

## General Secretary Kim Jong Un sends medicines to Haeju City Committee of WPK

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent medicines prepared by his family to the Haeju City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea of South Hwanghae Province on June 15 as an acute enteric epidemic broke out in the city.

Handing the medicines over to the Party committee of the headquarters of the WPK Central Committee, the General Secretary asked it to send the relief medicines to the Haeju City Party Committee and make sure that the city Party committee concretely grasps the households suffering from the epidemic and hands



Committee to well organize the work for sincerely preparing and sending medicines needed for curing the epidemic that broke out in and around Haeju City and Kangnyong County so as to fulfil their bounden duties as officials of the Party Central Committee.

He stressed the need to stamp out the infectious disease as early as possible by taking a well-knit measure to quarantine the suspected cases to thoroughly cut off its transmission routes, identifying patients through epidemiological examination and scientific tests, intensifying the sterilization of infected areas and making the public health

the medicines over to them as soon as even a little. possible to contribute to their treatment

He instructed the primary Party departments of the WPK Central committees and Party cells of the institutions in relevant areas intensively treat the patients with utmost sincerity.

## Medicines sent by Kim Jong Un handed over to families in Haeju

KCNA

The medicines, which General Secretary Kim Jong Un prepared at his family and sent to the people of South Hwanghae Province where an acute enteric epidemic broke

out, were handed over to families in Haeju City on June 16.

Haeju citizens shouted "Long live Comrade Kim Jong Un!" and "Long live the Workers' Party of Korea!" at the top of their voices as they shed tears of gratitude.

Residents of Ryongdang-dong Nos. 1 and 2 expressed their innermost feelings, saying that they were moved to tears as they received the medicines sent by the General Secretary, that the world has not witnessed such a caring

father as him and that they could not live even for a moment away from his embrace.

Residents of Soac-dong said that they had been filled with deep gratitude at the news that he requested that the relief medicines

prepared at his family be handed over to families in Haeju suffering from the epidemic as soon as possible to contribute to their treatment even a little and that as they now received the medicines, they felt as if he came.



# Senior officials of major departments of WPK Central Committee donate medicines for epidemic-stricken people

KCNA

Jo Yong Won, Ri Il Hwan, Kim Yo Jong and Hyon Song Wol, senior officials of the Organizational Leadership Department and the Information and Publicity Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on June 16 suggested sending the medicines prepared by their families to residents of Haeju City and Kangnyong County of South Hwanghae Province, where an acute enteric epidemic broke out.

Jo Yong Won, secretary in charge of organizational affairs of the Party Central Committee, said that he would encourage the departments and families of officials of the Party Central Committee to fulfil their obligations by turning out voluntarily and morally in the responsible work for relieving the people of their difficulties and pains as soon as possible and helping their treatment.

He added that he would organize the work for transporting the relief medicines donated by the departments and families of officials of the Party Central Committee on June 17 and delivering them to over 800 households suffering from the acute epidemic spreading in some parts of South Hwanghae Province.



# Officials of WPK Central Committee, their families prepare aid materials to be sent to Haeju, Kangnyong

KCNA

General Secretary Kim Jong Un sent medicines prepared by his family to the Haeju City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea as an acute enteric epidemic broke

out in the city of South Hwanghae Province and instructed officials of the Party Central Committee of the WPK to fulfil their bounden duties in the work to relieve the local people of the misfortune and agony as soon as possible.

In hearty response to his ardent appeal, officials of all departments of the Party Central Committee and their families unanimously turned out in the work to assist the local people. They, with great sincerity, prepared medicines,

foodstuffs and daily necessities for the treatment of the epidemic and a stable life in an effort to assist the residents of Haeju City and the Kangnyong County area like they would do their kinsfolk suffering misfortune.

# Relief supplies from officials of WPK Central Committee, their families handed over to households in South Hwanghae

KCNA

Medicines and other relief aids prepared with all sincerity by the officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and their families were transported on June 17 to the areas of South Hwanghae Province where an infectious disease broke out.

The relief convoy was warmly welcomed by officials of Party and government organs and working people's organizations, residents, young people and students in Haeju City and Kangnyong County.

Senior officials of the

Party Central Committee delivered the relief supplies to officials and residents of relevant areas.

The officials of the Party Central Committee visited the houses of residents on their sickbed and wished them fast and complete recovery of health.

And they met local Party and government officials to learn about the spread and medical treatment of the infectious disease and requested them to quickly overcome the health crisis they encountered by ensuring intensive medical treatment of the patients and proper provision of their living conditions.



# DPRK's anti-epidemic effort in two months

By Ri Sung Ik PT

At the end of April a fever of unknown cause broke out in the DPRK, explosively spreading and expanding all over the country with over 350 000 people contracting it in a short time.

Related units examined the results of gene arrangement analyses based on samples collected from patients with fever and concluded that it was identical with omicron mutated virus BA.2 which has rapidly spread across the world recently.

A serious health crisis occurred, which can be claimed to be the most serious disturbance ever since the founding of the DPRK.

However, the Workers' Party of Korea called the Eighth Meeting of the Political Bureau of its Eighth Central Committee and the state

emergency epidemic prevention system was switched over to the top emergency anti-epidemic system. After about 20 days the country took the initiative in the anti-epidemic war and carefully controlled the epidemic situation.

The WPK held six major Party meetings and promptly adjusted anti-epidemic guidelines according to the rapidly changing situation including the commitment of a strong contingent of medics of the Korean People's Army to the anti-epidemic campaign. In particular, Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, inspected the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters to turn the anti-epidemic war into an effort of the people, for the people and by the people.

The single-minded unity of the country should be acknowledged before anything else in estimating

its miraculous anti-epidemic situation.

As soon as the state emergency epidemic prevention system was switched over to the top emergency anti-epidemic system and an order was issued to lock down and isolate the whole country by regions and production and living units, the Korean people, who have never doubted the WPK's policies nor wavered in implementing them, tightly closed all their areas and units and turned out in the campaign.

It is beyond doubt that it was the result of the wise leadership of the WPK which has led them to victory without a single mistake or vicissitudes.

Admirable traits and noble deeds peculiar to the DPRK were fully exhibited and performed during the anti-epidemic campaign.

At the consultative meeting of

the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee on May 14, the General Secretary donated to the Party committee of the headquarters of the WPK Central Committee the medicines prepared by his family as an expression of his resolve to always throw in his lot with the people and a strong hope that peace and laughter would settle again in families all over the country and asked it to send them to needy families.

His fatherly love greatly impressed the people all over the country. Many impressive stories were told about laudable traits, kind deeds and noble virtues, giving great strength and courage to the people.

His courage and grit were the source of confidence and encouragement to the Korean people who were experiencing a nearly 20-day health crisis.

Supported by his indomitable spirit that we should and can surely win the anti-epidemic war, the WPK took a series of the most correct and efficient measures immediately in the early period of the spread of the malignant infectious disease and pushed ahead nonstop with the projects for fulfilling the people's long-cherished desires in economic construction.

The reality of the country, in which the people are more firmly embraced and new legendary stories of love for the people are embroidered on the strength of the invincible might of the integral whole of the leader, Party and people and the army-people unity even in the hard time of anti-epidemic war, strengthens the trust of the Korean people in the WPK General Secretary, their respected leader.

# Health care system runs at full capacity

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The public health sector concentrates efforts on smoother operation of the telemedicine system, emergency health care service system and section doctor system.

Through the telemedicine system, the rapid collective diagnosis groups regularly hold meetings with local hospitals about diagnosis and treatment of patients with abnormal symptoms in the localities and constantly contact relevant medical staffs to give them positive assistance.

The effort for making the telemedicine system accessible to all the lowest curative and preventive institutions across the country and making them improve their medical service level and thoroughly ensure safety in the treatment of patients.

The public health sector has established a unified control system for emergency health care services and pushed ahead with the work to ensure mobility, promptness and accuracy in the services and impart advanced medical techniques of practical use to medical workers so as to improve their expertise.

Medical workers of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital,

Koryo Medicine General Hospital, Okryu Children's Hospital and others are dispatched to all parts of the country so that they can share experience gained in treatment of patients with different constitutions and establish treatment tactics and methods. The work for raising the level of specialization in treatment of diseases are also promoted.

Medical workers' training institutions strive to make sure that students mobilized for intensive disease control and medical check-up and treatment acquire the qualifications and personality of a medical worker in practice.

The central emergency anti-epidemic and public health sectors work to upgrade online in-service training and technical training systems in an effective manner in close contact with relevant educational institutions.

Since more than 300 000 medical workers and lots of lecturers and students of training institutions are mobilized in disease screening, medical check-up and hygienic information activities, passing-on-technique conferences are held on a regular basis to help them acquire the ability to rapidly respond to changes in anti-epidemic situations of different regions and units.



Two medics of the People's Army drop in at a flat to deliver medicines.

RI KYONG MI / RODONG SINMUN

# 'They are my parents, brothers'

By Kil Chung Il PT

The service personnel of the Korean People's Army work day and night to protect the lives and security of the people.

They do not leave pharmacies for 24 hours to supply medicines, but provide kind-hearted consultations and sincere medical assistance to visitors even in the dead of night.

"I had swollen legs since I gave medical service and treatment all day long. However, I could go beyond the limit of my patience with the thought that ailing citizens are my parents and brothers," said medic Kang Chol Ho.

The service personnel demonstrated by practical actions how they love and serve the people in the anti-epidemic war.

They continued their journey for the people who were suffering from high fever to production sites and households. Thanks to their devotion, fraternal ties were forged between the people and service personnel.

Those, who were dispatched to a pharmacy in Janggyong-dong No. 2, Sosong District, Pyongyang, gave visitors the phone numbers of the pharmacy, and when the people phoned them to tell them necessary medicines and home addresses, they carried medical

supplies to their houses.

A medic, who was dispatched to the Unha branch pharmacy in Ryongson District, Pyongyang, was told that a household doctor was ill and so he voluntarily acquainted himself with health conditions of residents and patients in different areas in the doctor's charge, while those, who were committed to a pharmacy in Tongmun-dong No. 2, Taedonggang District, sent various medicines and foodstuffs to war veterans and persons of merit living in the dong.

The servicemen, who had shown kindred affection to residents regarding them as their parents and brothers, also did good things for them.

Another medic went to the home of an old person living alone in neighbourhood unit No. 27 of Saemaul-dong No. 2, Phyongchon District in Pyongyang, after hearing that she was seriously ill from a high fever, and treated and nursed her without leaving the old woman all through the night.

When the chief of the neighbourhood unit warmly greeted him saying the sincerity of the People's Army devoted to the old woman was really deep, though her neighbours had paid special attention to her, the medic replied that the service personnel are the sons and daughters of the

people. He also said that he would support her as his true mother from then on, saying that it is natural for children to discharge their filial duties when parents are ill.

His words overflowing with kindred affection moved to tears the chief of neighbourhood unit, the owner of house and neighbours.

Those, who were dispatched to a pharmacy in Jongback-dong No. 2 of Pyongyang's Rangnang District, happened to hear about an old age pensioner living in neighbourhood unit No. 20 during their visit to a patient living in the same neighbourhood unit for the provision of medicines. The following day, they visited him and gave the rations they had been supplied with and medical supplies for his treatment.

Although residents offered the service personnel aid materials associated with sincerity as a token of gratitude for their pains and commendable deeds, the medics would send them to families in difficulties.

People are our parents and brothers. When they are ill, how can we sit idle or receive something in return for curing our parents and brothers—this is the unanimous mind of all the service personnel of the Korean People's Army who are in the anti-epidemic war.



HONG KWANG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Head of a rapid mobile anti-epidemic team under the Moranbong District emergency anti-epidemic regiment gives instructions to his members before starting for another mission.



June 17 Top emergency anti-epidemic system in operation 37 days

# COVID-19 situation in DPRK

More than 23 160 people contracted fever and at least 28 430 others fully recovered in the DPRK between 18:00 of June 15 and 18:00 of June 16.

A total of more than 4 581 420 persons caught fever nationwide between late April and 18:00 of June 16. Of them, over 4 540 390 (99.104%) were fully recovered and some 40 960 (0.894%) were undergoing treatment.

# Like health workers of the generation of Chollima era



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Members of the general internal department of the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital take care of an emergency case.

By Pang Un Ju PT

The people of the DPRK always remember the Chollima era. It is not only because it was

a time when miracles were performed one after another. It was a time when everyone donated their flesh and blood for others without hesitation, they regarded doing good

things for the society and the collective as their pride and happiness and the slogan "One for all and all for one!" was translated into reality.

A surgeon had his bone cut without anesthesia and performed a four-hour-long operation to implant his bone on a girl, who became a cripple at the age of two. And all health workers of a hospital had surgical operations in turn to cut their flesh for the recovery of five patients who got burnt over the whole body and were taken to the hospital. On the operating table they smiled, saying that they would proudly answer that the scars were marks left for saving others' lives when asked about them. They were persons of great spiritual strength and personality in the Chollima era.

They had a view of life based on "us", not "me".

Many stories about the admirable traits of the people at the time who took great pride in devoting themselves for others are still passed on from generation to generation.

"Self-sacrificing spirit and devotion of health workers who have turned out for the

anti-epidemic war are as impressive as those in the Chollima era. As they give medical treatment to patients every day, they are exposed to a high risk of infection. But they are dedicating themselves to their job for the protection of the people's lives," said Sin Jin Hyok, deputy department director of the Ministry of Public Health.

Among them are those of the general internal department of the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital.

It is said that they had to provide medical treatment around the clock and take part in over 20 consultative meetings and rapid collective diagnoses through telemedicine on a daily average.

"At that time, most doctors and nurses were mobilized for medical examination and treatment of residents in their living areas and less than ten health workers were left in the department. So each of us had to do two to ten men's work, treating patients day and night," said Jon Song Guk, head of the department.

According to him, it was the most difficult task for them to treat patients with fever who also suffered complications.

On May 21, an 81-year-old man was admitted to the hospital as an emergency case. He developed a complication of cardiac failure and acute pneumonia, so he was unconscious and had a high fever.

The medical workers of the department took timely treatment measures and put him in intensive care for seven days by combining oxygen breathing with medical treatment for stimulating heart, promoting urination and improving blood circulation, antibiotic treatment against pneumonia and that for cardiac insufficiency, finally resuscitating him.

Among the patients was also a serious case with disturbance of consciousness. She developed high fever while being hospitalized for disturbance of consciousness caused by poisoning from carbon monoxide.

As she was unconscious and could not complain of the illness, it was very

difficult for the doctors to diagnose the cause of fever and prescribe treatment for her.

They conducted detailed lab and apparatus tests, held several consultative meetings and provided her with effective intensive medical treatment including antibiotic, fever alleviating, cerebral metabolism invigorating and other treatment for over ten days to bring her back to life.

They say that now she has almost recovered consciousness and can do voluntary activities.

"Health workers of the hospital showed devotion and sincerity more than I did. They sat up all night beside my mother for several days to treat and nurse her. I want to thank them who brought her back to life," said Kim Song Sim, daughter of the patient.

"As the older generation was excellent, so should be the younger one, I think. It is the mind of all of us to cultivate infinite humanity and heartfelt sincerity shown by health workers in the Chollima era," said Jon Song Guk.

## 'Our neighbourhood unit chief'

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Everywhere in the DPRK these days, you can see chiefs of neighbourhood units busy themselves taking care of the residents' health and providing them with convenience.

They inquire about the demand of each household for medicines from early morning, supply them with subsidiary foods and lend a helping hand to neighbours to solve every problem arising in their families.

Pang Hye Sun, head of neighbourhood unit No. 11 in Kumsong-dong No. 2 of Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, is a typical example. She makes the rounds of 30-odd households every day to acquaint herself with whether those with fever appeared in the previous night, whether staple and subsidiary foods and condiments ran out and what kind of medicines are needed and takes timely steps.

As she has to go up and down hundreds of stairs to look round her neighbourhood several times a day, neighbours ask her to take frequent breaks lest she should collapse. Then she smilingly says that the more frequently she walks, the sooner the benefits of the socialist system reach them.

Although she has severe arthritis, Yun Mi Hwa, head of neighbourhood unit No. 35 of Sinuju-dong in Sinuju City, frequents the families in her unit to ensure their living.

Neighbours feel kindred affection from her as she drops in on each household every morning to learn about their needs and tours different places to secure relevant articles.

A household doctor in Ryongsong District of Pyongyang also expressed her thanks to the head of her neighbourhood unit.

She said that the head took warm care of her little daughter, asking her to devote her all to fulfilling her responsibility at work free from worries about her child. She added that she was very grateful, whenever she heard from her daughter that the head looked after her as her real grandmother would do and she was fine in the grannie's house.

Those in neighbourhood unit No. 66 in Phungo-dong of Sinpho City regard the head of their neighbourhood unit as their flesh and blood.

She usually returns home late at night after looking after all households in her charge all day long, but it is not all.

At around 3 am some days ago, she got a phone call from a man in her neighbourhood unit asking for help in curing his wife.

She made contact with their household doctor in no time, raced to a pharmacy for medicines and sat up all night by the patient as she took necessary steps.

It is so natural that such women are affectionately called "our neighbourhood unit chief".

## Sincere efforts devoted to health care of residents

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

As the state emergency epidemic prevention system has been switched over to a top emergency anti-epidemic system, household doctors are very busy caring for their charges.

"Medical workers of our clinic are only thinking of protecting the safety of residents from COVID-19 lest there should be even a single casualty," said Kim Kyong Hui, director of the Kinmaul Polyclinic in Moranbong District, Pyongyang.

Early in May household doctors had to conduct a 24-7 medical treatment campaign due to a sudden increase in the number of fever cases.

They gave priority to rapid intensive disease control and medical check-up among residents, familiarizing themselves with every fever case while inquiring about their symptoms and making relevant treatment plans.

They also conducted information activities for prevention and treatment of COVID-19 at residential quarters in their charge.

As the saying goes, "A person reveals his true worth in adversity." In those days, the household doctors of the polyclinic were faithful to their duty laying aside their own pains.

Choe Chang Sil, one of the

doctors, devoted herself entirely to treating patients regardless of her household chores, and another doctor Choe Il Gyun strived to use Koryo therapy to improve the health conditions of fever cases though he was suffering from an incurable disease.

As those patients increased rapidly, Ri Yong Ran, head of the dispensary, manufactured a variety of traditional medicines which are efficacious in lowering temperature and curing cough, inflammation and indigestion to make effective use of them for the treatment of patients.

According to Kim Kyong Hui, household doctor Pak Yong Hui donated staple and subsidiary foods and medicines she had

accumulated for her own family to needy families. When other doctors were laid up with high fever in the course of treating patients, she volunteered to conduct disease control and medical check-ups and treatment for the residents in their charge.

On a nationwide scale, the situation of the pandemic spread has become stable to be controlled and improved, but the doctors are still busy with their work.

While striving to prevent reinfection among the residents who recovered from the disease, they pay special attention to the management of health of children, the elderly, those who have basic and chronic diseases, pregnant women and nursing mothers.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A doctor of the Kinmaul Polyclinic makes the rounds of families to offer mobile medical service.



A custom-built machine is processed at the Taean Heavy Machine Complex.



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

# Machine-building giant boosts production

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex has to turn out more custom-built equipment for chemical and electric power industries this year

By Yun Kyong Il PT

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex is stepping up the production of custom-built equipment needed at different economic sectors that are vibrant with the efforts to implement the decisions of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee

of the Workers' Party of Korea.

"This year our complex has a heavier workload than last year. We have to manufacture custom-built equipment for chemical and electric power industries and various kinds of parts needed in the projects for increasing production capacity of leading cement producers," said Yang Mun Sang, chief

engineer of the complex.

According to him, such equipment and parts can be completed through many processes and not a few of them are totally unfamiliar to the producers.

Yang added that workers of the complex never hesitate or complain in the face of difficulties caused by unfavourable objective conditions.

The complex now strives to bring about fresh innovation and bold creation as befits an establishment which has contributed to the development of the national economy with the manufacture of ordered equipment.

In the past it would take several months to process a great gear of coal mill to be sent to the building-

materials industry sector. Such an established norm in processing the gears was improved by Jang Kwang Sik, Kye Myong Son and other employees by way of remodelling cutting tools. Other skilled workers pooled their creative wisdom to devise and introduce a cutting method based on a several-blade tool, thereby further increasing the processing speed.

Like this, every workplace is alive with the endeavours to come up with unique ideas and efficient working methods. News of the setting of new standards and records are

being heard here and there at the complex.

Workers at generating equipment processing workshop No. 1 applied a bold and innovative method to the processing of a massive supporting roller which was regarded as impossible, while those at the large machine workshop finished manufacturing the parts with complicated structures by developing several kinds of tools.

Its custom-built equipment sheet metal processing workshop recycled welding rods so as to produce many more pieces of equipment from the same amount of materials.

## Technical innovation drive promotes growth of production

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex boosts production by encouraging mass technical innovation drive.

"We've considered the mass technical innovation campaign as the key factor in increased production and technical upgrading and dynamically push forward with it," said So Sung Gwan, deputy chief engineer of the complex.

The complex converted lots of data on machining into e-files and multimedia presentations and added them to its database so that all materials that technicians, skilled workers and other employees need for learning latest science and technology are available at the sci-tech learning space at any time.

It also encourages employees to enrol at the study-while-you-work system including the online education faculty of Kim Chaek University of Technology and Taean College of Technology in order to solve scientific and

technological problems arising in workplaces.

According to Kwak Myong Ho, senior staffer of the technical development department, with the mass technical innovation drive gaining momentum, many employees were trained to become highly skilled workers and lots of scientific and technical problems needed for the production of custom-built equipment resolved.

For example, its technicians established a melting method in three-phase arc electric furnace for strong deoxidation and desulphurization. By applying this method, the complex shortened the melting time of electric furnace to lower electricity consumption per ton of molten iron and raise the melting efficiency of metal charge, while cutting down the content of sulphur and consumption of ferromanganese, ferrosilicon and aluminium. It also reduced the processing time of large gear from over 30 days to seven with over 70 percent less manpower, while

increasing the serviceable life of machine 10 times, and shortened the cast-steel casting production cycle from 25 to three days.

Workteam leader Kim Sung Chol also came up with a plan for remodelling the power unit for the 16m turning lathe.

In the past, the device needed repair more than two times a month. But thanks to his technical innovation, it has been operated in good order showing no signs of imperfection this year.

Other valuable technical innovation plans include the automatic welding method of large equipment, which enables it to increase the speed and improve the quality of welding by carrying out build-up welding of bulky equipment in cylindrical and linear parts by way of automatic welding, and the automatic temperature control method in the 14m vertical heat treating furnace based on SSR, which automatically controls the heat treatment of machine parts.

## A treasure of complex

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Kim Sang Won, technical staff of the electronic automation office of the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, is a young inventor the complex is very proud of.

"Kim Sang Won is our complex's pride and joy. Though young, he is a talent who is indispensable in our complex that works with large machinery as he has flawlessly resolved all problems arising in its modernization schemes and readjustment and reinforcement," said Yang Mun Sang, chief engineer of the complex.

According to him, Kim has obtained over 20 national patents, certificates of invention and those of registration of sci-tech achievement in recent five years alone.

He said that the 31-year-old began to work at the complex after finishing a middle school at the time. And he enrolled in the study-while-you-work education system, majoring in electric engineering at Taean

College of Technology.

At that time, the complex was pushing forward with the scheme for introducing CNC technology into its large machines and other equipment amid the flames of an industrial revolution in the new century across the country.

In the powerful current of the times, Kim keenly realized that he had to arm himself with modern science and technology if he did not want to lag behind, but keep abreast of the developing times.

After gaining practical field experience and acquiring latest science and technology through the five-year college course, he took an active part in solving sci-tech problems arising in the complex.

He started with the development of brushless DC servo control device for machine tools.

And he resolved many other technical problems arising in the complex.

Officials and other employees proudly call him a treasure of the complex.

# Boost in building-materials output

Pyongyang Building-materials Factory recently exceeded peak-year level in production

## Variety of Ulmildae products on the increase

By Chae Myong Rim PT

Ulmildae-brand products of the Pyongyang Building-materials Factory are widely used in the people's life. The factory, a comprehensive finishing materials production base, produces different varieties of building materials including several kinds of tiles, sanitary ceramic ware, imitation marble and exterior wall paints. "In recent years, our factory set a goal of diversifying building materials in terms of kind and shape and is

making remarkable progress in developing new products," said Choe Hyon Ju, manager of the factory. Quality tiles, sanitary ceramic ware and other finishing materials are produced through automated production lines at the factory which consists of several production buildings arranged in good order. Using a domestic material as the one which plays an important role in glazing and ensuring whiteness indispensable for producing tiles, it produces quality tiles of various uses, including interior and exterior wall

tiles and floor tiles. It also introduced a new printing device to decorate tiles with different colours and patterns as it wants. Designs of flower patterns, polka dots and marble patterns and those of landscapes, which have been introduced into tile production, are popular as they meet the sentiments and tastes of people. CNC processing machines arising in production and applying the solutions into practice. To apply research achievements into practice is as important as inventions themselves. The technicians succeeded under laboratory conditions in the domestic production of a material which is essentially needed in the factory's production. However, they failed several times in its introduction into practice. Even though many of the products were found to be sub-standard, the factory management staff invariably

10 kinds of articles including various sanitary ware pieces and flower pots. The factory uses by-products from plastic window frame production to make chequered ceiling material. As the ceiling material is appropriate for illumination and decoration and satisfies aesthetic sense, it is widely used for finishing touch. Besides, the factory steadily increases the variety of products including different sizes of plastic window frames, wainscots and ceiling boards, various pails and spillway grooves for swimming pools. The machine produces over



AN YONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
A worker controls a machine at the tile workshop of the Pyongyang Building-materials Factory.

## Glaze produced with homemade materials

Factory focuses on domestic production of glaze, an indispensable material for inner wall tiles

By Yun Ki Song PT

The Pyongyang Building-materials Factory produces almost all raw and other materials needed for the production of tiles at home. After doing lots of experiments and tests, the factory provided a foundation that can produce over a hundred kinds of raw materials are used to produce tiles. "We have concentrated efforts on solving the problem of glaze, one of the most important materials in the tile production for inner walls by ourselves," said Choe Hyon Ju, manager of the factory. According to him, glaze is an indispensable material in the tile industry. Glaze is needed to ensure the chromaticity of tiles, when it passes through the calcination process in high temperature. The factory pushed forward with an undertaking for ensuring the domestic production of glaze. Technicians found out a material badly needed for the production of glaze in a mine area, thus making a breakthrough in ensuring the domestic production of glaze. And they found out the

rational mixing ratio of different kinds of materials and manufactured various facilities for the production of glaze including reaction and exudation tanks. After doing lots of experiments and tests, the factory provided a foundation that can produce over a hundred kinds of raw materials are used to produce tiles. "We have concentrated efforts on solving the problem of glaze, one of the most important materials in the tile production for inner walls by ourselves," said Choe Hyon Ju, manager of the factory. According to him, glaze is an indispensable material in the tile industry. Glaze is needed to ensure the chromaticity of tiles, when it passes through the calcination process in high temperature. The factory pushed forward with an undertaking for ensuring the domestic production of glaze. Technicians found out a material badly needed for the production of glaze in a mine area, thus making a breakthrough in ensuring the domestic production of glaze. And they found out the

By Sin Pyol PT

Recently, the Pyongyang Building-materials Factory has produced hundreds of thousands of square metres of tiles, thousands of square metres of plastic sash windows and thousands of pieces of sanitary ware and exceeded the peak-year level in production by relying on locally available materials. "We just pooled efforts and wisdom to make more quality building materials sought after by customers with our own efforts, technologies and resources," said chief engineer Pak Yong Chol when asked about the secret of the factory's success.

According to him, the factory's condition was not so favourable until several years ago. It could not but stop the lines when there was a breakdown or a lack of raw materials. It found the solution in strengthening its technical force and introducing valuable technical innovation achievements into production. It assigned college graduates to right posts and involved skilled workers in the study-while-you-work system to build its own technical force. The technicians and skilled workers with rich hands-on experience learned from each other as

they conducted a powerful drive for creation and technical innovation for solving technical problems arising in production and applying the solutions into practice. To apply research achievements into practice is as important as inventions themselves. The technicians succeeded under laboratory conditions in the domestic production of a material which is essentially needed in the factory's production. However, they failed several times in its introduction into practice. Even though many of the products were found to be sub-standard, the factory management staff invariably

supported the technicians so that they could finally succeed, said Jo Myong Ok, a technical official of the factory. The factory keeps a chart showing quality indexes of building materials produced by other factories and analyzes them in comparison with their own, while constantly looking for ways to improve various indexes of their products such as particle size, viscosity, water resistance and adhesion. "The creativity of competent technicians and skilled workers leads to a boost in production," said manager Choe Hyon Ju, adding he would try harder to further build up the factory's technical force.



JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Technicians of the Pyongyang Building-materials Factory examine several types of Ulmildae-brand products.



JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



AN YONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Vegetables are gathered at the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm.

## To provide Pyongyang citizens with much more vegetables

To develop our farm into better place to live in



Cha Chol Jin, vice-chairman of the Management Board of the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm

and standard of the rural cultural revolution in all aspects, it should also become a national model in the manuring, tending and production of vegetables. Now our farm has undergone a sea change. Vegetable greenhouses are splendid and cosy dwelling houses in beautiful colours and public buildings with various shapes and features reminding you of a fairy tale world stand in rows alongside a wide road. We have achieved successes in our efforts to make our farm thrive on the strength of science and technology while doing scientific farming in a responsible manner. We organized studies for improving the technical knowledge and skills of farmers in various forms, during breaks and before and after work. We also explained the productivity, nutritive

value and pharmacological action of new varieties of vegetables to arouse their interest. Their zeal for scientific farming grew further, resulting in the improvement of quality in farm work and a boost in production of greenhouse vegetables. As we conduct brisk mass artistic activities, every workplace overflows with optimism. The peasant dance of our farm was highly appreciated in different festivals. It is our unanimous mind to develop the farm into a better place to live in by directing efforts constantly to the construction of civilized and prosperous countryside.

## Vegetable farm actively applies advanced technology

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

The Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District of Pyongyang produces large quantities of such vegetable-fruits as cucumber and tomato and such leaf vegetables as lettuce, crown daisy and spinach. The farm put greenhouse vegetable farming on a scientific and intensive basis to supply Pyongyang citizens with fresh vegetables all the year round. Anyone who visits it to learn from its experience is struck with admiration for the work attitude of its employees who boost vegetable production by introducing advanced cultivation technologies. Hundreds of standardized arch-style, semi-arched

and arched interlocking greenhouses are heated solely by solar energy. They are furnished with solar panels and solar water heaters which help accelerate the growth of vegetables and increase their output. The solar panels are used to operate a general greenhouse environment measuring device which monitors in real time the temperature, humidity, value of solar radiation and concentration of carbon dioxide in greenhouses, and the solar water heaters produce hot water to be used for hydroponic cultivation and growing of seedlings. The heat accumulating pipes installed on the walls are always filled with water, which is warmed up by the temperature in the

greenhouses and used to grow vegetables. The farm makes rational use of all possible spaces apart from the main areas. Basket- or box-type patches are seen on the interior walls of greenhouses and stair-style patches on the exterior walls. It also produces some vegetables with different production cycles in a block by combining such tall vegetables as cucumber and tomato with intercropping. The farm also developed nourishing solutions for growing crops. "We have produced a large quantity of vegetables and supplied them to the citizens even in the top emergency anti-epidemic period," said Cha Chol Jin, vice-chairman of the farm management board.

# Integration of education realized with scientific research, production



A glimpse of the technical products exhibition of the Mirae science and technology centre of Kim Chaek University of Technology.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

## 'It is important to organically combine three key aspects'



It is an urgent demand of the present times to train larger numbers of talents who are practical, development-oriented and innovative by intensifying university education. Universities should direct steady efforts to achieving the integration of education with scientific research and production in order to train highly talented persons. As educational practice proves, only when education is integrated with scientific research and

production, can the universities spur the development of the country's science and technology and economy as they train capable persons and solve problems arising in practice. Such integration is also essential in building top-class universities. To this end, it is very important to ensure the organic combination of these three aspects. To meet its mission to train development- and creation-oriented and practical talents, our university has long conducted research into

the organic combination of them. In keeping with the global trend of educational development, it set up the Mirae science and technology centre as a base for this purpose and has stepped up the efforts for this. While drawing up curricula to ensure their integration and providing ourselves with better conditions for experiment and practice, we activated the operation of high-tech products bases and maintained close contact with industrial establishments.

We are going to positively introduce successes we achieved into production units to make them pay off and forge closer ties with them. We will also apply the research successes to education as part of the efforts to steadily raise the educational level in line with the requirements of the developing reality.

*Choe Yong Nam, director of the Mirae science and technology centre of Kim Chaek University of Technology*

## Broadening range of practical training

By Ri Sang Il PT

Kim Chaek University of Technology develops new curricula and teaching programmes and plans by constantly upgrading the CDIO (conception, design, implementation and operation) teaching method. At the Mirae science and technology centre students

are now directly involved in scientific research to carry out development projects. As those majoring in different subjects undertake a common project and attend necessary lectures, they have an opportunity to acquire a great store of knowledge. As the centre enhances cooperation with businesses and research projects and items increase in number

consequently, the range of practical training for those involved is broadened. Those who were awarded Scientific Search Prize for Students nearly doubled during the years since the inauguration of the centre as against the same period in the past, while many of them published essays in international academic journals.

## Centre strengthens cooperation with businesses

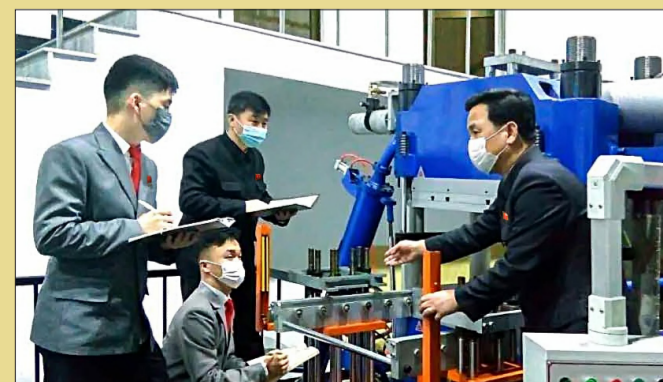
By Jong Chol PT

The Mirae science and technology centre actively promotes technical cooperation with businesses. Talented persons keep their eyes on the production trends of businesses to acquaint themselves with problems arising in production. In recent years alone, the centre played a pivotal role in upgrading the technical processes of major industrial establishments including the Sunchon Phosphate Fertilizer Factory.

During the period, it made rapid strides in developing new cutting-edge technologies including the one of manufacturing analytical facilities. It briskly conducts technology transfer and experience sharing and promotes the study and production for some technical products badly needed for managing businesses and improving the people's standards of living in close contact with different businesses. It also ensured the domestic production of many technical products, which had been imported in the past, thus making them much favoured by customers.

And it solved many sci-tech problems arising in chicken and fish farms across the country, thereby contributing to preventing environmental pollution and increasing productivity. In particular, it presented lots of successes conducive to promoting the people's health including an agglutinated blood stream separating chip, which were highly appreciated at several sci-tech festivals. In addition, it has brought out successes in researching information communication, nanotechnology and electric engineering products and other high-tech products, thus contributing greatly to developing science and technology and the economy of the country.

The Mirae science and technology centre serves now as a base for promoting the development of Kim Chaek University of Technology as it organically combines the successive production of young talents with the development and introduction of innovative ideas and production.



Students of Kim Chaek University of Technology have practical training at the Mirae science and technology centre (March 2022).

KONG RO HYOK / RODONG SINMUN

# More efforts to education in national instrumental music

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Students of the department of national instrumental music of Phyongsong Art School have not given up first places in several competitions including the national instrumental music division of the 23rd national schoolchildren's artistic individual contest held last year and its many graduates are active as national instrumentalists in central art troupes.

Such successes are associated with the devotion

of its teachers who put efforts to the education of national instrumental music and trained their talents.

"Painstaking efforts are required even to make good seeds to bear good fruit. In the same way, students with natural artistic talents can become outstanding artists through good education," said Kim Pong Ho, head of the department.

They rationally combine the lessons of major study and ensemble and practice so that students can acquire working knowledge that can be applied to creation and

practice. According to Kim Pong Ho, teachers originally tried to improve the individual skills of students while putting main stress on one-to-one education between teachers and students in their major lessons. As a result, students showed tendency to give importance to individual skills and ignore ensemble training.

So, they attached importance to ensemble training and practice together with individual training so as to develop the many-sided

artistic skills of students.

And they created a variety of music pieces that are suitable for the characters of national music and actively used them in education. They also had deep research into expressive means and playing techniques of national music like national rhythm and tunes and reflected them on teaching curriculum.

Over ten teaching materials including collections of national instrumental solo and concert, those of small-sized *haegum* (Korean fiddle) solo and *yanggum* compiled by their creative wisdom helped students remarkably improve their abilities of major studies and they are now used in art schools in each province.

In addition, they introduced new playing techniques while concentrating efforts on improving faculties to skilfully represent and create modern songs with national instruments.

Therefore, students who played only monophony plucking with right hand and tremolo with left hand in the *kayagum* previously are now playing different kinds of polyphony with new techniques like two-hand plucking.



An instructor teaches a girl how to play the kayagum, traditional Korean musical instrument, at Phyongsong Art School.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

## School runs many afterschool hobby groups

School runs over 30 afterschool groups including one-subject, sports and art groups.

By Kil Chung Il PT

Jungsin Senior Middle School in Sosong District, Pyongyang, is one of the schools which run extracurricular hobby groups effectively.

Now it has 30 afterschool hobby groups including mathematics, physics, chemistry and other one-subject groups, sports and art groups.

"The stage of secondary education is a period when teachers have to correctly assess the aptitude and individual characters of students and educate them accordingly into able persons. So education in this stage plays a very important role in

helping students fulfil their desires and ambitions," said Kim Song Chol, principal of the school.

The school learns about students' aptitude, ability, liking and academic pursuit before getting them to freely choose extracurricular activity groups according to their hobbies and aptitudes. And after a certain period of time, it analyzes the course of their growth and give a higher level of education to promising students.

According to their intentions, students can also join other groups.

The school regards competition as a good way to improve their abilities.

It analyzes the number of

students in each group in comparison with others each month and rates the groups with increasing numbers of students as good but those with decreasing numbers as bad groups, which promotes competition among the teachers to improve their qualifications.

It also regularly organizes school contests of one-subject group members, sports games of sports groups and artistry presentations of art groups and announces their rankings as part of its effort to develop competitive spirit among the students.

"I acquire much more knowledge and various skills through afterschool hobby group activities.

First, I took classes in literature such as poem and novel in the literature group and now I have vocal lessons in the music group. I want to express the happy life we are enjoying not only in my literary works but also in melodies," said second-year student Hwang Chol Mi.

"I preferred sports to music before, but I am fond of music now after learning accordion in the music group," said Ri Chol Myong, a third-year student. "It is really good that I can learn all I want to do after school."

Principal Kim said that the school plans to run more hobby groups to cultivate the talents of students.



## Competent headmistress

By Kim Kang Ju PT

Toksong Primary School in Phyongsong City affiliated to Phyongsong Teachers Training College is recognized as the most capable school in South Phyongan Province.

More than 90 percent of its teachers are model teachers, national teaching contest winners and holders of certificates of registered new teaching method and those of experimental apparatus and teaching aid invention.

The school runs over 60 groups, including those of native language, English, vocal music, and instrumental music, in which students develop their talents to their heart's content after class.

According to Ri Sin Suk, Merited Teacher and subhead of the school, more than a hundred pupils entered schools of higher grade this year alone.

All these successes are attributable to the devoted efforts of Choe Yong Ae (pictured), headmistress of the school, Ri added.

Ri said that the headmistress has dedicated her all to the education of rising generations for 48 years.

She was assigned to the primary school after graduating from the aforesaid college at the age of 19. She worked as a teacher, department head and subhead of the school before beginning to work as its headmistress in 2007.

From the outset of her career as a teacher, she applied a method of teaching through visual aids and actual objects and a heuristic method of learning and turned all occasions and spaces into those for instruction and edification.

Regarding a teacher's ability just as that of pupils, she made efforts to improve her qualifications and give correct answers to questions of mischievous pupils.

During her teaching career, she trained all hers into A and B students. This shows how sincerely she dedicated herself to the education of the rising generation.

Now it can be said that her work as headmistress is characterized by setting of practical examples.

She herself has steadily invented new teaching methods and informed all teachers of her experience and lessons learned from such process.

It is recognized as a unique method of work, and all teachers of the school now record their experiences, lessons learned and what they should refer to in their teaching diaries and present them at a meeting of teachers. And excellent presentations are generalized.

After painstaking efforts to make the merits of operation of such groups displayed in school education, they have invented methods of running the groups properly enough to develop students into those possessed of theoretical knowledge, practical abilities and talents.

"The headmistress refers to education as an undertaking requiring conscience, devotion and patriotism," said Hwang Pok Gyong, who was selected as one of the top ten teachers in the country last year.

For her meritorious service to the education of the rising generation, the headmistress was honoured to take part in the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, the 14th National Conference of Teachers and other important national meetings and was awarded the title of People's Teacher.

# Extremely dangerous move aggravates situation

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The Biden administration has recently announced its new plan to provide Ukraine with weapons when the Russian armed forces are conducting full-scale military operations in Ukraine. The list of weapon assistance announced by Biden on June 1 reportedly includes ultra-modern offensive weapon systems and war supplies of all kinds ranging from the HIMARS (High Mobility Artillery Rocket System) to anti-tank missile system and helicopters worth US\$ 700 million.

Immediately after the announcement of the decision to provide Ukraine with weapons, the press secretary of the Russian President and other high-ranking officials denounced it as an act of fanning up the warlike spirit of the Kiev regime and deliberately adding fuel to the flame. Especially, the vice-chairman of the Security Council of the Russian Federation warned that Russia would destroy all the decision-making centres including the defense ministry and the general staff of its armed forces, if the government of Zelensky attacks the Russian

territory with the weapons provided by the US. The reason is clear why Russia is reacting sensitively to the current decision of the US. In a word, it is related with the fact that the US move to deliver weapons to Ukraine is crossing the red line of infringing on the security of Russia. Moreover, the HIMARS, to be delivered to Ukraine by the US, can extend its range up to 300km, depending on what kind of rocket is mounted on it. Announcing this plan this time, Biden pretended ignorance saying that the US would not provide the

Ukrainian army with the capability to attack Russia over the border. Lurking behind this is the sinister intention to make the international society recognize that any future attack on Russia by Ukraine has no connection with the US and to get itself prepared to evade responsibility for it. If the US continues to cling to its reckless act of providing Ukraine with military support, it will bring a tougher response from Russia, and it will certainly result in aggravating the regional situation and increasing the danger of military conflicts between Russia and the US.

# Disturber of global peace and stability

By Ra Kuk Chol

With each passing day, Japan is overstepping the mark in its move to join the war disturbing global peace and stability. The Japanese government is now reviewing the revision of the "three principles of defense equipment transfer" to enable it to export not only defense equipment but also lethal weapons such as arms and ammunition. Earlier, in April Japan provided Ukraine, in the name

of "assistance", with drones that can be used for military purpose, to say nothing of a large quantity of conventional equipment. This has aroused public criticism at home and abroad. Japan is taking advantage of the Ukrainian crisis to review the revision of the "three principles of defense equipment transfer" and this is an extremely dangerous move to openly participate in the war. If Japan's export of weapons becomes a reality, it is crystal clear that it will foster bloodshed

and conflict in the troubled areas and plunge the world into a whirlpool of greater tension. Japan's weapon export is also dangerous in that it would expand its munitions industry, leading Japan to overseas reinvasion. The world vividly remembers the fact that Japan, which was defeated in the Second World War, was turned into an armory for the US, supplied a vast amount of war materials and opened the road to revival of militarism at the cost of blood

of millions of Koreans during the Korean war. The reality clearly shows that Japan, which is in a bid to revise the "three principles of defense equipment transfer", is indeed one of the culprits disturbing global peace and stability. The world should stand alert to Japan's reckless moves to participate in the war.

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

# Blood saves lives



Jong Sung Chol Section chief of the National Blood Centre of the Ministry of Public Health

Demand for blood, the source of life, is increasing as the days go by, but it cannot be made artificially. Therefore, blood transfusion relies only on donation. Large numbers of patients, who were in the jaws of death, could recover their health thanks to the benefits of the socialist free medical care system in our country. This is also associated with the unassuming

devotion of blood donors who have dedicated their blood for decades with warm love for other people. On the occasion of World Blood Donor Day on June 14 every year, our country has congratulated blood donors, widely introduced and publicized their deeds and encouraged many more people to take part in the donation. And it makes sure that officials in the blood transfusion sector develop a

higher sense of responsibility in the efforts to supply safe blood to patients while giving all the people a good understanding of the importance of blood in the treatment of patients. Blood banks across the country significantly organize such events as congratulatory meeting and presentation for model blood donors. They conduct a variety of information activities. Great efforts have been

channelled into increasing investment in the state blood programme and maintaining and strengthening it through cooperation and exchange with international organizations including the World Health Organization and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The theme for this year is "Donating blood is an act of solidarity. Join the effort and save lives". The event in commemoration of World Blood Donor Day is expected to be held as a virtual one in consideration of the worldwide spread of COVID-19.

## OPINION

# 'Rising up from drought together!'

By Choe Yong Nam PT

June 17 is the Desertification and Drought Day. Water crisis is now worsening in different parts of the world. The Horn of Africa sustains the worst drought unprecedented in the past 40 years. Due to severe drought, domestic animals were killed and those engaged in livestock farming suffered great loss in the region last February. According to the then estimation of the World Food Programme, 13 million people suffered from starvation in Ethiopia, Somalia and other regional countries.

Only a few months thereafter, famine victims have now increased to about 16.7 million and drought-stricken people to over 18 million in the region. More than 770 000 Somalis have already been reduced to refugees, and their number is expected to reach 1.4 million in the future.

The agricultural sector of Madagascar has suffered great loss since its southern part had little rain for several consecutive years. The UN said that over 13 million Madagascans are faced with food shortage due to the effect of drought and that about 30 000 out of them are in an especially serious condition.

The DPRK was also affected by drought in the spring sowing season of last April and May. Experts attribute the severe drought to global warming, like heavy rain and other natural calamities.

The reduction of emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases is now an important global issue. Many countries take a variety of measures to reduce greenhouse gas emission, including the development of transport means and construction of power plants using renewable energy and hydrogen.

To prevent forests from being ruined and ensure their good protection is an important way to prevent drought damage. Since dense forests have a large water-storing capacity, it is becoming an important way for minimizing drought damage and preventing flood damage.

In the DPRK every year saplings are mass-produced at tree nurseries built in Pyongyang and each province, tree planting is conducted as a nationwide campaign and the planted trees are tended properly to increase the rate of rooting. Scientific water management methods are introduced to minimize drought damage, while various undertakings are conducted to save water resources and make rational use of them.

Today, when the damage by disastrous weather is worsening year after year, to prevent flood and drought damage is a pressing issue which brooks no further delay. It will be possible only when all the nations ensure the unity of action.

The theme for this year's Desertification and Drought Day is "Rising up from drought together".

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# THE WORLD SHOULD BE VIGILANT ABOUT THE US HARPING ON 'RELIGIOUS FREEDOM'

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently, the US State Department released what is called "2021 International Religious Freedom Report" reflecting the religious situation in over 190 countries. It repeated its old bad habit of groundlessly finding fault with the countries that are not to its liking such as the DPRK, China and Russia. The US is the very country where hate crimes born out of confrontation and mistrust between

religions and sects do not cease and ethnic minorities and the religious people of specific races fall victim to them. The crime caused by religious strife takes the 2nd place in the hate crimes in the US. This fact alone clearly shows how hypocritical the American-style "religious freedom" is. The US often talks about "religious freedom". But the world knows well about how openly it has excluded and suppressed the heretics. In January 2017, the US stopped issuing visas for the peoples from

7 Middle East countries including Syria, Iran and Iraq and put a ban on entry into its territory by the Syrian refugees under the pretext of "counter-terrorism" and ensuring its security. In the meantime, it has tightened its control and pressure on Muslims in the US. The former state secretary Pompeo said that "all the Islamists in America are spies". This lays bare to what extent the discriminatory view of the American political circles on Muslims has reached. It does not stand to reason that such a country like the US is saying

this or that about the religious situation of other countries behind the signboard of "religious freedom." The US harping on "religious freedom" is an expression of its ulterior motive to find an excuse to disintegrate sovereign states from within and overthrow their systems by aggravating religious strife and conflict. All the countries in the world should remain vigilant about the deceptible and reactionary nature of American-style "religious freedom."

# Extreme weather causes catastrophic disasters

The world is sustaining great damage due to the abnormal climate phenomenon that is getting ever more serious. Owing to changeable weather, one side of the earth is hit by a serious water crisis, whereas the other side is heavily damaged by flood.

The worst-ever drought in 40 years is persisting in the Horn of Africa.

A spokesman for the World Food Programme last February expressed concern over the fact that domestic animals were dying and livestock breeders were suffering heavy loss due to devastating drought in the African region.

At that time the organization announced that 13 million people were estimated to be facing starvation in the region including

Ethiopia and Somalia. At present, a few months afterwards, the number of famine victims has soared to about 16.7 million and that of drought-stricken people to over 18 million in the regional countries. In Somalia at least 770 000 people took refuge and the number of such refugees is expected to reach 1.4 million in the future.

Rain has scarcely come in southern Madagascar for years, having detrimental effects on the agricultural sector.

The United Nations declared that due to the long dry spell, more than 13 million Madagascans are suffering from food shortage and about 30 000 of them are in an especially serious situation.

While the countries in the Horn have been undergoing a serious water crisis, South Africa on

the same continent was hit by a deluge.

Last April, KwaZulu-Natal of the country was stricken by a month-long catastrophic flood which left over 440 people dead and more than 80 others missing.

Floods inflicted heavy loss of life and property also in other parts of the world.

Days-long downpours caused floods and landslides in Assam in northeastern India in mid-May, which inundated low-lying areas and vast areas of farmland, cut off roads and destroyed other infrastructure. Several persons were dead and nearly 200 000 others were afflicted. The successive floods and landslides that have hit Assam this year killed 30 residents and caused damage to more than 500 000 others.

China was also compelled to take emergency measures to prevent flood damage as a great amount of rain poured down on different areas.

Serious abnormal weather conditions presenting a dramatic contrast have persisted across the world in recent years, which is attributed to climate change induced by global warming.

The UN already warned of the dangers of climate change, predicting that the global incidence of natural disaster would increase in the future.

Saying that 85 percent of the world population live in areas being directly affected by climate change, meteorologists assert that urgent international actions should be taken to check global warming that brings devastating disasters.

# Spread of monkey smallpox virus arouses serious concern of international community

By Pak Song Min PT

These days, monkey smallpox virus is being widespread at a fast pace with COVID-19 continuing to be prevalent on a worldwide scale, thereby giving rise to serious concern among the international community.

After the first person infected with monkey smallpox virus appeared in the UK on May 7, this virus spread to 30 countries and regions, except West and Central Africa, in less than a month, resulting in the registration of a total of over 650 infected persons.

Especially, damage by the epidemic is more serious in Europe.

Confirmed cases have already exceeded 100 in the UK, Spain and Portugal, and infected and suspected persons were discovered in the Netherlands, Denmark,

Germany, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland, Slovenia, Austria, Italy and France.

In addition, the epidemic was reportedly widespread in different Asian, Oceanian and American countries and regions including the UAE, Israel, Australia, the US, Canada and Mexico.

The World Health Organization said that it was the first time that monkey smallpox virus, known as the endemic disease in West and Central Africa, spread throughout the world, and expressed concern that it is estimated more infected persons would appear.

As already reported, monkey smallpox is a viral disease similar to smallpox and it is a rare and scarcely unknown disease.

It was named thus in 1958 when it was detected from a monkey caught by people and had broken out sporadically in ten African

countries since 1970.

The disease comes in two mutated virus varieties, namely those found in West Africa and Central Africa.

It can be infected from patients with monkey smallpox virus, such animals as monkey, rat and squirrel and objects infected with this virus and its initial symptom is fever, headache, backache, muscular pain and enervation.

After fever breaks, rash develops on the face and it spreads to all parts of the body. It can be accompanied with extreme itch or pain. It is said that the fatality is 3-6 percent.

Health experts said that the sudden emergence of the disease in many countries and regions simultaneously hints that there was non-sensed wave for a while, asserting that neglecting and confronting it at case was taboo. They warned that they should

remember the lesson of last two years that once the virus starts to spread, there is no way to stop the worldwide pandemic crisis.

The WHO pointed out that monkey smallpox virus poses considerable danger to human health on a worldwide scale, calling on each country to take prompt measures to curb the spread of the virus, including detection in early stage, the isolation of infected persons and the tracking of contact route.

China, the UK, France and other countries are now strengthening anti-epidemic measures including the measurement of temperatures and examination of entrants so as to check the inroad and spread of the virus, and advise that all residents should normalize handwashing and sterilization and refrain from contact with animals with the virus.

## Briefly

### China

EP slammed for meddling in Xinjiang issue The European Parliament seriously interfered in China's internal affairs in disregard of the objective fact concerning the Xinjiang issue and blatantly violated basic principles of international law, a spokesman for the Chinese foreign ministry said in a press conference on June 10.

He noted that the Xinjiang issue is related to China's sovereignty, territorial integrity and national security.

He strongly demanded that the EP stop interfering in China's affairs on the pretext of the Xinjiang issue.

### Russia

Pacific Fleet completes military drill, Japan expresses feeling of uneasiness

A flotilla of the Russian Pacific Fleet completed its military drill in the Pacific waters on June 10.

Meanwhile, Japan is in a fidget over Russia's military drill.

Saying that they identified five vessels belonging to the Russian navy in the Pacific off east Hokkaido on June 9, the Japanese Defence Minister talked about their need to observe Russia's military exercises and their intention to keep gathering information and maintain a vigilant watch as an expression of uneasiness.

### Lebanon

President decries Israel's intrusion into territorial waters

The Lebanese President on June 5 warned that Israel's exploratory boring in the disputed waters may pose a threat to regional peace and security.

His remarks came on the heels of the start of Israel's oil and gas exploration in the disputed water area where the boundary lines have not been confirmed.

### WFSO

WHO refers to food insecurity

The World Health Organization referred to food insecurity on the occasion of world food safety day (June 7).

The organization noted that one out of ten people is being affected by food-induced diseases worldwide, which imposes a burden tantamount to malaria and AIDS on the public health sector.

### COVID-19

Pandemic casualties

According to a foreign news report, 542 325 088 people were infected with COVID-19, 6 336 205 were killed by it and 18 610 858 were undergoing treatment as of 24:00 on June 15.

## BYWORD

# Love and affection

A feeling is felt more strongly amid the ongoing anti-epidemic campaign in the DPRK.

It is love and affection. The policies of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government on firmly defending the people's lives

and safety and taking good care of their life are being implemented successfully and many officials of Party and power organs, medics of the Korean People's Army and officials and students of the public health sector and medical workers training

institutions visit the homes of people carrying medicines and daily necessities day and night with kindred affection.

Many others unsparingly donate medicines and foods for neighbours, colleagues and even strangers who are in

difficulties.

Thanks to such loving care and warm affection, the Korean people are united more firmly and the country is able to stabilize the anti-epidemic situation at a fast pace by dint of the all-people anti-epidemic campaign.

# Three beauties of Hoeryong, pride of Korean nation

By Han Kwi Hun PT

Hoeryong, famous as a scenic spot in North Hamgyong Province, boasts a long history and culture, three beauties, eight scenes and many other sources of pride.

The three beauties of Hoeryong signify the beauties of its women, white apricot and earth.

From olden times, women of Hoeryong have been well known for being beautiful, virtuous, faithful to duty, devoted, full of vitality and upright and honest.

Therefore, there appeared a practice even in southern areas of Korea of making haste for marriage with a girl in Hoeryong without seeing the prospective bride beforehand.

Hoeryong women were affectionately called "Hoeryong housewife", "Hoeryong girl", "Darling from Hoeryong" and other forms of address in different parts of the country. Even ill-tempered women admired them for their kind hearts.

Foreign envoys who had been to Hoeryong in the closing years of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910) said in admiration that all the beauties of the country seemed to have gathered there.

It is so natural that the beauty of women topped

the list of "three beauties of Hoeryong".

The beauty of white apricot refers to Hoeryong covered with lovely white apricot blossoms and the famous white apricot-growing area.

That's why white apricot reminds Koreans of Hoeryong and the beauty is counted as second among the three beauties.

White apricot in Hoeryong has been regarded as the best one of apricots since olden times.

In its blooming season, the locals and visitors from adjoining areas picnicked Hoeryong and Pharul streams to view the flowers and float its petals praying for all blessings.

People said the white apricot tree produces blossoms as beautiful as maidens and bears fruits as handsome as bachelors and young men and women cooed under the trees.

A local legend has it that when man and woman make a marriage vow under the tree in full bloom at moonlit night, the promise is kept all their lives.

It is said that even a white apricot of Hoeryong is enough for pregnant women to recover loss of appetite. The fruit, unripe or ripe, is very delicious and highly efficacious for preventing cancer and retarding ageing.

Pickled and seasoned

white apricots were always put on the table of the locals.

In particular, the white apricot-peach rice cake prepared by slightly steaming the fruits and mixing them with rice flour before steaming and the apricot seed gruel made by grinding the seeds in its stones and rice and boiling them are uncommon foods served to the elderly and special guests.

The beauty of earth is the last of the three beauties of Hoeryong.

It represents white clay, a high quality ceramic material, and fine and elegant ceramics made of it.

Hoeryong has widely been recognized as an earthenware-making area since the Neolithic age.

According to historical records, Hoeryong developed into a leading ceramic producer during the feudal Joseon dynasty for the high quality of its white clay.

The ceramics made of it are very graceful in shape, beautiful in tone, varied in decorative pattern and solid in structure as well.

Hoeryong glazed earthenware is most widely known.

The ash-coloured earthenware never breaks or cracks even after a lapse of decades and preserves

good taste of dishes for a considerable time. It is especially effective in preventing endemic diseases.

During the feudal Joseon dynasty, it was regarded as the best of ceramics and one of must-have items as a

dowry even in southern areas as well as those around North Hamgyong Province. At that time, it was also widespread abroad.

An anecdote is still told that a renowned artist of the period made so much effort to represent the three

beauties of Hoeryong in a picture showing beautiful local girls carrying a graceful porcelain filled with fragrant white apricots and flying high up to the sky, but gave up finishing it lamenting his lack of ability.



Girls pick Hoeryong white apricots. (2019)



Hoeryong white apricot.



Hoeryong glazed earthenware.

## Renowned woman sports medical scientist

By Kim Kang Ju PT



Dr. An Jong Hui (pictured), deputy head in charge of scientific affairs of the Pyongyang Sports Club, has made strides in research to use Koryo medicine in promoting the health of sportspersons for nearly 20 years.

Koryo medicine based on traditional medicines abundant in Korea and traditional therapies such as acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping and acupressure is attracting public attention as it has proved effective in helping sportspersons recover from fatigue and create peak form condition and treating their injuries.

While working as a household doctor of a clinic, An Jong Hui had

an understanding of Koryo therapy to some degree. Since entering the field of sports medicine, she has intensified research to apply Koryo medicine to the field.

Having classified sportspersons by events and constitutions, she worked to find remedies for recovery from fatigue and creation of peak form condition by categories.

While making and using various kinds of healthy foods based on Koryo medicines for sportspersons and employing acupuncture, moxibustion, cupping for treatment of them, she pushed research to decrease time of recovery from fatigue and that of creation of peak form condition, thus finding new methods.

"Reducing the time of treating injuries picked up in the middle of training and a match is an important factor in ensuring success in sports," said An.

"Once I was wounded in the knees and arms in the middle of intense training just ahead of an international game. Coaches, colleagues and I were all surprised to hear doctors say that it would take some months for me to recover from the injuries.

"But the deputy head in charge of scientific affairs used a distinctive therapy to help me recover in a matter of 20 days so that I could take part in the world championships to win the title. My gold medal is associated with her effort," said

Pak Yong Mi, a member of the sports club.

The medical woman contributed to its members' wins in international games by introducing traditional therapies. This earned her a certificate of scientific and technological merit.

She also modernized the sports scientific information room of the sports club to put research and medical work on a new scientific base.

Though busy with her job, she develops programs and training apparatuses.

The competent sports scientist and medical worker recognized by the sporting world takes pride in gold medals won by the sportspersons.

