

## 2022 adorned with eye-opening successes

The year 2022 is a historic year that has clearly demonstrated how the people win victories under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

As the year 2022 is coming to a close, the Korean people are looking back on it with great pride and self-confidence.

At the outset of this year, they were faced with a crucial task of definitely turning towards the comprehensive development of socialist construction by implementing the tasks set forth at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Uphill and enormous were the tasks before them, and they had to overcome the most serious challenges in

the 70-odd-year history of the country.

While the hostile forces' attempt to stifle the DPRK grew ever more outrageous, an emergency situation was created due to the inflow of COVID-19 and natural disasters like torrential rain and drought hit the country in succession.

However, the Korean people not only managed to surmount them all but notched up a series of remarkable successes.

The harmonious whole of the Party and the people was further strengthened, a great victory was secured in the anti-epidemic campaign by completely eradicating the malignant

virus in a little over 90 days, and the greatest-ever military parade was held in splendour unfolding a mysterious amalgam of power and art.

The construction projects for the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm, the largest of its kind in the world, Songhwa Street and the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District were completed magnificently, and another massive residential area for Pyongyang citizens has taken shape in the Hwasong area.

A fine example of the modernization of local industry was set in Kimhwa County, the construction of rural dwelling houses

proceeded apace in all parts of the country and the mechanization of agriculture in the new era made substantial progress.

Such successes and changes of this year were not made of their own accord with the passage of time.

They were brought about by the painstaking efforts and devotion of General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

Having clarified the orientation of the Party and state work for this year at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK at the end of last year, the General Secretary saw that the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central

Committee and the Seventh Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and other Party and state meetings and sectoral meetings were held at opportune times and indicated the important guidelines for the strengthening of the Party and the prosperity of the country.

Each of his days was dedicated to bolstering up the strength of the DPRK and promoting its development at an extremely fast rate.

He put forward brilliant plans for the dignity of the country and the wellbeing of the people and made unremitting efforts at the forefront of the drive for their implementation.

During the top emergency anti-epidemic period when COVID-19 made inroads into the country, he spearheaded the anti-

epidemic campaign and even visited pharmacies which were highly exposed to virus infection. He visited the Ryonpho area braving the harsh wind blowing from the sea to set the site for the greenhouse farm which would contribute to solving the problem of vegetables for the South Hamgyong provincial people, and wisely guided the whole course of the construction.

Recalling all the victories achieved as a result of his devoted efforts and wise leadership, the Korean people renewed their firm confidence that their socialist cause is sure to emerge victorious as long as they are led by the General Secretary.

The year 2022 is a historic year that has clearly demonstrated how the people win victories under the leadership of the WPK.

## SPA Standing Committee Plenum held

KCNA

The 23rd Plenary Meeting of the 14th Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on Tuesday.

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 SPA Standing Committee, presided over the meeting.

The plenum was attended by Vice-Chairman Kang Yun Sok, Secretary General Ko Kil Son and other members of the SPA Standing Committee.

Present there as observers were relevant officials of the SPA Standing Committee, the Secretariat of the Cabinet, ministries and national agencies.

Put on the agenda for the meeting were such items as the convening of a DPRK SPA session, the adoption of the law on public catering of the DPRK and the recall and election of judges and people's assessors of the Central Court of the DPRK.



The 23rd Plenary Meeting of the 14th Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK is held at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang.

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

Next, there was a report on the main contents of the law on public catering of the DPRK deliberated on by the Legislation Committee of the SPA.

The law on public catering

specifies the mission and character of public catering as part of socialist commerce and the issues of principle arising in establishing a strict system and order in organizing and running public catering network for meeting the people's needs in dietary life and providing them with relevant convenience and developing the culinary technology of the country and in strengthening the relevant

administrative guidance and legal control.

On the basis of in-depth study and full discussion of the drafted law put on the agenda, the plenary meeting adopted the law on public catering as a decree of the SPA Standing Committee.

The plenary meeting recalled and elected judges and people's assessors of the Central Court of the DPRK.

## SPA Standing Committee decides on convening SPA session

The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK decided on December 6 to convene the Eighth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly in Pyongyang on January 17 2023.

## Standing Committee of DPRK Supreme People's Assembly holds permanent commission meeting

KCNA

The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK held a permanent commission meeting.

The meeting deliberated on the draft amendments and supplements to the laws on informatization, construction supervision, food sanitation, quality certification, farm and food administration before adopting relevant decrees.

The laws on informatization and construction supervision were further concretized in articles of several parts.

Those on food sanitation and quality certification

were supplemented with the contents for properly fixing the safety standards for food sanitation, strictly observing hygienic requirements in producing, selling, supplying and storing foodstuffs, improving procedures and methods of quality certification and tightening guidance to and control of quality certification.

The law on farm was amended in the articles relating to the definition of farm and that on food administration was supplemented with important issues in establishing a strict system and order in grain procurement, processing and sale so as to improve food administration.



# Premier Kim inspects different sectors



Premier Kim Tok Hun (middle in the foreground) inspects the Tae'an Heavy Machine Complex.

KCNA

Premier Kim Tok Hun,

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,

made a field survey of different sectors waging a vigorous campaign to thoroughly implement the decisions of the Fourth and Fifth Plenary Meetings of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

Learning about the performance of tractors made at the Kumsong Tractor Factory at the Chongsan Farm in Kangso District, Nampho, he stressed the need for officials and workers of the machine-building industry sector to set higher goals and steadily improve the quality of products to positively contribute to accelerating the general mechanization of the rural economy.

After acquainting himself with the operation of various kinds of dry field irrigation equipment at the Muhak Farm in Sinwon County, South Hwanghae Province, he said that equipment, materials and water sources should be secured

according to a well thought-out plan to cope with unfavourable natural and climatic conditions and irrigation systems reinforced and completed to suit the specific conditions of each region.

He learned in detail about the research projects at the hydraulic engineering institute of the State Academy of Sciences and the production of custom-built equipment at the Tae'an Heavy Machine Complex, saying that officials, scientists, technicians and workers should be fully aware of the importance of the duty they assume in the development of the country's economy and redouble efforts to research and manufacture high-performance power generating equipment.

Field consultative meetings discussed the issues of encouraging officials to organize and command economic work more

elaborately on the basis of scientific calculation and show resolute executive ability to successfully conclude this year, a year of key importance in the implementation of the five-year plan, conducting the vigorous technical innovation drive by holding fast to quality improvement as the lifeline, positively assisting scientists and technicians in their work and strengthening close ties and cooperation between relevant units, and took appropriate steps.

The Premier also familiarized himself with the farming preparations for the new year and winter wheat and barley farming and took relevant measures at the Ryongjin Farm in Kaechon City of South Phyongan Province and learned about the sale and securing of goods and the quality of consumer goods at the Kaechon City Department Store.

## HOME NEWS

### Youth, students visit Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace, pledge loyalty to leader

Youth and students from across the country visited Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp on December 3 during their study tour of revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area.

An oath-taking meeting was held in the plaza in front of the mosaic mural depicting the peerlessly great men.

After the meeting was over, study tourists looked round in deep emotion the monument inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's autographic poem, revolutionary slogans written on barked trees and others.

### Renovated milch cow farm inaugurated in Nampho



The Tae'an Milch Cow Farm in Nampho has undergone a modernization project.

An inauguration ceremony was held at the farm on December 6.

It was attended by Jo Yong Su, secretary of the Nampho City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, workers in Tae'an District and employees of the milch cow farm.

After the ceremony, the participants looked round the modernized farm.

### Folklore park inaugurated in Nampho

A folklore park was built in Ryonggang County, Nampho, as a nice resting place for the people.

Its inaugural ceremony took place on the spot on December 4.

It was attended by Kim Chol Man, secretary of the Nampho City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and working people of the city and builders.

Song Sung Chol, chairman of the Nampho City People's Committee, made an inaugural speech.

After the ceremony the participants looked round the park.

### National sci-tech presentation and veterinary medicine show held

The national sci-tech presentation and veterinary medicine exhibition of the Korean veterinary and animal husbandry technology association of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea through videoconferencing from November 28 to December 2.

The event, which was held on the theme of "Putting prophylactic treatment of diseases of domestic animals and poultry on scientific basis", was aimed at widely disseminating and generalizing the achievements made in the course of conducting brisk scientific research activities for strengthening veterinary and anti-epizootic work.

## House-moving ceremonies held in farm villages



House-moving takes place at the Jasan Farm, Phyongsong City (top left), the Sosin Vegetable Farm in Ryokpho District, Pyongyang (top right) and the Ryonghung Farm in Thaecheon County, North Phyongan Province (above).

KCNA

Hundreds of dwelling houses have wonderfully been built in the villages of workteam No. 5 of the Paesan Vegetable Farm in Unjong District and the seat of the Sosin Vegetable

Farm in Ryokpho District, Pyongyang, crop-raising workteam No. 4 and youth sub-workteam of the Jasan Farm in Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province, and the seat and crop-raising workteam No. 1 of the Ryonghung Farm in

Thaecheon County, North Phyongan Province.

Ceremonies for moving into new houses took place respectively on the spots on December 6.

Congratulatory speeches were made at the meetings. Speakers referred to the

need to add brilliance to the honour of pioneers in the effort to translate the grand plan for socialist rural construction of the Workers' Party of Korea into reality. House licenses were given to farmers and residents moved into new houses.

## Pyongyang cold noodles-making practice put on UNESCO's Representative List of ICH of Humanity

KCNA

The "Practice of making Pyongyang cold noodles" of the DPRK was put on the Representative List of ICH of Humanity

at the 17th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of the UNESCO held in Rabat, Morocco, on

November 30.

The official inscription of the practice peculiar to the Korean nation after that of folk song *Arirang* in 2014, the "Kimchi-making practice" in 2015

and "*Ssiram* (Korean wrestling)" in 2018 has enabled the time-honoured history and tradition of the Korean nation to be widely known throughout the world.



A panoramic view of the upgraded Kumsong Tractor Factory.

RA PHYONG RYOL / PICTORIAL KOREA

# Treasure factory leads development of country's farm machine industry

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

The Kumsong Tractor Factory, the maker of the country's first tractor in the 1950s, has now turned into an important base for the development of the vehicle industry according to the plan of the Workers' Party of Korea to dynamically push ahead with the rural revolution in the new era.

### The background to its modernization project

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, visited the exhibition of machinery and equipment which were made as presents of loyalty to the Seventh Congress of the WPK six years before. There he saw a new model of 80hp tractor made at the Kumsong Tractor Factory and said that it looked fine as a handsome man, it is the iron horse in the campaign

for defending socialism and only when we have tractors, can we defend the agricultural front, the first echelon and the forefront trench in the campaign for defending socialism.

And he put forward a grand plan for turning the factory into a core factory in comprehensively mechanizing the rural economy by modernly upgrading it in line with the requirements of the new century.

After giving instructions on the issues arising in the production of tractors at the factory at the Eighth Congress of the WPK, he noted that the Party Central Committee planned to develop the factory into a general factory capable of manufacturing various kinds of highly-efficient farm machines as well as tractors with great horsepower and took special crucial measures to this end at the

Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee.

Under his leadership, the factory recently carried out the first-stage modernization project successfully to turn into a powerful fortress which will play a core role in the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy.

### Factory provided with latest technology and equipment

The Kumsong Tractor Factory has been reconstructed into an energy- and labour-saving establishment, ranging from the materials preparation to assembly processes and given a facelift as a general factory which manufactures high-horsepower tractors and various kinds of efficient farm machines and a factory furnished with the latest technologies and equipment which leads the rapid

development of the country's farm machine industry.

Large production buildings, on which the design of gearing cogwheels symbolizing the machine-building industry is carved in relief and which are decorated in a pattern of navy blue stripes on the light blue ground, give viewers not only a visual impression that they are a modern machine-building base, but also refreshing and light feeling.

The manufacture of tractors begins with the casting process in charge of the production of materials.

Introduced into the casting workshop is the combustion pattern moulding technology, called the green casting technology in the 21st century. It is also equipped with a full set of the production line which produces castings with high dimensional accuracy and surface roughness at a low

cost. The production of castings made by the full mould process method consumes 30 percent less cost and labour than the traditional casting methods respectively and is 2.5 times higher in labour productivity.

Sheet metal processing makes up 40 percent in the manufacture of tractor parts. The factory's sheet metal processing process has been modernized as an efficient and intensive one, increasing the productivity 1.5 times. Every work of cutting, welding, correction, grinding and assembly is done by automated equipment.

A flexible manufacturing system has been introduced into the processing process, making it possible to process all parts according to the directions of the control room.

A control man operates the flexible manufacturing system of materials supply,

transport, processing and others smoothly and major parts of tractors are precisely processed in order by the production line of processing equipment.

In the assembly line all assembling processes continue carried by unmanned trolleys from the assembly of engines to that of tractor wheels according to the directions of the integrated manufacturing system control room.

Assembled tractors are given test runs and finally inspected on the general test bed, before entering the parking lot.

It is also provided with hygienic and cultured production environment.

Seeing the new panoramic view of the factory with no traces of old looks, visitors can pleasantly feel the development of the country's farm machine industry which brings about a radical change.



All production processes are equipped with advanced technology and facilities at the Kumsong Tractor Factory.



2022, year of glorious victory

# A year of new radical turn in construction

## To improve living environment of people

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

A new revolution in construction has been brought about throughout the country this year. General Secretary Kim Jong Un, in the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and in his letter to the participants in the second grand short course of officials in the construction sector "Let Us Lead the Development of Civilization of Our Own Style

of Socialism by Waging a New Revolution in Construction", put forward a grand plan for bringing about a new revolution in construction to continue to carry on the heyday of the capital construction, open up a new age of local changes and radically improve the living environment of the people across the country in the coming 20-30 years. He said that uphill are the tasks and many things are in short supply now, but we have neither right to hesitate nor ignore to do

the work for attaining the people's ideal nor time to wait until the conditions get better, stressing the need to give top priority to major construction in the economic affairs in 2022. According to his grand plan, the ongoing housing construction projects made rapid progress, huge blasts were made in succession in February signaling the start of building 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area of Pyongyang and a large-scale greenhouse farm in the Ryonpho area on the shore of

the East Sea of Korea, and local construction was pushed ahead with fresh vigour in all provinces, cities and counties. First of all, architectural designs were created on the principle of giving the highest and absolute priority to the people's aspirations and demands and convenience and ensuring ideological and artistic value and practicability perfectly to suit the people's feelings and aesthetic tastes. The Cabinet and relevant units

supplied necessary materials and equipment to the construction projects in time and the whole population actively supported the major construction sites. State measures were taken to readjust and reinforce construction enterprises, while the construction units built up their construction technical forces and material and technical foundations. Scientists and technicians ensured scientific consistency of the whole construction processes from the excavation

of foundations to the building of frameworks and the finishing works by formulating and developing new advanced design and construction methods. The construction for the wellbeing of the people has never been interrupted even during the state emergency anti-epidemic campaign, which can be claimed to be the most serious disturbance ever since the founding of the DPRK. The builders created new miracles in construction

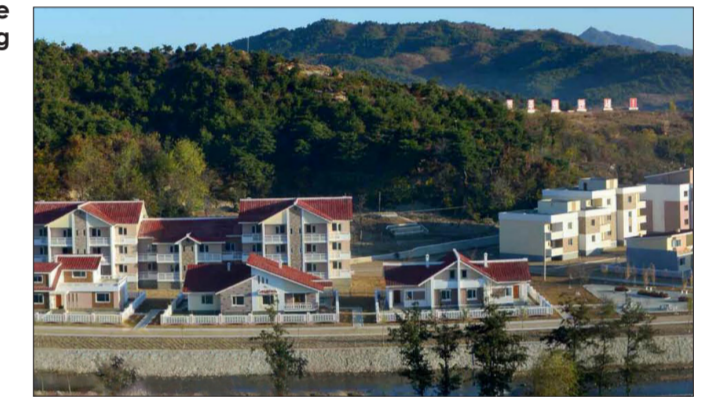
upholding the General Secretary's instructions at the Eighth Political Bureau Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK that the projects to fulfill the cherished desire of the Party for the people such as the construction of 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area and the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm must be completed flawlessly within the set time. Consequently, Songhwa Street was splendidly completed as the first product of the construction project for 50 000

flats in Pyongyang set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK, a distinctive terraced residential district was built on a scenic bank of the Pothong River in the capital city and an extensive greenhouse farm was constructed in an area of 280 hectares in the Ryonpho area of South Hamgyong Province this year. Dwelling houses that suit the regional and geographical conditions rose up in succession in the rural areas of the country, delighting the local people.

## New era of transformation of local areas ushered in



Local areas are developed in keeping with their features.



## Pyongyang takes on new looks

By Yun Kyong II PT

The construction of flats for 10 000 families in the Songsin and Songhwa area and the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District, which began last year according to the grand plan of the Workers' Party of Korea for the construction of the capital, was completed and they were inaugurated in April this year. A new street for the people symbolizing the rejuvenation and civilization in the era of the Workers' Party, Songhwa Street was built magnificently as the eastern gateway to Pyongyang, embracing modern and stylish high-rise apartment houses, public buildings, service networks, a circular footbridge, a resting park, ornamental structures, artificial ponds and falls and resting places in an area covering dozens of hectares.

The street creates an artistic harmony while ensuring an elaborate mutual combination of high-rise apartment houses with the beauty of various curved lines and service buildings in unique styles with the sky-high 80-storey apartment house as the axis. The new and distinctive character of it is the formative artistic combination of the buildings that forms groups with service buildings on the ground floor and apartment houses behind them and links them all with the connecting corridor. In particular, the circular footbridge, which was built to fully provide practicability and convenience on the principle of giving absolute priority to the convenience of the people and to which a service network is added, crosses the broad avenue, conveniently linking the Songsin and Songhwa area. The Pothong Riverside Terraced

Houses District sprang up at the best place in the heart of the capital. Low- and multi-storey apartment houses for 800 families are distributed to go well with the surrounding environment, highlighting the characteristic features of the styles of terraced houses and elements of their elevation composition. Trees and flowering shrubs of good species, beautiful flowers and stones of ornamental value are harmoniously combined to add features to natural landscape and scenery of the luxurious housing district. In a word, the terraced houses district is an excellent standard and model of housing district in which buildings and nature form a perfect harmony and the space of life and ecology are organically and scientifically distributed while maintaining the natural environment and the artistic value, practicability and convenience are provided at the top level.

The construction of houses for 10 000 families in the Hwasong area, the second project for hitting the prospective housing development goal in Pyongyang, has mostly finished, just nearing completion. The project is nearly three times as large as that of Songhwa Street in the building area. At present, construction is going on for hundreds of blocks of apartment houses and public and service buildings along with the project for revetting the banks of the Hapjang River extending for thousands of metres. Priority is given to the plane structure and distribution of blocks to provide convenience to the people's living over the elevation composition by learning lessons from the experience in the construction of houses for 10 000 families in the Songsin and Songhwa area and architectural styles have also been renewed.



The Songhwa Street and the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District are wonderfully completed in April.

JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Kang Ju PT

The period of comprehensive development and rejuvenation of socialist construction is a new period of dramatic change and upsurge which begins with strikingly contrasting the past and present of local areas and which unfolds along with a new world where local areas undergo transformation. General Secretary Kim Jong Un mapped out a long time ago a plan for building local cities and rural villages, including provincial capitals, along with Pyongyang Municipality in keeping with their local features and made a new history of local construction and development as he created precious models one after another by dint of energetic guidance. He emphasized the importance of turning cities and counties into civilized and prosperous strategic bases of the socialist state and into advanced areas with their own inherent characteristics by carrying on local construction on a large scale at the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, plenary meetings of the WPK Central Committee and the first short course for chief secretaries of the city and county Party committees. In his historic policy speech "On the Orientation of Present Struggle for a Fresh Development of Socialist Construction" delivered at the Fifth

Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, he clarified the direction and ways to achieve a new development appropriate to the DPRK by boldly eliminating the backwardness of the times in local areas. He also stressed the need to open up an era of change of local areas by bringing about a new revolution in construction to radically transform the living environment of the people at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea which indicated the route of advance in 2022, and pointed to the necessity to hold up the torch of a revolution in local and rural construction in the important letter he sent to the participants of the second grand short course for the officials in the construction sector. Under his leadership the City of Samjiyon was built as a textbook example of local construction and a model of mountainous city. This year an enormous undertaking was conducted on a full scale to positively promote and broaden good experiences accumulated in building the city and thereby turn all cities and counties in every part of the country into livable areas preserving their specific characters and epitomizing modern civilization. Cities and counties drew up and have pushed plans with a mid- and long-range perspective on the

basis of in-depth study of their regional features and situations. Particularly, they put in efforts to build every structure as a distinctive, non-repetitive and practicable one reflecting not only natural and geographical characters of relevant areas but their unique economic conditions and customs. To this end, they work hard to build up design and specialized construction institutions and develop and use good-quality finishing materials with local resources. In the course of this, foodstuff, garment and daily necessities factories and a paper mill were completed in Kimhwa County in June as models of local industry and standard factories. Cities and counties are also undergoing a sea change in their appearance. For example, Rason City in the northern tip of Korea is turning into a wonderful border town while producing by itself such building materials as steel bars, cement, bricks, tiles, electric wires and coating materials. The same is the case with Hoeryong City which is mostly mountains and located in the northern end of the country. Phyongsong Indoor Stadium, Phyongsong Youth Open-air Theatre and other structures were built in South Phyongan Province and several construction projects were completed in other parts of the country.



Members of artistic motivational teams of the Sunchon Cement Complex (left) and North Hamgyong Province give performances in the Seventh April Spring People's Art Festival.

HONG KWANG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



## People's art festivals brighten festive mood

By Ryom Un Gyong PT

This year, the Seventh April Spring People's Art Festival and the First People's Art Festival in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star were held successfully in Pyongyang to celebrate the 110th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung and the 80th birthday of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Performances given by artists were impressive at the festivals. But more

exciting were those by the working people from different parts of the country who earnestly sang of the immortal leadership of the great leaders related to their workplaces and their great love for them, which moved the audience to tears.

Among the performers were workers, farmers, scientists, educators, athletes, writers and others from all walks of life.

They were ordinary working people who can

be seen anywhere, but their artistic skills went beyond the experts' expectations.

They fully displayed their high artistic skills to interpret colourful programmes of vocal and instrumental music, dance, narration and other art pieces they had prepared with sincerity at a high level.

They sang songs and recited poems so well and played one or more musical instruments so skillfully that it was hard to believe

they were ordinary working people.

A magic festival was held as part of the Seventh April Spring People's Art Festival, in which many amateur magicians demonstrated their talents to the full.

Song Chung Myong, an amateur magician and student at Rajin University of Marine Transport, showed off his talent for magic art with a diary in which he wrote his dream of becoming an excellent scientist who brings honour

to the country with science and technology, arousing intense curiosity and receiving unstinted praise from the audience.

At the First People's Art Festival in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star, the performance given by members of workteam No. 12 of the Tonam Farm in Yonan County of South Hwanghae Province who are well known across the country for intense mass artistic activities drew special attention of the

audience.

Seeing their drama based on a true story "The Path of Patriotism", the audience lavished praise on them in unison, describing them as high-yielding farmers in the field and "famous actors and actresses" on the stage.

The festival performances were another occasion for showcasing the ardent reverence of the Korean people for their great leaders and clearly demonstrating the vitality of mass artistic activities as well.

## Mass artistic activities take root deep in work and life

By Kil Chung Il PT

It is the reality of the DPRK that work precisely becomes beautiful songs and life blooms along with songs.

In retrospect, one of the secrets behind the steady advance made by the Korean revolution despite the difficult and complex situations was that the Korean people kept revolutionary optimism with which to overcome hardships on the strength of songs and laughter.

This year, too, mass-based cultural and artistic activities have briskly been conducted in all parts of the country.

The September Textile Mill develops mass-based cultural and artistic activities into an undertaking in which all employees take part to meet the characteristics of the unit, not in the direction of

specialization.

As a result, the attachment to workplace, love for work and life, confidence in their own strength and optimism toward future came to take root deep in the hearts of employees. Therefore, the unity of the collective got stronger and due successes have been made in production.

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill also dynamically conducted such activities.

"We sing songs to our heart's content on the splendid stage in the newly-built hall of culture," said a girl weaver of a workshop who is known as a good singer.

Such activities are also performed in deep mines.

The daily routine of coal miners of pit No. 7 at the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine starts with the dissemination of songs

and poem recital.

They say that they cannot think of the implementation of their production plan apart from artistic activities, adding that they are greatly encouraged by songs whenever they are faced with difficulties.

A lively atmosphere kept going throughout the year in the hall of culture at the Tonam Farm in Yonan County for art group activities.

As farmers staged artistic performances in diverse forms and ways at the hall, even those who were shy of stepping on the stage came to take part in a national art festival.

The beauty of society can be said to be that of people making up society and that of people's life.

The DPRK is always bright and beautiful for such a life filled with songs and laughter and dream of a better future.



Workers give an artistic performance at the general processing factory of the May Day Stadium.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Members of an art group give themselves to practice at the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex.

## Koryo therapies applied to curing circulatory diseases

By Pang Un Ju PT

Medical workers of the circulatory internal medicine department of Kim Man Yu Hospital achieve success in the treatment of patients by applying Koryo therapies to circulatory diseases.

In the course of conducting research with emphasis placed on increasing the proportion of the traditional therapies, Han Kwang Chol, chief of the department, Kim Uk and other doctors contrived and made Koryo medicines and medical

appliances highly effective in the treatment of circulatory diseases and introduced them into clinical practice.

The cure for angina pectoris using arrowroot antihypertensive tablets, the one for antihypertensive using *Rhododendron fauriei* granules and a multi-functional electroacupuncture device and other Koryo therapies invented and introduced by the medical workers are popular with patients for their good effects.

According to Han, the department has recently



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Medical workers share experience of Koryo therapies at the circulatory internal medicine department of Kim Man Yu Hospital.

established a method of enhancing curative effects in treating ischemic heart disease by dint of mineral injection for heart made from natural minerals and invented and introduced different valuable Koryo

therapies into practice, thereby raising the scientific level of medical service.

The medical workers said that they have widely used a belt-type acupoint stimulator capable of simultaneously stimulating many acupoints

and local parts in treating their patients and that it helps promote blood circulation and urination.

They used Koryo therapies to bring back to health many patients including the one with valvular heart disease.

They wrote and made public several books on Koryo therapies including *Anyone can take care of their health, Guide to first-aid clinical treatment and Common knowledge about heart disease for everyone.*

## Traditional medicine put on a more scientific basis

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The Koryo Medicine General Hospital has achieved marked successes in research into putting the Koryo medical diagnosis and treatment methods on a scientific basis.

It performed comprehensive research on the theoretical basis and clinical features of constitutional medicine peculiar to the Korean nation and searched new indexes. On the basis of them, it put constitutional classification on a scientific basis and

developed a constitutional classification program.

Medical workers and researchers of the hospital have undertaken an in-depth research project to promote the treatment efficiency of incurable diseases by using acupuncture, moxa cautery

and cupping, while shortening the treatment period.

During their research into the scope of acupuncture treatment, fixing of acupoints and acupuncture treatment methods according to the types of demonstration with main emphasis put on the diagnosis based on channels and collaterals, they established Koryo medical treatment methods for over a dozen kinds of incurable diseases like herniated disk, dislocation by spinal diseases and lumbar slipped disk, making it possible to improve their treatment efficiency.

The researchers also developed health drinks like motherwort compound drink and an insam-barrrenwort anticancer pill and established the quality management methods of different kinds of Koryo medicines.

The hospital presses on with the work to help county and higher-level hospitals across the country widely introduce the traditional remedies into practice.

## Substitutes for official medicines developed

By To Kyong Chol PT

The public health sector is striving to develop Koryo medicines that can substitute for official medicines.

The Pharmacology Institute of the Academy of Medical Sciences developed such traditional Korean medicines as honeysuckle-for-sythia leaf cold granule, ephedra-skullcap cold granule and Korean mint tincture through the joint research with units of pharmaceutical, basic experiment and clinical factories.

The institute is pushing at the final stage the study and development of an antipyretic using locally abundant Koryo medicinal materials.

And it has newly established the quality management methods of 20-odd kinds of Koryo medicines which improve the immunity of human body, including membranous

milkvetch and pilose asiabell tonic taffy, Kaesong Koryo red insam powder and Siberian ginseng tonic pill. It also steps up the introduction of them into other Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories.

Meanwhile, it researched and developed Amoxicillin troch to introduce it into production. Chitosan Q188 nasal spray which was developed by the institute is enjoying popularity among the users for its high efficacy.

The zeal for the development of Koryo medicines grows at Koryo medicine production factories.

The Pothonggang Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory newly developed thuja leaves hepatitis pills and antituberculosis granule to put their production on a normal track, while different Koryo medicine producers in the city are intensifying research for developing traditional medicines which can be used as official medicines.

## Exhibition spurs building of anti-epidemic foundations, development of public health

By Ri Sang Il PT

A national sci-tech presentation and exhibition of anti-epidemic and public health sectors-2022 took place at

the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang from November 22 to 29 on the theme of "The building of anti-epidemic foundations and the improvement of quality of medical supplies".

According to Kim Ryong, secretary general of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea, the event was held on the largest scale in the

number of participating units and exhibits.

Eye-catchers were an intelligent anti-epidemic robot, hand disinfectant for automatically measuring temperature, plasma activated

water manufacturing machine for sterilization and sterilizing equipment which have been introduced and proved effective in the current anti-epidemic practice.

A national emergency anti-epidemic information system which was presented by Kim Il Sung University, a hazmat suit by Kim Chaek University of Technology and other devices instilled

into visitors the confidence that they can build strong anti-epidemic foundations by their own efforts and technology.

The demand for Koryo medicines was very high.

During the event, there were a virtual exhibition and experience presentation through the network, different diagnosing and curing methods were introduced and technical service provided.



# Decades devoted for health of children



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Children follow Pak Mi Ra, head of the pediatrics department of Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences, calling her "grandma".

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Smiles of children just mean happiness for every family.

Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences boasts a woman doctor and educator who has devoted herself for the smiles of children and well-being of families for over 40 years.

"Ensuring well-being is more worthwhile than enjoying it." This is the view on life of Pak Mi Ra, head of the pediatrics department of the university.

She has adhered to this view, taking care of the well-being of families from her girlhood until now when she is over 60 years old.

"The pediatrics department of our hospital is frequented by many emergency and serious cases including those whose diseases cannot

be easily diagnosed and treated. Whenever I see children leaving the hospital cheerfully together with their parents, I think of the department's head Pak Mi Ra before anyone else," said Choe Myong Hwan, director of the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital. She has restored countless children to life during her 40-year-long career as pediatric lecturer and head of the university's pediatrics department.

She regards children as not only patients but also her own.

"Children are all afraid of doctors in uniform. However, the children who are hospitalized as patients of our department follow her, calling her as grandmother," said Rim Kil Man, a pediatrician of the university hospital. Even the children who

were crying refusing to get injected stop crying at the sight of her and follow her instruction and this shows how affectionately she takes care of children, he added.

The following tells why she shows parental concern for children.

In autumn 1993 she went to an island village as a member of a medical team to treat residents.

One day, after being told that there was an emergency case in a house, she rushed there to find a nine-month-old baby unconscious with its tongue bending inwardly. She gave a transfusion of her own blood to the baby and was awake all night for first aid treatment of it, thus bringing it back to life.

Besides, she donated her skin for burnt children in the village.

After coming to know that the pediatric doctor, who had restored their children to health by dedicating her blood and skin, was a mother with a baby, the villagers admired her for her sincerity as she had come to the village with her child left in the care of her parents.

"When I was about to leave the island, the residents accompanied me to the seaside, expressing their thanks to me for my efforts to provide their families with smiles. Seeing them, I realized how precious the smiles of children are for families and determined to devote my whole life to protecting the

well-being of families," Pak Mi Ra recalled.

True to her determination, she strived to fully display warm humanity and improve her ability. In the course of this she was promoted to head of the pediatrics department of the university and became an authority in the field while consecutively filling such posts as chairwoman of the pediatric society under the Central Committee of the Medical Association of Korea and vice chairwoman of the deliberation committee of the pediatric and gynecological panel of the State Commission for Conferment of Academic Degrees and Titles.

A doctor and educator, she tells her students that everyone has their childhood and that that is why pediatric doctors have to work with greater sincerity than anybody else from the point of view that they are responsible for the future of the country and raise their ability.

She wrote over 30 textbooks, books and manuals on pediatrics, presented over 50 research papers and received over 50 certificates of registration of educational and scientific achievements, registration of new teaching methods and invention and contrivance for the past 40-odd years.

Meanwhile, she trained many to be October 8 model lecturers, academic degree and title holders and capable pediatric experts.

# In pursuit of literary dream for sixty years



By Ri Jang Chol PT

There is a war veteran writer in Paengma workers' district in Pihyon County, who has conducted literary activities for over 60 years.

He is PhD Jo Man Song (pictured), who will turn 90 in a few years.

He was born to a poor peasant's family in Ryongchon County before Korea's liberation and his family was so poor that he could not go to school, he said.

It was inconceivable for him to study as the family members eked out a scanty living.

After national liberation, he learned to his heart's content. In the course of it, he sometimes felt an impulse to write poems as he experienced the dreamlike reality in which once hunger-stricken and ill-clad children learned as they wished, he noted.

When he began to dream of becoming a future writer or journalist, the Korean war broke out.

As he realized that his dream and hope would come true only when he had the country, he volunteered to join the army and became an anti-aircraft gunner to defend the sky of the country.

After shooting down an enemy warplane as it attacked his position one day, he wrote a poem brimming with determination to fight and defend the country at the cost of his life.

The poem was later carried by a newspaper and from then on he had written poems.

His comrades-in-arms loved his works very much as they fired them with a burning resolve to fight a do-or-die battle unhesitatingly for the Party and the leader.

"I've never realized so deeply how great role a piece of writing plays like that time," Jo said, adding that he made up his mind at the time to engage himself in writing activities all his life.

The government appointed him in his early twenties as editor-in-chief of the newspaper of a fishery station after he was demobbed after the war and sent him to then Pyongyang University of Literature when he had many difficulties in doing his job as he lacked professional education.

Under the great care of the country he learnt to his heart's content and became a good writer. Later, he worked as editor-in-chief of the newspaper of the construction project of the Wangjaesan Revolutionary Site. And he took up the same position at the Ponghwa Chemical Factory for a long time after it was built and wrote many articles and poems.

According to him, as he decided to write a book showing the looks of the country which was turned into a people's paradise and the happy life of the people after he was retired, his children were very surprised.

"When Dad told us that he would go on an official trip to write a book, we (his children) tried to dissuade him, saying we were worried that he might fall in the remote countryside as he was old. But he left on the official trip, saying to continue to write good books and articles was for him to follow the same path with the wartime comrades-in-arms and remain faithful to the country to the end like them," said Jo Jong Min, his youngest son.

Nobody would blame him for having a comfortable life as a pensioner, but his dad devoted time and energy for years to writing his first book and has so far authored several books, he added.

His books were published, leaving a deep impression on many readers.

In recognition of his merit, the country conferred high state commendations and a doctorate on him in his eighties.

The highest academic degree the old man obtained at such an advanced age—it was the valuable title and honour the country awarded to a war veteran who has lived like a wartime soldier, holding up the pen for the country all his life.

# Three decades of voluntary care of parks

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Pak Yong Hui, 76-year-old woman living in Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang, has been tending cultural recreation places like parks in the district for 30 years.

She planted over 300 trees on Munsu Hill alone and large quantities of fruits like apple and plum are gathered from many of them.

"Pak Yong Hui keeps working on holidays and even when other old villagers offer her to join them in amusement in the park. Our keepers are also impressed by her as she cultivates even a tree and a blade of grass with great care. So we registered her as an honorary employee," said Ryu Yong Il, official of the Munsubong revolutionary site.

"My mother is eager to contribute something to the altruistic people and benevolent system that

rescued her from the jaws of death," said her daughter Ri Mi Hyang as to her mother's devotion to society.

Born as the youngest of the five brothers and sisters, Pak had a congenital disease.

But she was cured of her illness and grew up studying to her heart's content at school thanks to the free medical service and free compulsory education in force in the country.

Unfortunately, however, she was heavily injured in an accident in her early 20s to be at death's door. In order to resuscitate her, a powerful medical team was formed and many strangers donated their blood unhesitatingly. And she was injected with expensive medicines gratis.

Miraculously, she was restored to health and, some years later, she got married. Thanks to the warm



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Pak Yong Hui trims a tree in the park of Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang.

affection of her husband and mother-in-law and meticulous care of their household doctor and neighbours, she could give birth to her lovely daughter and led a peaceful life free from any inconvenience.

"I might have died already but for this benevolent social system. That's why I made up

my mind to do even one good thing for my country and began tending cultural recreation grounds frequented by people. I don't find it toilsome as I do what I want to do. Rather, I feel grateful to those who put me forward regarding my trifling contribution as big work," said Pak Yong Hui.

# Pothonggang Department Store satisfies consumer demand

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Pothonggang Department Store located on the banks of the Pothong River in Pyongyang was inaugurated in December twelve years ago.

The supermarket-style department store is a comprehensive commercial service provider selling famous products and commodities.

The section of foodstuffs is the first to be seen on the ground floor of the store which gives you a warm, cosy feel for the soft illumination.

Air Koryo-brand foodstuffs take a large proportion of foods stacked on counters.

According to the floor manageress Song Un Byol, these foods are the products of the Pothonggang Air Koryo Foodstuff Factory and the hundreds of kinds of health drinks, breads and processed meat products are popular with customers for their good taste and quality.

"I often buy omija (fruit of *Schizandra chinensis*) flavour syrup here. My family members like it as it is fragrant and remarkably medicinal. I've bought various kinds of breads and drinks and my family favour Air Koryo-brand foodstuffs," said regular customer Rim Song Mi.

On the ground floor there are also sundry goods for daily use, different shapes of flower pots, flowers and medicines.

The first floor is always crowded with women as there are household appliances, light industrial goods and functional cosmetics.

Ri Yon Hui, manageress of the department store, quoted the head of the press corps of a foreign country, who looked round the cosmetics counter of the department store some years ago, as saying in admiration that he could see that cosmetics of the DPRK were at the world level and that there was something extraordinary in the Pothonggang Department Store, as it had been visited by the DPRK leader and was selling all such nice goods to working people.

The second floor is filled with electrical appliances, electronic musical instruments, luxuries, children's, men's and women's wear, sports goods, bags, footwear, various kinds of furniture and other famous products and commodities.

According to the floor manageress Pang Hye Suk, newlyweds have bought their electrical appliances, furniture and luxuries in large quantities and purchasers say that the quality of their goods is strictly guaranteed and the commodities are to customers' liking.

The fish shop opposite the department store sells live fishes like sturgeon and Ryongjong fish, fresh marine products and various kinds of processed fishes.

Friendly service by employees of the department store always brings customers satisfaction.

It was visited by Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un in December 2010.



Customers select what they want to buy at the department store.

HONG KWANG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

# Tasty dishes attract many customers

By Chae Myong Rim PT

On the second floor of the Pothonggang Department Store in Pyongyang there is also a restaurant.

Diners frequent the restaurant's different dining halls including a neat mass dining hall with classical beauty and another dining hall where they can relish roast meat as well.

Hong Song Hui, head waitress of the restaurant, said that once they dine there and relish its dishes they all become regular customers.

It is attributable to its cooks whose skills are quite admirable.

Broiled lobster and oilseed rape mixed with peppery juice, dish of live snakehead and cold boiled sturgeon, high-grade dishes of the restaurant, are popular with its customers as they are appetizing and

original in taste.

Saying that amateur cooks who have relished the broiled lobster and oilseed rape mixed with peppery juice are hungry to know how to cook the dish, Song Yong Ok, head cook who is good at making it, explained the relevant method as follows:

Boil fat lobster before frying them in oil and parboil Auricularia auricula and oilseed rape before salting them properly and broiling them in oil.

Thick cooking juice is made by mixing parched oil with combined casserole spices, seafood soy sauce, powdered pepper and red pepper and starch.

Soak the fried lobster in the cooking juice.

Put the fried mushroom and oilseed rape on an oval plate and the lobster seasoned with the juice on top of them before sprinkling the juice over

them. Now the dish is ready for service.

As it produces a unique taste as the wholesome mushroom, oilseed rape and tasty lobster go together well, the dish is good for stimulating appetite, Song said.

Noodles served in hot soup, red jellyfish pickled in vinegar, sliced raw salmon, fried quails, hot fried wings of chicken, fried soft bean curd and grilled beef are also popular dishes.

"I have eaten different dishes at famous restaurants of the capital city, but dishes of the restaurant of the Pothonggang Department Store are quite impressive as they are original and very tasty. Therefore, I often come here together with my family," said Pak Myong Nam, a regular customer of the restaurant.

The restaurant also provides wedding service with sincerity.



Some dishes served at the Pothonggang Department Store.



# Consequences of Japan's attempt at possessing capability for pre-emptive strike

By Cha Hye Gyong

The Japanese government recently convened a meeting of intellectuals and adopted a report on radical enhancement of its defense capability.

The report which enumerated the grounds for Japan's preparedness against the severe security environment carried the following: Japan should possess the "counterattack capability" including the development of long-range missiles; efforts should be directed to the training of talents and strengthening of the base of its defense industry to establish, in the long run, a

comprehensive system capable of war within five years; and the relevant expenses should be covered by the entire citizens by way of widening the tax margins.

Japan is now accelerating the completion of institutional mechanism aimed at pre-emptive strike on other countries. On the other hand, it is hell-bent on developing and purchasing long-range and other missiles of various kinds and arms and equipment for pre-emptive strike such as the latest submarine and stealth fighter.

When the contents of the above-mentioned report, i.e. astronomical increase in the military expenditure,

possession of "counterattack capability" and the like are officially stipulated in the three documents about defense strategy including the "National Security Strategy" which are scheduled to be revised this year, Japan will be equipped with the legal foothold for pre-emptive strike at any given time against any country.

Now that Japan has completely rid itself of the mask of "total defense", its possession of "counterattack capability" is in essence synonymous with the possession of pre-emptive strike capability.

Enhancing its capabilities for nuclear operation on land and sea and in the air under the signboard of "self-defense"

and extending its firing range to cover the neighbouring countries, Japan is now pursuing its wild ambition of reinvasion of mainland Asia by means of pre-emptive strike on them.

Excessive self-confidence and greed inevitably entail a huge disaster.

Should Japan attempt to possess pre-emptive strike capability incurring military tension in the region, such an act will only result in the security crisis of its islands, putting its citizens in jeopardy.

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

## Human rights are never defended of their own accord



Kim Hye Jong  
Chief of the human rights centre of the Institute of International Studies of the DPRK

December 10 is Human Rights Day.

The third session of the UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10 1948 with a view to making all the countries of the world have a correct understanding of human rights and take it as their duty to guarantee them and preventing human rights violations on a worldwide scale.

The declaration consisting of the preamble and 30 articles stresses the significance and importance that the guaranteeing of basic rights and freedom of human beings assume in ensuring global peace and security and comprehensively stipulates the independent rights and standards man should have in

all fields of social life ranging from man's rights to existence, freedom, equality and dignity to those to exemption from inhuman treatment or punishment caused by such factors as state and society.

It contains some defects including the failure to stipulate the essence of human rights in social and class relations and to concretize standards in guaranteeing human rights. But it is of great significance in the sense that it collectively stipulated man's basic rights and freedom for the first time in history by reflecting the aspirations of humankind to live independently and on an equal footing in the international environment where Nazism collapsed and anti-colonialist, anti-imperialist and anti-feudal struggles were intensifying

after WWII. Afterwards it exerted considerable influence on drawing up constitutions in all countries and regional human rights treaties.

Accordingly, the UN General Assembly in 1950 set December 10 as Human Rights Day and has annually arranged a series of events relating to human rights like seminars.

More than 70 years have passed since the publication of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but the struggle to protect and promote genuine human rights still remains as a challenge.

A typical example can be drawn from the ceaseless wars and disputes, which seriously threaten the right to live, the most elementary and vital factor in human rights.

According to information

available, out of 248 armed conflicts that occurred in 153 regions of the world till 2001 after WWII, the US intervened in 201 wars, and 335 000 persons suffered disasters due to the anti-terror war it waged in the new century and nearly 11 million persons were reduced to refugees in Afghanistan.

In spite of such history of gruesome human rights abuses, the US takes every opportunity to find fault with other countries over the human rights issue and interfere in their internal affairs and gravely threatens developing countries' rights to independent existence and development while wielding the stick of sanctions under the pretext of human rights issues.

Facts clearly show that human rights are not guaranteed of their own accord, but can be ensured only when national rights are firmly safeguarded on the strength powerful enough to defend the nation itself.

## BYWORD

The expression "our own way" is used a lot in the DPRK.

Our own way, or Korean way, has been created in all fields including politics, the economy, culture and military, with the result that the avenue for the development of Korean way has been opened up.

In his policy speech delivered at the First Session

of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, said, "Whatever wind may blow and whatever challenges and difficulties may lie ahead, our Republic will, in the future, too, make no concession or compromise over the issues concerning

## Our own way

the fundamental interests of our state and people. It will resolve everything on the strength of self-reliance, stepping up the building of a powerful socialist country in our own way."

Accordingly, everything from the Party and state policies to every aspect of the people's life in the country is consistent with Korean

way suited to the demand and interests of the people and its actual conditions and miracles have continuously been performed by their own efforts.

This year alone, the Koreans made in their own way many momentous achievements to be recorded as epochal events in the history of the country.

## OPINION

# Human rights can never be plaything of hegemony-seeking policy

By Song Jong Ho PT

On December 10 1948, the third session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with a view to protecting and promoting human rights worldwide, and the fifth session of the UN General Assembly in 1950 decided to commemorate December 10 as Human Rights Day every year.

Over the 70 years since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international movement got brisker to champion human rights, whereas the human rights issue still produces complicated political problems in the international arena.

Because this issue is misused as a tool for realizing the political aim of the US and some other Western countries.

The US and the West have trampled down the sovereignty of other countries and nations under the deceptive signboard of "human rights protection" in the international arena.

It is evidenced by the Third Committee meeting of the 77th session of the UN General Assembly held shortly ago.

The meeting railroaded an anti-DPRK "human rights resolution" submitted by the US and Western countries.

However, justice is always on the side of truth. This time, China, Russia, Cuba and many other countries opposed and rejected the resolution the US and Western countries came up with unilaterally.

The US and the West clamorously take issue with human rights situations of other countries in the international arena in an attempt to apply pressure to independent sovereign states opposing high-handedness and tyranny and interfere in their internal affairs to overthrow their systems.

To achieve such sinister aim, US and Western countries found fault with the human rights situations of individual countries, branded them as "human rights abusers" and "criminal states against humanity" and railroaded "human rights resolutions" totally distorting and fabricating the human rights situations of these countries, thus arousing great indignation and opposition of most of the participating nations at the Third Committee meeting.

At the meeting, China, Russia, Cuba, Iran, Venezuela, Syria and many other countries described the US and Western countries as the world's worst human rights abusers as they blatantly violate the UN Charter and international human rights law while resolutely denouncing their groundless blame as an act of politically-motivated provocation.

Human rights can never be a plaything of hegemony-seeking policy of any specific country.

The international community should be vigilant about the fact that the issue of ensuring human rights are being abused for political intrigue of some countries and pay attention to opposing such negative practices.

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# US attempt at blockade and oppression against Chinese businesses censured

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

In the "2023 The National Defense Authorization Act", the US incorporated the prohibition on transaction between the US government agency and Chinese chips manufacturer. With regard to this, a spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry expressed China's firm position against the US attempt to pass the negative content about China under the pretext of the above-mentioned act.

She stressed that the US must refrain from politicizing and ideologizing the issues of economic trade and science and technology

and using them as a weapon, stop its vicious blockade and oppression against Chinese enterprises and protect the security and stability of the global chain of industry and supply.

Recently, the US took a series of coercive measures to curb China's growth in the field of high-tech industry.

Pursuant to the Chip and Science Act signed by US President Biden in August, the US government has regulated that the chips R&D enterprises operating in the US must stop precision chip manufacturing in China in return for providing them with a huge amount of subsidy.

In October, the US imposed

offensive restraints on China by prohibiting the American enterprises from providing equipment to Chinese advanced chip factories and banning the advanced chips manufactured by the US equipment in every part of the world from being exported to China.

Also, under the pretext of opacity in usage of products manufactured by the 31 Chinese enterprises and research institutions, the US included these entities in the sanctions list, and urged several countries to limit their export of semi-conductors to China.

Concerning such actions of the US, China has warned time and

again through the spokespersons for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Commerce that blocking other's way will end up in blocking its own way.

Chinese media and specialists also branded such actions as economic blackmail and sci-tech domination, scathingly denouncing them as "systematic oppression" and "brutal assault" to curb the development of Chinese high-tech industry.

This clearly shows that the persistent one-sided sanctions and pressure against other countries through high-handedness and arbitrariness will inevitably lead to strong backlash and counterblow.

## Main cause of sharp rise in suicide

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The Japanese authorities recently issued a 2022 white paper on measures to prevent death from overwork which analysed the situation of death and suicide from overwork and dealt with relevant measures.

According to the white paper, the number of people who died or killed themselves due to mental depression caused by excessive overwork increased by over 60 percent in the past decade and by nearly 80 percent among women.

The point is the analysis of the problem by the Japanese authorities.

An official of the Ministry of Welfare and Labour claimed that the number of such persons increased as people's awareness of the labour problems was heightened owing to reforms in the mode of labour and the like.

It is nothing more than mockery of and insult to victims.

As foreign media commented, the increasing ratio of people suffering mental anguish in Japan has resulted from such excessive workload as long hours of work.

Every economic lever in the country is used to bring more profits to the capitalists by exploiting the working masses.

As all the economic policies and laws and regulations related to economic sectors are designed for the defence and maintenance of the capitalist exploitation system, the capitalists get more undisguised in exploiting working people.

Abusing working people's fear that they might be sacked at any time, the capitalists force them to work overtime or in the places with poor working conditions while paying wages as low as possible.

In recent years alone many people died from overfatigue, including a 27-year-old engineer of an IT

company who died after long hours of work and a 24-year old female employee who killed herself after leaving a note that both her body and mind were torn to pieces.

This notwithstanding, the Japanese authorities speciously talk about heightened awareness of the labour problems by distorting the terrible labour situation.

The miserable plight of Japanese working people is attributable to the chronic maladies of the capitalist social system absolutely protecting the interests of a tiny handful of the privileged and capitalist classes alone.

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

This year, too, forest fires often happened in different parts of the world, increasing human and material damage.

The danger of forest fires has further increased owing to the lingering record-breaking sultry weather and drought and dry wind caused by global warming-induced temperature rise.

According to a report of the United Nations Environment Programme, the danger of outbreak of forest fires is growing in the South Pole and other areas which were unaffected by forest fires previously due to the temperature rise.

Dozens of researchers who worked out this report said that the danger of large-scale forest fires would continue to increase in the whole period of the 21st century, asserting that the outbreak rate of global forest fires would increase by 14 percent by 2030 at the maximum, 30 percent by 2050 and 50 percent by

2100. The number of areas prone to wildfires keeps growing in Europe.

Large-scale wildfires were frequent in Portugal, the UK, France, Spain and other countries this year due to a long spell of high temperature exceeding 40°C and dry weather.

Hundreds of thousands of hectares of forests were burnt down in the whole of Europe as of July.

In France, the greenhouse gas emission between June and August when forest fires broke out in large numbers reached a record high level after 2003.

Many experts around the world arc of the opinion that large-scale forest fires erupting every year should not be regarded as common occurrences and that each country should show national concern and take proactive measures to prevent disasters.

Once a forest fire breaks out, it is hard to extinguish it as it expands at an uncontrollably high speed.

It is important to find out a forest fire in their early stage and remove the danger of it before it grows bigger.

Russia, which has been hit by forest fires last year, is making strenuous efforts to radically change the circumstances of areas vulnerable to them.

A special fire prevention system and a state of emergency system have been enforced in different areas where forest fires occurred.

Vigorous efforts are made to introduce modern means into forest fire prevention.

A Chinese university made a drone that can be used in the complex environment of the scene of a fire and unfavourable weather conditions.

Different countries have greatly benefited from the introduction of monitoring systems using satellites, cameras, GPS, and others.

It is expected that efforts to prevent forest fires and reduce loss of life and property will further intensify.

## Briefly

### China

#### Nation mourns death of Jiang Zemin

A memorial service was held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on December 6 to mourn the death of Jiang Zemin.

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, president of the People's Republic of China and chairman of the Central Military Commission, attended the event along with leading officials of the party and state and representatives from all walks of life.

Flags were flying at half-mast across the country.

On December 5, President Xi and other leading party and state officials visited the general hospital of the Chinese People's Liberation Army to bid last farewell to Jiang and escorted his bier to the Babaoshan Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery.

### Russia-Laos

#### Joint military exercises staged

The Russian armed forces conducted joint military exercises with the Lao People's Army on December 5.

They were staged in a firing range in Laos, with an involvement of over 800 military personnel and about 100 pieces of military and technical equipment of the two countries.

### Palestine

#### Political activists arrested

Israeli troops are continuously hell-bent on oppressing Palestinians.

They stormed into a refugee camp in Bethlehem in the West Bank to make a search for Palestinian political activists on December 5.

Occupation troops fired at resisting Palestinians, killing one of them.

That day, they also arrested 14 political activists in different places of the West Bank.

### DR Congo

#### Armed conflict jeopardizes people's life

The residents' livelihood is deteriorating due to the armed conflict in the eastern area of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Over 390 000 persons took refuge to seek a way to make a living after a new armed conflict broke out in March.

At present, about 315 000 are in need of emergency aid and over 1 500 children are suffering from malnutrition.

### COVID-19

#### Global casualties

According to a foreign media report, 651 363 351 persons contracted novel coronavirus, 6 651 007 died of it and 16 941 746 were undergoing treatment in the world as of 24:00 on December 7.



# Sports club gives pleasure to citizens



By Kim Hak Chol PT

This year, the Pyongyang Sports Club has achieved excellent results.

Especially, it bagged five cups and 39 gold medals at the National Championships, one of the biggest games in the DPRK.

"This is beyond the record of four years ago which exceeded our peak-year record in winning gold medals," said Pak Je Won, head of the sports club.

The club set a new record in volleyball.

Its female volleyball team, which had failed to win the last match and thus taken on average only the second place for dozens of years, won the first place to cleanse itself of dishonour as "second-place team".

What further delighted Pyongyang citizens is the fact that its male volleyball team won a victory after the female team's, thereby setting the record that both teams won the championships together for the first time after it was established decades ago.

"After the men's volleyball games were over, rooters for the Pyongyang team, including me, were reluctant to leave their seats for a good while. All of them, with excitement, shared joy of victory with the players," said Kang Tac Gwan, a resident of Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

Its male table tennis players also achieved success.

Kim Song Il, one of the players, won the men's singles at the championships attended by all the ping-pong aces from across the country.

"I've never thought any player of the Pyongyang team would take the first place because his opponents were competent. But Kim Song Il shattered our presumption," said Ri Jong Chol, a resident of Tongdaewon District, Pyongyang.

The Pyongyang team won the men's table tennis team event as well.

The victories of the Pyongyang Sports Club were reported in succession throughout the National Championships.

In the event of judo,

the club won both men's and women's six weight categories. Kim Jin A, who had been a national champion in the women's 57kg category, raised her body weight to take part in over 78kg-category matches and set a new record by winning the first place.

The club demonstrated its strong ability again in gymnastic events like artistic gymnastics and trampoline and its rhythmic gymnasts ranked first in the team total with a higher score than the one in April to fully display their ability that had improved a level higher.

In the weightlifting event, Jo Son Il got two gold medals at the over 109kg category and jerked weights 1kg heavier than the record he had set in April to set a new national record.

"The Pyongyang Sports Club has produced winners and medallists in almost all events and fielded its young aces to convince viewers of its bright prospects," said Pak Mi Song, a resident of Moranbong District, Pyongyang.



Player No. 7 of the Pyongyang Sports Club jumps to smash in the volleyball match with the Kigwancha Sports Club at the National Championships.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Snapshots of a boxing match between the Pyongyang and the Sobaeksu (left) and a 70kg category women's judo match between the Pyongyang and the April 25 (right) at the National Championships.

## Fog cascade on Mt Paegyok



HONG HUN / PICTORIAL KOREA

The awe-inspiring scene on Mt Paegyok in Sinhung County, South Hamgyong Province, shows the woolly fog over the mountain cascading down like a giant waterfall. Mt Paegyok unfolds such a distinctive spectacle for its natural and geographical features.

