

Eighth Session of 14th SPA of DPRK held

KCNA

The Eighth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on January 17-18.

Present at the session were the deputies to the SPA and as observers officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Standing Committee of the SPA, the Cabinet, armed forces organs, ministries and national agencies, chairpersons of city and county people's committees and officials concerned.

Taking the platform were Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, and Ri Pyong Chol, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Also among those at the platform were senior officials Ri Il Hwan, Ri Yong Gil and Kim Jae Ryong, and members of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, vice-chairpersons, the secretary general and members of the SPA Standing Committee and the deputy speaker of the SPA.

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of

the Central Committee of the WPK, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, made an opening address.

When the session was declared open, the national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Prior to discussions on agenda items, the speaker and deputy speaker of the SPA were by-elected.

Upon authorization of the WPK Central Committee, Pak In Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, was by-elected speaker

of the SPA of the DPRK and Maeng Kyong Il, director of the Secretariat and presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of Korea, was by-elected deputy speaker of the SPA.

Speaker Pak In Chol presided over the meeting.

The session decided the agenda items of the Eighth Session of the 14th SPA of the DPRK.

First, on the work of the DPRK Cabinet in Juche 111(2022) and its tasks for Juche 112(2023)

Second, on the fulfilment of the state budget for Juche 111(2022)

and on the state budget for Juche 112(2023) of the DPRK

Third, on adopting the law of the DPRK on the protection of the cultured Pyonggyang dialect

Fourth, on the work of the DPRK Central Public Prosecutors Office in Juche 111(2022)

Fifth, an organizational matter

Kim Tok Hun, premier of the Cabinet, made a report on the first agenda item and Ko Jong Bom, minister of Finance, made a report on the second agenda item.

Then other deputies made speeches.

Speakers said that the reports submitted to the deliberation of

the SPA correctly reviewed the work of the Cabinet and the fulfilment of the state budget for last year, clearly set forth the main tasks to be carried out by the Cabinet in this year's struggle to lay a decisive guarantee for the fulfilment of the five-year plan and drew up the state budget on the principle of supporting the buildup of national defence, economic development and improvement of the people's living in financial harmony, expressing full support to them.

They analyzed and reviewed the achievements and shortcomings made and revealed in their fields and units last year from a critical and developmental point of view and referred to the tasks

and ways for their fields and units to ensure the stable development of the national economy and bring about a substantial change in the people's living.

Speakers raised the issues arising in developing the Cabinet's work as required by the policies.

Kim Tok Hun explained the issues related with the Cabinet's work and the state's economic and practical measures to solve them.

Unanimously adopted at the session were the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly's decision

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“On approving the report on the work of the DPRK Cabinet and the fulfilment of the state budget for Juche 111(2022)”, and ordinance of the DPRK Supreme People’s Assembly “On the state budget of the DPRK for Juche 112(2023)”.
Kang Yun Sok, vice-chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, made a report on the third agenda item.
Saying that it is a law-governed requirement of the development of socialist national culture to protect and actively preserve the cultured

Pyongyang dialect, he stressed the importance of thoroughly establishing a Juche orientation in everyday language.
The SPA Standing Committee brought up the draft law of the DPRK on the protection of the cultured Pyongyang dialect for deliberation of the SPA according to Article 95 of the Socialist Constitution.
Deputies had a study and discussion on the draft law.
The SPA decided to add the suggestions made at the study and discussion to relevant articles of the draft law.
Speeches on the third agenda

item were made.
The session adopted the ordinance of the Supreme People’s Assembly “On the adoption of the Law of the DPRK on the Protection of Cultured Pyongyang Dialect” with unanimous approval.
U Sang Chol, director of the Central Public Prosecutors Office, made a report on the fourth agenda item.
The report detailed the work of the Central Public Prosecutors Office last year.
At the end of the report, the deputies presented their opinions on the work of the office.
U Sang Chol made public a

proposal for the measures on the opinions.
The SPA examined the work of the office in 2022 and admitted that it had smoothly fulfilled its duty as stipulated in the Socialist Constitution and adopted a decision of the SPA “On approving the report of the DPRK Central Public Prosecutors Office’s work”.
The session discussed the organizational matter as the fifth agenda item.
A vice-chairman and members of the SPA Standing Committee were recalled and by-elected.
Upon authorization of the WPK Central Committee, Kim Ho Chol

was by-elected vice-chairman of the SPA Standing Committee and Kim Su Gil, Thae Hyong Chol and Ri Hyok Chol were by-elected members.
The chairman and member of the Legislation Committee of the SPA were recalled and by-elected.
Ri Thae Sop was by-elected chairman of the Legislation Committee of the SPA and Kim Tu Il by-elected member of the committee.
Speaker Pak In Chol made a closing address.
The Eighth Session of the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly was successfully held.

On fulfilment of state budget for 2022 and on state budget for 2023

Report delivered at Eighth Session of 14th SPA of DPRK

KCNA

Deputy Ko Jong Bom, minister of Finance, made a report on the fulfilment of the state budget for Juche 111(2022) and on the state budget for Juche 112(2023) at the Eighth Session of the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly of the DPRK.

The reporter noted that the state budget for last year was successfully carried out.

Last year a large share of the budget was allotted to strengthening the country’s defence capabilities, implementing the Party’s and the state’s anti-epidemic policy and socialist rural construction policy and stabilizing and improving the people’s living standards.

The state budgetary revenue for last year was carried out at 100.7 percent, a 1.5 percent increase over the previous year.

Many industrial establishments in the fields of the national economy fulfilled their plans for central budgetary revenue at 100.7 percent and local budgetary revenue at 100.5 percent.

The state budget expenditure for last year was carried out at 99.9 percent.

A large amount of funds amounting to 101.6 percent as compared with 2021 was allocated to socialist economic construction to bring a bright prospect for the implementation of the five-year plan and promote the overall development of the state and improve the

people’s living standard.

On the principle of giving top priority to defence building 15.9 percent of the total expenditure was spent on further bolstering up the war deterrence both in quality and quantity to contribute to defending the dignity and security of the country and the people.

production capacity in the key industrial sectors.

The investment in the field of science and technology was increased by 1 percent over 2021.

A large amount of funds equivalent to 1.6 percent of the total state budgetary expenditure was paid to the agricultural sector to

contribute to modernizing the educational conditions and environment, strengthening the material and technical foundations of the public health sector and developing sports, culture and arts.

The reporter stressed the need to financially guarantee the all-people struggle for implementing the decisions of the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea in this significant year marking the 70th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War and the 75th birthday of the DPRK.

The state budgetary revenue is expected to grow by 1 percent over last year, with the turnover tax, a major item of the budgetary revenue, increasing by 0.3 percent and the income from state enterprises by 1.2 percent, which will account for 83.7 percent of the total revenue.

As compared with last year, the profits of cooperative organizations are expected to be 100 percent, depreciation 100.7 percent, real estate rent 100 percent, premium for social insurance 101 percent, income from property sale and price fluctuation 100.1 percent, income from money collection 100.2 percent, other income 100 percent and income from special economic zones 100.3 percent.

The central budget revenue is expected to account for 73.7 percent of the state

budgetary revenue, with the revenue from the central economy accounting for a large proportion, and provinces, cities and counties are to largely fund the central budget while ensuring their expenditure with their own income.

The state budgetary expenditure will increase by 1.7 percent over last year.

The investment in socialist economic construction will grow by 1.2 percent over last year, so that 45 percent of the total budgetary expenditure for this year is to be spent on developing the country’s economy and improving the people’s standard of living.

The defence expenditure is estimated at 15.9 percent of the total budgetary expenditure.

It is expected to spend funds equivalent to 100.3 percent of last year’s as the capital investment in the housing construction in the Hwasong area, the construction of houses and industrial and public buildings in the Komdok area and other major construction projects.

Funds equivalent to 101 percent of last year’s are allocated first to the national economic work so that the key industrial sectors can work out correct plans for readjustment and reinforcement and stubbornly carry them out and such sectors conducive to the improvement of people’s livelihood as light industry and fisheries can carry out their production

plans without fail.

The cost for developing science and technology is to increase by 0.7 percent over last year.
This year, funds equivalent to 114.7 percent of last year’s will be spent on rural construction and the modernization of agricultural production environment.
This year, too, the anti-epidemic work cost will be ensured on a top-priority basis as much as last year’s level so that the country’s anti-epidemic work can continue to be an advanced and popular anti-epidemic effort.
As compared with last year, the government will invest 100.7 percent of the funds in the educational sector, 100.4 percent in the public health, 100.3 percent in culture and 100.1 percent in sports.
This year, too, it will invariably send large educational aid funds and stipends to the children of Koreans in Japan so that they can continue to contribute to the development of the democratic national education of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon).
The reporter stressed that the state budget for this year should be implemented without fail to financially support the work for bolstering up the country’s defence capability, developing the economy and improving the people’s standard of living.



Ko Jong Bom, minister of Finance, makes a report on the state budget.

Last year, the state’s capital investment was increased by 0.1 percent over the previous year to push ahead with the huge construction projects for developing the national economy and providing the people with highly-civilized living conditions.

The DPRK government spent 24.4 percent of the total expenditure on making a breakthrough in revitalizing the overall economic front including light industry and fishing industry, while focusing the investment on modernizing production equipment and expanding

accelerate rural construction and the work for improving the environment of agricultural production on a modern basis.

Last year, the anti-epidemic work expense was set as a major item of the state budget and funds equivalent to 121.3 percent of the plan was supplied on a top-priority basis for the work to build the capability for promptly responding to any health crisis.

The government allocated 100.5 percent of the funds as compared with the previous year to socialist cultural

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level and push ahead with the construction projects including the establishment of C-1 chemical industry.

The electric power industrial sector will increase the power production capacity and transmission capacity so as to fully meet the long-term demand for electricity of the national economy while concentrating efforts on repairing generating equipment and raising the level of modernization of machine-building factories.

The transport sector will carry out the freight transportation plan, including railway freight, and the forestry sector will consolidate its material and technical foundations and fulfill the timber production plan and the afforestation plan.

The construction and building-materials sector will powerfully propel the construction projects of

reinforce the production foundations of mines and smelting works and prioritize the supply of raw and other materials so as to increase production.

The machine-building industrial sector will increase the production of mechanical products urgently demanded by different sectors of the national economy and positively develop new modern machines and equipment while continuously pushing ahead with the work to raise the level of modernization of machine-building factories.

The transport sector will carry out the freight transportation plan, including railway freight, and the forestry sector will consolidate its material and technical foundations and fulfill the timber production plan and the afforestation plan.

The construction and building-materials sector will powerfully propel the construction projects of

important significance in the economic development of the country and the improvement of the people’s living standard, including the construction of the Hwasong area in Pyongyang and the rural housing construction, and push ahead with the work for creating the new cement production capacity for major construction projects and rural construction.

The agricultural sector will increase the breeding of seeds of high-yielding strains with strong resistance to disastrous abnormal weather, introduce various cultivation methods and technology in conformity with the weather and climate conditions of the country and direct its effort to the production and repair of farming machines and the readjustment and reinforcement of irrigation system and facilities.

It is important to increase the production of meat, egg and dairy products, holding fast to the four-point links in

the development of livestock farming, and put efforts into the production of fruits, vegetables, mushrooms and oil-bearing, sugar-bearing and other industrial crops so as to contribute to improved people’s diet.

The light industrial and local industrial sectors will produce light industrial goods as planned while focusing their efforts on decisively improving the quality of consumer goods, raise the proportion of domestic production of raw and other materials and speed up the readjustment and reinforcement of production processes.

True to the Party’s childcare policy, the Cabinet will make sure that nutritious foodstuffs such as dairy products, kelp and fruits are supplied to all children across the country on a regular basis.

The fisheries sector will dynamically conduct fishing operations while accelerating

the modernization of overhaul of fishing boats and implements and do fish farming and shallow-sea culture on a large scale.

Practical measures will be taken to revitalize commerce while improving commercial service so as to contribute to promoting the people’s well-being.

The land administration and urban management sectors will press on with the work for giving a facelift to the land of the country and improving its ecological environment and direct efforts to repairing dwellings and public buildings and supplying water for domestic use to provide the people with convenient and cultured living conditions and environment.

By stepping up the building of socialist culture, the level of overall science and technology will be decisively raised, the structure, contents and methods of education improved and medical

service steadily improved.

As the headquarters of the country’s economy, the Cabinet will realize the unified management of the national economy and find out and steadily perfect the optimized methods of economic management as required by the present reality and scientific reasons so as to develop the national economy in a stable and sustained way.

The national capability for overcoming the health crisis and natural disasters will be further enhanced to defend the security of the state and the people and successfully ensure socialist construction.

The Premier stressed that he will unconditionally and thoroughly carry out the important tasks set forth at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee, always bearing deep in mind the expectation of the Party and the people that entrusted the economic work of the country to him.

On work of DPRK Cabinet in 2022 and its tasks for 2023

Report delivered at Eighth Session of 14th SPA of DPRK

KCNA

Deputy Kim Tok Hun, premier of the DPRK Cabinet, made a report on the DPRK Cabinet’s work in Juche 111(2022) and its tasks for Juche 112(2023) at the Eighth Session of the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly.

The reporter said that the Cabinet organized and conducted the work for implementing the economic policies of the Workers’ Party of Korea, regarding it as its main task to put the country’s economy on a normal track and provide the people with a stable and improved life by revitalizing the present production and more dynamically pushing forward the work for readjustment and reinforcement in all fields of the national economy in accordance with the action programme for socialist construction set forth by the Party last year.

Noting that the Korean people achieved remarkable successes in the struggle for economic construction and improvement of the people’s standard of living, overcoming all sorts of unprecedented challenges

and threats last year under the wise guidance of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, the reporter said:

In hearty response to the Party’s decision, major sectors of the national economy channeled efforts into the work for reenergizing the present production and for readjustment and reinforcement, thus

and difficulties to build many monumental edifices suited to the appearance of a thriving nation in different parts of the country and strikingly demonstrate the development potentials of the DPRK.

Under the loving care of the Party, a legal guarantee was laid for providing the children with the

children across the country.
In the new school year, all the pupils and students who were admitted to primary, junior and senior middle schools and universities were supplied with new school uniforms and a complete set of bags, shoes and other school things.

Last year, the sector of science and technology contributed to economic development by carrying out the state sci-tech development plan including the major scientific research projects, in hearty response to the decision of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

Progress was made in the work for developing the national economy onto a phase of stable development by decisively improving economic management.

Last year, the Korean people won a great victory in the anti-epidemic campaign, to be specially recorded in the world history of public health, by displaying a high sense of voluntary unity and successfully tackling the worst-ever upheaval since the founding of the country in a short span of time by dint of the all-people partnership

and all-people resistance, in accordance with the most timely and scientific anti-epidemic policy advanced by the Party, in the face of the difficulties caused by the outbreak of the malignant epidemic.

The reporter stressed that the successes made in socialist economic construction last year were the precious fruits of the outstanding and seasoned leadership of the great Party and the indomitable struggle of the Korean people always remaining faithful to the call of the Party.

He pointed out that the Cabinet revealed not a few shortcomings in last year’s struggle to implement the decisions of the fourth and fifth plenary meetings of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.

This year we are faced with the honorable duty to glorify the significant year 2023 marking the 70th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War and the 75th anniversary of the DPRK as a year of great turn and change in the course of development of the DPRK by further boosting the fighting spirit displayed last year, the reporter said,

adding:

The Cabinet will conduct a powerful economic operation and command, regarding it as its main task to reenergize the production of overall sectors and units and complete the readjustment and reinforcement plan decided by the Party Congress in the main this year.

It will make sure that the economic indices and 12 major goals to be attained by all the sectors of the national economy are carried out without fail and that the fulfilment of this year’s plan leads to the implementation of the medium- and long-term strategy for economic development.

The metal industrial sector will normalize the operation of the existing production processes at metal factories and finish the readjustment and reinforcement of iron mines, iron works and steel plants in the main.

The chemical industrial sector will maintain and overhaul the production processes and equipment and operate them at full capacity to normalize the production of chemical goods at a high

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Kim Tok Hun, premier of the Cabinet, makes a report on the DPRK Cabinet’s work.

Leading Party, government officials encourage officials and working people in important economic sectors

KCNA

Leading Party and government officials visited units in important sectors of the national economy and gave pep talks to their officials and working people who have risen up in hearty response to the call of the Party Central Committee to

glorify this year as a year of great turn and change to be etched in the course of socialist construction and development of the state. Before and after the guidance of enlarged plenary meetings of all provincial committees of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kim Tok Hun, Jo Yong Won, Choe Ryong

Hac and Ri Pyong Chol, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and other leading Party and government officials inspected the units of key industry sectors including the Kim Chack Iron and Steel Complex, February 8 Vinalon Complex, Sunchon

Thermal Power Station, Taean Heavy Machine Complex, Ryongsong Machine Complex, and the Migok Farm in Sariwon City of North Hwanghae Province, the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, the Hyesan Footwear Factory and others, and conducted political activities there.



Premier Kim Tok Hun (third from left) inspects the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps.



Jo Yong Won (second from left), secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, visits the Ryongsong Machine Complex.

Enlarged plenary meetings of Pyongyang municipal and provincial committees of WPK held

KCNA

There took place enlarged plenary meetings of Pyongyang municipal and all provincial committees of the Workers' Party of Korea from January 10 to 13.

Members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and members and alternate members of the WPK Central Committee guided the plenary meetings respectively.

Attending the meetings were members and alternate members of the provincial party committees. Officials of the Party and power organs and administrative and economic bodies in the relevant regions were present there as observers.

The plenary meetings analyzed and reviewed last year's regional work for implementing the decisions of the fourth and fifth plenary meetings of the Eighth Party Central Committee and discussed and decided the measures for strictly carrying

out the policy-oriented tasks for provinces this year on the basis of the fighting guidelines set forth at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party.

At the meetings reporters referred to the revolutionary exploits of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who has wisely led the Party, state and people to the indomitable heroic advance and rapid upturn, overcoming the most serious national crisis unprecedented in the history of the DPRK with his transparent faith in independence, matchless courage, far-sighted wisdom and extraordinary leadership activities.

The events analyzed and reviewed the achievements and experience gained in the relevant provincial Party committees' implementation of their decisions last year.

Consultative meetings of panels took place at the plenary meetings of the provincial Party committees to work out plans for thoroughly carrying

out the policy-oriented tasks facing their regions on the basis of the orientation of advance and struggle strategy for this year set forth at the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee.

Resolutions mapped out from the sincere and dynamic standpoint of the participants were unanimously approved. In order to implement the decisions made at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Cabinet, ministries of Railways, Land and Maritime Transport, Culture and Physical Culture and Sports, the Pyongyang Construction Commission and the State Academy of Sciences held enlarged meetings of the plenary meetings of their Party committees between January 10 and 15.

The meetings were presided over by members of the Party central leadership body including Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central

Committee. Members and alternate members of the relevant Party committees attended the events, while relevant officials observed them.

The meetings analyzed and reviewed in detail the work done last year to implement the decisions made at the fourth and fifth plenary meetings of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK and exhaustively discussed and decided upon the measures to carry out policy tasks which were assigned to the sectors and units this year based on important guidelines laid down at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

Reports were made at the meetings.

There were also consultative meetings of panels to draw up plans for thoroughly and perfectly implementing Party policies for their units based on the tasks set at the plenum of the Party Central Committee for this year.

Operations intensified to carry out decisions of Party plenum

KCNA

Officials of state economic guidance organs are intensifying operations to carry out without condition the tasks set forth for economic sectors this year after deeply grasping the idea and spirit of the Six Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

They map out exact plans while seriously discussing practical ways for bringing about a practical turn in ensuring the stable development of the national economy and the improvement of the people's livelihood.

They make an in-depth discussion of ways for realizing the unified guidance over economic sectors by innovating the work system and methods this year.

They have set innovative targets to carry out their duties in offering a decisive guarantee for the fulfilment of the five-year plan by finishing adjustment and

reinforcement plans in the main this year while reenergizing the production at overall economic sectors and units.

On the basis of the experience and lessons accumulated and drawn through last year's work, officials of the Cabinet are holding discussions to fulfil economic tasks set forth by the Party by working out the most correct and efficient plans.

Especially, those at the State Planning Commission deeply discuss ways for developing the country's economy in a stable and sustainable way and further bolstering the independent and planned characters of the national economy.

All officials of the state economic guidance organs are carefully working out economic operations to implement the decisions of the Party Central Committee by accepting the Party's line and policies as absolute and displaying boundless loyalty, responsibility and devotion.

Meetings held in sectors, units to vow to carry out decisions of Party plenum

KCNA

Meetings were held in all sectors and units to pledge to thoroughly implement the decisions made at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Speeches were made at the meetings.

The speakers noted that the historic report Secretary Kim Jong Un made at the plenary meeting is the most scientific and innovative scheme indicating the path to a new leap forward in the overall development of Korean-style socialism and an inspiring banner strengthening faith in sure victory and optimism.

They stressed the need for all officials, Party members and working people to glorify 2023, an important occasion in the development of socialism and in the history of the DPRK, as a year of

great turn and change by thoroughly implementing the decisions of the plenary meeting with the most strenuous efforts and greatest devotion associated with lofty loyalty and ardent patriotism, upholding the idea and leadership of the General Secretary.

Rallies of officials and members of working people's organizations were held in all provinces (cities under direct jurisdiction of the government) to vow to thoroughly implement the decisions made at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Speeches were made at the events attended by officials of Party organs and officials and members of working people's organizations in the local areas.

The meetings adopted letters of pledge to General Secretary Kim Jong Un. And they were followed by public processions.

Progress made in building groundwork for informatization

Last year, industrial establishments in different economic sectors showed a new development aspect by making substantial progress in establishing the foundations for informatization.

Collaborative research centring on talents

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The intelligence information institute of the State Academy of Sciences was chosen as one of the top ten IT enterprises again at the national exhibition of IT achievements last year after 2021.

According to Ri Song Jin, director of the institute, it has received the honour for the fourth time when such occasions in 2017 and 2018 are taken into account.

The institute has taken lion's share in the country's IT development.

In recent years alone, it has developed and introduced valuable programs including online symposium and Q & A service systems into major units of the country, especially the consultation system in the operating theatre at the Samjiyon City Hospital.

Last year, it completed the integrated data exchange mode to ensure the promptness of national economic information management and make a tangible contribution to maintaining organic contact between demand and production.

The secret of success

is collaborative research centring on talents.

The institute keeps abreast of world IT development trends, selects realistic key research projects and adopts collaborative research methods for them.

By nominating researchers who are well versed in relevant fields as key developers, it gets them to select members of different labs in their research teams and carry out their projects in a responsible manner. This encourages every member to enhance their abilities competitively, which in turn enables them to develop



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Group discussion is under way to develop new programs at the intelligence information institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

valuable programs. In addition, the institute develops a variety of

amusement apps on the themes of history, customs and tradition of the resourceful and intelligent Korean nation and their present actual life.

Joint effort helps company retain edge

By Jong Chol PT

High-tech products developed by the Achim PC Joint Venture Co Ltd are now growing popular with local customers.

Among them are the multifunctional e-noticeboard "Achim" for agency and family use, newspaper reading e-noticeboard and browser for sci-tech learning space.

Especially, the multifunctional e-noticeboard which can be used as a TV, computer or touch-screen board is much sought-after as it can meet various demands of customers.



RODONG SINMUN

The newspaper reading e-noticeboard is user-friendly with an improved touch-sensing function. It is designed to allow users to read different kinds of information through the national data communications network.

According to a company official, these products were developed jointly with several other units by pooling their ideas and efforts.

The company agreed on a long-term development programme with professional research institutes in the information technology sector such as the central informatization institute and

the IT Institute of Kim Chack University of Technology and has been pushing ahead with collaborative research projects.

In particular, they normally analyze merits and demerits revealed in the course of collaborative research with these units and constantly modify and supplement the future orientation of product development. They continuously search for specific methods of collaborative research so that their products could maintain the competitive edge.

In the meantime, they actively take part in national exhibitions and shows every

year regarding them as opportunities for advances and leaps forward. They take advantage of such occasions to exchange science and technology and share experience and generate new ideas for popular products which are essentially needed in practice.

"The development of high-tech products in close collaboration with professional research institutes is one of our keys to business success that enabled us to retain the status as one of the top ten IT businesses of the country for a long time," said an employee of the company.

Talent training methods steadily improved

By To Kyong Chol PT

The Samsung Economic Information Technology Company was rated as one of top ten IT businesses for the fourth time last year.

"We were confined to the development of individual products and relevant service until several years ago. But now we are undertaking large projects for developing an information system for the building of the infrastructure of knowledge economy," said an official of the company.

He attributes its success to the fact that they are constantly strengthening their technical force through a well-organized talent training system they established to suit the characteristics of the company.

The company runs a strict curriculum for training promising talents.

Anybody posted to the company should pass the curriculum and each course of the curriculum is aimed at widening the range of their knowledge and

improving their creative ability and scientific qualifications.

The fierce competition for development between researchers and the trail development environment equipped with sophisticated apparatuses can be all regarded as part of the curriculum.

What is noticeable is that the curriculum is not immutable.

The company collects advanced scientific and technological data to supplement and upgrade teaching plans at all times and constantly updates each course by introducing new methods of training talents conforming to the world's development trend to suit its actual conditions.

By employing such talent training methods the company pushes ahead with the digitization of the economy.

Meanwhile, "Samsung" information products developed by the company are favoured by people as they abound in data, sensitively reflect requirements of life and are easy to use.



Quality of products improved

Over a hundred units win December 15 Medal of Quality, certificates of February 2 Products, quality certification in 2022

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

According to Jon Un Ju, staffer of the quality certification bureau under the State Commission of Quality Management, many units of different sectors including light, building-materials and pharmaceutical industries received quality management system certification, food safety management system

certificates and GMP certification last year. And hundreds of items of products produced by dozens of units were registered as February 2 Products.

The Samjiyon Blueberry Drink Factory and Samjiyon Soybean Paste and Sauce Factory strived to produce quality products by relying on local sources of raw materials.

The Jongbansan General

Foodstuff Factory and Paeksong General Foodstuff Factory also concentrated on improving the quality of products by dint of science and technology.

The Thosong Pharmaceutical Factory gained GMP certification for different production processes by waging a mass technical innovation drive.

Technicians of the Pyongyang Jonghyang Building-

Materials Factory pooled their wisdom to devise and apply valuable technical innovation plans so as to achieve practical success in raising the quality of goods.

Progress was also made in improving the quality of products at school things producers.

Many items

of products, including notebook, produced by the Mindulle Notebook Factory and various kinds of satchels produced by Sinujju and Phyongsong bag factories were registered as February 2 Products.

Efforts were made to enhance the quality of products at foodstuff producers across the country.

Bearing in mind the importance of product standardization in improving the quality of products, the Junggu Foodstuff Factory took necessary technical measures, thus making several items of products registered as February 2 Products.

The Susongchon General Foodstuff Factory promoted the work to raise the quality of products using locally-abundant raw materials.

Thanks to the efforts to modernize production processes and improve technical knowledge and skills of employees, foodstuffs from many relevant units were registered as February 2 Products.



Officials and employees discuss how to improve the quality of products at the Songdowon General Foodstuff Factory.

RODONG SINMUN

Taedonggang beer enjoys unwaning popularity

By To Kyong Chol PT

Taedonggang beer is one of the nation's best-loved beverages. Beer drinkers say that the cool and refreshing drink with distinctive flavour and aroma invigorates and exhilarates them.

The Taedonggang Brewery produces various kinds of beer and its productivity and product quality are far better than its domestic competitors.

Taedonggang beer is made from locally-produced barley and hop and other ingredients.

The brewery now focuses on producing tastier beer with unique flavour in larger quantities.

While paying primary attention to improving the quality of beer, it introduced a series of effective methods into production by strengthening its technical force and ranks of skilled workers and set up a filtering agent production process relying on local raw materials.

Its research team succeeded in establishing a variety of beer production methods according to the mixing ratio of raw materials by conducting hundreds of rounds of laboratory analysis

and trial production and brewed a wheat beer which is winning favour in the world. They also invented and built many pieces of equipment and devices including a raw materials weighing machine, malt-water-air injector, fuel heat-value measuring instrument

and smart motor protector by paying close attention to domestic production of equipment and recycling. Large refrigerator trucks with the words "Taedonggang bear" stuck on each side carry fresh beer to different places. The beer is served at

Taedonggang beer shops dotted around the city and is also popular at public catering amenities in different parts of the country.

Last year, Taedonggang beer won the December 15 Medal of Quality and was registered as the February 2 Product.

What is noticeable is that all the employees of the factory are college graduates or those enrolled at colleges under the study-while-you-work system.

The main standpoint of the factory is that all the employees should be talents with advanced science and technology in order to promote its growth and development.



Bottled beer with distinctive flavour rolls off the production line at the Taedonggang Brewery.

RODONG SINMUN

Water-based paints win top quality awards

By Ri Sang Il PT

Last year, the organic water-based paints for exterior and interior of the Pyongyang Jonghyang Building-materials Factory won the December 15 Medal of Quality, an award for the best domestic products.

The factory mainly uses locally abundant raw materials to make the paints which are highly resistant to weather, water and washing with great hiding and antibacterial power. They are well received by consumers as cost-saving products and green building materials.

"The present trend of paints for buildings is to develop them with locally abundant inorganic materials causing no harm to the environment and produce them by compounding organic and inorganic materials. Our factory completed an inorganic-organic compound paint production process using inorganic materials as the main raw materials in line with such trend and local conditions," said Manager Jong Ryong Su.

They set up an industrial laboratory equipped with over 30 kinds of modern testing and measuring equipment to put quality control on a scientific basis and improve the quality of products.

The paints of the factory have been introduced into more than 300 important construction projects and are praised as being highly resistant to washing, having great adhesive strength and good fireproof characters and giving off no harmful gas even at high temperature.

Many workers of the factory have contributed to the domestic production of different building materials and become inventors of original plans and ideas in the course of solving scientific and technological problems arising in production.

The organic water-based exterior and interior paints recently honoured with the top quality medal were also improved further in that course.

While analyzing world-acknowledged products, the employees grasped the advanced technologies applied to them, their features, merits and demerits and problems arising in production and determined afresh the rational production methods and technical indexes that suit the specific conditions of the factory.

They also stepped up the automation and modernization of production processes to increase production capacity while saving much labour.

They set up an industrial laboratory equipped with over 30 kinds of modern testing and measuring equipment to put quality control on a scientific basis and improve the quality of products.

The paints of the factory have been introduced into more than 300 important construction projects and are praised as being highly resistant to washing, having great adhesive strength and good fireproof characters and giving off no harmful gas even at high temperature.

Quality of medical service markedly improved



By Ri Sung Ik PT

Last year, the public health sector achieved great successes in putting medical service on a scientific and modern basis at a high level.

The quality management system of medical service, which was introduced into central hospitals and provincial-level preventive and curative institutions, made sure that it proved effective in practice.

The quality management system is a management program which numerically shows merits and demerits found in the management of hospitals and treatment of patients to help relevant workers analyze them in time and take necessary measures.

According to a relevant official, the upgrading of the program keeps intensifying as the hospital accepts enough opinions of outpatients and digitizes

more objective data. "Since the introduction of this system, the waiting time of patients has been shortened and much progress made in regularizing and standardizing treatment," said Son Il Gyong, deputy director of the Kim Man Yu Hospital.

Preventive and curative institutions competitively introduced research hits for improving the quality of medical service. The Ryugyong Dental

Hospital researched and produced different kinds of medical appliances and supplies by relying on domestic materials and technologies including an injection moulding machine and dental articulation checking paper, which are essential for prosthetic treatment, while putting emphasis on ensuring the domestic production of dental materials and medical instruments. The Pyongyang

University of Medical Sciences Hospital completed advanced diagnosis and treatment methods such as the technology of preserving lacerated spleen, advanced treatment method of nephrolithiasis by means of laser generator and nephroscope and new internal treatment for acute pancreatitis. The Koryo Medicine General Hospital, Pyongyang Municipal General Hospital No. 3,

Taedonggang District Hospital and many other preventive and curative institutions put highly efficient diagnosis and treatment methods on a scientific basis to suit the constitutional characteristics of the Korean people. Meanwhile, positive efforts were made to improve the level of operation of the section doctor system, emergency medical service system and telemedicine.

Advanced diagnosis and treatment methods introduced



Rapid collective diagnosis is provided through telemedicine at the Kim Man Yu Hospital.

RODONG SINMUN

By Pang Un Ju PT

Last year, the public health sector introduced advanced diagnosis and treatment methods into curative and preventive institutions across

the country to contribute to reducing the gap in medical service level between Pyongyang and local areas.

According to the decision of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers'

Party of Korea to put medical service on a scientific and modern basis in an efficient way, the Ministry of Public Health set realistic phased goals and plans to introduce advanced diagnosis and treatment methods into

hospitals across the country and organized and conducted the undertakings for implementing them from the beginning of last year.

The Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, Kim Man Yu Hospital, Pyongyang

Medical workers of central-level hospitals, including the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital, drew up and sent technical lecture plans to provincial curative and preventive

institutions, and gave medical workers in local areas online lectures through the telemedicine system.

The Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital gave online lectures to ophthalmologists of South Hwanghae and other

provincial general hospitals and medical workers of the Moranbong District Hospital ran a technical training course to initiate curative and preventive institutions in local areas into the advanced treatment methods they had acquired in clinical practice.

Besides, able medical workers were dispatched to such institutions in local areas.

Medical workers of central-level hospitals, including the Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences Hospital, went to the general hospitals in North and South Phyongan and other provinces to help them master the advanced treatment methods as soon as possible through experience sharing and technology transfer.

"Over 800 advanced diagnosis and treatment methods have been introduced into provincial curative and preventive institutions so far," said Sim Yong Sik, department

director of the Ministry of Public Health.

True to the decisions made at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee, the ministry is pushing ahead with the introduction of advanced diagnosis and treatment methods into more units and taking measures for such institutions to put them to practical use.

True to the same decisions, the online education faculty of Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences and various relevant units set a goal to update the online reeducation system to improve the practical abilities of anti-epidemic workers this year.

The updating of the online reeducation system will not only substantially help anti-epidemic workers enhance their ability but also make it possible to grasp on-the-spot training in detail and correctly review it through the online education system.

New technology employed in paediatric dentistry

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The Ryugyong Dental Hospital has recently adopted the technology for regenerating blood vessel of tooth pulp, a new one in paediatric dentistry, and applied it to dental treatment.

Tooth pulp is the fasciculus of vascular nerves and dentists often see patients with tooth pulp infected owing to caries, external wound and deformity.

If children undergo such infection, their teeth can't grow properly.

Previously, the methods to cure the disease were invented and introduced in treatment but they didn't produce due effects because

of different technical limitations.

To establish new technology of treating the disease, medical workers of the hospital studied, synthesized and classified the examples of relevant diseases according to the growth of children's teeth and conducted research to find out rational treatment methods and assess their effectiveness.

In the course of that, they came to the conclusion that using a substance high in biocompatibility and affinity would be able to raise the effectiveness of the treatment, confirmed the phased process of the treatment and made by themselves an antibiotic

that is effective in reducing inflammation.

After years of painstaking research, the hospital succeeded in adopting the technology for regenerating blood vessel of immature permanent teeth's pulp and in using it in practical treatment.

The technology, by which stem cells of tooth root are used to regenerate the infected nerves in blood vessel of tooth pulp, makes it possible to restore injured tooth to perform its functions, raise the curative effectiveness remarkably more than the previous treatment method and shorten the period of treatment by more than half.



New technology is adopted and introduced into paediatric dentistry at the Ryugyong Dental Hospital.

JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Old man devotes himself to development of women's sport

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

When it comes to a rhythmic gymnastics coach, people think of a woman in general.

So it is a surprise to see a man and moreover in an advanced age as a women's sports coach. Out of professional curiosity *The Pyongyang Times* reporter met Pak Sang Gil, called a "grandpa rhythmic gymnastics coach", at the Pyongyang Sports Club.

He is now 84 years old.

First acquaintance

He first made acquaintance with rhythmic gymnastics in Japan.

There he was born the posthumous son and lost his mother in his childhood.

So his eldest brother had to bear the burden as master of the family. In the hard struggle for existence in the

foreign land mechanical engineering was the dream of young Pak Sang Gil as well as his brother.

However, his life's journey pushed him in the opposite direction.

One day Pak saw a ballet in a theatre with a female compatriot. He was soon fascinated by the world of ballet which artistically representing the beautiful traits of humans.

He then frequented the theatre and some time later enrolled at the ballet school with the help of the female compatriot who was a ballet dancer.

Soon he stole the show as a talented ballet dancer.

However, life was not a royal road.

The more he became popular among the audience, the more blatant racial discrimination by the Japanese authorities he had to suffer. He finally decided

to return to his homeland. He was then 33 years old.

Mother's embrace

Pak grew up without knowing mother's affection when he was a child.

After coming back to the embrace of his homeland, he felt the distinct affection of a mother, he said.

He returned to the country all alone, but people around him cared for him and became his parents. As he desired, he fulfilled his dream as a dancer at the National Dance Troupe and later worked as a ballet instructor. And he was appointed as the first deputy principal of the Changgwang Health Complex juvenile sports school before retirement.

He always feels heartfelt gratitude to the country.

It was his country where ordinary people were provided with wonderful houses gratis and all children learned to their heart's content free of charge, with new school uniforms and school things supplied at the state expense. It also sent a huge sum of education aid fund every year for Korean schoolchildren and students in Japan across the sea. He wanted to do something good for the country, though little. So he donated large quantities of sporting goods and training wear to juvenile sports schools several times by reflecting the mind of his brothers and sisters in Japan.

Chairman Kim Jong Il highly valued and praised him for his noble deeds.

Following the path of patriotism

After retirement, Pak fell in deep thought.

He could live in comfort for the rest of his days as his children wished.

However, he made up his

mind to devote the remainder of his life to the training of reserve rhythmic gymnasts of the country. He has followed the path for over 10 years since then.

He visits the Pyongyang Sports Club and Central District juvenile sports school to meet rhythmic gymnasts and reserve players and hand down experience and knacks of basic technical training he had gained throughout his life and conducts research for improving the techniques of the new-generation coaches and players. He also visits local areas to pick out reserve rhythmic gymnasts.

All these are a heavy physical burden for him who is now in the twilight years of his life. But he continues to follow the path.

He makes exact demands on himself as a coach.

Thanks to his untiring efforts, the rhythmic gymnasts of the Pyongyang Sports Club acquitted themselves well in international events including the 14th Asian juvenile rhythmic gymnastics championships held in Kazakhstan in 2016.

In the course of it, he trained dozens of rhythmic gymnasts.

He also authored a book "Basics of Ballet".

Coaches and gymnasts always welcome him, calling him who is a strict mentor in the training ground but a very considerate grandfather in life, as a "grandfather coach."

He devotes himself to the training of rhythmic gymnasts expecting no honour, remuneration or praise.

"I only want to train more reserve rhythmic gymnasts who would become world aces and bring honour to the country," says Pak Sang Gil.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Pak Sang Gil gives guidance to rhythmic gymnasts in training at the Pyongyang Sports Club.

A child prodigy with extraordinary mathematical ability and memory

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Many children have been known for having prodigious talents in their kindergarten days. Among them is Kim Sung Jin of Tongmun Kindergarten No. 2, Taedonggang District, Pyongyang.

Surprising is the outstanding piano-playing skill of him who performs any solos with graceful movements of hands and free interpretation. But more surprising are his mathematical ability and memory to provide in a foreign language correct impromptu answers to several-digit addition and subtraction

problems presented in a foreign language at 0.8 second intervals.

According to his mother Ho Mi Gyong, the kindergartener was fond of memorizing numbers and read books on common knowledge or TV programmes on common scientific knowledge and asked unexpected questions at the age of four, surprising his family members.

When he was at the lower class of the kindergarten, he used to answer the questions hard to solve for his peers before anyone else and correctly remember what he had learnt.

"Closely observing Sung Jin, I came to know that he has excellent memory, keen

observation and logical thinking and wanted to cultivate his talent in bud," said Ri Yun Jong, a kindergarten teacher.

The kindergarten taught Sung Jin how to play the piano first. Before long, he overtook the children who began to learn piano earlier than him.

His teacher helped him develop visualization capacity through abacus education and then demanded he do addition and subtraction calculations while playing the piano. She also taught him a foreign language.

Thanks to her tireless efforts, Sung Jin easily calculated several-digit addition and subtraction problems while skilfully playing

the piano and reached the level of giving correct answers in a foreign language to the problems presented in a foreign language at a fast rate.

He fully exhibited his talents at the 14th national contest of kindergarten children with amazing talents last year to be rated excellent as a child with high command of a foreign language, prodigious memory and great mathematical ability.

His teacher said he fixes the Rubik Cube in a minute, likes reading very much and is very good at composition.

"I am happy that I've trained a child with extraordinary talents like Sung Jin," said Ri Yun Jong.

As scaffold worker for over 40 years



Merited Builder Rim Chon Bom at the Chonnaeri Cement Factory.

By Ryom Un Gyong PT

Among those who have worked diligently at one type of occupation for a long period is Rim Chon Bom at the Chonnaeri Cement Factory.

He has been working at the factory as a scaffold worker for over four decades.

When he was assigned to the factory after finishing the middle school course, he volunteered to be a scaffold worker that others generally hesitate to become.

"I did not want to do only ordinary work that anyone can do," recalled Rim. Scaffold work is not an easy job as it involves moving enormous machine parts at a giddy height.

He tried hard to hone his technical skills as he learned experience and knacks from veteran skilled hands and attended a college under the study-while-you-work system.

In that course, he became a labour innovator who proficiently carries out his assignments by dint of novel ideas and considerable technical knowledge and skills.

Some years ago, a project for remodelling

a calcination tower was undertaken at the factory.

At that time, some people insisted that steel pipes and other facilities weighing dozens of tons could never be lifted up to the height of dozens of metres without a crane. But Rim came up with a bold method of lifting them with a hoist to help complete the project successfully.

At the time of repairing a kiln, he also thought up an idea of carrying a heavy object, which was believed to take at least a fortnight, in a few days, thereby contributing to shortening the period of repair and normalizing cement production.

Officials and workers of the factory praised him as an asset of the factory as he always carried out his assignments admirably with fiery passion and great devotion.

Officials unanimously say they usually call him first whenever difficult technical problems arise.

While performing feats of labour, he was awarded a citation of Chairman Kim Jong Il and high state decorations.

He was also conferred the title of Merited Builder in December 2014.



By Han Kwi Hun PT

Many people are spending a good time at the Munsu Water Park.

"It seems that people like to visit the water park even in severe cold of mid-winter out of a common desire to go beyond the season of nature. This place is ringing with laughter every day," said Jong Yon Hui, leader of the attendants' workteam.

The scene of playing in the water under the snow-covered roof of the indoor wading pool is very enchanting.

Every visitor expresses their satisfaction over the fact that they experience bitter cold of winter outside and fresh feeling on the

beach in mid-summer inside.

The Munsu Water Park, built distinctively on the banks of the Taedong River meandering through the heart of Pyongyang, consists of outdoor and indoor pools. There are nine pools including a swimming pool, high-pressure water shower pool, mother-child pool, pool with ultrasonic water jet facility and wave pool and different water slides in the indoor pool.

Young people slide at a fast pace in water slides, students swim against waves, the aged people and children smile from ear to ear throwing themselves in the wave leaning on floats, and middle-aged and old people smile at the shower bath which is good for the cure of

neuralgia and arthritis. Every place is filled with laughter.

There are elderly people who come into the course, saying they were good swimmers in their youth, and finally give up for difficult breathing, while youth and students push their way through the course to the end at initial speed.

"I sometimes visit the water park, but I'm unaware of the passage of time. Whenever I come here, I feel like a child and becoming younger," said Kim Myong Sim, a resident of Tongsang-dong No. 2 of Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

She said that on her way to the Munsu Water Park, she looked for a while at water-birds flying over the Taedong

River and ever-changing streets together with her children, and that the scenes added more delight of her visit to the water park.

At the gym, all "athletes" play the volleyball in groups by forming teams to display skills which were trained during the days of mass sporting activities.

Meanwhile, kindergarten children jump up and down to the tune of children's music on the trampoline, and young people absorbed in rock climbing show off their valour.

"Ringed with laughter and brimming with optimism, the Munsu Water Park reflects our life full of fresh hope and joy and shows our future that would be more delightful," said Jong Yon Hui.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Working people enjoy themselves at the Munsu Water Park.



By Ri Sung Ik PT

Every woman wants to be beautiful.

Beauty artists play an important part in satisfying their demand.

The beauty salon of the Ryugyong Health Complex on the picturesque Taedong riverside is one of the favourite haunts of women, who go there to have beauty treatments.

According to Ri Jong Hyok, head of its service department, many women come to the salon not only from nearby areas but also from afar.

One of the reasons is that beauty artists here have special techniques for enhancing beauty of women by selecting hairstyles well to suit their facial forms.

Beauty artist Ri Hye Jong is very familiar to customers for her special skill. Her

colleagues say she shows a real knack of choosing modest and decent hairstyles that meet the aesthetic tastes of Korean women to enhance beauty.

"I've never known that this kind of long hairstyle would be well becoming to me," said a middle-aged woman from the Ministry of Light Industry after receiving beauty treatments from Ri. The wavy long hairstyle really went well with her somewhat long face, demonstrating her intelligence.

Her colleague Kim Un A is very popular with university girl students as she is very good at short hairstyle which gives a neat and fresh feeling to them.

Beauty artists of the salon have also developed new beauty treatment methods, winning favour with customers.

Kim Jong Ae, another

beauty artist, presented a study paper systematizing a nourishing perming method to a national presentation of experience and contest in the beauty culture sector. It was highly appreciated at it, attracting the attention of both researchers and service providers in the sector as it provided a guarantee for improving the quality of service while preventing the damage to hair and making hairstyling science-based while preserving its natural beauty.

Besides, she developed unique hairstyles like bead-form and decorative hairstyles that suit middle-aged women by improving her techniques for hairdressing, nourishing fomentation, perming and others.

Beauty artists of the salon also unsparingly transfer beauty treatment techniques

and skills they have developed and improved through practice. Last year,

they visited public service amenities in the City of Samjiyon in the northern

highlands and other areas for passing their techniques on to them.



RI YON SONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Women have beauty treatments for beautiful and elegant hairstyles at the beauty salon of the Ryugyong Health Complex.

Heinous violation of national sovereignty

By Song Jong Ho PT

The poisoning of Emperor Kojong on January 21 1919 is one of countless crimes committed by the Japanese imperialists against the Korean nation.

They killed the Korean emperor by poison as he hindered their occupation of Korea following the anti-Japanese trend of the Korean people.

When Japan tried to cook up the Ulsa five-point treaty in 1905 and the Jongmi seven-point treaty in 1907 to deprive the feudal Joson dynasty of the rights of diplomacy and home administration, he stubbornly repudiated them as he refused to sign and seal the documents. After it finally declared the conclusion of the Ulsa five-point treaty, he ensured that an anti-Japanese patriotic

volunteers' struggle was launched against it and sent the autograph letters bearing his signature and royal seal to heads of state of nine powers to assert the invalidity of the treaty. In June 1907 he dispatched three emissaries to the Second International Peace Conference held in The Hague, the Netherlands, to disclose the unlawfulness and invalidity of the treaty. This event was recorded in history as the incident of the emissaries sent to The Hague.

On the pretext of the incident, the Japanese forced him into transferring throne to Crown Prince Sunjong and locked him in the Toksu Palace watched over by their guards.

The Japanese persecutors were not yet content with the dethroning of the Korean emperor.

Afterwards, they hatched

a plot to poison him and executed it when he held big expectations about the Paris Peace Conference in 1919, fascinated by the deceptive "theory of national self-determination" of US President Wilson.

At that time the Japanese hurriedly announced that Emperor Kojong "died of cerebral apoplexy", but the truth was out.

Facts were exposed through different data that he broke out in a rash all over his body soon after he died and that the Japanese subjected to close examination his doctors who asserted he was killed by poisoning after carrying out a post-mortem examination. In addition, the diary of Kuratomi Yuzaburo, who had been the director of the audit bureau of the ministry of the imperial household of Japan

in 1919 when the emperor was poisoned, revealed that Terauchi, Japan's first governor-general of Korea, ordered Hasegawa, the then commander of the Japanese forces stationed in Korea, to kill the Korean emperor as he refused to recognize the Ulsa five-point treaty.

As seen above, the Japanese imperialists did not hesitate to do anything to implement the policy of aggression against Korea.

Their dethroning and poisoning of the sovereign of the Korean feudal government for reducing Korea to their full colony constitute a heinous violation of national sovereignty which can by no means be justified.

The Korean people will never pardon Japan for its past crimes, but surely get an apology and reparations from it.

OPINION

Move to destroy peace and stability of international community

By Min Kyong Mu

In the New Year too, Japan persists in its worrisome moves to rush into a military power.

On January 3, a Japanese government official disclosed that a policy was formulated to loosen the working guide of "three principles of defense equipment transfer" so as to enable Japan to export or jointly develop and produce different kinds of weapons in the year 2023.

This will revitalize the munitions industry of Japan and enable it to deliver tanks, missiles, combat airplanes and other weapons with killing capacity to any part of the world at will, including disputed regions.

To state the conclusion first, Japan, which was termed by the UN Charter as an "enemy state" as it was one of the criminal states during the Second World War, has today shown its true colors as a warlike state, throwing off its mask of a "pacifist state", 77 years after the war.

When we look at the 2010s alone, the Japanese authorities deceived the international community continuously in security-related issues, just carrying two faces under one hood.

In 2014 when Abe took power, Japan abolished the "three principles of arms export" which had prohibited in principle the export of weapons and came out with the "three principles of defense equipment transfer" to pave the way for overseas export and joint development of defense equipment.

It also approved the exercise of the right to "collective self-defense" by changing the interpretation of the constitution in 2014 and adopted the Security Law in 2015. And in 2022 it legalized the possession of capability for preemptive strike, including the possession of "counterattack capability", by adopting three major documents on security.

As a result, the principle of "total defense" stipulated in Article 9 of the pacifist constitution that has existed since 1947 has now been reduced to a mere scrap of paper and a legal framework has been created, allowing Japan to launch a war at any time.

It is no accident that voices of concern and anxiety are even growing within Japan criticizing such moves as "an act of ensuring security that instigates arms race", "betrayal of predecessors' post-war efforts to keep peace in Japan" and so on.

This only makes it clear that Japan, though outwardly trumpeting a "pacifist state", is destroying and endangering peace and stability of the region and international community by aggravating situation and arms race.

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Who should sit in human rights dock?

By Jang Chol Ho

At this moment when the new year has dawned, humankind is full of hope and expectations for the future, yet reflecting on the lessons of last year.

Last year also saw specific forces find fault with other countries at their own pleasure and dishonestly attempt to bring them into the human rights dock in the international human rights arena, arousing serious concern of the international community.

The ringleader who turned the international human rights arena—the place for promoting dialogue and cooperation between countries—into a venue for confrontation is none other than the United States.

At the UN Human Rights Council, the Third Committee of the UNGA and other major meetings devoted to human rights last year, the US tried to brand independent countries as "human rights violators" and "anti-humanity criminal states" by making a big fuss about "dismal human rights situation" and "widespread violations of human rights" in those countries.

In particular, at the 51st Session of the UNHRC in October, the US presented a draft resolution

on regularizing the discussions of China Xinjiang issue from the 52nd Session in 2023 and desperately tried to pass it by mustering some Western countries.

However, the draft was ultimately turned down, for a number of developing countries strongly opposed such attempt of the US as interference in the internal affairs of China.

Meanwhile, the US did not hesitate to railroad its following forces into adopting "human rights resolutions" which had seriously distorted and fabricated the human rights situations in individual countries.

Anti-imperialist independent countries like China, Russia, Cuba, Iran, Syria, Venezuela, and Belarus strongly condemned and rejected such double-standard and high-handed behaviour as an act of political provocation aimed at interfering in the internal affairs and toppling the systems of those countries.

In December, the US attempted to convene at the UNSC an official meeting to discuss a so-called "human rights issue" of the DPRK, but the bid suffered a rebuff as a majority of Security Council members opposed it.

The US attempt to convene such

a meeting has failed for five years in a row. This constitutes the fair assessment of the international society on the illegality and impropriety of the "human rights" racket against the DPRK.

The above-mentioned facts show that gone are the days when the US indulged itself in high-handedness and arbitrariness posing as a "human rights judge" in the international arena.

The US fabricates "human rights violation" and "human rights abuse" of other countries which do not exist and makes much ado about them in public. But what it is doing behind the scenes only arouses surging resentment and contempt of the world people.

For instance, the crimes it committed in countries like Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria in the new century are the gravest crimes of human rights violation that can put it in the dock as often as it can be.

The review process on the US implementation of the "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination", which took place at the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in August last year, turned into a place for impeachment where the foul crimes of human rights violation committed by

the US against non-whites were indicted fully before the world.

Many experts participating in the review unanimously and sharply denounced the US, saying that, while being indifferent to the deep-rooted racial discrimination in its own country, the US is bent on inventing lies and groundless rumours about human rights situation in other countries in order to use them as a means of hegemony-maintaining policy and political tricks.

Due to its own incurably dismal human rights situation and bloody atrocities it committed abroad, the US has long been disqualified for arguing about human rights issues. Therefore, its conduct of imprudently labelling other countries and clinging to groundless criticism could never be accepted in today's bright world.

The US should clearly see the stern eyes of the broad spectrum of the international society and put an end to the anachronistic behaviour of "human right judge". And it should sit in the dock of human rights, honestly reflecting on the past and present crimes.

The author is researcher at the Korean Association for Human Rights Studies

China assails US for its warship's passage through Taiwan Strait

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

At the outset of the New Year, a destroyer of the US passed through the Taiwan Strait for the first time.

On January 5, the spokesman for the Eastern Battle Zone of the Chinese People's Liberation Army pointed out that they tracked with vigilance the US warship's passage

through the Taiwan Strait from the beginning to the end and that every single movement of it was under close scrutiny.

The spokesman for the Chinese embassy in the US issued a statement in strong opposition to the passage through the Taiwan Strait by the US warship and urged the US to put an immediate end to such acts of undermining peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait.

Under the pretext of ensuring the "freedom of navigation", the US warships are always flexing their muscles, but this is not an act intended to safeguard the freedom and openness of the Taiwan Strait, the spokesman said. He also asserted that China remains highly vigilant and is ready to cope with all threats and challenges, and that it will resolutely safeguard national sovereignty and territorial

integrity.

Last year alone, the US reportedly dispatched its warships to the Taiwan Strait eight times.

Analysts unanimously comment that the US moves to contain China with "Taiwan card" would become a routine and that such moves of the US constitute a very dangerous act as it puts an obstacle to peaceful settlement of the Taiwan issue.

Murders occur one after another from start of new year

By Choe Song Jun PT

Murders and other crimes are rampant in Japan and the US from the beginning of the new year.

On New Year's Day, a 72-year-old man stabbed his wife to death in Okayama, Japan.

On January 2 shootings occurred near an underground railway station in Washington D.C. to kill a 17-year-old boy and injure four persons and the following day a 16-year-old boy was shot dead and a man shot wounded at a shop in Indiana. That day a man bit off the cars and face of an old man passing

by in Oregon. As a result, the old man was so seriously injured that his skull was exposed.

On January 4 shootings took place in a family in Utah southwest of the US. A 42-year-old man shot himself after shooting his wife, five children and mother-in-law to death.

According to the data issued by the US Gun Violence Archive, 10 large-scale gun-related crimes were committed across the country at the outset of the new year, causing more than 540 casualties, with 85 of them being children under 17.

The problem is that such shocking murders and crimes are commonplace in Japan and the US.

In the countries there occur terrible crimes in succession. People murder anybody, even their family members and relatives, when they think the latter act against their interests even a bit. What is worse, crimes increase day by day in the countries as the violent gun-related culture is rampant there and even teenagers become criminals.

According to *The New York Times*, the arrests related to robbery and theft numbered 10 000 and the suspects arrested for shooting, murder and so on 1 411 in New York in 2022, 22 and 12 percent higher than those in 2021 respectively, and 17 percent of the suspects arrested

for robbery are children under 18.

In Japan, a girl student living in Saitama Prefecture reportedly stabbed a 53-year-old woman and her daughter to death on a road of Tokyo in August last year. The criminal confessed her motive for the murder:

"I stabbed the mother and daughter on the road as I wanted to be punished with death. I had intended to kill my family members. I wanted to do a test beforehand to see if human really dies."

Japan and the US are just the countries where even juveniles regard killing persons as a way to satisfy their decadent desire.

Family a beautiful world where love blooms, future grows



Ri Sun Bom
Department chief of the Academy of Social Sciences

Every human wants to have a harmonious family. But family concord never comes true of itself.

It is important in promoting family concord for a husband and wife to respect each other's characters and truly believe and sincerely help each other.

Conjugal relations in our country are not the relationship between a superior and subordinate, but the one of comradely love with which to devotedly help each other.

A typical example is the couple of Kim In Bok and Ri Ok Sil who were respectively awarded the title of Labour Hero, the top honour for DPRK citizens, at the same time.

They are artistic motivational team members of an enterprise for winning great admiration by singing well.

Though they were engaged in intensive motivation campaigns from early morning to late at night and sometimes several days or several months away from home, they would always work in close cooperation sending a smile to with each other.

There was no distinction between a housewife and a householder. They always left for their workplace and returned home together. Back home, they vied with each other to be the first to wear an apron and do kitchen work and finished domestic chores while helping and leading one another forward.

Ri Ok Sil still remembers the happenings in the past when her husband went to the kindergarten carrying their child on his back in place of her lest she should lag behind her workmates and helped

her with vocal exercise until late at night shaking off his sleepiness.

Their colleagues are envious of Kim In Bok and his wife Ri Ok Sil, who have led a worthwhile and happy life as a harmonious couple and proud hero artists as they have continued artistic motivational team activities for nearly 50 years.

The harmony of a family is represented by the love between a couple and the love for their children.

The most valuable being in a family is just the children.

All the parents on this land want their children, a main source of pleasure and smile to their families and their future, to be successful in life and grow up fairly as honourable pillars of the country.

That is why many parents always pay deep attention to the education of children and lead them with their practical example.

Among them, there are parents of Jang Yon Gyong, pupil of Pothoggang Primary School in Pothoggang District, Pyongyang.

Yon Gyong is loved by villagers and her school as a source of pride as she is polite and exemplary in study and life.

Her father, who has been working as the doctor of a hospital, regards it as an infallible routine to be acquainted with her study though he is busy with treatment, while her mother spares no effort for the education of her daughter while strengthening contact with her teacher in charge with the help of family liaison pocketbook.

Her father who has been acknowledged as a man of ability indispensable to the hospital and her mother who is an innovative woman of a factory exert much influence on Yon Gyong.

Parents devote affection to their children and attention to the growth of them as much as they love their families.

A family is a beautiful world where love blossoms and future flourishes, and such a family can be built with great efforts.

are in difficulties or feel inconvenience, and such traits and excellent virtue bloom as the days go.

Virtues and affection overflow in the Koreans' life like water and air, as they care for others more than

themselves, keep devoting themselves to society and the collective and find the pride of life in that course, and the large harmonious socialist family is just a true feature peculiar to the DPRK.

BYWORD

Large harmonious socialist family

In the DPRK where all the people live happily sharing warm affection with each other, the term "a large harmonious socialist family" is on everyone's lips.

It has become an everyday occurrence and social trait

to share joy and sorrow between friends and neighbours and help one another.

Everywhere you can see helpers who show kindred affection even to total strangers when

Briefly

Russia

President indicates major directions of this year's work
Russian President Vladimir Putin pointed out the six major directions of work in 2023 at a consultative meeting with government officials on January 11.

He said that this year's major directions of work are to expand external economic relations, open up new supply routes, develop roads and other infrastructures and urban management, increase technical capacities of the economy, set up new production processes and promote the creation of jobs.

China

FM condemns UK's interference in Hong Kong issue

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry in a press conference on January 13 decried the UK's interference in the Hong Kong issue.

The UK has recently issued a "half-yearly report on the Hong Kong issue" to find fault with China's policy of managing Hong Kong. The spokesman branded it as unwarranted interference in the Hong Kong issue and China's internal affairs and a violation of international law and the fundamental norms governing international relations.

The author is researcher at the Korean Association for Human Rights Studies

Palestine

Israel's illegal policy decried
The Palestinian Foreign Ministry censured in a statement on January 11 the Israeli authorities' illegal policy for forcibly dishousing Palestinians.

Describing the policy of Israel as an attempt to drive Palestinians out of some occupied parts of the West Bank, the statement warned that it is an unprecedented move to escalate tension and a war crime and crime against humanity to cause catastrophic danger.

Iran

FM protests against UK's interference in internal affairs

After Iran severely punished an Iranian for handing state secrets over to the British intelligence service working as its spy, the British government officials denounced it as a "violation of human rights".

In relation to this, the Iranian Foreign Ministry on January 14 called the British ambassador in Teheran to protest against the UK's interference in the internal affairs of its country.

The ministry denounced the unfair behaviour of British government officials as an act of threatening the security of the country.

COVID-19

Global casualties

According to a foreign media report, 672 102 290 persons contracted novel coronavirus, 6 734 854 died of it and 21 833 706 were undergoing medical treatment in the world as of 24:00 on January 18.



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Snow scenes in different places in Pyongyang including the Chollima Statue (above) and Ryomyong Street (below left).



Ex-footballer develops multifunctional remote measuring device

By Han Kwi Hun PT

A multifunctional remote measuring instrument won first prize at the 24th national sports sci-tech achievements exhibition which was held in October last year in the way of virtual exhibition since it can correctly assess the physical conditions of players. A certificate of sci-tech achievement was conferred on Merited Athlete Pak Kyong Sun, section chief of the Rimyongsu Sports Club, who exhibited it.

Pak is a meritorious athlete who exalted the honour of the DPRK at different international women's soccer tournaments while being

active as a forward of the national team in the 2000s.

When she graduated from Korea University of Physical Education with top honours, many well-wishers advised her to become a football coach, but she opted to work as a researcher.

After becoming a researcher of the Rimyongsu Sports Club, where she spent her playing career, she presented several scientific training methods according to events and she set an example as a scientific guidance official in improving the abilities of coaches.

She once saw an imported wrist remote pulsometer. After applying it to players, she realized that it was

impossible to know the maximum burden on players and that it woefully lacked analysis indicators as a device for players.

She intensified her research after coming up with an idea of multifunctional remote measuring device which can estimate the physical conditions of players in different aspects.

She succeeded in completing the instrument in collaboration with experts, while focusing on showing the physical conditions of players in real time numerically and giving practical help to the training guidance of coaches.

When a player trains wearing it, different indicators including pulsation, heat consumption,

electrocardiogram, blood pressure, stress and the consumption of calorie are transmitted to the smart phone of his coach.

The coach can have a better understanding of his physical conditions through the smart phone and apply various training methods accordingly.

Experts say that many devices for measuring the physical conditions of players have so far been developed, but the multifunctional remote measuring instrument is more practical as it has very high precision and the manufacturing cost is only one-fourth of the imported wrist remote pulsometer.

"Thanks to the introduction of this measuring device, the scientific level of training has been improved as well as the physical conditions

and match results of players," said football coach Pak Song Chol.

It is said that the instrument is popular among athletes and other people.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Pak Kyong Sun works to apply scientific training methods to players.

