

Inauguration ceremony of dwelling houses in Taephyong area



KCNA

A modern apartment block has appeared in the Taephyong area of Pyongyang, the capital city of the DPRK.

The new architectural group in a distinctive style in the Taephyong area, where multi-storied and high-rise apartment houses are harmoniously arranged in various forms,

has schools, clinics and various service facilities so that the convenience of inhabitants can be met to the maximum. This is the precious fruition of the ardent love of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who has worked heart and soul to make all the people enjoy a stable and happy life.

An inauguration ceremony of dwelling houses in the

Taephyong area took place on May 21.

Present there were Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, Jon Hyon Chol, secretary of the Central Committee of the

WPK, Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, Pak Hun, vice-premier of the Cabinet, officials concerned and working people who would live in new flats and builders.

Kim Tok Hun made an inaugural address.

On behalf of the Party Central Committee and the DPRK government, he

warmly congratulated the citizens on receiving the modern houses associated with the warm loving care of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The newly-built apartment block in the Taephyong area is a textbook-like entity teaching once again how to preserve the revolutionary nature of the WPK making selfless, devoted efforts for

the good of the people, he stressed.

He expressed expectation that all the residents of the new houses would do their jobs better for the prosperity of the country, cherishing the loving care of the Party.

After the ceremony, the participants went round dwelling houses, schools, kindergartens and service facilities.



An inauguration ceremony of dwelling houses is held in the Taephyong area on May 21.

Rural housing construction an important policy of DPRK

By Yun Ki Song PT

House-moving scenes continue to unfold in rural communities across the DPRK.

As rural villages undergo remarkable transformation to the joy of people, such happy events of house moving took place in many rural villages in Yodok and Kowon counties in South Hamgyong Province and Hangu District and Onchon County in Nampho in March, Sinjidong-ri of Hoechang County in South Phyongan Province, the Chonghak Farm of Phyongsan County and Munmu-ri of Sohung County in North Hwanghae Province and Sinhwanpho-ri of Jaeryong

County and Taegi-ri of Ongjin County in South Hwanghae Province last April and counties in North Phyongan Province and Yokkudo-ri of Paechon County in South Hwanghae Province in May.

As they receive such news through newspapers and radio and TV broadcasts, everyone is delighted, saying they come to know the names of many local areas and villages at the house-moving news.

The agricultural workers who received modern dwelling houses that are also imposing and splendid say that the cultured rural villages that turned into places as beautiful as a picture epitomize the world of love for the

people of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who is determined to make the Koreans the happiest people in the world.

Rural housing construction is an important policy of the Workers' Party of Korea.

In his letter sent to those attending the Ninth Congress of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea in January last year, Kim Jong Un said that it is our Party's steadfast will to ensure that our agricultural workers, who have experienced more difficulties than anybody else in the arduous struggle for defending and advancing our style of socialism, lead a happy life to their heart's content in the rich and cultured socialist ideal countryside.

And in his letter sent to those attending the Second Grand Short Course of Officials in the Construction Sector, he said that true to the Party's intention, they should realistically draw up the plans related to regional and rural construction with top priority given to building houses in rural communities, and establish rigid discipline of carrying them out without fail.

And in the policy speech delivered at the Seventh Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly, he stressed the need to map out correct plans for rural construction with the main emphasis on housing construction and in accordance with the local and geographical characteristics and carry them

out step by step so that the rapid rejuvenation of the country's rural communities is noticeable and can be enjoyed by the farmers.

The Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held between February 26 and March 1 discussed as its first agenda item the progress in the first year's effort for implementing the programme of the rural revolution in the new era and a series of major tasks.

Under the deep care of Kim Jong Un and through the recent major meetings of the WPK, state measures were taken to speed up the preparations for rural construction and ideal lands of socialism continue to appear across the DPRK.

Farmers change along with farm villages



Modern farmhouses are built in many rural villages across the country.



By Ko Kwang Yon PT

This year, too, the DPRK witnesses happy events of house-moving one after another in the wake of last year.

House-moving events took place in many farm villages including those that happened in January on ten-odd farms like the Yakjon Farm in Sukchon County, the Songsong Farm in Chongjin City and the Munam Farm in Pujon County.

Looking at the dwellings built in diverse and distinctive forms to preserve the features peculiar to rural areas and promote the convenience of agricultural workers as well as physiographical conditions, agricultural

workers are delighted, saying "Our native place has changed".

"Our village is located at the very end of our mountainous county. Therefore, more people didn't know it than those who were aware of it from olden times and relatives hesitated to visit it. However, visitors are drastically on the increase as it has undergone a cataclysmic change like an urban one," said Sim Song Ok, farmer of the Kumchang Farm in Hochon County.

She added that the village where only mountains could be seen has now formed an excellent section like a town and all the visitors are envious of the houses, saying they look like villas situated

in a gorge. The country built houses with great care in order to make those residing in the mountainous village live in modern dwellings as early as possible.

Agricultural workers, who moved into new houses in the Jisin Vegetable Farm in Huichon City, said that their native village has turned into a place with nice mountains and clear water which is good as urban one thanks to the country.

An observation platform which commanding a bird's-eye view of the village and a quiet resting place surrounded by good species of trees have been built to contribute to the cultural and leisure activities of agricultural workers.

"When I joined the army, my home was partly damaged by flood. I can't forget the walls getting soaked by rain. At that time, I thought that when I would leave the army, I would spruce up my home with my hands again. But the country fulfilled my desire," said Kim Il Chol, farmer of the Chongsu Vegetable Farm in Sakju County.

He was surprised to see his native farm village that had undergone tremendous changes when he returned after his demob. It looks like an earthly paradise in the picture book as there is a kitchen garden spacious enough to grow a variety of vegetables around the dwelling, such fruit trees as plum, apricot and persimmon grow healthily

and the road stretches widely. After seeing that living rooms, a kitchen, washroom and warehouse were designed to promote the convenience of farmers, he expressed his determination to repay the favour granted by the country by doing farming well as he shed tears of gratitude.

Farmers also change as their villages do.

College students who are involved in the study-while-you-work system are on the rise at the Sangsan Farm in Kowon County, farmers become intelligent agricultural workers and aged farmers learn science and technology related to agricultural production by displaying enthusiasm.

It is the unanimous aspiration of agricultural

workers to repay the favour the country bestowed for their civilized and abundant life by producing many more grains.

Therefore, they have produced more manure for farm fields this year, invented new farm machines conducive to effecting the overall mechanization of agriculture and directed efforts to the development of stockbreeding, thus enriching the dining table of children in the nursery and kindergarten with meat and dairy products of the farm.

Farmers there say that as they see their native village, they are convinced that their future is brighter and for that they will make more strenuous efforts.

Protection of disabled guaranteed by law, system



By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The personality and rights of persons with disabilities are thoroughly guaranteed in the DPRK, thanks to the state's policy and amid public interest.

The DPRK law on the protection of the disabled stipulates in detail that it fully ensures a stable and favourable living environment and conditions of the disabled in all fields of social life and thoroughly protects their rights.

Under the law, all the disabled persons are granted the equal rights with normal persons in all fields of social life including medical care, education, sports, culture, artistic activities and labour.

The Munsu Rehabilitation Clinic, the Korean Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities and other modern rehabilitation treatment and research institutions for the disabled were organized and a well-knit production and supply system of essential auxiliary tools is in force for the disabled.

Schools for children with visual and speaking impairments, which have wonderfully been built in all parts of the country, offer abundant knowledge of nature and society to the disabled and help them develop aptitudes and talents.

The vocational technical school for the disabled teaches garment processing, IT, wood processing, musical instruments making, hair-cutting, beauty art and different fields of techniques.

The disabled persons are given stable jobs and living benefits from the state.

According to their intentions, aspirations, degree of disabilities, sex and constitution, they work in right places while being provided with good conditions for work and rest and rehabilitation treatment.

Special importance is attached to their rehabilitation

treatment and health in working places.

Accommodation at health resorts and holiday homes and medical treatment are offered to them on a preferential basis at scenic spots and they enjoy their remaining days without worries at healthcare centres and old people's homes.

The Central Committee of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled conducts a variety of activities including rehabilitation treatment, improvement of vocational and living conditions for the disabled, special education and development of vocational education, and the survey of their situations and taking of necessary measures as well as different activities for social support, protection, publication and information through such organizations as the Korea Sports Association of the Disabled, the Korean Art Association of the Disabled, Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities and the Korea Economic and Cultural Centre for Deaf and Blind.

The federation attaches the greatest importance to translating the dreams and hopes of the disabled into reality.

Many persons with disabilities bring their talents into full bloom in the groups operated by the Korean Art Association of the Disabled and Korea Sports Association of the Disabled.

They touch the heartstrings of all people as they flaunt their amazing artistic talents and excellent game success in the international arena.

Artistic performances of the Pyongyang exchange group were given in the UK and France, while Korean players obtained excellent results at the 14th Paralympics.

Under the concern and care of the state and society, many persons of disabilities glorify their lives as writers and poets loved by people and Labour Heroes, the top honour of the DPRK citizens.



JANG KYONG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities is dedicated to education and treatment of disabled children.

Handicapped kids cultivate can-do attitude

The centre carries out a mission to conduct functional rehabilitation and upbringing of disabled children in order to prepare them to be able to receive school education like normal children.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities is dedicated to education of disabled children.

Its mission is to identify children with disabilities in the early stage and conduct functional rehabilitation and upbringing of them in order to prepare them to be able to receive school education like normal children.

It has nurses, kindergarten teachers and doctors in charge who received special training.

The centre began the 11th school year in April. It draws growing social interest and positive feedback as it detects disabilities of children, which even their parents are ignorant of, in the early stage and helps them fully recover their health.

It has a well-knit system for finding out disabled

children at an early stage. It evaluates handicaps of children with their symptoms and make treatment plans in a comprehensive and multifunctional way.

Song Hyang Chun, director of the centre, said that children with disabilities receive benefits from the country, just as normal children do, including the supply of school things and nutritious foods like dairy products and the vaccination.

She added that all parents of disabled children are moved to tears as they watch their kids sing and dance happily in art performances and play with normal children in sports and amusement games such as the June 1 International Children's Day amusement games.

Under the state policy and social interest, the children with disabilities are cultivating can-do attitudes.

Biodiversity conservation a matter of urgency

By To Kyong Chol PT

Biodiversity refers to the variety of ecological environment where there are interactions between living things and between living and nonliving things

and variety of species in ecosystem plus the variety of genes in species.

It is an essential element related to the existence of mankind.

Various ecosystems consisting of forests, seas and wetlands perform ecological

functions essential for global environment including the protection of soil, water purification and climate control.

At present, biological species on earth are being reduced at a fast rate due to overcutting of forests,

pollution from industrial waste and waste oil and destruction of ecological environment by global warming.

As it is impossible to revive biological species for good once they vanish, it will lead to a loss of enormous

resources and destabilization of overall ecosystem and have negative impact on living environment of mankind.

The reality demands everyone on this planet play a positive role in conserving biodiversity for the sustainable development of humanity.

Therefore, the convention on biodiversity, an international agreement, was adopted in 1992 and the DPRK signed the convention.

There is a remarkable difference in climate according to regions as the peninsula extends north and south and is high in the north and low in the south and its major mountain ranges intersect the main wind direction at right angles.

As it abounds in mountains, rivers and streams and mountainous terrain accounts for more than 80 percent of its territory, there are plenty of forest areas, diverse environments along the coasts and varied ecosystems on a nationwide scale.

In the DPRK, Mts Paektu, Myohyang, Kuwol, Chilbo and Kungang were registered as the world biosphere reserves and Mundok and Rason migratory bird sanctuaries

as internationally important Ramsar wetland sites.

As it is so diverse in ecological environment, it has so varied fauna and flora.

Among them, Korean Stewartia, Dahurian lily, creeping rattlesnake plantain, tiger, deer, mask deer, goral and stork are globally endangered species.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), an international agreement which was adopted in 1973 in order to protect globally endangered species, specifies the import and export licensing system related to trade in such wild animals and plants, thus reducing the threat to those on the verge of extinction.

The Korean species defined in the convention include tiger, panther, otter, goral, bear, mask deer, yew, crested ibis, stork, white crane with a red crest and peregrine falcon.

The DPRK has various laws including those on the protection of useful animals, on nature reserves and on forests, which provide a political and legal guarantee for the conservation of biodiversity.



The Mundok migratory bird sanctuary is an ideal habitat of birds.

RI RYON SONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Nation performs positive activities for biodiversity conservation

By Ryom Un Gyong PT

As a signatory to the convention on biodiversity, the DPRK has made remarkable achievements by initiating and pushing ahead with programmes in different fields for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The DPRK government forges ahead with the work to draw up the master plan for national land administration reflecting the mid- and long-term green programme in line with the world trend and specific conditions of the country by holding fast to the land and environmental protection as a mid- and long-term undertaking and resolutely carries on the planning of a national water control strategy and its implementation.

Thanks to the sincere efforts of the DPRK government and local government organs, lots of projects for waterway readjustment and afforestation for erosion control have been undertaken and irrigation facilities

reconstructed and perfected in large areas this year alone.

To this end, tree nurseries were built wonderfully in Pyongyang, provinces, cities and counties, which prove effective. Trees were planted in large numbers every year as part of the nationwide campaign to protect forests, resulting in substantial progress in restoring the forests and ecological environment as soon as possible.

The government also pays close attention to improving the urban ecological environment and providing the people with more cultured living conditions by creating beautiful landscapes on streets and in villages.

Urban planning is directed to increasing green areas and creating a variety of beautiful landscapes in the construction of new streets and planting good species of trees along the streets to enhance the scenic beauty of cities and farmers are encouraged to plant fruit trees around their houses and in the surroundings.

Activities are also

conducted vigorously to raise public awareness of the scientific research on biodiversity and its conservation.

Scientific research institutions including the biodiversity, zoology and botany institutes of the State Academy of Sciences have made field surveys of many reserves like biosphere, animal, plant and migratory bird (wetland) reserves and



Researchers from the biodiversity institute of the State Academy of Sciences conduct a field survey of focal points of biodiversity.

focal points of biodiversity to estimate the state of overall reserves and push ahead with scientific research activities to correctly designate reserves to suit the distribution of biodiversity.

The biodiversity and global environment information institutes fixed the focal points of biodiversity of the country and planned a nationwide network of ecological passages and

reserves, thereby laying a scientific and technological foundation for expanding the reserve areas in conformity with the world level and more rationally conserving biodiversity.

The biodiversity institute has surveyed and estimated the amount of waterfowl resources of the country during the wintering season since January 2019, making a positive contribution to the



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Researchers from the biodiversity institute of the State Academy of Sciences conduct a field survey of focal points of biodiversity.



Flying in the air an exciting adventure



The Mirim Aviation Club located in Pyongyang's Sadong District provides air tourism service from early spring to late autumn.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Air hostesses of the Mirim Aviation Club say smilingly that the clients in flying suits swaggering with helmets under their arms fully ready to make a sortie.

However, such elated persons get very nervous once on the seat of a plane.

Not only women but also men show such nervousness.

Pilots say they usually feel the greatest tension the moment a plane touches down.

However, every visitor to the club says they feel both the greatest tension and delight the moment a plane which was running at a high speed takes off.

Once in the air, they shout for joy unawares stretching their arms and feel as if they have become a bird.

Among the clients are newlyweds, young people celebrating their birthdays and families visiting the club to look down at their residential areas on Songhwa Street.

They say, "The wind kissing my ears in the sky removes all my stresses" or "I experienced a marvellous feeling as the

runway came close to me when the plane was landing."

Pilots perform different kinds of stunts at the request of their clients.

Cross flying gives them a thrill and horizontal flight is quite an adventure for young people.

Women also ask for such stunts.

The club offers a formation flight service for newly married couples and other young men and women and they say that the feelings they get as they face each other on the ground and in the sky are poles apart.

Among the excellent air stunt performers are beautiful female pilots in their twenties.

"Those who got on my plane lavish praise on me, describing me as a 'flower in the sky'. I take pride in being a pilot as I see them shouting for joy in the sky. I love my plane," said Kim Su Yong, one of such entertainers.

The club has also regular customers who visit it every holiday.

They practise aviation in a two-seater plane for education.

An amateur who often visits the club with his son said he would make his son fulfil his dream of becoming a pilot.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Tourists fly in the sky above Pyongyang on microlights.

Premier League shows heated rivalry in second-round matches

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The second-round matches of the DPRK Premier League 2022-2023 kicked off at Kim Il Sung Stadium on May 10.

The three matches on May 10-11 between the Wolmido and Hwaeppl, Rimyongsu and April 25, and Ministry of Light Industry and Sobaeksu teams suggested that the second-round matches would grow more competitive.

Hwaeppl maintains its position, form

The match between the Wolmido and the Hwaeppl attracted the attention of fans from the beginning.

Four minutes into the match, a Hwaeppl player was yellow-carded for a foul and two minutes after it Wolmido players organized an excellent shot with a two- to three-person combination, but in vain. The Hwaeppl goalkeeper saved it by beating out the ball.

The Wolmido steadily picked up the attack speed while intensifying cooperation between half-backs and forwards, whereas the Hwaeppl strengthened one-to-one defence and changed five players in the first half to create a scoring chance with fast counterattack based on side break.

Finally, the latter won the match

2-0 by scoring in the 51st and 76th minutes.

Losing yet expected

The Rimyongsu lost to the April 25 0-1 in the first-round preliminaries and tied with it 0-0 in the 2023 spring national sports festival in April.

The match that day was the third game between the two teams this year.

The Rimyongsu was defeated again 1-2 in the match.

However, it showed that the team threatened the goal of the opponent more frequently until 27 minutes into the match and scored a thrilling point at the end of the match.

Though the April 25 won the game, football fans also congratulated Rimyongsu players who showed their potentiality, the new looks of the team.

They expressed their expectation that if it makes progress at the current rate, it would beat the April 25 in the near future.

All are strong

The Sobaeksu and Ministry of Light Industry teams also played a very close match.

The former ranked sixth in both the first-round Premier League and the 2023 spring national sports festival and the latter was placed



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A glimpse of a football match between Hwaeppl and Ponghwasan teams.

ninth and tenth in them respectively. So football fans predicted that the Sobaeksu would win.

As if to prove that they were right, it scored the opening goal in 28 minutes.

But in the whole course of the match the Ministry of Light

Industry team showed that it was not weak at all.

It unfolded thrilling scenes in succession by threatening the opponent's goal in the 35th, 47th, 62nd, 73rd and 84th minutes.

Its game play based on its tactics of strong one-to-one defence, close

combination between defenders and forwards and perfect pass was enough to show the fans its new looks.

Saying that the Ministry of Light Industry team has developed a lot, the spectators added it should be noted that winners are never weak.

National dog Phungsan



By Choe Yong Nam PT

Each country has symbolic animals reflecting its time-honoured national history and excellent disposition and ability. The dog is one of them.

As the dog is clever, people started to tame it above

anything else along with human development and have actively used it in their life. Different countries have selected typical dog varieties as national dogs which were acclimatized to their climatic and soil conditions for a long time and contributed greatly to national life.

Korea's national dog is Phungsan. The Phungsan mirrors the spirit of the Korean nation as it is a native one with all characters peculiar to the Korean breed.

The dog is very clever and mild in ordinary times. It follows its owner well, but is very fierce to its rival. It is very nimble and tenacious and fights any wild beast to the end without giving up. Other dog species usually bite the back of their rivals' neck when they fight, but the Phungsan is featured by making a frontal attack on its opponent to bite the throat at a go.

This represents the wisdom

and valour of the Korean people who hate injustice, value moral obligation and show no mercy to provocateurs.

And the temperament of the Phungsan, which is capable of defeating any big and wild animals by dint of close cooperation, reflects the fine qualities of the Korean people who help and lead one another forward with a strong sense of unity.

The dog has long been used in the Koreans' life.

Many stories about the dog which did a righteous job for its master have been handed down in different parts of the country. Since the dog was widely used in fight, guard duty and hunting by the anti-Japanese volunteers corps in the former Phungsan area, its bravery and tenacious disposition were known to the world.

The Phungsan dog was registered as a national living monument of the DPRK.

World Wrestling Day observed

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An event was held to commemorate World Wrestling Day at the Badminton Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on May 23.

It was attended by officials of the DPRK Wrestling Association and coaches and players in the sports sector.

The speaker at the event said that the DPRK Wrestling Association has so far contributed greatly to the development of wrestling

technique since its founding, adding that in that course many world-famous wrestling stars were produced, including a twice Olympic gold medallist and twice world champions.

He hoped that the event would mark a significant occasion in further kindling public interest in wrestling and finding many more excellent reserve players to develop the wrestling technology of the country.

There were a demonstration of young players' basic wrestling techniques and a game.

An event is held to commemorate World Wrestling Day at the Badminton Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on May 23.

