

Farmers move into new houses



Agricultural workers are overjoyed to move into new houses they have received gratis.

KCNA

More new houses appeared in several rural villages of North Phyongan, Jagang, Kangwon and Ryanggang provinces of the DPRK, which have been turned into a paradise for the people, displaying the

validity and vitality of the Workers' Party of Korea's grand programme for the rural revolution.

Those modern houses with diverse and distinctive styles match well with natural environment of relevant regions and are convenient for the

agricultural workers to live. The houses, built in Soho-ri of Uiju County, Angho-ri of Chosan County, Yaksae-ri of Sijung County, Jangphyong-ri of Janggang County, Jiha-ri of Phangyo County, Jidang-ri of Ichon County, Ryongpho-ri of Poptong

County and Samjang-ri of Taechongdan County, are part of the Korean-style rural civilization whereby the people's dreams and ideals are translated into reality.

Ceremonies of moving into the new houses took place on the spot.

Present there were officials of organs of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government in those provinces, builders, officials of units which contributed to the construction and agricultural workers who would live in the new houses.

At the ceremonies, licenses for the use of houses were awarded and speeches were made.

Officials shared joy together with the residents moving into new houses amid the agricultural workers' singing and dancing.

Fundamental guarantee for victory and advance

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The Korean people are perseveringly advancing the building of a powerful socialist country, rallied more closely around the Workers' Party of Korea, despite all difficulties including extreme sanctions and blockade by hostile forces, the world health crisis and natural disasters.

It is inconceivable apart from their absolute trust in General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

The General Secretary who has infinite love for and trust in the people devotes his all to them, willingly toiling and moiling for

them.

To him, nothing is more important than relieving the people of misfortune and sufferings and his devoted and sincere efforts to do so as soon as possible are touching the heartstrings of all people.

In recent years, many parts of the DPRK were seriously affected by unprecedented floods.

Taechong-ri of Unpha County in North Hwanghae Province suffered greater damage than others.

The General Secretary was the first to visit it.

Though there was a flood with roads buried in mud, he himself drove to look round the afflicted

areas and take urgent measures to stabilize the local people's livelihood and rehabilitate the areas.

When office buildings of Party and government organs in the county became the lodgings for the afflicted people and when there appeared a fairyland village without any trace of the previous old one and all the people received new dwelling houses gratis at the same time, Taechong-ri resounded with the shouts of "Thank you, respected Comrade Kim Jong Un!" and "Long live the Workers' Party of Korea!"

When the country faced the

greatest turmoil since its founding with the outbreak of the malignant epidemic in May last year, the General Secretary visited the pharmacies in danger of the epidemic unmindful of his own risk to acquaint himself with the supply of medicines to the people and dispatched the medics of the Korean People's Army to protect their lives.

Saying the construction of dwelling houses is the matter to which the people always pay attention and look forward and the long-cherished desire of the WPK, he set forth the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang as

an important task at the Eighth Congress of the WPK and opened up a new era of rural development to bring about the happy events of moving into new houses across the country.

The people keenly realized through their own experience and actual life that only when they firmly believe in and follow the General Secretary and faithfully support his leadership can they achieve all happiness and bring earlier the better future.

Amazing miracles are constantly created in the country as trust in him grows stronger in any storm and stress.

New posters produced

KCNA

The Mansudae Art Studio and Pyongyang University of Fine Arts produced new posters encouraging all the people to work harder to attain the grand goals set forth at the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The new posters will greatly inspire all the Korean people in their efforts to bring about comprehensive rejuvenation and development of Korean-style socialism true to the decisions of the plenary meetings of the WPK Central Committee under the wise leadership of the Party Central Committee.



Poster "Let us carry out the decisions of the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee!"

Many youths volunteer for difficult and labour consuming fields in first half of year

KCNA

More than 100 000 young men and women have so far volunteered to work at theatres for the country's prosperity and the people's wellbeing, true to the decisions of the sixth and seventh plenary meetings of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea this year.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un laid out a grandiose plan for staging capital city construction in a bigger way this year, the third year of construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang Municipality, and entrusted

young people with the whole project to build a new street in Pyongyang.

When he was present at the groundbreaking ceremony for a project to build the new street in the Sopho area of Pyongyang on February 25 this year, he highly praised the mental state and mettle of the Korean youth who are devoting themselves to realizing the Party's plans and placed his great trust in them, saying that the youth vanguard should become the backbone in the ongoing struggle for socialist construction.

Blessed by the great father, young people across the

country competitively turned out in the posts in response to the call of the country, keeping pace with the youth shock brigade members at the construction sites in Pyongyang

Among them are graduates from a university of education who settled in the Paektu area and youth league members who started with a clean slate in pits thousands of feet deep. Youth league members of Jangyon, Sinchon, Unchon counties of South Hwanghae Province decided to work on socialist farms and lots of young people of Pyongyang Municipality and North Hwanghae Province

perform feats at farm fields. Those of North and South Phyongan provinces volunteered to work at mines and power plants and youths in various parts are demonstrating their honour as standard-bearers of the advancing ranks in every field for the building of a powerful country.

During the first half of the year, over 180 young men and women volunteered to work at schools in frontline, island, mountainous and rural areas. Among them are graduates from universities of education and teachers training colleges in Wonsan and Hamhung cities.

HOME NEWS

National inventions exhibition starts

The 17th national inventions exhibition opened on June 19 under the sponsorship of the Intellectual Property Office.

The exhibition, held on the theme of "Invention, domestic production and recycling", is aimed at raising the public awareness of intellectual property and speeding up economic development and improvement of the people's living standards through the display of the technologies and products that obtained patents by realizing domestic production and recycling in different economic sectors and through the positive dissemination, exchanges and distribution of them.

On show at the exhibition held by way of virtual exhibition are over 1 200 proposals from hundreds of units across the country

including ministries, national agencies and provincial people's committees. The proposals obtained patents in recent years.

On the presentation arena, novel ideas, experience and technical content concerning excellent inventions will be presented and there will be explanations about the laws related to intellectual property and circulation of intellectual property products, and that obtained patents by applying such technologies will be sold on demand at the intellectual property products exhibition house of the IPO.

On the exchange arena, exhibitors and visitors place orders and make contracts for the delivery and introduction of technical data.

Symposium highlights experience and success in greenhouse farming

The Greenhouse Vegetable Symposium-2023 was held through video-conferencing from June 13 to 19 under the sponsorship of the Korean vegetable technology association of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

The symposium on the theme of "Scientific, intensive and industrial greenhouse vegetable farming" was aimed at sharing, disseminating and generalizing the successes

and experiences gained in greenhouse vegetable production and cultivation technique development.

During the event, sci-tech lectures and multimedia presentations were given on a vegetable cultivation technique based on a multi-layer cultivation method, a method of using artificial illumination in vegetable production and characteristics and medicinal values of some species of functional vegetables.

Major industries focus on implementing annual production plans

By Yun Kyong Il PT

Key industries are redoubling efforts to carry out the national economic plans for this year without conditions in order to implement the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the sixth and eighth plenary meetings of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

Only when key industries, the cornerstone and pillar of the independent economy, rise up and go ahead of others, can substantial progress be made in all fields to put the overall economy on the right track and a broad avenue be opened

to sustainable economic development unaffected by any outside influence.

The position and role of key industries are further highlighted today when the all-people grand march for the comprehensive development of socialism is accelerated.

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee set it as the central task of the economic work for this year to finish the readjustment and reinforcement decided by the Party Congress in the main while reenergizing production in the overall fields and units, fixed the economic indices and 12 major goals to be reached by each sector of

the national economy as the major targets and stressed the necessity to dynamically press on with the work to attain them. It is important for key industry sectors to play a leading role in order to revitalize the production in the overall sectors and units of the national economy and achieve the goal of readjustment and reinforcement set in the period of the five-year plan.

The Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee stressed the necessity to press on with the completion of the projects for readjustment and reinforcement and renovation and modernization projects which proceed steadily in

all sectors including key industries so that significant successes of inauguration would be achieved one after another in the second half of the year to consolidate the independent national economy.

The key industry sectors work hard to carry out the national economic plans for this year without fail by making rational and effective use of the existing production foundations and potentials to the maximum.

Giving top priority to science and technology, they implement the national economic plans daily, monthly and quarterly.

Last year, the Kim Chaek

Iron and Steel Complex, the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex and several other units in key industries fulfilled their yearly production plans by widely developing and introducing advanced science and technology for increased production and readjustment and reinforcement. Their experience fully proved the significance of the development of science and technology.

Therefore, every key industry sector and unit strengthen their own sci-tech force and steadily enhance the responsibility and role of technicians and skilled

workers to properly solve problems arising in the production and construction. They also keep close contact and cooperation with scientific research units. At the same time, organic relations and collaboration have been fostered between key industries including the metallurgical, chemical, electric power and mining industries. All units give priority to national interests over their own and improve economic relations for production and consumption with each other. The successes achieved in the key industry sectors lead to revitalization of the overall economy.



Steel production increases through a mass technical innovation drive at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex. RODONG SINMUN

Displaying honour as 'powerful enterprise'

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Ryongsong Machine Complex, a large machine producer in the DPRK, is striving to implement the decisions of the plenary meetings of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The complex has displayed its honour as "hero factory", "model factory in self-reliance" and "powerful enterprise", carrying on the tradition of rapid progress and innovation from one decade to the next and from one century to the next.

Its workers, who are in charge of custom-built equipment of great significance in the development of the independent economy, are increasing success in production through a vigorous socialist emulation drive between workshops, workteams and shifts, following the fighting spirit of the preceding generations.

According to information available, the main body

processing, the most difficult in producing a variety of such equipment, is progressing as scheduled and the production of various parts is under way in earnest.

The complex carefully organizes operation and command for making sure that the producer masses fulfil their daily plans made on a high level by reflecting their surging zeal. It also promotes cooperation between workshops and with other complexes to increase the speed of processing main bodies and parts and takes advance measures to produce products under contract in time.

Workshops and workteams markedly raise the rate of work by contriving and introducing efficient jigs and equipment and employing advanced working methods.

Thus the plan for the production of major custom-built equipment is being carried out successfully, an official of the complex said.



Workers accelerate the manufacture of equipment for a major project at the Ryongsong Machine Complex. KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Harvest of earlier crops of wheat and barley in full swing



Different farms speed up the gathering of earlier crops of wheat and barley. RODONG SINMUN

Zeal for collective emulation heightens to hit 12 targets

The efficient socialist emulation drive fires producer masses with enthusiasm for increased production

By Kim Il Jin PT

Key industrial sectors are staging a socialist emulation drive to fire the producer masses with the zeal for collective emulation.

While giving precedence to the political work to make them have a good understanding of the significance and goal of the socialist emulation drive, the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex turned the movement into the work of their own, thus heightening the zeal for competition between units. It put up notices of visual aids which are conducive to arousing the emulation zeal of producer masses in all places and conducted appealing political work on the spot. Meanwhile it actively put forward the workshops that make collective innovations to inspire

units working competitively to conduct a vigorous mass technical innovation drive.

The Chollima Steel Complex also puts forward the successful units by doing proper assessment of innovators. In the course of learning others' experience, overall zeal for emulation has increased and the collective spirit of helping and leading one another forward has fully been displayed.

The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex worked out a detailed plan for a socialist emulation drive and has arranged it by several categories in consideration of the participants in the drive.

The Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, the February 8 Vinalon Complex and the Sinuju Chemical Fibre Mill are

further arousing the enthusiasm for increased production of producer masses by carefully organizing the socialist emulation drive.

The Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex made sure that an emulation drive was conducted vigorously among youth shock brigades and tunnelling workteams through dynamic on-site political work.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex, East Pyongyang Thermal Power Station and Chongchongang Thermal Power Station increase power production in a stable way by introducing the valuable and original plans for increasing combustion efficiency while saving coal, which were developed through a dynamic mass technical innovation drive.

Important matters in reenergizing production

By Yun Kyong Il PT

Strenuous efforts are made to provide a decisive guarantee for the fulfilment of the five-year plan in the DPRK. This requires that all economic sectors and units increase production and practice economy as much as possible.

Increased production is to boost production with the existing production foundations and economy is aimed at building up huge reserves for increased production without waste.

That is why it is said that economy is just increased production.

In recent years the

Kacchon Coal Mine has held fast to it as the main way to increase coal production to find and save prop reserves as much as possible.

In the past the coal mine provided pits with props as much as they demanded and estimated the use of the props according to the number of the props they recycled.

But as each pit had different production conditions, the estimation of their consumption of props had to be changed. So the coal mine set a more detailed criterion for the monthly supply of props to each coal mining workshop in accordance with its extraction order.

It made it possible to normalize coal production

without an additional expenditure. For example, the combined workshop, which previously demanded hundreds of props for coal production, now normalizes production without having to use well over a hundred props.

Like this, when every sector makes an effective use of raw and other materials, fuel, facilities, labour and fund, they can increase production using less of them. In other words, increased production based on economy is more profitable than that based on additional expenditure and intensifying the campaign for economy will help increase the possibility of

successfully hitting the target of economic growth.

The major way for increased production and economy is to rapidly and widely apply scientific and technological achievements.

Only when new sci-tech successes are rapidly introduced into practice can sectors and units ensure their stable and sustainable development.

New change and development have been made in attitude towards science and technology throughout the national economy in recent years and more and more sectors and units are stepping up production and readjustment and reinforcement by dint of

science and technology.

Many industrial establishments constantly work to turn themselves into labour-, energy-, cost- and site-saving ones and systematically lower the norm of consumption of materials per unit by steadily upgrading their existing economic foundations.

And many workers actively devise and apply valuable technical innovations with the awareness that true patriotism lies in saving even a handful of coal and a watt of electricity.

All sectors and units are active in exchanging sci-tech information.

To actively share and transfer sci-tech hits is a main

way to optimize production and construction and step up the country's economic development.

Actually, many of the sci-tech hits created by scientific research sectors and production and construction units have widely been introduced beyond their realms.

The traits of increasing production and practising economy prevailing throughout the national economy has helped boost production on the strength of self-reliance and smoothly push ahead with the readjustment and reinforcement plans decided at the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Saving-oriented factory

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Pyongyang Jonghyang Building-materials Factory turns everything into saving-oriented ones.

Labour-saving
The factory has dozens of employees. But they handle the workload for double their number.

The secret is that most of them perform over three jobs.

All the employees finished or are enrolled in the online education courses and improve their technical ability through practice to carry out their duties perfectly.

Energy-saving
Installed on the rooftop of the office building of the factory are four 1kW solar panels, a solar heat power generator and four solar water heaters.

Hot water and electricity from them are used for lighting and cultural life of the employees.

Electricity produced by the factory accounts for 25 percent of its

total consumption of electric power.

Cost-saving
The costs of building materials produced at the factory have continued to fall in recent years.

It is because it uses locally available raw materials and waste instead of the raw materials it imported in the past.

It makes a kind of water

needed for the production of paints and waterproof agents with ferrosilicon waste from the Pyongyang Thermal Power Station and the raw material for paints is also chip from machine factories. It stores rainwater and snow water to use them for production.

All these are primary factors in lowering production costs.



Larger quantities of products are turned out by reducing costs at the Pyongyang Jonghyang Building-materials Factory. RODONG SINMUN

Production processes are made intensive

By Kim Il Jin PT

Production units at the service of the agricultural sector are improving in the new era of rural development.

The Hasong Tyre Factory, a producer of tyres of vehicles for farming, has turned production processes into saving-oriented ones.

The factory with a history of dozens of years is not small in area. It had a section where tyres were made by means of conventional equipment and another section where large-size tyres were made.

"We could hardly expand the production capacity of the factory with the old processes left intact. We had to make production processes radically intensive so as to benefit several times more from each space

of one square metres," said the manager of the factory.

On the basis of scientific calculation, the factory made and rationally arranged efficient facilities and renovated production sites so as to use every possible space in a three-dimensional way.

It made it possible to install a newly established small and medium-sized tyre production process in the section where large-size tyres are produced, thus reducing the production area by more than half.

"Previously a dozens-of-metre-long flow line consisting of several pieces of equipment was needed to make even a single kind of tyre. Now, the newly made piece of equipment alone is enough to make them," said an employee of the factory.

The factory also turned the finishing

process into a saving-oriented one.

It made sure that employees' constructive opinions were completed as practicable ideas or technical innovation plans to be introduced into production. And there took place technical study through videos before production review every day.

In the course of it, the technical forces of the factory increased and the technological upgrading of a piece of equipment, which had been believed to take over two years, was completed in a matter of two months. This led to success in modernization of the finishing process.

"The quality of the products has improved and the productivity increased thanks to the establishment of the site-, labour- and energy-saving production processes," said the manager.

Sustained efforts directed to procurement

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

One of the important ways to develop local industry is to make the maximum and effective use of raw material resources and potentials available in local areas. Here, promoting procurement is a key issue, said a Cabinet official.

According to him, procurement agencies are formed to meet the economic and geographical features of each administrative district and a well-knit procurement system is in operation in various forms and methods including exchange, mobile, field, contract, consignment and intensive procurement, which acts as a good incentive to residents and increases the source of procurement.

This year alone, Pyongyang Municipality has encouraged citizens to voluntarily take an active part in the procurement work and collected a large quantity of plastic waste and wastepaper and South Hamgyong Province has steadily updated the procurement system and methods and gathered large amounts of idle materials to be sent to provincial industrial establishments.

Other areas such as North Phyongan Province and Kaesong City made strenuous efforts to tap and use as much as possible such raw materials as rabbit fur and skins of other domestic animals. Lots of other cities and counties have also gathered a great deal of recyclable waste by promoting procurement.

The collected idle materials are used for extended reproduction at relevant industrial establishments.

The Sakju County Children's Footwear Factory turns out colourful shoes for children that suit their psychology and good quality shoe soles with a less amount of crude rubber by purchasing scraps of cloth and rubber. The residents are pleased to exchange scrap of cloth, waste rubber and other household waste with new shoes, while the factory has an unending source of raw materials.

The Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326 operates a well-organized system of collecting idle materials.

It runs a nonferrous metal exchange shop to gather scrap aluminum, copper and so on from across the country, thus increasing electric cable production, while saving a large quantity of materials.

The Central Zoo has established a process for producing a variety of goods from plastic waste to facelift itself as befits a cultural recreation ground.

"As our zoo is always crowded with visitors, we collect a large number of plastic bottles every day. We turn such huge 'reserve' into treasure," said staffer Sonu Won.

According to him, there are a lot of wooden benches in the zoo which need a large quantity of timber and paint to keep them in good conditions.

They turn out smart frames of benches and even street lamp shades from plastic waste.

Their efforts show that even a kind of waste seemingly unimportant can be turned into treasure if constant attention is directed to making an effective use of it.

Research intensified into sapling production

By To Kyong Chol PT

The institute of forest of economic value under the Academy of Forestry has intensified research into the sapling production, manuring and tending of gold-leafed metasequoia, a coloration tree species.

A tree belonging to the genus Metasequoia of Taxodiaceae, the plant has recently become known.

Its leaves are beautiful gold in colour in the whole period of its growth and it maintains the colour in spring, summer and autumn. It is smart in form, grows fast, likes moisture and is highly resistant to cold, heat, blight and harmful insects.

The tree which is easy to tend is used in landscaping. When it is planted alone, it becomes the central point of a spectacular scene and when it is grown to form a community or planted in groups, you can enhance its spectacular colour and the surrounding scenery. In particular, the golden-coloured leaves are prominent in a place with good sunshine condition.

The institute acclimatized the tree and buckled down to widely



Researchers examine biological characters of gold-leafed metasequoia at the institute of forest of economic value under the Academy of Forestry. RODONG SINMUN

spreading it last year.

Researchers provided a technical guarantee for mass-producing its saplings in the way of vegetative propagation.

While taking into full account of growth conditions of the stocks according to percentage of sunshine, temperature and moisture, they confirmed ways for maximizing the effectiveness of vegetative propagation and biological characteristics according

to diverse indexes.

Therefore, they opened up a prospect of putting sapling production on an intensive and industrial basis and remarkably shortening the production cycle.

Now the institute is intensifying research for scientifically and technologically solving problems arising in the manuring and tending of saplings under different conditions and environments.

Seabuckthorn forests increase

By Ri Sang Il PT

Unhung County in Ryanggang Province is increasing the area for growing seabuckthorn of high utility value.

The tree grows well on highlands with wide difference in temperature between day and night. The province in the northern part of the country is the right place for the tree as it gets less freezing damage even in the biting cold and can be cultivated at the foot of mountains, on plateaus and in river basins in northern alpine regions more than 800 metres above sea level.

For years the county has steadily worked to acclimatize the tree with not so exact demand for land and with strong resistance to the cold and drought in close contact with a scientific research institution. In the course of this it created over 140 hectares of seabuckthorn forests in Jangduri and other areas. Last year fruit began to be gathered from the trees.

The county is going to create more seabuckthorn forests this

year.

The parent nursery and other tree nurseries in the county are growing good species of seabuckthorn in large numbers and the trees are planted in suitable places as an all-people campaign.

Relevant officials of the county ensure that tree planting is done in line with technical regulations while arousing the masses to the implementation of the Workers' Party of Korea's policy on turning all mountains into useful "gold and treasure mountains".

The Unhung County Forestry Management Station is directing efforts to producing saplings in a scientific and technical way from soil disinfection to sowing and manuring and cultivation.

And it sticks to the principle of maintaining the staminate tree rate of 6-7% in planting its saplings to suit its features and takes foresighted measures to protect them from damage by harmful insects.

The county is also pushing the establishment of a production line for processing its fruit by industrial method while increasing such forests.

Family plants green forests for generations



Kang Yong Su, ranger of the Unsan County Forest Management Station.

By Sin Pyol PT

The family of Kang Yong Su, forest ranger of the Pukjin Workers' District of the Unsan County Forest Management Station in North Phyongan Province, has looked after the green forests for three generations.

His father Kang Yun Gyong was the first Merited Ranger of the country and the Korean feature film "Forest Grows Thick" is based on a story

ranger and today his son also works as a forest ranger. But Kang did not do the job from the beginning.

He served the Korean People's Army as an officer. After being discharged from the military service, he was appointed as manager of a factory in the county and chief of a branch of the county post office, which were all far from the forestry sector.

"If he did not become a forest ranger, he would probably have been promoted to a higher position," said his son, Kang Chol.

Working in different posts, Kang felt his heart aching to see the sight of the

mountains whose forests his father had restored turning into bald and rocky ones as the country had hard times, he noted.

As his elder brother who succeeded his father was ill and had to leave the forests, he took the job of forest ranger without hesitation, he added.

"Of course, I felt hard to work many times and sometimes wanted to give up my job. But what inspired me to get up at that time were the looks of my father, who was so

grieved to see the forests of the country on fire by the enemy's bombing during the Fatherland Liberation War that he devoted his all to the

out-of-the-way mountain, not his native village, and the consciousness that I have to return the favour the country bestowed on my father by giving him the honour of being the first Merited Ranger of the country," said Kang Yong Su.

The people in the Pukjin Workers' District say that Kang has put in a great deal of efforts to plant thickly-wooded forests in the mountains in his charge for dozens of years.

He still puts his heart and soul into managing the forests, carefully examining the tall trees one by one as he climbs the mountains. As thick and green forests

cannot be planted in one or two years and generations, Kang Yong Su followed in his father's footsteps and today his son Kang Chol has taken over the job, forest ranger.

Kang and his son often go up the snow-covered mountains in mid-winter and plant more trees in them to make the forests thicker and greener, following their conscience.

"Things for the country will never end in one generation. Like the former generation who devoted their all for the country, we younger generations should also faithfully follow the path of patriotism," they say.



File photo shows Kang Yun Gyong (third from left), father of Kang Yong Su, discussing how to tend forests well together with the employees of the forest management station.

6 | DISASTER PREVENTION

El Niño expected to affect DPRK

It is expected that El Niño will inflict great damage also on the DPRK this year.

With regard to this, *The Pyongyang Times* reporter Kwon Hyo Song had a talk with Song Chol Man, deputy head of the central weather forecast corps of the State Hydro-Meteorological Administration.

How has El Niño affected our country?

El Niño occurs more frequently than ever before and its strength and effects grow stronger as the heat content of the ocean increases owing to global warming.

As to the characteristics of the climate in our country in the years when the phenomenon occurred, summer often witnessed disastrous meteorological

phenomena such as drought, fierce heat and high temperature and extreme downpour and heavy rain in limited areas. And there were disastrous abnormal climate phenomena such as the cold and drought in spring, heavy rains in June and heavy rains and snow in late autumn.

The phenomena have got severer year after year. In particular, the country was hit by the unprecedentedly excessive heat for 33 days from July 15 to August 16 in 2018.

Meanwhile, the weather was quite sultry on the east and west coasts of Korea and in most parts of the central inland region as the daily lowest temperature reached up to 25-29°C with the atmospheric humidity

standing at 80-99% from July 25. The daily minimum temperature on August 3 and 4, the hottest days, the highest temperature was 29.5-40.7°C, 5.9-13°C higher than the average, in the northern inland region and most areas on the east coast of Korea and 32.5-40.2°C, 4.1-12°C higher than the average, on the west coast of Korea and in the central inland region.

Heavy rains of 172mm fell in South and North Hwanghae provinces on average on August 28 and 29. In particular Kumchon County witnessed a massive downpour and heavy rain of 610mm between 1 a.m. and 1 p.m. on August 29, the highest precipitation in 12 hours meteorological observation had ever

recorded.

How do you think will El Niño affect our country this year?

The World Meteorological Organization warned that the incidence of the phenomenon will reach 60% between May and July and about 80% between July and September and that it may cause warming throughout the earth.

According to current meteorological observation, it is anticipated that the country will be affected by high atmospheric pressure late in June before it rains in most areas towards the end of the month and that it will be sweltering owing to the northwest Pacific anticyclone and rainy front in early July and in the middle of the month.

Song Chol Man, deputy head of the central weather forecast corps of the State Hydro-Meteorological Administration.



The rainy season of this year is expected to start early in July, earlier than the average (July 12). Downpours and heavy rains are anticipated on the west coast of Korea and in some areas of Kangwon Province in early and mid-July and future climatic conditions may vary unpredictably as the possibility of El Niño increases.

El Niño will inevitably occur to cause natural disasters, but I think it is possible to reduce damage from it through strong advance measures.

Right. Now state emergency measures are

taken accepting it as a fait accompli that natural disasters caused by El Niño will hit the country.

Efforts are made to raise consciousness of the public on natural disasters through TV, radio and newspapers and all sectors and units are taking timely steps to cope with disastrous abnormal weather conditions.

The agricultural sector most prone to damage from drought, flood and typhoon works in a foresighted way to cope with calamitous abnormal climate phenomena while conducting the present farming operations.

Disaster management committee enhances role to handle emergencies

Various sectors are now making full preparations for addressing every possible emergency situation with heightened vigilance.

By **Han Jong Ho PT**

Scientific and practical measures have been taken to minimize damage from unexpected extreme weather conditions in the country.

"The most important in minimizing the damage from natural disasters caused by extreme weather is to prevent the loss of lives. We give top priority to the safety-first principle to prevent the loss of lives and ensure the personal safety of the people," said Pak Yong Sik, a deputy director of the State Committee for Emergency and Disaster Management.

The committee directs constant efforts to informing residents and working people in all regions of the order of conducts in case of emergency by flash flood and typhoon, the methods of crisis response according to it and others in various forms and methods.

At the same time, it concentrates efforts on maintaining high vigilance in the areas which were afflicted by flood and typhoon in the past and laying material foundations for rapid response to any crisis by exploiting all reserves, possibilities and potentials.

It ensures that cities and counties fully prepare emergency mobilization means including emergency rescue units and medical treatment teams needed for rescuing people in case flood hits them.

Primary attention has been paid to the normal operation of the natural

disaster emergency information system.

It demands all provinces, cities and counties and all sectors and units of the national economy get themselves fully ready for properly operating the already established emergency information system

It has taken steps for them to set up a multiple communication and contact system to ensure promptness in control and command in case natural disasters occur and make full prior preparations for urgently dispatching the rescue units, medical treatment teams and other personnel and emergency mobilization equipment and materials.

Regarding the stabilization of the people's livelihood as a top priority, the committee has taken appropriate measures to supply food, side dishes, fuel, household water and others which are needed in case of emergency in a responsible manner.

All officials and working people take an active part in the campaign to minimize damage from natural disasters that are possible due to occurrence of El Niño episodes, fully aware that it is a vital issue to protect the land of the country and their lives and property.

Those in the fields of agriculture, land and environment protection, electric power, coal and mining industries, rail transport and land and maritime transport which are mostly afflicted by natural disasters are now making full preparations for addressing every possible emergency situation with heightened vigilance.

Every sector takes best possible measures against natural disasters

By **Yun Ki Song PT**

Meticulous preparations are being made to prevent damage from calamitous abnormal climatic conditions caused by El Niño in the DPRK, regarding such phenomena as a fait accompli.

The electric power industry imposes thorough measures against natural disasters as it remains fully alert.

Such electricity producers as Suphung, Hochongang, Jangjingang and Pujongang power stations are stepping up preparations to control water more scientifically and ensure high-efficiency and high-water level operation in case of heavy rainfall.

The thermal power generating sector takes constant preventive steps as it focuses on avoiding damage from thunderbolt and protecting the coal-conveying system, generator rooms, outdoor substations and pumping stations.

The coal industry pays close attention to preventing electric accident caused by downpour and flood while endeavouring to

ensure safety of pits at all coal mines.

At the sites of major construction projects, steps are taken to prevent damage from typhoon and torrential rain.

Substantial efforts are being made at the construction site of second-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area to fully protect materials, machinery and structures from heavy rain.

At the construction sites of dwelling houses in the Komdok area and the Tanchon Power Station, every place of danger is identified to address shortcomings as it is one of important matters for pushing construction uninterruptedly to take measures to prevent damage from deluge and inundation.

The agricultural field also takes positive measures to protect crops as such disastrous abnormal weather phenomena as high temperature, drought and heavy rain caused by El Niño are expected to become more serious.

The Agricultural Commission worked out scientific counterplans against damage in

full consideration of the negative effects of the calamitous weather phenomena that might occur this year, before sending them to its lower units. As part of other preventive steps, it makes sure that accurate meteorological forecasts are issued in time to enable relevant units to deal with fierce heat, downpour, typhoon and tidal waves in a mobile way and that agro-technical measures are informed through the online farming technology question and answer service system.

Agricultural guidance organs in each province, city and county have conducted work effectively to minimize crop damage from disastrous weather to suit their specific conditions.

They arrange timely gathering and drying of earlier crops to keep them from decaying and degenerating during the rainy spell when barley ripens and press on with the work to prevent damage from inundation and moisture, including ditching and forming of drainage channels and diversions.



North Hamgyong Province pays due attention to improving forest and water conservation.
RODONG SINMUN

Advantages of socialist health system fully displayed

By **Kwon Hyo Song PT**

Everybody wishes to live in good health, free from disease.

This is the long-cherished desire of mankind.

In order to realize this desire, the DPRK enforces the people-oriented health policy and section doctor system where everyone can receive treatment gratis when they fall ill.

In recent ten-odd years alone, such modern hospitals as the Okryu Children's Hospital, Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital and Ryugyong Dental Hospital were built in succession and provincial general hospitals were modernized, thereby contributing to promoting the people's health.

And preventive and curative institutions throughout the country undergo a complete transformation despite difficult conditions.

This shows the will of the Workers' Party of Korea to bear responsibility for the people's health and lives to the last by holding complete and universal free medical service as a national policy in any case.

The government takes responsible care of all the people's health from beginning to end.

The universal free medical care system takes the special position in the socialist health system of the DPRK.

Seventy years ago, the universal free medical service was enforced in the DPRK at state expense during the grim Fatherland Liberation War decisive of the destiny of the

country, not in the period of peaceful construction.

Under the condition where everything was in short supply due to the war, the DPRK government effected the universal free medical service on January 1 1953 in order to take responsible care and protect the people's lives and has steadily developed it.

At present, the free medical service in the DPRK fully guarantees the medical right of working people on a high level.

All the working people including workers, farmers and intellectuals have equal right to receive free medical service, irrespective of sex, age, residence, occupation and quantity and quality of work and special care is shown for the health of children and pregnant women.

The right, which is granted to all the people, is legally guaranteed by the Socialist Constitution and the Law on Public Health.

The public health law was promulgated in April 1980. Starting from the fundamental principle of the public health under socialist society, the law clarifies all the principles and requirements arising in public health including the contents of free medical service, civil right, matters and ways for its implementation in consolidating and developing the system and protecting and promoting the people's health,

material supply measures for the development of medical science and technology and public health services, role and duty of health workers as true servants of the people and

guidance over public health service.

Thanks to the law, all the medical services are offered gratis in the DPRK.

All diagnoses, tests, operations, treatment with hot spring and mud and rehabilitation are free, as well as treatment of outpatients and inpatients and that through sick calls. Prostheses are provided free for disabled persons and recuperation at sanatoriums is also free.

Such universal free medical service presupposes the well-organized socialist public health system and material and technical foundations.

Efficient medical service units including modern general hospitals, special hospitals, city, county and ri hospitals and clinics can be found from Pyongyang to the lowest administrative units in local areas, and independent pharmaceutical and medical appliances production units and medical workers training institutions are in place in all parts of the country.

Preventive medicine is an important political requirement in socialist public health.

The country puts main stress on the prevention of diseases that are hazardous to the lives and health of working people along with the improvement of hygienic environment by strengthening the hygienic and anti-epidemic work. And it makes sure that hygienic information activities become the work of the whole society.

It works to make the socialist public health system more advantageous by enforcing

unique section doctor system, an original medical service system, and enhancing the role of household doctors.

Thanks to the section doctor system whereby doctors are charge of relevant residential areas to take responsible care of, protect and promote the health of residents, working people can promote their health at home with the help of household doctors as well as at hospitals.

Household doctors devote sincere conscience to their work with consciousness that they are in charge of the health of residents and the socialist public health system brings actual benefits to residents by themselves.

They give treatment to visiting patients in the morning and visit residents in their charge in the afternoon. Under the well-organized system, they get familiar with the health of residents as if seeing the palms of their own hands and take timely preventive measures.

Devotion constitutes the attribute and lifeblood of socialist public health.

Many medical workers dedicate their all for the lives and health of patients and therefore impressive news are reported one after another about medical workers who bring incurably ill patients back to life.

The DPRK stemmed the spread of the malignant virus and eradicated the virus, which made inroads into the country, in the shortest possible period. The fact proves the advantages and vitality of the socialist health system in the DPRK.

HEALTH |

Household doctors take responsible care of health of residents

By **Ryom Un Gyong PT**

Hospitals in ri and polyclinics in dong are the grassroots public health institutions in the DPRK where the universal free medical care is enforced, by which the state takes responsible care of health of the people.

Public health is usually protected by the section doctor system whereby doctors take charge of certain residential areas to look after the health of their residents.

"A few days ago, my son suddenly got ill and the household doctor rushed to my house to give medical treatment to him even at midnight. If we asked for a sick call at any time, he would come immediately. It seemed as if the hospital was just in front of our home," said Choe Hye Song, a resident of Kwangbok-dong No. 1 in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

She added that thanks to the household doctors who always look after the health of residents and treat diseases in good time, residents live free from worries about diseases.

"We, household doctors, are usually on our rounds of sick calls. Those of our clinic grasp the number of families and residents of neighbourhood units under their charge in detail and take appropriate preventive measures to make sure that none of them would fall ill," said Kim Un Gyong, doctor of the Kwangbok Polyclinic in Mangyongdae District.

According to her, doctors of the polyclinic visit the areas in their charge not only to give medical treatment to them, but also to conduct information activities to prevent various kinds of infectious diseases and pay special attention to the health of old persons, children and pregnant women.

Under the regular system of giving medical treatment to visiting patients in the morning and visiting residents in their charge to treat them in the afternoon, household doctors in the polyclinic keep abreast of the health conditions of the residents and take timely preventive measures.

These days, in particular, when there is a sharp temperature difference between day and night, they conduct vigorous hygienic information activities to prevent diseases in residential areas and workplaces in their charge and take preventive measures for registered chronic invalids.

In the course of it they displayed numerous admirable traits of devoting themselves to the improvement of the health of residents.

Though most of them are married women with children and families, they make every effort to look after the health of residents, visiting emergency cases to give medical treatment at any time, doing health checkups of residents in their charge every day and preparing medicines and tonics for medical treatment of war veterans and honoured disabled soldiers.

"My father-in-law was once seriously ill and all the family members were very worried about him. At that time the household doctor came and consoled us, saying he would revive him without fail. And he spent all night giving medical treatment to him and finally brought him back to life. Without our household doctor, my father would not have been resuscitated," said Ri Hyon Sim, a woman living in neighbourhood unit No. 22, Kwangbok-dong No. 1.

Doctor beloved of engine drivers

By **Ko Kwang Yon PT**

There is a woman winning the respect and love of engine drivers and other workers in the railway sector at the clinic of Sopho Youth Railway Station under the Pyongyang Railway Bureau.

She is Pak Kyong Ae, doctor who has worked at the clinic for more than 40 years.

"She is an ordinary woman who can be found anywhere else. For her strong attachment to job and warm human love, she has endeared herself to so many people," said Han Kwan Phil, engineman of the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps.

Even patients say they feel better at the mere sight of her beaming smile, he added.

She prepared various kinds of tonics for the treatment of engine drivers, other workers and their families and used to sit up all nights to cure patients.

Whenever asked if her job is not tiring, she answers that the patients must be very painful and she feels relieved of worries and invigorated from seeing them recovering from illnesses probably because she has such a job.

She is the wife of a special-class honoured disabled soldier and mother of an honoured disabled soldier.

"She deserves great respect from others only for being the wife and mother of honoured disabled soldiers. However, only a few people know the fact," said the director of the clinic.

Busy as she is taking care of them, she has devoted herself to society and collective before her family, the director said.

"Medical profession is a demanding job for me, of course. However, I am motivated by the consciousness that I have to do something to repay



Pak Kyong Ae measures blood pressure of an engine driver at the clinic of Sopho Youth Railway Station under the Pyongyang Railway Bureau.

our neighbours, society and the country that care for us so much," said Pak Kyong Ae.

The country takes meticulous care of the family of honoured disabled soldiers and saw to it that her son enrolled at a university and found employment at the Tongdaewon Disabled Soldiers' Printing Plant after graduation as he

wished.

Pak believes fulfilling her duty is the way to repay the favour and care shown by the country and people.

The more she devotes herself to protecting the health of railway workers and residents, the greater the care of engine drivers and neighbours for her gets.

ORNAMENTAL PLANT SCULPTURES ADD TO BEAUTY OF STREET



Distinctive plant sculptures attract the attention of passers-by on Hwasong Street. JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Hwasong Street built in Pyongyang this year are characterized by ornamental plant sculptures going well with roadside trees, flower beds and turf. A mother with a baby in her bosom, a crane that just seems to fly up, a lovely female bear and bear cub, a female rabbit and young rabbit frolicking on the grass, a dove symbolic of peace, a clock and other conspicuous ornamental

plant sculptures here and there add to the beauty of the streets, arousing an unusually pleasant feeling in the viewers. Kim Song Jun, a resident of Hwasong-dong No. 3, said the people trimming the ornamental plants with shears remind him of sculptors. Their difference from sculptors is that they hold shears, not chisels. Each of the ornamental plant sculptures is associated with unknown painstaking

efforts of members of workteams of the relevant landscaping station. In order to ensure the formative artistic representation of such plants they referred to relevant books and videos to acquire necessary knowledge and practised drawing hard. Whenever it rained accompanied by a gale, they rushed to the spots with the plants even at midnight for fear that their shapes might change and took measures to prevent such damage with all

sincerity. In spring when plants are budding they are busier than ever before. From the early morning they water green areas along with nutrient solution so that plants there can grow well and carefully trim the ornamental plant sculptures lest leaves growing competitively should change their shapes even a bit. According to a workteam leader of the Hwasong District landscaping station,

they take unknown pride in their job. He said he is glad to see people having a photo taken with an ornamental plant sculpture representing a lovely rabbit or bear for a background. One evening, on their way back home from work, his workteam members saw a little girl stroking a plant they had trimmed into a rabbit and they could hardly step away from the place with ease, he recalled. "Then we set a new

criterion. It is 'selfsame' not 'similar'," the workteam leader said. Regarding the title of "sculptor" on street as the people's expectation that they will spruce up the streets better, the "sculptors" have planted and tended hundreds of trees and flowering shrubs including box, juniper and royal azalea while taking care of the ornamental plant sculptures. The street becomes further beautiful thanks to their efforts.



Neighbourhood unit brims with warm feelings

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

"Perfect peace reigns in our neighbourhood unit. The virtues and traits of caring for each other are a pride of our neighbourhood unit," said Kwak Song Ok, head of Neighbourhood Unit No. 62 of Segori-dong in Pothonggang District, Pyongyang. In May last year when COVID-19 made inroads into the DPRK, everyone was confused in fear of the malignant virus and by difficulty in living they had never experienced before, she said. But the neighbourhood

restored stability soon as all the residents cared for each other in the face of hardships. In those days, the residents worried more about their neighbours than themselves. Although they were also in a difficult situation due to the unprecedented disaster, Hong Hyang Ok's family donated a large sum of money and subsidiary foods for neighbours. Sin Un Hye's family sent tonics to Paek Pong Song living below their floor to cure his chronic internal disease. And other families gave needy ones rice and medicines. The residents in the neighbourhood unit

were united with familial love in the face of severe hardships. They also solve all the problems by joining efforts. Housewives give a helping hand to working married couples and elderly persons contribute to doing various things for sustaining the neighbourhood unit. That's why newcomers and newlyweds say that they become familiar with each other very soon. It has become a trait of the unit for all families congratulate young people on joining the army and give them a warm send-off as they would do their own sons and

daughters. There is a family of a sailor who fell on a combat mission for national defence in the neighbourhood unit. Although over ten years have passed since his death, he remains alive in the memory of neighbours and the state continues to bestow favour on his family. "All the neighbours take warm care of my family, calling it 'family of patriotic martyr'," said Ri Kyong Ae, mother of the fallen sailor Kim Sol Yun. All the inhabitants lead a pleasant and happy life with warm affection towards each other.



Neighbours often visit the home of Ri Kyong Ae, mother of a KPA martyr, to comfort her. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Ri Jong Ryol is happy to see a photo of her son in military uniform from his army post.

Mother's pleasure

She always takes special pleasure in receiving photos and letters from her children.

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Ri Jong Ryol, a resident of Neighbourhood Unit No. 16 in Yokjon-dong of Central District, Pyongyang, is a mother of three children. All of her children are now serving the Korean People's Army. The following story tells why she made them join the army for national defence. One autumn day years ago, she was coming back from a visit to her relative's home in the countryside. But suddenly she lost consciousness and fell on the deserted roadside as her lingering heart disease took a turn for the worse. When she came to, she found herself on a hospital bed. As she wondered why she was there, a nurse explained that service personnel had come to the hospital with her on the back and that if she had been late even a bit, she might have been in a pressing danger. While on an urgent military mission, they had left in a hurry, asking doctors there to restore her without telling their positions and names. After leaving the hospital, she asked surrounding sub-units about the soldiers but failed to find them as she never knew them even by sight or name. She could not help but give up and leave for Pyongyang where her little children and husband waited for her. "At that time I once again felt gratitude to soldiers of the People's Army who reliably defend the well-being of the country and the people," Jong Ryol recollected. Later she determined to bring her all children up well and send them to the posts for national defence. She paid special attention to making the children study hard, take an active part in organizational activities and acquire the trait of thinking of society, collective and comrades before themselves. For 10-odd years, she sent aid materials she had prepared together with her children to the construction project for renovating the City of Samjiyon on several occasions, took the lead in neighbourhood unit work and was friendly with neighbours. Such examples enabled the children to develop into honest people who can devote themselves to the country. Although all of them could be admitted to universities after finishing middle school, the brother-and-sister threesome joined the army. Now they are faithfully doing military service. Jong Ryol always takes special pleasure in receiving photos and letters from her children.

Hotel preserves natural beauty

By Sin Pyol PT

Located on Kwangbok Street in Pyongyang, the Youth Hotel

arouses tender sentiments of its guests for its distinctive landscape. As good species of trees form forests on both sides

of the road leading to the hotel and there grow ground-covering plants, the area is always filled with clear and fresh air.

Different species of flowers are in full bloom on flower beds built in a distinctive style on the

walls of its façade and a good assortment of ever-green ornamental plants grow in large-sized flowerpots. Guests say that all these add youthful vigour and refreshing taste to the hotel.

idyllic feelings to the full. According to deputy manageress Ri Hye Ok, the park was originally a low hill where there were rocks and low trees. Employees made a plan to create nature-friendly and beautiful landscape there and buckled down to that. They focused on making all elements and their combination preserve natural beauty and national characteristics as they explored the ways to plant trees with different heights, plant flowering plants and shrubs in tiers to produce an effect of solidity and lay out green areas, rocks, artificial waterfalls and ponds, lattice hedges and specially-designed wooden flower beds. "Many guests come to stay at the hotel, lured by unusual interest that can only be felt here," said the deputy manageress.



The Youth Hotel surrounds itself with original hedge. JANG KYONG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Kind-hearted young man

By Yun Ki Song PT

One May day Pak Kyong Hui happened to halt before the apartment house of neighbourhood unit No. 15 of Ryongbuk-dong in Taesong District, Pyongyang, as she saw a young man familiar to her. He was Hyon Il who frequented her home to help her in many ways. He devoted himself to the family of the woman whose husband is an honoured disabled soldier, but whenever she asked him where he worked and lived, he would only wear a smile. Thinking that it might be where he lived, she asked its residents about him. She guessed right. It was one day a few years ago that she came to know Hyon Il though she lives in Jonjin-dong of Rangnang

District. While talking with Pak as he walked side by side with her, helping her carry a heavy load, he came to know that she is the wife of an honoured disabled soldier. From then on, he frequently visited her house bringing various tonics good for the health of her husband, medicines, foodstuffs and daily necessities. In December last year when the disabled soldier was hospitalized for a sudden disease, he devotedly nursed him sitting up all night near his bed. "I was quite grateful to him for taking tender care of us like a real son of ours. So I told him

that though he was devoting himself to us, all we know about him was only his name. Then he smiled and joyfully said that it is a bounden duty for a new generation to take good care of the honoured disabled soldier," Pak recalled. Though she belatedly came to know where he lives, she was very happy with it.



Hyon Il (middle) takes warm care of an old honoured disabled soldier. RODONG SINMUN

Historic milestones in DPRK-China friendship in June

By Song Jong Ho PT

The DPRK-China friendship with a long history and tradition is developing into an intimate relationship with no parallel in recent years and inseparable special ties of friendship.

The rapid development of the bilateral friendly relations is closely associated with the energetic external activities conducted by the leaders of the two parties and the two countries.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visited the People's Republic of China on June 19-20 in 2018 and General Secretary Xi Jinping toured the

DPRK on June 20-21 in 2019.

Through meetings and talks they provided an important milestone in further improving political trust between the two parties and the two countries and more dynamically advancing the traditional DPRK-China friendship.

Today the friendly relations and genuine comradeship between the leaders of the two parties and the two countries serve as a motive force which enables the bilateral friendship to develop vigorously unaffected by any changes in the situation and challenges.

Under the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and General Secretary Xi Jinping the two countries wage the dynamic

struggle to oppose invasion by the imperialists and defend and maintain socialism, the common cause, while promoting close strategic and tactical cooperation even in the complicated international situations and in the course of it the peoples of the two countries are more closely united to share destiny.

Communication has been enhanced between the two parties and the friendly feeling between the peoples of the two countries heightened with the passage of time. They have developed bilateral relations extensively in various fields including politics, the economy and culture while bolstering mutual support and

cooperation in their common interests and widely encouraged travel, contact and exchanges between the two countries.

Today socialist construction in the two countries has entered a new historic stage. The Chinese people work hard to maintain and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics and comprehensively build a modern socialist state according to the goals set at the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of China. They also wage a struggle to frustrate the frantic anti-China confrontational moves of the hostile forces and defend the country's sovereignty, right to development and territorial integrity.

The Korean people are confident that the Chinese people would surely achieve extraordinary successes in the journey for putting into practice the idea on socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era under the leadership of the Communist Party of China headed by General Secretary Xi Jinping.

The traditional DPRK-China friendship which was strengthened and developed from one decade to the next and from one century to the next will be further cemented in line with the requirements of the developing times and the common desire of the peoples of the two countries under the deep care of the leaders of the two parties and the two countries.

Olympic Games promote peace and friendship, equality and unity



Ko Chol Ho
Secretary general of the DPRK Olympic Committee

June 23 is Olympic Day. Celebrating the day, I would like first to extend my greetings of solidarity to Baron de Coubertin who contributed to the revival of the modern Olympics, the International Olympic Committee and persons related to the Olympics including the national Olympic committees of all countries.

The DPRK has conducted activities on various themes including seminars and meetings with winners of the Olympic Games every year to raise public awareness of the Olympic ideal among sportspeople, students and people from all social strata to mark the day.

This year, too, a running game took place in celebration of Olympic Day with sportspeople and many others who love and enjoy

sports in attendance.

In the past we promoted sports technical exchanges with many countries, contributing positively to realizing the Olympic ideal aspiring to common prosperity and development. And we performed a variety of activities according to the action programme of the IOC including tree planting to involve more women in the Olympic movement and contribute to environmental protection.

At the moment, our Olympic committee leaves nothing desired in preparing for participation in the 33rd Olympic Games and several other international events, keeping close contact with the IOC and the organizing committee of the 33rd Olympic Games.

Anti-doping activities have been intensified in

the international sports arena at present to protect sportspeople, maintain the purity, main purpose and ideal of the sports movement and ensure fair play.

Our Olympic committee gives anti-doping education to players in conformity with related international regulations and standards in cooperation with the DPRK anti-doping organization and enrolls in the anti-doping online education system of the World Anti-doping Agency to acquire necessary special knowledge.

I express sympathy with the Olympic charter and its ideal and main principles advocating peace and friendship, equality and unity, and hope that the Olympic Games would as ever serve as the festival of the noble and purehearted sportspeople in the world.

Russia focuses on strengthening defence capability

By Pak Song Min PT

Russia has put in efforts to build up its defence capability to cope with the moves of NATO to form an encirclement ring around the country.

It has strengthened military training to improve its military capabilities while constantly developing and deploying sophisticated military hardware.

Some time ago Russian Defence Minister Shoigu at a ministry meeting gave an order to increase the production of modern combat equipment and improve the specialization level of soldiers.

This year the country test-fired hypersonic cruise missile Zircon, which reportedly flies so fast that it is not detected by radar and can change the direction, weakening the air defence system of the enemy.

It gives close attention to raising the specialization level of soldiers. Military education was given to 120 000 soldiers according to the plan for training specialists in the recent two years. In particular, over 5 000

service personnel received education in a new-type tank, a combat vehicle for the infantry and various drones.

It is planned to organize new military districts, combined army corps, divisions and brigades.

On June 2 the chief of the organization and mobilization bureau of the General Staff of the Russian Federal Armed Forces announced that two military districts and two combined army corps would be set up this year.

The combat ability of every sub-unit is increased through training. A surprise emergency inspection drill took place between April 14 and 20 to judge the combat-readiness of the Pacific Fleet.

The drill verified the high level of combat-readiness of the military commanding organs and the military force of the fleet to repulse the "enemy" attack.

With regard to the fleet's success in the drill, President Putin highly praised the result and gave an order for other fleets to conduct such drills.

The Pacific Fleet and Baltic Fleet waged military exercises in June. The Pacific Fleet conducted a large-scale joint military exercise on the Sea of Okhotsk to practise a long-distance naval battle between June 5 and 20. It involved 11 000 soldiers of the coast defence unit and sailors under the fleet. The exercise was conducted by way of warships and air corps striking marine and air targets and the ships firing missiles and shells as soon as they detected imaginary enemies. Meanwhile, the Baltic Fleet staged a military exercise on the Baltic Sea and in training grounds of Kaliningrad from June 5 to 15. The drill was aimed at improving the military commanding organs' abilities for combat commanding and combined operations and enhancing warship crews' ability for combat and involved over 40 warships, 3 500-odd soldiers and 25 fighters. Russia will continue to make efforts to defend its security, achieve constant development and build a powerful state.

Perpetrator of the Korean War

True colours of war provocateur can never be concealed

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The Korean war was a war of aggression the US imperialists started to realize their wild ambition for world domination for the first time after the Second World War.

Fact behind veil

John Foster Dulles, special envoy of US President Harry Truman, examined the war preparations by the south Korean puppet army as he inspected its units along the 38th parallel, the demarcation line between the north and south of Korea, on June 18 1950, and instructed traitor Syngman Rhee to launch an attack on north Korea while broadcasting the counter-propaganda that the north had invaded the south first.

At the same time intriguers began to put up a smokescreen.

On June 24, just a day before the outbreak of the Korean war, Truman left Washington together with his wife to spend the "weekend" and State Secretary Acheson also left for his old home for the "holiday".

Meanwhile, Syngman Rhee's puppet regime lifted on June 24 an emergency marshal law they had imposed since early June and granted "outings and furlough" to officers and men of their army. And a dancing party was arranged at the officers' club of the Army that night. The south Korean media falsely reported that the event was attended by all the officers above the division commander level from the units stationed along the demarcation line.

But they could never cover up the hidden historical truth.

The then commander of the 8th infantry division of the puppet army admitted that as commander of a frontline division, he was in a state of emergency and there was a curfew order at that time, and they had to go into battle at the dawn of June 25.

American books *The Riddle of MacArthur and History of the Korean War* revealed that the truth was out: south Korea invaded north Korea.

It was Sunday



File photo shows John Foster Dulles, advisor to the US State Department, making a final examination of the war preparations against the DPRK in a trench along the 38th parallel on June 18 1950.

The south Korean puppet army which was completely ready for attack under direct command of the US Military Advisory Group launched a surprise armed invasion all along the 38th parallel at 4:00 on June 25 1950.

The day was Sunday. In the peaceful early morning of the Sunday when the people in the north were sound asleep dreaming of a nice rest, the enemies mounted a surprise attack on the DPRK. What was their ultimate purpose?

Referring to the reason why they set June 25 as D-day, Roberts, the then chief of the US Military Advisory Group, said: "We have chosen the 25th and this explains our prudence.

It is Sunday. It's the Sabbath for both the United States and south Korea, Christian states. No one will believe we have started a war on Sunday. In short, it is to make people believe that we are not the first to open a war."

Japanese books *Main Vision for the Korean Issue and US Imperialism* said, "The Korean war broke out by the attack of the Syngman Rhee government and the south Korean army, backed by the United States, on north Korea on June 25 1950" and "The fire of war was ignited by the south Korean army and the ensuing massive sortie of US forces all along the 38th parallel on June 25 1950."

US imperialists seek pleasure in massacre, destruction

By Choe Song Jun PT

During the strategic temporary retreat of the Korean People's Army in the Fatherland Liberation War, the US imperialists killed the Korean people and destroyed everything wherever they went.

In particular, the massacre in Sinchon County of South Hwanghae Province was beyond human imagination in terms of brutality and cruelty. They burned Koreans to death by pouring gasoline on them, buried them alive and cut their ears and noses, gouged out their eyes and skinned them to death. They also tortured them with red-hot irons and cut off their limbs with axes, picks, spades and saws to dismember them to death.

They brutally killed civilians by applying cruel methods including beating,

shooting, burying, drowning and burning.

By using such methods they butchered 35 383 persons in Sinchon County, 19 072 in Anak County, over 15 000 in Pyongyang and more than 13 000 in Unnyul County.

Their massacres sharply decreased the Korean population. Ryo and

Sin islands of Wonsan in Kangwon Province, Ssangnyong and Nung islands in North Phyongan Province and Mu Island in South Hwanghae Province were totally deserted.

Right before fleeing from Pyongyang they temporarily occupied, the American invaders demolished all major

industrial establishments in the city including a chemical factory, textile mill and factories producing towel, candy and rubber products. They also destroyed reservoirs and water-supply facilities, power distribution stations and electric car lines in the city. They destroyed industrial

establishments in all places they had occupied.

In the areas under their occupation they destroyed dwelling houses by burning, bombing or crushing with military trucks and army tanks.

Those who occupied Pyongyang county town in North Hwanghae Province

in October 1950 burned down over 2 000 houses in the daytime one day. And 5 484 houses were ravaged in Sinchon County in the same way.

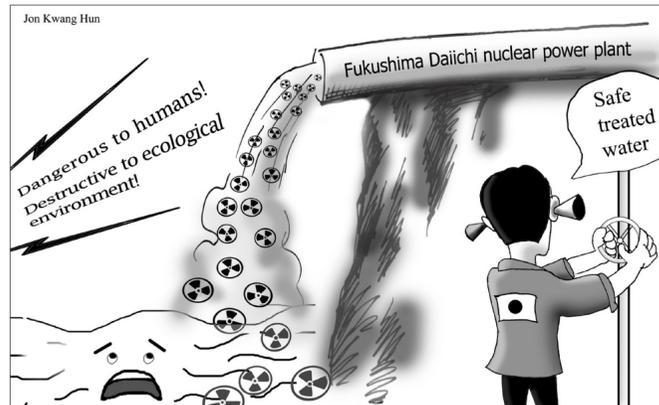
A total of over 610 000 dwelling houses were burned and destroyed by the US imperialists during the whole period of the war.



이제름동미적몰려 폭격으로 파괴된 평양시중심부



Photos show the centre of Pyongyang totally destroyed (left) and many civilians killed (right) by reckless US bombings.



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Hwasong Street in the morning



PITCHED BATTLES TO DEFEND TITLES

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The second round of the 2023 basketball premier league took place at the Kigwancha Sports Club between June 10 and 19.

It drew men's and women's basketball teams from the April 25, Sobaeksu, Amnokgang, Kigwancha, Pyongyang and other local sports clubs.

Experts and fans commented that the recent matches were fierce battles for the past winners to defend their titles.

This time again the April 25 team, the defending champion, topped the total rankings in the men's event.

The April 25's powerful rival was the Amnokgang team it had competed with in the final every year.

Many of their final matches ended by a narrow margin. And

this time the Amnokgang won the final match on June 19, but the April 25 was finally placed first in the total scores.

However, the Amnokgang has never lost confidence.

"Our team players are yet younger in age and poorer in experience than the April 25 players. But they will get up and rise again," said Han Tong Sik, head coach of the Amnokgang team.

The final match of the women's event between the Kigwancha and April 25 teams on the same day was also a fierce battle to defend their positions.

Kigwancha is known as a local power in the women's basketball.

Moreover, as the premier league took place at its gymnasium, the Kigwancha team exerted all efforts to win the final.

It upped the tempo in the match with the help of players who are good at dribbling and break in the first two rounds to put pressure on the opponent so that they could not apply their tactics properly, while scoring many points with layups.

In the following rounds it changed the tactics to increase the margin of points with long-distance shots, giving full play to its advantages.

Eventually, the Kigwancha beat the April 25 by a margin of 10 points and defended its title again in the recent premier league.



A player of the April 25 team jumps to prevent an opponent of the Amnokgang team from scoring. The two teams had a final match on June 19. JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

National food



Fermented and steamed rice cake

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

Among the Koreans' favourite foods is fermented and steamed rice cake.

The rice cake is made by kneading grain flour in hot water, fermenting the dough after adding to it a sweet drink made from rice and malt or liquor and steaming it and its name varied according to the method of making it and its shape.

It was called *kijuttok* as it is made by fermenting it with liquor and *junghphyon* as it is steamed. It was also called *panguljunghphyon* as it is in the shape of a bell and *phyonjunghphyon* as it is steamed flat.

Knead polished rice flour with hot water before adding to it a small amount of liquor and sesame oil and stirring them to fully dissolve without lumps. Seal tight the container with the mixture in it and put it in a warm place.

When the mixture is properly fermented, spread a wrapping cloth in the cake steamer, scoop up the mixture into the steamer, garnish it with fine chops of jujube, dried persimmon and pine nuts and steam it. Then spread cooking oil on it.

It was said that the garnish is a factor indispensable to the food in enhancing its taste, shape and colour. Chestnut, jujube, pine nut and boletus are used as the garnish.

As a kind of fermented food, the rice cake does not spoil even in summer unlike other kinds of rice cake.

The Chongnyu Restaurant located on the scenic banks of the Pothong River in Pyongyang serves the food it makes by a traditional method as it is registered as a famous restaurant food.

Every visitor to the restaurant orders the food as it is delicious and aromatic.

