

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects major shipyards to learn about warship building and advance strategic policy for epochal development of shipbuilding industry

He advances the essential long-term plan and phased goals for the possession of the warships to substantially guarantee the mission of our armed forces to defend the maritime sovereignty, as well as the future direction of the defence economic work and all the tasks to this end



KCNA

At a time when the struggle for attaining the important goals for realizing the grandiose plan of the Workers' Party of Korea for building the country into an advanced maritime power is powerfully being pushed ahead with under the schedule set by the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, there took place the guidance work of the Party Central Committee, which is of

remarkable significance in defending the maritime sovereignty of the DPRK and in developing its shipbuilding industry.

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, visited major shipyards to give field guidance to warship building.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted by leading officials of those shipyards.

Accompanying him were Jo Chun Ryong, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Senior Admiral Kim Myong Sik, commander of the Navy of the Korean People's Army, and major leading officials of the WPK Central Committee.

He acquainted himself with the ongoing work for attaining the goal of building warships, set forth by the Party Congress, and the technical equipment level of the shipyards and the progress of their modernization projects.

He expressed great satisfaction over the soaring spirit and labour feats of the workers who are registering signal successes in the implementation of the militant task for radically improving the modernity of our navy in the shortest span of time in line with the prerequisite requirement for the security of the state and the world development trend of naval forces.

SEE PAGE 2

He was reported on the progress made in attaining with confidence the goals for putting the shipbuilding industry on a Juche-oriented, modern and scientific basis, set forth by the Party Central Committee, by actively pushing ahead with the work for technical updating and expansion of production capacity to ensure the rapid development of our naval forces.

He gave a high appreciation of the fact that a bright prospect has been opened for introducing into the operations the most powerful warships capable of establishing the core of our Juche-oriented naval forces and meeting all the requirements of the national defence strategy in the shortest possible time, true to the strategic line of our Party on building up the national defences, and said:

The maritime sovereignty is the core of the sovereign rights of our country, which borders the sea both on the east and the west, and developing its naval forces into an elite, nuclear-armed force constitutes an important content of the strategy for the development of the national defence, which intensively reflects our Party's present will to defend the sovereignty.

Only when there are powerful naval forces that no one can provoke, is it possible to defend the security of the country and the people and guarantee normal development of the fishing industry and the overall national economy. For us, the sea, before being a limitless base for prosperity, is an inviolable territory

where the dignity and prestige of our state and the people's life are defended.

The everlasting prosperity of our socialist Korea depends on how we defend the sea, a major front decisive of the life and death of the state and the people and a main route of aggression by the enemy countries. We should ensure that incomparably threatening warships fulfil their mission as powerful deterrent of a nuclear power, capable of containing the inveterate "gunboat diplomacy" of the hostile forces.

It is really significant progress that the rejuvenation of the country's warship-building industry, which we aspire to, has laid its solid foundations and entered the full-scale stage of kindling the flame of modernization while enduring hardships. On the basis of the precious experience and technology we have gained so far, we should put spurs to decisively enhancing the warship-building capacity and upgrading the overall technological processes, so as to build a large number of modern warships of different missions desired by our naval forces.

The key to radically developing the warship-building industry, which can be called an ensemble of cutting-edge defence science and technology, is science and technology and training of talents. Regarding them as two elements for development and leap forward, we should vigorously lead the rejuvenation of warship-building industry, whose new appearance will be recorded in the history of the DPRK.

He said that the modernization of the shipyards, which should play an important

role in the revolution in the new era for bolstering up the naval forces, should not be conducted in a passive way of filling up the missing processes of the existing foundations, but in the way of boldly and perfectly creating new and hi-tech bases suited to the prestige and status of a powerful nation. And he clarified the strategic plan of the WPK to this end.

He stated that the DPRK will never remain an onlooker to the naval and underwater military manoeuvres of the enemies, who are seriously threatening its sovereignty and interests by constantly deploying large numbers of strategic assets, but reliably defend its maritime sovereignty and ensure a sure security guarantee on the Korean peninsula and the region through important innovations and changes of its naval forces and supremacy of its ever-developing strength.

Noting that the justness to put the country's naval forces' war posture and capability to fight a war on the most powerful and perfect level is increasing our will and desire for the rejuvenation of the warship-building industry, he affirmed that the sea defence capability of the DPRK, which is in a responsible and key position for defending peace on the Korean peninsula and the region, will be fully displayed in any necessary waters without limitation.

He expressed expectation and belief

that all the officials and workers in the warship-building industry would further consolidate the arsenal for defending the country's maritime sovereignty through a courageous struggle, mindful of their sacred honour and important mission as revolutionary industrial soldiers of the WPK, who have shouldered the state affair decisive of the future of the country's navy and the defence of the territorial integrity and peace of the country.

The basic orientation for radically bolstering up the navy's combat power considered important by the Party is to simultaneously push forward with modernization of surface and underwater warships and further improvement of their operations capabilities, he said. And he advanced the essential long-term plan and stage-by-stage goals for the possession of the warships to substantially guarantee the mission of our armed forces to defend the maritime sovereignty, as well as the future direction of the defence economic work and all the tasks to this end.

He also learned about the building of a nuclear-powered strategic guided missile submarine, which is being pushed forward according to the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the WPK.

His field guidance at the major shipyards is a significant event heralding a new phase of bolstering up the Juche-based naval forces.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un gives field guidance at Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp under construction

He proposes that the camp be successfully built in this significant year of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK and presented to the people



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, gave field guidance over the project for newly building the Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp under the Recreation Management Bureau of the Ministry of Labour.

He was accompanied by Ri Hi Yong and Kim Jae Ryong, leading officials of the Central Committee of the WPK.

He was greeted on the spot by the chief secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the WPK, the chairman of the provincial people's committee and officials of the construction field command team.

The project is for building a recreation and recuperation centre, which is under way in accordance with the on-site instructions given by Kim Jong Un during his field guidance over various sectors of North Hamgyong Province in July 2018. At that time, he stressed the need to newly build the Onpho Holiday Camp in Kyongsong County, a famous hot-spring area of the country, into a comprehensive cultural recreation and medical service base so that the people can receive hot-spring therapy while enjoying highly-civilized cultural and

leisure activities.

Kim Jong Un met senior cadres and working-level officials at the construction site and learned in detail about the progress in the construction project.

He said that the construction of the holiday camp and the preparations for its operation should be done without any slightest defect in order to complete it as another distinctive base for cultural life and an advanced recreation and recuperation facility for the people to enjoy spa culture to their heart's content, and referred to a series of deviations being revealed in the ongoing project and to the measures for overcoming them.

It is important to fully embody the functional requirements in conformity with the mission and use of the construction object aimed mainly at recreation and recuperation, maximize the utilization rate of the building area and ensure convenience, he said, stressing the need to pay attention to the detailed issues lest the visitors should experience even the slightest inconvenience, since the overall project has reached the final stage, and to finish it in a qualitative way.

He set forth important tasks to be tackled in the construction of the holiday camp and its future management and operation, including those of further improving

the service conditions and the treatment environment level so that the hot-spring therapy, a specific feature of the camp and the main category of its service work, can contribute to the promotion of the people's health and their enjoyment of civilization, of expanding the sphere and space of diverse cultural life by actively making the most of the topographical features of the picturesque mountainous area and of making full preparations so that it can start its operation at the same time as the completion of the project. He then continued:

It is an important component of the people-oriented policies of our Party and government and a responsible undertaking to provide the working people with excellent treatment and recuperation facilities and more advanced service conditions for their maximum convenience. We should be more faithful to our original mission of existing for the people and fighting for their interests and always serve them with an innovative and positive attitude.

It is the intention of our Party to build modern holiday resorts and sanatoriums for the people, which blend well with the beautiful natural scenery, in famous mountains and scenic spots of the country and furnish them with a larger number of comprehensive service facilities so that they can fully enjoy

the entities of civilization and promote their health thanks to the benefits of the advantageous socialist policy, and thus make those facilities serve as bases for cultural progress and result in a steady improvement of the life of the working masses.

When the Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp is built as a comprehensive cultural recreation and health service centre in this mountainous area, which fully meets all the requirements of modern architecture while preserving well the unique charms and features unique to the region, it will be another worthwhile achievement of ours in pioneering really diverse fields and diverse realms of life, he said, proposing that the camp be successfully built in this significant year of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK and presented to the people.

Kim Jong Un also indicated important tasks related to the construction of the Yombunjin Haeyang Hostel in North Hamgyong Province.

He approved on the spot a detailed work plan and proposals for the completion of the construction projects for the Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp and the Yombunjin Haeyang Hostel, including the additional budget expenditure and workforce formation for the final stage of the projects, and assigned the tasks for their implementation.

'Constant deployment of US strategic assets highlights urgency of the DPRK to bolster up its self-defensive nuclear war deterrent'

KCNA

Kim Yo Jong, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, issued the following press statement "Constant deployment of US strategic assets highlights urgency of the DPRK to bolster up its self-defensive nuclear war deterrent" on March 3:

The US is frequently committing provocative acts of aggravating the situation in disregard of the security concern of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The US Navy nuclear carrier *Carl Vinson* strike group entered the Pusan operation base in the ROK again on March 2 under the pretext of "demonstrating the ROK-US alliance and increasing inter-operability".

The *Carl Vinson* strike group took part in the war drills together with Japan and the ROK in the waters around the Korean peninsula in January last year. It is reported that the strike group consists of cruiser *Princeton*, Aegis destroyer *Sterett* and others.

Entering this year, the deployment of the US nuclear strategic means on the Korean peninsula is the second one in the wake of the nuclear submarine *Alexandria*, and the US Navy carrier appeared eight months

after the *Theodore Roosevelt* in June last year.

If the actions of strategic bombers are put together, the US is hurling strategic assets into the Korean peninsula at the constant deployment level.

In fact, the US spent the whole of 2024 with the largest anti-DPRK war exercises ever in history. As soon as its new administration appeared this year, the US has stepped up the political and military provocations against the DPRK, "carrying forward" the former administration's hostile policy.

It is necessary to read a diary of the confrontation hysteria of the US and its stooges one by one.

On January 10, just before the retirement of the former administration, the US held the 4th US-ROK "nuclear consultative group" meeting in Washington to discuss a nuclear war drill on the Korean peninsula and an increase in the visibility of the deployment of US strategic assets. And it deployed B-1B strategic bombers in the sky near the Korean peninsula on January 15 to conduct a US-Japan-ROK joint air drill, as part of the clear action practice.

Timed to coincide with this, the US, together with the ROK army, staged a large joint firing drill aimed at the long-range artillery

fire system of the DPRK between January 14 and 16, and a Ssangmae joint air drill from January 21 and 24 under the pretext of enhancing the capability for cooperation in air operations.

The US held a confab with the diplomatic authorities of Japan and the ROK on February 15, with the international security conference held in Munich of Germany as an occasion, and cooked up and made public a "joint statement" with "strengthened offer of US nuclear umbrella through US-ROK and US-Japan alliances" as the main point, viciously picking on the DPRK's sovereign rights.

A few days later, it let its B-1B strategic bomber fly over the sky of the Korean peninsula again on February 20 to stage a joint air drill together with the Air Force of the ROK.

The US vicious moves for confrontation with the DPRK have been intensified in March with the appearance of the *Carl Vinson* in the Korean peninsula. Such moves will reach the climax with the US-Japan-ROK naval drill and the Freedom Shield joint military exercises, to be staged this month with the *Carl Vinson* involved, as a momentum.

ROK media claim that the entry of the *Carl Vinson* is aimed

at "substantially implementing the US government's reaffirmed commitment to permanent and iron-like extended deterrence" and "displaying the strong joint defence posture of the ROK-US alliance to cope with threat" from someone.

With such practical action measures, the US has clearly shown its most hostile and confrontational will to the DPRK.

The root cause of escalating tension on the Korean peninsula clearly lies in the US and its allies which are further intensifying military moves to implant NATO infrastructure into the region and improve the level of war preparations.

The DPRK bitterly condemns the reckless visible actions and muscle-flexing of the US and its vassal forces disregarding and violating a sovereign state's security concern and jeopardizing the peaceful environment in the whole region.

As indicated by the regional military situation, the US' and its stooges' heinous ambition to threaten, pressurize and bring the DPRK to its knees by force of arms is developing into a more reckless phase with the passage of time.

As for the DPRK's nuclear policy formulated as an organic law of the DPRK, it was adopted in correct reflection of the concern for the

state's security by the present and future threats. And the present reality further highlights the justness, validity and necessity of the DPRK's line on bolstering up its nuclear forces.

The action-accompanied policy of hostility toward the DPRK pursued by the US at present is offering sufficient justification for the DPRK to indefinitely bolster up its nuclear war deterrent.

We will never confine ourselves to sitting still and commenting on the situation.

If the US continues to renew its records in the anti-DPRK military demonstration, the DPRK will be naturally compelled to renew its records in the exercise of strategic deterrent.

The DPRK is also planning to carefully examine the option for increasing the actions threatening the security of the enemy at the strategic level to cope with the fact that the deployment of US strategic assets in the Korean peninsula has become a vicious habit and thereby adversely affects the security of the DPRK.

The enemies should not test the will and ability of the DPRK to defend the sovereignty and security interests of the state by mobilizing all means in hand.

It is a very dangerous thing.

KCNA commentary on US-ROK large-scale joint military exercises

KCNA

Every March, a bleak war wind blows for sure from the southern part of the Korean peninsula.

This year is no exception. Warmongers of the US and the puppet ROK will stage large-scale joint military exercises Freedom Shield in the ROK under the simulated conditions of an all-out war against the DPRK from next week.

No matter how frequently the enemy states describe the said large-scale war rehearsal targeting a sovereign state as "annual" and "defensive" one, they can never cover up its habitual, offensive and confrontational nature since it has "contributed" in a sustained way to violating the sovereignty, security and interests of the DPRK and deteriorating the regional situation.

Here is some published data that make the exercises' real character clear.

The forthcoming Freedom Shield will include seven more joint field mobile drills by units of brigade-level and above than last year.

This means that the exercises will renew the record of last year, in which field mobile drills of various missions were staged over twice more than the previous year by involving even the forces from ten-odd satellite countries under the "UN Command", and this shows in a visual way that the enemy states' nonstop reckless war moves are inching to a dangerous phase moment by moment, drawing a mounting curve.

What is also noticeable is the fact that the military ruffians of the US and

the ROK will use lots of cutting-edge military hardware in the forthcoming rehearsal, in the light of lessons from the recent wars, to further boost its aggressive and threatening nature as completely offensive one for an actual war.

The US Space Force staged a space operation drill targeting the DPRK in January in cooperation with the ROK Air Force. And this time it is going to participate in the forthcoming rehearsal so as to stage a "joint command and control drill" aimed at increasing the capability of intercepting missiles and destroying artificial satellites.

As seen above, the enemy state's scheme to stifle the DPRK by military edge even in the outer space as well as in ground, naval and air military operation spheres and destroy the regional strategic security balance is going over to the practical phase of confrontational action.

To follow it, the military gangsters of the ROK are planning to stage large-scale "United Defense Exercises" involving the army, the police, government agencies, local self-governing bodies and even civilians and, furthermore, employ artificial intelligence on an experimental basis during the joint exercises with the US forces, increasing the present danger in every aspect.

It is no wonder that the world is now watching carefully the developments in the Korean peninsula in March with unprecedented concern and uneasiness.

With the Freedom Shield approaching, the task force of the US nuclear carrier *Carl Vinson* has entered

the Pusan operation base in the ROK and a B-1B strategic bomber and other aircraft fly in the sky over areas in and around the Korean peninsula every day. And the US and ROK forces are waging various war drills in the air, on the ground and at sea as preliminary drills almost every day.

Under the observation of bosses of the US forces in the ROK and its army, a large-scale live-shell firing drill of air and ground forces of the two countries with the mobilization of such huge military equipment as tank, armoured car, fighter, helicopter gunship and reconnaissance drone was conducted near the southern border of the DPRK on March 6 to show the "prelude" of escalating the tension.

The Freedom Shield in 2025 will soon bring a storm of aggravated situation to the Korean peninsula as it has repeatedly undergone the worst change with all its existing features of evil.

In the world, there will be no country that tolerates such threat to its security dramatically increasing under its eyes, regarding it as "defensive" to comfort itself.

Counteraction is inevitable.

We have already made clear that if the US continues to renew its record of military muscle display, we will have no option but to renew our record of displaying strategic deterrent.

The enemy states will have to pay dearly for their stupid and reckless war drills that will invite the self-defensive, fair and square, threatening toughest response from the DPRK.

Laotian Foreign Ministry delegation visits Pyongyang

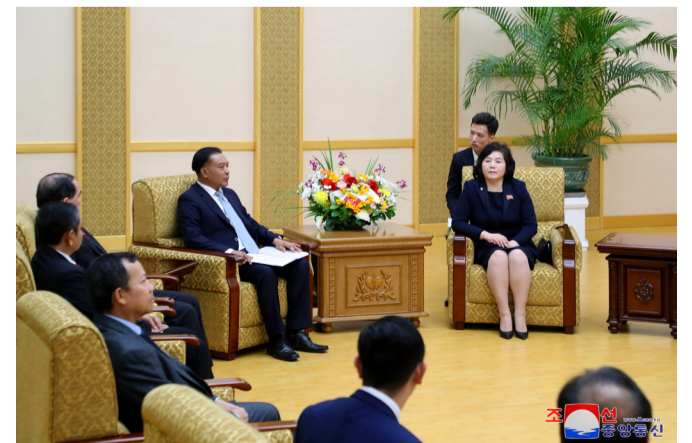
KCNA

The delegation of the Foreign Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic led by Vice-Minister Phongsavanh Sisoulath visited the DPRK between March 1 and 4 at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Choe Son Hui, foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on March 3 met and had a friendly talk with the Foreign Ministry delegation of the Lao People's Democratic

Republic led by Vice-Minister Phongsavanh Sisoulath who paid a courtesy call on her at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang.

The delegation of the Laotian Foreign Ministry led by Vice-Minister Phongsavanh Sisoulath visited the Tower of the Juche Idea and toured the Kangdong Combined Greenhouse Farm, the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory and other places and went round Hwasong and Rimhung streets showing the new development of Juche-based architecture.



Choe Son Hui, foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, meets the Foreign Ministry delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on March 3.



Happy March 8 International Women's Day!



Women enjoy a fulfilling life in workplaces and families in the DPRK.

Pride and honour of DPRK women

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Showing of respect and affection for women is a trait of DPRK society, which is displayed more prominently whenever the day comes.

It is 115 years since International Women's Day began to be celebrated as the day of struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for peace, democracy and national independence, the day of promoting unity among progressive women throughout the world for their equality and rights and the day of demonstrating the might of unity. Despite the long years of strivings, sexual equality and women's rights still fail to be respected around the world.

It is an undeniable reality that large numbers of women, who should duly enjoy social rights, are subjected to discrimination, violence and crimes for the mere reason that they are female and therefore fall victim to all social evils in the face of inequality and contempt, being deprived of even their elementary right to existence.

All the DPRK people have the pride and honour of being "Koreans", while its women are proud of being "Korean women". Why?

When Korea was under Japanese military rule, they suffered double and triple oppression and exploitation due to the aggressors' colonial exploitation and the rulers' feudal subordination.

But after national liberation on August 15 1945, the people's power was established and the genuine sexual equality was guaranteed, bringing

about a dramatic change in the destiny of women.

Those women who had no access to school before became able to learn at schools and universities to their heart's content. They became scientists, artists, sportspersons, officials and deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly who discuss state affairs, exercising their legitimate rights.

Recorded in the history of the DPRK are many stories about the state policies adopted in succession to relieve the burden of women and promote their health, about the feats of many women working devotedly for the prosperity of the country at every workplace of creation and construction and about the beautiful traits of women who tend their families and society with warm affection, devotion, kind hearts and noble mind.

Today the dignity and honour of the Korean women are being exalted more highly and the women's movement is making a new history of upsurge and development.

They have come to have greater pride and honour under the loving care of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who regards everything they want as the cherished desire of the Workers' Party of Korea and the most important state affair and puts them forward as a powerful force for the development of the state and society.

That is why the women of the DPRK devote all their sincere patriotic energy to the prosperity of the country in every place to which the Party calls.

By Kim Hak Chol PT

It is March 8 today, the international holiday of women.

The whole country is blessing women who add pleasure to their families and society and support their country with pure love, warm affection and patriotic devotion.

With bundles of fragrant flowers being presented to women and songs of congratulations to women sung across the country, the Korean women are significantly greeting their holiday full of great pride in being masters of the country with equal rights to men.

As the state's and social benefits to women continue to increase steadily, the Korean women enjoy a worthwhile life and happiness.

On the occasion of the 73rd founding anniversary of the DPRK four years ago, women scientists, educators and artistes and sportswomen were honoured to have an audience with the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un in front of the office building of the headquarters of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. Among them were Mun Kang Sun, who became a weaver hero in her girlhood, and Ri Myong Sun, a

Merited Weaver.

Mun volunteered to work at the then Pyongyang General Textile Mill after graduating from middle school. She wove a large quantity of cloth by taking charge of looms five times more than the fixed number and operating them at full capacity at the factory through a vigorous multi-loom tending movement, to be honoured to have a photo taken with Chairman Kim Jong Il on a visit to the factory in July 2009. In September 2012, she received the blessing of love of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un at the new house on Changjon Street in downtown Pyongyang. She now works as a workshop manager at the factory.

Ri Myong Sun walked 60 kilometres every day along the operation circuit of looms to fulfil her production plan for two years in only seven months in 2009 alone. Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the factory on July 30, the significant anniversary of the promulgation of the Law on Sex Equality, and highly praised her as a labour innovator of the new generation.

"Bearing in mind the honour I had received that day, I only threw myself into the production of fabrics. But the country held me up as a model of the times and Merited Weaver and

provided me with a luxurious apartment envied by all in picturesque Kyongru-dong for free. I am determined to repay the benevolence of the country which makes the life of us, women, honourable by doing more work," said Ri Myong Sun.

Many DPRK women lead a worthwhile life for the prosperity of the country, including Kim Myong Wol, senior doctor of the department of ophthalmology at the North Hwanghae Provincial Hospital who has restored the eyesight of thousands of people in the past 30 and more years, Choe Chun Sil, a woman workteam leader in Mundok County who has reaped a rich grain harvest for years, Ri Pyong Hui, a Mother Hero in Wonsan City of Kangwon Province who has given birth to 10 children and brought them up as pillars of the country, and Jong Song Ok, the world marathon queen.

An Irish woman who visited the DPRK several times said that the DPRK, in which a large flower garden of respecting women that cannot be imitated by capitalism has been created, is the one and only heaven and ideal country for women in the world, adding she wanted to be born as a woman of the DPRK if she can be born again in the world.

Different economic sectors, units fulfil their February plans

KCNA

Different sectors and units of the national economy successfully fulfilled their economic assignments for February.

The metallurgical industrial sector made collective innovations in steel and iron production.

Workers and technicians of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex set a high goal and improved the capacity of oxygen-blast furnace a level higher, thus producing pig iron over 1.6 times as compared to the same period of last year.

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex solved all problems arising in production in a scientific and technological way, thereby drastically boosting molten iron output per charge.

Officials and workers of the Chollima Steel Complex vigorously conducted a mass technical innovation drive for applying effective furnace operating methods, producing a great deal of molten iron.

The Chongjin Steel Works further refined the steel production system based on continuous charge, while the Posan Iron Works brought about remarkable progress in the fulfilment of their quota by taking measures to increase the operation days of the revolving furnace.

The Musan Mining Complex increased iron ore production by carrying out medium and small blastings in succession while actively applying advanced drilling methods by ensuring the safe operation of equipment including large-conical crushers, grinding mills and sorters.

The working people in the chemical industry sector made innovations in the production of fertilizer and other products by conducting a vigorous campaign for increased production.

Fertilizer producers of the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, who produced several thousand tons of more fertilizer than their increased production goal in the first month of the new year, overfulfilled daily plans as they saved a large quantity of fuel and materials by successfully carrying out the technical reconstruction of production processes.

Workers of the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex waged a brisk technical innovation drive to increase the scientific level of production while strengthening cooperation between processes, thereby carrying out monthly plans at 114 percent.

Workers in the electric-power industry sector carried out the February plan by bringing about a surge in production.

While solving technical problems, with its own efforts, the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex generated more electricity than its plan by developing the creative wisdom and activity of the masses while conducting the review and evaluation of work in an efficient way.

Workers and technicians of the Chongchongang, Pyongyang, East Pyongyang and Suncheon thermal power stations produced remarkable results in production as it steadily increased heat efficiency while scientifically managing and operating boilers and ensuring coal fineness and the equality of the amount of supply.

Such hydropower plants as the Suphung, Sodusu, Hochongang and Jangjingang hydropower stations increased production as they actively managed and operated hydraulic structures and transmission system in conformity with seasonal conditions.

Officials and workers of the coal industry sector overfulfilled their February plans of the Ministry of Coal Industry by kindling the flames of a socialist patriotic movement for increased coal production.

The Suncheon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex cut more coal than in the same period of last year by introducing efficient coal

mining methods, carefully managing coal pits and conducting movements of carrying out one more blasting and mining one more wagon of coal.

The Pukchang Area Youth and the Tukjang Area coal-mining complexes expanded tunnelling successes by applying continuous drilling and blasting and enhancing cooperation between shifts and processes to produce larger quantities of coal every day.

Coal miners in the northern area coalfield gave definite precedence to tunnelling and promoted hewing and transporting capacity, thus carrying out daily assignments without fail.

The monthly plan of the Ministry of Machine-building Industry was implemented.

Workers of the Ryongsong Machine Complex took timely measures to solve technical problems arising in the immediate production while achieving success in the production of custom-built equipment by pushing ahead with technical upgrading of equipment in real earnest.

Workers and technicians of the Taean Heavy Machine Complex remarkably increased the output of various materials and sheet metal products and introduced valuable innovation plans into production by giving priority

to ensuring the quality of equipment needed for the improvement of the people's living conditions.

The Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326, Pyongyang Bearing Factory, Ryangchaek Bearing Factory and Anju Pump Factory gave precedence to the supply of raw and other materials and increased the operation efficiency of facilities to produce various cables, bearings and pumps sufficiently.

The movement for increased production was vigorously conducted in the mining industry sector.

Workers and technicians of the Munphyong Smeltery raised the extraction rate of products by dint of mass technical innovation and carried out their monthly plan at 116 percent. The Manpho Smeltery registered high production results by improving the scientific level of process management.

The Unpha, Hyesan Youth and Songchon mines obtained practical results in the fulfilment of plan by deepening research for improving the capacity of transport facilities.

The Phungnyon, Yongyu and Jungsan mines increased mineral output as they solved technical problems arising in normal operation by their own efforts while focusing on the performance improvement of equipment.

Workers of the forestry sector fulfilled their timber production plan for February ahead of schedule while proactively providing conditions favourable for production.

The Jagang and Ryanggang provincial forestry management bureaus concentrated manpower on the felling of trees and promoted the operational rate of vehicles while expanding production results by introducing the passages for carrying down logs by effectively using topographical conditions.

The North Hamgyong, South Hamgyong and South Phyongan provincial forestry management bureaus and

other units pushed ahead with production as scheduled while properly combining the rational middle transportation methods in keeping with mountainous areas while briskly conducting the campaign to overtake, model after and share experience.

Workers of the rail transport sector overfulfilled their monthly freight transport plan.

Transport workers of the Pyongyang Railway Bureau carried tens of thousands of tons of more freight than the same period of last year as they organized and controlled transport in a scientific and rational manner.

The Chongjin, Hamhung and Kaechon railway bureaus established a unique dispatcher command system more strictly and made innovation in the transport of materials as they kept up with the formation and scheduling of locomotives and freight cars and the operation of equipment.

The success made in increased production by building-materials industry sector injected vitality into major construction projects.

The workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex completed their cement production plan ahead of schedule in February.

The complex achieved a 3.2 percent increase in production on a daily average as compared to the same period of last year by taking technical and practical measures for ensuring the normal operation of production systems while improving the operational rate of equipment by conducting a mass technical innovation drive.

The Suncheon Cement Complex and Chonnaeri Cement Factory reliably guaranteed the fulfilment of plans by introducing several inventions conducive to the growth of production while lowering consumption per unit and improving the quality of products.

The February fishery production plan of the Ministry of Fisheries was overfulfilled.



Cement production increases at the Sangwon Cement Complex.

Industry works to create new generating capacity

By Kim Rye Yong PT

True to the decisions of the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the electric power industry sector is directing efforts to creating new generating capacity while making effective use of the existing capacity.

It is working out plans for keeping the electricity production going in a stable way and for increasing it by actively ensuring the normal operation of generating facilities and expanding the production capacity.

It has taken measures to boost the operation efficiency of power stations, while introducing an integrated

water control system capable of ensuring scientific water control, giving hydraulic equipment and structures an overhaul in a qualitative way and establishing a real-time efficiency measuring system.

It has discussed the ways for effectively pushing ahead with the overhaul of boilers and turbine generators of thermal power stations and

increasing the power output by operating equipment at full capacity.

Practical measures are being taken to reduce the loss of power in transmission and enhance the stability of power supply, while improving the grid protection capability.

Methodological approaches are being explored to improve the power factor by installing

reactive power compensation devices in all sectors and units, to ensure the normal operation of the national integrated power control system and to intensify the work for saving electricity.

As a scientific and innovative operation is conducted for creating new generating capacity, the enthusiasm of the power producers is getting greater.

Employees of the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex are boosting

production from the beginning of the new year.

The workers and technicians of the East Pyongyang and Chongchongang thermal power stations have carried out their daily plans without fail by increasing steam production and operating equipment as required by standard operating methods and technical regulations under the slogan "Let us support the Party with increased electricity production!"

First entities of Regional Development 20×10 Policy New regional-industry factories

By Choe Song Jun PT

The regional-industry factories in Songchon County, the first entity of the implementation of the Regional Development 20×10 Policy, were inaugurated in December last year and went into production on a normal basis. Their products are giving joy to locals in the county.

Popular goods peculiar to region

Sweet chestnut is a typical speciality of Songchon County for its delicate flavour.

The foodstuff factory uses it to turn out jam, jelly and honey preserves.

It also produces different kinds of foods with locally-available wild fruits. The varieties of its products amount to over 50 in more than 10 kinds, including soy sauce, oil, soybean syrup, liquor, fruit drinks, milk products, candy and processed vegetables.

A new type of women's coat presented by the county garment factory was highly appreciated at the Clothes Show-2024.

The foodstuffs and daily necessities produced at the regional-industry factories in the county bear the trademarks of "Chongsusan" and "Wolhyangsan", names of the mountains located in the place, and they are much favoured by the locals.

Aiming at achieving "zero" in business management

Of note in the management of the factories are the improvement of quality and the rise in actual yield.

The foodstuff factory supplies its by-products to livestock farming bases in the county. The daily necessities factory recycles residual products to make various

kinds of plastic goods, fixture boards and flakeboards. The garment factory turns out cushions, gloves and other daily necessities with various kinds of yarn waste and cuttings.

"No-waste factory" is another title given to the regional-industry factories in Songchon County.

First entity in implementing regional development policy

The successful completion of those factories with a total floor space of over 10 470 square metres in just 290-odd days is unthinkable apart from devotion and energetic leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who spares nothing for the promotion of the people's welfare and the accomplishment of their ideals.

It is the essence of the new regional development policy put forward by General Secretary Kim Jong Un to make all the Korean people equally enjoy an affluent and civilized life under the socialist policies of the state wherever they live.

That is why he attached a special meaning to the construction of the regional-industry factories in Songchon County heralding the start of the rural industrial revolution and visited the place four times, attending their groundbreaking and

inaugural ceremonies.

According to his plan for making ideal features of local areas represent the genuine looks of Korean-style socialism, the construction

of health facilities, leisure complexes and grain storage facilities is under way in parallel with that of regional-industry factories across the country.



Various quality goods favoured by the locals are produced at the new regional-industry factories in Songchon County.

Residents full of confidence and joy

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The residents of Songchon County, who participated in the groundbreaking and inauguration ceremonies of the regional-industry factories in the locality in the presence of Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, are filled with enthusiasm to bring about a new happy life before others by relying on the factories provided by the Party.

Song Un Sim, a woman living in neighbourhood unit No. 103 of the county town, said she has already realized what a happy life the Party Central Committee intends to provide to the locals is.

Not long ago, she envied her relatives living in urban areas and was inwardly anxious about the future of her two children.

But as the respected General Secretary bestowed benevolence on them Songchon people before others, she thought they would be really well-off in the future. So she has nothing to envy and worry about and will devote herself to making her locality well-off, she said.

The working people, who have become the masters of the new factories, are full of enthusiasm.

Rim Jong Guk, workteam leader of the Songchon County Daily Necessities Factory, is a graduate of Pyongyang University of Architecture. He said he previously envied his alumni who had

been assigned to major institutions and modern factories and enterprises in Pyongyang and provincial capitals. Now, however, he has nothing to envy, and all the alumni envy and congratulate him as he works in a modern workplace that the General Secretary built and visited on the day of the inauguration ceremony of the regional-industry factories in the county, he exclaimed with joy. He expressed his resolve to work hard to make the factory widely known to the whole country.

Noting that public sentiment of Songchon County is mounting unprecedentedly, Kim Jong Sim, an official of the county town office, said that many housewives volunteered for the workplaces to spruce up the county. Hundreds of women's union members in the township area of the county have become employees of the county raw materials base station, she added.

Kim Sok Chol, vice-chairman of the Songchon County People's Committee, said:

"The Party built such smart factories. But if we officials fail to do our duty, the people will not benefit from them, and it will be a greater crime before the Party, the state, the people and soldier-builders. Whether the Party's warm love reaches the people or not entirely depends on the role of us officials who are responsible for the people's living."





Mushroom production up



The Ryugyong Mushroom Farm increases mushroom production by introducing phytosine and other bioactivators. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The Ryugyong Mushroom Farm in the suburbs of Pyongyang boosts productivity by developing advanced technologies and introducing a cost-saving production method that relies on substitute materials.

Recycling substrates can be cited as an example.

Substrates take a very important share in producing mushrooms.

The farm previously used substrates, the basis for mushroom production, only once and therefore it cost much to purchase corncocks, the main material for substrates. The farm's technicians intensified research to recycle used substrates for mushroom

production five times.

The farm now grows *Pleurotus eryngii* three times and recycles the used substrates to grow several other kinds of mushrooms like *Pleurotus ostreatus* two times in the outdoor cultivation ground. In the end, the substrates are fermented to be used as feed for domestic animals.

The technical team of the farm introduced a method of adding cotton seed hull, sawdust and rice chaff to a small quantity of corncocks to be used substitute substrates and used cotton seed cake, whose cost is half as much as that of rice bran and bean cake which had been used as supplementary materials for the production of substrates, as such material, thus raising productivity by 1.3 times as

compared with before.

The farm has markedly increased mushroom production by adding natural multifunctional mineral nutrient to mushroom substrate or introducing phytosine and other bioactivators in close cooperation with the Central Mushroom Institute.

"A new production method of using heat-resistant plastic bottles increased the weight of mushroom per substrate to more than 150 grams and the mushroom production last year by 1.2 times as compared to the previous year," said O Kwang Chol, head of the technical preparation room.

The farm has further improved the sterility of spore culture and provided conditions favourable for mushroom cultivation in winter.

Dark barley tea, health-promoting drink

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The Jangsu Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory developed dark barley tea good for preventing and curing different diseases by lowering the pH value of acidified body fluid into slight alkaline level, and it is winning growing popularity.

"The current trend in the production of tea drinks is to make them antioxidants without using antiseptics. We developed the dark barley tea by activating malt to the maximum in a biological method and applying a proper processing method. It is a natural health-promoting drink that turns body fluid into a slight alkaline one so as to accelerate the discharge of poisoned metabolites and prevent acidification of physical constitution," said Choe Sol Hyang, researcher of the factory.

Barley contains a large amount of cellulose good for bettering functions of digestive organs and therefore helps discharge accumulated waste matters and toxic materials from the body and prevent fat from accumulating. The drink is absolutely ideal for those who want to reduce weight.

The cultivation of barley dates back five thousand

years. It has been widely used as a popular traditional medicinal material to cure digestive disorders since olden times, generally recognized as a raw material for nutritious drink exerting good effect on health and longevity.

It also contains vitamin B group excellent in ensuring normal actions of the central nervous system and improving skin conditions and iodine, chromium, zinc, manganese, copper, iron, calcium and other microelements. It is rich in vitamin A essential for improving immunity and eyesight, vitamin E good for retarding ageing and vitamin D.

Malt has recently been recognized as a highly alkaline food keeping balance between acid and alkali in the human body, thus emerging as a new health food.

The Jangsu Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory maximized the nutritional effects of malt in a bioengineering method after making a comprehensive analysis of its beneficial components and added to it such natural antioxidation and anti-cancer substances as proanthocyanidin and syringin to produce dark barley tea, a

totally natural drink with clearer medicinal effects and completely free from chemical food additives, antiseptics and perfumes which generate acidic substances.

The acidification of body fluid taking up 60 to 70% in the human body is the root cause of all diseases and it is being regarded as a serious problem worldwide.

"Body fluid assumes high acidity in those suffering from serious diseases. As people began to drink dark barley tea, their acidified fluid changed into slight alkaline one," said Choe Sol Hyang.

According to regular drinkers of the tea, it has remarkable curative effects for indigestion, loss of appetite, flatulence, diabetes, pancreatitis and gastric and duodenal ulcers.



Books helpful for promoting health off press

By Pang Un Ju PT

Many new medical books have recently been brought out.

According to Ri Ryong Su, department chief of the Kim Man Yu Hospital, it is one of the important issues in maintaining health and enjoying a long life in good health to know well about active oxygen, the main cause of diseases, and improve dietary life and material and cultural life in the direction of controlling its generation in the body.

Book "Health and Longevity and Antioxidation" describes the relations between active oxygen and various diseases, diets that do not produce active oxygen, the methods of reducing active oxygen in daily life and others in plain language.

The books comprehensively dealing with the medical theory of four physical constitutions, the traditional medicine of

Korea and book "Koryo Medicine and Foods Used According to Four Physical Constitutions" compiling the data of therapeutic experience tell readers how to raise curative effects by using Koryo medicines to suit their physical features.

Book "Healthcare of Children Should Begin from the Time of Embryo" gives scientific and practical answers to the problems arising in the management of the health of pregnant women and unborn babies and the care of women after delivery and new-born babies. And it contains many pieces of common knowledge related to the care of women before pregnancy, in the gestational period and after childbirth and the care of new-born babies, drawing the interest of women who want to give birth to and bring up healthy babies.

Book "Fruit and Vegetable Juices Good for Preventing Diseases" enables people to make an effective use of

fruits and vegetables, which are often used in dietary life, to prevent and treat diseases, book "Leg Pain-causing Diseases" describes the diseases causing pain in the legs, diagnoses of them and their treatment methods, and book "Skin Care Everybody Can Take" explains in plain language the skin care methods to maintain youth and beauty in different aspects. All the books attract the attention of readers.

Among the books published by the Public Health Publishing House are a book introducing the symptoms and treatment methods which should not be missed in diagnosing and treating various diseases caused by diabetes and other metabolic disturbances, a reference book which is helpful for knowing about the relationship between electromagnetic fields and organisms to protect and promote health and life, and a book related to the care of the health of men.

Kim Sang O's lyric My Motherland

By Ri Myong Jun PT

Kim Sang O left an indelible trace in the DPRK's history of literature.

His lyric *My Motherland* is still favoured by and widely recited among the Korean people.

The poem just reflected the poet's inmost thoughts.

He was born in Haeju, South Hwanghae Province, in 1917.

From childhood, he had a special liking for fine art and music as well as literature. In his youth, his poems were filled with sorrow and wrath of a miserable man of a colony as he experienced the suffering of his country trampled down under the Japanese imperialists' rule.

Looking up to Mt Paektu as a beacon of hope, he joined an anti-Japanese underground organization and wrote poems of resistance.

After General Kim Il Sung liberated Korea by defeating the Japanese imperialists, he wrote poems about a new democratic Korea and a new vibrant life, filled with ardent love.

At that time, he worked as editor-in-chief of the newspaper *Jayu Hwanghae*.

In those days he met Kim Il Sung whom he had revered so much. The President praised an editorial he had carried in the newspaper and indicated the orientation

and ways for improving the publication of the paper.

Charmed by the great leader's personality traits as an outstanding great man held in reverence by the whole nation, Sang O gave wide publicity to the traits in the newspaper.

Later, he worked as assistant editor-in-chief of *Minju Joson*, the organ of the government of the DPRK. During the Fatherland Liberation War, he created many poems like *With Flames of Hatred* out of burning hatred for the US imperialist aggressors.

He wrote in succession many masterpieces. They include such songs as *A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan Plain* and *We've Planted Skullcap and Crab-Apple Trees on the Mountains*.

Everybody was fond of reading his works on diverse themes and of various styles as they are characterized by ardent love for life, deep emotion, philosophical speculation and a high grade of intelligence.

Based on the course of his life, his long-accumulated experience in life and deep philosophical speculation, he sang highly in *My Motherland* that the genuine motherland is just the life and pride brought back by the President and his eternal embrace.

A winner of Kim Il Sung Prize and poet of passion, he is still alive in the memory of the people along with the lyric.



Studio produces interesting cartoon films

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The Korea April 26 Animation Studio is a popular animated cartoon producer.

The scope of cartoon film creation, which was confined to merely several themes for students and children, has been expanded to cover more themes for adults as well, and, in particular, remarkable progress has been made in enhancing the cognitive and educational significance of the films.

The production team of the studio has produced many cartoon films, including the 100-part cartoon *The Boy General* and the cartoon series *The Clever Raccoon Dog*, with highly artistic representation and distinctive techniques and skills of creation.

The new historical cartoon film *Ko Jumong*, whose hero is King Ko Jumong who made patriotic

efforts for the great cause of building a powerful Koguryo, deeply impresses the audience as it vividly depicts the environment and persons at that time by means of rich scenes free from the existing patterns, distinctive framework of the story and Korean-style 3D image processing technology.

The studio has also produced many interesting cartoon films of great cognitive and educational value for children.

They include *Laver-rice*

Rolls Cooked by Hyok I which tells about foods that should not be eaten together, *Replanted Pine Nut Tree* which explains how to plant trees and *Let Us Observe Traffic Regulations Correctly* which inspires children to observe traffic regulations voluntarily. They are popular with children as they suit their psychology and emotional feelings and are based on various techniques of creation invented by the creators.

The creators produced

the historical cartoon film *Prince Hodong and Princess of Rangnang* with a higher level of production technology.

The film has drawn the great interest of the audience as it impressively depicts the might of once-powerful Koguryo and the story of true love between the prince and princess.

The production team is now conducting a drive for producing fresher and better cartoons in line with the global trend of development in animation.

Directors and voice actors discuss speeches at the Korea April 26 Animation Studio. RI RYON SONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Rangnang culture dates back thousands of years

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Rangnang Museum is located in the Rangnang area of the capital city of Pyongyang. It intensively shows the Rangnang culture that existed between the 3rd century BC and AD 4th century.

I recently visited the museum together with other visitors.

The museum consisting of the districts of education in history, folk games and rest reminded me of a piece of picture as Korean-style buildings and folk games grounds blended in well with the distinctive surrounding landscape.

According to Curator Kim

Myong Sik, the museum was inaugurated in September three years ago according to the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to hand down the excellence of the nation to all generations to come.

The Rangnang culture was created by the people of Ancient Joson in its closing period and its ruined people and the relics are distributed in the midwestern part of Korea ranging from the south of the Chongchon River to the Ryesong River basin centring on Pyongyang, a lecturer said. Guided by her, I, together with other visitors, headed for the display room.

The room was divided into different sections.

Via the castle and grave

sections, the lecturer guided us to the weapons and equipment section while explaining the exhibits. As visitors attentively watched the models of wooden frames, percussion locks and firing devices, bows, arrows and catapults, she told them that the model of a catapult is so elaborate in structure that a foreign expert in weapons said in admiration that it was hard to believe that such a device was devised two thousand years ago. The bow of those days was widely used also in the surrounding regions for the handiness and great elasticity, being called "Rangnangdangung", she said. Pointing to the wax replicas

of military officers and soldiers armed with weapons, she said such relics as armour, iron dagger and iron sword from the period of Rangnang culture clearly prove that the military equipment of the then standing army was formidable and that the weapons technology was on a very high level.

We also looked round such exhibits as harnesses and cart parts, personal ornaments and make-up tools and vessels which were created and developed by people during their diligent working life in the period of the Rangnang culture.

We then headed for the sci-tech development section showing the process of

development in different fields, including bronze metallurgy, iron-making technology and metal workmanship.

"The tables showing the analyses of chemical composition of the exhibited bronze tools and the ore of the present copper mine prove that the bronze tools from the period of the Rangnang culture were made from the copper ore in the Pyongyang area," said the lecturer.

Her explanation enabled us to know that the Korean ancestors were wise and resourceful persons, who made a distinguished contribution to glorifying the history of human civilization by developing the techniques

of all fields onto a high level. Among the exhibits there were silver cups considered the acme of metal workmanship and many other relics affording viewers a glimpse of excellent pictorial and sculptural arts.

We then went to a hall of education in history intensively showing Pyongyang's primitive and ancient times and the period of Rangnang culture. There were also eight tombs restored to show the process of development of tomb architecture and the outdoor folk games ground.

Through the visit, the visitors could have a good understanding of the history of creation by the resourceful Korean ancestors.



Visitors attentively watch exhibits at the Rangnang Museum.

Aspiration of doctor brothers

By Jong Chol PT

There are many families held in respect by people, including teachers' families, university graduates' families, athletes' families and couple drivers' families.

Kim Kang Sop and Kim Un Sop, who are engaged in education and scientific research at Kim Chaek University of Technology, are also brothers, and people call them "PhD brothers" or "PhDs' family".

Elder brother Kim Kang Sop, professor and PhD, is an authority in the field of geology.

For over three decades, he has worked as the director of a research institute through lecturer, researcher and department chief of the university, solving problems arising in different economic sectors to bring considerable

benefits to the country.

He also published valuable essays on geological survey in SCI- and EI- level international academic journals and was invited to take part in international scientific presentations and join societies.

He has written many textbooks and books on the geological field and trained many MScs and PhDs.

His brother Kim Un Sop is a man of ability in the field of electrical engineering.

He also wrote textbooks and reference books on electrical engineering and contributed to training reserve electrical engineers, thus winning the title of associate professor.

And he became a PhD after solving many urgent sci-tech problems arising in improving the people's living standards and developing the economy.

For example, he successfully conducted research to develop a motor urgently needed for the production of a new-type lorry and to increase the efficiency of large generators needed for different power stations under construction.

They live on Mirae Scientists Street built by the state for educators and scientists.

Kang Sop moved to the street a year before Un Sop received a licence for the use of a flat on the street.

Some people say that they all became PhDs and professor and associate professor because they came of a particularly brainy family, but they have an unusual outlook on life.

They want to become persons needed for the country, and they adopted this outlook on life as they grew up witnessing how hard

their parents worked.

Their father, who had been a researcher at a small enterprise in Kim Chaek City, North Hamgyong Province, and their mother, who had been a doctor, were always busy with their work.

The father hardly left the lab while poring over technical books day and night and the mother would get up even at night to go out to see patients.

The parents, who were more concerned about their work than their children, often said to them, "You must be a man necessary to the country and people. To be needed means being trusted and such trust is valuable."

"We keep the words of our parents as our constant view. My brother and I will do everything if it is necessary for the country and the people," said Kim Kang Sop.



Kim Kang Sop (left), director of the geophysics institute of the Faculty of Resources Sounding Engineering of Kim Chaek University of Technology. Kim Un Sop (right), section chief of electric machine instrument institute of the electric engineering faculty. KIM YONG HO / KUMSUGANGSAN

Triplets' family brims with warm affection

By Choe Song Jun PT

Pang Song Hui's family, living in apartment 2 on the fourth floor of neighbourhood unit No. 14, Hwasong-dong No. 1 in Hwasong District, Pyongyang, always resounds with happy laughter.

"Many obliging people visit our house as we are a family of triplets," said Pang presenting a small book.

Inscribed on the book, entitled "Obliging people", were addresses, names and occupations of those who visited the family.

They included their household doctor who regularly examines health conditions of the triplets, officials of the dong office and the district people's committee who frequently acquaint themselves with their living conditions lest they should feel any inconvenience and solve problems and employees of the district commercial

agency, medical supplies management station and public service station.

Shortly ago, employees of Hwasong general store No. 1 visited the family with clothes, foodstuffs and medicines for the triplets.

The visitors forged ties with the family two years ago when

“Many obliging people visit our house as we are a family of triplets.”

Pang Song Hui, living in neighbourhood unit No. 14, Hwasong-dong No. 1 in Hwasong District, Pyongyang

they moved to the newly-built street and have ever since taken warm care of them with familial affection.

"We were pleased to know that there is a triplets' family

among the residents in our charge. We also hardened our resolve to work with a high sense of responsibility in order to make those families with many children benefit from the special policy of the state for them," said manageress Kim Hyang Ju.

They pay close attention to the living of the family not only on such special occasions as their birthday and holidays but on ordinary days and care so much to provide them with necessary things. On New Year's Day this year, they came to the triplets to present them with new padded clothes and various souvenirs.

Pang said that they had originally lived in a two-room flat in Taedonggang District and moved into the present newly-built three-room flat on Hwasong Street right after the birth of the triplets, and

referred to the state benefits provided for her children with deep emotion.

"We were worried after giving birth to the children, but it was unnecessary worry, because the state provides us preferentially with all things necessary for the upbringing of the children and district officials and many others care for their growth. Their kindergarten takes full responsibility for and care of their health and education," said Pang, and continued:

"As I gave birth to the triplets, I, a cobbler at the public service station, could take part in the Fifth National Conference of Mothers and had the honour of posing for a photo with the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

"Thanks to the people-oriented policies of the socialist system, my family always resounds with happy laughter. I will bring all the triplets up as reliable pillars of the country."



Employees of Hwasong general store No. 1 visit Pang Song Hui's family. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Workplace ringing with songs

By Ri Sang Il PT

The Ryongsong District Commercial Agency in Pyongyang has a pride in having taken first place in the national art festival.

Everyone from officials to employees is good at singing and playing musical instruments.

The agency's instrument depository is filled with many kinds of musical instruments including harmonicas, drums, accordions, *kayagum* (a 19-stringed instrument) and *janggo* (hourglass drum), costumes and props.

According to Kim Hyon Il, an official of the agency, many employees are talented and can play more than two musical instruments and some of them can produce narrative works, arrange music and wonderfully perform songs and dances.

He learned to play the drum and guitar after being assigned to the agency.

Thinking that he would be unable to mix with the employees without knowing how to

sing songs and play instruments, he picked up the guitar he had practised during his military service and learned to play the drum as well.

The mass artistic activities of the agency got vigorous with a simple skill presentation of employees as a momentum.

The demonstrators of their skills were different in their level, but everyone brimmed with joy and optimism.

Afterwards, other employees became enthusiastic about learning to play musical instruments and honing their artistic skills, enlivening the atmosphere of the agency and promoting harmony among them.

In the course of this, all the employees grew deeply attached to their job and workplace, recalled Kim Hyon Il.

Employees are unanimous in saying that artistic activities have become an integral part of their work and life. "We keenly felt through mass artistic activities that innovations happen at the place ringing with songs," said Kim.

To provide peasants with happy life

Ri Song Sim

March 5 is the day when the Law on Agrarian Reform was promulgated to realize the centuries-old desire of the Korean peasants for the first time in the 5 000-year history of the nation.

Today the DPRK farmers are filled with the great joy and excitement of greeting a golden new era of the socialist countryside in all parts of the country from the outskirts of the capital city to vast flat areas and remote mountainous regions under the guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea.

This is a fruition of the devotion of the WPK which made strenuous efforts to realize the centuries-old desire of the peasants and provide them with a happy life.

After the liberation of Korea, it was the most earnest desire of the Korean peasants, who had never been able to do farming on their own land to their heart's content.

Reading the ardent desire of the peasants, President Kim Il Sung set the agrarian reform as the

primary task in carrying out all the democratic reforms.

Though he was busy building a new country, he completed the provisions of the Law on Agrarian Reform one by one while meeting peasants to learn in detail about the actual conditions of the rural areas and the demand of the peasants. On this basis, he promulgated the law on March 5 1946.

Under his wise guidance, the agrarian reform was carried out in a little over 20 days with the result that more than one million hectares of land were distributed to over 720 000 households of poor and hired peasants free of charge, thus realizing the long-cherished desire of the peasants and heralding the beginning of the history of genuine new spring in the country.

The agrarian reform in the country was a great event which enabled the peasants to become eternal owners of land and rooted out the feudal relations of land ownership, the source of exploitation and oppression.

Later, the President indicated the way to solve the socialist

rural question for the first time in history for the peasants and established the Juche farming method, thus providing a sure guarantee for the development of agriculture.

His plan for socialist rural construction was successfully implemented by Chairman Kim Jong Il.

The Chairman wrote many works, including "On Thoroughly Implementing Our Party's Policy on Agricultural Revolution", to scientifically elucidate the theoretical and practical problems arising in socialist rural construction, and put forward the original policies of agricultural revolution, including those of seed revolution and double cropping, to arouse the people across the country for the implementation of the policies, thus ensuring that great progress was made in the development of the country's agriculture.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who is translating the far-reaching plan and desire of the President and the Chairman into a brilliant reality, ushered in

a great new era of rural revolution and rural development for the progress and change in the socialist countryside.

At the historic Eighth Congress of the WPK, he put forward a great programme of struggle to lead the Korean style of socialist construction to a fresh victory, and pointed to the need to channel efforts into the socialist rural construction, holding aloft the slogan "Forward towards fresh victory!" so as to achieve cultural progress peculiar to rural areas, a new development of a Korean style.

At the Seventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, he said that the WPK has attached importance to the rural question as a strategic one which should be settled without fail in accomplishing the cause of building socialism and communism and has consistently paid close attention to its correct solution, and clarified the plan to vigorously usher in a new era of the rural development as required by the stage of the overall development of socialist construction.

Thanks to his far-reaching plan, the socialist countryside is undergoing a complete change.

In three years since he set forth the programme for the rural revolution in the new era, dwelling houses for more than 87 000 families mushroomed in over 1 500 rural villages across the country, making the villages fascinating and filling the farmers with the joy of leading a new life.

And a gigantic irrigation project was carried out, successes were made in grain production thanks to the enthusiasm for scientific farming, and drastic changes were made in the people's ideological and mental aspects as well as in mountains and streams.

Thanks to the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea, the socialist countryside in the DPRK has turned into a paradise good to work and live in since the Law on Agrarian Reform was promulgated, and the agricultural workers across the country will enjoy a happy life to their heart's content in the richer and more civilized ideal villages under socialism in the future.

Preventive measures against forest fire outbreak



Kim Sung Hyok
Department head of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection

In recent years, forest fires frequently occur in different parts of the world due to the global temperature rise, causing greater human and material losses.

Our country is also exposed to such danger.

Most of the DPRK's territory is mountainous and therefore, it direct big efforts to the protection of forests and takes timely measures to prevent forest fires in advance in particular.

It is necessary to intensify the education of inhabitants in mountainous areas and enhance the sense of responsibility of forest rangers.

The practice of violating the regulations and order of entering in mountains should never be

allowed among the mountain goers.

Meanwhile, it is necessary to set up fixed monitoring posts in areas where overall forests can be monitored, reinforce and deploy mobile monitoring posts, establish a well-regulated fire monitoring system and conduct an effective work for the normal operation of surveillance cameras.

It is more important to enhance the responsibility and role of the fire prevention coordination teams in each region, allocate competent personnel to fire prevention panels and establish a well-regulated fire information system.

Institutions and enterprises should reinforce forest rangers and patrolmen in charge of

forests to take preventive measures against the occurrence of forest fires and carefully repair and maintain firebreaks, stone-dike barriers and catchment sites effectively before the forest fire risk season comes.

Forest firefighting forces should be reinforced and vehicles and firefighting equipment be fully provided to make thorough preparations for immediately extinguish fire in case a forest fire breaks out.

It is necessary to have regular access to forest fire monitoring information service system and put up forest fire protection signs and notice phone numbers in a concentrated manner along the roads near forests and entrance to them.

Africa emerges as 'continent of hope'

By Choe Song Jun PT

African countries are making unprecedentedly great efforts to put an end to the long-standing foreign interference and inequality and build an independent new society, a new Africa.

In November last year, the Senegalese president resolutely demanded the withdrawal of the French forces, asserting that his country is an independent state and that national sovereignty and the existence of a foreign military base are incompatible. And the governments of different countries including Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Chad and Niger are driving the US and Western forces out of their territories.

Meanwhile, the continental countries have achieved remarkable successes as they put spurs to the development of a self-supporting economy by setting it as their priority task.

The economic growth rate of Africa reached 3.7% above the world average in 2024, and the continent is expected to be the second fastest developing region in the world after Asia

as the rate is believed to rise to 4.3% in 2025.

Shortly ago, the African Union held a special summit meeting to announce a new 10-year strategy for agricultural development on the continent. The strategy is aimed at the sustainable growth of food security by increasing agricultural output by 45% and reducing grain loss by 50% by 2035.

Experts expect that the volume of inter-African trade through the free trade zone will increase to US\$520 billion in 2030 and 30 million people will be able to escape extreme poverty by 2035.

Meanwhile, the continental countries which have been called the "silent majority" in the international arena, though they make up more than a quarter of the UN membership, are making positive efforts to expand their influence.

Following South Africa, Egypt and Ethiopia officially joined BRICS, and Uganda and Nigeria gained the status of BRICS partner.

The present reality clearly proves that only when countries reject foreign interference and maintain independence, can they defend their national sovereignty and interests and achieve sustainable development and prosperity.

BYWORD

New innovation, bold creation and steady progress

New innovation, bold creation and steady progress are the revolutionary principles of wiping out everything backward in socialist construction and making continuous innovation and uninterrupted progress

until the final victory in the revolution is achieved. The more you aspire to newer and more advanced things while smashing the stereotypes, stiffness and stagnation, the greater your victory will be and the earlier your bright future

will be brought about. This is the truth the DPRK people have acquired through their protracted struggle. With the trend toward new innovation, bold creation and steady progress

further while sweeping away wrong ideological viewpoints and outdated work styles, the DPRK is now achieving remarkable successes one after another in developing the state and improving the people's standard of living.

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Jijang Peak of Mt Myohyang in the morning

2025 spring amateur bowlers tournament held

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The 2025 Spring Amateur Bowlers Tournament took place at the Pyongyang Gold Lane from March 4 to 6.

Many male and female amateurs participated in the competition.

It was held, divided into men's and women's singles, doubles, team and all-star events. The singles, doubles and team event took place six times respectively to decide the final rankings according to total scores.

"The contest served

as an occasion for the amateur bowlers to exchange techniques while competing with each other and for the public to develop interest in bowling. The participation of a man with disabilities in the contest clearly shows that bowling is getting popular day by day," said Kim Song Ha, vice-chairman of the Bowling Association of Korea.

"I entered the bowling tournament, though I have not been able to move my right arm and leg owing to polio since childhood. I wanted to overcome the obstacle and prove it in this

game. Bowling is one of attractive sports," said Kang Jong Hyok, the man with disabilities.

He scored several strikes in the men's singles, to the admiration of spectators.

Choe Kyong Il and Ri Kum Bok won the men's and women's singles respectively, defeating odds-on favourites.

Choe won the men's doubles together with Yu Song Jin and Kim Un Gyong and Han Kum Yong the women's doubles.

"I took the first place in the individual standings at the autumn amateur bowlers tournament last

year but I failed to do so this time unfortunately. However, I won the doubles. I thank for organizing the game that helps me feel youthful vigour even in my 50s," said Yu Song Jin.

Kim Un Jong, Kim Yong Gon, Kwon Song Il and Ri Jong Song won the team event in which each team consisted of one woman and three men.

Choe Kyong Il and Kim Un Gyong won the men's and women's all-star events respectively.

After the game, there was a ceremony to award prizes to the winners.



The 2025 Spring Amateur Bowlers Tournament takes place at the Pyongyang Gold Lane.

RYU KWANG HYOK/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Hyonmu Gate

By Song Jong Ho PT

The Hyonmu Gate is the northern gate of the northern fort of the Walled City of Pyongyang on Moran Hill in Pyongyang.

It was named after Hyonmu, northern defence guardian of the four guardians that take charge of four directions in

embankment.

Like the walls, the embankment was built by piling up the quadrangular pyramidal stones longitudinally without straight joints and an archway was built in the middle part of it.

The embankment is about 2.5 metres high.



an old tale.

It was built for the first time when Koguryo built the Walled City of Pyongyang in the mid-sixth century and repaired and rebuilt repeatedly in the period of Koryo. The present gate was rebuilt in 1714 and underwent extensive repair in 1855 and 1954.

It consists of the embankment, which is the extension of the walls, and a gatehouse built on the

The gatehouse is a plain gabled house with only caves supported by tapering pillars without headspace. It was designed to blend in well with the surrounding natural scenery by applying *morutanchong*, a moderately colourful painting for decorating national buildings.

The Hyonmu Gate is a valuable cultural heritage element showing the high castle gate architectural technique of ancestors.

