

# Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects construction site for second-stage 10 000 flats in Hwasong area near completion

## He was satisfied with their unique aspect different from the first-stage houses, stressed need to qualitatively and perfectly finish the final process at the highest level

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on April 5 inspected the construction site for 10 000 flats at the second stage in the Hwasong area nearing completion.

Accompanying him were leading officials of the WPK Central Committee.

Kim Jong Un was greeted on the spot by Kim Jong Gwan, first vice-minister of National Defence, Pak Hun, vice-premier of the Cabinet, and senior officials of the designing institutions and construction units involved in the construction of 10 000



flats.

The architectural groups of 10 000 flats at the second-stage in the Hwasong area with a more excellent appearance are nearing completion in the great golden age of construction, when flourishing living spaces, symbolic of the comprehensive development era of a thriving nation, are created every year in the capital city of Pyongyang, the political, economic and cultural centre of socialist Korea, thanks to the grandiose strategy of the Party Central Committee for developing the capital city and its stubborn guidance.

With his great ambition to

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# DPRK Missile Administration succeeds in test-fire of new-type intermediate-range hypersonic missile

## Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un guides the first test-fire of Hwasongpho-16-Na, new-type intermediate-range solid-fueled ballistic missile, on the spot



KCNA

A test-fire of new-type intermediate-range hypersonic missile of another military strategic value was successfully conducted in the great heyday of development of the Juche-oriented defence industry that witnesses powerful absolute weaponry of Korean style being developed in succession thanks to the devoted efforts of defence scientists upholding with their steadfast faith and correct practice the plan and decision of the Workers' Party of Korea to bolster up the national defence capability in every way at the highest level.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, guided the first test-fire of Hwasongpho-16-Na, a new-type intermediate-range solid-fueled ballistic missile loaded with newly-developed hypersonic gliding warhead, on the spot on April 2.

Accompanying him was Kim Jong Sik, deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted on the spot by General Jang

Chang Ha, general director of the Missile Administration, and leading officials in the field of defence science.

The test-fire was aimed at confirming the designed technical specifications of the new-type intermediate-range hypersonic missile as a whole and verifying the reliability of this weapon system.

It was conducted in the way of verifying the characteristics of pull-up flight orbit and cross-range maneuvering capability of the hypersonic glide vehicle while confining its range to 1 000 kilometres, in consideration of safety, and forcibly controlling the speed and altitude by means of delaying the start-up of the second-stage engine and rapidly changing the flight orbit in the active region.

The defence scientists were filled with the boundless pride of being scientists of the great military power, great confidence and militant enthusiasm as they were to conduct the test-fire of another powerful ultra-modern weapon capable of defending our state's right to self-defence in the presence of Kim Jong Un again, who has personally blazed the ceaseless untrodden path to developing and perfecting ultra-modern weapons with his unshakable will and inexhaustible energy,

out of the noble sense of responsibility for the destiny of the country and people, and devoted himself to their steady and rapid development.

Kim Jong Un went to the launching position and looked round the new-type intermediate-range solid-fueled ballistic missile Hwasongpho-16-Na loaded with a hypersonic gliding vehicle to learn in detail about the weapon system.

Then, he mounted the command observation post and received a report on the plan for test-fire of the missile and issued an order to launch it.

General Jang Chang Ha guided the test-fire.

When a command was given, the high-tech missile was launched, fully demonstrating the military muscle of the Republic.

The hypersonic gliding vehicle, separated from the missile after its launch northeastward at an army unit's training field in a suburb of Pyongyang, reached its first peak at the height of 101.1 kilometres and the second peak at the height of 72.3 kilometres while making 1 000-km-long flight as scheduled, and accurately landed on the waters of the East Sea of Korea.

The test-fire had no negative impact on

the security of the neighbouring countries.

The characteristics of the prompt and excellent maneuverability of the newly-developed hypersonic gliding vehicle was clearly proved through the test-fire and the important military strategic value of the new-type intermediate-range hypersonic missile received a significant appreciation through verification under the extremely worst test conditions.

Expressing great satisfaction over the result of the test-fire, Kim Jong Un highly appreciated the feats of the officials, scientists and technicians in the field of defence science who carried out the order given by the Party most excellently, truthfully and perfectly by turning out with their do-or-die determination in the drive for developing the Juche-based weaponry to implement the strategic plan of the Party Central Committee and fully displaying their intense loyalty and patriotism.

He said with pride that another powerful strategic offensive weapon was developed to demonstrate the absolute advantage of our defence science and technology and thus we came to successfully implement the Party Central Committee's three

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principles of building missile armed force for rapidly, accurately and powerfully striking any enemy target on the globe by perfecting the project for putting all the tactical, operational and strategic missiles with various ranges on a solid-fueled, warhead-controlled and nuclear warhead-carrying basis.

Noting that the current epoch-making success serves as a special event in which a great change will be brought about in enhancing the nuclear war deterrent of the armed forces of our Republic, he stressed

that it is a precious fruition born of our arduous defence science research spanning nearly ten years, a demonstration of the validity of the WPK's line of building the military capability for self-defence and a worthwhile victory won by our strength, wisdom and efforts.

Gravely referring to the military confrontational acts against the DPRK by the enemies who have recently run higher fever in boosting their military alliance and staging all sorts of war drills, thus threatening the security of our state day after day, he said that it is the most urgent task at present for our state to

develop an overwhelming power capable of containing and controlling the enemies and that our defence science sector should continuously bring bigger successes, remaining more faithful to its historic duty to steadily improve the strongest national defence capacity.

He affirmed that the WPK will reliably defend the peace, prosperity and future of the country by steadily, rapidly and more thoroughly bolstering up the military capability for self-defence.

He set forth the strategic tasks for making a continued leap forward and innovations in the development of ultra-

modern weapons by more signally strengthening the self-supporting and modern character of the Juche-oriented military industry.

Inspired by his deep trust and militant encouragement, all the defence scientists hardened the firm determination to devote themselves with redoubled courage to the sacred struggle for further boosting the arsenal of the Juche revolution, true to the leadership of the Party Central Committee, and thus bolster up the matchless national defence capability with serial successes in developing ultra-modern strategic and tactical weapon systems.

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turn Pyongyang, the capital of revolution, into a world-class ideal city of the people, the greatest city, Kim Jong Un unfolded a grand blueprint for the capital city construction with his rare wisdom and distinguished leadership and has made constant efforts to carry it into practice. Saying that the housing construction in the capital city is a project being accelerated by the Party and the state as the most important task to realize their cherished desire and a promise made by the Party and the government to the people, he has energetically guided the housing construction, indicating the clear-cut orientation and ways for building the second-stage district in the Hwasong area into a distinctive street with the appearance of a modern city section and giving personal instructions on the plane, elevation and layout of every apartment house.

Another magnificent new street for the people has appeared in a short span of one year thanks to the intense loyalty and

devoted efforts of the military and civilian builders in the Hwasong area, who have performed miraculous feats, creating a new construction speed and legendary tales after turning out in the forefront of the capital city construction with a strong will and revolutionary zeal to creditably ensure the promotion of people's well-being and the eternal development of the capital city in practice.

Under the plan for 2023, the third year of the Five-Year Plan for Capital City Construction set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK, apartment houses of various forms for 10 000 families have been conveniently arranged in the second-stage district of the Hwasong area covering an area of 80 hectares, in harmony with public and service buildings and establishments, vividly sustaining the Juche, national, modern and artistic character of architecture.

Kim Jong Un toured different parts of the construction site, learning in detail about the project.

Enjoying the view of the new grand street lined up with modern apartment

houses, he expressed great pleasure, saying that the street is really spectacular and another cradle for the people's happiness has been built in the Hwasong area.

Saying that the Party's idea on architectural aesthetics was thoroughly applied in the second-stage housing construction in the Hwasong area and that the apartment houses were well built in a distinctive way with the unique charms and features of Korean style, assuming an aspect different from the first-stage houses, he highly appreciated the feats of the builders who have fully displayed loyalty to the Party and indomitable spirit after courageously turning out in the grand construction struggle to lead our people to civilization in the new era.

He pointed out some faults revealed in the building work and took measures for rapidly correcting them. And he stressed the need to qualitatively and perfectly finish the final process with a goal to complete the housing construction at the highest level, impeccable even in the

distant future, as it is the most important undertaking for providing the people with beautiful cradle of happiness.

He indicated the detailed orientation for the long-term plans on the third-stage housing construction in the Hwasong area, started this year, and the fourth-stage housing construction, slated for next year, and advanced major principles that will serve as the guideline in turning the capital city better into the cradle of the most beautiful socialist civilization and amazing paradise for the people, and important tasks for implementing them.

Encouraged by his on-site guidance, all the officials and builders hardened their resolve to uphold the WPK's idea on the Juche-oriented architecture and policy on construction with perfect practical achievements at every grand construction site in the capital city by turning out as one with rare determination and great efforts, deeply mindful of the trust of the Party Central Committee that put them in the vanguard of the sacred struggle for creating the people's happiness.

# Premier Kim inspects various sectors of South Hamgyong Province

KCNA

Premier Kim Tok Hun inspected various sectors of South Hamgyong Province.

At the construction sites for regional-industry factories in Kumya and Hamju counties, he encouraged the soldier-builders in the vigorous struggle to make the first breakthrough in attaining the 10-year objective with the indomitable fighting spirit and the Korean-style creation pattern, keeping in mind the great trust of the Party Central Committee which made them take the lead in the great revolution of wholly updating the country's regional industry.

He stressed the need to ensure the speed and quality of construction by actively introducing efficient construction and working methods while strictly observing the requirements of design in construction and called on officials in the relevant regions to provide a sure guarantee for normal production by pushing ahead with the work to create raw material bases in a planned manner.

Learning in detail about the current production and the fulfilment of readjustment and reinforcement plans at the February 8 Vinalon Complex, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex and the Ryongsong Machine Complex, he said that it is important to step up the construction of salt production process based on an industrial method as scheduled, produce enough fertilizer needed for this year's farming and accelerate the production of custom-built

equipment for various economic sectors.

At the construction site of the Tanchon Power Station, he urged the officials to make it a habit to absolutely and unconditionally carry out the Party's decisions and conduct the operation and command skilfully and decisively and thus complete the project without fail within the time set by the Party.

Going round the Sangnong Mine, the Tanchon Magnesia Factory and the Tanchon Smeltery, he stressed the importance of those units' duty in developing the national economy and improving the people's living standards and called for rationally updating the production processes and improving the equipment management and technical control so as to carry out the monthly and quarterly plans of the national economy without delay.

He learned about the immediate farming process at farms in Kumya, Hamju and Hochon counties and emphasized the necessity to widely introduce advanced farming methods whose advantages have been proved in practice, put the cultivation of wheat and barley on a scientific and technological basis and make preparations for coping with the disastrous weather foresightedly in order to reap a good harvest in earlier crop farming.

Meanwhile, he visited the Ministry of Mining Industry and the Ministry of Machine-building Industry to discuss the practical measures for consolidating the current production bases and expanding capacity of major mines and smelters and for producing equipment needed for readjusting, reinforcing and further perfecting the irrigation system of the country.



Premier Kim Tok Hun (middle) inspects the Tanchon Smeltery.

# Posters for 33rd April Spring Friendship Art Festival produced

KCNA

Posters for the 33rd April Spring Friendship Art Festival have been produced on the occasion of the 112th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.

The posters reflect the ardent reverence and unanimous desire of the Korean people and the world's progressives to hold the President in

high esteem forever and sing songs in praise of the great man century after century.

Poster "Let us sing the song of independence, peace and friendship", depicting the artistes of different countries holding high the festival mark against the background of the earth and the doves flying in the blue sky, shows the desire of mankind to lead a

happy life and make progress together in a peaceful world free from aggression and war.

Seen in posters are singers, instrumentalists and dancers giving excellent performance to significantly celebrate the April holiday common to humankind.

There are also posters showing the organizations participating in the festival.



Some of the posters for the 33rd April Spring Friendship Art Festival.

# WPK delegation visits Laos

KCNA

A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Song Nam, alternate member of the Political Bureau and director of the International Department of the WPK Central Committee, visited Laos between March 28 and 31.

They were greeted at the airport by a vice-chairman of the Committee for External Affairs of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the DPRK ambassador to Laos.

Kim Song Nam paid a courtesy call on Thongloun Sisoulith, general secretary of the Central Committee of the LPRP and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on March 29.

Thongloun Sisoulith expressed deep thanks to Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, for having sent congratulatory messages and beautiful flower baskets on the founding anniversary of the LPRP and other major occasions and asked Kim Song Nam to convey his warm greetings to the General Secretary.

Kim Song Nam courteously conveyed warm greetings and verbal message from the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to Thongloun Sisoulith.

He said that the DPRK-Laos friendly relations are steadily developing under the deep care of Kim Jong Un and Thongloun Sisoulith, expressing the stand of the WPK to hasten the victory of the socialist cause and ramp up the comradely and strategic cooperation and joint struggle with Laos on the road of achieving genuine international justice.

Thongloun Sisoulith said that he highly appreciated the verbal message from Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, and he was much impressed by it, noting this serves as an important occasion in developing the friendly relations between the parties and peoples of the two countries onto a new high level.

Noting that he is eyeing the DPRK undergoing rapid development under the energetic and seasoned leadership of General Secretary Kim Jong Un, he expressed belief that many successes would be achieved in boosting the relations between the two parties and the two countries based on the idea of socialism.

He stressed that the LPRP and the government and people of Laos attaching great importance to the development of bilateral relations are grateful to the WPK and the government and people of the DPRK for their warm support and encouragement to Laos in its efforts to save the nation, defend the country and accomplish the cause of nation building.

Expressing belief that the Korean people would attain the goal of building a powerful socialist country, true to the will of Comrade Kim Il Sung and Comrade Kim Jong Il, under the guidance of the WPK headed by Comrade Kim Jong Un, holding high the banner of the Juche idea, he heartily wished Comrade

Kim Jong Un good health and greater success in his work for leading the Party, the government and the people.

The talk proceeded in a comradely and friendly atmosphere.

Present there were members of the WPK delegation, the DPRK ambassador to Laos, the secretary who doubles as the secretary general of the Central Committee of the LPRP, the chairperson of the Committee for External Affairs of the LPRP and others.

Talks were held in Vientiane on March 29 between Kim Song Nam, alternate member of the Political Bureau and director of the International Department of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Thongsavanh Phomvihane, chairman of the Committee for External Affairs of the Central Committee of the LPRP.

Kim Song Nam briefed on the fact that a heyday of strengthening the whole Party, a new era of comprehensive development of socialism, is being ushered in under the wise guidance of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un, and stressed the validity of the WPK's policy of bolstering up the military capability for self-defence and its line of struggle against the enemy.

Expressing belief that the Korean people would make rapid progress in the struggle to boost the economy, improve the people's living standards and bolster up the defence capability under the guidance of the WPK headed by General Secretary Kim Jong Un, Thongsavanh Phomvihane declared that the LPRP and the Laotian government fully support the policy of the WPK and the DPRK government for defending peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

The talks discussed the issues for steadily consolidating and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties and the two countries in keeping with the requirements of the new era and the common desire of the peoples of the two countries and for promoting mutual support and solidarity in the international arena.

Present there, from the DPRK side, were members of the WPK delegation and the DPRK ambassador to Laos and, from the Laotian side, a vice-chairperson and other officials of the Committee for External Affairs of the LPRP Central Committee.

That evening the WPK delegation was invited to a reception hosted by Thongsavanh Phomvihane.

The delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Song Nam, alternate member of the Political Bureau and director of the International Department of the WPK Central Committee, left Vientiane on March 31 after visiting Laos.

During the visit, the delegation toured the Kaysone Phomvihane Museum and other places of Laos. The delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea returned home on April 2 after visiting China, Vietnam and Laos.

# Songun politics defends socialism

By Ri Sung Ik PT

On April 9 1993, the Korean people elected the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il as chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

Thanks to this event, the DPRK could firmly defend socialism even when the socialist camp collapsed and the Korean people could add lustre to their dignity.

The fascist German army's 900-odd-day blockade of Leningrad in the former Soviet Union during the Second World War was recorded as one of the most horrible disasters in human history.

By the end of the 20th century, however, the world witnessed a protracted and cruel blockade far exceeding the 900 days of death, an unprecedented blockade against a country, rather than a city, in peacetime, not in wartime.

In addition to the blockade, natural disasters persisted for several years,

as if to test the will of the DPRK.

At that time, the imperialists spread the rumour of "333 crisis" that the DPRK would collapse in three days or three months or three years.

That is why the period of the Arduous March and forced march was etched in the memory of the Korean people as unforgettable days.

At the crossroads of whether to be reduced to the slaves of the imperialists or remain stately independent guards, Chairman Kim Jong Il upheld the banner of Songun and defended socialism.

The Songun politics formulated and systematized by him was a powerful political mode capable of defending the country and people, building an economic power and providing the people with an independent and creative life under the circumstances and conditions of that time.

Since the revolutionary

struggle is accompanied by the showdown of strength with the counterrevolutionary forces, it is only when it relies on powerful revolutionary armed forces that it can emerge victorious and defend the victory.

Songun politics was a treasured sword for defending the independent demand and interests of the masses of the people and the sovereignty and dignity of the nation from the imperialists' encroachment.

The serious lesson that countries and nations neglecting arms or lacking military capabilities for self-defence cannot prevent the imperialists' aggression and armed intervention but suffer the bitter lot of slaves is not just a past history but still remains a hard lesson to learn.

Chairman Kim Jong Il solved all problems arising in the revolution and construction on the principle of giving priority to military affairs and turned the Korean People's Army into an invincible army, thus

defending the country, the people and the socialist system.

In the course of this, he took a boat in rough seas and climbed up a steep cliff by pushing his skidding car to visit the soldiers of the People's Army.

During his field inspection tours, such moving stories about his nap and rice-ball and ten-year-old padded clothes were told.

He steadily consolidated the political foundation of the DPRK by dint of Songun politics to deliver a powerful driving force for the socialist cause.

The socio-political basis of the DPRK is the harmonious whole of the leader, the Party and the people.

He ensured that the army-people unity, the root of socialism, was strengthened with the KPA as the core and the single-hearted unity was further consolidated.

During the Arduous March and forced march, the unity of the army and the people became a noble

trait of the whole society, and the revolutionary soldier spirit created in the People's Army became an all-people ideological sentiment and served as the motive force for working many miracles.

The Chairman provided a guarantee for building up the immense economic power of the country with the Songun politics.

During the Arduous March and forced march, the People's Army became a shock brigade in all fields of socialist construction and the people erected gigantic structures by learning from the revolutionary soldier spirit, and great successes were achieved in the whole national economy and in the fields of science and culture.

Today, the people's dreams and ideals are turning into reality thanks to the wise guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and the DPRK is stepping up its advance for the comprehensive development of socialism.

## Foundations for building a powerful country laid on the road of Songun

By Han Jong Ho PT

Songun politics is an original political mode to vigorously press on with the revolution and construction as a whole, while defending the destiny of the country and nation.

Chairman Kim Jong Il directed constant efforts to strengthening the political and ideological position and defence capabilities as he ensured that socialist economic construction was simultaneously pushed forward.

He set the settlement of the electricity and food problems as a breakthrough in building an economic giant and saw that large hydropower stations were built throughout the country together with medium and small power stations. And he carried out such plans for economic construction as double cropping, potato farming, land realignment and the construction of gravity-fed waterways one by one.

The Chairman made sure that the Korean People's Army became the main force and shock brigade in achieving the socialist cause and played the vanguard role in dealing with economic difficulties.

The KPA service personnel, who were dispatched to different sectors of the national economy, greatly encouraged working people to work hard to finish the Arduous March and the forced march victoriously.

All the people were afire with

the daring spirit of charge and revolutionary enthusiasm by copying the revolutionary soldier spirit created in the KPA. In those years the Kanggye spirit, which turned the Arduous March into a march towards a paradise, was created and the flames of innovation like the torch of Ranam and that of Songgang were lit.

Underlying those miracles were the tireless field inspection tours made by the Chairman such as the over 2 400-kilometre forced march in blizzard and the 400-odd-kilometre forced march overnight.

On a visit to the Chollima Steel Complex in December 2008, he said that when Kangson, home of the Chollima movement, came alive, the whole country could be afire with enthusiasm and when its workers rushed forward energetically, all other people across the country could quicken their pace, kindling the flames of a new revolutionary upsurge in Kangson.

Greatly encouraged by the Chairman's frequent visits to the construction site of the Huichon Power Station, the soldier-builders created a miracle of finishing the construction of the large power station which had been believed to take 10 and more years in a matter of three years in the spirit of at a go, and the working class of the industrial city of Hamhung built a new vinalon fibre production base and fertilizer production process one after another.

In the flames of a new revolutionary upsurge and the

industrial revolution in the new century kindled by the Chairman, amazing successes were achieved in the struggle to improve the people's living standards and break through the cutting edge.

The first artificial earth satellite of the DPRK was sent into space, the major sectors of the national economy were put on a Juche, modern and scientific basis comprehensively and enormous economic successes like the reclamation of Taegyedo tideland, the construction of the Wonsan Youth Power Station, Youth Hero Motorway and other monumental edifices and the Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm, tough tasks even in normal times, were notched up one after another.

Modern grain production, livestock farming and fish farming bases were also built to lay a firm foundation of agricultural production and cities and rural villages including Pyongyang were turned into socialist fairylands.

As they perceive the present reality of the country where the seeds of all blessings sown by the Chairman are coming to fruition under the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, the Korean people look back with deep emotion on the patriotic exploits of the Chairman who provided them with the eternal cornerstone for building a wealthy country with a powerful army.

## Kim Jong Il and anecdotes

Chairman Kim Jong Il was on the road of field guidance for the people till the last moments of his revolutionary life.

The distance he covered is more than 669 844 kilometres, equivalent to a travel round the earth nearly 17 times.

A great number of anecdotes were produced on the road.

### Nap and rice-ball

In 1977 Kim Jong Il provided field guidance at a major construction site overnight and made his way home at dawn.

When the car had just left the construction site, he leaned on the backrest and fell fast asleep. He had been tired with his continuous work as he could neither find time to sleep on the day before. Regrettably, however, he woke about ten minutes after the car began to run.

When an accompanying official said that taking a nap was rather inferior to not having a sleep, he said: I didn't know how good a nap was before. Whenever there was a lot of work to do and I got extremely sleepy, I would have a short sleep in a chair, and from that time I came to know the taste of a nap. A nap is unsatisfactory as a sleep,

but it is a good sweet sleep that relieves fatigue intensively. For me, the nap is the sweetest.

The Chairman often had rice-balls on his inspection tours.

A rice-ball is made by filling a lump of boiled rice with a side dish and eaten in hand.

One day the Chairman left for field guidance on the east coast at dawn after working all night.

When the car reached a mountain bend at midday, he stopped the car, proposing having a light meal there.

He and officials sat around a broad and flat rock and each of them had two rice-balls for a meal.

The Chairman said rice-ball was best to bring and eat on a long journey.

Rice-ball is good as it is easy to prepare, takes less time to eat and causes no trouble to local officials or inhabitants, he noted, adding it can be said to be an ideal meal on journey for revolutionaries.

### Method of calculation

One April day Kim Jong Il convened a consultative meeting of officials.

The meeting discussed the issue of setting up a new process at the Pyongyang Wheat Flour

Processing Factory.

But nobody could come up with a good plan.

At that time the grand nationwide projects were going on to build many monumental structures in the run-up to the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. Therefore, it was impossible for the officials to plan a new construction project.

At that time Kim Jong Il said: You can provide the people with nothing if you are only given to calculation. Think of your mothers, everyone. If there is no cloth, they dress their children even by making clothing with their sole clothes and if there is no rice, they feed their children even by cutting their locks of hair and selling them to buy rice. Such persons were your mothers. Only with such selfless love can you do even one more thing for the people.

Pointing to the need even to use up state funds unsparingly if it could provide the people with a happy life, he said that it was his own arithmetic and the calculation method of the Workers' Party of Korea not to give precedence to economic benefits if it was for the good of the people.

# Here is Kangdong Greenhouse Complex in Pyongyang



By Kim Rye Yong PT

A large vegetable greenhouse farm, which cannot be seen even in Western countries with a developed greenhouse farming history like the Netherlands, also known as a country of flowers, has wonderfully been built on the outskirts of Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK.

Named the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex, it was inaugurated and went into operation on March 15. Covering an area of over 260 hectares, it has more than 1050 buildings, including vegetable greenhouses, production and public buildings and dwelling houses.

Introduced below are some of the characteristics of the complex.

## “Plant factory” – greenhouses equipped with cylindrical vegetable cultivation devices

It is needless to say that the industrialization of agriculture is the ultimate goal of the development of modern agriculture.

The Kangdong Greenhouse Complex has the “plant factory”, a greenhouse with cylindrical vegetable cultivation devices, in which it has completely been achieved.

In the greenhouse, essential environment and all conditions for the growth of crops are artificially provided at the ideal level and vegetables are produced by industrial method.

An advantage of the cylindrical vegetable cultivation device is that the absorption of nutritive substances and light utilization efficiency are very high because the cultivation frame turns round in a certain period and vegetable crops

are distributed around the source of light in the shape of a cylinder.

In the dust- and germ-free greenhouse 42 such devices have been installed and vegetables can be harvested 20 days after young seedlings are transplanted.

At present, dozens of varieties of functional vegetables are growing here.

## Digital greenhouse

An intelligent integrated production system for all greenhouses has been established in the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex. So, their environments and growth of crops there are measured and automatically read in real time and accordingly all production processes are automatically controlled including the provision of optimized production conditions.

The intelligent integrated production system consists of a virtual (cyber) production system, a distributed control system, terminal industrial information devices and industrial automation programming tools. Accordingly, a dual control system has been established to ensure the general control of the whole complex and the automatic control of each type of or individual greenhouses.

“If a problem arises in the growth of crops, we take measures in the virtual production system first and apply indexes with good results in reality. This is an important element of the intelligent integrated production system,” said Kim Song Hak, technical staffer of the complex.

## Various types of greenhouses, “greenhouse town”

The third large-scale vegetable

greenhouse built in recent five years, the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex has broken new ground in the architectural style in the DPRK which is ushering in a new era of greenhouse vegetable production.

There are seven kinds of greenhouses in the complex, like greenhouse with cylindrical vegetable cultivation devices, double-slope inter-connected glass hydroponic greenhouse, semi-arched double-layer vinyl hydroponic greenhouse, arch-style inter-connected vinyl soil greenhouse and vinyl greenhouse.

In addition, multi- and low-storeyed and terraced dwelling houses for more than 1 200 families, a nursery, a kindergarten, a school and a polyclinic have sprung up around the greenhouse area like a picture to blend in well with the surrounding geographical features, turning the area into a “greenhouse town”.

## 100% localization

“The advanced industrial information devices and industrial automation programs introduced into the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex were developed and made by our scientists and technicians 100 percent,” said Choe Song, head of the modernization institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

Thousands of information devices and control programs have been introduced into the complex.

Scientists and technicians of the State Academy of Sciences, the Academy of Agricultural Science and other scientific research and educational institutions made and developed the advanced information devices, cultivation devices and programs by their own efforts.

For example, they are the general

measuring device for hydroponic cultivation which measures the supply of nutrient solution, growth of crops and damage by blights and harmful insects and sends them to the integrated production system, the high-pressure mist spraying system which can lower the temperature and raise the humidity inside greenhouses in hot summer, the automatic agrochemicals sprayer, the environment control board, the cylindrical vegetable cultivation device, the intelligent integrated control system and the distributed control system.

They also developed substrate for hydroponic cultivation with the nutrient solution for vegetable production and perlite as raw materials, the nutrient solution reclaiming system and others by their own efforts to considerably reduce their production costs.

## In one year

The Kangdong Greenhouse Complex is not only noteworthy in modernity and advancement, convenience and originality but also amazing in the construction speed.

The service personnel of the Korean People’s Army in charge of the construction completed the project in a matter of a year with a high sense of loyalty and patriotism and in high spirits peculiar to them.

The construction of the greenhouses was really a war with nature and a contest of will.

It rained heavily and underground water continued to gush out, but the drainage capacity was so poor to pump out the water rising hour by hour in the construction site. However, the commanding officers held field consultative meetings dozens of times a day and

innovative ideas came up one after another in order to carry out the assignments which were so tough that no one would even dare to do by conventional means.

Turning the impossible into possible, the soldier-builders finally completed the construction of underground structures as planned in the indomitable fighting spirit by employing the method of cooperative, continuous and concentrated operation.

## Investment for people

A large sum of money was disbursed for the construction of the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex. Vegetables produced in the complex are wholly to be supplied to the citizens of Pyongyang.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who has the immutable will to provide the people with a rich and happy life as soon as possible, ensured that the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea decided the construction of a large greenhouse farm in the Kangdong area as a major construction task.

He illuminated the plans and ways to complete the project in the shortest period, ranging from the selection of the construction site to the formation of construction force and the supply of materials and personally chose and sent the most advanced agricultural science and technology data appropriate to the application of intensive greenhouse vegetable production.

He guided more than 300 mock-ups for the construction of the complex, including the master plan and bird’s-eye view, and over 3 800 technical design drawings.



Farmers pick the first harvest of vegetables at the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex. Various kinds of vegetables including cucumber, pumpkin, lettuce and cabbage are produced at the greenhouses. The vegetables are on sale at vegetable stores and greengroceries in each district of Pyongyang on April 1.

# National Foodstuff Exhibition-2024 held

## Show aims to promote production of popular foods

By **Jong Hwa Sun** PT

The National Foodstuff Exhibition-2024 took place at the Pyongyang Yokjon Department Store between March 27 and April 2.

Unlike the previous exhibitions which were held according to certain divisions of foodstuffs like the liquor and condiments exhibition, the recent one embraced the overall foodstuffs and it was the first time that such a special exhibition was held in the country, said Phyong Jong Gum, department director of the Ministry of Regional Industry. "It is very significant in that it was held at the time when a nationwide campaign for creation is in full swing to bring about a great change in improving the people's living standards by building regional-industry factories wonderfully across the country."

The exhibition, which opened under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Regional

Industry, was aimed at visually assessing the level of development of the foodstuff industry and actively promoting the sharing and dissemination of the successes and experience of advanced units to produce and supply famous products and commodities favoured and welcomed by the people in larger quantities.

It caught the eye of visitors as hundreds of thousands of products in over 200 kinds were displayed, including condiments, confectionery, beverages and processed meat and vegetables produced by well over a hundred units.

They won particular favour with a wide range of visitors as the main raw materials were all domestically produced and they were natural foodstuffs made from local specialities.

The Paegunsan General Foodstuff Factory, which has recorded a high growth in production in recent years, exhibited over 190 kinds of products.

According to Yun Chol, technical staffer of the factory, the factory has recently set up seven new production processes and widely encouraged the development of new products to increase the output of foodstuffs six times and more than double the kinds of products over those three years ago.

The secret of success lies in having put in efforts to train talents and arouse their enthusiasm to the maximum, he said, adding that as a result, its products were highly appreciated at the light industrial goods exhibition "Development of Light Industry-2023" and won the first prizes at the Spring National Commodity Show-2023 and the 14th Pyongyang Department Store No. 1 Commodity Exhibition last year.

The milk sponge cake, strawberry-cream sponge cake, yeast bread, chocolate sandwich cake, sausage and others exhibited by the

factory were the best-selling foodstuffs in the exhibition.

The Songdownon General Foodstuff Factory, the Yua General Foodstuff Factory, the Kyonghung Unhasu Foodstuff Factory and the Kimhwa County Foodstuff Factory also exhibited tasty and highly nutritious breads, cakes and candies.

The Samjiyon Potato Farina Factory and the Samjiyon Blueberry Drink Factory presented various kinds of processed foodstuffs made from potato and blueberry, specialities of Ryanggang Province and the City of Samjiyon, such as nourishing potato meal, potato noodles and blueberry juice and jam, attracting the interests of visitors.

The Pyongyang Essential Oil Factory exhibited fruit jam and juice made by concentrating apple, pear, peach, apricot and strawberry and the Sunam District Foodstuff Factory wild honey produced on Mt Chilbo, a celebrated mountain of the DPRK.

The Pyongyang Ostrich Farm presented 1.3-1.5kg heavy ostrich eggs and explained to customers the eating methods, daily intake and nutritive value in detail to lure customers.

During the exhibition, there were an experience-sharing meeting, sci-tech presentation and technical workshop related to foodstuff processing techniques and visits to modernized foodstuff factories in Pyongyang were also arranged.

## Functional edibles in great demand

By **Kim Hye Jong** PT

Many functional foods featured in the National Foodstuff Exhibition-2024.

The Samilpho Specialities Factory presented a variety of processed grains made from unpolished rice, bean, arrowroots, barley, potato and others.

"It is important to increase grain output and reduce the loss of produced grain to the minimum in order to improve the people's dietary life. But a considerable amount of grain is lost during the polishing process. After conducting meticulous research, we established a process for pulverizing and moulding grains," said Kim Song U, section chief of the factory.

The processed grains won public favour at the exhibition as they made the nutritive substances in grains easily absorbable.

For instance, the processed grain made from unpolished rice which is generally known to be indigestible turned out to be highly digestive and absorbable.

The bean processed grain which is made from bean cake, a byproduct from oil-pressing, has a rich content of proteins.

One of the eye-catching products at the exhibition was the nutritious jam made by using protein-rich insects

presented by the Pyongyang Export Processing Company.

As protein-rich insects breed fast and are rich in the contents of proteins, vitamins and microelements and comparatively low in fat, they are widely applied to the production of processed foods around the world.

The main contents of the nutritious jam made with protein-rich insects as the primary ingredient include high animal proteins, peptide, amino acids, various vitamins, mineral microelements and honey.

The proteins in the jam play an important role in the physiological process of all organisms and other elements help improve absorptivity by rationally and harmoniously mixing nutritive elements needed for human body.

The Tacsongsan Foodstuff-processing Company presented high-pressure sterilized products including boiled rice mixed with beef, pork or chicken.

The lead developer said that he harmoniously mixed medicinal materials such as astragalus and ginkgo fruit with seasonings in order to increase the nutritive value while enhancing the taste peculiar to meat, adding the products have a shelf life of more than six months as they remain untouched by human hand in the course of production and are sterilized in high pressure.



Fair-goers purchase processed foods at the National Foodstuff Exhibition-2024. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



## Children's goods show held at Pyongyang Children's Department Store

By **Kim Il Jin** PT

The Pyongyang Children's Department Store children's goods exhibition took place from March 20 to 27.

According to Pak I Sun, section chief of the Ministry of Commerce, the exhibition was aimed at increasing the variety of commodities and raising their qualitative level by boosting the competitive power of producers of children's goods.

This year's show is the second of its kind after the one held in 2019.

On display there were more than 230 000 pieces of articles in over 1 000 kinds presented by over 200 units.

Many units presented children's goods they had developed and produced to suit juvenile mind and to help children develop their intellectual faculties.

Booths were filled with a variety of toys, school things,

study apparatuses, foodstuffs, clothes and shoes, household necessitates which are helpful to bringing up children and health foods good for their growth and development.

A crowd-puller was the stand of the Kangson Vinyl Sheet Factory.

Plastic playthings including a large ball with the colour of rainbow, dolphin, penguin and doll were very alluring to children and their parents who visited the venue. The factory also exhibited a variety of essential plastic goods like such life preservers as life jacket.

Other eye-catchers were the stands displaying garments and shoes that came in various shapes and colours according to ages and seasons.

Meanwhile, the booth of foodstuffs was also crowded with visitors.

Products of the Mangyongdae Kyonghung Foodstuff Factory were in

great demand.

The factory exhibited more than 50 kinds of products made to suit the taste of children in careful consideration of nutritive value, including jellies and fries using fruits like jellies made of peach and fruits of *Crataegus pinnatifida*, strawberry-milk fry and tomato-filled fry.

Also distinctive was the furniture booth which was decorated to create a family atmosphere with furniture for children including bed and mirror stand and various textile playthings.

Visitors were fairly interested in products conducive to the children's intellectual education.

The Educational Books Publishing House came up with a product with which pre-school children can study by themselves without the assistance of their parents or teacher.

It comprises the books for

the study of Korean language, counting, songs, words and foreign languages, the cards containing a collection of world juvenile stories, songs and the Korean alphabet and

a sound pencil with a sensor. When you point the sound pencil to any word, sentence, sheet music or nursery story, you can hear them.

The exhibit drew the

special attention of parents as children can listen to the stories in standard pronunciation and it is helpful to their education, edification and mental development.



Customers admire home-made toys at the Pyongyang Children's Department Store children's goods exhibition. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

# School year opening ceremonies draw nationwide attention

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Opening ceremonies of the new school year simultaneously took place at all educational institutions across the DPRK on April 1.

Streets throughout the country were enlivened by uniform-clad new students shouldering satchels filled with textbooks, their parents and other students as all educational institutions were bedecked with festive decorations.

Underlying the opening ceremonies held in a jubilant mood amid nationwide attention and expectations is the special care shown by the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government.

Education is an important matter to which the WPK and the government pay primary attention.

As indicated in the slogans "Let us entrust our future to education!" and "Let us make education the one which can take charge of our future!", it is the invariable stand of the Party and the government to open up a broad avenue for prosperity by bringing about a radical turn in education.

Therefore, a series of important measures have been taken for the development of education in the new century of the Juche era.

Following the promulgation of the law on the enforcement of universal 12-year compulsory education, 2017 and 2018 were designated as years of science and education to increase nationwide and all-society interest in improving educational conditions and environment. The slogan "Let us make ours a country of education and a talent power by bringing about a radical improvement in education in the new century" was set



Opening ceremonies of the new school year simultaneously take place at all educational institutions across the DPRK on April 1.

forth at a national conference of educational workers, followed by tasks and ways for developing education.

The Third Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in June 2021 noted that it is the most important policy of the WPK and the state to provide children with better upbringing conditions even by spending a colossal sum of money.

The task of supplying school uniforms and school things to the students across

the country at state expense was assigned at the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in December 2021 and crucial measures were taken by the Party Central Committee to implement it.

Drastic measures were taken last year to adjust the educational structure to ensure advanced education and to improve and strengthen education in order to put the country's education on the world's advanced level. The law on supporting education

was adopted in December 2023, making support to education a sacred duty of citizens.

The Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee held in December in the run-up to 2024 discussed the matter of displaying a high sense of responsibility in implementing socialist policies for schoolchildren as an independent agenda item.

After the meeting, new guidelines on the body measurement for students were formulated and issued

for the first time in the country's history of garment industry, followed by demonstrations, workshops and other technical courses given by professionals in the relevant fields. The production of cloth for school uniform was finished in a short time, so that the production of uniforms, shoes and satchels for new students across the country was completed in March, and they were supplied to new students in all parts of

the country, even in remote mountain villages and islets.

Thanks to the blessings of the people who have devoted themselves to the preparations of the new school year with the viewpoint that slowing down one step in the education of the younger generation means a ten-step delay in the advance of the country, the opening ceremonies of the new school year became a matter of special concern throughout the country.



An opening ceremony of the new school term is held at the Korean Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities on April 1.

## New school year begins at rehabilitation centre for children with disabilities

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

An opening ceremony of the 12th school term took place at the Korean Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities on April 1.

Present there were Yun Chang Il, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled, nurses, teachers and medical workers of the centre, children with disabilities and their parents.

At the ceremony, Song Hyang Chun, director of the centre, made remarks.

Saying that the centre is

a unit for special education and recovery of children with disabilities, she referred to the fact that they are now being supplied with the same school things, confectionery and dairy products every year as normal children and receive medical rehabilitation under the care of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government.

She expressed the will to bring about a greater innovation in rehabilitation, upbringing and education of children with disabilities by studying and applying world-class advanced science and technology, putting the centre's affairs on a

specialized and scientific basis and taking good care of the nutrition of children with disabilities.

Physiatrist Choe Kwang Il expressed his resolve to further deepen the research into scientifically solving the problems arising in the rehabilitation, upbringing and education of those children according to their kinds of disabilities and age groups.

Speaking on behalf of the parents of children with disabilities, Yun Hyang Sim gave vent to her excitement saying that she could hardly control tears welling up in her eyes when she saw her child,

who had been diagnosed as an autistic, singing the song We Are the Happiest in the World happily together with normal kindergarten children at the performance on June 1 International Children's Day last year thanks to the painstaking efforts of doctors and teachers of the centre.

She made a deep bow of gratitude to the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un in reflection of the unanimous desire of the children with disabilities and their parents.

After the opening ceremony was over, the participants looked round various places of the centre.



# Children's happy smile, symbol of socialism

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The DPRK spares nothing for children.

It is a state policy to produce and supply high-quality new uniforms and other school things to all students throughout the country at state expense. It was legislatively fixed to supply dairy products and nutritious foods to children of nurseries and kindergartens across the country every day. Policies for children are discussed and decided on at meetings on important affairs of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state.

Amid the wishes of the whole country there takes place the Congress of the Korean Children's Union as a state-level meeting with its participants travelling by special

train and plane.

Busy as he is with Party and state affairs, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un spares no time for children, wishing them happiness and a rosy future and having a photo session with them.

He had a photo session with the participants in the Ninth Congress of the KCU on New Year's Day in 2023. And he saw New Year performance of schoolchildren before posing for a photograph with the performers on New Year's Day this year.

Why does the DPRK grant children all special privileges and show all sorts of love and affection for them?

At the historic Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK Kim Jong Un said that the work

for schoolchildren is a political affair for guaranteeing the rosy future of the country before it is an economic and practical work and the children's bright laugh is just a symbol of the socialist system and the image of Korean-style socialism.

Just after delivering his New Year Address for 2015, he visited the Pyongyang Baby Home and Pyongyang Orphanage to keep his promise with children there, and said that the louder the laughter of our children without any shadow on their faces gets, the brighter the whole country will be and that the laughter of children, the sound of the song *We Are the Happiest in the World*, will reverberate more loudly and vigorously on this land where we make revolution.

And on his visit to the Pyongyang

Children's Foodstuff Factory in November that year, he said that it is for children, the future of the country, that we make revolution by overcoming difficulties and that when he hears the happy laughter of children, he gets optimistic about the bright and rosy future though it is difficult today.

As he regards children as treasures of the country more valuable than billions of tons of gold and its hope and future, he devotes his all to making children grow up happily in the best conditions and environment with nothing to envy in the world.

Thus lots of structures for children were splendidly built including the Pyongyang Baby Home, Pyongyang Orphanage, Okryu Children's Hospital and Songdown International

Children's Camp and children of the disaster-stricken area where the rehabilitation campaign was underway went to the camp.

Kim Jong Un has built up the country's military capability in every way in order to defend children's laughter and protect them against the ravages of war.

It is his noble outlook on the rising generation and future that it should be the way of advance and development of the Korean revolution to show more sincerity for children even if the condition becomes worse and take dynamic steps forward towards the future of communism with the might of that love.

As a result, children grow cheerfully and vigorously in the DPRK and the socialist cause of the country advances dynamically.

## Middle school for orphans informatized on high level

### A wireless network for data service and education management was built across the school

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans has gone beyond the limitations of space and time in all aspects of learning, ability assessment, management of educational resources and school administration.

According to Principal Kim Un, the school has put the teaching practice, educational resource and environment management and various kinds of business service on an informatized footing and set up a comprehensive data service system based on wireless network communications capable of collecting, analyzing, assessing, predicting and controlling educational information in a unified and scientific way.

She said that a wireless network for data service and education management was built across the school, including classrooms, labs, offices and dormitories.

The learning management system built in the network enables students to review and prepare for lessons by themselves, and the online testing system helps them assess their educational attainments on their own.

This online testing system can not only assess students' abilities but also evaluate teachers' qualifications.

The school contest system is fanning an enthusiasm for collective competition among students and teachers.

The informatization level

of school administration has also been raised.

Tasks are assigned, performed and examined between teachers and students through the task inspection feature, and the assessment of teachers and students are made with the help of educational assessment techniques and artificial intelligence.

The intelligence assessment support system enables class teachers and subject teachers to evaluate the intellectual abilities of each student scientifically in terms of language intelligence, logic and mathematical intelligence, spatial intelligence, music intelligence, kinesthetic intelligence, communication skills and reflective skills, and to select and train students in consideration of the evaluation results and develop relatively low-valued intellectual capacities.

AI ensures scientific evaluation index management and comprehensive assessment of teachers.

An intelligent teaching evaluation system and question-and-answer system were also introduced.

The intelligent teaching inspection system gives guidance to the teaching units automatically by analyzing the students' attainments and attitudes during classes, and the automatic Q&A feature gives answers to the questions asked by students on the relevant subjects.

More importantly, all these systems can be used at any

time in any part of the school.

The electronic boards installed in the classrooms enhance cognitive effects and teaching density and ensure seamless teaching.

Amazing features of the school are not confined to the modern equipment and the data service system.

The state covers the expenses for everything from the construction of the school to the food, clothing and lodging of the students and the present informatization of education, drawing the admiration of many people.

Kim Un said that the school is a model of junior and senior middle schools in the DPRK.

Her words are not unfounded.

Looking round the newly built Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans in July 2016, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said that the orphaned children were the sons and daughters of the Workers' Party of Korea.

He also said that the orphans across the country should be trained to be the core of the revolution and the backbone of the country and they should grow up to be scientists, soldiers and heroes.

Thanks to the special care and huge investment of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government, Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans, rather than a special institution for genius education, has become a model of secondary education in the country.



Teachers of Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans hold a discussion on ways to further raise the informatization level of lessons.



Students review lessons in the study hall and a study room in the dormitory on the wireless network at Pyongyang Middle School for Orphans. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



# Space development will be accelerated in DPRK: Vice General Director of NATA

KCNA

**P**ak Kyong Su, vice general director of the National Aerospace Technology Administration (NATA), told KCNA on March 31 as regards the DPRK's implementation of the goal for space exploration on the occasion of the founding anniversary of the NATA which supervises and controls the space exploration of the country in a unified way.

The NATA, founded on April 1 2013 in accordance with the space development policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government, has steadily guided the country's space conquering activities for over ten years, he said, and went on:

In the period, we stepped up the work for introducing the application technology into the build-up of national defence and economy and the improvement of the people's

living standards, as we made satellites multi-functional and high-performance and solved many technological problems related to satellite control and operation in our own way.

Last year, the reconnaissance satellite Malligyong-1 was successfully launched as part of the efforts for attaining the immediate and long-term goals of the Workers' Party of Korea's policy of conquering space. As a result, marked progress has been made in bolstering up the national defence capability and this year, too, the launching of several reconnaissance satellites is expected.

Scientists and technologists have made a series of successes in the research into core space science and technology with their extraordinary creative spirit and practical ability.

The development of space industry is of great significance in building a powerful socialist country where

the rapid development is firmly guaranteed by up-to-date science and technology and, accordingly, the need for space exploration and use is increasing as the days go by.

For the accelerated development of space, the DPRK government aims at carrying out advanced and valuable space development projects in the light of the strategic interests of the state on a priority basis at the present stage and building a space power by steadily expanding the successes.

In keeping with setting it as a priority task for the state space programme to possess weather observation satellite, earth observation satellite and communications satellite, the NATA is pushing ahead with the work to apply space sci-tech achievements in various sectors including agriculture, fisheries, meteorological observation, resource

exploration, land management and disaster prevention.

The work for dynamically pressing on with the growth of space industry is brisk in all fields under the nationwide, all-society and all-people concern and support.

Seminars on space science and technology, which serve as important occasions in developing space science and technology, have been regularly held to consolidate the successes made in the field of space science and technology and to open up a new scientific field of key importance in space development and use.

Faculties and departments related to space including aerospace, space observation and satellite communications have been established at higher education units and reserve creative talents are trained to make a positive contribution to the development of the country's space industry.

Institutes and laboratories specializing in developing various kinds of working satellites were established at Kim Il Sung University and Kim Chaek University of Technology and research units related to space were formed at the State Academy of Sciences and universities to step up research into making thorough preparations for disastrous weather, effectively protecting and using the resources of the country and accelerating the scientific development of the national economy.

We will surely build a space power by putting sustained spurs to the independent development of space, bearing in mind that the growth of the space industry is a key element and a demonstration of the comprehensive national power in providing a shortcut to securing the position of a world-class economic and sci-tech power.

## Strikingly different reality and future seen through youth issue



**Ryang Kun Chol**  
Section chief of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League

**A**ll countries have youth. However, every country has failed to resolve the youth problem.

According to information, the missing of youth arises as a severe problem in Japan, where over 100 000 people are "evaporated" in the human world for reasons of debt, unemployment and learning distress.

Surprising is the fact that most of shooting cases occurring ceaselessly in the US are committed by young people, but more astonishing is that the youth in their twenties are the principal offenders.

The drug abuse is also a serious problem.

It is said that most young people use drug one or two times for amusement in Western countries including the US, Germany and Japan, and many of them are in a situation that they cannot refrain from using drug every day.

A European study organization of the youth problem which conducted

an opinion poll for 16 to 24-year-olds in over 50 cities found that 40 percent of respondents do not feel ashamed of committing theft and more than half of young people have already used drug.

Young people are regarded as masters of the future. Then, the future of those countries is as clear as day.

But in the DPRK, the youth are a synonym for miracles and exploits, and virtues and traits.

In the new century of the Juche era alone, the Korean young builders carried out a huge amount of task equivalent to the work done for ten years in a little over 120 days, thereby creating the legend of heroic youth by finishing the dam of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station despite the biting cold of a northern area. Last year, they built Jonwi Street, the grand youth monument, by unsparingly devoting the strength and passion of their youth to further sprucing up the capital city of Pyongyang.

The feats of young people who distinguish themselves as frontrunners in the van of the times and major sites of socialist construction are great. And those who had once taken wrong ways in life started with a clean slate at difficult and labour-consuming posts for the prosperity of the country and thereby grow into creators of innovation.

Korean young men and women are now in higher spirits in the beginning of this year which will confirm victory in the fulfilment of the five-year plan for national economic development.

Over 80 young people in South Hwanghae Province volunteered for the major sectors of economic development, which constitutes the first patriotic step taken by our youth to add brilliance to the name of our youth league.

To live an admirable, fulfilling youth for the country--herein lies our dignity and pride and future that we firmly believe in.

## Eternal human rights desert

By Song Jong Ho PT

**A** Japanese sociologist said in a recent seminar on the theme of prevention of family violence and others that "it is a man-made disaster structurally caused by politics that women get into trouble".

It is bitter criticism of the politics and social system of his country.

In Japan, women can neither have equal status to men nor exercise the elementary rights of man. They are forced to suffer a miserable fate as the targets of social contempt, abuse and violence and even lose their lives, with their personality and dignity being totally trifled by the degenerate way of life seeking animal lust.

Discrimination and abuse against women rampant in the country is not simply the historical transmission of its habit of male supremacy to its posterity, but an inevitable outcome of Japanese society where all descriptions of immorality and depravity and the law of the jungle prevail.

In Japan, children are also placed in a desperate situation.

In 2022, the number of consultations related to child abuse across the country reached 219 170, an increase by 11 510 cases over the previous year, renewing the

highest records in succession since 1990. The cases of physical abuse like binding with rope or kicking and beating reportedly grew in number by 2 438 over the previous year to reach 51 679.

Parents abuse and even kill their children at will on the pretext of "education".

Reportedly, the UN commission on the rights of children expressed concern over such a situation in Japan and issued a written advice to demand the authorities take strong measures against it.

However, no one believes that it will take effect.

Originally, Japan has widely been known to the world as a notorious criminal country of human rights violations.

In the first half of the past century, it invaded Korea and other Asian countries and committed the worst atrocities of human rights violation beyond human imagination.

It kidnapped, abducted and forcibly took away 200 000 Korean women and reduced

them to sexual slaves for the imperial Japanese army, a crime against humanity unprecedented in the world history of war, and drafted more than 8.4 million Koreans for conscription and forced labour, killing over 1 million among them.

Unit 731, the group of devils that carried out biological and chemical experiments with many live people as guinea pigs and mercilessly killed them, also belonged to the Japanese imperial army.

And it is really infuriating all the people that the Japanese authorities have not yet admitted, apologized and compensated for their bloody past until today, though nearly 80 years have passed since the defeat of Japanese militarism.

Today's reality is only natural for Japan with such criminal records of human rights violations.

Japan was the worst human rights violator yesterday and is the human rights desert to be censured by all people in the world even today.

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# Criminal past must be settled

By Choe Yong Nam PT

In April 1938, the Japanese imperialists cooked up and announced the criminal “law on national mobilization”.

While expanding overseas invasion to Asia after their military occupation of Korea, they promulgated the fascist law on April 1 1938 in order to allocate the human and material resources needed for the expansion of the war.

It was a draconian wartime law for forcing all economic activities to meet the requirements of the wartime and dealing with labour and material shortages by invoking the power of ruling organs.

It demanded that all material

and human resources, including weapons, warships, means of transport and other materials and equipment, be mobilized in the long-drawn-out war of aggression.

It also allowed the Japanese government to use money in expanding the munitions industry with the right to control monetary and financial affairs.

The law was enforced more severely and viciously in Korea.

The Japanese imperialists included in the law the sentence “The enforcement of the law applies to overseas territories (colonial countries) as well” and forcefully drafted more than 8.4 million innocent Koreans by means of the law.

Such Koreans were taken to wherever the Japanese imperialists made aggressive moves, including China, the Philippines and the South Sea Islands as well as Japan, to be subjected to slave labour, maltreatment and miserable death.

The Japanese imperialists used the law to further push forward the drafting of women as sexual slaves for their imperial army. They abducted and took in custody 200 000 Korean women from teenagers to married women to force them into sexual slavery for the beast-like Japanese soldiers. When their defeat was near at hand, they did not hesitate to brutally murder the women to cover up their crimes.

The Japanese imperialists brought

pain and death to the Koreans by taking away many of them as cannon fodder for the aggressive war, taking them to the sites of forced labour and using them as sexual slaves. The inhumane atrocities can never be pardoned as they are hideous acts of human rights violation unprecedented in human history.

Japan, with the bloody past history, has not yet addressed its past crimes for nearly 80 years since its defeat. Rather, it is denying and embellishing the crimes and using every trick possible to evade its responsibility for them.

Today is unthinkable apart from the past and the criminal past should be addressed without fail.

## World Health Day

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

As the United Nations was founded after the end of the Second World War, its member nations discussed the issue of setting up an international organization specializing in dealing with the matters related to the health of mankind in a unified way.

The World Health Charter adopted in 1946 began to take effect on April 7 1948, which was later set as the anniversary of the World Health Organization.

Since then, the WHO has offered its member nations technical cooperation in public health and coordinated collaboration between them to prevent, gather statistics of and cure diseases, and promoted the training of health workers and research so as to contribute to protecting and improving the health of humankind.

Nevertheless, 4.5 billion people, more than half of the world population, still fail to get essential medical services and hundreds of millions of others cannot afford to go to hospital for lack of money or are suffering poverty due to huge

doctor’s fees after getting medical treatment.

The WHO puts forward a theme on important health issues on the occasion of World Health Day every year and conducts activities on a worldwide scale to enlighten the masses over the theme and carry out projects related to it.

The theme for this year’s World Health Day is “My health, my right”.

The DPRK’s law on public health adopted on April 3 1980 stipulates that all the citizens are entitled to free medical care.

The DPRK values human life most and takes it as its most important affair to protect and improve the lives and health of working people. It steadily channels big efforts into developing public health, while systematically increasing state investment in the public health sector.

As a member of the WHO, the DPRK will continue to strive for promoting the people’s health and developing the world health service in close cooperation with the organization.

## Death of Middle East caused by ‘export of American democracy’

KCNA

China’s Xinhua News Agency recently posted an article titled “The death of the Middle East caused by the ‘export of American democracy’”.

The US invaded Iraq without hesitation on March 20 twenty-one years ago under the signboard of “freedom and democracy”, the news agency said, adding that the Iraqi people still suffer the negative effects of the “export of American democracy”.

Asserting that the US’ invasion of Iraq imposed endless instability and apprehension on the Iraqi people, wreaked havoc on this old civilized country and pushed it into the quagmire of war, it emphasized that the sufferings of the Iraqi people are nothing but the epitome of negative effects caused by the “export of American democracy”.

According to world statistics, many Iraqi civilians lost their lives due to the war and violent conflict and about 9.2 million others were reduced to refugees or left their native places from 2003 to 2021, it revealed.

It said that the US chants spectacular slogans such as “freedom and democracy” and “rules-based international order” at every opportunity but it, in fact, intends to split the international community and maintain its supremacy under the pretext of “democracy”.

Referring to the fact that the US has long forced its political system and idea of values upon others and endlessly exported war under the pretext of “democracy”, it disclosed that the “democracy” has already become a “weapon of mass destruction” for the US to interfere in other countries’ internal affairs and create instability and division there.

It said that American democracy

commits many crimes and the Middle East is one of the areas where its harmful consequences are most serious.

The US put forward a plan to “change the Middle East by means of democracy” and declared that it would sow every soil of the Middle East with seeds of “revolution of jasmine” but the Middle East-version “colour revolution” caused an endless upheaval in each country, it noted.

Saying that the Middle Eastern countries were plunged into civil wars one after another but the US and other Western countries, which instigated the “colour revolution” behind the curtains, embellished it as “Arab Spring”, it added that the US is always posing as the “beacon of human rights” but this “beacon” commits various kinds of inhuman misdeeds.

It disclosed with detailed examples that the US troops murdered civilians at random during their invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan, startled the world by maltreating prisoners at the Abu Ghraib detention centre in Iraq and Bagram detention centre in Afghanistan, created a crisis in Syria to steal oil and wheat from the country for a long time and overthrew the Libyan government to plunge the Libyan people deep into endless darkness.

It said that the US advertises “democracy” everywhere not because it is really interested in democracy but because it intends to split the world, create confrontation and maintain its supremacy under the pretext of “democracy”.

Saying that while being distressed by the evils of American democracy, the US still tries to teach others, it emphasized that if it harms others and promotes only its own interests under the banner of “democracy”, it will be forsaken by the whole world.

## Putin states intention to defend territorial integrity

KCNA

President Vladimir Putin announced that Russia would protect its territorial integrity in a meeting with air force pilots in Tver Region on March 27.

Branding the remarks that Russia may attack Poland and the Baltic States as a ridiculous sophism, he said they constitute another trick to deceive their own citizens and get extra funds from them.

Referring to the fact that NATO is stretching out its tentacles inch by inch to the Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Latin American and other regions across the world, he

lambasted NATO for frightening its people with “threats from Russia” and forcing its policy on the whole world.

In case US-made nuclear-capable F-16 fighters are delivered to Ukraine, Russia will destroy them and if the fighters take off from airfields in a third country to be used against the Russian forces, they will be the legitimate targets of Russia wherever they are, he stated.

Russia has neither design for aggression nor mind to fight with NATO, but it will protect all the people residing in its own territory, he stressed.

## Briefly

### Russia

#### Putin refers to tasks for development of tourism

Russian President Vladimir Putin pointed out a series of tasks at a conference on the development of the tourist industry on March 28.

It is needed to double the share of the tourist sector in the country’s economy by 2030, he said, adding that all national plans would be actually set in motion, including the building of tourist infrastructures in all national parks for the development of tourism.

He stressed that a variety of tourist service proposals that suit the likings of Russians should be expanded so that they can travel around the country and everything should be done in a modern style by taking advantage of latest technologies.

### Iran

#### President reaffirms support for the cause of Palestine

Iranian President Seyed Ebrahim Raisi reaffirmed his stand to support the cause of Palestine at a talk with the director of the political bureau of Hamas (Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement) which was held in Teheran on March 27.

The fact that Israel is the root cause of all regional instability and a being opposed to peace has been proved before the world people today, along with the justice of the Palestinian cause, he said, adding that his country would make every effort for the cause of Palestine.

### China

#### FM spokesman decries Japan’s arms buildup

Japan recently increased the “defence expenses” in its budget for 2024 by 16.9 percent over last year, setting the highest record in history.

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of China said at a press conference on March 29 that Japan’s military tendency has always been a great concern of neighbouring countries and the international community due to the modern history of aggression of Japanese militarism.

He strongly demanded Japan fully respect the security concerns of neighbouring countries, seriously reflect on its history of aggression and advance along the road of peaceful development.

### WHO

#### CoViNet launched

The World Health Organization set up CoViNet, a new network related to corona viruses, in order to accurately detect, watch and evaluate the viruses in their early stages.

It is based on WHO’s COVID-19-related lab network which was set up at the outset of the pandemic crisis.

There was a meeting of representatives of labs to confirm an action plan for 2024-2025 in Geneva on March 26-27.

# DPRK weightlifters win gold medals at 2024 IWF World Cup



By Ri Sung Ik PT

**D**PRK player Won Hyon Sim took the first place in the 2024 International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) World Cup.

The tournament, which started in Thailand on March 31, brought together more than 460 men and women players from 110 countries and regions including the DPRK, China, Iran and Canada.

That day, Won Hyon Sim bagged three gold medals by lifting 87kg in snatch (new world record), 109kg in jerk (new world record) and 196kg in total (new world record) in the women's 45kg category.

Ri Song Gum and Pang Un Chol won the titles of women's 49kg and men's 55kg events

respectively at the 2024 IWF World Cup.

Ri Song Gum lifted 97kg in snatch, 124kg in jerk and 221kg in total (new world record) to earn gold medals in jerk and total and silver in snatch on April 1.

On the same day, Pang Un Chol snatched 118kg and jerked 152kg with 270kg in total to come first in jerk and total and third in snatch.

DPRK weightlifters proved successful at the 2024 IWF World Cup while renewing world records.

Kang Hyon Gyong came first at the women's 55kg category on April 2. She bagged three gold medals by lifting 103kg in snatch and 131kg in jerk (new world record), 234kg in total (new world record).

She renewed the previous world records in jerk and total, set by herself at the 19th Asian Games last year.

Meanwhile, Pak Myong Jin took the third place in jerk and total respectively at the men's 61kg category.

The Korean players are achieving successes day by day in the 2024 International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) World Cup.

On April 4, Ri Won Ju lifted 144kg in snatch and 189kg in jerk (new world record) and 333kg in total in the men's 67kg category to win two gold medals in jerk and total and a silver in snatch.

That day, Kim Il Gyong bagged a gold in snatch and two silvers in jerk and total of the women's 59kg category.

Ri Song Gum and Pang Un Chol win the women's 49kg and men's 55kg events of the 2024 IWF World Cup respectively.

## 2024 General Meeting of DPRK Olympic Committee held

By Kim Hak Chol PT

**T**he 2024 General Meeting of the DPRK Olympic Committee took place at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on March 29.

Present there were members of the Olympic Committee and officials in the sports field and relevant sector.

The meeting reviewed the work of the DPRK Olympic Committee in 2023 and discussed the orientation of its work in 2024.

Kim Il Guk, minister of Physical Culture and Sports who is chairman

of the DPRK Olympic Committee, delivered a report.

He said that all members of the Olympic Committee and sportspersons wrote a proud page in the history of the country's sports by redoubling their efforts and displaying the greatest fighting power in 2023. He detailed the successes made by the Olympic Committee, describing them as the products of the great efforts made by all of them on the strength of patriotism.

Referring to the international responses to the successes made by sportspersons of the DPRK in

various international events held in 2023, he said that the results eloquently proved that the Korean-style training theory and methods they discovered and promoted in the course of continuous creation and innovation and arduous struggle and practice and the road they chose were correct.

The report was followed by speeches.

Speakers expressed their determination to fulfil their duty in making the country join the ranks of the advanced nations in sports by pooling strength and wisdom with a sense of patriotism and displaying devotion and fighting spirit and thus winning more medals in major international events to be held this year.

After the report and speeches were made, the general meeting discussed the orientation of work of the DPRK Olympic Committee in 2024, including the detailed tasks and practical matters to be carried out by relevant units in the field of sports for greater successes in the future on the basis of successes, experience and lessons.



The 2024 General Meeting of the DPRK Olympic Committee takes place in Pyongyang on March 29.

## National Martial Arts Championships open

KCNA

**T**he National Martial Arts Championships of the 2024 Spring National Sports Festival began on March 29.

The championships have brought together more than 530 excellent players, coaches, students and teachers selected from Taekwon-Do teams, paduk

teams of the Paduk Centre, Korea University of Physical Education and other units across the country.

Taekwon-Do, wushu, Korean chess, paduk and other events will be held at the Taekwon-Do Hall, the Taekwon-Do Holy House and the Pyongyang Gold Lane.

That day, there were Korean chess and paduk individual matches.

## Natural monument— Jasan ginkgo tree

By Song Jong Ho PT

**A** female ginkgo tree grows in Jasan-ri, Phyongsong, South Phyongan Province.

Planted in about 1280, it is 26 metres tall, 6.8 metres round at the root collar, 5.5 metres round at the chest and 23 metres wide at the crown.

Its trunk is greyish brown.

A leaf is 5-6cm wide and 3-4cm long which means it is smaller than those of other ginkgoes, and is not bisected at the tip.

The tree bears

especially a small amount of fruits.

As it adds beauty to the surrounding landscape and is of significance in ecological study, it was designated as a living monument in January 1980.

