

Another mighty entity showing continuous development of strategic force unveiled in DPRK

Kim Jong Un guides first test-fire of new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-18 on spot



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of super power and absolute strength, a powerful force capable of preventing the nuclear holocaust and deterring all sorts of possible dangerous enemy invasions, and a treasured sword for defending

justice and peace.

On April 13 2023, a powerful entity symbolic of the constant development of the strategic force of the DPRK declared its emergence to the world.

A new-type ICBM, Hwasongpho-18, which will fulfil the mission of an

important war deterrent as the future core pivotal means of the strategic force of the DPRK, was test-fired.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided the

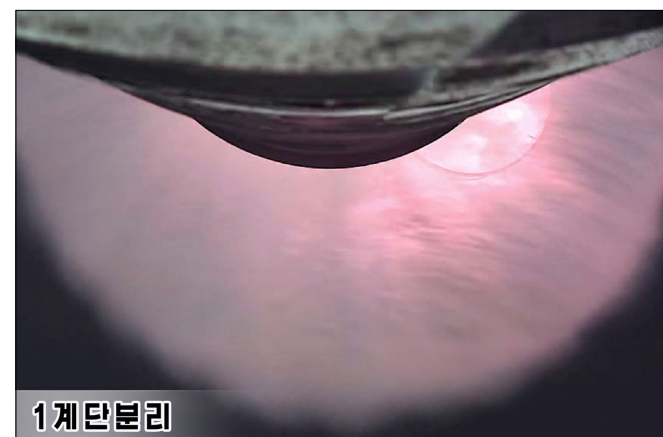
first test-fire of the new-type ICBM on the spot.

The aim of the test-fire was to confirm the performance of the high-thrust solid-fuel engines for multi-stage missiles and

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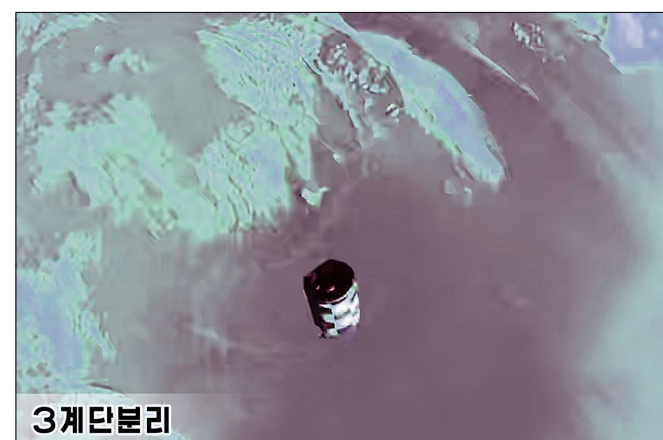
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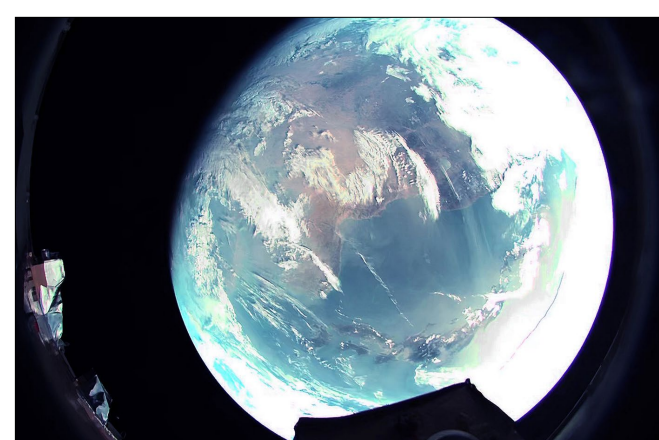
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2계단분리



3계단분리



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the reliability of the stage-jettisoning technology and various functional control systems and to assess the military feasibility of the new strategic weapon system.

In consideration of the security of the neighbouring countries and the safety of the multi-stage separation of the missile during its flight in the territorial air, the test fire was conducted in the way of applying the standard trajectory flying mode to its first stage and the vertical mode to the second and third stages, and of confirming the technological features of all the components of the weapon system by restricting the maximum speed of the missile through delayed stage separation and motor reactivation.

Kim Jong Un learned about the new weapon system on the spot while watching the pre-launch operation.

The launching site, which was on the threshold of the important strategic weapon test-fire which would record another significant event in the history of the development of the strategic force of the DPRK under the direct guidance of Kim Jong Un, was seething with the burning will of all the defence scientists and workers in the field of munitions industry to proclaim to the whole world the emergence of another powerful nuclear attack means of the DPRK and demonstrate the reliable nuclear war deterrent of the state.

Ready for test-fire!

When Kim Jong Un approved the test-fire of the new-type strategic weapon, General Jang Chang Ha ordered the 2nd Red Flag Company under the General Missile Bureau to launch the missile.

The moment, a great entity fully representing the irresistible might of the DPRK began to soar into the sky with fierce flames at its tail, making a thunderous roar.

The test-fire had no adverse effect on the security of the neighbouring countries. Its first stage safely landed in the waters 10 km off the Hodo Peninsula in Kumya County, South Hamgyong Province and the second stage in the waters 335 km east of Orang County, North Hamgyong Province.

The test-fire confirmed that all the parameters of the new strategic weapon system fully met the requirements of the design in terms of accuracy, providing a guarantee and creditability that the new-type ICBM would serve as a powerful strategic attack means of greater military efficiency.

The Hwasongpho-18 weapon system, to be equipped with and operated by the strategic force of the DPRK under

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the long-term plan for building the state nuclear force, will perform its important mission and duty as the most powerful, pivotal and principal means in defending the DPRK, deterring aggression and protecting the security of the state.

Kim Jong Un expressed great satisfaction at the eye-opening successes while guiding the test-fire. He was pleased with the fact that the DPRK has clearly proved once again the tremendous potentiality and reality of its defence technology further developing as the days go by and powerfully demonstrated its unshakable determination and practical ability to attain the goal for bolstering up

the armed forces.

He noted that it is the consistent stand of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government to steadily and rapidly accelerate the development of more developed and advanced powerful weapon systems to cope with the ever-worsening security environment of the Korean peninsula and long-term military threats. He mentioned with pride the significance of the test-fire, saying that the development of the new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-18 will extensively reform the strategic deterrent components of the DPRK, radically promote the effectiveness of its nuclear counterattack posture and bring about a change in the practicality of its offensive military strategy.

Noting that it is an absolute mission and duty to be fulfilled by the DPRK's defence scientists to uphold the WPK's and the DPRK government's policy of countering the enemy's nukes and frontal confrontation in kind with practical successes in the development of self-defence capabilities, he set forth the important strategic tasks for further accelerating the buildup of the nuclear strategic force of the DPRK.

He affirmed that the WPK and the DPRK government would make the enemy, who are imperiling the environment on the Korean peninsula and harassing the Korean people's peaceful life and struggle for socialist construction with their inveterate policy of aggression and threatening military

moves, experience a clearer security crisis, and constantly strike extreme uneasiness and horror into them by taking fatal and offensive counteractions until they abandon their senseless thinking and reckless acts, thus making them feel regret and despair for their wrong choice by surely exposing them to an irresistible threat.

The successful test of the new strategic weapon system serves as an occasion for proving that the nuclear strategic force of the DPRK and the missile scientists and technicians of the country directly responsible for its development always thoroughly and perfectly implement the strategic intention of the WPK, getting fully prepared to carry out their important mission at any time.

General Secretary Kim Jong Un highly praises members of national defence science research field

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, highly praised members of the national defence science research field for making a distinguished contribution to the epochal strengthening of the strategic force of the DPRK.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un proposed conferring the title of Labour Hero of the DPRK on more than 10 major persons concerned in the field of relevant defence science research who have greatly contributed to developing new strategic weapons again, true to the Party's strategic line of steadily developing more advanced and powerful means, which are essential for defending the DPRK and

deterring aggression, both in quality and quantity, and to proving the real condition of the DPRK's strategic force and convincing the people of the eternal overwhelming victory and fully demonstrating once again the absolute might of the DPRK's defence science and technology.

He also issued an order to promote Colonel Han Kum Bok, vice-director of the relevant institute of the General

Missile Bureau, to major general.

Upon receiving the high appreciation of Kim Jong Un, all the members of the national defence science research field vowed to remain eternally faithful to the noble sense of mission of making a dynamic development of the nuclear strategic force of the DPRK and more dynamically advance toward the goal of developing weapons by leaping progress.

Sixth Enlarged Meeting of Eighth Central Military Commission of WPK held



KCNA

The Sixth Enlarged Meeting of the Eighth Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea which is of another great military significance was held at the office building of the WPK Central Committee on April 10 in the turning period of the development of our armed forces in which the powerful strategic measures are being carried out to expand and strengthen the war deterrent of the country in every way to cope with the escalating moves of the US imperialists and the south Korean puppet traitors to unleash a war of aggression.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided the enlarged meeting.

Present at the meeting were major

members of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and commanding officers of the large combined units of the Korean People's Army on the front.

The enlarged meeting clearly understood the present serious security situation on the Korean peninsula where the aggressive military policy and actions of the US imperialists and the south Korean puppet traitors are emerging as a threatening entity, and discussed important military issues arising in making the country's defence capacity and war preparations more perfect to cope with the grave situation.

Recently the enemy openly let out even warlike words such as the "occupation of Pyongyang" and "beheading operation" and staged the frantic large-scale joint military drill simulating an all-out war against the DPRK. And they clearly showed their sinister true colours as

aggressors while making reckless remarks for the confrontation with the DPRK and deliberately inciting the military actions for attack day after day.

The meeting made an in-depth analysis of the present situation in which the US imperialists and the south Korean puppet traitors are getting ever more undisguised in their moves for a war of aggression, and raised it as an indispensable requirement to make the military option of the DPRK clearer and make thoroughgoing preparations for switching to powerful practical action. It discussed practical matters and measures for machinery to prepare various military action proposals that the enemy would be unable to counter by any means and ways and decided on the relevant resolutions by unanimous approbation.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un stressed the need to expand the DPRK's war deterrent being strengthened with

increasing speed on a more practical and offensive basis and to effectively apply it as a measure for stricter control and management of the ever-worsening security on the Korean peninsula.

Learning about the plan for offensive operation on the front and various combat documents, he clarified the principled issues arising in constantly studying and implementing the military measures to steadily update and perfect the war capabilities of the army.

The Sixth Enlarged Meeting of the Eighth Central Military Commission of the WPK that discussed military measures serves as an epochal occasion as they made another great stride in the course of bolstering up the armed forces to further clarify the stand of the WPK and the DPRK government on the enemy's moves for igniting a war and to enhance the strong defence capability and overwhelming offensive force.



On the occasion of the 111th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung

Great father of the people

By Ri Sung Ik PT

April and the Day of the Sun come every year without fail, but the people feel growing yearning for President Kim Il Sung with the passage of time.

Kim Il Sung was the father of the people who devoted his all to the country, happiness of the people and prosperity of all generations to come for decades from his teens to his advanced age of over 80.

"The people are God" was his cherished view and maxim of his life.

He started the revolution by going among the people and solved all state affairs to meet the desires and demands of the people by prioritizing their interests in the whole period of his revolutionary activities.

He put his heart and soul into providing the people with affluent life already in the period of building a new Korea after the country's liberation from Japanese military rule.

Under his leadership the law on agrarian reform which reflected



President Kim Il Sung finds himself among the working people (April 1961).

the centuries-old desire of the farmers to do farming on their own land all their lives and the law on the nationalization of industries which turned workers into masters of the factory were proclaimed.

As he valued the personal safety of the people more than anything else, he ensured that the universal

free medical care system was enforced at state expense during the fierce Fatherland Liberation War.

Many touching stories are told about the field guidance tour of the President who walked a long way for improving the people's living standards.

One day in July 1961, he visited

the then corn processing factory in Changsong County.

On his way he came to a halt in front of the corn meal storage tank, held a handful of corn meal and examined it for a while before asking an official whether it was favoured by the people.

When he heard that they liked it,

compared to nothing, he devoted even holidays and Sundays for the good of the people.

The life of the President, who adopted "The people are God" as his lifetime motto and thoroughly applied it to the revolutionary leadership, shines as a noble life of the popular leader.

he asked him again to see it carefully. And he pointed out the defects in the processing of corn meal one after another, saying that the crushed particles of the grain were not even and there was much corn powder.

And he said to the officials that their loyalty to the Party, to the working class and to the people should always be found not in faraway places, but in the details of life.

In such a way, the President's days went by and they got together to make his whole life.

The demands and interests of the people were the standard of all his thinking and practice and to share joys and sorrows with them was his consistent principle of leadership.

As he took the people's happiness as the greatest pleasure that can be

Among people all his life

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

President Kim Il Sung was a great father of the people who made unremitting efforts only for the eternal prosperity and wellbeing of the country and the people from his teens to his eighties.

These words of praise were not from a writer but told by the people themselves after meeting the President who founded the genuine people's country and continued his field guidance tours across the country to bring greater happiness to the people.

In the course of his field

guidance, he once took photos of children as he was so pleased to see them in new school uniforms and took fatherly care of a child after learning that he lost his father in a bombing raid during the war and his mother died from a disease.

At a forestry workers' village, he discussed the problem of work shoes for lumberjacks and at a remote mountain village and a farm near the military demarcation line, he taught the people the ways to improve their livelihood and gave them his promise that he would come again when they were well off.

On July 18 1967, Jo Kum Nyo who was in charge of a mineral water shop in Changsong County greeted the President on a surprise visit to the shop.

As he was looking round in satisfaction the shop which overfulfilled its selling plan by 25 percent and offered better service, he learned that several commodities were in poor quality and their prices were not set properly.

On the following day, he called a meeting of senior officials of central and local levels in that small shop. He analyzed in detail the low-quality goods and their

prices and severely criticized the wrong work attitude of the officials who failed to have the spirit of serving the people.

He said that a reel of sewing thread weighed 50 grams and 200 grams of thread was needed to weave 1 metre of cloth, a well-woven cloth cost 3 won and 90 jon, but the thread on sale there cost 3 won and 30 jon even though it was not woven and weighed only a quarter of cloth. As they were told to lower the price of cloth, they only lowered the price of cloth but not that of thread, he said, adding it was as serious as deceiving the state and divorcing

the Party and state from the people. He sharply pointed out the fact that they illegally added sales taxes to children's toys and school supplies and sold them at twice the price of the original cost.

After the meeting, cheap and high-quality commodities were put on sale at all shops across the country.

Every nook and corner of the country and every place where the people live and work are associated with the field guidance of the President and relate to numerous anecdotes about his love for the people touching the heartstrings of all.

People's sincerity pervading Mangyongdae

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Many people have devoted their sincerity to Mangyongdae associated with the history of President Kim Il Sung and his family members who dedicated their all for the country's liberation and prosperity.

Trees and flowering shrubs planted in the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site show the pure conscience and moral obligation of people to build Mangyongdae more sublimely and beautifully.

According to an official of the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Museum, tens of thousands of trees and flowering shrubs in hundreds of species reflecting the people's sincerity have been planted in the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site.

Among them, there are over 5 500 pine-nut saplings which Kim Ae Ok and her family members living in Sinnun-dong, Kanggye City, grew with great care with the seeds from the two pine-nut trees young Kim Jong Il had planted as he looked forward to the victory of the country during the Fatherland Liberation War.

Workers of the Ponghwa Chemical Factory annually sent saplings grown at the tree nursery in the compound of the factory to the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site.

Agricultural workers of Kumya

County, who sent many trees and flower roots in the past ten years, transplanted Kumya black pines which were named by General Secretary Kim Jong Un and other species of trees in Mangyongdae this year, while pupils of Toksan Primary School in Anju City, students of Paechon Senior Middle School in Paechon County and other schools planted good species of trees, flowering shrubs and white broad bellflowers in the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site.

Officials of the Ministry of Natural Resources Development released hundreds of gold carps in the pond of the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site every year and they now number thousands.

They sent thousands of pieces of tools for maintenance and maintained the environs of the Sunhwagang ferry.

Ryang Kun Sil, an old man living in Hasin-dong of Sosong District, Pyongyang, has maintained the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site since decades ago and Ri Kyong Ae living in Mangyongdae District has devoted her sincerity to the maintenance of the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site for over ten years.

Officials of the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Site said that Mangyongdae will continue to shine as the eternal sacred place of the Sun backed up by the people's sincerity.

Endless stream of visitors flows to Mangyongdae

By Ryom Un Gyong PT

There is an old home where President Kim Il Sung was born at Mangyongdae in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK.

Numerous people continuously visit the house called the President's birthplace at Mangyongdae.

In particular, an endless stream of people flows to the birthplace on the occasion of the Day of the Sun (birthday of the President).

Every heart of visitors overflows with the profound yearning for him who devoted his whole life to the country's prosperity and the people's well-being.

According to statistics, tens of thousands of people visited Mangyongdae this year alone.

After looking round

the historic house and the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Museum on March 30, study tourists of the 1 000-ri Journey for Learning from across the country planted hundreds of flowering shrubs on Mangyong Hill in reflection of their patriotic minds to love and add brilliance to the country.

The President's birthplace at Mangyongdae is a straw-thatched house too frugal to be called the home of a great man.

His great-grandfather obtained a cottage for grave keeper after promising to look after the grave of a landlord and lived there being subjected to feudal exploitation and oppression.

Preserved in the birthplace in their original state are the relics showing the life of the President's revolutionary family members, who had fought devotedly to

win back the country deprived by the Japanese imperialists despite agonizing sufferings and poverty.

"I received a modern dwelling house last year. The happiness our family enjoy in the new house began from his birthplace, I think. Our life and well-being are unthinkable apart from the President who built the country of the people overcoming a multitude of trying ordeals. Therefore, we visit his birthplace with the yearning for and gratitude to the President whenever we greet the Day of the Sun," said Kim Myong Hui living in neighbourhood unit No. 4 of Kyongru-dong, Central District, Pyongyang.

Foreigners who visited the DPRK admired the great life of the President after looking round the birthplace at Mangyongdae.



People from all walks of life visit President Kim Il Sung's birthplace at Mangyongdae.

Tower of Juche Idea

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The Tower of the Juche Idea stands opposite Kim Il Sung Square in the heart of Pyongyang across the Taedong River.

The tower was unveiled on

April 15 1982 on the occasion of the 70th birthday of President Kim Il Sung, backed up by the unanimous intention of the Korean people and the world's revolutionary peoples to hand down to posterity the undying revolutionary exploits of the

President who founded the immortal Juche idea.

The tower forms a large architectural group in a vast area, consisting of the main theme group sculpture of three persons representing a worker, farmer and intellectual in front of the torch tower, several subsidiary group sculptures on both sides of the tower, pavilions and two large fountains in the middle of the Taedong River.

The tower is 170 metres high and comprises the tower body, pedestal and torch.

The granite body encompassing the pedestal is 150 metres high and is faced with 70 stone blocks

with 18 blocks each in front and rear, and 17 respectively on both sides, which symbolize the 70th birthday of the President.

The front and back of the body are embossed with letters reading "Juche".

A monument of a dedicated poem on the front wall of the pedestal tells about the undying exploits the President performed in the human history of ideology by creating the Juche idea.

The pedestal is embossed with 70 Kimilsungias and magnolia blossoms and the wall of the arch-shaped recess in the rear of the pedestal is adorned with choice stones of different colours and patterns inscribed with words of best wishes and admiration, which were sent by heads of state, political and public figures and followers of the Juche idea in many countries around the world.

The 20-metre-high torch on the body is made of red-coloured glass and looks like a blazing torch at night as it is installed with

a special lighting device. The golden circular stand of the torch harmoniously blends the representation of the blazing flame with the tower body.

In front of the torch tower, there is the main theme trio sculpture depicting a worker, peasant and intellectual.

The hammer, sickle and writing brush held by the three figures form the emblem of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The sculpture showing the heroic spirit of the Korean people who are advancing dynamically, united firmly with the one ideology and purpose under the banner of the Juche idea, is regarded as a perfect work as the main theme group sculpture of the Tower of the Juche Idea for its profound content, large scale and polished depiction.

In the vast area on both sides of the torch tower, there are six granite subsidiary group sculptures.

They depict the Korean people enjoying a fulfilling life full of

hope and confidence under the brilliant rays of the Juche idea.

The tower looks more spectacular as the combination of large and small fountains enhances the formative artistic qualities of the grand monument.

There are two large fountains jetting water up to 150 metres in the middle of the Taedong River and other fountains in front of the subsidiary group sculptures.

The large fountains arranged symmetrically in the middle of the deep river centring on the torch tower spout out streams of water which drops in the river water and send up clouds of spray.

The fountains in front of subsidiary group sculptures also enhance the formative artistic qualities by forming unique water streams in good harmony with structural elements of the tower.

Therefore, the Tower of the Juche Idea constitutes one of the main places for visit in Pyongyang and attracts many local and foreign visitors.



Celebratory events open to mark Day of Sun



Visitors look round the venue of the national photo exhibition in celebration of the 111th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.

Film show

KCNA

A week-long film show opened in celebration of the Day of the Sun on the occasion of the April holiday, the greatest holiday of the Korean nation.

Documentaries recording President Kim Il Sung's noble revolutionary career and undying exploits, such revolutionary films as *Star of Korea* and *The Sun of the Nation* and such feature

films as *A Broad Bellflower*, *One Day and One Night* and other films on different themes will be screened at cinemas and halls of culture in different areas.

An opening ceremony took place at the Pyongyang International Cinema House on April 10.

It was attended by Jo Kyong Jun, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri

Myong Chol, secretary of the Pyongyang municipal Party committee, and other officials and actors and actresses.

Kim Jong Ho, deputy director general of the National Administration of Motion Picture Industry, made an opening address.

After the ceremony, the participants saw the documentary *Our Leader Praised by All*.

Similar events took place in all provinces that day.

Industrial design exhibition

KCNA

A national industrial design exhibition opened in celebration of the Day of the Sun.

The show on the theme of "Industrial design is prerequisite for economic construction and improvement of people's living standards" has put on display more than 540 pieces of designs, models and

products in various kinds created by professional and amateur industrial designers across the country, including over 190 pieces of industrial designs directed by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Its opening ceremony was held at the national industrial design exhibition hall on April 6.

It was attended by Ri Song Hak, vice-premier of

the Cabinet, Kim Sung Du, chairman of the Education Commission, Kim Jong Nam, minister of Machine-building Industry, Kim Chang Sok, minister of Light Industry, and officials and creators of relevant and industrial design sectors.

Ri Song Hak delivered an opening address.

After the ceremony, participants looked round the venue of the show.

Eighth April Spring People's Art Festival

KCNA

The Eighth April Spring People's Art Festival opened in splendour in Pyongyang on the occasion of the 111th birthday of President Kim Il Sung.

Divided into professional and amateur categories, the artists of art troupes and artistic motivational teams, members of mobile artistic motivational teams and art group members of industrial establishments and farms will take part in the festival.

And it will feature a magic festival as well.

An opening ceremony took place at the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Park Open-Air Theatre at the foot of picturesque Moran Hill on the evening of April 12.

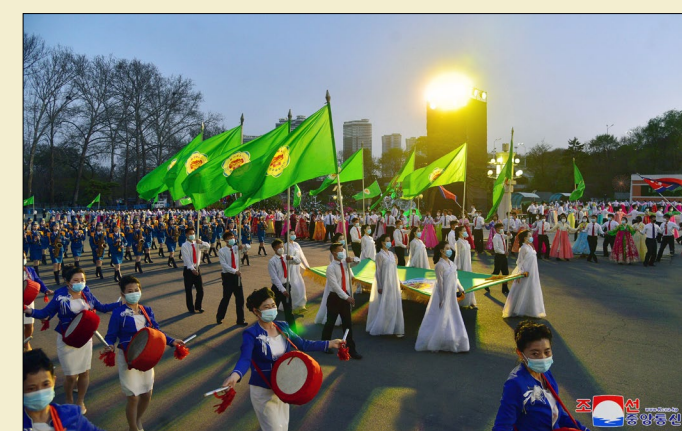
Amid lively and dynamic melodies of the women's brass band under the Ministry of Railways, women's union members, youth and schoolchildren in the city warmly welcomed the participants in the festival as they held a dance party.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Vice-Premier Ri Song Hak, Jon Kyong Chol, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, participants in the festival and Pyongyang citizens.

Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture who is also chairman of the festival organizing committee, made an opening address.

He declared the festival open, expressing his belief that it would highly praise the personality traits and immortal revolutionary exploits of the President, demonstrate to the whole world the true image of ever-developing Juche art in the great era of Kim Jong Un and greatly encourage the Korean people to wage a heroic struggle for building a powerful socialist country.

The Mansudae Art Troupe, National Symphony Orchestra and other central art troupes and central artistic motivational team of the youth league gave a performance at the opening venue which was brightly illuminated by colourful lighting.



The opening ceremony of the Eighth April Spring People's Art Festival takes place in Pyongyang.

Photo show

KCNA

National photo exhibition "Immortal exploits for Korean-style socialist rural development" opened to mark the 111th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.

On display at the exhibition hall are photos showing the immortal exploits of the peerlessly great men who illuminated

the way for socialist rural construction and trained agricultural workers into the masters of the country and rural revolutionaries.

Its opening ceremony took place at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on April 6.

It was attended by Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Choe Hui

Thae, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, Ri Myong Chol, secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, officials concerned and working people in the city.

Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, delivered an opening address.

After the ceremony, participants looked round the venue of the show.

National art exhibition

KCNA

A national art exhibition in celebration of the 111th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung opened at the Korean Fine Art Museum in Pyongyang on April 10.

On display in the venue of the exhibition are the artworks depicting the immortal revolutionary life and exploits of the President who opened up a new era of history advancing under the banner of independence with his outstanding ideas and gigantic revolutionary practice and provided socialist Korea with precious assets for eternal

victory and prosperity.

There are also artworks showing the revolutionary activities of Chairman Kim Jong Il who, with a firm will to successfully carry forward and accomplish the revolutionary cause of the President, faithfully supported and implemented the President's plan and intention for the wellbeing of the people.

Other works on different themes feature the proud reality of the country which ushered in a new era of change and development under the outstanding leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un

and the Korean people's dynamic struggle for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the plenary meetings of the Party Central Committee.

The opening ceremony of the exhibition was attended by Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, officials and creators in the fine art sector and other working people in Pyongyang.

Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, delivered an opening address.

After the ceremony the participants looked round the venue.

Awards ceremony

KCNA

State decorations have been awarded to officials and working people, who rendered distinguished services to carry out the policies of the Workers' Party of Korea, on the occasion of the 111th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.

An awards ceremony took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in

Pyongyang on April 12.

It was attended by Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice-president of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, and persons of merit.

Choe Ryong Hae read out a decree of the Standing Committee of the

DPRK Supreme People's Assembly.

Order of Kim Il Sung was conferred on Ri Sang Ho, Ri Hyong Nam and U Kil Man.

The title of DPRK Labour Hero and Gold Medal (Hammer and Sickle) plus Order of the National Flag 1st Class went to Kim Tong Hun, Kang Song Ran, Kim Song Won and Ri Yong Jun. The Kim Il Sung Prize was awarded to Ryu Il Nam.

Nation's strategic position strengthened rapidly

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Eleven years have passed since the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was elected to the top posts of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK.

In those days, he performed immortal exploits by further developing the WPK into a motherly party which takes responsibility for the destiny of people and remarkably enhancing the DPRK's overall power and strategic position.

As his first revolutionary activity of 2012 after the sudden loss of Chairman Kim Jong Il, Kim Jong Un visited the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division associated with the leadership exploits of the Chairman.

It was a historic inspection reflecting his noble aspirations to faithfully carry forward and

accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered and triumphantly advanced by President Kim Il Sung and the Chairman on the strength of invincible arms in the face of heinous moves of hostile forces to check the advance of socialist Korea.

Afterwards, he put forward modelling the entire army on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism as the general objective of army building.

The line of simultaneously pushing economic construction and the buildup of the nuclear forces was set forth at the March 2013 Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held under the guidance of General Secretary Kim Jong Un. The historic cause of building up the nuclear forces was successfully accomplished

some years after that. In 2017, the DPRK succeeded

in the test-fire of surface-to-surface intermediate- and long-range strategic ballistic missile Pukksong 2, the static firing test of newly developed high-thrust motor, the test-fire of intercontinental ballistic missile Hwasong 14 and the test of H-bomb for ICBM in succession. In November that year, it successfully launched new-type ICBM Hwasong 15.

The decision was surprising and yet it was more so that such a huge historic task was carried out in less than five years.

However, few know how much the General Secretary devoted himself to the achievements in such a short period.

Hostile forces persisted in sophistry and obstructive moves to check the simultaneous-push path and went so far as to inhibit regular economic exchanges and financial transactions and put on the list of

items under sanctions even ordinary foodstuffs, sports apparatuses and children's toys.

At a crossroads to decide whether they would give up and become slaves of the imperialists or overcome difficulties and remain stately independent guards, he believed in the people and more vigorously pushed ahead with the buildup of the self-reliant defence capability.

Whenever the test was conducted to develop new weapons, he would always be at the test site. He gave scientists and technicians strength and courage for developing a completely new Korean-style weapon system without copying others. Thanks to his painstaking efforts, advanced Juche-based weapons were developed in succession, including intercontinental ballistic missile, hypersonic missile, long-range cruise missile,

new-type submarine-launched ballistic missile and mobile railway missile.

The DPRK rapidly emerged as a strategic state, making a hole in hostile forces' campaign of pressure against the country.

After that Kim Jong Un declared that in the present world where forces collide fiercely with one another, a nation's dignity and sovereignty and reliable genuine peace are guaranteed by powerful self-defence capability that can overpower any enemy and that the country should continuously grow stronger.

The important weapon test and firing drills for strategic aim the country conducted in late March to cope with reckless and irresponsible war games of hostile forces against it testified to its constantly growing strength and showed what guarantees peace.

Provincial photo exhibitions mark 11th anniversary of Kim Jong Un's election to top posts of Party, state

KCNA

Photo exhibition "Immortal landmarks which brought about a great victory" is on in all provinces to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the respected Comrade

Kim Jong Un's election to the top posts of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Working people from all walks of life, youth and students visit the exhibition

venues with profound reverence for Kim Jong Un.

Photos "The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un delivers a significant speech at the groundbreaking ceremony for a project to build 10 000

flats in the Hwasong area", "The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un cuts a ribbon to inaugurate Songhwa Street while attending its inaugural ceremony" and others make visitors look back upon his long journey of devotion as

the father of the nation for the prosperity of the country and the wellbeing of the people.

Other photos show the ennobling moral obligation of General Secretary Kim Jong Un who gets the deceased revolutionary

soldiers to be remembered forever and their bereaved children to grow up into genuine revolutionaries by steadily carrying on the lineage of Mangyongdae, the lineage of Paektu, touching the heartstrings of visitors.

SPA Standing Committee plenum held

KCNA

The 25th Plenary Meeting of the 14th Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on April 11.

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

The meeting was attended by Kang Yun Sok and Kim Ho Chol, vice-chairmen of the SPA Standing Committee, Secretary General Ko Kil Son and other members of the SPA Standing Committee.

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

Put on the agenda for the meeting were such items as the adoption of the DPRK law on management of scientific and technological talents and the recall and election of judges and people's assessors of the Central Court of the DPRK.

There was a report on the main contents of relevant draft laws deliberated on by the SPA Legislation Committee.

The law on the management of scientific and technological talents sets it as its mission to ensure the unified control and management of them by the state at a higher level, and to make sure they play a core, leading role in economic development and improvement

of the people's living standards.

And it also contains principled issues for further improving management of talents including the matter of establishing the traits of attaching importance to scientific and technological talents in all sectors and units and those arising in improving their qualification and ensuring their working and living conditions while training and registering them systematically.

After studying and deliberating on opinions as to the draft laws, the plenary meeting adopted the law of the DPRK on the management of scientific and technological talents and others as the decrees of the SPA Standing Committee.

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

Premier Kim inspects house construction sites

KCNA

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is also member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, acquainted himself with the construction of houses in the Sopho and Hwasong areas in Pyongyang.

At the construction site in the Sopho area he gave pep-talks to young builders, saying that officials should conduct more dynamic political work to constantly fire the fighting spirit of young people, actively find and introduce effective

methods of construction and enhance the role of design and construction supervisory institutions in order to complete the construction of the new street within the time and at the level set by the Party.

Looking round the first-stage house construction site in the Hwasong area nearing completion, he stressed the need to complete the details of all structures and elements in a responsible manner and make good preparations for the operation of public catering and welfare service facilities lest the residents of new houses should suffer any slightest inconvenience.

The field consultative meeting discussed such issues as reinforcing designing forces and making construction units fully meet the requirements of construction methods, relevant units preferentially provide building materials and the rail transport sector rapidly carry materials and took necessary measures. Earlier, the Premier learned about the production at the Chollima Steel Complex and said that it should satisfactorily produce iron and steel needed for major construction projects by giving full scope to the indefatigable spirit of self-reliance.

Growing plastic consumption, laggard disposal of plastic waste

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

Different kinds of products made of plastic are widely used in our daily life.

An international research group published the results of its analysis of plastic consumption in major 20 countries. According to them, the amount reached 261 million tons in 2019. The research group estimated that if the current situation continues, the amount will rise to 451 million tons by 2050, which is 1.7 times as much as that in 2019.

As the consumption of plastic increases, the amount of plastic waste does as much. Moreover, the environmental destruction by plastic waste entails great problems in the world.

Innumerable is the amount of plastic waste accumulated in rivers and seas of the world. At present, 85 percent of waste in the seas is plastic waste and the amount continues to increase, terribly polluting the ecosystem.

In the world there are at least 1 500 kinds of wildlife that happen to take in plastic waste.

If plastic goes into the body of an organism, it has bad effects on food chain. Today, it is one of the causes that hasten the loss of biodiversity and harm human health.

Micro plastic difficult to recycle is spread even in air and potable water. A research group reportedly conducted research to confirm the extent to which micro plastic is accumulated in the bodies of different nationalities and found out nine kinds of plastic at maximum.

Researchers discovered that micro plastic pollutes crops like vegetables as well. Plastic waste has had a great influence on global warming as well as air pollution. Plastic is made from fossil fuel and when it is manufactured or scrapped, it emits a large quantity of greenhouse gas. The amount of plastic consumption rapidly increases worldwide but the disposal of plastic waste fails to catch up with it. New piles of plastic waste continue to appear before the previous ones are removed, increasing the dangers of air pollution and environmental destruction.

If the current situation persists, climate change will get worse, causing large-scale environmental change, experts said.

Today, economic stagnation, political unrest and cultural uncertainty prevail in the United States.

In fact, the only feature common to all Americans is individualism and the terms like diligence and innovation have become the object of curse and public contempt. Many Americans have already given away the values that serve as the foundation of society.

The Americans keep each other at arm's length and no longer feel attached to their own country. They do not even think that they can revive their once-powerful country.

OPINION

US teetering on edge of collapse

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Recently, American journal *Washington Examiner* carried an article to the effect that the abandonment of collectivism by the citizens who care only for themselves, paying little heed to the destiny of the country, was the main reason that brought the collapse of the past empires like Roman Empire and Athens. It continued as follows:

Today, economic stagnation, political unrest and cultural uncertainty prevail in the United States.

In fact, the only feature common to all Americans is individualism and the terms like diligence and innovation have become the object of curse and public contempt. Many Americans have already given away the values that serve as the foundation of society.

The Americans keep each other at arm's length and no longer feel attached to their own country. They do not even think that they can revive their once-powerful country.

In the US, cases of mental depression, uneasiness and drug addiction are on the increase as the years go by.

It can be well said that the above facts revealed the true picture of the US in its entirety—the country on the precipice of collapse.

The pace of economic development is slowing down in the US, the inflation rate is still on the increase and the real income is on the decrease. Subsequently, the Americans are feeling the pinch in their lives every moment.

To make things worse, the "bank phobia" triggered by the bankruptcy of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank is adding anxiety and pessimism to the troubled American hearts.

More than 180 American banks are categorized as vulnerable as the insolvent two banks once had been, giving rise to voices of anxiety, fear and concern lest a new financial crisis be imminent. Nevertheless, the Democratic and Republican parties are on a fierce partisan strife to shift the responsibility on to each other.

When it comes to the partisan interests, they would bite each other and fight each other to death; they only pursue their party interests at the cost of the interests of the masses of the people—this is the political picture of the US, a wild lawless theatre of political rampage.

Extreme individualism and money-is-almighty principle prevail in the US; phenomena like parents striking their own children, teachers assaulting the students and the police hitting citizens and even killing them are becoming commonplaces there, and all these are born out of dissatisfaction with the society and misanthropy.

According to the recent data, the number of hate crimes increased in the US from 8 120 cases in 2020 to 9 065 in 2021 and the number of relevant victims increased by 11.6% reaching 12 411 persons. Among them 64.5% were reportedly the targets of ethnical or racial discrimination.

American society, where one harms others' interests in pursuit of his own, discriminates people on the basis of skin colour and even threatens others' lives, is truly a living hell and a barren land of human rights where the dignity of mankind is wantonly trampled underfoot.

In the US more than 40% of teenagers have already given up their hope for the future and lost the vigour of life in pessimism and despair, and 20% of them are considering suicide. This reality is foretelling where the US is heading for.

It is only a matter of time for the United States to collapse, as it is rife with mental and moral degeneration, misanthropy and criminal acts of all hues.

Iran advances toward independent new society

By Choe Song Jun PT

Iran is a country located in the southwestern part of Asia and its name means "land of Aryans".

The Iranian people toppled the Pahlavi dictatorship with a popular uprising on February 11 1979 and established the Islamic republic on April 1.

Since then, they have been building an independent new society. They are now endeavouring to achieve independent development and prosperity of the country while smashing the interference and dominationist moves by outside forces.

In recent years, Iran has been putting much effort into building up self-defence capacities to safeguard its sovereignty.

It staged a large-scale air defence exercise late last February. It involved the Iranian army, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps,

the paramilitary force, the police and more than 100 manned and unmanned aircraft to demonstrate the mobility of the anti-aircraft system and the reaction time of operation forces.

While the development of modern military hardware is being intensified by relying on local efforts, the IRGC on March 9 received an ocean-going ship and missile boats of different levels produced in the southern port city of Bandar Abbas.

In early February, the chief of the general staff of the Iranian armed forces said that Iran developed a ballistic missile that can destroy naval targets moving at high speed and that test launches of the missile were conducted successfully and its mass production already started. The missile can reportedly strike rapid moving targets accurately within a range of 1 500 km.

The country is also striving to develop its economy.

Seyed Ali Khamenei, leader of Iran's Islamic revolution, in a speech made to mark the Iranian new year on March 21 called for further promoting economic development. He noted that economic development is a major issue the government has to concentrate efforts on in the new year and it arises as an important task to bring inflation under control and boost production. Declaring the new year as the one of "inflation control and production growth", he stressed that all people should strive for the development of the national economy and thus make this year a year of happiness and joy.

Recently, the second-stage expansion project of an oil refinery was completed and inaugurated in Khuzestan. Therefore, the factory's daily petrol and diesel production capacities increased to 14 million and 18 million litres respectively.

While striving to build a new society that prospers independently by itself, Iran adheres to the stand of unyielding to any sanctions imposed by hostile forces.

Iranian President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi recently stressed that even though the enemies of the Islamic revolution persistently cling to sanctions, threat and pressure to hinder the development of the country, the Iranian people will advance victoriously overcoming all sorts of obstructive moves.

Iran also works hard to maintain regional security and peace while developing friendly ties with many countries.

The DPRK established diplomatic relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran on April 15 1973. Since then, the DPRK has fully supported the Iranian people's struggle for defending national sovereignty and achieving peace and security.

Iran's effort for building an independent new society will surely produce good results.

'International human rights judge' to sit in the dock



Choe Yong Nam International affairs commentator of The Pyongyang Times

Recently, the US State Department issued "Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2022", criticizing the human rights situations in many countries. The report is rejected by different countries in the world as it is consistent with untruth and sheer political action.

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry said at a press conference on March 21 that the China-related content of the report is replete with political lies and prejudice.

The Cuban Foreign Minister denounced the US government's slandering of Cuba in the report as intolerable, while the spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry noted that the US is not entitled to argue about human rights as it is systematically infringing upon the rights of the

Iranian people by means of unjust, illegal and unilateral sanctions.

Mexico, Venezuela, Bangladesh and other countries, too, are raising their voices in censuring the US for being engrossed in interference in the internal affairs of other countries with stale human rights argument.

The US is a country with the most serious gun-related violence in the world. According to statistics issued by the website of the US Gun Violence Archive on January 5 2022, the deaths caused by shooting incidents in the country numbered over 40 000 in 2020 and about 45 000 in 2021.

Besides, the Americans suffer from anxiety and fear as there continuously occur various crimes. Police on a mission to maintain social order kill innocent people

during their law enforcement. According to statistics by an American website, 1 124 persons were killed by police in the country in 2021.

The deep-rooted racist "virus", along with the novel coronavirus, is being widespread in the US. Racial discrimination and inequalities rampant in the US society are getting worse day by day. In this regard, American newspaper *The New York Times* stressed in a comment that there is no "vaccine" for racism.

Several human rights of migrants, including their life, dignity and freedom, are being infringed in the US. The website of British newspaper *The Guardian* said that from 2016 to 2021 over 160 incidents were disclosed in which law enforcement officers at the southern border of the US mistreated people requiring protection sexually and physically and that the incidents were related to major law enforcement agencies such as the US customs and border security guards and border patrols.

The US interferes in the internal affairs of other

countries under the pretext of "anti-terror war". The website of American newspaper *The New York Times* reported on December 18 2021 that over 50 000 air raids the US made against Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan killed a large number of civilians, nearly one third of the Afghan population were reduced to refugees owing to persisting war and chaos, 3.5 million lead a wandering life and nearly 23 million are faced with a crisis of extreme hunger and 3.2 million of them are children under five.

As to the US causing human rights disaster in other countries under the cloak of "human rights", a professor of international relations at Harvard University said that the US should settle its own problems first and think again how to get on with other countries in the world.

As many countries denounced the US as the "greatest disrupter" of global human rights activities at the 48th session of the UN Human Rights Council, the US is the criminal to sit in the dock of the international human rights court.

BYWORD

The sun is the only star that gives light and heat to all living organisms on the Earth.

The Korean people venerate President Kim Il Sung, the saviour of the nation, founder of socialist Korea and eternal president of the DPRK, as

the sun of the nation. He embarked on the road of the revolution in his early years and achieved the historic cause of national liberation by waging the arduous anti-Japanese war and built a new world of the people, people-centred socialist

society unprecedented in the 5 000-year history of the nation.

For the Korean people, the President who devoted his all to their well-being, while having "The people are God" as his motto and always finding himself among them, was their

benevolent father who had love as warm and as bright as the sun.

That is why the Korean people set April 15, the birthday of Kim Il Sung, as the Day of the Sun and have celebrated it as the greatest national holiday every year.

The Day of the Sun

Contact us

Address: Sochon-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang
Tel: 850-2-18111(8456)
Email: fph@star-co.net.kp
Fax: 850-2-3814598

URL: www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp



Instilling distorted historical view into younger generation—unjust act

PROVIDED TO THE PYONGYANG TIMES

It can be said that the future of a state and society depends on how the children are educated and trained.

The prospects and future of the state can be promising only when the younger generation are taught justice and truth.

However, inconsistent with such a principle, Japan has been instilling a distorted view on history into younger generations.

Recently, the Japanese Ministry of Education and Culture has released the so-called results of primary school textbook examination.

The approved textbooks distorted facts by describing the forced conscription of Koreans as "volunteering" and Tok Islets as "inherent part of Japanese territory".

Japan's attempt at distorting the history actually began a long time ago.

As early as in the 1980s, the Japanese authorities had their

textbooks describe Japan's aggression of the Asian Continent as "advance" and the forced drafting of Koreans as the thing "of their own free will". Their attempts at covering up the traces of their crimes against humanity including the invasion of Korea and other Asian countries have persisted well in the new century.

Lying at the bottom of Japan's maneuvers to implant distorted historical views in the minds of a new generation is the sinister intention to embellish its crime-

ridden history of aggression and to realize at all costs the wild dream of territorial expansion.

It is self-evident that the criminal who never repents of his past crime but tries to hide it instead will most certainly commit the second offense.

It will be a good choice for Japan to allow its younger generations to have a correct and deep understanding of the past history so that they would not repeat the disgraceful offences committed by their preceding generations.

Briefly

China

President encourages tree-planting

Chinese President Xi Jinping stressed the need to encourage tree-planting in the compulsory tree planting activity conducted in the capital city on April 4.

Saying that green development is an important strategy for the development of China at present and in a certain period of the future, he noted that the compulsory all-people tree planting activity would become a vivid practice in propelling the greening of the country and building a beautiful China.

Russia

FM calls for coping with West's bid to undermine security

Recently, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov stressed the need to cope with the structure-breaking moves of the West geared to destroying the security landscape at a meeting with ambassadors of the BRICS nations in Moscow.

At the meeting, they discussed the issues of increasing the international role of BRICS and consolidating and developing strategic partnership within its scope.

Iran

President calls for unity of Islamic nations

Iranian President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi called on Islamic nations to unite more closely in order to check the aggressive acts of Israel in a recent telephone conversation with the Turkish counterpart.

Strongly denouncing Israel's assaults on Al-Aqsa Mosque in East Al-Quds, Syria and Lebanon, he asserted that an emergency meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation should be held to discuss the ways to cope with the ongoing atrocities of the Zionist regime.

The international community denounces Israel's oppression against Palestine and renders support and encouragement to Palestine's cause for founding an independent state.

The DPRK has sent firm solidarity to the struggle of the Palestinian people since it established diplomatic relations with their country on April 13 1966.

The Palestinian people will certainly emerge victorious in their struggle to found an independent state.

Asserting that water resources are an indispensable element in guaranteeing the people's livelihood, he said that it is important to supply water properly to distant villages and areas with difficult conditions.

He called for preserving water resources, increasing investment in this sector and implementing the strategy for effective management of water.

COVID-19

Global situation

According to a foreign news report, 685 215 364 persons contracted novel coronavirus, 6 839 467 died of it and 20 364 179 were undergoing medical treatment in the world as of 24:00 on April 12.



Pyongyang in spring



RODONG SINMUN



Streets in Pyongyang get more beautiful with flowers in full bloom in spring, further enlivening the citizens.

PREMIER LEAGUE SHOWS CHANGE IN TEAM RANKINGS

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The first-round preliminaries of the 2022-2023 DPRK male and female premier league came to an end.

Unlike the previous four rounds of premier league, the recent one was attended by relatively many teenage footballers. They left deep impressions on experts and amateurs as they offered a glimpse of the prospects for each team and showed some change made in the landscape of team title by a fierce contest of brainpower between coaches.

The winner of the first-round matches of the recent male premier league was still the April 25 team that had won four consecutive victories in the last premier league. However, the Sonbong and Hwaeppl teams drew public attention as they made remarkable progress with the passage of time.

The Sonbong took the 11th place in competitions held in

April and August last year and the sixth place in the last premier league. In the early days of the recent one the team was not good in record.

In December last year it took the eighth place with one win, two draws and one defeat. But in the seven matches which took place only 50-odd days after it began to receive guidance of senior coach Kim Jong Min, it won six matches and lost one to obtain 23 points, thus taking the second place.

Kim Un Hyok, a young coach with remarkable ability and power of tenacious execution who came to take charge of the Hwaeppl team through the recent premier league, proficiently guided his players in training and matches while completing a game plan to enable the players to fully display their potentials in matches. The team, which had taken the tenth place in the last premier league, took the fourth place in the first stage of the recent one and it is expected that it will unfold exciting scenes in

the future.

Meanwhile, popular teams in the first stage of the recent female premier league are the April 25 and Wolmido teams.

What is common to the two teams is that Han Chol Hak and Yun Yong Il, senior

coaches of the teams, took charge of the teams at the same time as the premier league began and that they have achieved remarkable successes by leading their teams to overcome their shortcomings through skilful guidance.

The April 25, which had taken the fourth place in December last year, took the first place in the first stage by making strenuous efforts to maintain its status as a strong team in matches held from February this year and the Wolmido achieved great

success as compared with the past season.

It is anticipated that the contest of brainpower between the coaches will grow fiercer as they make persistent efforts to attain a goal of achieving higher scores.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene of the match between the Ministry of Light Industry and Rimyongsu teams in the first stage of the 2022-2023 DPRK male premier league.

