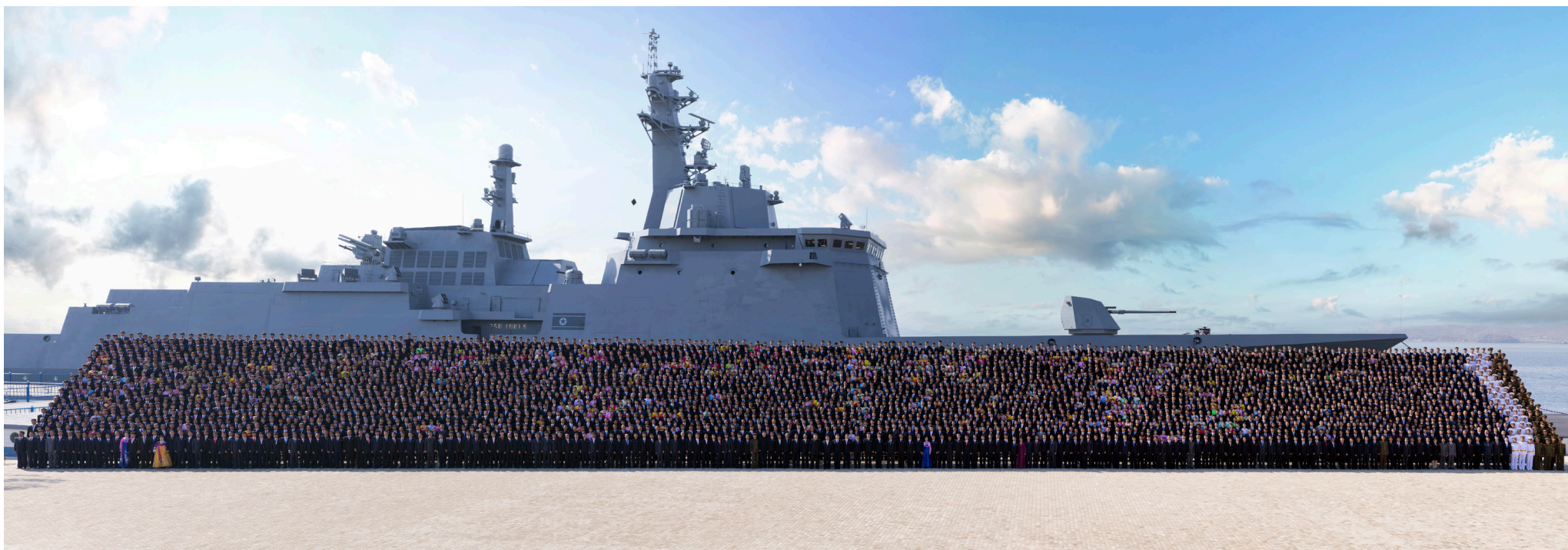


Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un has photo taken with workers of Nampho Shipyard, scientists and technicians in field of warship-building industry who made contribution to building new-type destroyer



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on April 29 met and encouraged the workers of the Nampho Shipyard and scientists and technicians in the field of the warship-building industry who

made an important breakthrough in the modernization of the Navy in the new era.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un extended warm congratulations and encouragement to the workers, scientists and technicians in the field of the warship-building industry, who proved in practice the validity of the revolution in the warship-building industry determined by

the Party and the inevitability of victory in it, true to the strategic plan of the Party Central Committee.

He said that very great is the expectation of the Party Central Committee of the Nampho Shipyard, which occupies a key position in building a maritime power in the 21st century with the radical growth of the warship-building industry and the making of the naval forces high-tech as

its core.

Expressing his conviction that the workers of the Nampho Shipyard would make more vigorous efforts as befits the proud creator in building the future of our Navy and the honourable pioneer in modernizing the shipbuilding industry in the future, too, he had a photo taken with them against the background of the destroyer *Choe Hyon*.

Combat application test of weapon systems of multi-mission destroyer *Choe Hyon* begins





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KCNA

The combat application test of the weapon systems of the multi-mission destroyer *Choe Hyon* began.

The DPRK Missile Administration, the Academy of Defence Sciences and the Detection and Electronic Warfare Administration launched a performance

and combat application test of the weapon systems mounted on the destroyer *Choe Hyon*.

The first test of the weapon systems of the destroyer was conducted on April 28 and 29.

The test-fire of supersonic cruise missile, strategic cruise missile, anti-aircraft missile and 127mm shipboard automatic gun took place on April 28.

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, saw the first test-fire together with leading officials of the Missile Administration, the Academy of Defence Sciences, the Detection and Electronic Warfare Administration and the Nampho Shipyard.

He got on the destroyer that would undergo the scheduled weapon systems test, and acquainted himself in detail with the phased schedule and contents of the test from members of the weapon system examination group, before seeing the first test-fire.

The power of the 127mm shipboard automatic gun attracted close attention of the leading officials.

Highly appreciating that the combat application test of shipboard weapon systems has been prepared with foresight and started promptly, Kim Jong Un underscored the need to perfect the warship's weapon systems for integrated operation in a short span of time by strictly conducting the test as planned.

He highly appreciated once again, saying that very wonderful is the shipboard firepower system of the Korean style, which effectively combined the most powerful strike means including

supersonic cruise missile, strategic cruise missile and tactical ballistic missile with the conventional defensive means of the warship.

Noting that a destroyer discharging the conventional mission of merely repulsing the enemy invading the territorial waters cannot be called a reliable means of maritime defence, Kim Jong Un said that it is important to establish a proactive and aggressive defence system on the premise of powerful attack capability and that it is a major task facing the field of the warship-building industry of the DPRK to steadily raise the level of equipment of offensive and defensive complex system, into which high-tech means of a new generation are introduced, and thus put the multi-mission and multi-purpose performance of warship on a higher level.

Saying that it is high time to make a responsible option for accelerating the nuclearization of the Navy in order to defend the state and its maritime sovereignty from the existing and prospective threats, he set forth tasks to this end.

On April 29, the test-fire of anti-ship tactical guided weapon, various kinds of shipboard automatic guns and smoke and electronic jamming guns took place.

WPK Central Military Commission highly praises combat sub-units of armed forces of DPRK for performing heroic feats in operations to liberate Kursk area of Russian Federation

KCNA

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea highly appreciated the combat sub-units of the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for performing heroic feats in the operations to repulse and frustrate the grave sovereignty infringement by the Ukrainian authorities, who invaded the territory of the Russian Federation, and completely liberate the occupied area of Kursk Region.

The WPK Central Military Commission clarified as follows in its written stand sent to Rodong Sinmun and the Korean Central News Agency on April 27:

The operations for liberating the Kursk area to repel the adventurous invasion of the Russian Federation by the Ukrainian authorities were victoriously concluded.

The sub-units of our armed forces, which participated in the operations for liberating the Kursk area according to the order of the head of state of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, fully demonstrated their high fighting spirit and military temperament and made an important contribution to annihilating the Ukrainian neo-Nazi forces and liberating the territory of the Russian Federation by displaying mass heroism, matchless bravery and self-sacrificing spirit.

It is a source of pride for our state and a greatest dignity for our people to have such excellent soldiers.

The victorious conclusion of the operations for liberating the Kursk area is a victory of justice over injustice and, at the same time, a new chapter of history which demonstrated the highest strategic level of the firm militant friendship between the DPRK and Russia and the alliance and fraternal relations between the peoples of the two countries.

Thanks to the precious victory won by the armies of the DPRK and Russia while shedding blood fighting in the same trench shoulder to shoulder, the occupation of the

Kursk area by the Ukrainian army for nearly nine months came to an end and the adventurous political and military attempt of the Western forces and the Ukrainian authorities to thwart the special military operations of Russia was frustrated.

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea extends the warmest and most ardent congratulations to the commanding officers of the special operations group and all officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the combat sub-units, who, participating in the operations for liberating the Kursk area, defended the precious honour of our army and performed immortal feats

to be recorded in golden letters in the history of the development of the DPRK-Russia relations.

The Ukrainian authorities, coming forward as the vanguard and shock brigade of the imperialist powers in an attempt to inflict strategic defeat on Russia, launched a vigorous surprise attack on the Russian mainland in August 2024 by enlisting tens of thousands of elite troops armed with the Western-made state-of-the-art weapons and other combat and technical equipment with a sinister intention to reverse the war situation, in which they were thrown into

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tailspin, and thus occupied an area of over 1 200 square kilometres in Kursk Region, turning many residential districts into ruins and mercilessly killing many peaceful inhabitants.

The reckless military moves of the hostile forces that violently infringed upon the national sovereignty and security of Russia, the fraternal country, constituted a threat to the accomplishment of the common cause of the DPRK and Russia for realizing international justice and defending global peace against the imperialist high-handed and arbitrary practices and a grave challenge to the militant friendship and unity between the armies and peoples of the two countries.

On the basis of the analysis and judgment that the prevailing situation conformed to the invocation of Article 4 of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership concluded between the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation,

Comrade Kim Jong Un decided on our armed forces’ participation in the war, informed the Russian side of it and, in accordance with agreement, issued an order of the Central Military Commission of the Workers’ Party of Korea to combat sub-units of the armed forces of the Republic to annihilate and wipe out the Ukrainian neo-Nazi occupiers and liberate the Kursk area in cooperation with the Russian armed forces.

While making the decision on making the combat sub-units of our armed forces participate in the war, Comrade Kim Jong Un defined it as a sacred mission for further consolidating as firm as a rock the traditional friendship and solidarity between the DPRK and Russia, guaranteeing the development and prosperity of the two countries and defending the honour of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

The military activities of the armed forces of the Republic conducted within the territory of the Russian Federation fully conform to all the provisions and

the spirit of the UN Charter and other international laws and the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the DPRK and Russia and serve as a good example and excellent paradigm of the most faithful expression of action to implement them.

Under the order of the head of state, the sub-units of the armed forces of the Republic regarded the territory of Russia as the one of their own country and proved the firm alliance between the DPRK and Russia and recorded legendary tales of military feats with their high will of defence, do-or-die spirit and practical combat actions accompanied by sacrifice.

On the occasion of the liberation of Kursk, Comrade Kim Jong Un specially stressed the following:

“They, who fought for justice, are all heroes who represent the honour of their motherland.

“In commemoration of the heroism and bravery displayed by the proud sons of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, a monument to their battle feats will

soon be erected in our capital city, and before the tombstones of the fallen soldiers, flowers will be laid as a token of the motherland and the people praying for their immortality.

“The fighting spirit and heroism of the soldiers, who demonstrated the great name of the powerful and the glory of the victors, will shine for ever on the high platform of respect and honour generation after generation.

“The motherland should hand down for ever the soul of the soldiers who fought to defend its great honour, and take important state measures to specially and preferentially treat and take care of the families of the brave soldiers who participated in the war.”

The head of state of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea said that he extends warm militant greetings to the Russian army and people who won a great victory.

The government of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea regards it as an honour to have an alliance

with such a powerful state as the Russian Federation and is pleased that the participation of the sub-units of our armed forces in the war has further strengthened the militant ties between the two countries and contributed to Russia’s conducting of special military operations.

The Central Military Commission of the Workers’ Party of Korea is convinced that the invincible militant friendship between the two countries, verified at the cost of blood in the flames of battles, will greatly contribute to expanding and developing the future relations of friendship and cooperation between the DPRK and Russia in all aspects, and affirms, on the authorization of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, that it will invariably and fully support the sacred cause of the Russian army and people in the future, too, and remain faithful as ever to any action based on the spirit of the DPRK-Russia treaty.

Russian President issues statement on participation of combat sub-units of DPRK armed forces in operations for liberating Kursk area of Russia

KCNA

Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, issued a statement on April 28 as regards the participation of the combat sub-units of the armed forces of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea in the operations for liberating the Kursk area of the Russian Federation.

The full text of the statement is as follows:

On April 26, 2025, the Armed

Forces of the Russian Federation finally defeated the group of Ukrainian militants that invaded the Kursk Region, putting an end to the criminal provocation perpetrated by the Ukrainian authorities in an attempt to seize part of the Russian Federation territory.

Units of the Korean People’s Army played an active role in the fight that brought the defeat of the neo-Nazi formations of the Kiev regime that invaded our territory, in full compliance with

international law and in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the Russian Federation and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea of June 19, 2024 – in particular, Article 4 of the Treaty, which requires each of the parties to provide immediate military assistance in the event of an armed attack against the other.

Our Korean friends’ move was guided by a sense of solidarity, justice and genuine comradery.

We highly appreciate this and are sincerely grateful, personally to President of the State Affairs of the DPRK Kim Jong Un, as well as the entire leadership and the people of the DPRK.

We commend the DPRK soldiers’ heroism, their excellent training and dedication displayed while fighting, shoulder to shoulder with Russian soldiers, defending our motherland as their own. They fulfilled their duty with honour and valour, covering themselves with unfading

glory. The Russian people will never forget the heroism of the DPRK special forces. We will always honour the heroes who gave their lives for Russia, for our common freedom, fighting side by side with their Russian brothers in arms.

We are confident that the strong bond of friendship, neighbourly relations and cooperation between our countries, tempered on the battlefield, will continue to grow and expand across the board.

Russian figures highly praise feats of combat sub-units of DPRK armed forces in liberating Kursk area

KCNA

The chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, a spokeswoman for the Foreign Ministry and a military expert highly praised the combat sub-units of the armed forces of the DPRK for making a great contribution to annihilating the Ukrainian army which invaded the territory of Russia.

On April 26, Valery Gerassimov, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, reported to President Vladimir Putin that the operations for liberating the Kursk area to repel the adventurous invasion by the Ukrainian authorities were victoriously concluded. He in his

report said as follows:

I want to point out the participation of servicemen from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea in the liberation of Kursk Region’s border areas, who, in accordance with the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries, provided significant assistance in defeating the invading group of the Ukrainian armed forces.

Officers and men of the Korean People’s Army, carrying out combat missions shoulder to shoulder with Russian servicemen, displayed high professionalism, fortitude, courage and heroism in repulsing the Ukrainian invasion.

The spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, Maria

Zakharova, said that Russia would never forget the friends of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Service personnel of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea participated in the operations for liberating Kursk Region under Article 4 of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership, she said, adding:

The solidarity shown by the DPRK friends proves that the bilateral relations of the two countries are at a high ally level. We are convinced that the relations of the two countries will grow stronger in the future, too.

A new page was recorded in the glorious history of militant friendship between the Russian

people and the DPRK people.

The combatants of the Korean People’s Army shed blood, fighting in the same trench shoulder to shoulder with Russian officers and men in Kursk Region. The combatants of the Korean People’s Army made a great contribution to liberating Russia’s land from the enemy occupiers.

Alexandr Stepanov, a military expert and senior fellow at the institute of Latin America of the Russian Academy of Sciences, expressed his views in an interview with TASS:

The Ukrainian army failed to achieve its goal for building a strategic bridgehead that could pose a threat to the depths of the Russian territory by continuing its attack.

It should be specially mentioned that the Korean People’s Army made a substantial and great contribution to liberating the territory of Russia within the scope of the strategic partnership established by the bilateral treaty.

This tells that Comrade Kim Jong Un, leader of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, and Pyongyang set an example of genuine alliance in the common struggle to cope with the neo-Nazi terrorist threat.

The Russian military expert also stressed that the contribution of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to victory has already been recorded in the history of friendly and fraternal relations between the two countries.

Ground-breaking ceremony held for building motor bridge linking DPRK and Russian borders

KCNA

The construction of a motor bridge linking the DPRK and Russian borders began while practical measures have positively been taken to strengthen bilateral exchanges and cooperation under the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries of the DPRK and Russia.

The construction of the motor bridge serves as a significant occasion in adding fresh dynamics to the development of the friendly relations between the two countries as it provides a substantial guarantee for laying down and reinforcing the important infrastructure for economic cooperation and for vitalizing the bilateral cooperation including travel of persons, tourism and circulation of commodities in a many-sided way.

A ground-breaking ceremony took place simultaneously in Rason Municipality, a border city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Khasan, a border city of the Russian Federation, on April 30 amid deep interest and expectations of the governments and peoples of the two countries.

The national flags of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation were fluttering at the flagstuffs in the DPRK-Russia Friendship

House, the venue of the DPRK side. Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Mikhail Mishustin, prime minister of the Russian Federation, attended the ceremony in Pyongyang and Moscow via video-conferencing.

Present at the ceremony were Jong Myong Su, vice-premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, Yun Jong Ho, minister of External Economic Relations and chairman of the DPRK side of the DPRK-Russia Inter-governmental Committee for Cooperation in Trade, Economy, Science and Technology, Kim Kyong Jun, minister of Land and Environment Protection, Sin Chang Il, chairman of the Rason Municipal People's Committee, Kim Jong Gyu, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, officials concerned, builders and working people in Rason Municipality.

Also on hand were Alexandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK, Oleg Kosheev, consul general of the Russian Federation in Chongjin, and members of the Russian embassy and consulate.

The national anthems of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation were played.

Mikhail Mishustin, prime minister of the Russian Federation, made a congratulatory speech.

He said that the construction of

the motor bridge linking the Russian and DPRK borders is a significant occasion for showing the common will to strengthen the friendly and good-neighbourly relations between the two countries and to develop cooperation between the regions.

Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, and Comrade Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, concluded the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries, thus developing the Russia-DPRK relations onto a new high stage and providing conditions to start the joint work that is mutually beneficial, he stressed.

He affirmed that the motor bridge linking the Russian and DPRK borders which contributes to the expansion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation would be a symbol of peace and friendship between the Russian Federation and the DPRK.

Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made a congratulatory speech.

He extended warm congratulations on behalf of the DPRK government to the builders and friends of the two countries who made sincere efforts to successfully ensure the start of the construction of the bridge to be handed down forever as a historic monument to

the DPRK-Russia friendship, true to the strategic plan of Comrade Kim Jong Un and Comrade Vladimir Putin.

He said that after the historic DPRK-Russia Pyongyang summit, bilateral exchanges and cooperation have been expanded and developed more vigorously in all fields and the joint plans conducive to the promotion of well-being of the peoples of the two countries have been carried on.

He stressed that the construction of the motor bridge would contribute to laying an eternal foundation for the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries that has been put on a track of new comprehensive development.

Construction equipment went into work at the bridge construction sites of both sides according to the instructions given by heads of government of the two countries.

In the concluding speeches, the heads of government of the two countries expressed belief that the motor bridge linking the borders would be successfully built as another monumental edifice to be brilliantly recorded in golden letters in the history of the DPRK-Russia relations.

Then a commemorative monument to the ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of the DPRK-Russia border motor bridge was unveiled.

Inscribed on the monument are the national emblems of the two countries and the letters "Commemoration of Starting the Construction of DPRK-Russia Border Motor Bridge April 30, 2025" in Korean and Russian.

That day the DPRK leading officials who took part in the ground-breaking event had a talk with leading officials of the Russian government who visited the DPRK-Russia Friendship House.

Present there were Jong Myong Su, vice-premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, Yun Jong Ho, minister of External Economic Relations and chairman of the DPRK side to the DPRK-Russia Inter-governmental Committee for Cooperation in Trade, Economy, Science and Technology, Kim Kyong Jun, minister of Land and Environment Protection, Sin Chang Il, chairman of the Rason Municipal People's Committee, Kim Jong Gyu, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, Sin Hong Chol, DPRK ambassador to Russia, Jo Sok Chol, DPRK consul general in Vladivostok, and Yuri Trutnev, deputy prime minister of the Russian Federation and concurrently presidential envoy to the Far East Federal Region, Alexandr Kozlov, minister of Natural Resources and Ecology and chairman of the Russian side to the DPRK-Russia Inter-governmental Committee for Cooperation in Trade, Economy, Science and Technology, Roman Starovoyt, minister of Transport, Aleksei Chekunkov, minister of Development of the Far East and Arctic, Oleg Kozhemyako, governor of the Maritime Territory Administration, Alexandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK, and Oleg Kosheev, consul general of the Russian Federation in Chongjin.

Discussed at the talk in detail were the practical issues for completing within the fixed date the construction of the DPRK-Russia border motor bridge which is of substantial and important significance in dynamically promoting the many-sided exchanges and development of economic ties between the DPRK and Russia.



A ground-breaking ceremony takes place simultaneously in Rason Municipality, a border city of the DPRK, and Khasan, a border city of the Russian Federation, on April 30 for the construction of a motor bridge linking the DPRK and Russian borders.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Show of products of regional-industry factories held

A show of products of newly-built regional-industry factories in 20 cities and counties took place in Pyongyang from April 22 to 26.

Those regional-industry factories presented 439 varieties of products in 21 kinds, including condiments with wheat as the main raw material, confectionery, processed marine products, laundry soaps, plastic daily necessities, furniture and

garments.

Decided at the show were the rankings of cities and counties which distinguished themselves in implementing the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on setting it as the first task to improve the quality in the light industry sector and putting efforts into improving the quality of the condiments and essential consumer goods.

Pomiculture research base inaugurated

The Pyongyang

Pomiculture Research Branch of the Institute of Pomology of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences was wonderfully renovated and inaugurated.

The completion of the modern pomiculture research base fully furnished with all conditions has provided another material and technical foundation conducive to the implementation of the Workers' Party of Korea's policy of fruit farming.

Its inaugural ceremony took place on April 29.

Present there were Ri Chol Man, vice-premier of the Cabinet and chairman of the Agricultural Commission, officials concerned, working people, builders and employees of the branch.

Jonchon Rock Drill Factory remodelled

An inauguration ceremony of the remodelled project of the Jonchon Rock Drill Factory was held on April 29.

Present there were Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the DPRK Cabinet.

Also on hand were Sin Chang Gil, chairman of the Jagang Provincial People's Committee, officials concerned and builders and employees of the factory.

Vice-Premier Yang Sung Ho made an inaugural

address to be followed by speeches.

That day, an art performance was given to celebrate the inauguration and fireworks were displayed.

Phyongsong Irrigation Machine Factory inaugurated

The Phyongsong Irrigation Machine Factory has newly been built.

An inauguration ceremony of the factory was held on April 26.

Present there were Ri Chol Man, vice-premier of the Cabinet and chairman of the Agricultural Commission, Ri Kyong Chol, chief secretary of the South Phyongan

Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, scientists, technicians, builders and employees of the factory.

Choe Yong Song, chairman of the South Phyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee, made an inauguration address.

He called upon the officials and employees of the factory to carry out the national economic plan without fail by directing great efforts to revitalizing production on the principle of self-reliance and self-sufficiency, always remembering the trust and expectation of the Party.

At the end of the ceremony the participants looked round the factory.

On the occasion of May Day, int’l holiday of workers

National meeting celebrates 135th May Day

KCNA

A national meeting was held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on May 1 to mark the 135th May Day, the international holiday of the working people of the whole world.

Present there were Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the DPRK Cabinet, Kim Tok Hun, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, and other senior Party and government officials, officials of ministries, national agencies, institutions and industrial establishments and working people in Pyongyang.

Present there at invitation were members of foreign diplomatic missions in Pyongyang and overseas Koreans staying there.

Premier Pak Thae Song



A national meeting is held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on May 1 to mark the 135th May Day, the international holiday of the working people across the world.

made a report. Upon authorization of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK, he extended greetings of congratulation to industrial and agricultural workers, intellectuals and all other working people across the country, who are striving to increase production and

create miracles after turning out in the sacred patriotic work for the prosperity and development of their great state, on the occasion of May Day.

He said that the working people of the country have glorified their worthwhile life as ardent patriots strong in ideas and faith under the great care of the peerlessly great men who saved the destiny of them, who had been subjected to backbreaking labour while suffering inhuman maltreatment and contempt before Korea's liberation, and trained and led them to work for the prosperity of the country with boundless labour enthusiasm.

Though well over a hundred years have passed since the international holiday of the working masses began to be marked, there are no other genuine revolutionaries and powerful creators in the world like the working

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Senior Party and government officials congratulate working people on their holiday



Senior officials of the Party and government visit industrial establishments across the country on May Day to congratulate working people on their holiday.

KCNA

On May Day, senior officials of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government visited industrial establishments across the country, which are seething with an increased production drive for achieving their goals for this year, the last year in implementing the five-year plan, to congratulate working people on their holiday.

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the

Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, other senior Party and government officials and officials of Party and government organs at all levels spent a good time together with working people at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, the Chollima Steel Complex, the State Academy of Sciences, the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, the Sangwon Cement Complex, the Kim Jong Thae Electric Locomotive Complex, the Kangdong

Combined Greenhouse Farm, the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, the construction site of 10 000 flats at the fourth stage in the Hwasong area, etc.

The senior Party and government officials met and encouraged innovators exerting themselves in the vanguard of the efforts to perform miracles and feats in order to greet the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK with proud labour achievements.

They said that the devoted efforts of the innovators, who work hard unassumingly

with pure conscience at every workplace, form the solid cornerstone of a powerful country and serve as silent education and model inspiring the patriotic and competitive spirit of the masses, and called on them to keep exalting their honour as being standard-bearers in the collective innovation movement.

They also watched colourful sports and amusement games together with working people.

The performances by mobile artistic motivational

teams also added to the festive mood on the holiday as they reflected the boundless gratitude to the motherly Party, and the burning aspiration to uphold the Party and the state with all their soul by carrying forward the baton of loyalty and patriotism of the preceding generations.

The senior officials who visited the construction site of 10 000 flats at the fourth stage in the Hwasong and different units of the national economy called on all the working

people to take long strides of continuous innovation and uninterrupted leap forward and make tangible achievements in implementing the Party's decisions.

As they had a good time on the holiday, working people across the country hardened their resolve to fulfil their duty as socialist working people in the present sacred struggle to open up new horizons in the building of a powerful country under the leadership of the great Party Central Committee.

On the occasion of May Day, int'l holiday of workers

Nation celebrates May Day significantly

KCNA

The joy of working people overflowed throughout the DPRK on the 135th May Day, the international holiday of the working people all over the world.

At the time when the whole country is vibrant with regional rejuvenation and the capital city of Pyongyang is in a festive mood over moving into new houses, working people celebrated

the holiday, having a good time filled with the enthusiasm to accelerate the all-people general advance toward the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with intense patriotic loyalty and massive efforts for increased production.

A feeling of profound reverence overflowed at the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme temple of Juche where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime

appearance.

Officials and working people visited the statues of the President and the Chairman on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and other places and mosaic murals depicting the images of the peerlessly great men and paid their respect to them after laying baskets of flowers, bouquets and flowers.

Officials of Party and power organs in all parts of the country celebrated May Day splendidly with working people.

Marking the holiday, working people's organizations in North Phyongan Province and Nampho Municipality held meetings with meritorious persons and exemplary persons of virtue of the previous generations to follow their examples.

Performances with colourful programmes were given at theatres and outdoor stages in Pyongyang.

The Mansudae Art Troupe gave a song and dance

performance at the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre.

A circus performance was given at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre by the entertainers of the National Acrobatic Troupe and the one-act play "The Man I Want" at the National Theatre.

Artists from the Phibada Opera Troupe, the National Theatrical Troupe and the central artistic and economic information team gave outdoor performances in different places of Pyongyang.

The Central Zoo, the Natural History Museum, Munsu Water Park and the riding service base in Hamhung were filled with the laughter of people.

That day, the Okryu and Chongnyu restaurants in Pyongyang, Kyongam Restaurant in Sariwon, Songdowon Restaurant in Wonsan and other public catering facilities in the capital and the provinces gave a variety of holiday services, pleasing diners.



Working people across the country have a good time on May Day.

Women's dance party held

KCNA

Officials and members of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea held a dance party in the plaza in front of the Arch of Triumph in Pyongyang in celebration of the 135th

May Day, the international holiday of working people all over the world.

The venue for the event was alive with the delight of officials and members of the women's union who greeted May Day on the ongoing grand march to bring about

a new turning point for the prosperity to be specially recorded in the history of the country under the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The dance party began with the song "Victorious May".

Women's union officials and members hold a dance party at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph on May 1.



FROM PAGE 5

people of Juche Korea who, as legitimate masters of the country and society, are reliably supporting their cause with their indomitable mental strength, unity and sincere efforts, he noted.

He referred to the fact that in the great era of Kim Jong Un, the working people of the country are confidently opening up a new heyday

of rapid progress and innovation in all fields of socialist construction with great dignity and personality.

He said that the industrial and agricultural workers, scientists and technicians of the country have such noble names as the eldest son of the country, the faithful and patriotic working people who have defended the Party and the revolution with rice and the powerful hard core of the

Korean revolution, which were given by the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

With the firm faith that all victories and glory lie in wholeheartedly following and faithfully supporting only the great Comrade Kim Jong Un, the working people ushered in a new era of overall prosperity, in which unprecedented changes and miracles are brought about in all fields of

state building, overcoming mountains of challenges and difficulties with indomitable and strenuous efforts, he noted.

He pointed to the need for all the working people to unconditionally fulfil the five-year plan decided by the Eighth Congress of the WPK and make greater strides towards a new stage of development by struggling with remarkably redoubled

efforts with the firm faith that the revolutionary ideas and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un are science, truth and victory.

The DPRK government will continue to be always responsible for the good of the working people, regarding the WPK's idea of the people-first principle as an immutable guideline, and to discharge its mission and role in realizing the social emancipation of

the working masses of the whole world and building an independent and peaceful new world, he added.

He called on all the participants to more dynamically struggle for the beloved country and for a brilliant victory of the cause of building a powerful country with the honour and pride of being the socialist builders in the great era of Kim Jong Un.

On the occasion of May Day, int'l holiday of workers

Country of working people

By Kim Rye Yong PT

The DPRK significantly celebrated May Day, the international holiday of the working people of the whole world.

The country was filled with joy of working people as they greeted the holiday at workplaces full of pride in creation and in new modern houses.

For over 70 years since the word "people" was added to the name of the country, its people have called it the country of working people as its another name.

In the complicated internal and external situation created over the issue of sovereignty after national liberation, the Workers' Party of Korea put forth a line of building an independent people's government and founded the democratic people's republic in conformity with the will of the people and the actual conditions of the country.

Since then, many years have passed, but there is not the slightest change in the popular character of the state where all policies are formulated by crystallizing the will and demands of the people and the implementation of them is guaranteed by the laws for the people whose main mission is to protect and ensure their rights and interests.

The government of the DPRK fulfils its responsibility and role as representative of the independent rights of the masses of the people, organizer of their creative abilities, master responsible for their livelihood and protector of their independent and creative life.

In the DPRK national sovereignty and the means of production are in the hands of the people, and they hold the position of masters in all domains of politics, the economy and culture and exercise genuine freedom and rights.

Everyone freely takes part in the exercise of power and state administration with the rights to elect and be elected, leads a stable material life while leading an independent and creative working life and enjoys a cultured life while acquiring advanced

and progressive ideology and spirit and scientific and technological knowledge and creating new culture.

The DPRK born on the foundation of "The people are God" sets it as the supreme principle of its activities to constantly improve the material and cultural living standards of the people and persistently conducts activities to bring the people happiness irrespective of whether the conditions are favourable or unfavourable.

To direct and subordinate all state affairs only to ensuring the rights and interests of the people and realizing their cherished desire and constantly improve their living standards is the most important matter in the activities of the state and to make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people is its national trait.

In recent years alone ideal streets for the people have appeared in succession in the capital city of Pyongyang and the new era of rural development and regional rejuvenation unfolded with modern farmhouses and regional industry factories mushrooming across the country and thus the happy laughter of the people resounds through it day by day.

And the recreation grounds for the people are wonderfully built in the best places of the country and all undertakings from the centre to the lowest units are organized and executed on the principle of prioritizing the interests of the people.

Today the war crisis, epidemic disease crisis and natural disaster crisis are regarded as three crises which a state should cope with in a responsible way and the DPRK has firmly consolidated its invincible military strength to reliably safeguard the dignity and security of the people and continued to put spurs to the build-up of the strength great enough to check and control the factors threatening the life and happiness of the people.

That is why all the DPRK people devote themselves to the work for their country with the pride of living in a genuine country of the people, which protects and adds lustre to their dignity, life and future.

May Day tells stories about DPRK leaders

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

A proud frontrunner of new Korea

On May 1 1947, President Kim Il Sung arranged a lavish banquet for the exemplary workers across the country and highly praised the labour innovators with a warm smile, saying that all of them present there were all revolutionaries and patriots.

Holding the hands of a coal miner from North Hamgyong Province, he said he had suffered a great deal under Japanese military rule in the past, but today workers and farmers were masters of the country and it valued the coal miners most and put them forward first.

He then introduced him to the participants as the coal miner who fulfilled his task of the national economic plan for that year, which was worked out by the country for the first time, and a proud frontrunner of new Korea.

Reason for leaving office room early in the morning

On May 1 1997, Chairman Kim Jong Il went on a field guidance tour as usual.

He left his office room, saying he had to go to a place early in the morning. Officials earnestly asked him to have a rest for only a few hours in the morning as it was May Day.

He thanked them for it, but declined their offer, saying: May Day is a holiday and a rest day in the country, but for our revolutionaries, it should be a day of working more energetically than on usual days.

The soldiers of the Korean People's Army mobilized in the construction of a pleasure ground on Mt Jongbang had done a good job for the people, he told the officials, asking them to go there with him immediately and hurried his way.

Until then, the officials did not know why he wanted to go to the pleasure ground

on Mt Jongbang early in the morning.

He told them, who still did not see the reason why he left so early in the morning, that it was holiday that day and many people would visit the mountain to take rest. If he visited it when the people had rest, it would disturb their rest and so he wanted to look round it and return early in the morning, he added.

Banquet for workers

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, went round the hostel of employees of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill which was completed in late April 2014.

The interior of the hostel was built perfectly.

The light pink and cream colours going well with each other in the corridor, large LCD TVs and karaoke instruments in the halls of every floor and neatly-furnished rooms made

visitors feel cosiness in it.

To build a new hostel at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill was a promise President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il made to the workers of the mill, the promise they made was fulfilled correctly that day and he implemented another behest of them, said the General Secretary with a broad smile on his face.

At the dining hall of the hostel he said that it was better than the banquet halls or wedding restaurants and a large banquet should be given on the coming May Day. A grand banquet should be organized here in honour of the workers in celebration of May Day so that the whole country would be astir with the news, he noted, adding he would arrange it for them.

As a result, a banquet was held splendidly for the workers at the hostel of the mill, a workers' palace, in celebration of May Day.

Burning life like candle for decades

By Ri Myong Jun PT

Pak Ho Chol, head of the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps, is one of those honest people who shoulder the heavy burden of the country by themselves and faithfully follow the road of patriotism.

He was appointed head of the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps in early spring over 20 years ago.

Though he was diagnosed with a fatal disease by which others might have fallen long ago, Pak got up and burnt his body like a candle for over 20 years with a strong will,

turning the locomotive corps into a group of innovators in the rail transport sector.

For man, it is easier said than done to rush at life without rest and stop.

But as he regarded patriotism as his lifetime motto and was determined not to fall before fulfilling his responsibility and duty, Pak worked hard to revitalize his unit step by step, while combating the severe disease that tormented him so much.

He started his social life at the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps. After graduating from then

Pyongyang University of Railways, he performed several jobs in the railways sector and then was promoted to head of the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps.

But his old workplace, to which he returned after 10 years, lagged far behind the developing reality.

He remodelled equipment together with technicians and skilled workers to upgrade the backward factory and worked without rest to give the corps a facelift. He exchanged opinions open-mindedly with employees, willingly went on the trips of freight transport together with engine drivers and repaired locomotives in the field with workers to find the ways to revitalize the unit.

"The word 'human bomb' is not only used in battlegrounds where hails of bullets fall. We cannot but compare the life he has lived for over 20 years, rushing at life with determination not to be afraid of death if it were for the prosperity of the country, to the word 'human bomb'," said an official of the West

Pyongyang Locomotive Corps.

Thanks to his painstaking efforts, creative thinking and great zeal, the locomotive corps began to breathe life into revitalization, equipping itself with facilities needed for repair and maintenance of locomotives and replacing old single-storey buildings with new several-storey ones.

It also built a base in which it can make middle repair and overhaul of locomotives properly and became a group of persons of ability in the rail transport sector.

Today, the West Pyongyang Locomotive Corps undertakes the repair of locomotives of other units though it is not its duty, while overfulfilling its own national economic plan, the number of locomotives accounting for nearly half of the annual work done by it. It is just a group of patriots who always think of national interests first beyond the small fence of their unit and take the lead in relieving the burden of the country and Pak Ho Chol always stands in the van.



Pak Ho Chol (third from right) with inspectors.

Innovation of management methods guarantees sustainable growth of production

Thermal power complex lays foundation for producing hundreds of millions of kWh of more electricity every year



Economic arrangements and production control are done scrupulously to increase power output at the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex, which takes a large share of power production in the country, adopted an innovative management method to update the record of the number of workdays per ignition and lay a foundation for producing hundreds of millions of kWh of more electricity every year. Officials of the complex solved technical problems arising in achieving the increased production target using the existing equipment, by taking the normal operation of generating equipment as a

key to attaining the electricity generation goal for this year. The complex introduced in an all-round way a new evaluation method which orients and subordinates all economic arrangements and production control to the management of equipment and technology and gives precedence to the quality of repair. In the course of this, it increased the number of workdays per ignition from the previous average of 15 days to 19 in January and 26 in February for the first time in decades, thus overfulfilling its first quarterly production plan. It staged a vigorous campaign for economy geared to lowering the norm of per-unit electricity consumption, while exploring and applying rational business management methods as required by the socialist system of responsible business operation. As a result, it remarkably reduced coal consumption for producing 1 kWh of electricity in each boiler to save over 6 000 tons of coal in the quarter. While efficiently running the integrated management information system, it steadily introduced labour, material and different other management systems to put its management activities on a scientific and IT basis.

For increased productivity, readjustment and reinforcement

By To Kyong Chol PT

The chemical industry sector is directing efforts to revitalization of production and readjustment and reinforcement at factories and enterprises, true to the decisions of the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. Officials of the Ministry of Chemical Industry are pooling the wisdom of the collective in order to take measures to revitalize production in the chemical industry by waging a campaign for increased production and economy and focusing on consolidating the material and technical foundations. They design optimized plans with emphasis placed on attaining the goal of fertilizer production set forth by the Party without fail by giving precedence to the supply of raw materials and fuel in a far-sighted way and operating equipment at full capacity and on making substantial progress in diversifying basic chemical products and improving their quality. They are intensifying the study of and discussion about urgent problems arising in perfecting a new sectoral structure of the chemical industry, including the reinforcement of processes and construction of new production bases on the principle of ensuring economic effectiveness and technical advancement. They are also discussing ways to introduce

information systems effective in raising the informatization and digitization levels of economic and business management. The Sinuiju Chemical Fibre Mill is stepping up readjustment and reinforcement for the production of paper this year. The factory finished in a short time such huge tasks as the readjustment and reinforcement of overall production processes, the installation of hundreds of metres of water pipes for the supply of industrial water, the expansion of the capacity of a reserve reservoir and thousands of cubic metres of water tank dredging and has made innovations at every workplace to start the production of paper for textbooks. Progress has been made in the work to increase the production of all sorts of chemical goods necessary for economic construction and the improvement of the people's living standards by relying on domestic raw materials. The February 8 Vinalon Complex focuses on attaining goals of readjustment and reinforcement, including the expansion of variety, the construction of a mechanical salt production line and the development of mines, while solving the problems arising in increasing the operation rate of major production equipment including a calcium-carbide furnace. The Suncheon Chemical Complex has achieved good results in the production of nutrient solution fertilizer to be sent to greenhouse farms.

Successive news about increased production encourages people across nation

By Kim Il Jin PT

Working people across the country turned out in the drive for increased production and made laudable labour achievements on the occasion of April 15, the birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung. The Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, which has achieved production growth every day in April, produced thousands of tons of more fertilizer than planned by April 15. The workers of the synthesis workshop in charge of the important process of fertilizer production have increased the capacity of the synthesizing tower to the maximum, while the gas purification, water electrolysis and several other workshops have developed new methods for raising the utilization rate of equipment and increasing the actual yield. As a result, the daily average output of fertilizer has been boosted as compared with the corresponding period of last year under the same raw materials conditions.

Coalminers of the Chonnae Area Coal-mining Complex are continuously making innovations in April in the spirit of having overfulfilled the index-wise production quotas in the first quarter. The managing staff of the complex paid close attention to improving the management of equipment and technology, while meticulously organizing and directing production so that the enthusiasm of the workers can lead to substantial results in production.

The employees of the Munchon Coal Mine increased coal output by more than 1 000 tons by April 15 by pooling their creative ideas and efforts and applying various advanced tunnelling and mining methods suited to their actual conditions. Those of the Chonnae and Samchon coal mines have also increased the coal production by giving definite precedence to tunnelling despite unfavourable conditions. The Ranam Coal-mining

Machine Factory conducted a brisk socialist emulation drive among workshops, machines and shifts, and increased the output by 1.5 times as compared with the same period of last year. The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill has organized an exhibition of achievements in technical innovation on the theme of increased production and economization and science and technology to share valuable inventions and technical innovation plans.



The production of machinery and equipment is stepped up at the Ranam Coal-mining Machine Factory.

Forestry sector enhances prospects for stepping up timber production

By Jong Chol PT

The forestry sector has carried out its annual timber production plan at over 90 percent by March 31 through a drive for increased production to greet the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea with proud labour achievements.

This is a notable success made in the struggle for implementing the Party's policy on timber industry to carry out a large share of the annual timber production in winter. Officials and workers in the forestry sector channelled efforts into the preparations for production after setting a high goal and repaired

and maintained vehicles by securing fuel and materials and tapping internal reserves in a short span of time. Meanwhile, the construction of transportation roads, mountain hostels and timber yards was pushed to make full preparations. Forestry stations and mine timber production stations across the country have

concentrated labour and equipment and introduced various efficient working methods to make innovations in every timber felling site. They have registered high production results every day in all processes, including timber felling and pruning, overcoming difficulties by pooling creative wisdom and effort. They are now directing efforts to the final transportation of logs stacked at the mountain timber yards so as to deliver them to destinations in time.

Educational management system steadily updated

By Kim Rye Yong PT

In the DPRK all higher and general educational institutions in the capital and provinces are making efforts to actively introduce advanced methods for training talents.

Wonsan Jong Jun Thack University of Economics has made achievements by conducting the work to introduce new educational management systems in an accurately targeted method.

Kim Chung Hyok, chief of the instruction guidance department, who is progressive and ambitious, has spared no effort to study and introduce a new educational management system for raising the

lecturers' teaching levels, regarding as a guideline the Workers' Party of Korea's definition that a radical improvement in education is, in essence, a radical improvement in teachers' qualifications.

Thanks to the deep thought and efforts of the university officials, a new educational management system was established at the university.

"The new educational management system is mainly aimed at bringing about radical innovations in teaching plans and methods," he said.

The teaching plans drawn by lecturers are assessed by ten indexes, including the theoretical basis, popularization, practicality, comprehensiveness and

modernity of their contents, and the methods of teaching are done according to question-and-answer plans, the level of making of multimedia and the level of using foreign languages. And 16 indexes are applied in relation to the creation of new teaching methods to make more exact demands.

The examination of the teaching plans and methods is very rigorous.

It is done in a planned way without fail by faculty, department and lecturer, and the results are reviewed every six months: both the merits of ten superior lecturers and the demerits of ten inferior ones are shown through videos so that the experience in success and lessons from failure can

be shared by all.

As a result, all lecturers are redoubling their efforts to attain high goals and competition among teachers, departments and faculties is growing fierce.

To further arouse the zeal for competition, the instruction guidance department organizes various kinds of teaching contests such as those of new lecturers, department heads and concurrent lecturers.

The new educational management system has soon proved effective in practice as the relevant examination is done through inspection of a class at work at any time in many cases.

The university also methodologically conducts the work to generalize the successes made in the course of introducing the new educational management system, thus making it possible for one achievement to lead to ten and twenty.

"It is the unanimous aspiration and will of the university officials and lecturers to raise its educational level as early as possible and thus train talents who will contribute a large share to the development of the national economy," said Kim Chung Hyok.



Wonsan Jong Jun Thack University of Economics introduces a new educational management system. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Triplet university students

By Ri Sung Ik PT

In the past 45 years since the opening of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, a great number of babies were born at the hospital, including over 790 sets of triplets and quadruplets.

Among them are the 168th set of triplets, Ri Chin Hyok, Ri Wi Hyok and Ri Tae Hyok, who were born over 30 years ago.

At that time, their birth was not only a happy event of the family of an ordinary worker living in Myonggan County, North Hamgyong Province, but also that of the whole country and country.

The triplets received gifts of love, including silver-decorated knives, and different kinds of nutritious foods and materials for clothes and grew up happily under the warm care of the state.

Thanks to the state's meticulous care and benefits, they could live without any slightest worry even in the period when the country was undergoing difficulties.

They always took the lead in studying and doing good things for the country and, after graduating from middle school, also took the lead in joining the Korean People's Army with the desire to glorify their youth in defending the socialist fatherland.

After their demob, all of them entered Kim Il Sung University.

When their mother Kim Chun Mae was told that her sons must have been good at studying as all of them passed the entrance examination, she said: "Endless is the love and benevolence of the motherly Party shown to my triplet sons and this became the nourishment and foundation that helped them grow up as reliable pillars of the future."

At present, there is a special room with a nameplate saying "Triplets" in the dormitory of the university. Though they study in different departments, the university provided them with the room so that they could live together.

There are some

photographs hanging on a wall of the room, which are the source of the greatest pride of the triplets and their family.

At the time when the triplets had served in the army for a little over one year, they happened to meet Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un who visited their unit. That day, they were honoured to have a photo taken with the great leaders by their sides.

In 2022, one year after their entrance to the university, the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un called young students who

contributed to the successful military parade in celebration of the 90th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and had a photograph taken with them.

In addition, their mother took part in the Fifth National Conference of Mothers held two years ago and had a photo taken with the respected General Secretary.

Always bearing those photos in their mind, the triplet brothers are devoting their untiring enthusiasm to studying at Kim Il Sung University, the highest institution of Juche-oriented education.



Triplets Ri Chin Hyok, Ri Wi Hyok and Ri Tae Hyok study at Kim Il Sung University. RODONG SINMUN

University's role in economic development

Now that science and technology are regarded as an engine driving socialist construction, it becomes more important for universities which train the "engine drivers" to fulfil their mission.

Especially, the position and role of Wonsan Jong Jun Thack University of Economics is truly important in view of the Workers' Party of Korea's intention to radically improve the national economy in keeping with the ever-rising dignity of the DPRK.

It is a policy of the Party on the development of universities to build research universities that achieved the integration of education, scientific research and production on a high level.

In recent years, the university has made a considerable success by concentrating its efforts on improving the qualifications of lecturers, bringing education and scientific research close to the reality and solving urgent problems in practice.

Last year alone, there has been a remarkable improvement in the abilities of lecturers as the number of holders of academic degrees and titles in major fields increased and over 60 lecturers raised their degrees of qualifications.

The university sent 70 lecturers to in-service training institutions to promote cooperation and exchange between central and regional educational units and dispatched more than 50 lecturers to production sites to make positive contributions to solving the problems arising in practice.

In the course of this, they contributed to solving urgent problems arising in implementing the Party's important economic policies including the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

In particular, the lecturers and researchers of our university made a great contribution to putting production of regional-industry factories



in Kangwon Province on a normal footing.

We have made notable achievements at national festivals, exhibitions and presentations and also learned much from the experience of other units.

Many proposals from our university, including the "Commercial specialized simulation training support system", "Some problems arising in improving the system of the standardization law at present" and "National production target estimate simulation system", were highly appreciated.

Especially, "Integrated management system of the Munchon Steel Works" won the first place in the information sector of the 37th National Festival, "Enterprise financial management simulation training program" came first at the national youth sci-tech successes exhibition and "Management decision-making support system" was registered as an excellent IT product at the national exhibition of IT achievements-2024.

In order to fulfil the mission of the university which should contribute to the prosperity of the country through scientific research successes and by training scientific and technological talents, it is necessary to actively introduce latest science and technology into the teaching management and administration.

I think that the university's success in scientific research and training talents precisely means the economic development of the country.

Choe Yong Ho, PhD, associate professor and president of Wonsan Jong Jun Thack University of Economics

Alluring world of flowers at festival



The Flower Festival-2025 is held at the April 15 Children's Flower Garden in Pyongyang between April 13 and 28. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Pang Un Ju PT

The April 15 Children's Flower Garden, in which the Flower Festival-2025 was held on the theme of "Balmy Spring, Our Beautiful Life", attracted many visitors every day.

According to Kim Yon A, an official of the Korean Floriculture Association, the festival brought together more than 200 units and flower fanciers across the country, along with the flowering plant research and production units in Pyongyang and local areas. Many people visited the festival venue displaying various kinds of flowers and

unique products made of flowers, she added.

The most exciting area was the outdoor exhibition section.

The fountain dancing to the tune of music, the flower beds and flowerpot stands decorated with ground-cover plants and various species of flowers and spectacular sights consisting of plant sculptures represented by employing the formative arts drew the admiration of visitors.

Among them were a building model decorated with beautiful flowers of various kinds and a plant sculpture depicting a fishing boat sailing across the sea. They were so fascinating that

every visitor wanted to have a photograph taken against the background of them.

Hong Chol Gyu, an official of the Pyongyang Construction Commission, said that the officials of the commission made a model of the newly built iconic building of Hwasong Street decorated with flowers by pooling their creative wisdom to produce a work reflecting the phases of the times well while showing the features of their unit and presented it to the festival.

The plant sculpture depicting a fishing boat sailing across the sea mirrored the optimism of the citizens of Sinpho City, whose life would be further

enriched as the Sinpho City Offshore Farm was modernly built in the coastal area of South Hamgyong Province according to the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Workers' Party of Korea, said Kim Yon A.

The flowerpot stands presented by the South Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Korean Floriculture Association also attracted the attention of experts and fanciers for their peculiarities and outstanding natural beauty.

The built-up floating group of flowerpots presented by the State Academy of Sciences was set up in the artificial pond built at the

flower garden, showing a spectacular sight. Seeing the beautiful flowers floating in the water on board boats while paddling, all the visitors were full of joy.

The plant exhibition hall of the flower garden also lured visitors with many flowers and foliage plants.

Kimilsungia, Kimjongilia and other flowering plants, weeping fig, cactuses and other foliage plants and dwarf trees competitively boasted of their beauty and shapely figures in the plant exhibition hall, the indoor exhibition section of the festival venue.

"No flowers are as beautiful as Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia in every aspect,"

said Jon Il Suk, a resident of Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

"Weeping fig and cactuses are plants with a high ornamental value and air-purification ability. Such foliage plants at home are very helpful in improving indoor environment," said Kim Sun Hwa living in Taesong District of Pyongyang, before buying several flowerpots at the festival.

Kim Yon A said that the festival was a significant occasion for adding pleasure to the people greeting the balmy spring and for turning the whole country into a socialist paradise alive with all sorts of flowers.

Exhibition shows developing garment-making techniques



Clothes attract deep interest of visitors at the Spring Garment Exhibition-2025. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The Spring Garment Exhibition-2025 took place in Pyongyang from April 11 to 22.

On display at the exhibition held on the theme of "Love our own way, boast about our own flavour" were more than 27 000 pieces of women's, men's and children's clothing and traditional Korean clothing in over 20 kinds which were made by more than 160 units producing light industrial goods across the country,

including the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ponghwa Trading Administration and Pyongyang Municipality.

Yun Hong Gil, deputy secretary general of the Garment Industry Association of Korea, said that the exhibition was aimed at creating more dress designs of various forms exuding modern beauty while meeting the people's tastes and their thoughts and feelings, at sharing and transferring advanced clothes processing techniques and at improving the level of display and the

method of service.

Unlike in the past, the highly rated products were exhibited in the centre of the venue accompanied by the introduction of the presenters of the products so as to enable others to learn from their good experience.

The dresses and men's coats and suits presented by different garment factories of the Unha Trading Bureau and the Ponghwa garment research and dissemination lab attracted many visitors to the exhibition as they were refined in shape, pattern

and colour combination and based on high processing techniques.

Jon Un Sim, section chief of the Ponghwa garment research and dissemination lab, said that it presented a lot of menswear in various kinds for spring, adding that they enhanced the elegance of the cream-coloured clothes for men in their twenties and thirties by giving strong colour schemes to the edges of collars in contrast to the primary colour and producing decorative effects on the hems of their waist pockets

and the opened edges of the sleeves.

Conspicuous were the clothes at the booth of the Kumdae Garment Manufacturer which presented many clothes of refined forms including bright-coloured suits with ribbon-decorated collars for women, and those at the booth of the Central District Combined Tailor Shop which presented smart leather coats for men and suits with detachable collars for women.

The Korean costume made

by the Women's Tailor Shop of the Phyongchon District Combined Tailor Shop also drew the attention of visitors.

Choe Hyo Sim, a visitor, said that she was struck with admiration for a set of Korean clothes which was more elegant and distinctive with the ground colour of the skirt lightening from the upper part to the lower.

Yun Hong Gil said that the exhibition brought together many clothes whose overall forms were designed to offer convenience for activity and ensure artistic qualities.

Garments of regional producers improved a lot, he said, adding that officials of the Garment Industry Association of Korea which sponsored the exhibition and the visitors to it said that the units which had previously produced only some forms of clothes in dark colours brought about fundamental changes with the women's clothes shows and garment exhibitions held in recent years as an occasion.

Also on display there were clothes designs and bags, hats, brooches and other luxury goods.

During the exhibition divided into sections of design, manufacture and display, the beauty of form, qualitative improvement of exhibits and display and service levels were evaluated.

Powerful political and military muscle symbol of national dignity and strength

By O Chol Yong

The possession of great military capability is an inevitable course of struggle and an essential historic task which must be chosen to defend the destiny of the country and nation.

The DPRK's cause of achieving the comprehensive national rejuvenation and promoting the people's well-being is just, but it is confronted with the vicious challenges of the most hostile and threatening enemy states and mounting war crises.

Following last year when the US nuclear submarine and nuclear strategic bomber entered the ROK area after decades and the area was overheated with nuclear war games, the hostile forces have continued to increase the acts of military provocation against the DPRK from the beginning of this year. This vicious cycle has further endangered the security of the DPRK.

The unstable reality

urgently requires that it further accelerate the buildup of its national defence capabilities.

The situations prevailing in Ukraine and the Gaza Strip give a warning to every nation.

The present-day world, in which sovereignty and territory of countries are mercilessly violated and bloodshed has become a commonplace due to the imperialists' hegemony-seeking policy and outrageous moves for aggression, once again confirms that only the strength great enough to defend a country by itself without depending on that of outsiders is genuine peace and the absolute guarantee for national development.

Only the overwhelming counterforce can control and manage the political and military situation in the region independently and proactively and prevent the danger of outbreak of a nuclear war on the global scale beyond the Korean

peninsula.

For this reason, the DPRK has directed all efforts to bolstering up the greatest capabilities for self-defence despite the worst difficulties. In the course of it, the ultimate weaponry of dignity and advanced military hardware for defending national sovereignty, called with Juche, were born.

The absolute might of the DPRK that no aggressor forces dare provoke and which can chastise them for any military provocation with rapid counteraction has now become the symbol of the dignity and strength of the DPRK people.

The advanced military hardware the DPRK possesses as a world military power and the continued updating of the weapons and the demonstrations of its powerful absolute might break the will of the aggressor forces boasting of "superiority in strength" to fight a war and frighten them so much that they do not dare

to use armed forces.

The decades-long peace the DPRK has kept on the Korean peninsula, the world's most sensitive hotspot caused by the constantly escalating tension, proves that only peace maintained by the great strength that can control and contain the enemy is reliable, safe and durable and it provides a lasting guarantee for the security and future of the country and its people.

Strength a country built by itself is the only guarantee for controlling the enemy and defending itself, and only when the overwhelming armed forces are steadily consolidated, can the national sovereignty and security be perfectly defended.

So long as tyrannical imperialism remains on the earth and nuclear threat by the hostile forces continues, there will never be any cessation and setback in the course of enhancing the nuclear war deterrent of the DPRK and its advance is irreversible.

Crimes should be punished

By Choe Song Jun PT

The international community is raising voice against Israel for being hell-bent on mass killing under the patronage and protection of the United States.

The 58th session of the UN Human Rights Council held on April 2 adopted a resolution to demand Israel that it prevent massacre in the Gaza Strip.

The resolution denounced Israel for deliberately hindering the supply of relief materials and intercepting the supply of vital necessities of civilians, including food, drinking water, electricity, fuel and mobile communication means, while using poverty as a means of war in Gaza and unreasonably rejecting humanitarian approach. It called on the UN General Assembly to establish a "just and independent international system" for investigating and punishing those who are responsible for the "heinous criminal acts" committed during the dispute.

On April 7, the Israeli ambassador to Ethiopia was expelled from the conference hall of the headquarters of the African Union.

This was not the first time for Israeli diplomats including ambassador to be expelled from the African Union meeting. In February 2023, an Israeli delegation was banished from the venue of the opening ceremony of the AU summit held in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia.

Israel, which had sought an observer status of the AU in order to exercise its influence on Palestine in recent years, secured it in 2021. But as it violated the term of qualification as an observer and occupied the Palestinian territory to commit manslaughter, Israel lost its observer status according to a decision of the African countries.

It is a natural result for Israel to be the butt of criticism from all countries as it is a destroyer of Middle East peace and bloodthirsty murderer.

The international community hopes for an immediate end to the Gaza crisis which has lasted for one and a half years, but Israel abrogated ceasefire which has barely been maintained and resumed massacre. It has blocked the shipment of humanitarian materials into the Gaza Strip and openly violated the obligation for observing the agreement on the pretext of eradicating the source of income of Hamas.

According to the local public health authorities of Palestine on April 15, more than 51 000 Palestinians had been killed and 116 300 others wounded by Israel since October 2023.

The Gaza crisis is not a fight between the two armed forces but just a bloodbath the Israeli troops commit against civilians.

The murderers deserve curse and denunciation by the international community.

'Midwives: Critical in Every Crisis'

May 5 is the International Day of Midwife.

Marking the day every year, the International Confederation of Midwives sets a theme underlining the important role of midwives in protecting the lives and health of pregnant women, nursing mothers and newborn babies and recommends that a variety of activities are conducted to congratulate and encourage midwives in their medical activities and arouse social interest in them.

At present, natural disasters are on the increase every year in all parts of the world due to global warming and the consequent climatic changes. In case of such disasters, it is none other than midwives that play a responsible and important role in ensuring uninterrupted antenatal care of pregnant women and delivering them of healthy

babies through safe delivery care.

However, hundreds of thousands of pregnant women and millions of newborn babies are dying across the world as they fail to get birth attendance by skilled health personnel. The United Nations Population Fund and other international organizations recommend that all the countries reduce the maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 deaths per 100 000 live births, eradicate preventable newborn deaths and decrease the newborn mortality to at least 12 deaths per 1 000 live births in the corresponding year by 2030.

Today, the lives of millions of pregnant women in disaster-hit and disputed areas are under threat as they are delivered of babies in insecure facilities with uneasiness and in pain.

Therefore, the International

Confederation of Midwives set the theme for this year's International Day of Midwife as "Midwives: Critical in Every Crisis" and called for positively putting forward midwives so that they can deliver antenatal, delivery and postnatal care and newborn care and resuscitation in a responsible manner in the event of any disaster and for increasing social interest.

The DPRK orients all the state policies to promoting the people's welfare.

A record downpour caused a serious crisis in the northern border areas of the country in July last year. In particular, more than 5 000 inhabitants were isolated in the zones vulnerable to flooding in the island areas of the city of Sinuiju and Uiju County of North Phyongan Province. However, all the inhabitants were rescued successfully thanks to immediate and

powerful relief operations. And children, women including parturients and nursing mothers, aged people and honoured disabled soldiers were invited to Pyongyang as special guests to be provided with best living conditions.

During their 130 days of stay in Pyongyang, some women had safe birth attendance and gave easy birth to precious sons.

Upholding the policies of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state which take full charge and care of the people's lives and health, midwives, like other public health workers, are performing their work in a responsible way with pride in and attachment to their occupation.

Yu Hyang Suk, *chief of the Department of Women's Health Care at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital*

BYWORD

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Football coaches among top 10 coaches of the DPRK in 2024



Ri Song Ho

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Coach proves his ability

Ri Song Ho, who was selected as one of top ten coaches of the DPRK for 2024, is a coach of the Wolmido Football Team.

He spent his playing career

at the Rimyongsu Sports Club and has worked as a coach at the Wolmido Football Team since 2002 after graduating from Korea University of Physical Education.

He led his team to victory in several domestic games while working as a women's football coach for more than 20 years.

His team lifted the winner's trophy in 2015 for the first time and recorded five consecutive wins in domestic games between 2017 and 2018.

So, Ri was widely known as one of competent coaches among soccer experts and

fans at home.

His ability was also proved in international competitions beyond domestic events.

The DPRK women's football team led by Ri Song Ho won both the 2024 AFC U-20 Women's Asian Cup and 2024 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup finals.

Coach attains his goal

Song Sung Gwon is one of the sportspersons who left an indelible mark in the history of development of the DPRK women's football.

As a coach, he contributed to the DPRK team's winning

victory in the 2008 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup finals and the then 2017 AFC U-16 women's championships.

In particular, he coached the DPRK women's football team under 17 to lift two trophies in the Asian and World Cup finals in 2024, attaining his goal to gain Asian and world supremacy again in the age group.

The DPRK team led by Song earned lavish praise for its ability in the world football circles.

FIFA said that players of the DPRK team were very good at applying tactics, outstanding in individual

ability and in good harmony with each other and that each player fulfilled their responsibility and fully implemented the tactical intention of their coach in matches. It is not an easy job to possess these qualities, it added.

"It was a hard final match. We played the match with great intensity. We have not much played such a fierce game. They pressed hard on us without giving us a breathing spell and this tactic exhausted us. It was really hard for us to play for 90 minutes like this. We directly experienced how strong the DPRK team was,"



Song Sung Gwon

said Spanish players, who lost the chance to become the first three-time World Cup winning team as they were defeated by the DPRK team in the final match.

Song Sung Gwon is Merited Athlete and chief coach of the Naegohyang Women's Football Team.

DPRK players win eight gold medals in Second Asian Karate Championships and Cup

KCNA

DPRK players returned home after taking part in the Second Asian Karate Championships and Cup held in Kazakhstan.

The championships brought together more than 500 men and women players selected from 18 countries and regions including the DPRK, Russia and Kyrgyzstan.

DPRK players bagged eight gold, one silver and one bronze medals.

Kim Rim Song and Pak Su Jong were placed first in the men's and women's individual pattern and sparring matches and Han Tae Hyok and Jong Won Bom in the men's individual sparring matches respectively.

The players who returned home after glorifying the honour of the country were warmly greeted by officials of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, sportspersons and their families at Pyongyang International Airport on April 26.

Canoeing competition held



The 2025 Kalmaegi Cup canoeing competition takes place on the Taedong River in Pyongyang amid great interest of experts and fans.
RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The 2025 Kalmaegi (sea gull) Cup canoeing competition was held from April 23 to May 1 on the Taedong River in Pyongyang.

The competition added colour to the Taedong River, where the general service-ship *Mujigae*, the floating restaurant *Taedonggang* and sightseeing boats are cruising around against the backdrop of the Tower of the Juche Idea.

Attended by players of the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport and Piryugang sports clubs and Central Sports School, among other sports clubs, it included canoeing singles and pairs 1 000m, 500m and 200m events, canoeing mixed pairs 500m event, kayaking singles, pairs and fours 1 000m, 500m and 200m events and dragon boat 200m event.

As the starting pistol was fired, the players paddled their boats dynamically while the

spectators shouted in time to their paddling and encouraged them with enthusiastic cheers as they reached the finish line.

In the competition, players of the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport sports club collected gold medals in almost all events.

Professionals and fans commented that the cooperation between the club's players was very effective throughout the games.

The most popular of

the events was kayaking fours.

Even though they made a later start, the players of the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport never got flurried but breathed as one and moved in concert with each other to cross the finish line before others.

The nine-day competition held amid the interest of many professionals and fans ended with the dragon boat 200m event and relevant prizes were awarded to successful players.

Jangsusan Fort

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The Jangsusan Fort in the boundary between Jaeryong and Sinwon counties in South Hwanghae Province was built in the period of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668).

The fort is about 10.5km in circumference.

It was designed to consist of the keep and outer castle by blocking the basin and the valley with the cliff west of a pond at the bottom of a waterfall as a boundary.

The walls were erected into

those with a single side or two sides by trimming the stones abundant in the mountain. The lower part of some sections was built in tiers.

The fort has six gates in all, that is, Nam (south), Puk (north) and Tong (east) gates at the outer castle, and Nam, So (west) and Puk gates at the keep.

The Nam Gate of the outer castle, the main gate of the fort, is located at a valley in the southeast corner of Mt Jangsu, where Mt Big Jangsu and Mt Small Jangsu join.

