

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un takes important measures for rehabilitation in flood-hit areas

He visits the tents, in which the flood victims are living temporarily, meets and warmly consoles them



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The great father, endowed with warm love and ennobling spirit of making

selfless, devoted efforts for the people, continues the long journey of devoted service for their well-being, making tireless thinking and efforts for them all

the time. His sacred leadership reached the flood-stricken people again, redoubling their confidence in and optimism about the future.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president

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of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited the flood-hit area in Uiju County of North Phyongan Province again on August 8 and 9, and took important measures for rehabilitation project.

Having organized an honourable campaign for providing the homeless people in the disaster-stricken areas with wonderful homes as soon as possible, he met the flood victims in Uiju County on August 8.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, Pak Jong Chon, Kim Jae Ryong, Ju Chang Il and Han Kwang Sang, leading officials of the WPK Central Committee.

He was greeted on the spot by Ri Hi Yong, chief secretary of the North Phyongan Provincial Committee of the WPK, and the chairman of the provincial people's committee, the chief secretary of the Uiju County Party Committee and the chairman of the county people's

committee.

On a hillock near a bank of the Amnok River overlooking an inundated island of Uiju County, he learned in detail again about the actual conditions of the flooded area, whose appearance began to surface, and gave important instructions for rehabilitation.

He stressed the need to expand and propel the rehabilitation project in a forward-looking and development-oriented way from the viewpoint that it is not merely an undertaking for removing the aftermath of natural disaster but a crucial issue of implementing the Party's far-reaching regional development programme, and said:

In order to tackle the chronic vulnerability of the area that turns into a "reservoir" whenever it rains heavily, we should decisively raise the water-passage capacity. The hydraulic engineering and design sectors should take practical measures after making joint review in a scientific way the current state of the river

banks and the flood-prevention capacity of Uiju County, which is bound to suffer flood damage whenever the water level of the Amnok River rises.

A radical change should be made by building a highly-civilized and modern residential district as good as the ones in city on this occasion of constructing new houses in the county. The county should be turned into an ideal "cultured rural city," which is furnished on a high level with all the elements related to urban management, ranging from the supply of electricity and drinking water to sewage treatment in particular.

Then, he visited the tents, in which the flood victims are living temporarily, and warmly consoled them.

As they saw unexpectedly Kim Jong Un who visited their quarters in the sweltering weather, the flood victims broke into cheers of "Hurrah!" in tears of great excitement.

They thanked him, looking up in tears to the father of a large socialist family,

who had driven his way through rough waters some days before to visit the flood-stricken areas and stayed there for a long time to rescue all of them from critical danger, and now visited their tents, bestowing paternal affection on them.

Sitting knee to knee with the flood victims, Kim Jong Un took meticulous care of their living, asking them whether they felt anything inconvenient, how their meals were provided and if there were any sick ones.

They replied that they feel nothing inconvenient as all necessary living conditions have been provided thanks to his boundless love and the whole country renders all-out assistance, expressing their single desire to live up to his great benevolence.

Saying that it would be hard for them to live away from home, he called on them to endure the difficulty a little more until the day when a paradise will

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be built on the ruins left by the natural disaster and they will lead a better life. He thanked them for invariably believing in the Party, adding rehabilitation is not so challenging as there exists such deep trust.

Feeding children with confectionery he personally brought and putting smart clothes on them, he said that seeing children he felt really encouraged and he learned more clearly for whom we should struggle and we should become stronger.

Feeling the warm parental affection of the fatherly leader, who talked with them for a long time despite sultry weather, warmly taking their hands to console them and redouble their confidence and courage, the flood victims, unable to repress their surging emotion, thrust themselves into his embrace, raising stormy cheers in tears.

The flood victims followed him step by step, reluctant to take leave of him. Telling them to go back, he promised to see them again the next day.

He met the flood victims of Uiju County again on August 9 to clarify the stand of the Party and the government related to rehabilitation, take crucial measures and console them.

He came by his train with the relief materials prepared by the Party Central Committee for the flood victims of the city of Sinuiju and Uiju County to ensure that they were conveyed to them.

He also authorized members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee to convey the relief materials to the flood victims in Jagang and Ryanggang provinces on the spot.

Cadres of the Party Central Committee handed over the relief materials to the flood victims.

The flood victims of Uiju County, who received the materials associated with his warm care, raised loud cheers of "Hurrah!" in tears, overwhelmed by deep

gratitude and great happiness.

Kim Jong Un showed warm parental care for children, warmly hugging them in new clothes, caressing their heads and talking with them in whispers.

He made a consolatory speech before the flood victims.

In the speech he said:

I have come here again to acquaint myself with the situation in greater detail on the spot, reassign some tasks for the rehabilitation project and take additional measures of national importance, which would be helpful to you. I feel much relieved and greatly encouraged to see all of you in good health, showing no sign of inconvenience.

The people constitute the foundation and pillars of our Party and the state and the starting point and focus of all their activities. I take pride in the fact that the people place an absolute and unconditional trust in the Party and the government even in these days of harsh trials.

Kim Jong Un clarified the stand of the Party and the government on the issue of promoting the living of the flood victims and rehabilitation and the important measures to be taken, adding:

The Party and the state are concentrating all their efforts on the rehabilitation campaign. A powerful construction workforce, including service personnel of the People's Army and young people, has already been deployed and the transport of rehabilitation materials is going on under an emergency system.

The most urgent issue arising in the period of two or three months before the housing construction is completed and their living stabilized is the one of life and education of children and students. Care, edification and education of them is the most important of state affairs that could never be given up even if the sky may fall in.

He then made public such an important measure as to put into operation an emergency system whereby during the

restoration work all the students and other children of the afflicted families in North Phyongan, Jagang and Ryanggang provinces are brought to Pyongyang to be provided with care and education in a safe and convenient environment entirely at state expense, and to offer in Pyongyang state-sponsored protective benefits to the old and sick, honoured disabled ex-soldiers and nursing mothers.

Kim Jong Un went on:

As everyone has their own personal problems, it is up to their intentions and decisions. But as these measures have been set as a top priority of the state, the Party and the government will take full charge and care of the health and life of the flood victims, who will come to Pyongyang, with utmost devotion and show them all sincerity.

The enemy is now persisting in their foolish attempt to abuse the flood damage suffered by us as a chance for tarnishing the image of our state, he disclosed, and branded their fabrications as a misleading propaganda and a grave provocation against the DPRK and an insult to the flood victims who are all safe and well, denouncing the enemy with the strongest terms and rhetoric.

There is no need to make educational materials exclusively as such a stark fact itself constitutes good educational materials for giving a clear understanding of what a disgusting clan the enemy is, what an extremely anachronistic mode they have employed in their fabrications and politically-motivated smear campaign, what a black-hearted intention they have, and why we call them enemy and human scum, he stressed.

Noting that we are facing a very important task to prevent natural disasters, which is more serious and urgent than the ongoing large-scale rehabilitation campaign, he set forth the tasks and ways for building up the national disaster-prevention capabilities, including the establishment of a prompt and orderly weather forecast system,

proactive regulation and control of the factors vulnerable to natural disasters and in particular setting up of an integrated water control system in all units managing power stations and dams.

Expressing thanks to different foreign countries and international organizations for announcing their willingness to offer humanitarian assistance, he said what we set as the priority in all realms and processes of state affairs is the firm trust in the people and the way of tackling problems thoroughly based on self-reliance. The Party Central Committee and the government will rely entirely on the patriotic enthusiasm and courage of our people and the potentialities of our country in the ongoing rehabilitation, too, he added, and continued:

We have surely grabbed the chance of winning the ongoing rehabilitation by dint of nationwide concentration and all-people mobilization. The Party and the government will readily brave any challenges in order to accomplish without fail the tasks of the times, the historic tasks which they decided on and shouldered of their own accord for our great people and our future, and surely live up to the people's trust with faithful service and excellent results.

The undying story, in which Kim Jong Un visited the flood-stricken people once again, consoled and encouraged them and took important state measures repeatedly for stabilizing their living and successfully carrying out the rehabilitation campaign, will be recorded in history as another legendary tale about his paternal love for the people etched in the great father's journey of devoted service for them, and as a significant event that powerfully proves once again that the programme and policies of the WPK and the government of the DPRK are based on the people-first principle and adds vitality to the drive of the people all out in response to the Party's call.



In the speech Kim Jong Un clarifies the stand of the Party and government on repairing flood damage and consoles flood victims

Dear inhabitants from the flood-stricken area,

How do you do, everyone?

I think you must be experiencing much inconvenience and difficulty in this evacuation area after leaving your houses owing to the unexpected natural disaster.

Some days ago I saw your circumstances and had emergency measures taken by the Party Central Committee and the state on the flood-stricken spot, but I could hardly get to work at the thought about the flood victims.

Of course, I have received reports several times a day that all the victims are leading a more or less stabilized life, but I could not be relieved from worry for a moment.

I have come here again to acquaint myself with the situation in greater detail on the spot, reassign some tasks for the rehabilitation project and take additional measures of national importance, which would be helpful to you.

Several days have passed since you faced an abnormal living environment in temporary shelters after experiencing a great unexpected disaster, and I have felt ill at ease as I have failed to help you greatly in spite of the willingness to do something somehow.

Though the whole country has turned out to sincerely help you, for the present I cannot but feel anxious and impatient as I am unable to remove all the inconveniences you are experiencing in the damp tents and poorly-furnished public facilities.

Nevertheless, as I see all of you in good health, showing no sign of inconvenience, I feel much relieved and greatly encouraged.

Our Party and government should have given you strength and energy, but they are gaining strength from your appearance.

You have always trusted and relied on our Party and government, and in these days of harsh trials, too, you place such an absolute and unconditional trust on them. I feel very grateful for and proud of it.

And I realize more keenly what should I do more and



In order to finish the campaign in the shortest period possible on the highest level, the Party and the government have decided to make a readjustment of even some of the construction projects of national importance and commit colossal human and material resources to the campaign.

For us today, nothing is more important and urgent than to stabilize the living of the flood victims and take permanent safety measures to prevent any recurrence of flooding.

As a preliminary to the enforcement of effective measures for fully restoring the flood victims' living conditions as soon as possible and removing the aftermath of the natural calamity, a comprehensive and detailed investigation about the damage is

ongoing, and the relevant sector is striving hard to draw up a scientific plan for the restoration project.

A more than 130 000-strong construction workforce comprising service personnel of the People's Army and young people is being committed for the restoration work here in North Phyongan Province alone.

At the national level, the Central Committee on Measures for Repairing the Damage was organized and has commenced its work, to be followed by provincial on-site headquarters for the restoration work; and the transportation of necessary materials has already been switched over to an emergency system.

Our objective in displaying such daring spirit, organizing work at lightning speed and seeking its unflinching implementation is to transform your dear island villages and the northwestern part of the country beyond recognition.

Comrades,

The whole country is all out for the restoration work, but given the extent of damage, it will take at least two or three months to stabilize the flood victims' living by building new houses and repairing the existing ones.

What the Party and the government should give top priority to in this period is to take good care of their

how for these laudable people, who steadfastly follow our Party devoting their pure loyalty and a sense of obligation throughout their life.

What I would like to mention first here is that the Central Committee of our Party and the government of our Republic will always share with you your pains caused by the disaster.

The people are the foundation and pillars of our Party and state and the starting point and focus of their all activities.

Going closer to the people to share their feelings the harder the times are is the mode of existence and activities inherent to our Party.

The place where the leadership of our state should find itself at a time when the people suffered disaster like this is the disaster-stricken area and rehabilitation project site.

Extending once again profound consolation to you, I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to outline the immediate measures our Party and government will take to promote the living of the flood victims and repair the damage.

All work of the Party and the state are now concentrated on the rehabilitation campaign here.

Not only here but also some areas in Jagang and Ryanggang provinces in the basin of the Amnok River suffered damage.

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living as much as possible.

Recently, I am holding consultations every day with leading officials of the relevant institutions over the necessary measures to be adopted to this end.

It is indispensable to set up a well-regulated system for the distribution of newspapers and other publications, supply a TV set to each family and install one in every public place, so that the afflicted residents can keep abreast of the Party's intentions, and to direct close attention to ensuring them a good meal.

The biggest bottleneck in the flood-stricken areas is the living and teaching for students and other children.

Currently, some leading officials within our government, for their lack of experience and qualifications, are making a point of the restoration work in total disregard of educating and caring for students and other children.

Needless to say, children will find it quite inconvenient to live in tents or others' houses until the completion of the restoration work, and, in particular, this will have a serious impact on their education.

Also, measures for medical care are not going beyond the supply of medicines, and there is not yet a specific and realistic plan for medical services.

With regard to this, I criticized the officials concerned at yesterday's consultative meeting with the relevant departments of the Party Central Committee.

So, we are going to put in place an emergency system, whereby during the restoration work the students and all other children of the afflicted families in North Phyongan, Jagang and Ryanggang provinces shall stay in Pyongyang and be provided with a safe and comfortable environment for care and education, entirely at state expense.

Nursing, edification and education of students and other children are the most important of all state affairs never to be abandoned even if the sky may fall in.

So, the state is going to take full responsibility for this work during the rehabilitation campaign period.

And state-backed care benefits will be offered in Pyongyang to the elderly and sick persons, honoured disabled ex-soldiers and nursing mothers before new houses are built in the flood-stricken areas.

According to a rough estimate, among the families of flood victims preschoolers number 2 198, students 4 384, the elderly 4 524, the sick and the honoured disabled ex-soldiers 265, and nursing mothers 4 096.

Then, the number of flood victims who will be brought to Pyongyang will total over 15 400.

With a view to giving such a state emergency assistance, the Party Central Committee will organize a command team and ensure that services for them are offered at the April 25 Hostel and the military parade training base in Pyongyang.

It will provide temporary learning spaces for students and other children and organize interim mobile educational teams, comprising teachers from primary and middle schools and preschool educational institutions in Pyongyang. They will give education without letup to the students and other children after their summer vacation is over.

It will also ensure that staple and subsidiary foods, daily necessities and medicines are fully supplied, and mobile service and medical teams are organized with competent members from the important service units and hospitals in Pyongyang so as to direct all efforts to ensuring the living conditions of flood victims according to the state's special measures.

There might be some mothers who are reluctant to be

separated from their little children for several months, and there might be some persons who are unwilling to leave for some reasons, I think.

As there may be their personal reasons, I will leave it to their intentions and decisions.

However, this was organized to do even one more thing helpful to the flood victims suffering in the unfamiliar areas and minimize their inconveniences, you may rest assured of me, I think.

As it is the top priority work of the state, the Party and the government will take full responsibility for caring with utmost sincerity the health and living of the flood victims coming to Pyongyang as their parents and children would do, and make special and devoted efforts lest all of them feel an iota of gloom.

It is another problem facing the families evacuated from the areas, which are undergoing rehabilitation, that they have no proper places to keep their family property even if they manage to get them out of water.

The flood victims do not show any signs of it, but they might feel great anxiety.

So for the convenience of the evacuated families during the construction of new houses, we should offer them places where they can keep their household belongings safely.

This will also be good for the families to be enjoying protection and care in Pyongyang.

Comrades,

It is necessary for us to impress on our mind once again that the current rehabilitation project is not simply an undertaking for our own but also a serious struggle against the enemy.

At present, the enemy, misusing the occasion when we have suffered damage, is continuing to make foolish attempts to tarnish the image of our state.

It is important to inform Party organizations and working people's organizations at all levels, various networks of education and the people of these facts and thus make them have a correct understanding of the ROK scum bordering on us.

The rubbish ROK's media are desperately slandering all the socialist benefits and measures taken by our Party and government for the flood victims and also the communist traits displayed throughout the society, abusing them as a means of achieving some sort of internal unity and a type of demonstration. They are also fabricating such false information, in their frantic manoeuvres to slander our government and system, that the missing persons in the afflicted areas exceed 1 000 in number and that its intelligence authorities found out that several helicopters had fallen on rescue mission.

Worse still, they are spreading a baseless rumour that the V-day celebrations took place in Pyongyang on the 27th of last month when loss of life occurred in the flood-hit areas.

Because the rumour is in wide circulation in the ROK society that its government is always late in coping with all sorts of accidents that happened there and such is an everyday occurrence in the country, they seem to weave absurd sophistry that slanders and slights us in an attempt to coax their citizens and stir up world public sentiments.

When I visited the helicopter unit that rescued you, I gave full account of the rescue operation, including the crash-landing by one helicopter during the operation, and expressed my gratitude that there had been no casualties in the turmoil.

The enemy even went so far as to say that I reacted personally to the report fabricated by their media because there were heavy casualties and I intended to cover it up.

What is their dogged insistence on making you, safe and

sound like this, missing or dead? It is an open and shut case.

This is a smear campaign and a grave provocation against our state as well as an insult to you.

I have reason and feel it necessary to say this about the media of the dirty, rubbish country.

There is no need for us to make separate materials for education. It is because these clear facts are actual and educational materials good enough to clearly bring home to the people how filthy the enemy clan is, what ancient and old-fashioned way they resort to for fabrication and political smear campaign to tarnish the image of our state, what their ulterior motives are and why we call the enemy the enemy and scum.

No country in the world has such media which does nothing but to invent groundless and exaggerated lies.

What we must clearly realize is that the enemy is what we see them now.

Referring to these actual facts, the whole country should have a correct understanding of the enemy and cultivate a correct feeling against them.

Our enemy is an unchangeable enemy.

We should make the current opportunity, which helps us to have a correct understanding of what our enemy is, an opportunity of having a correct stand towards the enemy.

Today, present here are leading officials of Party organizations and government organs of North Phyongan Province, as well as officials of Uiju County.

I would like to take this opportunity to dwell on the tasks of regional Party organizations and government organs for stabilizing the living of flood victims and repairing the damage in the disaster-stricken areas.

The masters of relevant areas should play their proper role in the effort to stabilize the living of the flood victims at the earliest possible date.

As you have witnessed, many flood victims in different areas including North Phyongan and Jagang provinces are living outdoors in the violent heat and sultry weather.

Of course, we built houses for the people without fail in the past, however many of them were destroyed, and now the flood victims in the afflicted areas are living optimistically, placing their trust in our Party.

Even so, local Party organizations and government organs should never make light of the fact that there are people who have been left homeless and are living in tents.

They should ensure that food, non-staple foodstuffs and fuel indispensable for their living are supplied regularly without running short of them, and take strong measures to supply them with daily necessities.

Provinces, cities and counties should promote the flood victims' living by providing them in a responsible manner with the food and other materials in need with those in reserve and promptly supplying them with relief materials of the state.

They should supply the flood victims with all daily necessities, ranging from bedding, sanitation goods to such small articles as scissors, needles and threads.

They should direct close attention to the supply of drinking water.

Water is one of the basic essentials for people's living, and drinking water is badly needed in the flood-hit areas where there are scarce sources of it owing to pollution caused by flood damage.

Party organizations and power organs in the relevant areas should do away with a temporary attitude, and take effective steps for supplying enough drinking water to

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places where the flood victims live.

Public health and epidemic prevention are the most vulnerable sectors in the afflicted areas.

Wherever the flood victims have been evacuated, it is necessary, by taking their number into account, to properly install bathrooms, public toilets, garbage dumps and drain pipes in conformity with hygienic standards and effectively maintain them, so as to eliminate the sources of outbreak of epidemic diseases.

Regional Party organizations and power organs should commit all medical resources available in the areas to taking good care of the victims' health in a responsible manner, supply them with Koryo and other medicines to the utmost, and conduct an epidemic prevention campaign in an intensive way.

They should be proactive in organizing and conducting the rehabilitation project to restore the production and living order in the flood-hit areas to the normal level.

They should strictly conduct a safety test of the afflicted dwelling houses and public buildings, and on the basis of this, promptly launch the rehabilitation project.

A key factor in this regard is to check such details as whether the buildings, which were submerged, have not undergone structural changes and whether their foundations are firm enough, and thoroughgoing measures should be adopted for preventing second damage due to the collapse of those buildings.

Another important factor is to distinguish what should be newly built from what are in need of repair, introduce a scientific order of priority and plans for the restoration work, and give priority to the construction and repair of houses so that the flood victims can move into them as soon as possible.

In addition, the socio-economic life in the afflicted areas should be put back on a normal track at the earliest possible date by vigorously pushing forward the rehabilitation of the damaged public buildings and industrial facilities including schools, kindergartens, hospitals, factories and enterprises.

The designing and construction of dams in the afflicted areas should be done in a scientific way, based on a comprehensive and detailed survey of the local geographical conditions and embankments. In particular, it is important in designing the dams to make an accurate estimate of the conditions at the time of the highest level of water, and, wherever necessary, to install flood-blocking structures.

As things stand at the moment, our regions are unilaterally vulnerable to the rising level of water flowing into the Amnok River. This time we should decisively remove this chronic vulnerability, thus totally eliminating the source of risk of flood wreaking havoc on Uiju County and the city of Sinuiju on the lower reaches of the river.

Regional Party organizations and power organs should adopt prompt measures for restoring the major elements of infrastructure in the afflicted areas, such as roads, railways, communications and power grids.

Ensuring free traffic flow is a pressing task, since it is a prerequisite for the transport of manpower, equipment and materials to the rehabilitation sites and for the residents' free economic activities. So, it is urgent to open the roads and railways in cooperation with the People's Army units that have been seconded to the rehabilitation project. Efforts should also be focused on restoring communications and the power grids to meet the needs of the local residents and the rehabilitation project for communication and electricity at the earliest possible date.

Regional Party organizations and power organs should work in a responsible manner to recover damage that has been done to the agricultural sector.

This time not a few hectares of crop fields were inundated; they should not give up or feel disheartened, but make redoubled efforts to prevent the spread of damage.

They should learn a lesson from the fact that the key aspect of damage is the most of the crop fields being submerged. They should identify the weak spots in the dams, river embankments and waterways, and take thoroughgoing steps for repairing and reinforcing them immediately, while adopting scientific and technological measures for improving the growth of crops in the afflicted fields.

Based on a detailed analysis of the pumping stations for drainage, they should double their capacity to keep farmland from being damaged by any possible flood, and provide a firm scientific and technical guarantee for their regular operation at full capacity.

They should focus on the political work aimed at

instilling confidence in the junior officials of the farms and other farmers and mobilizing them, giving effective and responsible guidance over the work of repairing the damage done to the crops.

They should also give a strong impetus to restoring the arable land that has been buried or washed away.

Comrades,

We are currently facing a crucial task of disaster prevention, which is no less important and which is much more serious and urgent, than the huge rehabilitation project.

Recently, the extent of damage caused by disastrous weather conditions is increasing worldwide year after year, and in actual fact, no part of our country is absolutely safe, i.e., insusceptible to flooding and typhoon.

This being the case, some officials neglect the disaster prevention work, arguing on their regional characteristics or browsing through meteorological observation records. Such is a very dangerous and unpardonable act which is tantamount to gambling with people's safety.

Regional Party organizations and power organs should stake their future development on the prevention of recurrence of damage by disastrous weather conditions, putting themselves on tenterhooks and making redoubled efforts to preclude any more disastrous consequences.

For the present, they should set up a prompt and well-knit weather forecasting system and establish the discipline, order and system whereby all the sectors and units in their respective regions respond effectively to any disastrous weather conditions. In this way, they can keep themselves from being affected by the expected heavy rain and typhoon.

Damage caused by the recent flood highlighted how important it is in the prevention of disasters to ensure close contact and cooperation among various sectors and regions.

In case of emergency regions should maintain close contacts, promptly informing one another of what elements are at risk and actively regulating and adjusting their responses. In particular, when heavy rain or flooding is imminent, all the units responsible for maintaining power stations and reservoir dams should absolutely obey the directives from the central organ that is in charge of the unified system for water control.

It is important for the state to renew its water control system and create a specialized institution in order to establish an integrated water control system for enforcing, adjusting and implementing a uniform water control policy, which will tackle various tasks facing regions, ranging from the supply of drinking water to responses to flooding, drought and other disasters.

The lesson taught by the recent flood damage has proved that our pressing task is to make the organs in charge of maintaining the dams enhance their role, and to ensure their integrated coordination and put it on a scientific footing quickly.

However, the existing disaster prevention organs are lame-duck entities substituting their assignment for collecting statistics.

This offers a glimpse of our officials' irresponsible work style, and if they stick to their stereotypical way of thinking and formalistic work methods, such disaster prevention organs, however many, will bring no benefit to the state.

It is advisable to study the issues of setting a flood warning period in the rainy season, ensuring unified and coordinated management of the sectoral and regional units in charge of water control, and putting a flood response system in place.

Along with this, an integrated flood forecast system should be established in a more scientific way.

As I have already stressed, any lax approach of failing to consider the worst conditions in construction will inevitably invite a terrible disaster.

We should build new, excellent houses where geographical safety against disaster is assured and perfect measures have been adopted for disaster prevention, so that they will last for the coming 50 to 100 years.

To this end, appropriate sites of construction should be fixed with their safety assessment as a major criterion; a proper plan for the distribution and layout of houses should be drawn up to provide every convenience for the residents and satisfy their demands; and the durability of houses should be ensured by increasing the amount of building materials needed for each house and encouraging the builders to enhance their sense of responsibility.

What is no less important than to ensure high speed and good quality in the construction of houses is to sustain their modernity commensurate with the increased level of civilization of our people.

The designing and construction of houses should be done in a non-repetitive, diversified and unique style so they can meet the modern tastes and preserve the characteristic features of the given regions and villages.

I want to specially emphasize that there should be no wrong practice of demolishing the existing houses and building new ones on their very sites in a perfunctory manner without an accurate calculation.

It is also important to give the residents regular education on how to cope with disasters.

We should work effectively to heighten their consciousness of coping with disasters; define, on the basis of a detailed survey and confirmation, the spots where the residents are to take shelter in case of disaster, and work out guidelines for their evacuation; and give a strong impetus to securing essential means of rescue operation to be used in various emergency circumstances.

All the regions should conduct a comprehensive review and investigation of their capabilities to prevent natural calamities, discover the weak points and adopt timely measures for reinforcing them. Also, in anticipation of the worst situation caused by torrential rain, flooding, typhoon and tidal waves, they should identify, eradicate and take precautions against dangerous spots, while paying due attention to ensuring effective afforestation and water conservation.

Comrades,

The enormous undertakings for the repairing of the damage, which constitutes a big step in the course of alleviating the people's pain, providing them with greater welfare and transforming the regions, make a particularly high demand on the officials of the field Party and government organs.

All the officials should display the spirit of sincerely and devotedly assisting the people in the afflicted areas and sharing joy and sorrow with them.

The respect for and devoted service to the people are the inherent duty and obligation of our officials, and when the people suffer hardship, they should especially be faithful to their own duty.

In particular, all the Party officials should go deep among the masses to strengthen ties with them and, in the course of this, get fused into a harmonious whole with them to inspire them to the rehabilitation campaign.

Last, I would like to emphasize the need to prevent any deviation in the assistance to the people in the afflicted areas.

At present, all parts of the country, as well as the Party Central Committee, the Cabinet, ministries and national agencies, are rendering assistance to the flood victims.

Assistance work must be conducted strictly on the principle of voluntariness, never in an organized or forced way.

In the past, when such natural disasters as flooding occurred, institutions, enterprises and working people's organizations revealed such practices as pointing out the variety and quantity of relief supplies to collect them, while cadres, prompted by the desire for personal fame, subjectively gave assignments for assistance work to gather materials and send them.

We must not get our people to send aid even by imposing burdens on them on the pretext that they do not make any complaints, regarding it as their natural duty to help the residents in the afflicted areas.

Such assistance is worse than not offering at all.

It is needed to intensify the grasp and guidance over the whole society in order to make sure that the assistance work for the people in the afflicted areas is done on the principle of voluntariness, strictly in accordance with the will of each person, so that this work becomes a process in which our society's great traits of sharing pain and sorrow and helping and leading one another forward are truthfully manifested in name and reality.

At the same time, it is necessary to grasp and register aid funds and materials in a unified way and distribute and supply them in a fair and rational way, so that they can be used effectively for the stabilization of the living of the flood victims and the damage recovery, while imposing strict control lest there should appear such undesirable practices as fame-seeking, misappropriation and fraud.

At present, many countries and international organizations are expressing their willingness to provide us with humanitarian assistance.

I extend thanks to them.

But what we put forward first in all domains and processes of the state affairs is the way of addressing problems by relying on the firm trust in the people and

Ceremony of Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade's departure for the rehabilitation sites in North Phyongan Province takes place

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un makes a rallying speech for young people



KCNA

Recorded in the sacred long course of the Korean revolution shining with indomitable and courageous advance and successive victories are the precious services and feats of the patriotic youth who have pressed ahead with the drive for the prosperity of the country, devoting their hot blood to the sacred cause of bringing earlier the bright future.

The ardent pioneering spirit and

matchless charging spirit of the young vanguard of Juche Korea are further developing into the most active and revolutionary advance and heroic struggle to be praised forever along with the great era of Kim Jong Un.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who always firmly believes and puts forward the young people as the advance group, wing and special detachment of the Workers' Party of Korea, called the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade to the rehabilitation projects in the flood-

hit areas in the city of Sinuiju and Uiju County of North Phyongan Province.

A large number of young vanguard members have volunteered for the project sites, vowing to create another legendary tale of miraculous and heroic feats through a courageous mass campaign, staking the dignity and honour of the Korean youth, in response to the call of Kim Jong Un, and they are burning with the patriotic zeal of the defenders of the country who voluntarily went to the front in the 1950s.

A departure ceremony of the Paektusan

Hero Youth Shock Brigade to be dispatched to the rehabilitation campaign areas in North Phyongan Province took place in the capital city of Pyongyang on August 6.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, attended the ceremony.

The plaza of the April 25 House of Culture, where the ardent young people gathered before departing for the forefront

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entirely on our own efforts.

What the Party Central Committee and the government relies on in the current rehabilitation campaign is also the patriotic enthusiasm and valour of our people and the potentials of our state from A to Z.

As we have always done, we will value our confidence in our own strength more than anything else, solve all problems by enlisting the strength and wisdom of the people, and continue to steadily expand and increase our state's strength in that way to shape our future with our own strength and efforts in the future, too.

As all the national efforts are concentrated on the

rehabilitation project and all the planned work is being smoothly pushed forward under the unified and powerful guidance of our government, we will, by and large, remain consistent in this principle.

Comrades, Nationwide concentration and all-people mobilization—these have given us a good chance of sure victory in the repairing of the disaster.

In order to accomplish the tasks of the times, the historic tasks on which we decided and which we have shouldered by ourselves for our beloved people and our future, the Party and the government will readily brave any challenges and live up to the people's trust with their faithful service and excellent results.

We will serve the people faithfully.

And we will always be with you.

Dear inhabitants of Uiju County and the city of Sinuiju, Dear inhabitants of the afflicted areas in Jagang and Ryanggang provinces,

Please inform us open-heartedly through the relevant Party organizations at any time if you feel any inconveniences or difficulties.

Please wait for the day when you will lead a new life in your living place which will be changed more splendidly. And I wish you good health free from illnesses.

Let all of us pool our strength to successfully overcome the present crisis and get up.

Long live our great people!



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for the defence of the people, was filled with their deep reverence for Kim Jong Un, who is leading the young men and women of the country to add lustre to their honourable appellation of socialist patriotic youth, putting them forward in the vanguard of the struggle for the rosy future of a thriving power, and with their fervent will to live up to his trust.

When he arrived, all the participants burst into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!"

All the participants paid the highest tribute and glory to the great leader, who is bringing up the young people to be the most vigorous of the social forces that injects fresh strength into the country and creates new changes and to be the successors to the revolution who loyally support the cause of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un extended militant greetings to the young people, who were full of high enthusiasm to create another legendary tale of the heroic youth at the sites of gigantic rehabilitation campaign, which was launched in the northwestern region of the country, by inheriting the proud tradition of responding to the call of the Party with loyalty and patriotic practice.

Present there were Jo Yong Won, Kim Jae Ryong and Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, Ju Chang Il and Kim Jong Sun, department directors of the WPK Central Committee, Mun Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the youth league, officials of the youth league, commanding officers and members of the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade, and other young people and students.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Kim Jong Un made a rallying speech for the young people.

Expressing his pleasure of seeing the young revolutionaries filled with the steel-strong spirit becoming the reliable reserves of the Party and the vanguard of the revolution and the pluck and mettle peculiar to the brave and ardent young people, Kim Jong Un highly appreciated the young people for responding to the calls of the country, the people and the revolution with enthusiastic volunteering and courageous attitude once again, adding:

In less than a week after a decision was made by the Party to dispatch the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade to the housing construction in the flood-hit areas in the city of Sinuiju and Uiju County and the subsequent appeal by the Central Committee of the youth league, nearly 300 000 young people have volunteered to go to the areas of recovery from flood damage. Such explosive volunteering enthusiasm can never be found in any other countries. I would like to speak to the world proudly that our country has such great young people.

Our young people have preserved and glorified their true appearance with enthusiasm, wisdom and practice by overcoming the obstacles on the road of their advance by dint of struggle. Such deeds of theirs originate from their strong faith to share their destiny with socialism forever and are a manifestation of their beautiful outlook on life, with which they find the honour and worth of their life in their ardent love for the country and dedication to the Party and the revolution.

It is the fact to be really proud of that a large contingent of such laudable and stalwart young people, who regard the hardship of the country and the people's misfortune as their own pains, fervently support the determination of the Party Central Committee and deem it their

revolutionary task, adds strength to the Party and the country, powerfully demonstrating the stout mettle of the Korean youth with their hearts burning with fervent enthusiasm, he said, and extended warm thanks to the commanding officers and members of the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade and all other young people and students.

He also offered his warm greetings to the parents, who sent their dear sons and daughters to the grand construction sites without hesitation, and to the organizations and officials of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League at all levels that have inspired many young people to volunteer through an earnest appeal.

He then continued:

The enterprising spirit and soaring mettle peculiar to the youth and their ever-growing vigour serve as an incomparably precious and powerful engine for our Party and people in attaining high goals and tiding over impending difficulties. The Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade and the Socialist Patriotic Youth League have wonderfully built the edifices reflective of their merits every year for over ten years, proving through an indomitable struggle of their own choice how the spirit of loyalty and patriotism bequeathed by their forerunners is inherited.

The rehabilitation work, to be launched in the basin of the Amnok River, would be a gigantic construction campaign for completely renovating a part of our territory, which is equivalent to bringing about a transformation. I am convinced that the members and officials of the youth shock brigade and the youth league will fully display their revolutionary traits and matchless creative abilities as befitting the members of a vanguard unit for socialist construction and a special detachment dispatched by the Party.

After indicating the militant tasks they should fulfill, Kim Jong Un went on:

The enterprising spirit and courage of the youth will add vitality and dynamism to our society, their sweats and exploits will increase the wealth of our country and people and their strength and courage will further accelerate the advance of our revolution. Their youthful vigour and burning enthusiasm that will sweep the new theatre of creation, their indomitable courage and bold offensive that know no hesitation in the face of difficulties, and their impeccable sense of responsibility and pure conscience that deserve people's appreciation will soon shine as the heroic youth's typical characteristics representing the times.

The dignity and prestige of our Party will be everlasting as an ever-victorious banner and the lifeline of the Korean revolution will be firmly carried forward for all ages as the Party is faithfully supported by the revolutionary and patriotic youth organization and young people that have potential for attaining any demanding goals without fail with matchless bravery for tackling any trials and hardship.

Kim Jong Un, after earnestly requesting that the young volunteers should return home in good health with the pride of having performed great feats to be etched in history, true to the expectations of their parents, siblings, teachers, organizations and comrades, fervently appealed to them to advance toward victory, demonstrating the dignity, mettle and courage of the honourable Korean youth.

All the participants raised stormy cheers, filled with a steel-strong will to add lustre to the patriotic fighting spirit, heroism and precious honour of the young

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Commissioning ceremony of ultimate weaponry demonstrating sure victory of cause of building powerful army

Ceremony for celebrating transfer and receiving of new-type tactical ballistic missile system takes place with splendour



KCNA

The Workers' Party of Korea, which set forth the grand national defence development strategy for accomplishing the cause of building a rich country with a strong army at its historic Eighth Congress, has dynamically guided its implementation, thus firmly defending and vigorously leading the grand all-people advance toward comprehensive national prosperity by dint of rapid modernization and super-strength of the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Thanks to the heroic struggle of the munitions industry workers, who have performed miracles unconditionally in hearty response to the calls of the Party and the revolution, the ultra-modern military hardware that provided the Korean People's Army with invincible

might in recent years make the Korean people more strongly feel the pride of living in a powerful country, self-reliant in national defence, and the dignity of the strong and dramatically boost their courage and confidence in the rosy future of their country guaranteed by tremendous military strength.

Demonstrating the infinite development of the national defence capability and the great leaps forward in modernizing the powerful army, which serve as a powerful pillar and driving force for achieving signal victories eternally in the revolution, a ceremony for transferring 250 new-type tactical ballistic missile launchers, produced at major munitions enterprises, to the first-line units on the border of the DPRK took place in the capital city of Pyongyang with splendour.

The workers of major munitions enterprises, mindful of their important

mission that the increased production of military hardware precisely means the safeguarding of the national dignity and sovereignty, waged an intensive struggle to successfully attain the important munitions production goals set forth at the Eighth Party Congress and the enlarged meetings of the Central Military Commission of the Party. Thus, they performed the proud feats of serially producing in a short span of time the main strike military hardware indispensable for implementing the Party's military strategic ideas.

A ceremony for celebrating the transfer and receiving of new-type tactical ballistic missile system took place on August 4.

The venue of the ceremony, where another defence asset of great military strategic value that will serve as the pivotal military hardware of the DPRK armed forces, lined up demonstrating the

appearance peculiar to them, was filled with great pride in the enormous dignity of the sacred country, which will be further strengthened along with the entities of the successful second-stage revolution in the defence industry being confidently led by the great Party Central Committee.

When 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, appeared at the venue of the ceremony, all the participants broke into enthusiastic cheers.

All the participants extended the highest glory and respect to the peerless patriot and great brilliant commander, who is leading the cause of a patriotic struggle for the eternal prosperity of the country in the vanguard and ushering in a new era of

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a Juche-oriented powerful nation where long-cherished desires in the 5 000-year history of the nation are being fulfilled satisfactorily.

Prior to the ceremony, Kim Jong Un looked round new-type tactical ballistic missile launchers to be commissioned as a new core striking weapon of the DPRK armed forces.

For a country, economic construction, defence buildup, improvement of the people's living standards, natural disaster relief, etc. are all its crucial affairs and main functions that can never be neglected, Kim Jong Un said, adding that holding a ceremony for celebrating the transfer and receiving of the new-type weapon system, even at a time when the whole country is out in a campaign for rehabilitating flood damage, is a manifestation of the firm will of the Party to push ahead with the bolstering of defence capability, the fundamental guarantee for safeguarding the people and national sovereignty, without letup in any circumstances, and the invariable principled stand maintained by us in state building.

He paid tribute to the ultra-modern military hardware encapsulating the pure conscience and noble outlook on life of the munitions industry workers, who accepted as the demand of the revolution and their inherent duty in life the determination and plan of the Party Central Committee for strengthening the supremacy of our armed forces to the maximum without a moment of hesitation and letup, and upheld them with boundless revolutionary enthusiasm,

fighting will and thoroughgoing and perfect creative spirit and mettle.

The ceremony was attended by leading officials of the Party, the government and the military, officials of the Party Central Committee, defence scientists, officials, technicians and workers in the munitions industry, and meritorious persons in Pyongyang Municipality.

Also present there were commanders of services, commanders of large combined units and other service personnel of the KPA.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Jo Chun Ryong, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, reported to Kim Jong Un that his special order on munitions production was successfully implemented.

The secretary mentioned that officials and workers in the munitions industry sector finished the production of 250 new-type tactical ballistic missile launchers, true to the strategic plan of the Party Central Committee, and were ready to transfer them to KPA units.

He said that the tactical ballistic missile system newly developed and produced by munitions industry workers are a powerful up-to-date tactical strike weapon of our style, whose production Kim Jong Un personally initiated and energetically led to perfection.

During the days of their death-defying struggle to live up to the great trust bestowed on them by Kim Jong Un, the fighters in the munitions industry learned the iron truth that there is nothing impossible for them to do in the world and they can ceaselessly achieve

world-startling miraculous successes if they conduct scientific operations and engage in absolute practice with their hearts pulsating with his extraordinary revolutionary enthusiasm and far-reaching plan, the secretary stressed.

Making a firm pledge, in reflection of the unanimous feelings of all the fighters in the munitions industry, to remain invariably loyal to their honourable duty as fighters in the WPK's revolutionary industry shouldering the cause of building a powerful army in the great era of Kim Jong Un, he courteously reported to Kim Jong Un that they thoroughly implemented his order.

Kim Jong Un made a historic speech.

After declaring with pride that an important item in the practical guidelines for building up the military capability, which was decided at the Eighth Congress of our Party and the enlarged meetings of the Central Military Commission of the Party held during the eighth term of the Party Central Committee, has been brought into fruition, he, in the name of the Party and government, extended warm thanks to the workers, scientists and officials in the munitions industry, who have proudly carried out their revolutionary tasks of great strategic significance in steadily developing the self-reliant national defence capability of the state.

On the basis of a serious analysis of the important political and military significance highlighted by the magnificent demonstration, the first of its kind ever since the founding of our country and army, the crucial changes in the military security environment facing

our country and the US and its followers' ever-escalating military confrontation moves, Kim Jong Un clarified the tasks to be fulfilled in ensuring the steady development of the tremendous strength of our Republic's armed forces and the self-reliant defence industry that firmly supports it.

Noting that independence, justice and peace are firmly guaranteed only by the absolute and matchless self-defence capability, and our eternal victory, genuine peace, happiness and wellbeing are ensured by the ever-developing powerful and limitless strength, he fervently called for waging an undaunted struggle and making uninterrupted changes and progressive successes for the independent development of the country and peaceful and prosperous new life of its people.

The participants were greatly excited by his speech as it clarified a clear-cut policy and fighting guidelines for infinitely developing the military capability for self-defence for most righteously and creditably defending the present and future of the country and its people in today's tough world where the confrontation of strength decides life and death.

They raised loud cheers of "Hurrah!" as a reflection of their firm resolve to bolster up the war deterrent and the capability for fighting a war to be so overwhelming that the hostile forces dare not use their military muscle against their country by equipping themselves fully with the steel-strong faith and revolutionary will of the great WPK and cementing the super-

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Kim Jong Un makes speech at the ceremony of transferring and receiving new-type tactical ballistic missile system

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, attended the ceremony of transferring and receiving new-type tactical ballistic missile system and made a speech on August 4. He said:

Comrades,

Today we have gathered for this characteristic ceremony to celebrate the transferring of new-type tactical weapons to our army.

We are now witnessing a moment of the course of our state's defence capability increasing day by day.

Representatives of defence scientists and munitions

industry workers, who have worked with devotion in the struggle to produce these tactical weapons of great military significance, which would fill up the major gaps in our state's defence capability and form a main force in our military forces,

Officers and soldiers of the frontline missile artillerymen's units, who will soon receive the new weapons,

Dear comrades,

As you see, we are now facing 250 new-type tactical ballistic missile launchers, which our munitions industry workers have produced by their own efforts and technology.

Those weapons, lining up in columns in front of us, will be transferred to our army now and will play an important military role in the border areas of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

This of course means no more than attaining our first-stage goal of building missile forces in the first-line units on the front.

Every year we will show the whole world without filtering the procedure of the change of generations of our military hardware with new ones.

It is because this has enough special effect on deterring war.

The world is witnessing the course of development of our armed forces.

We have become able to take the operational initiative with the overwhelming attack forces and striking means superior to the enemy on all fronts, achieve the multifaceted nature of the spaces of firepower tasks and improve the practical effectiveness of the special physical strength, tactical nuke.

I am very pleased to make public that an important item in the practical guidelines for building up the military capability, which was decided on at the Eighth Congress of our Party and the enlarged meetings of the Central Military Commission of the Party held during the eighth term of the Party Central Committee, has been brought to fruition.

Greeting this moment that declares a great change in



our armed forces and their prospective development, I, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, extend warm thanks to the workers, scientists and officials in the munitions industry, who have proudly carried out their revolutionary tasks of great strategic significance in steadily developing our state's self-reliant national defence capability.

Comrades,

Thanks to the firepower of this weapon system, presenting a threatening appearance for the first time since the founding of our country and army, we have become able to possess a sure and overwhelming strength with which to contain the enemy's reckless provocative moves against us.

The fact that these military hardware of a new generation have been produced in less than one year in the circumstances, in which the hostile forces' challenges and moves of blockade persisted on an unprecedentedly extreme degree, adequately demonstrates the potential and might of our self-reliant defence industry.

By waging a heroic production struggle and presenting the products encapsulating their pure conscience and ennobling outlook on life, our munitions industry workers fully demonstrated the faith and revolutionary nature inherent in them.

What I am most pleased with today is that I have confirmed once again the ennobling spiritual world of the munitions industry workers, who clearly remember their lineage and origin and are faithful and dignified in remaining true to their honourable original name of successors to the Kunjari spirit.

The strength of our defence industry is not merely the might of our defence science. Rather, it is a strength of the absolute loyalty these workers are displaying in unconditionally and perfectly carrying out the Party's decisions and plans from the standpoint that doing so is their ennobling duty.

Absolute, unconditional and perfect implementation is our munitions industry workers' invariable *raison d'être*, lifeline and unique quality.

True to the orders of the Party Central Military Commission, the workers, scientists and officials in the munitions industry have made strenuous efforts to manufacture hundreds of cutting-edge military hardware, thereby fulfilling the strategic plan for developing our state's war deterrent to the highest level possible. By doing so, they have instilled an overwhelming sense of dignity and honour in all the patriotic people of this country, and inspired them with renewed confidence in final victory. I highly appreciate them and offer positive encouragement to them in their efforts for more proud successes.

Comrades,

As the relationship of the US-led alliance is, in terms of its nature and character, evolving into a nuclear-based military bloc, the military security environment surrounding the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is facing drastic changes, both strategically and structurally.

This highlights the fact that our state has no reason to rest content with its current level of war deterrent.

To look back on the past five years, we can see that the concept of nuclear has been associated with every military action targeting the DPRK taken by the United States, and now its vassal states have grown reckless enough to share its nukes.

This situation demands that we keep accelerating the development of our Republic's armed forces for maintaining their supremacy, and also of the self-reliant defence industry that provides solid support to this end.

Genuine peace can be guaranteed only by the build-up of immense strength.

Negotiations and confrontation are among our options, but we must be more thoroughly prepared to cope with the latter—this is the review and conclusion we have derived from the 30-odd years of dealing with the United States, and it is the keynote of our consistent policy towards the United States.

The fact that the United States and the groups of its top-class stooges are overstepping the mark in their outrageous military manoeuvres provides evidence for the justice of our cause, and this compels us to bolster up our self-defensive military capability more perfectly and rapidly. This will inevitably hasten the failure, shame and destruction on the part of the enemy.

The United States we are now confronting is by no means an administration that remains in power for a tenure of some years, but a hostile state that our descendants, too, will have to counter generation after generation. This fact testifies to the inevitability of the steady improvement of our defence capability.

We should possess the capability to cope on our own initiative with new, potential dangers to our security, as

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well as the various imminent threats by the United States. This is a crucial task for providing a long-term guarantee for defending the sovereignty, security, interests and territorial integrity of our state.

At present, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has built up its national system of nuclear forces, with which to promptly counter any type of threatening actions by the nuclear-armed enemy states, and we have made steady efforts to make the nuclear forces fully ready for action.

However, witnessing the rapidly-changing global security environment and the reckless expansion of the US-led military bloc system, we have come to a conclusion that the nuclear forces of our state and its nuclear posture should be more thoroughgoing and perfect, and we feel its necessity every day and every minute.

Our mightiness is not what it is now, but it lies in our relentless pursuit of mightiness.

Stagnation in military supremacy is just the beginning of inferiority in defence capability.

We must never forget that if we rest content with the present level of supremacy that has taken so much cost for us to reach, we should pay more later.

Clear is our standpoint in coping with the US moves to aggravate the situation.

If it continues attempting to jeopardize the security of the region in disregard of our repeated warnings, we will make the United States acutely aware that there will be fatal consequences for its own security.

I make it clear once again: Whether engaged in negotiations or confrontation, possessing a great military strength is an obligation and right a sovereign state must never neglect or budge on at any moment.

Unless an end is put to the nuclear threat against us, and as long as there exist the imperialist forces that resort

to nukes as a means of their tyranny, there will never be a moment's halt or a breathing space on our journey for the consolidation of our nuclear war deterrent.

Our strength will continue to evolve, and our military supremacy will deny its limits forever.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea will resolutely face both imminent and potential challenges by attaining a more refined and improved posture of its nuclear forces as soon as possible to contain any nuclear threats and defend itself from them.

Given the fact that the United States and its vassal forces have been tightening the screw on the DPRK by resorting to military means, Kim Jong Un said, it has been an indisputable option for the DPRK to make sustained efforts to increase its defence capability.

He went on:

Building up the nuclear war deterrent and developing it to the highest level possible is the best option for effectively confronting the nuclear blackmail and multi-faceted isolation schemes by the United States and for earmarking a larger investment for economic development and improvement of the people's living standards—this is the principled standpoint we have consistently maintained over the last ten or so years since we proclaimed the new line of promoting the country's economic construction and building up its nuclear forces simultaneously, and its validity and viability have been clearly proved through practice.

We should always bear this in mind, and work hard to achieve the goals of the five-year strategy for defence development advanced by the eighth-term Central Committee of the Party, uncompromisingly and faultlessly, thoroughly and completely.

The munitions industry must never compromise on its absolute mission that increased production of military hardware provides a sure guarantee for safeguarding the country's sovereignty and enhancing its prestige; it should work hard to achieve greater and prouder successes

in attaining the Party's objectives for modernizing the defence industry and in carrying out its task of producing weapons of the Juche type.

The army units, to which the new-type weapon system is to be transferred, should master the new system as early as possible, actively organize and conduct training in a real-war atmosphere to operate it so effectively as to maximize its efficiency in battle, and maintain a prompt and proper operational posture. In this way, they can creditably implement their military duties to deter war and take the initiative.

What our proud new missile units will receive today is not merely the new weapons.

Like all other weapons of ours, these embody our people's firm will to put an end to the threats of aggression against our Republic, as well as their spirit of self-respect to make theirs an invincible country that no force will dare to attack and their desire to develop it into a powerful nation.

We will continue to develop and produce more powerful and sophisticated military hardware of our own style and deploy them for action, thus ensuring that the People's Army keeps gaining in strength over time.

The Party Central Committee will always accompany and properly lead our munitions industry workers, both faithful and dependable, on this responsible and important journey.

Comrades,

Let us bear in mind once again that absolute and matchless self-defence capability provides a sure guarantee for independence, justice and peace.

Ever-developing, inexhaustible strength is fundamental to our eternal victory, genuine peace, happiness and safety.

Let us all strive undauntedly and achieve constant transformations and innovative successes for the independent development of our great state and a peaceful and prosperous new life of our people.

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vanguard with signal achievements by building a wonderland of happiness to be envied by the world and another proud monument to the youth without fail in the disaster-stricken areas through an indefatigable struggle in hearty response to the call and expectations of the Party and the revolution.

Ryu Chol Jin, commander of the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade, and Sung Hyok, commander of a regiment of the High-Speed Youth Shock Brigade, made oath-taking speeches.

The speakers said that the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un bestowed on the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade such great trust and honour as putting it forward in the vanguard of the worthwhile struggle for removing the misfortune of the disaster-stricken people as early as possible.

They referred to the deep loving care shown by Kim Jong Un, who unfolded a grand plan for providing the people with a foundation for a happier life.

They expressed their determination to complete all structures as monumental edifices to be proud of even in the distant future and present them to the Party and the people by displaying utmost sincerity and patriotism, mindful of Kim Jong Un's ardent call for courageously turning out again to tide over the crisis and performing miraculous successes.

A letter of pledge to Kim Jong Un was read out.

All the commanding officers and members of the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade made a solemn pledge to successfully build the people's houses to be a new standard and model of

regional rejuvenation, fully reflective of the appearance of an ever-developing highly civilized, prosperous and powerful socialist nation, in the flood-stricken areas according to the timetable set by the Party, by dint of the indomitable heroic youth spirit, collective innovation and unequalled charge they displayed in the Paektu area and in the capital city construction.

Kim Jong Un received a report from the chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League on the departure of the shock brigade.

There took place a march-past of the members of the Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade on departure.

The youth vanguard, filled with the single mind to demonstrate once again to the whole world the courage and pluck of doing without fail what the Party is determined to do, took dynamic steps toward new sites of creation.

They were filled with the unshakable faith and resolve to translate the grand plan of the Party Central Committee into a brilliant reality with the patriotic zeal, indefatigable will, inexhaustible strength and spirit of indomitable offensive peculiar to the Korean youth.

Kim Jong Un warmly waved his hands for long toward the marching ranks of the trustworthy and praiseworthy main unit of the youth representing the rosy future of the country.

The departure ceremony constituted a great prelude to the dynamic advance of the young socialist builders, who will write with dignity another page of gigantic struggle and heroic feats to be specially recorded in the history of the glorious movement of the Korean youth, as befitting the young vanguard in the great era of Kim Jong Un.

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strength in the country's possession to be more absolute and irreversible.

Kim Jong Un gave written orders in the name of the chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK on equipping the first-line units of the KPA on the frontier with the new-type tactical ballistic missiles to the chief of the KPA General Staff and commanders of the large combined frontline units.

He personally awarded the colours and certificates of the colours of the new missile units to the commanders, political commissars and chiefs of staff of relevant units.

Stormy cheers rocked the venue of the ceremony, where a great event to be specially recorded in the history of building a powerful and modern Juche-oriented army was witnessed.

There was a ceremony of the combined military band.

Members of the band and the guard of honour added joy and militant enthusiasm to the great auspicious event by making various formation changes and showing smart rifle-handling skills to the dynamic tune of revolutionary military music.

There took place a demonstration march of the frontline missile artillerymen's units that received new weapons.

The tactical ballistic missile launchers preceded by the glorious colours moved forward, being reviewed by Kim Jong Un.

Kim Jong Un gave a militant salute to

the ultimate weapons that vividly reflect the patriotic souls of the red workers of the munitions industry, dedicated to the sacred cause of historic significance of the nation to firmly bolster up the world's greatest self-defensive military capability, and symbolize an epoch-making improvement of the military supremacy of the armed forces of the DPRK.

At the end of the ceremony, cheers of "Hurrah!" filled with loyalty and patriotic zeal of the participants, resounded far and wide through the nocturnal sky.

Looking round the new-type weapons again together with leading officials of the Party, the government and the military, and commanding officers of the large combined units, Kim Jong Un expressed belief that the latest, elite weapons, another firm stepping stone for injecting tremendous vitality into the name and flag of the DPRK and remarkably enhancing its prestige, would demonstrate their might as a powerful treasured sword in defending the sovereignty of the country and peace.

The commissioning ceremony of new-type tactical ballistic missile launchers, held in the presence of Kim Jong Un, will be recorded in history as a historic event which further strengthened the iron faith of the army and people, advancing under the ever-victorious leadership of the great Party Central Committee, in the validity and invincibility of their cause and their conviction in the future of the country that will endlessly become powerful and prosperous.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un receives message of sympathy from Russian President, leader of United Russia Party

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a message of sympathy from Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, over the recent serious damage caused by flood and heavy rainfall in some parts of the DPRK.

The message of sympathy from Moscow was conveyed to the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK through the Russian embassy in Pyongyang on the evening of

August 3 and immediately reported to the supreme leadership of the state.

President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin extended deep sympathy and support to Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, and all the Korean people as regards the flood damage in the northwestern part of the DPRK, expressing his willingness to provide immediate humanitarian aid for the recovery from the flood damage.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed sincere thanks to President Vladimir

Vladimirovich Putin and the Russian government on behalf of the DPRK government, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people and on his own behalf.

Saying that he could deeply feel the special emotion towards a genuine friend in the most difficult period, he expressed thanks for it, adding that he receives the heartfelt sympathy from the closest friends. He said that the rehabilitation work would be pushed forward according to the already-established plan as state measures were taken at the present

stage to immediately repair the flood damage and that if aid is necessary in the course, he would ask for it to the truest friends in Moscow.

Kim Jong Un said that the Korean people must have been greatly moved and encouraged by the message of deep sympathy from President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, feeling that they have the closest friend beside them, and expressed once again sincere thanks in the name of the DPRK government and its people.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a letter of sympathy from Dmitri Anatolievich Medvedev, president of the United Russia Party, over the serious damage caused by flood and heavy rain in some parts of the DPRK recently.

Saying that he was sad to hear the news of the natural disaster that occurred in the northwestern region of the DPRK, Medvedev in his message expressed his sincere sympathy and hoped that all the victims would be rehabilitated as soon as possible.

Senior Party officials learn about damage and preparations for reconstruction in flood-hit areas

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visited again the flood-hit areas in North Phyongan Province, accompanied by secretaries and department directors of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. They learned about

the damage and preparations for reconstruction in the city of Sinuiju and Uiju County of the province on August 9.

On the spot, Jo Yong Won, Pak Jong Chon, Kim Jae Ryong, Ju Chang Il and Han Kwang Sang learned in detail about the flood damage and such preparations for the rehabilitation project as

deployment of construction forces and transport of materials and discussed the practical measures for minimizing the damage to crops.

The senior officials stressed the need for officials of the regional Party and power organs to play their proper role as masters, well aware of the fact that the Party and the

government are giving top priority to and concentrating all efforts on the work to take good care of the living of the flood victims and complete the housing construction for them in a qualitative way as soon as possible. And they took measures to solve the problems arising in the project.

DPRK ambassador pays farewell visit to Thai king

KCNA

The DPRK ambassador to Thailand paid a farewell call on the king of the Kingdom of Thailand on August 1.

Ambassador Kim Je Bong courteously conveyed the greetings from Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to King Maha Vajiralongkorn.

The king expressed

thanks for it and asked the ambassador to convey his sincere greetings to HE Kim Jong Un.

Saying that he has always remembered the fact that President Kim Il Sung met and gave warm hospitality to him during his two visits to the DPRK and kept it as an honour, the king expressed belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would continue to develop.

Press statement of external policy office of DPRK Foreign Ministry

KCNA

The External Policy Office of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea released the following press statement "We will respond to any hostile forces' option with stronger counteraction" on August 3:

The security environment of the Korean peninsula and the region has been exposed to a serious threat, due to the reckless nuclear confrontation racket kicked up by the US and the ROK military gangsters recently.

The war maniacs of the US and the ROK staged from July 30 to August 1 the nuclear operation drill dubbed Iron Mace simulating a full-scale nuclear war under the pretext of countering the DPRK's "use of nuclear weapons" at the Phyongthack US military base in Kyonggi Province.

This shows that the nuclear war plan of the US and the ROK, which have regularly modified and examined the nuclear strike plan targeting the DPRK since they formed the "Nuclear Consultative Group" according to the "Washington

Declaration" in April last year, has entered the phase of actual and detailed execution.

The provocative acts of the US, which has plunged the worrisome security environment of the Korean peninsula into a more dangerous phase to persistently escalate the danger of a nuclear clash in the region, clearly indicate who should be held accountable for the ever-worsening regional situation.

Today's world has faced the unprecedented danger of a nuclear war, for the US has doggedly pursued its wild ambition for gaining the nuclear edge in disregard of global peace and stability and regional security environment.

The acting assistant secretary of the US Department of Defense recently unveiled a design to deploy more nuclear weapons and develop various nuclear strike means, accusing independent sovereign countries of posing "threats."

In response to it, the conservatives in the US even call for deploying tactical nuclear weapons in the ROK and expanding the tactical nuclear warhead production capacity of the US. They even make such

an extremely risky assertion that the US should exert all its national power on preparing for a war against independent sovereign countries.

The US has annually and systematically increased expenditure on modernizing its nuclear forces, stepping up the development of such new strategic nuclear strike means as Columbia-class strategic nuclear submarine, new-type ICBM LGM-35A Sentinel and the sixth-generation nuclear strategic bomber B-21 Raider. It gets frantic in the development of new-type nuclear weapons, conducting high-powered bomb tests and sub-critical nuclear tests.

After cooking up the "nuclear operation guidelines" with the ROK, the US committed itself to providing Japan with "extended deterrent" including nuclear weapons, inveigling its vassal countries into the framework of a nuclear alliance.

All facts go to prove that the US nuclear-based scheme to subdue the independent and sovereign states in the Korean peninsula, the Asia-Pacific region and the rest of the world is evolving in an extremely grave direction.

One side's such unilateral escalation of nuclear threat and provocative modification of nuclear posture stress the need for the other side to bolster up the self-defensive nuclear deterrent and perfect the preparations for a nuclear war.

The US reckless nuclear confrontation racket makes clearer the DPRK's choice and goal for defending the security interests of the state and the regional peace and stability.

It is the constitutional duty of the nuclear forces of the DPRK to deter nuclear attacks of any forms and scales to be schemed or attempted by the hostile states, and to defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity from present and future uncertain security environment.

If hostile states opt for making themselves and the world less secure, the DPRK is ready to take the most necessary measures to ensure its sovereignty and security interests and regional and global peace and stability.

The US and its followers are bound to bear the whole responsibility for the catastrophic consequences to be entailed by their reckless option.

Farmers move into new houses across the country

KCNA

Happy events of moving into new houses have taken place one after another in the rural communities across the country.

New modern houses for several hundred families have been built at the Saha and Hyongje farms in Puryong County, North Hamgyong Province.

Present at the ceremony for moving into new houses were Kim Myong Chol, secretary of the Kangwon Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials, builders and agricultural workers in the county.

Pak Myong Ho, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee, made a congratulatory

address. Licences for the use of the houses were handed over.

Officials visited new houses to congratulate the agricultural workers, sharing joy with them.

New houses have been built in Yonhori and Solbong-ri of Kosan County, Kangwon Province.

Present at the ceremony for moving into new houses were Kim Myong Chol, secretary of the Kangwon Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials, builders and agricultural workers in the county.

After a congratulatory address was made, licences for the use of new houses were handed over.

Amid a cheerful dance party, officials visited the new houses to congratulate the farmers.

Nation set on reconstruction of afflicted areas

WPK members volunteer to work in flood-hit areas



The Pyongyang Municipal Regiment of Party Members leaves for the rehabilitation projects in the flood-hit areas on August 5 after a meeting at the plaza of Pyongyang Indoor Stadium.

KCNA

The members of the Workers' Party of Korea have turned out in the responsible struggle for turning the areas afflicted by terrible natural disasters into the people's ideal land by putting into perfect practice the gigantic blueprint unveiled by the great Party Central Committee to turn adversity into favourable situation.

Since the important news on the 22nd emergency enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth WPK Central Committee was reported, all the Party organizations at all levels have been filled with their members' enthusiasm for volunteering. In Pyongyang and all provinces, regiments of Party members to be dispatched to the disaster-afflicted areas are being rapidly organized amid the high militant zeal of all the Party members.

The Party members throughout the country, touched by the untiring efforts of General Secretary Kim Jong Un who unfolded a far-reaching plan for completely face-lifting

the flood-hit areas beyond recognition, not merely for rehabilitation, signed their names on the lists of the Party members' regiments.

A meeting of the Pyongyang Municipal Regiment of Party Members to be dispatched for the rehabilitation projects in the flood-hit areas took place on August 5 amid the ever-growing extraordinary revolutionary consciousness of all Party members.

Commanding personnel and men of the regiment to be dispatched to the flood-hit areas lined up at the plaza of Pyongyang Indoor Stadium.

Present there were Pak Thae Song, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Pak Jong Gun, vice-premier of the Cabinet and chairman of the State Planning Commission, Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK, and officials of the Party and power organs and officials and working people of industrial establishments in the municipality.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Kim Su Gil made a report. He referred to the great devotion of the General

Secretary, who has made tireless efforts for the sake of the people, visiting remote and rough disaster-stricken areas to relieve the people of their sufferings as soon as possible.

It is the mission and revolutionary duty of the Party members to always find themselves before others in the most difficult and seriously damaged areas and inject vitality into the advancing ranks by playing a bold vanguard role, he stressed.

Saying that the struggle of the WPK members will bring about another miracle in demonstrating the might of the people-first politics in the sacred history of the genuine Party for the people, the WPK, the reporter ardently called for transforming the northwestern area of the country into paradise of happiness and high civilization and making a report of loyalty and victory to the General Secretary.

Oath-taking speeches were made at the meeting.

Speakers expressed their firm determination to courageously struggle in the van of the reconstruction campaign in the flood-

stricken areas, saying that for the Party members, nothing is more sacred or honourable than to find their jobs in the flood-hit areas before others in response to the call of the General Secretary.

A message of pledge to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was adopted.

All the commanding officers and men of the regiment made a solemn vow to clearly show the true picture of the country that makes strenuous advance and leaps forward in the face of crises and difficulties and give a report of victory to the Party Central Committee.

Pak Thae Song presented the flag of the regiment to its commanding personnel.

Meetings were held in South Phyongan, North and South Hwanghae, Jagang, Kangwon and North and South Hamgyong provinces and Nampho and Rason cities for the departure of the regional regiments of Party members, formed in response to the call of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea for dynamically stepping up the recovery from flood damage by concentrating all efforts.

Young people join nationwide relief campaign

KCNA

Meetings of young vanguard to thoroughly implement the decisions of the 22nd emergency enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place in Pyongyang and the provinces.

Officials concerned, youth league officials and young people attended the meetings.

Read out there was the decision of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee "On rapidly repairing the flood damage in North Phyongan and Jagang provinces" and speeches were made.

Speakers noted that the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un, who put forward the young people as the vanguard and shock brigade in the struggle for socialist construction and brought up them with all his affection and love, gave another important task to the

successors to the revolution.

Saying that the absolute loyalty to the Party and the revolution is the character peculiar to the Korean youth, they stressed that the large contingent of patriotic young people, who regard it as their bounden duty and mission to realize the cherished desire of the WPK Central Committee, would produce a world-startling legendary tale about heroic youth in the campaign for repairing the flood damage.

They expressed their determination to successfully build the people's cradles in the flood-hit areas by making an all-out charge in the spirit and mettle of the Korean youth and make a report on victory to Kim Jong Un.

All the participants responded to the ardent appeals of the speakers with revolutionary slogans and signed the list of volunteers.

Flags were awarded to young people who volunteered to the front for repairing flood damage.



Young vanguard of Pyongyang Municipality meet at the Youth Park Open-Air Theatre to volunteer to take part in the reconstruction campaign of flood-hit areas.

Volunteers arrive in afflicted areas, launch reconstruction campaign

KCNA

Pyongyang municipal regiment of Party members

The Pyongyang municipal regiment of Party members arrived at the site for recovery from flood damage on August 6.

The regiment was greeted by officials and inhabitants of Songgan County in Jagang Province.

After making a field survey of the situation, its commanding officers have worked out a schedule and conducted the operation and command over the allocation of manpower and the supply

of materials.

All members of battalions and companies under the regiment started the rehabilitation projects to step up the site clearing, road restoration and securing of aggregate.

Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade

The Paektusan Hero Youth Shock Brigade arrived at the site for recovery from the flood damage in Uiju County, North Phyongan Province, and promptly started the rehabilitation project.

Officials and working people in North Phyongan

Province and Uiju County greeted the members of the shock brigade on August 7.

The commanding officers of the shock brigade are learning about the situation in the areas seriously affected by flood to conduct the organizational and political work for supplying manpower, machinery and materials and unconditionally finishing the rehabilitation project in the period fixed by the Party.

The brigade members quickly launched into the preparations for completely renovating the afflicted areas and pushing ahead with the housing construction in a big way.

Visual information aids call on entire nation to turn out for recovery from flood damage

KCNA

Visual information aids inspiring all the people to join the effort to implement the decisions of the 22nd Emergency Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea have been displayed in all parts of the DPRK.

Among them are slogans and posters reflecting the WPK's intention to turn the flood-stricken areas into the people's ideal lands, where they enjoy all blessings under socialism, not merely to rehabilitate them.



Poster "Let's provide flood victims with better living places with concerted efforts of the army and people!"

DPRK pushes forward with Regional Development 20x10 Policy

Non-permanent central committee forges ahead with regional development policy

By Kim Il Jin PT

The non-permanent central committee for promoting the Regional Development 20x10 Policy intensifies unified command and guidance to ensure that new and modern production bases in 20 cities and counties to be inaugurated at the end of this year would prove effective immediately.

The committee directs primary effort to providing regional-industry factories with raw and other materials needed for the normalization of production.

It has acquainted itself with the plans of the new production bases for the production of consumer goods after inauguration and the securing of raw and other materials which may be in short supply in the course of implementing them and taken measures to properly supply them. It also gives guidance in a responsible manner to ensure that the relevant cities and counties do farming at the raw materials production bases scientifically to secure enough raw materials needed for the normalization of production at the factories.

It intensifies guidance on the work to step up the manufacture of equipment qualitatively.

Fully aware that modernized machines and equipment are the main factor in guaranteeing the quality of products, officials of the design panel frequently arrange technical consultative meetings with relevant designing and manufacturing units to speed up the manufacture of modern equipment.

They offer positive assistance to make sure that equipment needed for the production of regional specialties including wild vegetables, processed marine products and jam is made flawlessly on a high level, as well as that included in the major production indexes.

The sci-tech panel actively helps cities and counties purposefully push ahead with the training of technicians and skilled workers systematically.

The technical training courses, which were held divided into the east and west coastal areas from April, were important occasions for facilitating the transfer to relevant cities and counties of knowledge and technologies needed for normally operating modernly-built regional-industry factories, improving quality of products and skillfully handling equipment.

In collaboration with relevant ministries and

national agencies including the State Commission of Science and Technology and Ministry of Regional Industry, officials of the panel press on with the compilation of questions and answers for such jobs as soybean sauce maker and tailor and send them to relevant regions in a planned manner.

The committee also takes appropriate steps to make full preparations for the building of regional-industry factories next year.

In close contact with similar provincial committees, it works hard to fix the sites of factories to be built with the cities and counties in which regional-industry factories will be built next year and helps them select the sizes and production capacities of regional-industry factories by taking into full account every detail such as their population, demands of residents, economic potential and natural and geographical conditions.

It encourages the designing units to direct efforts to completing designs on the principle of building regional-industry factories distinctively to show their features correctly in cities and counties and blend in well with the surrounding landscape.

Exterior works proceed at final stage at construction sites of regional-industry factories

Modern regional-industry factories are taking definite shape as the first offspring of the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

According to information available, after the frameworks of buildings of regional-industry factories were built in 20 cities and counties until June 21, exterior plastering of them and the framework construction of facilities were finished and all other works are underway in a three-dimensional way at the final stage, such as roofing, tiling, interior works, pavement of factory compounds, greening and land rearrangement.

As construction sites are far away from each other and different projects are being carried out at the same time, the non-permanent command team of the Ministry of National Defence for implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy established an accurate command system and sees to it that construction regiments thoroughly meet the standards of operation and the requirements of technical methods of construction and implement their tasks without fail.

In particular, the command team efficiently organized demonstrations and technical

workshops related to the improvement of quality of structures and ensured that the construction control sector makes an efficient control and appraisal of operation processes and the results, while attaching primary importance to completing every element of buildings perfectly.

The 124th regiment of the Korean People's Army dispatched to Songchon County has overfulfilled its tasks every day by putting all efforts to such works as tiling, roofing and greening, while enhancing the role of the final execution team and making it strictly comply with technical regulations and requirements of construction methods.

Soldier builders taking part in the construction of regional-industry factories in Sukchon and Usi counties devised and introduced efficient tools and applied advanced techniques and experiences to constantly achieve progress in overall projects, while improving the quality of operation and increasing its speed.

The 124th regiments of the KPA commissioned to Onchon and Jangphung counties are also expanding successes in projects as they ensure the full operation of building equipment and apply advanced construction

methods, while conducting the socialist emulation drive between sub-units by giving priority to good quality of structures.

Officers and men of such regiment in Jaeryong County put in efforts to build up the forces of skilled hands and improve the level of specialization of each process, thereby completing wall plastering at all factories in a fortnight by starting in early June and the tiling of over 6 000 square metres of area ahead of schedule.

Soldier builders in charge of roofing actively introduced efficient work methods for speeding up the project to the maximum to complete the concrete tamping for slabs and assembly of roof truss in a short period and roof waterproofing for over 4 000 square metres. As a result, they finished the roof covering of all factory buildings by late June.

Those in Kosan and Unchon counties are creating a new construction speed as they ensure the specialized execution of each process.

In Unpha County and elsewhere, the service personnel of the 124th regiments are devoting their sweat and passion to the projects out of a desire to build regional-industry factories flawlessly as symbols of the times.

Offshore farming activated

By To Kyong Chol PT

This year, success has been made in offshore farming despite the unfavourable sea conditions.

A scientific thinning method has actively been introduced according to the growth condition of kelp to cope with the change of sea water temperature caused by the disastrous abnormal weather.

At the Pupho Offshore Farm growers accelerate the thinning of kelp as they scientifically conduct manuring and cultivation while satisfactorily ensuring the number of kelp seedlings per attachment line.

After opening up a prospect for firmly ensuring production growth by providing favourable conditions for its growth, the farm increased the yield per unit area as it actively introduced an advanced method of culture.

The Kumipho Offshore Farm, which is actively applying a scientific production method

according to the growth and distribution of kelp in the wake of completing the first quarterly plan at 120 percent, has introduced advanced nursery managing methods to meet the seawater temperature and sunshine and manured and tended kelp according to its growth in a scientific and technological way, thus achieving stable production growth.

The Ongjin Offshore Farm also has put everyday production on a normal basis by conducting the brisk patriotic mass movement of growers and making the effective use of the already established production bases.

The Wonsan Seafood Production and Processing Station has improved the method of breeding mussels on the basis of advanced science and technology and raised more than 100 tons of mussels per hectare at the nursery covering dozens of hectares with scores of employees.

Fishery stations of the North Hamgyong Provincial Fishery

Management Bureau have pushed ahead with the production of seaweed.

The Sokho Offshore Farm built kelp nurseries in a planned way, based on a detailed survey and analysis of water quality and its change, and boosted its output per unit area. The Orang small-scale fishery station, which produces and sows kelp on a scientific and technological basis, has produced a large quantity of kelp, while rationally managing the cast of rope, the distribution of guide line for setting out rows of kelp seedlings and light management under unfavourable conditions caused by disastrous abnormal weather.

The Kim Chaek Fishery Station, the Kanhae Stocking Fishery Station and others have introduced advanced methods of cultivating kelp and provided a guarantee for present and long-term production while keeping nurseries effectively as required by growth conditions.

Fishery resources under good conservation

By Yun Ki Song PT

Efforts are being made to protect fishery resources in different parts of the DPRK.

Fish farming units in Kaesong have actively applied natural and artificial egg collection methods in line with their specific conditions to increase fish production 1.2 times more than previously.

The city people's committee built spawning grounds to raise the natural breeding coefficient of fishes and arranged demonstrations on advanced egg collection methods in rivers and reservoirs to help employees of fish farming units theoretically understand the technical problems arising in fish farming.

The Kaesong City Pedigree Fish Breeding Station stocked water areas with a lot of fries and established a gravity-fed water supply system in order to raise fish on a large scale while putting the

nutrition management of pedigree fish on a scientific basis

Fish farming units in Jangphung County and Kaepung District of the city built hatcheries to increase fry output based on artificial insemination, while taking measures to supply protein feed like *Hermetia illucens*.

Meanwhile, the Kaechon City Stocking Fishery Station and Thaecheon County Mandarin Fish Breeding Station are raising a large number of fries of mandarin fish by efficiently providing necessary conditions for increasing the mandarin fish resources in Lakes Yonphung and Thaecheon.

Provinces completed the placing of millions of square metres of straw matting for collecting eggs into rivers, lakes and reservoirs and stocked them with tens of millions of fries to make a positive contribution to increasing the fishery resources of the country.

Pushing his way through the long bloody anti-Japanese war

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Since before the Japanese military occupation of Korea (1905-1945), the Korean people had constantly waged various forms of anti-Japanese struggle including such armed activities as the volunteers' struggle and the Independence Army movement.

But such Korean forces were defeated one by one by the counterrevolutionary armed forces of the Japanese imperialists as they failed to be guided by a correct guiding ideology and a scientific strategy and tactics and conducted activities in a dispersed way.

President Kim Il Sung embarked on the road of revolution in his teens

and fought the bloody war against the Japanese imperialist aggressors for more than 20 years.

In April 1932 he founded the Korean People's Revolutionary Army to wage a courageous armed struggle for liberating Korea from Japanese military rule.

The armed struggle was an arduous and protracted fight which demanded the best results under the worst conditions.

At that time, as the KPRA had no support of any regular army and state backing, it had to solve all problems, ranging from those of weapons to those of food and clothing, by its own efforts.

And it could not bear comparison with the Japanese troops in terms of military technique.

The anti-Japanese armed struggle

was accompanied by tremendous sacrifices and pains. This can be clearly seen through the talks made by the President with the anti-Japanese war veterans one day long after liberation.

Looking back on the grim course of the Korean revolution that day, he said: In the early days of the guerrilla warfare, our ranks numbered some hundreds. They grew to several thousand and tens of thousands. And then many of them were killed in the whirlwind of the anti-"Minsaengdan" campaign (an ultra-leftist struggle against the organization formed by the Japanese imperialists) and battles. Frankly speaking, we were not survivors, but those who narrowly escaped death.

Kim Il Sung overpowered all

those advantages of the enemy with the political, ideological, moral and tactical superiority and inflicted death and horror upon the Japanese troops at every step.

He educated and trained the KPRA members in the indomitable revolutionary spirit, revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, revolutionary optimism, revolutionary comradeship and love for the people.

They fought like a phoenix, not yielding to any difficulties and ordeals beyond human imagination, including the biting cold of around 40 degrees centigrade below zero and an extreme food crisis, and did not abandon their revolutionary principles on the scaffold.

Officers and men were united firmly and did neither hesitate to

devote their lives for the interests of the people nor tolerate any infringement upon their interests.

Kim Il Sung held the initiative in every battle and annihilated the enemy, who was vastly superior in force, by dint of his protean guerrilla tactics.

As regards his adroit tactics, many legendary stories were widely told among the people at that time, including "Where have they gone, up to the sky or down to the ground?" and "Tens of thousands of troops cross the river with a sheet of paper".

Under the wise guidance of the President, the Korean people defeated the Japanese imperialists on August 15 1945 and achieved the historic cause of national liberation.

Rural development stepped up with production of quality building materials



Pak Myong Sok

Department director of the Ministry of Construction and Building-materials Industry

Over two years have passed since the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea set forth the task of building all rural villages in the country to preserve the characters of Korean-style socialism and highlight the uniqueness of the relevant areas.

In this period, provinces, cities and counties built many new villages peculiar to the countryside, making a great contribution to ushering in a new era of comprehensive development of socialism, in which not only the capital but also the provinces are transformed together and a great change is brought about in the people's ideological and spiritual aspects.

A radical turn should also be taken in the production of building materials in local

areas to rid the countryside of its historical backwardness and realize the centuries-old desire of farmers as soon as possible by building more modern farmhouses on the basis of the achievements so far made.

To this end, it is most important to build up the bases for the production of finishing building materials relying on locally available resources and produce quality finishing building materials in relevant regions.

This is not an easy job.

But they can do it if they share and exchange experience with each other.

A stone processing base using serpentine has recently been built in Myongchon County of North Hamgyong Province to produce various kinds of stone products.

Unsan County of North

Phyongan Province also set an example in increasing the utilization rate of locally made building materials in the construction of farmhouses at the Tapsang Farm last year.

In the county a brick production base was built with locally available raw materials, quality bricks made there were used for building dividing walls, handrail and fences of houses and sidewalks around the houses were covered with stones abundant in the area. As a result, it increased the speed and enhanced the quality of construction at the same time while saving a large quantity of building materials like cement and timber.

The reality shows that if the local people are full of patriotic spirit of valuing their own things, they can exploit raw material resources for the production of building materials.

Substantial results have also been produced in diversifying the kind, shape and colour of building materials.

It was evidenced by the national exhibition of building materials in each province-2023 held on the theme of "A new era of rural development with our building materials!" last year.

On display there were more than 280 kinds of building materials on 16 indices produced in provinces.

Now, all regions direct efforts to strengthening their technical abilities and updating the production processes, making continued progress in improving the quality of finishing building materials, boosting their production and lowering their production costs.

Accordingly, our ministry organizes the work to standardize building materials and stimulate the competition between provinces, cities and counties.

The importance of regional building materials production is becoming more pronounced in the construction of farmhouses highlighting the specific features of each region.

Japan defends reputation as 'kingdom' of murder

By Yun Ki Song PT

Cold-blooded murders are occurring successively in Japan, adding to the social unrest and horror. The number of killings between relatives has hardly decreased in the country in July after June and therefore it retains its notoriety as the "kingdom" of murders.

The police arrested a woman who committed an outrage on her 7-year-old daughter along with a man and left her to death, and a woman who left the body of her brother at home.

A 64-year-old woman killed her aged stepmother in Nagano prefecture and a woman murdered her old mother in Tokyo.

Meanwhile, a man violently killed his wife and a woman who threw her baby in a mountain was arrested in Niigata prefecture.

What is worse is that the criminals take such vicious murders as a matter of course.

As Japanese society based on individualism is so corrupt and depraved people do not hesitate to commit parricide and filicide, if it were in their own interests.

This world needs no one except "ego"—this is the extremely selfish view on life and ethics, which dominates the consciousness of people in Japanese society where immorality and depravity are rampant.

As they are mentally and morally corrupt, they kill their parents and children, regarding them as troublesome.

A Japanese professor deplored that the law of the jungle and the extreme misanthropy prevailing in Japanese society turn people into beasts and lunatics who are ignorant of their parents and the elementary ethics of humanity.

Indeed, Japan is a futureless society which is running towards ruin.

BYWORD

Iron horse in the campaign to defend socialism

A sea of farm machines has been spread on socialist fields.

In May 2016, General Secretary Kim Jong Un visited the exhibition of machinery and equipment of the working people of the DPRK made as a gift of labour presented to the Seventh Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. After seeing a new model of 80hp tractor, he said that the tractor is an iron horse in the campaign to defend socialism and that

it looked wonderful and it is a precious creation brought about by self-reliance.

He attached such a deep meaning to the tractor, which is nothing more than a farm machine, because only when there are such farm machines that are as good as military hardware in the agricultural sector, can the agricultural sector, the first-line trench

of the forward echelon in the campaign to defend socialism, be defended and can farmers be freed from labour-consuming work.

That's why he stresses on every occasion that when many farm machines and their parts are produced and sent to rural areas, cereal production can be increased and the Korean-style socialist system

can firmly be defended.

It is the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to cover all the socialist fields with iron horses out in the campaign to defend socialism.

Through the byword "iron horse out in the campaign to defend socialism", agricultural workers visualize their bright future.

Contact us

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

URL: www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp



KCNA commentary on US and EU's robbery

A group of unmasked gangsters are running wild on the earth.

Shortly ago, the European Union in collusion with the US committed such an outrageous act as deducting 1.5 billion euros from the Russian assets it has frozen at random at financial institutions of its member states and transferring them to weapons funds supporting Ukraine.

This is a violation of the principle of international law, which stipulates that the assets of another country in the territory of a country are inviolable, and a wanton encroachment on state sovereignty and private property rights. It can never be justified in any case and with anything.

The Russian government said that any attempt of the Western countries to confiscate Russian assets will be branded as stealing and will not escape punishment and no matter what rhetoric they may make, theft

will remain theft.

The unbiased world public censured it as a clear illegal act, expressing serious concern over the fact that it would be a bad precedent for the disposal of state assets in dispute and an act of harming international financial stability.

But the US and the West are advertising their unheard-of robbery as a well-intended act for "peace and security", claiming that emergency measures are necessary in the extraordinary period and there is no greater symbolism than making Ukraine and the whole of Europe safer with the funds of the Kremlin.

Is the robbery for "peace and security" acceptable?

There is no pretext for justifying robbery and theft in the world.

It is an open fact that the US and the West were seeking Russia's overseas assets to fill up their financial resources which are running out in the long-term

Ukrainian crisis.

As recently disclosed by the US Department of Treasury, the US national debt has reached the worst phase beyond 35 trillion US dollars and the other Western countries, too, are not placed in a position to look after others due to their poor economic situation.

Meanwhile, Ukraine spends more than 136 million US dollars every day and more than 4 billion US dollars every month for military expenditure.

The Russian assets frozen by the West, which cannot but make every effort for running the Russian war machine, are no more than a lump of oily meat.

In order to calm down the internal differences in view and international legality at any cost, the US and the West have thrust themselves into the robbery in group while competitively faking up legal frameworks for allowing the seizure of the assets of a sovereign state.

The EU decided to allocate 90 percent of the earnings of the frozen assets of the Central Bank of Russia to the supply of military assistance to Ukraine and the remaining 10 percent to other items. This clearly shows its real intention to prolong the bloody war and slaughter on the European Continent, not to end the war.

No matter how hard the U.S. and its followers may describe their act as one for "peace in Ukraine" and "security in Europe", they cannot conceal their atrocious nature turned into a worldwide gangster group. And it will be another evidence of proving their predatory, arrogant and shameless nature.

The world people are stunned by the ignorant and rude robbery of the US and the West which is not the first and the last.

The US and the West will have to pay dearly for their plunder, irrespective of international law, market rules, enemy or ally.

Unity and cooperation 57 years on

By Song Jong Ho PT

A meeting took place in Bangkok, Thailand, on August 8 1967 with the attendance of foreign ministers of the five nations, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines. After the meeting was over, the founding of ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) was formally proclaimed.

It came into being in reflection of the common aspirations and desire of the peoples in this area to achieve social progress and joint development by uniting and cooperating under the idea of independence.

The socio-economic development was seriously restrained due to the colonial rule of the imperialists in the past in almost all the South East Asian countries.

After their independence, many difficulties and obstacles were laid in the way of developing the national economy and building a new society due to the unfair international economic order.

These countries realized that they would be able to solve all the problems with the strength and efforts of the region and achieve socio-economic development and common prosperity only when

they expand and develop regional cooperation in the course of building a new society.

So, regional countries put forward as a strategic goal to boost economic cooperation and make this area a peaceful, free and neutral zone, free from the interference of outside forces, and have made joint efforts to this end.

Today, ASEAN plays an important role in achieving regional stability and social development as a regional organization of cooperation comprising the South East Asian nations.

Every year, the organization convenes a series of meetings to discuss different problems arising in boosting regional unity and cooperation and common prosperity of member nations.

At present, it makes positive efforts to thoroughly observe the main principle of respecting sovereignty, equality and noninterference in each other's internal affairs in order to ensure the political stability and peace in the region.

Its member nations are advancing along the road of independent development with confidence in the future and optimism.

The activities of ASEAN for regional stability, peace, social progress and prosperity will be brisker as the days go by.

World's first nuclear criminal and purpose of bombings

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The first nuclear criminal

August 6 1945 was recorded in the history as the day when humankind suffered the nuclear holocaust for the first time on earth. That day, the US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. Three days later, on August 9, it dropped another one on Nagasaki.

The two atomic bombs reduced the two Japanese cities to ashes in a moment and killed hundreds of thousands of innocent people.

According to data available, about 0.7 million residents in the cities fell victim to the atomic bombs at that time.

The mental and physical pains caused to humans by the atomic bombs were unimaginably immense.

In about four months after the bombings, most of people affected by radiation died of different symptoms like diarrhoea, vomiting, lack of appetite, headache, loss of hair, feebleness, bleeding and fever. Even survivors were compelled to suffer from different kinds of diseases due to the aftereffects. About 60 percent of the dead died owing to thermic rays and the remaining 40 percent due to radioactive rays.

Purpose of dropping of atomic bombs

The US trumpets that its

atomic bombs made Japan surrender and "contributed" to bringing World War II to an end. It is a preposterous sophism.

Later, MacArthur admitted that the use of atomic bombs was completely unnecessary from a military point of view and another American brass hat testified that the atomic bombs had no relation to the conclusion of the war.

Then, what was the real purpose of atomic bomb droppings?

The US didn't want Japan to completely perish.

It was very fearful of the rapid growth and development of anti-imperialist national liberation forces in Korea, China and other Asian countries, particularly the communist forces, and thought of using Japan in strangling them in the future. For that reason, it carried out bombing attacks mainly on residential areas on the Japanese mainland, avoiding military objects as much as possible, so as to preserve Japan's military and economic potentials.

And it didn't bomb even one military target of the Japanese imperialists in Northeast China in order to turn Japan's spearhead of aggression to the Soviet Union when it entered the war against Japan.

As a result, Japan could preserve its war potentials and insisted on the war of

aggression to the last in disregard of the demand of the Potsdam Declaration. Actually, it still had 1.5 million-strong forces of 49 divisions and 27 brigades in Manchuria, Korea, Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands alone before the Soviet Union entered the war against Japan.

Although the US knew well that Hiroshima and Nagasaki were not of military strategic significance, it chose them as targets to inflict heavy losses of life as they were comparatively populous.

After all, the purpose of the bombings was to keep the Soviet army from advancing to the Japanese mainland and mislead the public to believe that the US played a "decisive" role in the war against Japan and thus raise its voice in settling the post-war matters and gain the upper hand.

As seen above, the US dropped the first atomic bomb in Hiroshima to show off its "matchless strength" and still clings to the power policy persistently.

In order to realize its ambition for domination, the US does not hesitate to use nuclear weapons and kill hundreds of thousands of people.

History and reality show that other countries should have the strength great enough to overpower the US in order to fight against its power policy.

Briefly

Russia

FM decries terrorist acts of Ukraine

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova censured the Ukrainian forces for terrorism on August 2.

Recently, the Ukrainian forces attacked a market in Russia's Donetsk People's Republic with a drone and injured six residents. In this regard, the spokeswoman branded this as a deliberate terrorist act targeting civilians.

The Ukrainian authorities have committed terrorist acts against civilians every year, she said, adding that the US that talks much about "human rights and anti-terrorism" is providing Ukraine with funds and technical equipment for such acts targeting peaceful inhabitants.

Mexico

President condemns US' interference

The Mexican president decried the US' interference in a press conference on August 2.

In connection with the US State Secretary's recent wild remarks against the presidential election results in Venezuela, he branded the US behaviour as very reckless.

The remarks may further aggravate the situation in Venezuela, he said, adding that the international community should not tolerate such an interference policy.

Iran

Islamic Revolution Guards Corps set to resolutely counteract Israeli terrorism

The Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued a statement on August 3 to state that they will resolutely deal with terrorism of Israel.

Referring to the fact that the political chief of Hamas was assassinated in Iran's capital city of Teheran, the statement exposed that the terror attack was planned and carried out by Israel with the backing of the US.

The Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps will avenge the death and adventurous and terrorist Israel will face with resolute counteraction of an appropriate mode in an appropriate place and time, the statement noted.

WFP

Concern expressed over food shortage in Gaza Strip

The spokesman for the World Food Programme expressed concern over a serious food crisis in the Gaza Strip on August 5. Though the humanitarian situation deteriorated seriously enough to starve people to death, there is no prospect for improvement, he said, adding that, especially, children are severely affected by starvation.

Malnutrition checks the growth of children and they may contract chronic diseases, he warned.

DPRK wins bronze medals at 33rd Olympic Games

KCNA

Ri Se Ung of the DPRK was placed third in the Greco-Roman

style wrestling 60kg category in the 33rd Olympic Games on August 6. Kim Mi Rae also came third at the women's 10-metre platform

diving on the same day. Meanwhile, Pang Chol Mi won a bronze medal in the women's boxing 54 kg category on August 4.

Choe Hyo Gyong collected a bronze medal at the women's 53kg wrestling in the 33rd Olympic Games.

Living monument, otters in Taehung

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The habitat of otters in Taehung is a riverside in Hyangu-ri 8.5 kilometres north of the township of Taehung County, South Phyongan Province of the DPRK.



The location, in which several tributaries in the upper stream of the Taedong River converge, is a mountainous area in which most of the area is 500 to 1 000 metres above sea level.

It is home to coniferous trees such as Korea larch, *Abies nephrolepis*, spruce, pine and pine-nut trees, and broad-leaf trees including oak, Korean poplar and linden, which form thick mixed forests.

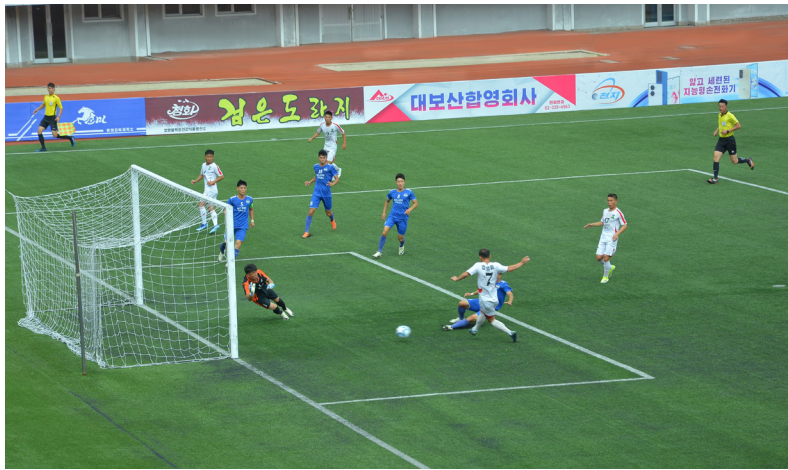
Rivers in this area are clear, with their currents being swift and there are shoals in different places.

By the riverside, there are rocks and various shrubs and grasses.

The river abounds with a variety of fish such as char, *Pseudogobio esocinus* and minnow and invertebrates as well.

As only mammal species living in the fresh water, the otters in Taehung are under good protection.

Impressive football tournament



A snapshot from the football match between Rimyongsu and Kigwancha teams of the Hwaepul (torch) Cup soccer tournament. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The Hwaepul Cup soccer tournament started with a match between the Rimyongsu and Kigwancha teams at Kim Il Sung

Stadium in Pyongyang on August 1. Prior to the match, the head coach of the Rimyongsu said that his team has dramatically weakened after the second-round matches of the 2023-2024 DPRK Premier League

and that as newcomers would take part in the match, it would be a difficult game for his team.

And the head coach of the Kigwancha was confident of its win for the stable make-up of his team and the high spirits of his players. "We should not think light of the Rimyongsu team, though they are said to have become weak. We should stay alert and do our best as they have high potentials," he said.

The game started with the Rimyongsu's kick-off.

It was a seesaw from the beginning and both goals were threatened by opponents.

The novices of the Rimyongsu kept putting pressure on their opponents by displaying various techniques they had practised in ordinary days.

But it was the Kigwancha that scored the opener.

As they were so obsessed with offensive, the Rimyongsu's eleven failed to block the Kigwancha's

sudden counterattack.

Undaunted, they continued to attack by dint of three-men combination based on a non-stop pass with forward No. 31 as the axis and finally made an equalizer in the 20th minute.

Recovering their rhythm with this scoring, the Rimyongsu intensified attack.

The Kigwancha was not a team that could be made light of. They checked Rimyongsu's No. 31 by the tight man-to-man defence and blocking with some players to blunt the edge of their attack, while mounting successive attacks relying on their better composition and well-practised all-out offensive and defence.

As a result, the Kigwancha got three goals more, thus defeating the Rimyongsu 4-1.

Although the Rimyongsu was beaten, amateurs acknowledged the abilities its players displayed in the match and prayed for their future win.



Sanju Falls in summer

Sanju Falls are located in Sangwon Valley of Mt Myohyang.

