a point of military and strategic importance for them, thus worsening the regional situation.

Under such situation, it made an air raid on a Syrian trade port to cause enormous material damage.

Enraged by the air raid, the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates censured Israel, saying it revealed its true colours once again, while the Iranian Foreign Ministry stated that the leaders of the Zionist regime do never want regional stability, security and peace.

Facts clearly prove that Israel is nothing but a stumbling block posing a serious threat to peace and stability in the Middle East. Resolutely rejecting the attempt,

For radical progress in improving people’s livelihood



Ri Song Bom
Vice-chairman and secretary of the South Phyongan Provincial People’s Committee

Officials of the South Phyongan Provincial People’s Committee are now full of great excitement and confidence after receiving the historic concluding speech the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un made at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

In the concluding speech, the General Secretary taught ways and means of making radical progress in solving food,

clothing and housing problems for the people.

South Phyongan Province has a harmonious foundation for its economic development and has lots of farming areas, including Yoltusamchholli Plain, which make a big contribution to the grain production of the country.

True to the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress and the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee, the province is dynamically

pushing the work to improve the provincial people’s living standards while powerfully propelling the development of farming areas.

Last year Oryong-ri in Mundok County and Namdong-ri in Phyongwon County were completely transformed into modern socialist farm villages and models of rural construction, and cities and counties renovated their local industry factories, thus laying firm foundations for improving

the local people’s living standards.

Cement factories with high production capacity, including the Puhung Cement Factory, are pressing on with production, and building materials, tile and sanitary ware factories have been built or their production capacity has been expanded so as to satisfy the demand of cities and counties for the products.

We still have much more to do.

It is a stiff task but we have confirmed through practice that we will surely win as long as we do as instructed by the respected General Secretary. This year we will surely open an era in which the countryside changes for the better.

BYWORD

Era of local prosperity

In the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said that capital construction should be prioritized and a new revolution in construction for fundamentally changing the living environments of the people should be made so as to continue to usher in the heyday of the capital city construction including

the building of 10 000 flats planned for 2022 and open an era when the local areas will change.

To build all farm villages in the country into those preserving the characteristics of socialism and features peculiar to relevant regions is a crucial strategic plan which the WPK gives top priority to and which it is determined to realize in order

to provide rural residents with excellent living environment and to achieve the overall development of the country.

The WPK and the DPRK government completed the third-stage renovation project of the City of Samjiyon, with the result that they could have an ideal model and practical experience for confidently pushing ahead with the long-

term grand construction to change local areas across the country.

Guarantees for the successful implementation of the plan include the powerful assistance of the state, the operation of the powerful national guidance system and the enhancement of the role of cities and counties, masters of local construction.

Briefly

Cuba

President calls for improving living environment

On a visit to Ciego de Avila on January 8, Cuban President Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez called on the local residents to turn out in radically improving their living environment.

Saying that there are many talented persons among the masses, he asserted that if all the residents take part in improving villages, everything will be done better.

What is important in carrying out the plans of the government to enrich the life of the residents is to encourage them to fully offer their opinions, he emphasized.

Laos

President stresses need to work for national development

Thongloun Sisoulith, president of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, called on all people to strive for the prosperity and development of the country in his New Year’s address.

Last year, the government reliably defended political stability and social order while overcoming many challenges and difficulties, he said, adding that it attained most of targeted economic development goals and gained successes in improving the people’s livelihood.

Saying that the year 2022 will be a year of providing environment and conditions favourable for developing the country into a richer and more powerful one, he emphasized the need for all people to pool efforts, fervour and wisdom so as to achieve national development and social harmony.

Russia, Belarus

Joint air patrol conducted

Fighters of Russia and Belarus recently carried out a joint air patrol.

The Ministry of Defence of Belarus on January 5 declared that both countries conducted a joint air patrol over their border region for the first time this year.

It was reported that the fighters flew over 1 150km for 120 minutes.

WHO

Warning against belittling o mutant

The director general of the World Health Organization at an online news conference on January 6 warned against making light of omicron mutated virus though its symptoms seem to be less serious than the delta mutant.

Asserting that the o mutant is also killing people like other mutated viruses, he called for observing such basic rules as mask-wearing, social distancing and ventilation.

COVID-19

Pandemic infects over 313 million, kills at least 5.52 million

According to foreign news reports, as of 24:00 on January 11, 313 800 597 people contracted the novel coronavirus and 5 520 552 died of the disease while 46 668 226 were undergoing medical treatment.




MORAN HILL DRESSED IN WHITE

By Jong Chol PT

January is midwinter in Pyongyang.

Cold winter gales whistled as they rushed through leafless tree branches a few days ago, but now they are covered in snow as if wearing thick-wadded coats.

At the time when the white snow glitters with lights in the morning sunshine, the scenery of Moran (peony) Hill in Pyongyang reminds viewers of a peony blossom floating on the Taedong River as the name says.

Photographers and artists climb the hill in haste to snap and represent in their works such beautiful snowscape presented by nature.

Their favourite choices are pine trees which remain green even under the snow and historical relics including Choesung and Ulmil pavilions which inspire fresh feelings in good harmony with the trees.

Following them are young men and women who climb Moran Hill walking through the fresh

snow and old persons who enjoy the beautiful scenery at the Choesung Pavilion, breathing in fresh mountain air.

Kang Won Ok living in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang, is one of the old persons who often climb the hill.

“The scenery of Moran Hill is good, but more spectacular is the bird’s eye view of Pyongyang you can command from the hill. Pyongyang has really changed a lot,” she said.

Snow-covered green pines, icicled waterfalls,

the murmur of clear water flowing under the thick snow carpet, the twitter of birds and sparkling powder snow flying even in the light winds—these charming scenes are the beauties peculiar to winter.

“I climb Moran Hill to draw pictures every year. Its exquisite beauty in each season and each place always gives me great creative inspiration,” said Jong Mun Chol, lecturer at Pyongyang University of Fine Arts and Merited Artist.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Cooing young man and woman, icicled waterfall and leisurely strolling family add to the beauty of snowscape on Moran Hill.

MASS-BASED SPORTS ACTIVITIES HELP WORKERS TRAIN BODY AND MIND

By To Kyong Chol PT

The Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory marked this year’s first sports day with a variety of mass-based sports activities.

“We have organized a variety of sporting events in various ways with enthusiasm for making a big stride from the first campaign of this year

to hasten the overall development of socialist construction by firmly training our body and mind through mass-based sports activities,” said Kang Min Sim, deputy manager of the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory.

Mass rhythmic exercises and health-promoting Taekwon-Do, in which all employees took part staking the honour of their

workshops, took place at the beginning, firing them with the zeal for sports.

A women’s volleyball match was played between the soap workshop and the container workshop.

Players in the match gave full play to their technical skills as they employed diverse tactics and swift manoeuvres in positive response to the cheers of rooters.

A men’s volleyball game played between the staff and personnel offices attracted the attention of spectators as it was really a blistering play.

“It is not long since I was appointed to the factory. I have watched the volleyball match of our factory officials for the first time today and their level is really amazing. Nearly 60-year-old officials jumped high to spike.

Their appearance was very impressive,” said worker Kim Hye Gyong.

The mixed doubles table tennis game between the staff office and the cosmetics institute also left a deep impression.

Contending for victory neck and neck, Kim Ki Hyok and Cha Kum Ju of the staff office won the game, finally making it possible for the staff office to continuously

possess the rotating trophy of the factory.

“I think that all the work can be done properly only when all officials become the model of masses. We will conduct more brisk mass-based sports activities to make our factory overflow with liveliness and spirit and boost cosmetics production with high-pitched enthusiasm,” said Kang Min Sim.

