

National Meeting of Reviewing Emergency Anti-epidemic Work held Kim Jong Un makes keynote speech at the meeting



KCNA

A national meeting of reviewing

the emergency anti-epidemic work, convened by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the

Cabinet of the DPRK, took place in the capital city of Pyongyang on August 10.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the

WPK and president of the State Affairs

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Let Us Guarantee More Reliably the Safety of the State and People by Following up the Successes We Have Achieved in the Anti-Epidemic War



The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un delivered a speech entitled *Let Us Guarantee More Reliably the Safety of the State and People by Following up the Successes We Have Achieved in the Anti-epidemic War* at the National Meeting of Reviewing the Emergency Anti-epidemic Work on August 10 2022.

The following is the full text:

Workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors across the country,

Party delegates and army officers who are dispatched to the border, frontline and coast areas,

Commanding officers of the State Emergency Epidemic Prevention Headquarters and the epidemic prevention divisions, regiments and battalions,

Those who have made contributions to the anti-epidemic work,

Dear comrades,

The anti-epidemic war, which has been so arduous, is over and today we proclaim our victory in it.

Over 100 days have passed since Covid-19 made inroads into the territory of our Republic and 91 days since we switched the national prevention work to a top-level emergency anti-epidemic system against the rapid spread of the disease nationwide.

In these days the entire Party, the whole country and all the people have overcome the serious crisis and achieved a great success in stabilizing and restoring the anti-epidemic situation with an indefatigable will and desperate efforts.

Our Party and government estimated the prevailing anti-epidemic situation and, on the basis of the detailed analysis submitted by the scientific research sector, reached the conclusion that the epidemic crisis that was

prevalent in the country has completely been tided over.

To review the situation until today after the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system was put in place, the daily number of fever cases that recorded hundreds of thousands in the early days of the spread of the malignant disease decreased to less than 90 000 one month later; the number then continued to decrease, and since July 29 no suspect case has been reported.

Those who have died in this period number 74 in total, a record low, which would be called an unheard-of miracle in the world public health circles in terms of the fatality rate.

Until yesterday no case has been reported nationwide for 12 consecutive days, and seven days have passed since the report of the last recovery was made.

Thus the goal of our anti-epidemic struggle to turn our territory into a clean one free from the virus in the shortest period has been attained.

Conditions have been created to basically prevent the recurrence of the disease in the country. This is also a trustworthy source of our conviction in the end of the crisis.

First, the disease was eliminated by its source with the last patients recovering their health and being confirmed to be negative at the nucleic acid test. A climate of observing the regulations of the epidemic prevention work has thoroughly been created, and the disinfection work further intensified across society. The various channels, through which the disease could be spread, were blocked.

And on the basis of a scientific and final confirmation of the channel of the inflow of the stealth omicron virus into our country, the work of checking, blockading and watching has been further intensified, and the order of

collecting and burning or burying refuse immediately after they have been discovered and the work of guaranteeing the virus-free features of imports has been strengthened so as to ensure that no mutated virus from outside can make inroads into our country. This is another important



source of our conviction.

All the cases reported in this period being found to be infected by the stealth omicron variant BA.2, it has been confirmed that no new variant or subvariant of the virus occurred or made inroads into our country.

All the facts give us a full conviction that an end was put in our country to the crisis caused by the malignant virus.

At this moment, when we are confirming with happiness that our state and people have overcome the unprecedented public health crisis and recovered their stability and peace at last, I, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of our Republic, declare that we have achieved victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic war of exterminating the novel coronavirus that made inroads into our territory and of defending the people's lives and health.

That we have reliably defended the safety of the state and people from the most dangerous crisis in the global public sector, which has driven the whole world into a catastrophic situation, and eliminated in such a short period the gravest and most threatening challenge that faced us is another brilliant victory and a historic event that demonstrated to the whole world once again the great strength of our Party, state and people.

In relation to this, our Party and government will lower from today the grade of the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system, which was put in place on May 12 last, to that of an intensified and reinforced normal epidemic prevention work system.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I extend warm congratulations to all the people and service personnel across the country, who have defended themselves, the safety and peace of all others and the health and laughter of our children from the crossroads of life or death with an indomitable faith, unyielding perseverance and genuine unity and thus brought the anti-epidemic war to a victorious conclusion.

Comrades,

Though we are now filled with an ineffable delight and dignity, I do not know why but I am once again reminded of the indescribable stress and sense of responsibility that have weighed on me so heavily so far.

The past 91 days were never a long period in the realm

of our struggle, but they were days of a continuation of choking tension and a grave war in the true sense of the words, in which I felt the each passing day as if it were one, nay, ten years.

Frankly speaking, I was tormented by various thoughts when the malignant virus made inroads into our country which had remained safe for more than two years by building a super-level emergency epidemic prevention barrier and making persevering efforts since the initial days of the pandemic.

It was because I had a people whom I must defend without fail even at the cost of my life.

They supported me both in good times and bad; they encouraged me and lifted me up when the times were hard. For me, every one of them was part of my flesh and blood, which I could, and must, never lose.

The unfolding crisis in which the number of new daily cases jumped by hundreds of thousands was a very pressing, severest national crisis which compelled us to be alert to the maximum and exert ourselves with a do-or-die determination, anticipating even the worst case scenario that the country might perish.

The foundations of our anti-epidemic work and public health sector were weak and we were inexperienced in this work. In this situation, we were faced with the heavy historic tasks of deciding what to do to win in the war against the raging malignant virus which was directly threatening the safety of the state and the lives of tens of millions of the people, how to make the state organs lacking in the ability to respond to the war move sensitively and perform their correct functions and role in the campaign in which every minute and second counted, and what to do first and how to do it in order to reverse the tide of dire trials cropping up in the overall state affairs and the people's living. These tasks were virtually a stern touchstone for testing our Party's leadership ability once again.

In the face of this first-ever national crisis, however, our Party was deeply mindful of the great trust of the people and remained faithful to its inherent stance and attitude of serving them. By correctly displaying its unique resolute and powerful political leadership abilities, it intensified the state's anti-epidemic discipline and organized and led to victory the campaign for stamping out the virus.

Comrades,

The firm belief of the Party and people linked by ties of blood gave birth to a great miracle.

The stark reality of today when we are declaring victory in the anti-epidemic war clearly proves that our policy was right and our struggle principles were correct.

In other words, the invaluable victory we have achieved is the victory of our Party's anti-epidemic policy, the victory of our state's crisis management strategy, the victory of our people's fortitude and single-hearted unity unique to them, the great victory brought about by the superiority of our style of socialist system.

I can confirm it proudly and with dignity.

It is the consistent principle in the activities of our Party to adopt and implement its policies in the interests of the people, with their viewpoint and on their stand by always placing them first in its consideration.

With the establishment of a top-level emergency anti-epidemic system as soon as the malignant disease made inroads into our territory, our Party and government adopted appropriate and optimum policies in time to overcome the crisis, including the management of the situation of the outbreak of the infectious disease, blocking of the source of its spread and stabilizing of the people's livelihood.

However, even a correct policy cannot expect its perfect result without a high sense of organization, voluntary unity of action and purposeful enthusiasm on the part of the entire population, which can guarantee its implementation.

Whenever I think of the victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign, which could never be achieved easily, I am reminded first of all of the efforts of our people who absolutely supported and empathized with the anti-epidemic policy of our Party and government and implemented it with single-minded unity.

Under the emergency situation, in which a breakthrough was made in the rings of anti-epidemic barrier we had so far established in every possible way, even experiencing a big loss, and the malignant virus made inroads into our territory and spread, the most urgent thing was to immediately eliminate the source of the spread in the

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shortest time possible by putting the situation of the spread under stabilized control and management and quickly curing the infections.

So we could not but take strong measures of locking down every region and every unit across the country, while simultaneously pushing ahead with the work of locating, quarantining and treating the fever cases to the last one through a strict and intensive screening and examination of the entire population.

It meant hardships and difficulties many times greater than those of the past for all the families and citizens, to say nothing of the state affairs, as all visits and movements had been prohibited throughout the territory, not just in some parts or regions of the country, and the rhythm of normal work and activities had been destroyed.

However, our people displayed an excellent trait of accepting as the intention of our Party all the regulations and directives issued in relation to the emergency anti-epidemic work, observing them voluntarily and conscientiously and executing them without fail, regarding doing so as a patriotic undertaking for the country and as a natural duty and mission for the sake of their families and for themselves.

All the citizens willingly put their personal and family affairs off and displayed more clearly the formidable spirit peculiar to them, full of confidence in and optimism about victory in the war without the slightest vacillation, weakness, pessimism and fear.

In order to rescue these people from the malignant disease at the earliest possible date and without any delay, the Party and government urgently propelled on a top priority basis the work of releasing the reserve medicines of the state and supplying them to every part of the country so that necessary medicines could reach all the fever cases, and ensured that scientific treatment tactics and methods were established and applied.

As a result, from the fifth day since we had put the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system in place we reversed the nationwide spread of the disease to a containable, manageable and stable phase, and thus firmly stood a good chance of winning in the anti-epidemic war.

The Party and government also conducted in a proactive and coordinated way the work of readjusting the anti-epidemic policy and guidelines to relieve the people of their inconveniences and sufferings and reduce the negative impact on the state affairs and economic activities according to the changes in the anti-epidemic work situation.

To look back upon the days of the top-level emergency anti-epidemic work, we can say that it was of great significance in minimizing the damage by the virus and bringing earlier the great victory in the anti-epidemic war that we pushed forward in parallel the efforts for blockade and stamping out, adopted strong state measures of producing and supplying medicines, combined strictness with scientific accuracy in the anti-epidemic work and took positive measures for the provision of the people's livelihood.

But what is more important is that the high sense of organization and voluntary unity of action peculiar to our people led to the thoroughgoing implementation and perfect fruition of the correct anti-epidemic policy and guidelines of the Party and government.

There are no other excellent people like ours in trusting their Party and government, in understanding the situation of the country, in remaining sincere to their civic duty and in overcoming difficulties with perseverance.

We have curbed in such a short period the violent spread of the virus and restored stability in the anti-epidemic work, thus making the whole country, which was not vaccinated even once, a clean, virus-free zone. This is a miracle noteworthy in the world's healthcare history.

This is definitely a great victory of the people-oriented and scientific anti-epidemic policy of our style and of the joint efforts of all the people who unanimously responded to the policy in an endeavour to implement

it.

The victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign is inconceivable also without the advantages and might unique to our socialist system.

As our country has an ideological and volitional unity of all the people, masters of the state and society, it is possessed of an inexhaustible strength with which it can powerfully counter an outbreak of any crisis with the whole country and all the people rising up at the same time.

It is the most important political and institutional superiority unique to our society that all the sectors and units of the country absolutely uphold the decisions and directives of the state and keep in step with them in perfect order.

In addition to this, the collectivist spirit of one for all and all for one and the tenderness and human feeling of sharing sorrow and caring for one another more, the harder the times are, permeate the whole society, which enables our system to display an invincible might that others can never possess.

As we have this institutional background, immediately after the issue of the decision of the Party and government to switch over to the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system, strict measures were taken to blockade the whole country city by city and county by county and to cut off the work, production and living units from one another, and more intense anti-epidemic regulations, order and discipline were established, ensuring that we can take the strategic initiative in the following anti-epidemic war.

And all the Party organizations and government organs turned out to take care of the fever cases by supplying medicines even to the out-of-the-way posts and families and to ease the inconveniences of the people as much as possible by organizing various types of mobile service groups during the blockade; this is also unthinkable separated from our system.

This time the public health system of our country has displayed its people-oriented character and vitality to the full.

Even though the material and technological foundations of our public health sector are weak, the existing medical service system of our own style was put into effective operation, and so the formidable anti-epidemic and treatment tasks could be carried out with success.

Based on the district doctor system, emergency medical service system, telemedicine system and other people-oriented and advanced medical service systems, the identification of fever cases, screening and examination of the entire population were undertaken every day and quarantine and treatment were conducted in a correct way. This has been a great factor in achieving stability in the anti-epidemic situation and eliminating the source of infection on a nationwide scale.

It is the workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors who took the greatest trouble and performed feats in bringing about the victory in the anti-epidemic war.

Even though it is their natural duty, the burdens and pains felt by those who are standing in the first-line trench in the fight with the dangerous malicious infection can be said to have been most enormous.

Our anti-epidemic and public health fighters never hesitated to devote themselves in the anti-epidemic campaign for safeguarding the lives of the people entrusted to them by the Party and the state. None of them shrank back nor gave up but remained faithful to their duty to the end.

The spiritual strength with which they supported, devoted and exerted themselves in the fight with the virulent disease was warm love for human beings, spirit of boundless self-sacrifice for patients, a high sense of responsibility for the revolutionary tasks and sincerity.

During the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period, more than 71 200 public health workers and over 1 148 000 hygiene activists were mobilized across the country every day for screening and examination of families and employees and identifying and recovering

of fever cases while thousands of former public health workers volunteered for this effort. All of them strived hard with the above-mentioned spirits.

In particular, the Korean People's Army medics who were seconded to the capital city on the special order of the Central Military Commission of the Party have performed outstanding feats on the front of defending the people.

Thanks to the devoted efforts of these medics, who were filled with loyal passion to live up to the Party's trust and expectations at any cost and ardent love for the people, not only the supply work of medicines in the capital city was put on a stable footing and the epidemic situation was reversed but also the people's absolute trust in the Party and the precious traditions of army-people unity were defended.

I feel very satisfied with the fact that the medics have creditably carried out the order of the Party Central Committee by working day and night and that the citizens of the capital city regard our army as savers of their lives and as their own kith and kin.

In the recent public health crisis, the number of deaths in the country is particularly small as compared with the number of infections. It is because our anti-epidemic and public health workers have defied death to carry out the anti-epidemic and public health policies of the Party and government with an endeavour and devotion that are beyond the limiting point.

The anti-epidemic and public health workers across the country have devoted their heart and soul without leaving their anti-epidemic posts and treatment places 24-7, despite the burdens scores of times heavier than usual.

Among our medical workers faithful to the Party and people, there are many doctors and nurses who have devoted themselves to the residents and patients under their charge before taking care of their own husbands and children who were in sickbed, and other medical workers who have given strength and courage to the patients by preparing the medicines that were in short supply and even daily necessities for them.

What is more impressive is the deeds of the anti-epidemic and public health workers, who devoted even the last energy of their life for victory in the anti-epidemic war and complete recovery of patients thinking their mission and duty first as defenders of human life though they knew they themselves were suffering from illness.

They are genuine public health workers and patriots in our era, who are not different from the frontline doctors and nurses in the days of the Fatherland Liberation War and the red public health workers in the Chollima era.

Our Party and government always remember the devotion and exploits of the combatants, who are reliably defending the anti-epidemic posts across the country, including those in the frontline, border and coast areas not only during the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period but also from the first days of the anti-epidemic war.

With the full awareness of the sense of their responsibility and duty that they are defending the safety of the state and people, delegates and guidance team members of the Party, who have been dispatched to the emergency anti-epidemic front on the special order of the Party and government, a large number of soldiers of the KPA, officers of the public security and state security organs and members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards who have been enlisted for the duty of checking and blockading, and members of anti-epidemic posts in various parts have made great contributions to consolidating the anti-epidemic wall and establishing the social climate of observing the anti-epidemic regulations, overcoming all the difficulties under severe heat and heavy rains.

The self-sacrificing spirit displayed by workers in the public health sector and combatants in the anti-epidemic first-line posts in the recent top-level emergency anti-epidemic period will be proudly recorded in the history of our Party's struggle and of our country.

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The advantages and vitality of our style of socialist system were displayed in a concentrated manner through the communist virtues and traits which our people demonstrated more warmly and ardently in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period.

At the grim moment when the whole country faced the threat of the virulent disease, the greatest anxiety of the Party and government was not only the health of the tens of millions of people but also the inconveniences and difficulties they had to experience inevitably owing to the intensive checking and blockading measures.

So the Party Central Committee, regarding our society's tenderness and human feeling of helping and caring for one another in the face of hardships as a key, more powerful than any state-of-the-art medical science and technology, to a great victory in the anti-epidemic work, called on all the Party members and other people to give fuller play to our most excellent communist virtues and traits.

It is commonplace for our people to conduct beautiful deeds for they have cultivated collectivism and love for human beings as they breathe air, in the embrace of our Party and the socialist system. Yet, the moving stories born of the recent anti-epidemic campaign made us feel more keenly the warmth and preciousness of our society.

It is very regretful that I cannot mention here the so many beautiful moving stories and noble personalities one after another.

To cite some typical examples, the employees and officials of some factories worked day and night to provide medicines and foodstuffs to those suffering from the malignant epidemic, some people unsparsingly spent their family property to prepare goods necessary for those in hostels, students' dormitories, orphanages and baby homes, and still some others selflessly shared food grains, subsidiary foodstuffs and daily necessities with the needy families and neighbours.

Such benevolent supporters are everywhere—in the capital city and provinces, in factories and rural and fishermen's villages—and include the broad sections of society, ranging from respected war veterans to ordinary working people, heads of people's neighbourhood units, housewives and even children's union members.

Thinking of comrades, neighbours and the collective before oneself and devoting one's all for them despite one's own hunger in the difficult situation like now—this world of beautiful virtues showcased the harmony and bonds of human feelings of our society, the true value of which can never be measured by money or wealth.

I derived great encouragement incomparable to anything else from our people, the most excellent people in the world, who share the same intentions and feelings with the Party Central Committee and regard it as a source of pleasure and pride to devote themselves for others, and further hardened the conviction that we can surely emerge victorious in the face of any crisis and trial as long as we have such a people.

The whole country moves as one united in one mind and one will behind the Party and government and tenderness and human feeling based on collectivism are a national trait—this is the superiority and might unique to our style of socialism, and so we could break through with ease such an unprecedented anti-epidemic crisis and win a great victory.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Party and the government of the Republic, I highly appreciate the workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors across the country, who have exerted themselves and taken an active part, devoting their strength, wisdom and sincerity, in hastening victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign to safeguard the safety of the state and people from the tremendous public health crisis, and extend warm thanks to all the service personnel, officials and workers who have gone to great pain in defence of the anti-epidemic wall and the supporters who have encouraged the anti-epidemic work both materially and spiritually.

Comrades,

This time we have achieved victory not only on the emergency anti-epidemic front but also on the economic front and in overall state affairs.

The malignant epidemic situation was created after several years of the epidemic prevention work, making matters worse; this was a huge obstacle and a disaster that might cause an extreme confusion in the state and social life and economic construction, but we tenaciously overcame this and ensured without a hitch the expected speed of development while maintaining the normal state of affairs—this alone constitutes a great victory.

When declaring the upgrade of the national epidemic prevention work to the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system, our Party decided to push forward with both the emergency anti-epidemic campaign and the tasks planned to be done this year without interruption with a belief in the indomitable spiritual strength and creativity of our people; this decision has been carried out.

The most important farming processes in agricultural production, which was designated as a pressing task for the economic work for this year, were satisfactorily carried out in time.

As the recent top-level emergency anti-epidemic war started in spring, a crucial period for farming in a year, it posed a direct obstacle for the production activities of the agricultural workers and created a situation in which nationwide labour assistance could not be arranged as planned in the rice-transplanting season, which is the busiest farming period.

However, our agricultural workers, full of determination and enthusiasm to fulfil their responsibility and duty without fail in this year, the first year of implementing the new rural revolution programme, overcame the febrile disease and achieved such a remarkable success of finishing the enormous rice-transplanting task ahead of schedule entirely through their own efforts by displaying an unyielding spiritual strength which could not be imagined in the past.

This greatly encouraged all other working people across the country and became happy news for the people who were waging an arduous anti-epidemic campaign.

Although demands for anti-epidemic work became stricter and transport and supply of materials were not smooth, all the builders who are engaged in the major projects including the large-scale housing construction in the capital city and the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm construction perseveringly pushed ahead with the project processes as planned, thus providing a firm guarantee for completing them within the set dates.

Such key industries as metallurgical, chemical, electric power, coal and machine-building industries, and rail transport and light industry have mostly carried out their daily, ten-day and monthly production plans, although they faced difficulty twice greater than before in the provision of labour and materials, and thereby prevented the stagnation of the economy as a whole and made remarkable progress towards the achievement of the goal for this year.

It is another precious success that we have ensured the smoothness of overall state affairs even in the emergency situation.

Party, administrative and economic organs, the judicial and prosecutorial sectors and the public security, state security and national defence sectors accumulated practical experience in carrying on their work in a flexible and efficient manner, while promptly establishing the work system in emergency, identifying defects, gaps and deviations and taking measures against them in keeping with the operation of the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system.

In particular, I think it is very good that officials of Party organizations, government organs and all other sectors and units realized what embodying the people-first politics and serving the people unconditionally mean in the course of unquestioningly obeying the directives of the Party and government and thoroughly implementing the people-oriented policies.

While undergoing the recent unexpected public

health crisis, we made mistakes and learned lessons in our work, and these constitute a precious asset in efficiently coping with various crises we may face in the future.

The lessons we have drawn can be condensed into two in general.

One is that we should keep up a high degree of tension without permitting any slight carelessness and slackness as the anti-epidemic work drags on, and the other one is that we should scrupulously build the national crisis response capacity, anti-epidemic capacity, at any cost.

As a matter of fact, if we had observed the anti-epidemic regulations and guidelines we had already adopted, we could have well prevented and contained within the area the occurrence of fever cases on the frontline in Kungang County, which served as the starting point of the recent anti-epidemic crisis.

But the malignant epidemic which affected two persons in the beginning penetrated even into the capital area through the gap of carelessness and slackness latent in the epidemic prevention sector, creating a grave situation of nationwide spread.

Some people thought that there could be no gap for the malignant virus to make inroads since a tight blockade network was set up on the frontline, border and coast areas by committing a large number of people and an anti-epidemic situation involving all the people was created, and such self-conceit, carelessness, seeking of consolation and relaxing of grip can be said to have created such a serious challenge and crisis as the recent ones.

Intoxication with self-complacency, idleness and indolence and a proclivity to thinking bad things would not happen mainly clouded correct judgment on the initial inroads of the epidemic.

Its nationwide spread might well have been avoided if responding capability was demonstrated instantaneously while considering any subtle abnormal signs in direct connection with the destiny of the state from a viewpoint of "if," instead of "would not," and if work was conducted confidently while maintaining composure and a sense of responsibility in the face of the unexpected situation.

In the recent anti-epidemic war, we have keenly realized that if we keep clinging to the formalistic and mechanical work attitude and way of work, departing from a scientific way of thinking and action, we are destined to suffer in any health crisis that may erupt in the future.

We must never forget this lesson.

As everyone witnessed in the initial period when the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system was put in place, even the easily preventable loss of life occurred and we could not promptly contain the spread of the epidemic in the country since we failed to establish and carry out the test for the malignant virus, diagnosis and scientific treatment tactics correctly in time, and even superstitious rumours went round, causing considerable confusion in the anti-epidemic work and medical treatment.

We worked mechanically by clinging to physical blockade alone, failing to get at the roots of all links of the anti-epidemic chain according to scientific principles, to estimate and predict results and to take active and flexible measures, aggravating the living of the people and stagnation of the economic work, and we were compelled to straighten out what we could prevent beforehand.

In addition, there are various other problems: the state of our public health and anti-epidemic work, or to be more specific, our public health and anti-epidemic infrastructure and technical and material preparedness have failed to develop in line with the public health and anti-epidemic policies which our Party and state have pursued consistently since the founding of our Republic, and they are not ready to promptly respond to sudden events.

As all of us experienced, we should engrave deeply in our mind how urgently and badly the essential response

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capability on the part of the anti-epidemic and public health sectors are needed once fever cases are reported here and there.

In the final analysis, the anti-epidemic capability is synonymous to the national security capability and the capability to defend the lives of the people.

To review the things so far, we can classify into three types the objective crises that we should always prioritize and foresee in promoting national development and stepping up socialist construction.

War, epidemic and natural disaster—these are the three major crises that we should surely cope with in a responsible manner for the existence and development of the state and the wellbeing of the people.

As far as the war deterrent is concerned, our Party and state have long directed strong primary efforts to it and are building the mobilization capability and potentials with vigilance to minimize the damage from natural disasters.

The most important problem is to build the anti-epidemic capability for coping with the global health crisis.

Therefore, the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee set forth the state anti-epidemic capability building as an urgent task facing us.

As the major policy-oriented tasks concerning the state anti-epidemic capability building have already been decided and assigned, I would like to emphasize some major points.

We have declared victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign, but it does not mean that there is no danger of epidemic spread or the state emergency anti-epidemic effort has ended.

As the mass media introduce every day, now the public health crisis in the surroundings of our country and the rest of the world has not yet passed, and it is too early to feel relieved and loosen the anti-epidemic measures.

Over a dozen subvariants, which are stronger than the stealth omicron variant, which spread in our country, in terms of transmission and immunity evasion and which have not changed greatly in severity and fatality rate, break out in succession across the world, resulting in a rapid increase in the number of infections and a continued rise in the number of deaths.

To make the matters worse, a public health emergency of international concern was declared as highly dangerous monkeypox spread to dozens of countries, and possible outbreak of various infectious diseases owing to climate change also arouses anxiety of humankind.

It shows that there is no reason whatsoever for us to be intoxicated with the desired results achieved and feel conceited or relaxed, and it highlights the necessity to steadily step up the anti-epidemic campaign to thoroughly defend the security of the country and the wellbeing of the people.

We have to maintain the anti-epidemic wall impregnable and invest high-intensity anti-epidemic effort till the global health crisis ends, while following up the achievements and victory in the recent top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign.

First of all, due attention should be paid to maintaining the all-people anti-epidemic awareness and vigilance.

As the broad sections of the masses are masters of the campaign and victory in it is decided by their self-consciousness, it is essential to intensify anti-epidemic information work and education in every way so that the society-wide anti-epidemic atmosphere would never be weakened or dampened.

We should spare the word victory today when we have won victory for a greater victory of tomorrow, and more importantly pay attention to vigilance and practice.

When we will be congratulating ourselves soon on our victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic war, there is room for slackness, carelessness and inattention to raise their heads again. Therefore, all Party and working people's organizations, administrative and

economic sectors and law-enforcement organs should be awakened and direct their efforts to maintaining the public awareness of the anti-epidemic work and crisis.

However high the intensity of anti-epidemic information work and explanation may be, they would rather cause boredom and be taken as routine if stereotyped phrases are repeated.

Therefore, the information campaign and ideological campaign should be intensified actually to consolidate the anti-epidemic awareness and improve the habit of observing anti-epidemic regulations among the people on the basis of the data changing according to the worldwide anti-epidemic situation and the analysis of the actual state of our anti-epidemic effort.

At the same time, organizational, administrative and legal measures should be taken against the practices of violating the anti-epidemic guidelines and order to make our anti-epidemic work become a sure and reliable undertaking supported by the self-consciousness of the masses plus a strong legal guarantee.

Next, we should continue to concentrate on maintaining and consolidating the impregnable built anti-epidemic wall to prevent any malignant virus from infiltrating into the country again.

It is important to ensure perfection of blockade by re-examining the overall multiple blockade wall in the border, frontline and coast areas and in the seas and air, reinforcing what is needed according to the varying characters of the pandemic and newly shutting off where it is needed.

And here, too, primary attention should be directed to the provision of service and living conditions along with ideological mobilization and encouragement for those who perform the duty for blockade at check points so that our anti-epidemic first line would not only be perfect ideologically, spiritually, operationally, tactically and epidemiologically, but also maintain the highest level both in terms of responsibility and vigilance.

As I have mentioned above, it is one of our important tasks to give a spur to the building of the anti-epidemic capability of our state.

The public health emergency of international concern is serious now, but more challenging health crises are expected to occur periodically and repeatedly.

In the future, too, there is no reason at all for us to come to a conclusion that there will be no danger that such a public health nightmare would recur and to feel at ease.

It will be foolish of us to neglect or slow down the anti-epidemic capability building for the reason that we have won the recent anti-epidemic war and the current situation is very difficult, and it will bring about irrevocable consequences.

In view of the demand of the people-first principle, the political ideal of our Party, the true nature of our system which values the people most and the bitter lesson taught by the recent public health crisis, it is necessary to forcefully forge ahead the anti-epidemic capability building to raise it to the world level without fail.

This is the steadfast will of our Party and government.

We should comprehensively systematize the anti-epidemic policy and guidelines we have creatively enforced and the experiences and lessons we have gained and, on the basis of this, continue to intensify research into theoretical and practical, scientific and technical problems arising in perfectly developing our anti-epidemic work into a more advanced and people-oriented one.

We should further perfect the national anti-epidemic system and order and push ahead with the efforts for preparing adequate anti-epidemic forces and material and technical means in a foresighted and realistic manner.

Special attention should be paid to directing untiring and planned efforts into training professional anti-epidemic workers and improving their qualifications, developing and providing scientific testing and measuring equipment and establishing specialized quarantine and treatment facilities in various parts of the country.

As already pointed out, Koryo medicine and other pharmaceutical factories and medical appliances factories in various places should be renovated, their production capacities expanded and the construction of medical consumables and anti-epidemic medical supplies factories stepped up.

We should also be effective in conducting by stage the projects for modernizing the hospitals across the country and bringing pharmacies up to standard so that they can provide the people with a high level of medical service.

In this way, we can make our people lead a happy life in good health free from any disease enjoying the substantial benefits and protection of the best public health system and anti-epidemic system under the most advantageous socialist system.

Comrades,

In implementing the crucial policy-oriented tasks facing the anti-epidemic and public health sectors, the red anti-epidemic and public health workers of the Party, who are in direct charge of it, have a very important role to play.

Going through the recent worst health crisis and witnessing their selfless struggle, our people came to see medical workers in a fresh light and regard them as guardians of their best social system in the world and as reliable protectors of their lives.

The anti-epidemic and public health workers should cherish such trust and appreciation by the people as the most precious wealth that cannot be bartered for anything and make redoubled efforts to continue to live up to it.

They should become genuine communists who are imbued with infinite loyalty to the mission assigned by the Party, warm human love and sincere devotion to patients and put their heart and soul into thoroughly applying the advantages of our social system to anti-epidemic and healthcare practices.

Comrades,

We have become strong once again while tiding over the trials and, even if more challenges and difficulties stand in our way, we will become stronger while resolutely overcoming them.

No one could imagine that today's event would come so early when the fact that the malignant virus made inroads into our territory was made public three months ago.

Thanks to the benevolent people, who placed their hope only on our Party and turned out staunchly with boundless loyalty to it and indomitable will to overcome any trials cheerfully, and to the might of their single-minded unity, we have become able to advance towards a greater victory by making the recent health crisis a chance for development and a leap forward, not regarding it as a period of despair and frustration.

I sincerely appreciate the trust and encouragement of our people who always give me infinite strength and courage, and harden the resolve to make strenuous efforts even at the risk of my life for the safety and happiness of this excellent people.

We should work hard to achieve greater successes not only on the emergency anti-epidemic front but also in all fields of socialist construction by fully demonstrating our limitless potential displayed clearly in the recent event.

If we further mobilize and promote the strength of the indomitable spiritual strength of our people who have courageously overcome the worst-ever crisis, we can successfully attain the goals of the five-year plan indicated by the Eighth Party Congress as well as the fighting goals we set forth for this year.

Let us all reliably guarantee the safety of our state and people with firm conviction in and optimism about our struggle and future and dynamically step up the great historic cause of achieving comprehensive development of our style of socialism.

To conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to extend greetings once again with a feeling of humble reverence to the most respected and beloved people.

I sincerely wish all of you good health and all the families across the country peace.

Long live our great people!

Kim Jong Un meets officials, scientists in anti-epidemic and public health sector



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on August 10 met and congratulated exemplary officials and scientists in the anti-epidemic and public health sector who contributed to winning victory in the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign.

He said with high appreciation that the workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sector are the genuine patriots

in our era, little different from the brave frontline fighters who devotedly defended the security of the country and the people at cost of their blood during the Fatherland Liberation War, as they have exerted all their energy, wisdom and sincerity in the struggle for protecting the lives of the people entrusted by the Party and the state.

Noting that they had played the biggest role in successfully defusing the serious epidemic spread crisis in the country and restoring the stable anti-epidemic situation, he said that the Party Central Committee holds the loyalty to the Party

and the revolution, the devotion to the people and the responsibility for duty displayed by the Red anti-epidemic and health workers of the Party more valuable than anything else.

Saying that the Party's expectation for the workers and scientists in the anti-epidemic and public health sector, the defenders of our social system which is the best in the world and the reliable protectors of the people's lives, is very high, he stressed the need for them to enhance their responsibility and role in the work for ensuring that our people lead a long life in good health under the

substantial benefits and protection of the best public health and anti-epidemic systems.

Expressing his belief that all the participants would meet the demands of the times and the revolution and make a positive contribution to the advance and development of the country by registering bigger successes in the anti-epidemic campaign while further consolidating the already-achieved victory with their invariable loyalty and spirit of devoted service to the people, he had a meaningful photo session with them.

General Secretary has photo session with participants in national meeting for reviewing emergency anti-epidemic work



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, had a photo session with the participants in the national meeting for reviewing the emergency anti-epidemic work on August 10.

Attending the photo session were Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central

Committee, and Ri Chung Gil and Choe Kyong Chol.

The participants were filled with great excitement and joy of having a significant photo taken with General Secretary Kim Jong Un at the supreme temple of Juche, which would be kept as the honour all their lives, on the historic day when the great victory in the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign was declared after the grave health crisis was tided over by dint of

the tremendous might of the single-minded unity of all the people closely rallied around the great Party Central Committee.

When the General Secretary arrived at the venue of the photo session, all the participants raised thunderous cheers of "Hurrah!"

Looking up to the General Secretary with tears of great excitement in their eyes, all the participants paid the highest tribute to him, recollecting the painstaking efforts

he made to firmly defend the dignity and security of our state and people, continuing his great journey of devoted service at the forefront for protecting the people out of his noble sense of duty and intense love for the country and the people, and with his great foresight, iron will, extraordinary decision and outstanding guidance.

The General Secretary extended his

SEE PAGE 9



FROM PAGE 8

warm militant greetings to the participants who have put the idea and determination of the Party Central Committee into thorough practice in the van of the all-people anti-epidemic front, upholding the Party line and policies as absolute truth and heartily responding to them.

Saying that the victory gained by our people is a historic event that once again showed the world what the greatness of our state, the indomitable tenacity of our people and the beautiful national trait we are proud of are like, he stressed that the strength of the unity of the Party and the people in one idea and faith and the bonds of kinship serves as the invincible revolutionary asset of Juche Korea that no other country can ever have or imitate and as a powerful

treasured sword for breaking through any unprecedented hardship.

Expressing expectations that all the participants would consolidate the might of the most advantageous Korean-style socialist system in every way by turning the priceless victory in the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign into new source of energy for redoubled efforts to accelerate the state anti-epidemic capacity building, he had a photo taken with them.

All the participants renewed their firm will to dynamically accelerate the historic cause of comprehensive development of socialism, more firmly defending the security of their precious country, life and hopeful future with the indomitable spiritual strength and heroic mettle displayed to boldly overcome the worst-ever crisis under the leadership of the respected General Secretary.

FROM PAGE 1

of the DPRK, guided the meeting.

When the General Secretary appeared on the platform of the venue of the meeting, all the participants broke into enthusiastic cheers for him, who has vigorously led the Party, state and people to the final victory of the great anti-epidemic war with his tireless and devoted efforts and noble love for the future, out of his heavy duty.

Attending there were Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, Pak Jong Chon, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Ri Il Hwan, Pak Thae Song, Kim Yo Jong, Ri Chang Dae, Pak Su Il, Kim Yong Hwan and other senior officials of the Party and the government, officials in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors, the Party representatives and members of the Party guidance teams dispatched to border areas, commanding officers of the army units performing the blockade duty, members of the emergency anti-epidemic commands at all levels, the volunteers who contributed to the emergency anti-epidemic work, and officials of the relevant departments of the Party Central Committee.

Ri Yong Gil and other officials in the emergency anti-epidemic sector of the Ministry of National Defence were present at the meeting.

The national anthem of the DPRK was solemnly played.

Kim Jong Un made an important speech at the historic meeting declaring the victory in the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign.

After making a general analysis of the

anti-epidemic situation that has been encountered since the operation of the top emergency anti-epidemic system, he, on behalf of the Party Central Committee and the government of the DPRK, solemnly declared the victory in the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign for exterminating the novel coronavirus that had made inroads into our territory and protecting the lives and health of the people. He also offered warm congratulations and greetings of thanks to the people and the service personnel of the People's Army across the country who successfully concluded the great anti-epidemic campaign.

Affirming that the priceless victory gained by us constitutes the victory of our Party's anti-epidemic policy, the victory of our state's crisis management strategy, the victory of the tenacity and the single-minded unity peculiar to our people and the great victory brought by the advantageous Korean-style socialist system, he highly praised the workers in the anti-epidemic and public health sectors across the country and army medics for having dedicated all their strength, wisdom and sincerity to the hard and active work for bringing earlier the victory in the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign for protecting the security of the state and wellbeing of the people from the grave health crisis.

Analyzing and reviewing the invaluable successes, experience and lessons gained and drawn in the efforts for ceaselessly carrying out this year's plans in agricultural, construction and key industrial sectors and for maintaining smooth progress in the overall state work under the emergency crisis situation, he clarified the principles and important tasks to be fulfilled in further consolidating the victory in the top emergency anti-

epidemic campaign, while maintaining the steel-strong anti-epidemic barrier and intensifying the anti-epidemic work until the end of the global health crisis.

Calling on the participants to creditably guarantee the security of the state and the people and dynamically accelerate the great historic cause for the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialism with firm conviction and optimism about our struggle and future, he wished all the most esteemed and beloved people good health and all the families across the country wellbeing.

When the General Secretary of the WPK concluded his speech, all the participants raised thunderous cheers of "Hurrah!" repeatedly, recollecting in tears the great exploits and devoted service for the people he has performed to bring about a shining victory to be etched in history, leading the great and acute anti-epidemic war in the van with his death-defying will to fight to the last for the people's happiness and wellbeing.

The meeting heard a report made by Premier Kim Tok Hun.

Then, the floor was taken by Ri Chung Gil, department director of the Central Committee of the WPK who is commander of the state emergency anti-epidemic headquarters, Kim Yong Hwan, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK who is commander of the Pyongyang municipal emergency anti-epidemic division, Ri Yong Gil, minister of National Defence who is deputy commander of the emergency anti-epidemic division of the Ministry of National Defence, Ri Song Hak, vice-premier of the Cabinet, and Kim Yo Jong, deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee.

Saying with pride that our country had prevented the inroads of the malignant virus for two years and three months to set a new record in the history of the anti-epidemic work despite the global health crisis and that it restored the complete stability in the anti-epidemic work in a short period, the reporter and speakers stressed this is a miracle unprecedented in the world's public health history. Noting that the remarkable success in the great anti-epidemic war is the brilliant victory of the Party Central Committee's outstanding and seasoned guiding ability and of the people remaining faithful to the Party's idea and leadership, they extended warmest thanks in reflection of all the people's unanimous desire to the General Secretary who has defended the security of the country and the people's wellbeing in the unprecedented health crisis. They expressed their resolutions to demonstrate the dignity and might of our state to the full by thoroughly translating into practice the new orientation of the anti-epidemic policy and tasks set forth by the Party Central Committee and putting spurs to the struggle for the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialist construction, keeping in mind the unshakable faith that only victory and glory are always in store on the road of following the General Secretary. The national meeting, held under the guidance of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, served as a grand gathering of the victors who demonstrated once again the power and spirit of heroic Korea vigorously advancing toward the bright future of Korean-style socialism in the face of any tempests of history, closely rallying in one mind around the great Party Central Committee, and as an important occasion for opening up a new development stage in the state anti-epidemic capacity building.

14th SPA Standing Committee holds 21st plenary meeting



Choe Ryong Hae, chairman of the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, presides over the 21st Plenary Meeting of the 14th Standing Committee of the DPRK SPA.

KCNA

The 21st Plenary Meeting of the 14th Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on August 7.

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the SPA, presided over the plenary meeting.

Attending the meeting were Kang Yun Sok and Pak Yong Il, vice-chairmen of the SPA Standing Committee, its Secretary General Ko Kil Son and other members of the SPA Standing Committee.

Put on the meeting as agenda items were the issue of convening the SPA of the DPRK and issues of adopting the law on medicines, the

law on the prevention of violation of the order of procedure and the law on self-guard and of revising and supplementing the law on space development.

First, a decision of the SPA Standing Committee on convening the Seventh Session of the 14th SPA of the DPRK was adopted with unanimous approval.

Next, there was a report on the gist of the relevant laws and the draft amendments examined at the SPA Legislation Committee.

The law on medicines stipulates the principled matters of ensuring medicines are used in protecting and promoting the people's health from A to Z by establishing a strict system and order in the production, examination, storage, supply, sale and use of medicines.

The law on self-guard stipulates the articles for positively contributing to defending the social system and protecting the people's

life and property by establishing an all-people self-guard system, providing the conditions for self-guard and strengthening guidance and control over it.

Revised and supplemented in the law on space development and method of implementation so as to further legalize the activities of space development.

The plenary meeting studied and examined the proposed bills and adopted the decrees of the SPA Standing Committee "On Adopting the Law of the DPRK on Medicines", "On Adopting the Law of the DPRK on the Prevention of Violation of the Order of Procedure", "On Adopting the Law of the DPRK on Self-guard" and "On Revising and Supplementing the Law of the DPRK on Space Development".

Premier Kim inspects 10 000-flat building project in Hwasong area



Premier Kim Tok Hun (third from left) inspects the construction site of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area.

KCNA

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is also member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected the construction site of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area of Pyongyang.

Looking round different places of the construction site, he gave pep talks to officials and builders who are creating a new construction legend and construction speed with the unusual honour of participating in the huge construction campaign to realize the long-cherished desire of the WPK.

He referred to the need for the officials in charge of the construction management to exercise unified control over the entire project and enhance the role of construction units and supervisory institutions in order to strictly ensure both the quality and speed of construction.

He also noted that internal and external work for the buildings should be carried out to highlight the features and looks of a modern urban section and the area be landscaped well including the planting of street trees and building of parks.

The field consultative meeting discussed such issues as of steadily implementing the scientific idea and plan for developing the construction sector on a long-term basis in order to carry through the decision of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee, increasing the proportion of construction work done by machines and expanding and introducing the advanced construction methods and technologies, and ensuring the proper and timely supply of materials, particularly the finishing building materials, needed for construction by the relevant units including ministries and national agencies, and took appropriate measures.

DPRK SPA session to be convened

The Seventh Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK will be convened in Pyongyang on September 7 2022.

A relevant decision of the SPA Standing Committee was adopted on Sunday.

HOME NEWS

Industrial establishments boost production with technical innovation drive

All the sectors and units in the DPRK are waging a collective emulation drive for putting production processes on a modern basis, realizing domestic production of raw and other materials and recycling.

Workers and technicians of the Taean Friendship Glass Factory have boosted production by introducing 30-odd valuable technical innovations into production and conducting quality management in a scientific way.

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex introduced at least ten inventions into production.

The Haeju and Anju tractor parts factories sent tens of kinds of tractor parts to farms in the first half of the year by solving technical problems arising in modernly reinforcing production processes.

The Ruywon and Sinuiju

footwear factories developed and introduced dozens of shoe designs and enhanced the performance of major equipment to improve the quality of products.

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill brought about an upsurge in production.

The Sinuiju and Pyongyang cosmetics factories, the Wonsan Disabled Soldiers' Bag Factory, the Pyongyang Bag Factory and many other producers achieve successes in boosting the proportion of locally available raw and other materials and developing new products.

A step forward made in education, research

This year Kim Chaek University of Technology launched a homepage offering educational data on over 1 100 subjects of the world's advanced level and pioneered more than 10 advanced and cross-disciplinary subjects.

In the first half of the year alone,

more than 90 students took the first place at the Codechef challenge, an international internet program contest, to hoist the DPRK flag on the internet, and the university won the national programming challenge contest.

Its researchers developed an ozone generator, a wagon sterilizing sprayer and transformation-free electric boiler, mapped out a technical plan for a dry disinfection ground and established a temperature measuring, controlling and monitoring system at the disinfection ground.

Those who went to foodstuff, garment, daily necessities and other factories in Kimhwa County of Kangwon Province carried out their assignments, thereby ensuring the inauguration ceremonies of the local-industry factories.

Medicine exhibition held in South Hwanghae

A provincial medicine exhibition took place in South Hwanghae Province.

On display were thousands of items of medicines and medical appliances of hundreds of kinds newly developed and produced

by scientists and technicians of the public health sector in the province with their own efforts and technology and with local materials. They are valuable products whose quality and effectiveness were verified through clinical practice.

Birthday spread sent to centenarian

A happy event took place at the family of centenarian Ri Kyong Sun living in neighbourhood unit No. 8 of Pusang-ri, Hongwon County, South Hamgyong Province.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to her on her 100th birthday.

The macrobian expressed her gratitude to the leader unable to suppress her strong emotion. The old woman has enjoyed a happy life in good health with lots of children in the people's country in which everything serves the people, in the era of the Workers' Party of Korea. She asked her children to do much work in order to defend and glorify the grateful socialist country, without forgetting the bitter past when the Koreans suffered the bitter lot of slaves.

Accomplishing historic cause of national liberation

Road of national liberation pioneered with independence

Original, protean guerrilla tactics

By Pak Song Min PT

Korea's liberation was the victory won by the unique and adroit guerrilla tactics of President Kim Il Sung, legendary anti-Japanese war hero.

He created many original guerrilla tactics during the 15-year-long anti-Japanese armed struggle to deal a deadly blow to the Japanese imperialist aggressors.

They were original ones which could not be found in any books on military science, including those of attacking in the west after making sounds in the east, allurement and ambush and dividing a large unit into small groups and gathering small groups into a large unit again.

Recorded during the period of the large-unit circuit operations was a battle in which a unit of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, or the anti-Japanese guerrilla army, led by him made the enemy troops, who had suddenly closed in on it from the front and back as it circled around a snow-covered tableland, fight each other by sneaking out of the route without leaving any traces.

The guerrilla tactics he had employed were so varied and amazing that the Japanese army and police troops cried in distress, "their tactics are

enough to make the devil wonder at" and "they are brilliant arts of war never mentioned in Japanese books on war," and the Korean people told legendary tales about General Kim Il Sung, saying that he employed the "art of shortening distance".

The Korean People's Revolutionary Army boldly marched along the "Kapsan-Musan guard road" built by the Japanese imperialists in broad daylight by employing the tactic of the 400km rush march in 1939.

When the enemy found out later that the anti-Japanese guerrilla army had sneaked into their "impregnable" border area and marched along their guard road in broad daylight, they groaned in despair and called the bold move an "unprecedented mystery".

The huge army of Japanese imperialism, which was called the "leader of Asia," suffered a serious political and military blow from the diversified, unique and adroit guerrilla tactics of the KPRA and finally surrendered unconditionally.

The exploits of Kim Il Sung who won every battle in the great anti-Japanese war by dint of his uncommon military strategem and superb guerrilla tactics and achieved the historic cause of national liberation will live in the history of national liberation.



File photo shows Koreans in great delight to greet national liberation on August 15, 1945.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Korea's liberation is the priceless fruition of the steadfast spirit of independence of President Kim Il Sung.

Early in the initial days of his revolutionary activities, Kim Il Sung clarified the profound truth that man is the master of his own destiny and he has the ability to carve out his own destiny, and hewed out a new road quite different from the older generation's, an original way of making the revolution by relying on the people with a belief in

them. His principle was that only when revolutionaries awaken the masses of the people, arouse them by rallying them into one and encourage them to the struggle, can they defeat Japanese imperialism with their own efforts and achieve the country's liberation.

After advancing an idea that when they fight with armed enemies with arms, the Korean people could win victory, he put forward a line of armed struggle with guerrilla warfare as its main content at the Mingyuegou

Meeting in December 1931. Therefore, the Anti-Japanese People's Guerrilla Army was founded on April 25 1932 as the first Juche-oriented revolutionary armed force of the Korean people and their anti-Japanese armed struggle started against one million Japanese troops.

The anti-Japanese guerrillas made Yongil bomb while building arsenals in thick forests and tailored hundreds of military uniforms by reprocessing broken sewing-machine needles by their own efforts to fight enemies.

Admissions of losers

By Pak Song Min PT

At the sight of the members of the Japanese imperial army and police, who had left for "punitive operation" against the anti-Japanese guerrilla army, returning stupefied by the tactics of guerrillas who appeared in an unexpected place at an unexpected moment and left no trace behind, the Japanese military authorities said: "As the guerrilla army of General Kim Il Sung is adept at guerrilla warfare, breaks through any encircling rings and makes a breach in any offensive operations,

you should abandon the concept of the front in order to fight them. Even able operations planners and army commanders seem to lose orientation in the forests as the definite front disappears and all our units and troops are mixed with enemy counterparts and great confusion is caused."

Nozoe, commander of the "punitive forces" of the Japanese imperialists at the time, said, "Kim Il Sung's unit cleverly employed camouflage tactics to make it appear existing here and there as it moved divided into several detachments with each of them styling themselves Kim Il Sung's

unit." Unami, chief of the police affairs department of Helong County at the time, took part in the "punitive operations" against the anti-Japanese guerrilla army between 1938 and 1941.

He also admitted, "It seemed that General Kim Il Sung gave full play to his outstanding leadership also in his anti-Japanese guerrilla warfare. We suffered especially hard times because of his deft luring operations and ambushes."



The imperial Japanese army troops surrender unconditionally on August 15, 1945.



Consumer goods show runs in Pyongyang



A consumer goods exhibition attracts many Pyongyang citizens.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Pyongyang municipal consumer goods exhibition was a great success.

"The recent exhibition showed well that the quality of consumer goods is not improved of its own accord for the mere reason that they have a long history

and that the producers have sufficient material and technical foundations. The quality standard of products is precisely a concentrated expression of view on the people," said Jon Sun Gum, a staffer of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee.

The Songyo Knitwear Factory newly brought

out new T-shirts with the national flag emblazoned on them for those from nursery children to junior middle school students.

It represented a new design by timely mirroring the love and mind of children who are eager to wear T-shirts with the national flag emblazoned on them like adults.

Eye-catchers at the show

were dresses favoured by women.

In conformity with the taste of Korean women who like bright and mild colours and nobility, they were diversified in colour and pattern to meet the seasonal features of midsummer.

Accordingly, the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill presented good shirts materials with pretty colours and drape so that girls and middle-aged women could directly select cloth for their dresses and shirts.

And the Pyongyang Leather Shoes Factory, Pothonggang Footwear Factory and other shoe producers put on display shoes varied in form, colour and pattern.

The Ryuwon Footwear Factory reportedly increased the number of products by newly making five kinds of shoe soles this year.

The Pyongyang Children's

Foodstuff Factory exhibited formula for babies and mothers which improves their nutrition before they are born and lactic acid bacteria formula, which is good for the treatment of diarrhoea of new-born babies, while the Songyo Kimchi Factory displayed distinctive sliced vegetables preserved in soy sauce or pepper paste.

The Ryonghung essential goods production station brought out footlockers made of plastic glass beads with different shapes and sizes, baskets for containing socks, boxes for needles and thread, toilet bags, bathing bags, wall hangings and a variety of other products. They won favour for their seasoned designs and shapes.

Different kinds of soaps were also presented. They were made with domestic raw and other materials and are said to have great bleaching,

washing and foam generative capacities.

Various kinds of August 3 consumer goods also drew attention of visitors.

August 3 consumer goods production units in Taedonggang, Tongdaewon, Sunan and other districts in the capital city put out women's clothes with unique forms, quilt, pillow, boots, various kinds of grasswork, wooden ware, ceramics and school supplies.

Meanwhile, voices were heard here and there from visitors who looked forward to higher quality consumer goods.

"Tens of thousands of visitors appraised each article as critical examiners. We will value their comments and constantly improve the quality of goods," said Won Son Ju, section chief of the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory.

In keeping up with this, the city made substantial preparations for the exhibition with emphasis put on further improving the quality of consumer goods and ensuring a sustainable increase in production.

The exhibition was attended by well-known light industry factories, including the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, the Ryuwon Footwear

and thus guarantees the quality of products, keeping in close touch with the process inspectors.

Mapping out detailed items for quality management, it gives its employees lectures on how to control the factors affecting the quality of products to broaden their knowledge of quality management.

It notifies them of the state of quality management on a real-time basis through its intranet and conducts a review of quality management once a week, thus fuelling the zeal for competition for improving the quality of products between workteams.

Yu In Nam, staffer of the Ryuwon Footwear Factory

We will produce more, better consumer goods



From consumers' standpoint

Our housewives' workteam is well known for being good at making men's shirts and trousers to their liking.

This time we put on display a new type of men's shirt.

Made with cloth permeable to air, the shirt has three lines of pleats on the button facing and its collar and sleeves are short. It was well liked by men.

Our exhibits also included trousers with different bright colours.

The exhibition made us realize that any goods reflecting consumers' standpoint can be favoured by them.

Now is the time for producers to prove themselves qualified as true servants for the people through the quality of their products.

Kim Un Yong, member of the Ruyultroug housewives' workteam under the Tongdaewon District

housewives' workteam management station

Scraps valued Effective use of raw materials is an important way to ensure profitability in revitalizing consumer goods



production. Our factory uses scraps of cloth to increase the variety of toys by relying on wisdom and creativity of its workers.

Earnest speculation and efforts make it possible to make excellent goods with diverse decorations, patterns, lines and colours from scraps.

This can be proved by scores of kinds of toy animals put on display at the exhibition.

Pak Hye Song, worker at the Kyonghung Toy Factory

Quality management level improved

Our factory has established a well-regulated quality management system to timely



analyze possible problems in ensuring high quality and take necessary measures.

Setting the right points to be inspected, it ensures thorough analysis in all processes ranging from the feeding of raw materials to forwarding

OPINION

Dangerous move toward possessing 'capability to attack enemy base' at working stage

By Kim Jong Hyok

These days, Japan is attempting to purchase 150 anti-aircraft intermediate-range missiles from the US to be mounted on the ultra-modern stealth fighter "F-35".

This provides evidence that Japan's bid to possess the "capability to attack enemy base" has reached a working stage.

It is a well-known fact that Japan is seeking to specify the possession of "capability to attack enemy base", the core of which is preemptive strike on the opponent, in its "national security strategy" by masquerading it as the "capability for counter-attack".

To this end, Japan is now scheming to possess and increase such military equipment capable of operating outside the range of strike by its opponent. And its attempts at extending the range of its present ground-to-ship guided missiles are also one of the typical examples.

Japan's plan to purchase a large number of anti-aircraft intermediate-range missiles to be mounted on the ultra-modern stealth fighter "F-35" provides new evidence that its move to possess the capability for preemptive strike has already reached an extremely dangerous stage.

The purpose of possessing the capability for preemptive strike is reinvasion.

At this very moment, its "Self-Defence Forces" are staging frantic and large-scale war exercises everywhere on the islands of Japan, in the waters off Japan and in its skies to get proficient in foreign invasion. They are being conducted under such pretexts as "recapturing" a deserted island and improving the ways of response to various warfare—space, cyber and electronic.

The moves to arms build-up for the possession of the "capability to attack enemy base" constitute a flagrant challenge to and infringement of the Japanese constitution with "total defence" as its backbone as well as international agreements stipulating its position as a war criminal state.

Japan should clearly know that such military manoeuvres will only invite greater disaster to the islands, far from defending its destiny.

The international community should be highly vigilant against Japan's undisguised attempt at reinvasion.

Possession of the "capability to attack enemy base" is a product of abnormal greed for power and megalomania.

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

Growing tendency towards development of outer space for peaceful purposes

By Song Jong Ho PT

Iran has recently paid close attention to the development of outer space for peaceful purposes amid the brisk international efforts for that.

In June this year, Iran announced that it worked out an independent ten-year plan for the development of outer space on the basis of success in its carrier rocket and satellite development during the past 20 years.

According to its major space development goals, it will increase state investment in the development of civilian satellites for securing earth observation technology for peaceful purposes and environmental science and meteorological observation technology and encourage different research institutions to actively participate in the programme.

According to the sci-tech and knowledge-based economic development policy, it will

introduce an innovative space science and technology system, commercialize space science and technology and knowledge, produce relevant goods on a commercial scale and provide relevant service, and increase commercial investment in the research and development field.

At the same time, it will intensify space observation including that of the solar system, Mercury, Mars and the moon, and research into the application of space science and technology such as earth observation, navigation and communications.

Iran purposefully pushes forward the development of carrier and satellite according to the national space development plan.

Shortly ago, it successfully launched a homemade scientific research satellite.

The recent satellite launch was reportedly a test in which

an artificial satellite weighing 220kg was sent into the trajectory at an altitude of 500km.

Meanwhile, India is also making efforts for the development of outer space.

It is now building a new space launch site.

Kulasekarapattinam in the southern part of India is said to be the second launch site being built for its space development plan.

The Minister of State for Science and Technology of India said that it is expected that the launch of a rocket will be ready in the new space launch site by 2024 or 2025.

The country is now operating one space launch site equipped with two launch pads.

There is problem in launching large rockets at this launch site, but in case of small rockets, there is great impediment since the fuel carrying capacity of rockets is limited.

That is why India has longed

for the construction of a space launch site capable of launching small rockets without passing the airspace of Sri Lanka.

The new launch site is said to be an ideal position for the launch of small rockets.

When the new launch site is built, small rockets manufactured by newly-rising local businesses can go up straightly toward the pole by loading a small amount of fuel.

Therefore, the construction of a new space launch site has become a matter of concern for the space development field of India and domestic and foreign customers who are desirous of the launch of small satellites.

And the Indian space research organization said that the country launched a PSLV-C53 space rocket carrying three Singaporean satellites on June 30.

International efforts will get brisker to develop vast outer space.

Exhibition fuels zeal for competition for quality improvement

A Pyongyang municipal exhibition of consumer goods was held at Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 between August 2 and 12.

The zeal of the units participating in the exhibition was great as it took place for the first time after the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea which set the task of pushing the production of consumer goods so that the people can actually enjoy the benefit of light industry this year.

In keeping up with this, the city made substantial preparations for the exhibition with emphasis put on further improving the quality of consumer goods and ensuring a sustainable increase in production.

The exhibition was attended by well-known light industry factories, including the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill, the Ryuwon Footwear

Factory, the Pyongyang Cosmetics Factory and the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory, and consumer goods and August 3 consumer goods producers.

On display at the exhibition were over 389 000 pieces of exhibits in some 12 300 kinds including footwear, ready-made clothes, cosmetics, quilts and health foods.

Particularly, there were many products that were awarded the December 15 Quality Medal, registered as February 2 Products or patented by the state.

The December 15 Quality Medal is the top quality medal of the DPRK which is awarded to products of top quality every year and February 2 Products are those which are much in demand and popular with the people.

August 3 consumer goods exhibited by the housewives' workteam management stations and housewives' production workteams in districts and counties of the city also covered

a large portion of the goods on display at the exhibition.

The movement for the production of the August 3 consumer goods started in 1984 and its vitality has been fully displayed for dozens of years.

The city held consumer goods exhibitions several times this year.

As the frequency of the exhibitions increases, the quality of such goods improves and their variety increases.

What is particularly significant is that the goods are generally made with raw and other materials available in our country.

Each of the exhibits showed how hard their producers had striven to make more and better goods distinctive and convenient

for the people's life.

Innumerable among the exhibits are new goods the producers made after learning what the people liked and demanded, what opinion they had about their products.

The exhibition thus attracted many people from its first day.

During the exhibition, the technicians and producers from the participating units exchanged their success and experiences achieved in improving quality, reducing production costs, developing new products and ensuring domestic production and recycling.

And they made a firm resolve to be responsive to the demand of the developing reality and try to produce better goods before the people demand.

BYWORD

A rich country with a strong army

The military parade held in Pyongyang in April in celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army demonstrated the great pride and self-confidence of the Korean people in achieving the great cause of building a rich country with a strong army.

The proud features of the DPRK, which has built up a

tremendous military capability that no one dares to challenge and provoke, clearly shows that a country can never prosper without a strong army.

Today, the DPRK directs a great deal of energies to the development of the economy to provide the people with more affluent and cultured life, while continuously maintaining a durable regional

stability and peace by relying on the powerful defence capabilities.

It is evidenced by the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, farm houses and others the country forges ahead with.

The Korean people are now full of confidence that the great cause of building a rich country with a strong army will surely

be achieved as long as they are guided by the Workers' Party of Korea and the government that look up to the people as Heaven and defended by the Korean People's Army with invincible military might.

Therefore, all of them work hard to contribute to achieving this great cause and it has become the general will of all people.

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COMPETENT WOMEN'S BOXING COACH



Pak Chol Jun, coach of world champion Pang Chol Mi, has been nominated as one of the top ten coaches of the DPRK three times

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Pak Chol Jun (pictured) who coached Pang Chol Mi to victory in the 51kg event of the 2018 World Women's Boxing Championships is known as a competent coach in the DPRK's boxing circles.

He has trained lots of players in his career but cut a conspicuous figure after training Pang to become a world champion.

In recent years, Pak has worked hard to help Pang maintain her position as an ace in the 51kg category. As a result, she snatched another gold at the Mangyongdae Prize Games held in celebration of the Day of the Sun last year.

After analyzing in detail Pang's performance at the event, he established a new goal for training. It was to take a crack at

another weight category title.

While applying new training means and methods, he made exact demands on her to acquire agile movement, sudden strike and various punching techniques at a high level.

He also adopted advanced training methods and made sure that she carried out all training processes from physical to technical training in a scientific way.

In particular, he organized lots of training matches so that she could refine her special techniques and play all matches in a technical and tactical manner.

According to Pang, the training matches seemed too

much for her at that time.

"I realized later that my coach prepared the opponents in such a way that I could spot my weaknesses and overcome them. Through the training matches, I improved my techniques and acquired the ability to cope with different situations effectively," said Pang.

She snatched a gold medal at the 57kg category women's boxing of the national championships held late last year by fully demonstrating her special techniques.

In recognition of such successes, Pak was selected as one of the top ten coaches of the DPRK for the third time last year.

National musical instrument Okryugum



Okryugum.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

Okryugum is a musical instrument invented in the early 1970s.

It consists of an unequal trapezoidal sound box and

legs.

The surface of the sound box has a round sound hole with 34 strings across it.

The instrument can increase or reduce any note by a half step by dint of

a sound changing device connected with pedals.

In playing okryugum, you perform high compass with the right hand and low compass with the left hand while sitting straight at the

instrument.

And you get your feet ready to easily press any pedal for sound change.

The methods of playing the instrument vary, and common ones are plucking, thrumming and glissando. You can produce tremolo as you press the strings at the left side of bridges.

"It is named okryugum as it produces notes as clear as beads and its timbres are clear and refined. They are also so diverse that they are similar to those of harp and piano or those of kayagum and guitar. And it has enough volume to produce lingering sounds sufficiently," says Kim Suk Yong, a lecturer of Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

As an expressive national musical instrument, okryugum is widely used for a solo, ensemble and concert.

The instrument plays an important role not only as a solo instrument but also in national instrumental ensembles and performs an important function in ensuring the national colouring and lyricism of orchestral music in Juche-oriented mixed orchestrations.

Edible grass, national food of antiquity

The Koreans have effectively processed different kinds of edible grass from mountains, fields and sea

By To Kyong Chol PT

Edible grass is food favoured by the Koreans. They eat edible plants, tree leaves and other greens raw or by scalding and seasoning them.

Edible greens include herbs, wild vegetables, seaweeds and bean and mung-bean sprouts.

The Koreans have effectively processed different kinds of edible grass from mountains, fields and sea to use them as side dishes since olden times.

There are many historical records telling that they had used them in their dietary life since the period of Ancient Joseon.

Traditional processing methods largely consist of three kinds: salad, boiled and dried vegetables.

The salad is made by seasoning fresh and raw vegetables or edible grass with soy sauce mixed with vinegar, sesame and pine-nut meal, and others, vinegared red pepper paste, mustard and others after cleaning materials. The materials mainly included radish, cucumber, bok choy, lettuce and broad bellflower.

The boiled grass dishes are made by seasoning the materials with spices after slightly scalding, boiling, steaming or frying them to

meet their characteristics.

Spinach, crown daisy, parsley, anise, *Codonopsis lanceolata*, *Atractylodes japonica*, pumpkin, pepper leaves, bracken and mushroom were mostly used as materials for such dishes.

Dried vegetables are also fried to make dishes called old edible grass.

There are many contents related to old edible grass in historical books. *Tongguksesigi* calls different kinds of dried vegetables and stored vegetables old edible grass, while *Haedongjukji* says that you would not contract diseases for a year if you eat old edible grass.

Pyongyangji also says that old edible grass includes red pepper leaves, flowering fern and bracken, and is called black edible grass. According to it, if you eat it with boiled glutinous rice on the morning of *Jongwoldaeborum*, or fifteenth day of the first month by lunar calendar, you will be healthy throughout the year.

This tells that dried greens are good for health and shows the habit of the Koreans who gathered vegetables and edible herbs in the right season and used them as side dishes in winter.

The edible grass with a long history is still widely used as material for side dishes in the dietary life of the Koreans.



Typical edible greens prepared for Jongwoldaeborum, the 15th day of the first month by the lunar calendar.

