

Senior officials pay homage to Chairman Kim Jong Il on the greatest memorial day of the nation

KCNA

Officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet and armed forces organs visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on the occasion of the greatest memorial day of the Korean nation.

The Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, eternal leaders of the dignified Party, state and people and great sages of the revolution, are preserved in their lifetime appearance was wrapped in a solemn atmosphere.

A basket of flowers in the name of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was placed before the statues of the President and the Chairman.

Relevant officials laid baskets of flowers before



the statues in the name of the Central Committee of the WPK, the Standing Committee of the DPRK

SPA and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

Officials of armed forces

there in the name of the Korean People's Army.

The participants paid high tribute to the great leaders at

the statues.

At the hall of immortality where Kim Jong Il is preserved in his lifetime

appearance, they made a deep bow to the Chairman, who had raised the absolute dignity and prestige of the ever-victorious WPK and Juche Korea and laid the eternal foundation for the building of a powerful socialist state, ideal society for the people, as the most precious achievement of his sacred revolutionary life.

All the participants hardened their resolve to fulfil their important responsible duty assigned by the Party, state and people to them at the forefront of the gigantic struggle for providing a decisive guarantee for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the WPK and bringing about a turning point for a new upsurge for the innovative development of the country by wholeheartedly supporting the revolutionary ideas and leadership of Kim Jong Un.



Central symposium celebrates 50th anniv of enactment of DPRK Socialist Constitution

KCNA

A central symposium took place at the Ponghwa Art Theatre on December 22 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK.

It was attended by Party and administrative officials at central level and of Pyonggyang Municipality, officials of

judicial, prosecutorial and public security organs and theoretical information workers in the sectors of science, education, arts and literature, the mass media and revolutionary relics preservation and Party cadre training institutions.

At the symposium speeches were made by Ri Kyong Hun, department director of the Standing Committee of the Supreme

People's Assembly, Pak Kum Hui, rector of Pyonggyang Teachers Training College, Yun Kwang Won, deputy director of the Central Public Prosecutors Office, and Song Hyon Won, vice-president of the Academy of Social Sciences. They discussed the historic significance of the enactment of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK and the theoretical and practical issues arising in accelerating

the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialist construction by strengthening the legal system.

The speakers said President Kim Il Sung ensured that the Socialist Constitution was promulgated at the First Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly on December 27 1972 and it was a landmark event of historic significance in strengthening

and developing the state and accomplishing the revolutionary cause of Juche.

In the constitution drawn up by the President the successes and experience the Korean people achieved in their efforts for socialism are comprehensively legalized in all fields of the state and social life and matters of principle arising in dynamically pushing the revolution and construction clearly stipulated, they said.

The enactment and promulgation of the Socialist Constitution for the first time in the history of the country provided a powerful legal guarantee for further consolidating and developing the most advantageous Korean-style state and social

system in which the masses of the people are masters of the state and society and everything in society serves them, they noted.

They explained that to further strengthen the state legal system is one of the important tasks in successfully attaining the ambitious goal of comprehensive rejuvenation and overall development of socialism.

They also proved that the state-building idea and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un is the decisive factor in firmly building up the political and ideological might and the strongest self-defensive military capability of the state.

NADA conducts important test for development of reconnaissance satellite

KCNA

The National Aerospace Development Administration of the DPRK conducted an important final-stage test for the development of reconnaissance satellite at the Sohae Satellite Launching Ground on December 18.

A spokesperson for the

NADA said that the test was mainly aimed at evaluating the capabilities of the satellite photography and data transmission system and ground control system.

The test was conducted in the mode of evaluating the processing capability and stability of data transmission devices while verifying the

reliability of the ground control system including photography control command and attitude control for various kinds of cameras in the optimum environment simulating space environment after the high-angle launch of a test-piece satellite up to the altitude of 500km with

one panchromatic camera for 20m resolution test, two multispectral cameras, video transmitter and transmitters and receivers of several bands, control devices and batteries, he said.

The test confirmed the important technical indices including the technology of camera operation in

space environment, data processing and transmission capability of communication devices and the tracking and controlling accuracy of the ground control system. The NADA said this is an important success which has gone through the final gateway process for the launch of reconnaissance

satellite.

The NADA announced that it would finish the preparations for the first military reconnaissance satellite by April 2023.

The results of the important test were immediately reported to the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea.



An important final-stage test for the development of reconnaissance satellite is conducted at the Sohae Satellite Launching Ground on December 18.

People move into new houses in different areas

KCNA

People moved into newly built modern houses in the seat of the Namsa Farm in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, the seat of Jungyong-ri in Wonsan, Kangwon Province, the seat of Phalgryongdae-ri in Orang County, North Hamgyong

Province, and other farms across the country.

Dwelling houses are designed to suit the characteristics of relevant areas and modern aesthetic taste and in a diverse and convenient way for residents' living. Good species of trees were planted around the houses.

Meetings for moving into new houses took place on the spot.

They were attended by Party and government officials of Pyongyang Municipality and relevant provinces, cities and counties, builders, officials of the units that contributed to the construction projects

and agricultural workers who would move into new homes.

House licenses were given to the new house owners amid the enthusiastic applause of participants and speeches were made.

Officials congratulated the owners and shared joy with them amid cheerful dances and removal to new houses.



Owners of new houses are happy to move into their homes in Rangnang District of Pyongyang, Jungyong-ri in Wonsan City of Kangwon Province, Phalgryongdae-ri in Orang County of North Hamgyong Province, Paegam-ri in Jangjin County of South Hamgyong Province.

HOME NEWS

Participants in KCU Congress arrive in Pyongyang

Participants in the Ninth Congress of the Korean Children's Union including the KCU delegates from across the country, who showed an excellent example in study and organizational life, arrived in Pyongyang on December 20.

They were greeted by Ri Tu Song, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, other leading officials of the Party Central Committee and officials of the youth league central committee.

Streets of the capital city were enveloped in a welcoming atmosphere for the delegates.

Many citizens, youth and students extended warm greetings to the participants as they waved their hands to the procession of buses carrying the participants along the routes.

Teachers training college upgraded in Haeju

Haeju Jo Ok Hui Teachers Training College has been modernized as required by the times.

It has college buildings equipped with a lecture theatre, multifunctional lecture rooms and laboratories, which can put education on a scientific,

IT and modern basis, an e-library, gym, etc.

Its inaugural ceremony took place on the spot on December 18.

It was attended by Pak Yong Chol, secretary of the South Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, builders, and teaching staff and students of the college.

Kim Il Ho, vice-chairman of the provincial people's committee, delivered an inaugural address, followed by other speeches.

Medical oxygen factory built, branch milk cow farm and tile factory renovated in South Hamgyong

Officials and working people of South Hamgyong Province built a provincial medical oxygen factory and renovated a branch farm of the Inhung Milk Cow Farm and the Songchongang Tile Factory.

The completed projects have laid the material and technical foundations for raising the quality of medical service for the provincial people, supplying delicious dairy products to local children on a regular basis and sufficiently producing and supplying tiles and sanitary ware to farmhouse and other construction sites.

Socialist Constitution 50 years on



Laws for the people are adopted at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

WPK's people-first politics seen through laws

By Han Kwi Hun PT

Laws of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are all at the service of the people as they represent and champion their demands and interests.

In the country the people-first principle is applied to all fields of state activities and the people's genuine democratic rights, freedom and well-being are fully guaranteed by law.

Article 8 of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK stipulates that the social system of the country is a people-centred system under which working people are masters of everything and everything in society serves them and that the state shall defend the interests of the workers, farmers, soldiers, intellectuals and all other working people who have been freed from exploitation

and oppression and become the masters of the state and society, and respect and protect human rights.

In recent years the country faced unprecedented difficulties and ordeals. But many laws and regulations relating to the interests and convenience of the people were newly established or amended and supplemented.

The nature of the people-first politics of the Workers' Party of Korea can be realized through the DPRK law on childcare that excited the whole country.

The Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea discussed and decided on establishing it as the Party's policy to supply all children across the country with nourishing food including dairy products and the Sixth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly

adopted the DPRK law on childcare in February this year.

Article 2 of the DPRK law on childcare points out that children are the future of the country and its precious treasure and that there is no more important revolutionary work than raising children well and stipulates that the state shall establish an orderly system of producing and supplying nourishing food for children, regularly provide all children with such food, including dairy products, gratis and ensure the best conditions for bringing them up.

The law on childcare is a product of the WPK's view on the rising generation and the future. All laws of the country adopted or amended and supplemented in the past decade are associated with

the world of love for the people of the Party which gives the top and absolute priority to the dignity of the people and their rights and interests and does its best to provide them with a happy and highly-civilized life.

The DPRK laws on management of parks and recreation grounds, urban landscaping, prevention of air pollution and so on, which were newly enacted or amended and supplemented in the decade, reflect the WPK's intention to provide the people with the conditions and environment for a highly-civilized cultural life, protect their lives and health and improve ecological environment.

The DPRK law on emergency anti-epidemic work was also adopted thanks to the lofty spirit

of devoted service of the Party that took all sorts of measures to safeguard the people against COVID-19, a grave worldwide disaster.

The law on emergency anti-epidemic work was amended and supplemented on several occasions, so as to provide a timely legal guarantee for firmly defending the people's lives and safety.

Besides, there was adopted the DPRK law on providing cement for city and county construction thanks to the Party's noble intention of continuing to usher in the heyday of the capital construction and opening up an era of local transformation.

There came into being many other laws for guaranteeing and defending the people's lives and life thanks to the noble view on the people of the WPK

which ensures that all Party and state activities are consistent with making selfless, devoted efforts for the people and that all production and construction are directed to the promotion of their wellbeing so that the people-first principle is established as a firm political climate of the state and as a Party and national trait.

The laws include those on education programme implementation, public service, smoking prohibition and provision of conditions for demobilized officers' life.

All laws of the country reflect the intention of the WPK which treasures the people most and spares nothing for them, its noble desire to turn the country into a paradise where the people are well-off with nothing to envy in the world.

Law defends people, people observe law

By Han Jong Ho PT

The socialist law serves the people from the beginning to the end.

It includes the lines and policies of the Workers' Party of Korea and state policies embodying them as its political content and represents them in the form of a code of conduct.

Through the socialist law, working people can clearly understand the lines, policies and principles the WPK pursues and maintains in relevant sectors and grasp the policies of the state.

It legally guarantees the

status of the masses of working people, masters of the state, and helps them understand the contents and demands of the Party's policies, thereby actively mobilizing them in implementing the policies of the Party and the state.

And it awakens the masses of the people so as to thoroughly frustrate the moves of the enemy in time, thereby defending and protecting the cradle of their life.

It stipulates the forms of expression of all manner of the vicious and cunning manoeuvres of all the enemies hostile to the

socialist system and relevant criminal responsibilities.

It plays an important role in thoroughly applying the principle of collectivism "One for all and all for one" to the whole society.

In the course of working and living as required by the socialist law, which stipulates the norms and rules to be observed in the socialist social life, people cultivate the collectivist spirit of loving the collective and organization and devotedly working for society and people and possess noble spiritual and moral traits.

It also establishes system

and order needed for maintaining and consolidating the state and society to meet the intrinsic character of the socialist society and makes all the people strictly observe it, and thus makes them live and act as required by the principle of collectivism.

It plays a positive role in removing the remnants of old thoughts remaining in the minds of people and countering the external influence of reactionary ideological and cultural poisoning.

It helps them to repent of their errors and pursue an honest career by disallowing

any slightest manifestation of all manner of disorderly and illegal practices, finding out such practices in time, getting people to combat them and imposing legal sanctions on violators of laws according to gravities.

It also acts as a great organizer and mobilizer in economic and cultural construction.

The socialist labour law stipulates that state organs, enterprises and social cooperative organizations shall actively promote the movement for new invention and rationalization and introduce such plans into

production in time.

It plays an important function in developing technologies to increase the people's material wealth and provide them with a happy life.

Like this, the socialist law is a powerful means in defending the socialist system, the cradle of people's life, training them into genuine human beings and increasing material wealth.

That is why the Korean people are self-confident of the popular characters and advantages of the law and make redoubling efforts to defend it.

2022, year of glorious victory

Great victory in anti-epidemic war

The DPRK wiped out COVID-19 which made inroads into the country in a matter of 90-odd days and achieved victory in the top emergency anti-epidemic campaign.

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Most noticeable of all the brilliant successes the DPRK has made in 2022 is that it exterminated the stealth omicron subvariant BA.2 that made inroads to its territory and protected the lives and safety of the people.

Political leadership defuses the crisis

The great anti-epidemic war made all the people keenly feel once again the resolution and political leadership ability unique to the Workers' Party of Korea as the defender of the destiny of the people.

On May 12 just after the malignant virus made inroads into the territory, the WPK and the DPRK government put a top-level emergency anti-epidemic system into operation and adopted appropriate and optimum measures for the management of the situation where the infectious disease broke out, blocking of the source of its spread and stabilization of the people's livelihood.

In spite of suffering enormous losses, they took strong measures to lock down every region and every unit across the country, while simultaneously pushing ahead with the work of locating, quarantining and treating every fever case through a strict and intensive screening and examination of the entire

population.

They also urgently released the reserve medicines of the state to ensure necessary medicines could reach all the fever cases and took crucial steps of making all pharmacies switch over to the round-the-clock operation system. The Party Central Military Commission issued a special order to commit combatants of the medical field of the Korean People's Army to the emergency anti-epidemic front in Pyongyang in the worst situation.

During the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period, General Secretary Kim Jong Un presided over more than 10 major Party meetings and examined 1 772 documents covering 22 956 pages. To him, every one of the Korean people was part of his flesh and blood, which he could and should never lose. He did not hesitate to visit several pharmacies in the capital city where the malignant virus still lingered and donated official medicines prepared at his family to the neediest families experiencing worst difficulties. The self-sacrificing efforts he made for the people sharing the destiny with them and his scientific and people-oriented anti-epidemic policies and resolute crucial measures convinced all of them of sure victory in the anti-epidemic war and got them to turn out in the fight with a high sense of organization and unity of

voluntary action. As a result, from the fifth day after the top-level emergency anti-epidemic system came into operation, the DPRK became able to curb the nationwide spread of the disease to a stable phase and definitely bring about a favourable turn in the anti-epidemic war. The daily number of fever cases decreased to less than 90 000 a month later, and after July 29 no fever case occurred. Finally, on August 10, the Party and the government ascertained that COVID-19 which had infiltrated into the territory was totally exterminated and declared a victory in the war. Therefore, the DPRK restored anti-epidemic safety in a matter of 90-odd days, although not a vaccination was given, and restored peace as an infection-free zone and a clean, virus-free zone.

Might of great army-people unity

The country fully demonstrated again to the whole world the inevitable might of the great army-people unity through the anti-epidemic war.

After being urgently dispatched to the capital city on the special order of the Party Central Military Commission, the combatants of the KPA medical field displayed the self-sacrificing spirit and ennobling spiritual and moral traits to touch everybody's heart. Among

them were those who put their heart and soul into treatment of patients while enduring their own sorrow and anxiety by dint of strong will even after learning that their family members had misfortunes and that their parents, wives or children were in critical conditions and the officers and men who died of illnesses while working devotedly for patients. As they risked their lives in the campaign to protect the people's lives, the combatants transfused their own blood into patients in critical conditions, reopened their airways with their own mouths, distributed staple and subsidiary foods to needy families by cutting their own field rations and donated their money unsparingly. They applied themselves to the supply of medicines to the citizens and the treatment of them even in the face of heavy rain and scorching and

fierce heat, as they kept to the pharmacies under their charge. Regarding every minute and every second in the pharmacies as the one on the front, they maintained their noble sense of duty until the last moment of their withdrawal. It is so natural that they were called by the people "our army sent by the General Secretary", "our sons" and "our grandsons".

Although they deserved a warm send-off, they left so quietly. Citizens were so eager to repay the combatants' favour before they left, as they exterminated the malignant virus and got so intimate with

them. But the combatants withdrew in silence in the dead of night, leaving only salute before the residents' windows. The citizens felt really regrettable, but realized once again that they are true sons of the people and extended the warmest thanks to the General Secretary who trained such excellent soldiers.

Noble virtues displayed in the worst trials

The Koreans exhibited the altruistic love, collective spirit and might of unity for others including neighbours and colleagues and even strangers during the hard times of the anti-epidemic war.



Medics of the Korean People's Army are urgently dispatched to the capital city of Pyongyang to resolve worsening health crisis.



The Korean People's Army medics devote themselves to protecting people's lives and safety during the top-level emergency anti-epidemic period.



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Crystallization of devoted service for people

Childcare law adopted, dairy products normally supplied to children

A law on childcare was adopted at the Sixth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly in February

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

This year, the Workers' Party of Korea's childcare policy benefited children throughout the DPRK, touching the heartstrings of the people.

In February a DPRK law on childcare was adopted for supplying all children across the country with nourishing food including dairy products at state expense. Thus an orderly system of producing and supplying nourishing food for children was established and all children have regularly been provided with such food gratis.

As a matter of fact, the WPK and the DPRK government have many policy issues to solve urgently, including those of developing the economy of the country and improving the people's living standards.

Still, the WPK regards it as the most important policy and greatest cherished desire of the Party and state to provide more improved conditions for childcare even by spending a huge sum of money, whatever the amount. This is a manifestation of the Party's noble view on the rising generations.

Bringing up children requires much effort and the success in the work is not visible immediately.

But the WPK consistently presses on with the childcare

policy by sparing no effort

for children, with the firm faith that if the rising generations eat well and are raised healthily in good environment from their childhood, that much vibrant vim and vigour will overflow in society after 20 or 30 years and the national power of the DPRK will grow greater.

As a result, this year witnessed the consolidation of the material and technical foundations for producing and supplying dairy products on a nationwide scale.

Provinces, cities and counties built high-capacity milk cow and goat farms with milk processing and feed processing grounds, expanded the capacity of such farms and modernized them, thus markedly increasing the number of the animals and

milk production.

Dairy products production and supply units across the country were provided with vehicles, freezing and storage facilities and containers and fresh dairy products whose hygienic safety was guaranteed were supplied to children on a regular basis.

Even during the top emergency anti-epidemic period in May, the supply of baby formula and rice powder was discussed as an important issue and the products arrived in all parts of the country.

Even a single rest day or public holiday never passed without the supply of dairy products to children.

The sight of children growing healthily under the care of the Party and the state makes the whole country overflow with vim and vigour.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Kindergarten children drink milk at the snack time.

New students provided with uniforms, other school supplies

By Kim Il Jin PT

All the new students across the DPRK have been supplied with new uniforms and other school things this year.

At the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, General Secretary Kim Jong Un declared that the provision of uniforms to students is not a task that is carried out only under favourable conditions and that may be failed under unfavourable conditions, but

a policy of the WPK and the eternal policy of the DPRK government, which should be implemented unconditionally and on a top-priority basis, and took a crucial measure to this end.

On New Year's Day this year, he examined the samples of new school uniforms and instructed officials to make the clothes with sincerity for students.

True to his noble intention, light industry factories across the country buckled down to producing school uniforms, bags and other school things.

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill speeded up the production of school uniform cloth and bag canvas and researchers and technicians at central-level garment establishments made a tour of garment factories across the country to offer passing-on-technique sessions for the production of the uniforms.

Production was stepped up to make quality school things that suit the juvenile psychology in order to fill Sonamu-brand satchels with them.

As a result, new uniforms,

shoes and satchels along with a complete set of school things were supplied to all the new students of primary and middle schools and universities throughout the

country ranging from the capital city of Pyongyang to remote mountain and island villages. They were also provided with a new stylish summer uniforms in summer.



Pupils in new school uniforms attend a Korean language lesson (left)

The DPRK got brighter as students wore a happy bright smile as they put on new uniforms and shoes and carried Sonamu satchels containing Mindulle-brand

notebooks and Haebalagi- and Turumi-brand school things. In addition, all the parentless children were provided with warm padded clothes, winter sportswear and winter shoes

last October on the occasion of the anniversary of the WPK and young students in remote mountainous villages with "Omoni" (mother) school boats.



RI RYON SONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
students in new uniforms are on their way to university (right).

2022, year of glorious victory

Crystallization of devoted service for people

Following leader's footprint in Ryonpho area

By Yun Kyong Il PT

There were more people who did not know the name of a place, Ryonpho, than those who knew it before. But today, it has become a place well known to all.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un made a field survey of the Ryonpho area in April 2019 and unveiled a plan to build a modern greenhouse farm in the area which is larger than the one built in the Jungphoyong area in Kyongsong County, North Hamgyong Province, so that it could contribute to improving the dietary life of the people of South Hamgyong Province by producing and supplying

fresh vegetables to them. And he gave instructions on the construction and gave guidance over the designs of the greenhouse farm on several occasions.

In fact, at that time the construction of the Jungphoyong Greenhouse Farm was in full swing.

However, the General Secretary put his heart and soul into the construction of it as he conceived a larger-scale project.

He set the construction of the farm as the top priority task among the major state construction policy tasks for 2022 and gave the assignment to complete the project till the anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea this year at the Fourth

Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held in December last year. And he came out to the field again to inspect the designated place for the building of the farm and gave detailed instructions on its construction in January this year.

That day he said that the greenhouse farm to be built in the Ryonpho area is larger than the one built in the Jungphoyong area both in scale and workload, noting that he decided to assign the huge task again to the Korean People's Army units that had already gained extensive experience in greenhouse farm construction.

He emphasized that it is

important to further develop the design of the greenhouse farm to be built this time in both scientific and technical and management aspects by referring to all merits and demerits of the already built Jungphoyong Greenhouse Farm and reflecting them in it.

He also earnestly instructed officials to select technicians and employees and give them education beforehand to ensure it would be run from next year and to supply vegetable seeds and secure farm machines and farming materials at the same time in order to build the farm perfectly as the one which would substantially contribute to improving the

dietary life of the people and a model and standard of the Party's policy on building greenhouse farms as soon as possible.

And he attended the ground-breaking ceremony of the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm in February this year, made an impressive speech filled with his noble intention of "The people are God" and personally shovelled ground first.

Thanks to his warm love for the people, the Ryonpho area has turned into a new base for the creation of Korean-style rural civilization and a socialist modern village good to work and live in, unfolding a marvellous innovative entity.

Province which has larger population than other provinces. He selected an important military base on the eastern front as a building site for the greenhouse farm and wisely led the effort to build it as one of the largest-scale bases in the world in terms of production area and capacity, a new standard of the greenhouse farm of our country which put vegetable production on a modern, intensive and industrial basis at a high level and a new base for the creation of rural civilization of our own style," said Jo Song Dae, manager of the farm.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

According to the plan of the Workers' Party of Korea, the world's largest-scale greenhouse vegetable production base was built last October.

Located in the Ryonpho area in South Hamgyong Province, the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm was completed in some 230 days since the first blasting resounded for groundbreaking.

"Our greenhouse farm was built according to the intention of Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, to build the world's best greenhouse farm in South Hamgyong

hydroponic greenhouses were built in good order on a vast area and introduced modern hydroponic cultivation techniques.

Cucumber, tomato, red pepper, watermelon, bok choy, celery and a variety of fruit vegetables and green vegetables are grown in the greenhouses and dozens of sapling greenhouses can produce vegetable seedlings all the year round. The greenhouses can increase heat-preserving effect with the help of double-sheet system and heat-preserving cover to produce vegetables under the condition with no heating system, save manpower and

enhance productivity by introducing soilless cultivation method.

The edaphic greenhouse whose both glass inclines are connected and a dozen arched interlocking vinyl sheet edaphic greenhouses are also effective as each block of them covers an area of a hectare, the utilization rate of machines is high and they can turn out different kinds of vegetables suitable for soil cultivation.

To meet the climate features of the Ryonpho area where wind blows hard, highly functional and quality vinyl sheets with tensile strength have been used and the quality level and lifespan of truss

and heat-preserving cover have been improved more than before.

Characteristic values have been scientifically measured, an automatic nutrient supply system has been introduced and the high-performance integrated manufacturing system has been established by adding different functions.

The farm can save a large quantity of fertilizers and produce vegetables on a regular basis.

And it set up the humus soil production process in a rational way and a foundation has been built to specially produce the cultural substances for hydroponic greenhouses.

To preserve natural flavour, fragrance



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Taesongsan Ice Cream Factory produces various kinds of ice cream and drinks.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Products of the Taesongsan Ice Cream Factory are favoured by people these days.

Citizens say they have unprecedentedly unique tastes and fragrances and their flavours are pure, clean and natural.

Not only children but adults are fond of the products of the factory. The factory inaugurated in late October is at the foot of picturesque Mt Taesong in Pyongyang.

With the logo in the shape of conical ice cream engraved on the front wall of the factory building, the factory boasts a distinctive architectural beauty as such elements as fence and benches in the compound are in the shape of conical ice cream.

According to Manageress Kim Hye Gyong, the area is blessed with a clean hygienic environment and good quality water.

The factory also ensures the hygienic environment conditions of its inside including production sites

meet the international standards.

It has ice cream and drinks production lines which turn out over 60 articles in more than 30 kinds.

The ice cream production line consists in stick-fixing, extruding-cutting and multifunctional processes.

Ice creams in optional shapes like bear or rabbit are made at the extruding-cutting process and ice creams in paper cup or between cakes and conical one are produced at the multifunctional production process.

More than 10 kinds of high-quality ice creams and over 20 kinds of ordinary ice creams are produced at the ice cream production line.

"The high-quality ice cream is a globally popular product which is made by using such natural materials as raw milk and cream and without using water and additives, so its taste is pure and unique," said senior engineer Mun Myong Gil.

The dried substance content of it is 41-65 percent and therefore it is highly nutritious, he added.

At present, the factory produces blueberry, strawberry-chocolate, green tea and other ice creams.

The ice creams rolling off the production line go through the ultra-quick freezing line with a temperature of -37°C before being forwarded.

The drinks production line consists of juice, soda pop, spring water and natural mineral water production processes.

The natural mineral water is easily absorbed as necessary mineral substances are present in the water in the state of ion of salt type and the sugar- and calorie-free drink is effective in treating obesity and diabetes.

An official of the factory said that General Secretary Kim Jong Un proposed building the factory, designated the site of it and gave detailed instructions to provide the people and children with the best products in the world.

The factory also directs efforts into developing world-famous products with a competitive edge amid deep concern of the state.



The farm has a production area of 100 ha with over 850 blocks of hydroponic and other greenhouses.

The Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm, the world's largest base for producing greenhouse vegetables.

RODONG SINMUN

A step forward made in improving educational conditions, environment

By Pang Un Ju PT

This year, too, many model schools have been built and activities have been conducted throughout the country to renovate and modernize all the schools in order to make every place, irrespective of urban, rural and mountainous areas, benefit from the advantageous socialist educational system by providing new, rising generations with excellent educational conditions and environment.

"The construction of

exemplary schools is not merely an educational business-oriented undertaking for building or renovating school buildings, but a noble patriotic undertaking for younger generations to make our education a superior education to which we can entrust the future of the country," said Kim Jong Su, deputy department director of the Education Commission.

State measures have been taken to steadily press on with the construction of model schools and Party organizations of provinces, cities and counties have

strongly pushed the work of renovating or building new educational institutions as mid-term and long-term undertakings.

Pyongyang Municipality which set itself a goal of modernizing the educational space of dozens of schools and improving educational environment for this year supplied necessary construction materials and ensured that officials of it and its districts went out to schools and solved problems arising in the construction of model schools so as to make the projects go full steam ahead.

Therefore, dozens of

schools have turned into model schools, including Technical Senior Middle School on Kwangbok Street and Ponghwa Primary School in Pothonggang District, and many other schools have equipped themselves with modern educational facilities and teaching tools, with the result that their educational conditions and environment have been upgraded.

North Phyongan Province held inaugural ceremonies of schools by rebuilding 80-odd schools into model ones under difficult conditions and made sure that supporters' organizations in charge of the

schools turned out actively to provide universities and schools with excellent educational conditions and environment.

Officials and supporters' organizations in North Hwanghae and North Hamgyong provinces, who attach importance to education, provided schools with educational facilities and teaching tools, thus many classrooms have become multifunctional ones.

Pegabong Junior Middle School, Kwangmyongsong Primary School and other schools in the City of Samjiyon have been built

as models of the general education sector so as to establish a sure guarantee for training rising generations into comprehensively developed talents.

Besides, remarkable successes have been made in the construction and reconstruction of model schools in Jagang and other provinces and Nampho City, and a zeal for supporting education has been further grown throughout the country and thereby experiment and practical training rooms of many schools have splendidly been renovated to meet the requirements of pedagogy.

Middle schools enthusiastic about improving quality of education



Teachers discuss new teaching methods at Pyongyang Middle School No. 1.

RODONG SINMUN

By Kim Hak Chol PT

"This year middle schools No. 1 across the country worked hard to improve the quality of education in a competitive atmosphere, achieving many real successes," said Hwang Chol Myong, department director of the Education Commission. Pyongyang Middle School No. 1 dynamically pushed the drafting of a new educational programme on the basis of the analysis and review of the one based on the elective system in the senior classes.

Thanks to unbounded enthusiasm of its teachers, writing textbooks on several subjects for the first-, second- and third-year junior classes to be used at middle schools No. 1 across the country was completed successfully.

"An examination paper marking and teaching control program was developed by employing AI technology and is being introduced throughout the country. And in the course of strenuously pushing the development of effective and superior teaching methods, the teachers' qualifications improved and the number of winners of the title of October

8 Model Teacher increased," said principal Pang Sung Son. Changdok School often organized teaching competitions in which all teachers were required to take part with new teaching methods employing modern educational technology.

According to vice principal Jong Son Gum, the teaching contest, which was held for the purpose of further improving the knowledge of students by widely developing and introducing new teaching methods, fired the departments and teachers with a zeal in the development of new teaching methods.

To improve the practical abilities and skills of students the school gave them homework of making something during vacations, not that of solving problems as it did in the past, so as to make all students actively apply knowledge they learned at school.

Teachers say in unison that the course of encouraging students to present more than one creation was a good occasion for cultivating their creativity, thinking faculty and imagination.

Moranbong Middle School No. 1 worked hard to

increase teaching density and improve the practical ability of students by developing a teaching support program based on the analysis of their preparations of lessons, while actively drawing on their experience gained in educational work by using multifunctional classrooms which are specialized by subjects.

Kim Jong Suk Middle School No. 1 made exact demands on the teachers to direct primary efforts to improving their qualifications to offer lessons in a qualitative way and to concentrate on making students grasp what they learned that day by bringing their after-school study in step.

It worked to improve the practical ability of students by positively applying the ordinary-time scholarly performance estimation method it had already developed and generalized throughout the country.

Wonsan and Rason middle schools No. 1 also widely encouraged the campaign to overtake, model after and share experience to constantly improve the quality of education.

Technical classes produce useful results

By Ri Sung Ik PT

As part of the efforts to improve the secondary general education system, hundreds of technical senior middle schools (technical classes) conducive to training talents in different sectors are in operation throughout the DPRK.

Jungsin Senior Middle School in Sosong District, Pyongyang, has organized IT, industrial design and technical service classes in the beginning of this year's new school year and run them effectively.

After equipping itself with conditions needed for the operation of technical classes, the school made sure that students were involved in technical classes according to their abilities, likings and aptitudes.

Students receive lessons according to the educational curriculum of technical classes in the morning and do after-school studies for improving their practical abilities and skills in the afternoon.

According to Kim Song Chol, principal of the school, though it has been only eight months since technical classes

were launched, they prove effective in the education of students.

For the IT class involving students who have special aptitude and taste for information technology, for instance, the cognitive effect for learning contents is very high and their zeal for learning is also unusual.

"I gave production tasks after providing a lesson about the production of a video and the creation of multimedia by using multimedia production tools. The level of the presentations they created by setting their own themes and employing what they learned was really unusual and I could have a glimpse into students' creative zeal and individuality through it," said teacher Kim Yong Sun.

Kim Kang Guk, student of the school, designed a hygienic and anti-epidemic study support program to present it to the national sci-tech presentation and exhibition of anti-epidemic and public health sectors-2022 last November.

In the industrial design class students learn basic principles of sketch, handwriting by brush and colouring in painting and

the rudiments of design needed for industrial design, and they are encouraged to improve practical abilities and skills through constant practice and creation.

Pak Chung Gun, teacher of the school, said that there was an industrial design competition recently and many students came up with designs of mobile trunk for fine art, children's intelligent vocal pen, household bookcase, multifunctional desk and wrist watch for children which are novel in idea and almost on a par with the experts' level in terms of colour, shape, form and practical value.

As girl students take a large proportion, the technical service class is given lessons about haircut, beauty culture, facial culture and photo service. Teachers say they are very eager to acquire special techniques.

"Not only students but also their parents are very glad since the operation of technical classes enable many students to learn subjects according to their temperament, liking and personality and acquire practical knowledge and techniques applicable to practice," said the principal.

Students of the industrial design class are engaged in a sketch practice lesson at Jungsin Senior Middle School.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Agricultural workers have pleasant days in Pyongyang

By Kim Il Jin PT

"This year all of my workteam members produced high yields and are now on a tour of Pyongyang. Citizens of the capital city congratulate us everywhere. We will work better and come to Pyongyang next year, too," said Kim Sun Ae, farmer of Oryong-ri in Mundok County.

Agricultural workers' tour of Pyongyang that started on November 29 is divided into several sessions. So far, hundreds of farmers toured the capital.

According to Kye Hyon Suk, managress of the Pyongyang Farmer Tourists Camp, the farmers' living expenses during their Pyongyang tour are covered by the state.

The agricultural workers look round different places including the Tower of the Juche Idea, Central Zoo and Pyongyang Circus Theatre and are warmly accepted by many public service facilities.

The farmers express their impressions of the city, saying "I felt greater pride in the image of Pyongyang, that of the country, while having a bird's eye view of the city from the Tower of the Juche Idea, looking round upgraded subway stations of the Pyongyang Metro and enjoying a rare night view of Kyongru-dong" and "I had photos taken in different places in Pyongyang and with famous



Agricultural workers visit the Central Zoo during vacation.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

artists and sportspersons to keep them as significant souvenirs."

"Our couple raised good crops this year and set off on a tour of Pyongyang. Looking at the magnificent appearance of the newly changed city, I feel delighted and invigorated. In future I will produce more crops," said Kim Kum

Nyo, farmer from Pongo-ri in Kangnyong County.

During their tour of the capital, the farmers give artistic performances, hold sports games and get together to talk about their impressions of the tour. All employees of the farmer tourists camp were greatly impressed by their farms' achievements and

their artistry and sports techniques practised through mass artistic and sports activities.

"As I feel every year, there are all sorts of talented persons among agricultural workers. They always have a good time here from morning to evening," said Pak Hyang Mi, a staffer of the camp.

'We will fulfil duty as farmers'

Swelling with the pride of being a farmer

I became a high-yield farmer as I worked for two years in my native village after my demob and came to visit the capital city of Pyongyang. During the visit I swelled with the pride of being a farmer.

Everywhere I went, I was accorded kind hospitality of attendants and warm greetings of the citizens who were thankful for our labour for replenishing the country's granary. I felt bound to work harder, while witnessing ever-growing policies the country adopted to build modern dwelling houses and modernize agricultural production environment in

order to enable us farmers to lead a civilized life and being warmly welcomed by the citizens. After returning home, I will fulfil my duty as a farmer to increase grain output.

U Myong Hyok, farmer at the Paengnosan Farm in Cholwon County, Kangwon Province



To repay the country's favour with increased meat production

This year, our workteam overfulfilled its meat production plan and had

the honour of visiting Pyongyang. Overjoyed at the news of our scheduled Pyongyang tour, we carried out our daily plans two or three times.

We all hardened our resolve to repay with increased meat production the favour the country showed us as it took all possible measures to make us enjoy a good time of rest without the slightest inconvenience during the visit.

Kim Myong Dok, farmer at the Misam Livestock Farm in Yodok County, South Hamgyong Province



Farmers overjoyed at moving into new homes

By Song Jong Ho PT

As the effort for rural development in the new era makes dynamic progress, modern dwelling houses are rising up in rural villages across the

country. A few days ago, well over a hundred rural houses were built splendidly in the village of the Sosin Vegetable Farm in Ryokpho District, Pyongyang. The single- and low-storey

houses and terraced houses built in a distinctive style according to the regional characteristics in an area of 16 000 square metres are equipped with everything needed for the comfortable life of agricultural workers

and are surrounded with trees of good species that add beauty to the village's scenery.

The farmers who moved into new homes expressed their excitement and joy as follows:

"When I received the house license, I couldn't believe it was real. I cannot wait to tell about this to my daughter who is serving in the army. I'll work harder to repay the favour bestowed by the benevolent system. As

a farmer, I will do the farm work diligently with my wife and reap a bumper harvest."

An Yong Nam

"I used to look with envy on those people moving into new modern houses shown on TV and wonder if I could also live in such a good house. Today, my dream has come true. There is no other country in the world where ordinary farmers like us are provided with such nice houses gratis."

Jang Kyong Ha

"My new home is really big and beautiful. Especially, the kitchen is spacious so it would be convenient for me. Everything in the house suits the taste of rural housewives. We didn't know such wonderful new houses would be supplied even to young couples like us. I'll work hard to return the love of the Party in future."

Jong Hye Un



HONG KWANG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

House-moving takes place at the Sosin Vegetable Farm in Ryokpho District, Pyongyang, on December 5.



People are provided with dwelling houses gratis, as part of the government steps to guarantee their happy lives by law in the DPRK to which the people-first principle is applied.

Socialist Constitution characterized by protection of people's rights, interests



Hong Chol Hwa
Director of the Law Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences

The Korean people joyfully celebrate the 50th anniversary of the promulgation of the Socialist Constitution at a time when all the people across the country advance along the road indicated by the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with redoubled courage and in high spirits.

President Kim Il Sung promulgated the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK at the First Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly on December 27 1972. It was an event of great significance in the strengthening and development of the state, political life of our people and the accomplishment

of the socialist cause. The adoption of the Socialist Constitution provided them with a legal guarantee for resolutely safeguarding and defending the state and social system of the DPRK and a powerful weapon to step up socialist construction with vigour.

The Socialist Constitution is the socialist political charter which legally fixes the successes achieved in the revolution and construction and comprehensively regulates the principles in the fields of politics, the economy and culture, the basic rights and duties of citizens and structures, missions and principles of activities of the state organs.

It legally guarantees all conditions to firmly defend the socialist system, give full play to the advantages of Korean-style socialism and ensure the people enjoy true freedom and rights in all fields of the state and social life. Herein lies its intrinsic nature.

In the new century of the Juche era, the Socialist Constitution was amended and supplemented to be called Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il Constitution, with the legal system of the state being perfected and the role of law in the state life further enhanced.

And laws and regulations were intensively amended and supplemented in line with the

developing reality and various laws were adopted, including the DPRK laws on recycling, the education of young people, social insurance and security and childcare, further consolidating the legal foundations for the independent and creative life of the Korean people.

Today, it is important to build up the political and ideological might of our state in every way and promote the new development in socialist construction. The reality demands that the socialist law be strictly applied to all fields of the state and social life.

When all the people observe the law voluntarily and conscientiously, our revolutionary positions will be built up more impregnable and the political and ideological might of our state will grow stronger remarkably.

OPINION

Temperature rise threatens existence of mankind

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

Recently, the United Nations Environment Programme published a report which said that temperature may rise by 2.8°C in the late 21st century.

The Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change said that even if the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emission till 2030 which every country pledged itself to is attained, temperature will go up by 2.5°C.

Previously, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change had published a report that the global average temperature might rise by 4.8°C at the maximum in the late 21st century.

The problem is that the earth is getting hotter, threatening the existence of mankind every moment.

If the rise in the global temperature lasts like today, it will finally exterminate animals and plants and deal a death blow to human life.

Now people obtain food, fuel and others from nature and most of crops depend on animals for pollination.

If such animals continuously decrease, the production of crops will automatically fall, further aggravating food shortage.

If water temperature rises, it will change the habitat of fish, putting them on the verge of extinction.

Eventually, people will lose the natural foundation of their life much more, especially foods from the sea.

In 2019 a large number of salmon died in hot seawater in the middle of migration and cod's roes were damaged in such water.

And world or regional precipitation and the farming season are changing due to temperature rise.

Glaciers are melting to cause a rise in sea level. This threatens the bases of life for the people living at the seaside or on islands below sea level.

In recent years, the disastrous abnormal climate phenomena have got more frequent, entailing tremendous human and material losses. This is also due to temperature rise.

This year, too, some regions suffered disasters caused by a series of typhoons and some others suffered damage from floods due to occasional heavy rainfall.

And many people suffered from drought in the other places.

The worst heat wave in some centuries hit Europe and severe drought and flood occurred in many areas of Asia and North America.

Famine struck the Horn of Africa and many animals went extinct in the region.

Taking measures to check temperature rise presents itself as an urgent issue which brooks no further delay.

Pundits warn that the blue planet is needed for humankind but the red light has already been turned on.

Asserting that the increase in greenhouse gas emission caused by one-sided and excessive activities is causing temperature rise, they appeal to all people living on this planet to turn out for making the earth healthy.

Assuming an air of a "human rights judge", the UK is annually picking on independent countries of its dislike over the non-existent "human rights issue".

Since the beginning of this year, the UK has taken the lead in the "diplomatic boycott" of the West against the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games over "human rights issue". It also called on the international society to break their relations with Syria under a groundless excuse that Syria "violated" international humanitarian law.

Besides, it made an attempt to stir up an international atmosphere of putting pressure on China, Russia, Iran, Myanmar and other countries over the "human rights issue" by mobilizing international organizations including the UN Human Rights Council. There are simply too many examples of this sort to enumerate.

Clear is the ulterior motive of the UK behind the politicization of "human rights issues" of other countries.

It is to put political pressure

UK needs to show primary concern for addressing its dismal human rights situation

By Choe Hyon Do

On December 9, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office issued an annual report titled "Human Rights and Democracy" where it designated the DPRK again as one of "human rights priority countries" along with 30 other countries including China, Russia and Iran.

This report-issuing farce by the UK constitutes an out-and-out political provocation in step with the US policy of hostility towards the DPRK and an open interference in internal affairs of a sovereign state.

In our country, the whole society is united with noble virtue and affection and independent rights of the masses of the people are institutionally guaranteed. Hence, the "human rights issue" clamoured by the UK does not and can never exist.

Assuming an air of a "human rights judge", the UK is annually picking on independent countries of its dislike over the non-existent "human rights issue".

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Clear is the ulterior motive of the UK behind the politicization of "human rights issues" of other countries.

It is to put political pressure

on other countries with different "values" while covering up their dismal human rights situation.

There is a saying, "What goes around comes around."

This saying may go to the UK which is in an inveterate habit of finding faults with others without knowing where it stands.

From a historical point of view, the UK has also gained notoriety for human rights violation.

The soldiers under the special forces of UK "paratroops" stationed in Afghanistan did not scruple to mercilessly kill innocent civilians, to say nothing of the prisoners of war.

This year too, the UK came under fire at home and abroad for treating the refugees as "goods" to be exported overseas by concluding a "human trade" agreement which is aimed at driving out to Rwanda the refugees entering its homeland to seek a way to make a living.

It was also adamant that it will withdraw from the European

Court of Human Rights when the latter took issue with its implementation of the agreement, much to the consternation of the world people.

Aforementioned facts substantiate the fact that the "human rights protection" chanted by the UK is nothing more than a hypocrisy.

The UK suffered the worst disgrace as two prime ministers had to resign consecutively in less than a few months due to their anti-popular policies. It would be better for the UK to ponder over as to why millions of the working people are turning up in strikes and protests.

The UK would be well advised to direct its primary concern to redressing its dismal human rights situation including the improvement of its people's livelihood, instead of keeping on putting up its worn-out "human rights signboard".

The author is researcher of the Korea-Europe Association

African nations determined to spur independent economic development

By Choe Song Jun PT

African countries are making positive efforts to achieve sustainable economic development by themselves.

Referring to the building of the country's self-supporting economy, the Ugandan president recently stressed the necessity to ensure production and supply of car batteries by its own efforts. He emphasized that the national resistance movement of Uganda laid it down already in the 1970s as

one of the most important articles in its action programme to develop the country's economy into a self-supporting one in the future. Given the country has built an electric bus assembly factory and produces electronic car and other vehicles on its own, batteries for the electric vehicles should also be produced with local efforts, he noted. The country is rich in raw material resources, he said, adding that what matters is to dispel the illusions about imported goods and completely forbid the import of

batteries needed for electronic cars.

Nigeria is directing efforts to the development of science and technology for socio-economic progress while reducing its dependence on imported products.

The executive director of the national science and engineering infrastructure management bureau of Nigeria said that the country made sure that it imported essential infrastructure facilities from other countries as little as possible and pushed ahead with the development of its machine-making capacity

which is important in promoting the country's industrial growth and ensuring the sustainability. The bureau is establishing international partnerships in the field of science and technology related to the country's socio-economic progress, he added.

According to the Nigerian newspaper Vanguard dated December 7 2022, the government set out an advanced irrigation project for extensive farming and tractors are being recycled, repaired and reused on a nationwide scale.

Japan, land barren of human rights

By Song Jong Ho PT

Japan which is so eager to talk about the human rights situations of other countries is now being troubled by ever-growing human rights abuses at home.

Of late, murders took place in the country in succession. An employee of an old people's home in Fukushima Prefecture was arrested on a charge of murder of an old woman, a man was hit to death with a chair by his wife in

Hokkaido and a female student was killed in a hotel in Nagoya City.

Meanwhile, a woman killed her three young daughters at home in Aichi Prefecture, a woman suffocated her seven-year-old son to death by covering his mouth and nose in Kanagawa Prefecture, a man stabbed his father to death with a kitchen knife in Fukui Prefecture, a man strangled his mother in Saitama Prefecture, a man killed his grandmother in Kurashiki City of Okayama Prefecture and a 22-year-old man hit his grandparents and

brother on the head with a hammer to death in Hamamatsu City of Shizuoka Prefecture.

And maltreatment of the aged, the young and the disabled does not cease.

Such victims included newcomers in a special facility for the disabled in Hokkaido and children at a nursery in Shizuoka Prefecture.

Especially, mistreatment of the aged by employees is rampant at rest homes.

According to a survey conducted by the Japanese Ministry of Welfare

and Labour, ill-treatment of old people by family members and relatives amounted to 17 281 cases in 2020, or a 2.1 percent increase against the year before and a record high since 2007 when the survey of maltreatment of old people started.

Japan is just a land barren of human rights where people do not hesitate to kill even their relatives in pursuit of their own indolence, pleasure and interests, extreme misanthropy persists and homicide and cruel treatment are omnipresent.

Briefly

Russia West's self-destructive bid decried

Recently, the Russian foreign ministry strongly denounced the West for clinging to self-destructive sanctions.

Alexander Grushko, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, in a press conference on December 17, referred to Russia's countermeasures against the West's sanctions on the country, saying Europe's measures are only affecting their own interests.

On the same day, Russian foreign ministry official spokeswoman Maria Zakharova released a comment, in which she asserted that the negative aftereffects of the anti-Russia sanctions policy would only increase within the EU.

The EU decided on December 16 to impose illegal and unilateral sanctions measures yet again, she said, adding the new sanctions like all the previous ones would only result in aggravated socio-economic problems in Europe.

China
Satellite launched

On December 16, China launched a "Test No. 21" satellite at the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre.

Carried by a Long March-11 carrier rocket, the satellite was reportedly put into the designated orbit.

UN
Resolution adopted to struggle against portraying Nazis as heroes

The United Nations General Assembly on December 15 adopted a resolution presented by Russia, the one on fighting against portraying Nazis as heroes and against neo-Nazism and racial discrimination.

The resolution was reportedly supported by 120 countries.

UK
Strike spreads

Working people from different walks of life went out on a mass strike in different parts of the UK.

More than 40 000 workers in the railway and marine transport sectors have staged protest actions against anti-popular measures of the authorities every day since December 13.

Since nurses in the public health sector joined the strike and trade unions in the telecommunications and commercial sectors announced they would soon organize strikes, the overall sectors of the UK might suffer a major blow, according to foreign media outlets.

COVID-19
Global casualties

According to a foreign media report, 659 371 361 persons contracted novel coronavirus, 6 677 369 died of it and 20 111 279 were undergoing treatment in the world as of 24:00 on December 21.

BYWORD

Socialist law observance

In the DPRK, laws safeguard people and the latter observe the former.

Laws are executed through socialist law observance.

Socialist law observance is working people's voluntary disciplined life led according to the legal

order of the state and a nationwide organizational life in which the state coordinates people's actions and realizes their joint actions on the basis of laws and regulations.

The people-first principle is thoroughly applied to

all aspects of socialist law observance and law enforcement organs fulfil their duty as the guardians of the people.

Definite progress has been made in completing the legal system of the country and strengthening the

socialist law system. And institutions, enterprises and organizations at all levels conduct the campaign to win the title of model law observance unit, which helps foster the law-abiding spirit of the masses day by day.

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Mt Kuwol covered in waves of clouds

KIM YONG NAM

Huge cumulus clouds hanging low over Mt Kuwol, scenic beauty on the west coast of Korea, look like waves breaking on the cliffs, adding beauty to its scenery.

TO ATTAIN HIGHER GOAL

By Han Kwi Hun PT

Jo Son Il (pictured), weightlifter of the Pyongyang Sports Club, set a new national record in the men's over 109kg category jerk at the weightlifting event of the national championships held in September this year.

Jo began to learn weightlifting at juvenile sports school of remote mountainous Puryong County in North Hamgyong Province. It was in 2014 that he started his playing career at the Pyongyang Sports Club.

At that time, he hardened his resolve to become an excellent weightlifter who would glorify the country with gold medals.

He steadily honed his skills under the guidance of his coach Kim Myong Jung.

"Sometimes I slumped on the training ground due to the difficult training which involved the countless lifting of heavy weights a day. Then I would stand up again, remembering my initial decision," recalled Jo.

He persistently trained to flawlessly carry out detailed movements from yank to lifting.

"Even after his daily training was over, Jo did additional training in accordance with his own plan and tried to improve his poor skills with



the help of his colleagues," said Kim.

Jo's technical skills thus improved day by day and he started to cut a conspicuous figure in domestic games held in 2019.

Jo, who emerged as an ace in heavyweight category, broke national records two times in the over 109kg category jerk at the weightlifting event of the games held this year, drawing the attention of experts and spectators.

He is engrossed in training to attain a higher goal in order to realize his dream of becoming an athlete who supports the country with gold medals.

Winter solstice gruel and rice-cake soup

By To Kyong Chol PT

The Korean people have enjoyed such national foods as adzuki-bean gruel and rice-cake soup in winter.

The adzuki-bean gruel taken on the winter solstice was called winter solstice gruel. It is the traditional custom handed down so far to have rice-and-adzuki gruel with small glutinous rice dumplings in it on the day.

The day which has the meaning that winter has fully approached falls on December

22 or 23 every year.

The Korean people have promoted harmony while sharing the gruel with neighbours.

There had been a custom of making the gruel before the sunrise in the area of Pyongyang since olden times.

The rice-cake soup is prepared by putting thinly-cut white bar rice-cake in meat soup to boil, and it is also one of the national foods Koreans like to eat in winter.

According to an old record, rice-cake soup was used to hold a memorial service or entertain a guest. It is a must that is

indispensable to festive dishes for the New Year.

When New Year's Day came, it was etiquette for every family to serve the people who made New Year's calls or guests by serving them the soup.

The soup is served on New Year's Day since it is delicious, highly nutritious and digestive and absorptive.

Korean families still relish national flavour as they cook and eat adzuki-bean gruel and rice-cake soup on the occasion of the winter solstice and New Year's Day.



Adzuki-bean gruel (left) and rice-cake soup.

