

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un convenes meeting of commanding officers of divisions and brigades of entire army and meets them

He advances policy of readjusting training system and intensifying practical training in keeping with changing aspects of modern warfare and trend of development of KPA

KCNA

The respected Comrade 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, convened a meeting of the commanding officers of the divisions and brigades of the entire army on May 17 and met them.

Present there were Ri Yong Gil, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, and Pak Jong Chon, advisor to the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK.

The commanding officers were filled with great excitement as they were to meet Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un at the sacred headquarters building of the Party Central Committee which the KPA service personnel have always cherished in their minds at every post in the sky, ground and sea of the country.

When Comrade Kim Jong Un



appeared, the commanding officers broke into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" looking up to the outstanding leader of the revolution who is dynamically guiding the inexhaustible build-up and development of the army to glory and victory with his distinguished commanding philosophy and art of leadership.

Highly appreciating the extraordinary

services of the commanding officers who are leading the combined units while devoting their sincere efforts to the country and the people, he warmly encouraged them.

He met the commanding officers of the combined units at all levels of the entire army and had a talk with them on a series of important military issues.

Stressing that the commanders of the combined units have very important duties, he said that the historic assignment to develop the KPA into the strongest army in the world has been entrusted just to the division and brigade commanders. And he referred to the main orientation in carrying out the military and political tasks at present.

Reiterating that the training for perfecting combat readiness is the main task of the army, he advanced a policy of readjusting the training system and intensifying practical training in keeping with the changing aspects of modern warfare and the trend of the development of the KPA.

Pointing out that an institutional measure would be taken for updating the army in terms of military organization and military technology in the future, he stressed that the responsibility and

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role of the commanding officers are very important in correctly implementing it.

He referred to the need to step up also the projects for defining afresh the concept of operations in all spheres in keeping with the rapid modernization of the military and technical equipment of the KPA and for applying it to the combat training of the units.

Mentioning the Party's policy of territorial defence on strengthening the first-line units guarding the southern border and turning the border line into an impregnable fortress, he unveiled a plan for restructuring military organizations and strengthening the first-line units and other major units in military and technological aspects, which would be

implemented as an important decision for more thoroughly deterring war.

Briefing on the prospect of modernization of the KPA and progress in military and technical equipment, Comrade Kim Jong Un affirmed:

We are building a powerful army. As already clarified, when the tasks for the period of the five-year plan are carried out, the preparedness of the KPA's strategic action will be upgraded more than at present and a great change will be made in terms of war deterrence.

He stressed that the commanding officers of the entire army and its units at all levels should keep raising their class awareness and hostility toward the archenemy and stay faithful to their sacred duty of defending national sovereignty while always remaining on

full alert.

Saying that the KPA should defend the country by dint of its ideology and faith, before physical strength, and that the ideology and faith are the one and only secret behind the combat capability of the KPA which can exceed the limit of physical strength, he added that the army should continue to carry forward its tradition of overwhelming the enemy on the strength of ideology and faith by steadily waging the ideological revolution with firm belief in its cause and that only then can the KPA reliably maintain its honour and position as the strongest army in the world.

The expectations of our Party and people in the KPA commanding officers are very high, he said, hoping that they would remain faithful to their sacred

duty, bearing deep in mind the heavy responsibility for their mission, whether they are appreciated or not.

That day, Comrade Kim Jong Un had a photo taken with the commanders of the combined units of the entire army in the yard of the building of the Party Central Committee.

The commanders of the KPA combined units at all levels, who were honoured to meet the great brilliant commander and receive the great trust and glory from him, vowed to cherish his important teachings as the coordinates of struggle and remain boundlessly faithful to the important mission and duty they have assumed for the Party and the revolution and thus fully demonstrate the honour of the KPA commanding officers in the most glorious and strongest era led by him.

Meetings held to start relay of letters of loyalty of KCU members to respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un

KCNA

Kick-off meetings of the relay teams of members of the Korean Children's Union (KCU) carrying letters of loyalty to the

respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un took place in all provinces of the DPRK on May 20 on the occasion of the 80th founding anniversary of the KCU.

Present there were senior

officials of Party and power organs, officials concerned, officials of the youth league and KCU members in the relevant regions.

Read out at the meetings were the letters reflecting

the loyalty of all the KCU members to prepare themselves to be true sons and daughters boundlessly loyal to the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un and competent revolutionary

talents adding glory to socialist Korea.

The letters of loyalty to the respected fatherly Marshal were conveyed to the relay teams.

Then followed oath-taking

speeches.

At the end of the meetings, the relay teams left for Pyongyang amid the warm send-off by officials, working people and schoolchildren.



Meetings take place in provinces on May 20 to start the relay of letters of loyalty on the occasion of the 80th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union.

Musan Mining Complex carries out big blasting successfully

KCNA

The Musan Mining Complex successfully blasted 1.2 million cubic metres of earth after the two rounds of blasting this year.

The successful blasting on May 20 opened up a bright prospect for supplying much more concentrated iron ore to iron production bases in the metal industry sector of the country.



NEWS IN BRIEF

KCNA

Birthday spread sent to centenarian

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to Kim Sung Ju, a woman living in Neighbourhood Unit No. 5 of Paeksa-dong, Sinuiju City, North Phyongan Province, on her 100th birthday.

Deeply moved by the Workers' Party of Korea's loving care, the centenarian expressed her boundless gratitude to the respected Marshal Kim Jong Un.

Her house was in a festive mood as officials of the Sinuiju City Party committee, relatives and villagers came to congratulate her family on their auspicious event.

She is respected by everyone as she brought up her children to be faithful to the country and has striven

to do good things for the country even after becoming a pensioner.

Rice-transplanting in full swing at farms in North Hwanghae Province

The agricultural workers in North Hwanghae Province are concentrating all their efforts on rice-transplanting.

The farms in the province are raising the operation rate of rice-transplanting machines while rationally allocating manpower and means and giving precedence to irrigation of paddy fields and harrowing.

After growing healthy rice seedlings despite unfavourable weather conditions, they scientifically distribute rice varieties according to the plots of fields to suit the growth characteristics of rice seedlings and carry out their plans according to schedule without fail.

They are ensuring the number of rice plants per phyong while strengthening cooperation between sub-workteams and workteams.

The volunteer helpers are fulfilling their assigned tasks to help the farms.

Construction of solar power plants stepped up

Solar power plants are being built in different parts of the DPRK.

Ryanggang Province set up a solar power plant with a capacity of thousands of kilowatts in the area of Phabal-ri of Kim Hyong Gwon County.

Haeju City of South Hwanghae Province built a solar power plant with a capacity of 10 000 kilowatts.

In Pyongyang Municipality solar power plants were built in three areas last year, and the work to increase the production of electricity by making effective use of solar energy is widely encouraged in all districts and counties this year, too.

South Hamgyong Province built the Soho and Tonghung solar power plants and a grid parallel solar power plant on the banks of the River Songchon.

South Phyongan Province is working to establish a solar power generation system with a capacity of thousands of kilowatts on the basis of experience, technology and economic effectiveness gained in the course of operating the solar power plant in the River Phyongsong.

North Hwanghae and North Hamgyong provinces and other regions of the country also work to increase the solar power generation capacity.

South Hwanghae provincial delegation leaves for Russia

A South Hwanghae provincial delegation of the DPRK led by An Myong Jun, chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, left Pyongyang on May 20 to visit Russia.

First-stage construction of Tanchon Power Station completed



A ceremony takes place on May 18 to inaugurate the first stage construction of the Tanchon Power Station.

KCNA

The first-stage construction of the Tanchon Power Station, which is of great significance in the development of the country's electric power industry, has been successfully completed.

The completion of the great power generation base is a striking demonstration of the inexhaustible potentials of the DPRK which is stepping up the overall development of Korean-style socialism with confidence in sure victory under the leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

A ceremony for inaugurating the first stage of the Tanchon Power Station took place on the spot on May 18.

Present there were Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, other senior Party and government officials, officials of the command team of the Tanchon Power

Station Construction Division and relevant units, officials and working people in Hochon County, soldiers and civilians involved in the construction and employees of the power station.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Premier Pak Thae Song addressed the ceremony.

Saying that the first-stage projects of the Tanchon Power Station which will play a big role in increasing the potential of the independent power industry are the valuable wealth created by the pure conscience and devoted efforts of the genuine patriots of the present era who pride themselves on the contemporary toil with boundless enthusiasm, he, upon authorization of the WPK Central Committee and the DPRK government, offered warm congratulations and thanks to the soldier builders, shock brigade members and commanding officers who created the proud structure with steadfast revolutionary consciousness and through a heroic struggle and thereby added a spur to the construction revolution in the new era.

With the completion of Tanchon Power Station Units 1, 5 and 6, a remarkable success was made in the largest-scale hydropower resources development project for redirecting the courses of several rivers and streams to the East Sea and valuable experience was accumulated, making it possible to push forward with the power station construction with greater confidence in the future, he said.

Like such important affairs as those of raising the key industrial sectors of the national economy up to the advanced level, changing the grain production structure of the country and bringing about epochal changes in the rural communities, the construction of the Tanchon Power Station was also one of the huge undertakings which could not be easily decided on, he said.

The start of the unprecedentedly grand nature-remaking project in the adverse circumstances at the time was a revolution that can be made only by the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un, who has a strong patriotic will and

tremendous courage to take upon himself all the tasks for the prosperity of the country and the well-being of the people and make them a reality, he noted.

There were countless difficulties in the way of power station construction, but the outstanding ideas and leadership of the respected General Secretary served as a source of tremendous strength to overcome all of them and bring about changes, he noted.

These gigantic structures could rise up in the midst of the large and ambitious construction projects being undertaken across the country thanks to the energetic leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un, who repeatedly stressed the importance and significance of the construction of the Tanchon Power Station at major meetings of the Party and the state and on several other occasions, took revolutionary measures one after another and instructed officials in detail to build the dwelling houses for the employees of the power station perfectly before its completion, he said.

He stressed the need for the construction division of the Tanchon Power Station to give fuller play to the character of making continuous innovations and leaps forward full of the steady pioneering and indomitable offensive spirit in attaining the new goals set forth by the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

He said that all the brigades which entered into the second-stage construction are overfulfilling their daily assignments in the heightened fighting spirit, adding to the confidence that the construction of the huge power station can be surely completed ahead of schedule. He called on them to reinforce themselves with efficient construction equipment and further raise the level of specialization in the construction of hydraulic structures on the basis of the experience gained and lessons drawn in the first-stage construction and thus successfully complete all the construction projects as edifices of eternal value.

He noted that the officials and producers in the relevant

units should boldly apply advanced science and technology with a global vision and ensure the highest quality in the production and assembly of generating equipment so that the Tanchon Power Station can become a reliable power base of the country which firmly guarantees and leads the long-term development of the national economy both in name and reality.

Expressing belief that all the builders would complete the power station by more vigorously turning out with the high pride of having written a new brilliant page in the country's history of hydropower station construction, he declared the completion of the first stage of the Tanchon Power Station.

The premier cut the inauguration tape.

Following the ceremony, an art performance was given in congratulation of the builders of the power station and fireworks were displayed to add joy to the inauguration.

The participants went round Tanchon Power Station Units 1 and 5, dams and dwelling houses of employees.



We are Koreans

The Korean people opened up a new era of the comprehensive development of socialism, resolutely overcoming all sorts of challenges and difficulties.

It is the proud reality born of the indefatigable mental strength and brave spirit of Koreans who are determined to realize all their dreams and ideals without fail.

It is their unanimous intention and will to be proud and honourable before the call “We Are Koreans”.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Pluck of Sangwon

Workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex, a leading cement producer of the DPRK, have an unusual disposition and grit, with which they carry out any uphill task without fail, if it is the demand of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Last year, the complex was tasked with additionally producing cement ten times more than the increased output in 2024.

The clinker production capacity of the complex was limited at that time.

Given that clinker output is precisely cement output, it was believed that before expanding the clinker production capacity, increased production of cement was impossible.

However, the manager and other working people of Sangwon were determined to carry out the increased production assignment without fail, keenly aware that the complex should rise to the occasion once again in

order to implement the noble intention of the Party never to delay the construction projects welcomed by the people and directly linked with their life.

It is not the style of work of Sangwon to consider the feasibility first. The whole complex turned out to find out new reserves and ways in the spirit that they should carry out their assignment without condition.

The employees came up with hundreds of new proposals and methods for increasing cement production. In the course of their increased production efforts, they replaced the supporting rollers of kiln No. 1 in only one day, which was believed to take over 10 days.

Through such bold, proactive and sustained efforts, the complex attained the increased cement production goal for 2025, true to the pledge it made to the Party.

The workers of Sangwon are

filled with the pride of being Koreans, who do not know the word impossible, as they have made only miraculous achievements with the bold creative spirit and tremendous courage in their efforts to increase cement production, although it seemed impossible to do so with only economic calculation.

That is why the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un paid a congratulatory visit to the Sangwon Cement Complex before other units after the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea last March and made the encouraging remarks as follows:

“The soaring patriotic enthusiasm and mettle for increased production, which the Sangwon workers display in making continuous innovation and advance, will constitute an absolute support for our Party's ideology and cause, and this will be a torch inspiring the whole country to a heroic struggle.”

The pluck of Sangwon is the indomitable spirit of doing any daunting task without fail, if it is the desire of the Party and if the country

and the revolution demand it, and the courage of the Korean workers to give full play to the great spiritual strength and wisdom of the

Koreans in the new struggle for bringing the beloved country eternal glory and fulfilling the people's long-cherished desire.

To live up to honour of Korean scientist

“The path of science is far and rough,” said

Im Song Jin, candidate academician, professor, PhD and section chief of the Physics Faculty of Kim Il Sung University. “Whenever I felt exhausted, the consciousness that I should live up to the honour of being a Korean scientist encouraged me to make more strenuous efforts.”

Im is a scientist of established reputation at home and abroad.

He was inscribed as a scholar representing the DPRK in Marquis Who's Who in 2018 and 2019. And he and his research team were awarded the February 16 Science and Technology Prize twice and won the first Natural Science Prize of the

country.

He pioneered a cutting-edge field with the pride of being a Korean and a scientist of the nation.

When he took part in a research programme in a European country over ten years ago, he was lost in deep thought.

He was worried if he, a researcher in his early thirties of Kim Il Sung University with just a three-year career, could possibly defend the honour of the country in the contest with the world as he had to compete with the world's first-rate scholars in a world-renowned institute.

Moreover, the nonlinear optics which was exclusively studied at the institute was an ultra-modern science and an unknown field in the DPRK at that time.

It was literally an untrodden path, but Im was determined to show the mettle of a Korean with excellent research achievements.

Though he racked his brains and worked hard under the pressure of time, the prospects of his work got dimmer and his body and mind got exhausted, and so he felt like returning to the homeland.

However, he was convinced that he could never step back at the thought that he was not just an individual but a citizen of the DPRK who got the doctorate in his twenties and the world's leading scholars who gathered at the institute would see the DPRK through him.

“If no one had done that before, I, a Korean scientist, must do it without fail. I will show that nothing is impossible to the Korean people,” he thought and, with such courage, he made a breakthrough in his research.

When he achieved a series

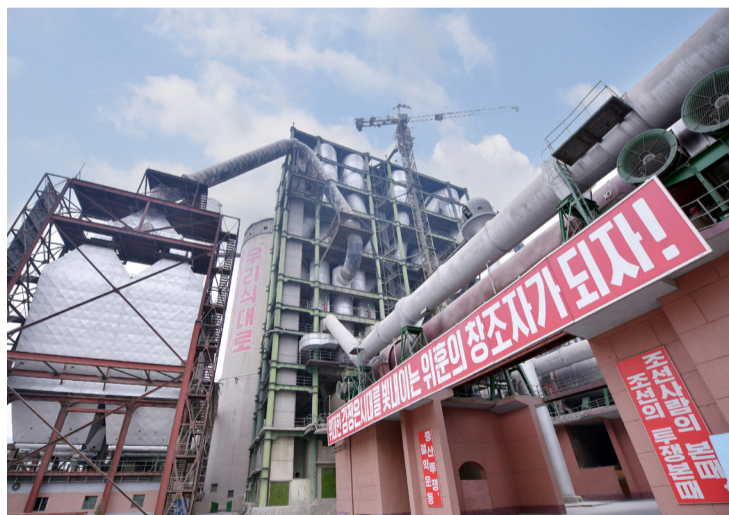
of cutting-edge research hits and published several study papers in international scientific journals in a little over a year, what filled his mind was not the delight of success but the pride of having finally defended the dignity of Korean people and the honour of a scientist.

“I have worked in joint research programmes with doctors from different countries for decades, but I've never seen such a scholar who achieved such a remarkable success in such a short time,” said a renowned European scholar on the day of Im's return, adding that the young doctor of the DPRK was really talented and the level of science and education of the country was really high.

Later, Im boldly took on the research into nonlinear optical phenomena in nanostructures, a field of cutting-edge basic science in which a hot competition is going on among world-class universities, and made a surprising result.

Many scholars of the world came to know about his scientific achievements through international scientific journals.

“All my honour, pride and happiness was given by the motherland. Growing stronger with each passing day is my patriotic desire to repay the benevolence of the country with great achievements. My ambition is to demonstrate the honour of Kim Il Sung University and the dignity and self-respect of the country to the whole world on the road of exploring the unknown world of cutting-edge science by challenging the world, competing with and leading it,” said Im.



The Sangwon Cement Complex overfulfills its cement production plan every month through a vigorous drive for increased production and creation.

Great heyday of Juche-oriented architecture unfolds in new era



Some of the distinctive buildings in the Hwasong area.

By Kil Chung Il PT

Construction is in its great heyday in the DPRK.

Its true meaning and value lie not only in the speed, scale, advancement and modernity of construction but also in that the people-first principle is fully embodied in every structure.

The architectural ideal of the Workers' Party of Korea based on the people-first principle requires that the construction of dwelling houses directly linked to the people's living be carried out at the highest level in any unfavourable conditions and circumstances by adopting it as the most important task of the Party and the government.

Saying that socialism should be built in the minds of the people first and housing is the matter of their greatest concern, the

respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un ensured that the housing construction was carried out without fail, regarding it as the core of the construction policy set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK.

The office buildings of Party and government organs in the Hwasong area in Pyongyang, which is turning into an urban administrative district, rose up only when the fourth round of house-moving was in full swing. This is one of the many facts which help people have a clear understanding of the people-first ideal of architecture of the Party.

The historic Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK set the grand goals and fighting tasks for the rapid development of the rural areas as the country entered the period of overall

development of socialist construction with the Eighth Congress of the WPK as a turning point.

The WPK adopted the transformation of the appearance and environment of the rural communities as the most important task in socialist rural construction, a popular undertaking desired and hailed by all the people and the political affair of presenting a new rural civilization in the present era and opening up a new world in which the rural communities undergo sweeping changes, and energetically led the efforts to realize it.

Last year alone, modern houses for over 32 000 families were newly built in various structures and styles across the country and agricultural workers moved into them.

The people-first ideal of architecture of the Party also finds expression in the

fact that many buildings for the people are springing up across the country.

The Pyongyang General Hospital, the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District, large vegetable production bases and the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory are part of the creations of the Juche-oriented architecture which sprang up at the excellent places chosen by the respected General Secretary.

Many other monumental structures have been built to bring the people greater joy and happiness, including the Mirim Riding Club, the Masikryong Ski Resort, apartment houses for educators of Kim Chaek University of Technology, Pyongyang Taedonggang Seafood Restaurant, Pyongyang Baby Home and Pyongyang Orphanage.

The people-first architectural ideal of

the Party also requires ensuring aesthetic beauty and convenience to meet the improving thoughts and feelings and the rising demands of the people.

It is the standard of architectural creation defined by the General Secretary that structures attaining the highest level of civilization should be built by looking far ahead into the future though it is hard and difficult at present.

The dwelling houses in Kyongru-dong, which was built as a model of modern terraced houses district, new streets in the Hwasong area, which show fresh developments in the aspects of modernity, utility and aesthetic beauty each year, newly-built rural villages across the country, new regional-industry factories, leisure complexes and city and county hospitals are the identities showing what

kind of civilization the WPK intends to provide the people is.

The common people have become the masters of such wonderful flourishing living spaces, which draw the admiration of all people, and posh houses built by the country with enormous investments are supplied to the working people free of charge.

At the inauguration ceremony of 10 000 flats at the fourth stage in the Hwasong area to complete the five-year plan for the construction of the capital city, General Secretary Kim Jong Un said that the newly-built Hwasong area looks so beautiful for the majestic appearance of large architectural groups embodying the advanced civilization and, more importantly, as it reflects the genuine happiness and bright images of the people.

May 21 architectural festival held

By Kim Il Jin PT

The 23rd May 21 Architectural Festival took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang between May 12 and 15 under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of the Architects Union of Korea.

On display at the festival on the theme of "Comprehensive development of socialism to higher stage and Juche-oriented architecture" were 580-odd multi-dimensional formation plans, dozens of pieces of construction equipment and tools and more than 90 pieces of successes in introducing the architectural information modelling technology, which were selected at provincial (municipal) festivals.

The festival was divided into categories of multi-

dimensional formation plans, architectural information modelling technology introduction, construction equipment and tools and drawing competition, and judgment was made through expert examination and public evaluation.

According to Jang Il Ju, staffer of the AUK Central Committee, the festival was characterized by the fact that formation plans conducive to the development of rural areas and regional industry held a large proportion.

Many of them were for dwelling houses and public and industrial buildings. In particular, those for rural houses and regional-industry factories were novel in mood.

Experts hailed a design for a rural apartment house which allows the use of efficient and environment-friendly energy

including heating by solar and geothermal energy and maintenance of temperature by dint of insulating windows and lags.

Green architectural environment, energy-saving and integrated offices and production systems and others which proved effective in practice were applied to the layouts for regional-industry factories. They drew the attention of visitors as production buildings were arranged in a concentrated way and designed as land-saving ones while ensuring overall unity of architectural mood in keeping with the mission of each building.

The structural information modelling design for a rural house building "Progress", presented by Rason Municipality, was highly appreciated as it helps improve

the work efficiency and accuracy in structural design while avoiding incompatibility between architectural and structural designs, repeated work and manual calculation.

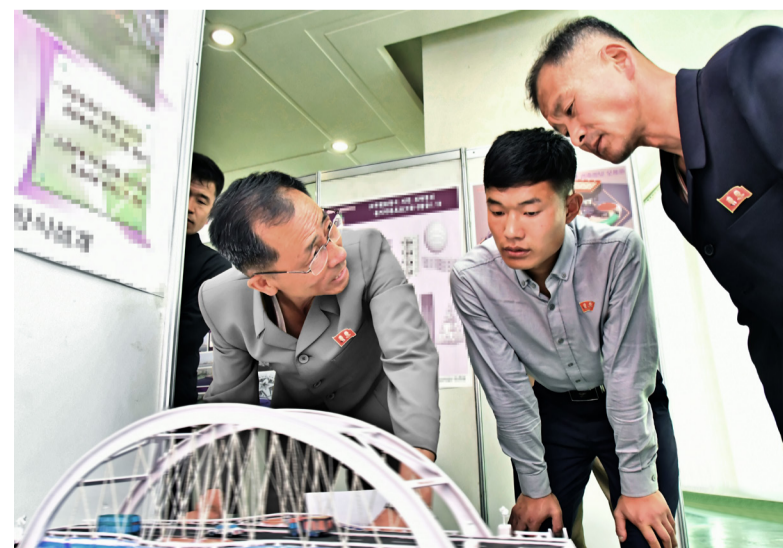
Visitors showed deep

interest in a small jig for carrying materials, vibrating wall grinder, automatic no-load breaker, hydraulic bar cutter and other construction equipment and tools.

During the festival,

there were also a drawing competition, video show, presentation of experience gained in designing and the dissemination and exchange of latest architectural sci-tech data.

Visitors show keen interest in a miniature exhibited at the 23rd May 21 Architectural Festival. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



6 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Local enterprises active in developing new products

By Choe Song Jun PT

Regional-industry factories in different parts of the DPRK are concentrating their efforts on the development of new products.

The Songchon County Foodstuff Factory works to develop more varieties of foods by processing Songchon chestnut, a famous speciality of the area, and produce a larger quantity of them. It frequently organizes a prize contest for the development of new products and positively introduces feasible ideas and proposals into production.

The Kusong City Daily Necessities Factory organized a team for developing new products with competent technicians. They actively introduce sci-tech achievements to increase the variety of new products favoured by people. The Kusong City Foodstuff Factory steadily increases the variety of products using various wild fruits. Its new products include syrups made of the fruits of *Schizandra chinensis* and *Crataegus pinnatifida*, *Actinidia*

arguta fruit jam and sour wild grape drink. New knitwear products from the Kusong City Garment Factory are favoured by customers for their good styles and high quality.

The Yonthan County Foodstuff Factory produces sour drink and jam with the fruit of black chokeberry, a local speciality, by giving full play to the creativity of technicians and consolidating the material and technical foundations of its raw materials base.

The regional-industry factories in Unpha County have conducted a vigorous mass technical innovation drive with main emphasis

put on lowering costs and expanding varieties, and increased the variety of foodstuffs, furniture pieces and garments through collective discussions and painstaking research.

Jangphung County produces various health foods using ginger and fruits of toothache tree widely cultivated in the area.

Amid a brisk campaign to develop new products, many foodstuffs from city and county foodstuff factories, especially those in Jaeryong, Sinyang and Kimhwa counties, were highly appreciated at the national foodstuff exhibition-2026 held last April.



New products favoured by regional people increase at the Pukchang County Daily Necessities Factory.

Ranks of technicians, skilled workers built up at new regional-industry factories

By Ri Sang Il PT

At the 19th Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un clarified in detail the problem of training technicians and skilled workers needed for the operation of the factories in a far-sighted way to implement the Regional Development 20x10 Policy, as well as the problems of setting the proper size and production capacity of regional-industry factories and creating raw materials bases.

Under the unified guidance of the state, a well-regulated system was established in the capital and regional areas to train technical personnel in a specialized and systematic way.

As a result, the effort for training the core forces steering the normalization of production and the improvement of quality was pushed forward along with the construction of modern regional-industry factories.

In 2024, technical training courses were organized on a nationwide scale for thousands of employees of regional-industry factories to be newly

built in 20 cities and counties just after their groundbreaking.

From April to December 2024 alone, dozens of technical training courses for different occupations were given at light industry factories in Pyongyang and regions to train technicians and skilled workers of the foodstuff, daily necessities and garment sectors.

Therefore, 52 percent of the total employees of the regional-industry factories in 20 cities and counties became excellent technicians and skilled workers, and strong forces of technical personnel capable of steering the operation of the factories were already prepared within the year when the implementation of the regional development policy was announced.

Based on a detailed analysis of the state of technical personnel training for regional-industry factories, the Party took more effective measures to make sure that the technical training courses became important processes for training talents who are well versed in their factories, occupations and machines and who have mastered advanced science and technology.

In 2025, the technical trainees received theoretical lectures

and technical courses at central light industry factories and were rationally appointed to modern regional-industry factories that produce quality light industrial goods to receive further training. Therefore, another leap forward was made in the quality of the effort for training technical personnel.

Thus, in the second year of the implementation of the regional development policy, over 60 percent of the employees of new regional-industry factories entered the ranks of technical personnel.

The newly-built regional-industry factories have gradually perfected well-regulated systems for training technicians and skilled workers by exploring and applying rational ways suited to their actual conditions.

As the vitality of the study-while-you-work system is given full play to, many employees of regional-industry factories enrolled at the online education system to learn extensive and versatile knowledge.

In many regions, the educational conditions and environment of vocational schools have been improved to give a great impetus to training technical personnel.

Products of mountain counties spread to other areas

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

“The products of regional-industry factories, that were newly built in mountainous counties according to the Regional Development 20x10 Policy are now finding their way to different parts of the country beyond their areas,” said Kim Chol Nam, a staffer of the Ministry of Regional Industry.

He added that the Workers' Party of Korea intends to make the capital city envy the regions, regional development represent the advance and development of the state and the ideal appearance of the regions become the true appearance of Korean-style socialism and that its intention is being translated into reality.

Products of the mountainous county of Unsan in North Phyongan Province are now spreading to different parts of the country.

Various processed pine nut foods of the Unsan County Foodstuff Factory has widely been known to people in the capital city and other parts of the country since they were presented at different exhibitions held in Pyongyang

last year.

Orders for liquid soaps, shampoos, conditioners, dish detergents, basins, buckets, water pails and various other plastic goods produced by the Unsan County Daily Necessities Factory are also on the increase day by day.

Employees of the Unsan County Garment Factory ensure the full operation of equipment to manufacture uniforms ordered by many units in the province.

Seeing the products of their county getting famous also in other parts of the country, the county people proudly say that the mountain county's civilization is being transferred to cities.

The people in the remote mountain county of Usi in the northern province of Jagang are also proud of their locality.

Production fails to meet the demand for jams made of the fruits of tara vine, pears and apricots, the county's specialities, as it is so high.

The laundry soap with the scent of sponge cucumber and various kinds of plastic pipes, February 2 Products which are produced at the Usi County Daily Necessities Factory, are very popular

in the neighbouring areas including Kophung County.

Products of Tongsin County are also spreading to other parts of the country.

The technical force of the Tongsin County Foodstuff Factory developed a drink with a unique taste and colour with mulberry in keeping with the features of the locality which cultivates mulberry trees in large areas.

Mulberry contains a great deal of nutrients good for health, and the demand for the drink continues to rise.

Kim Hyong Jik County, Ryanggang Province, also works to increase the variety of its specialities.

Visitors to the county regard pumpkin seed oil produced at the county foodstuff factory as the best souvenir as it is very good for health.

The county garment factory produces warm fluffy quilts and wadded baby wrappers, and demands for them are remarkably high.

“Thanks to the regional development policy of the Workers' Party of Korea, an increasing number of regional products will be known to the whole country,” said Kim Chol Nam.



Local specialty foods are produced in large quantities at the Kimhwa County Foodstuff Factory. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Superior strains of crops cultivated

By Kim Il Jin PT

North Hwanghae Province is striving to cultivate superior strains of crops at raw materials bases for the development of regional industry.

The province is putting efforts into building raw materials bases in cities and counties under a far-reaching plan in line with the physiological and economic conditions of the regions. Here, the main stress is put on the cultivation of new strains of crops with high economic value.

Drawing on the experience of Unpha County which made progress in solving the problem of raw materials for sugar by extensively planting sweet potatoes last year, the province ensured that other cities and counties cultivated high-yielding sweet potatoes.

It is encouraging cities and counties to grow good strains of sugar and oil crops that suit their regional characteristics this year, while generalizing the experience of Yonthan County which raised the per-hectare yield of sugar beet.

Kumya County of South Hamgyong Province created forests of good strains of

Evodia daniellii on a large scale to supply the modern regional-industry factories with much more raw materials, which has turned out to be highly beneficial.

Sunchon City of South Phyongan Province directed effort to securing seeds of oil crops needed for the normal production of the regional-industry factories. It has made a great success by ensuring that factories and enterprises and rural villages in the city cultivated oil crops, while giving wide publicity to the oil crop cultivation methods and experience and their economic benefits.

Best inventors in 2025

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Jong Ryong Su, PhD and manager of the Pyongyang Jonghyang Building-materials Factory



international standards. The factory now holds patents for over a dozen kinds of building materials.

At present, the factory has been registered as a national quality test institution and makes a contribution to a large number of construction projects including regional-industry factories by turning out quality building materials. It is unthinkable apart from dozens of kinds of up-to-date analyzing, testing and measuring apparatuses the factory made and secured by its own efforts.

Those equipment and production facilities and a scientific quality control system scientifically ensure high quality indices of building materials. They are permeated with Jong's thinking, inquiry and devotion to create something more and better.

To develop building materials as the best products surpassing others—this is the goal of best inventor Jong.

He made a tangible contribution to diversifying building materials in kind and shape and carrying out the construction policy of the Workers' Party of Korea by developing and producing 30-odd kinds of paints, waterproof materials and concrete additives of high qualitative indices.

Many building materials including functional paints were awarded the December 15 Medal of Quality and its certificate and registered as February 2 Product as their technical specifications reached or surpassed



and operating the mobile communications networks in line with the specific conditions of the country.

He has made painstaking efforts to contribute to the development of the country's mobile communications since he began to work there after graduating from Kim Chaek University of Technology.

During the period, he felt the joy at his first invention after developing a novel idea of accommodating more mobile-phone subscribers than before with the existing

facilities with the same signal processing capacity and suffered the pain of repeated failures in solving a knotty technical problem arising in setting up a next-generation mobile communications network.

Whenever he was depressed, he felt a strong sense of responsibility that unless young intellectuals who acquired advanced science and technology make redoubled and devoted efforts, they would become a technical slave of others in the field of mobile communications which is rapidly developing, forming the mainstream of the future communications on a global scale. It was a great encouragement to him.

He succeeded in designing inventions in succession while producing new ideas and creating new products with national pride and continues to work hard now.

other sectors.

Thus, he made a great contribution not only to the production of nonferrous metals and fertilizer but also to reducing the cost and hastening a variety of reconstruction and construction projects of weighty national significance.

Most of the inventions he has come up so far are proposals which succeeded at once in the projects with very unfavourable

and hard conditions for installation.

The distinctive symbolic tower soaring dozens of metres high and decorative tower fixed on the roofs of skyscrapers on Mirae Scientists Street and Ryomyong Street and the newly-built chimneys and synthetic towers in a smeltery and a chemical complex are associated with his creative thinking, burning passion and tireless efforts.

Kim Pyong Hun, professor, PhD and section chief of Kim Chaek University of Technology



production of electrolyte testers and automatic biochemical analyzers which were imported in the past and achieving as high accuracy of analysis as that of the world's advanced level.

Without analytical study, which plays such an important part as the eyes for the development of science and technology and the eyes and ears of the industry, it is impossible to obtain new materials and furthermore make an effective use of the valuable natural resources of the country. For this reason, experts on analytics should be more conscientious, sincere and honest than anyone else, though they do not have direct access to research findings or creations. This is the true heart and outlook on life of Kim Pyong Hun who has devoted his whole life to research into analytical science.

He came up with 15 inventions for properly and timely solving analytic technological problems arising in different sectors.

In particular, he established a method of conducting a quantitative analysis on a very high level of scandium, one of rare earth elements called "vitamins of industry" in recent years.

Some of his inventions are of great significance in ensuring the domestic

Won Ik Jun, PhD, associate professor and researcher of Pyongyang University of Architecture



He designed 16 valuable inventions including the one which is helpful in solving scientific and technical problems arising in lifting up to high positions, installing and assembling chimneys, synthetic towers, heavy steel towers and other large structures in the metallurgical and chemical industries, construction and several

Mun Chol Hyok, workshop manager of the mobile communications management station under the Ministry of Information Industry

He is a technician in his 30s who came up with several valuable inventions conducive to solving technical problems arising in establishing

Sci-tech and innovation prizes conferred on research findings

By Kim Il Jin PT

At the recent ceremony for awarding the February 16 Science and Technology Prize, Natural Science Prize, Technical Innovation Prize, certificate of the country's best scientist and technician and Best Inventor Prize in 2025, the Natural Science Prize and Technical Innovation Prize were awarded to seven significant projects conducive to the development of science and technology and economic development of the country and the improvement of the people's living standards. Over 60 persons were awarded the certificates of the Natural Science Prize and Technical Innovation Prize.

The Natural Science Prize, an award in the field of scientific research, was awarded to the project related to the meta-material- and nano-structure-based

control and application of the characteristics of light propagation, which was carried out by Prof Kim Kwang Hyon, PhD and researcher of the Physics Institute of the State Academy of Sciences, and other scientists.

Generally, meta-material is an artificial material with physical property which is rare or never exists in the natural world. The scientists made public the research findings which attract worldwide attention as they are related to the design and making of meta-material and nano-structure which is of great significance in developing the field of cutting-edge technologies and thus became the second to win the Natural Science Prize in the country.

The Technical Innovation Prize, an award in the field of technical introduction, went to six projects.

Scientists of Pyongyang

University of Architecture and the silicon material technology development centre of the Kanghung Trading Company under the State Academy of Sciences were awarded the certificates of the prize for carrying out the projects of weighty significance in solving sci-tech problems arising in the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang.

Associate Professor Kim Pong Uk, section chief of the Architectural Science Institute under Pyongyang University of Architecture, and other scientists developed and applied a prefabricated construction method which makes it possible to build an earthquake-proof building without additional monolithic concrete placing on the prefabricated floor slabs while simplifying the assembly of web members in the construction of flats. The method brought huge benefits to the country.

The scientists developed the technology for producing a silicone packaging adhesive agent badly needed for the final process of construction and established the relevant production process, thus ensuring the domestic production of the essential finishing material.

The Munphyong Smeltery established a coke-free lead smelting process based on the completely Korean-style rotary kiln-electric furnace by promoting creative cooperation with Kim Chaek University of Technology.

Technicians of the smeltery, together with scientists of the university, won the certificates of the Technical Innovation Prize for ensuring the use of domestic fuel in the lead smelting process and making lead production Juche-oriented.

Sciences, and other scientists established at the Chonnaeri Cement Factory a floating clinker calcination-based cement production process of great economic value as compared to previously to boost cement production while markedly increasing the lifespan of refractory and reducing the consumption of coal.

Similar certificates also went to scientists of the Hydraulic Engineering Research Institute under the State Academy of Sciences who successfully solved different sci-tech problems arising in desalinating Lagoon Kangnyong.

Director Jo Yong Chol and other scientists applied more than ten technical plans and the desalinization of the lagoon, making it possible to irrigate thousands of hectares of farmland in Kangnyong and Ongjin counties and increase per-hectare grain yields.

The public health sector also produced over ten winners of the Technical Innovation Prize.

The relevant certificates went to the medical workers who made positive contributions to the promotion of people's health, including those who established a cerebral endoscope-based surgical method of treating cerebral haemorrhage for the first time in the country to remarkably shorten the treatment period as compared to the time when it was treated with medicines and resuscitate patients who cannot be saved with internal treatment.

Such certificates were also awarded to People's Doctor Pak Song Suk, PhD and associate professor of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, and other medical workers there for having established a Korean-style method of managing the health of multiple embryos.



Many people visit Moran Hill to have a good time. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Moran Hill, a scenic spot in Pyongyang

By Pang Un Ju PT

Moran Hill in the heart of the capital city of Pyongyang is now brimming with vernal fragrance which adds charm to the scenery.

Beautiful and curious ridges, valleys and cliffs, fresh air and thick foliage, antique-looking pavilions and moss-grown ruins of ancient walls—all these blend in with each other to form the hill's well-known scenic beauty.

Getting its name from the fact that the chain of round ridges centring on the Choesung Pavilion, the highest spot of the hill, looks

like a just blown peony blossom, Moran Hill is a popular attraction all the year round.

In spring when everything comes to life, wedding couples are often to be seen there.

They pose for wedding photos, which would be remembered for the rest of their lives, at the entrance to the hill where water flows down into a pond and the Phyonghwa Pavilion and an arch stone bridge add national sentiment to the scenery.

As you climb up along the paved road that goes well with the surrounding natural scenery, the green foliage of

trees and carpet-like turf and the sounds of flowing streams in valleys and chirping of birds enliven your spirit.

In the pavilions built in different places, including the Sangchun and Aeryon pavilions, people sing and dance fascinated by the spring scenery of Moran Hill.

Ri Kyong Hwa, 70, who climbs the hill almost every day, said that she feels ten years younger as she sings and dances with others and enjoys fresh air on the picturesque hill, adding it is a pride of Pyongyang.

There are many historical sites on the hill dating back to the period of Koguryo (277

BC-AD 668), including the Ulmil, Choesung, Chongnyu and Pubyok pavilions and Chilsong Gate.

The Ulmil and Choesung pavilions were used as lookout and command posts in the olden times.

Enjoying spring on the Ulmil Pavilion which offers an unobstructed view of the vernal landscape of Pyongyang and viewing the first full moon on the Pubyok Pavilion are included in the eight famous scenes in Pyongyang.

Moran Hill is also a good place for schoolchildren's nature study.

The children broaden

their common knowledge of animals and plants listening to the explanation of teachers and keepers and bear in mind the patriotism, wisdom and talents of their ancestors looking round the Ulmil and Choesung pavilions, Hyonmu Gate and other relics.

The sight of painters representing the beautiful scenes of the hill on their drawing boards stirs up a special emotion.

Among them are old veteran artists, university students who are training to be artists and even little children.

Many passers-by gather behind the artists who are

absorbed in painting and admire the pictures that make them feel all the more appreciative of the beauty of Moran Hill and Pyongyang.

A keeper who has worked there for over 30 years said that the state pays deep attention to keeping the hill, a favourite haunt of people, beautiful, adding he feels great pride in his job.

The bases for cultural and leisure activities and public catering service amenities on the hill, including the Moranbong Theatre, Moran Restaurant and Ulsongjong Restaurant, are adding pleasure to visitors.



Korean jewel painting a unique pictorial art

By Ri Sung Ik PT

It is over 30 years since the Korean jewel painting was born.

Korean jewel paintings remain intact even after many years and can excellently depict any objects from landscapes to figures.

In the 1980s, the fine art sector of the DPRK intensified the work of further developing all kinds and forms of fine art on the basis of Korean painting along with the research for ensuring the perfection of fine art materials.

In the course of this, some

paintings were created by using natural stone powder of different colours.

Chairman Kim Jong Il named this form of pictorial art Korean jewel painting in 1990 and saw to it that a production unit specializing in Korean jewel painting was formed at the Mansudae Art Studio.

Since then, the Korean jewel painting has followed the road of its development.

With the harmony of vivid and soft colours, three-dimensional formation and texture, ornamental effect based on the combination of various materials and

beautiful and elaborate representation, Korean jewel paintings drew the admiration of many people and enjoyed lavish praise at international exhibitions.

"Dove dance", a typical work of Korean jewel painting, won a special prize and medal at the international stone and stone-processing technique exhibition in 2003.

Today the Korean jewel painting is developing under the care of the state, with its themes and depiction objects expanding and its attractiveness growing.

The main themes of Korean jewel paintings were

figures, flowers and animals in the past, but now they are extensively representing the ever-increasing national power of the DPRK and its reality in which the people's happiness is being brought into full bloom.

The typical works created in recent years include "Toward the high and clear sky", "Jonwi Street in the evening" and "Joy of Saecpyol Street".

The Korean jewel paintings used to be created mainly for indoor display and appreciation, but nowadays mural paintings are being created in this form.

The mountain-climbing roadmaps created in the form of large-size jewel painting on Mt Myohyang and Mt Chilbo, celebrated mountains of the country, vividly represent the beautiful natural environment and clearly

indicate the climbing routes, leaving a deep impression on every visitor.

Pak Myong Chol, chief of the Korean jewel painting production unit of the Mansudae Art Studio,

said that the Korean jewel painting contributes greatly to the cultural development of the country, adding lustre to its excellent qualities along with the changing reality of the country.



Artists pool their wisdom to create a jewel painting at the Korean jewel painting production unit of the Mansudae Art Studio. JO CHOL JU / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Rich climatotherapy resources in DPRK

By Pak Song Min PT

The DPRK with beautiful mountains and limpid rivers is rich not only in health promoting mineral waters and hot springs but also climatotherapy resources.

Analyses of the areas with many macrobiotics in the world show that they have not wide temperature difference between winter and summer and the air there is clear and has many factors in it such as salts and anions.

There are many areas in the DPRK that can satisfy these conditions.

There are plenty of climatotherapy

resources in every province, including the Mangyongbong spring water area in Pyongyang, the Yangdok hot spring area in South Phyongan Province and the Kyongsong hot spring area in North Hamgyong Province.

The climatic zones of the country can be divided into mountainous, coastal and lowland ones, namely the mountainous climatic zone of North Hamgyong Province, the alpine climatic zone of Ryanggang Province, the coastal climatic zones of South Hamgyong and Kangwon provinces and the lowland climatic zone of South Phyongan Province.

As the country's climate is very diverse, people can choose climatic

zones favourable for their health according to seasons.

Thanks to the measures taken by the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government that do everything for promoting the people's health, tourist resorts, rest homes and sanatoria are found at all scenic spots across the country including Samjiyon Tourist Resort, the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area, the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort and the Onpho Working People's Holiday Camp, and many working people enjoy diverse and pleasant cultural and leisure activities, receiving various medical services including climatotherapy.

Custom of using Paektusan bog bilberry a national ICH element

By Jong Chol PT

Since olden times, the Korean people have widely used the Paektusan bog bilberry, one of the national specialties, in their dietary life and recovery of health.

According to old records from the period of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910), bog bilberry grown in the Kapsan area in Korea was famous and the locals preserved it in honey like strawberry. They said that as it had a unique taste, it was best in making fruit jam.

The tree grows in group in the Mt Paektu area and it is widely distributed in other highlands like the Paengmu Plateau area, the Hwangsuwon area and Piro Peak of Mt Kungang.

It is 30 to 40cm tall generally and 1.2 metres at the maximum. The berry ripens as it turns damson between the latter part of July and that of September, and varies in shape.

As Paektusan bog bilberry

contains sugar, protein, crude fat, pectin and others, it is used as a raw material for soft drinks and confectionery.

Especially, it contains medicinal substances and various vitamins like vitamin C, which are good for human health. Therefore, it has long been used as medicines for cough, diarrhoea and bleeding and for health recovery of children in the period of convalescence and women after childbirth.

If you eat it regularly, you will be able to purify your blood and prevent and cure hypertension and arteriosclerosis.

For its high utility as a tonic and refresher, the Korean people use it to make such foods as refreshing juice, sweet jelly and fruit jam.

Today, a variety of products are made of Paektusan bog bilberry in the DPRK, greatly contributing to the dietary life of the people.

The traditional custom of using Paektusan bog bilberry were recently inscribed in the national intangible cultural heritage list.



A sea of greenhouses at the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm.

WPK's general line for building socialism

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—are the general line of the Workers' Party of Korea for socialist construction.

The whole course of Korean-style socialist construction is run through with the three revolutions and it has advanced through the struggle to implement the line of the three revolutions.

The present vibrant era of opening up a period of comprehensive development of socialism requires more

vigorously conducting the three revolutions.

The three revolutions are, in essence, a struggle for eliminating all the outdated things in the ideological, technological and cultural fields and create new things.

The people's ideological consciousness, technical level and civilization level are not raised simply because the times advance, science and technology develop and the working conditions and living environment change.

The backward legacies, like conservatism and empiricism which do not keep pace with the advancing spirit of the

new era, coexist not only in the state and social life but also in the economic and cultural sectors. Without overcoming them, it is impossible to vigorously advance the struggle to realize the people's dreams and ideals.

Therefore, the three revolutions for freeing people from the shackles of outdated ideas and raising their levels of technology and civilization are a powerful weapon for socialist construction.

The great cause of the comprehensive development of socialism can be accomplished more quickly

and substantially when the Party's leadership is strengthened and the state's leading role enhanced in carrying out the three revolutions and the masses of the people take part in the revolutions with the attitude of masters.

Socialist construction in the DPRK will continue to advance, when new tasks are continuously set forth in line with the development of the times in all aspects of ideology, technology and culture and the work of transforming nature, man and society is promoted in an innovative way.

WPK's policies translate ideal of people into reality

Ryu Sung Ryol

Creations and changes have been brought about in all fields of the country in recent years.

New modern streets sprang up in Pyongyang every year, resulting in the construction of nearly 60 000 flats and public buildings in the Songsin and Songhwa and Hwasong areas of the capital city in the past five years.

With the programme for a rural revolution in the new era of the Workers' Party of Korea being implemented, modern houses for more than 32 000 families were built across the country in the past one year alone and farmers moved into new houses in over 700 rural villages.

Regional-industry factories are built in 20 cities and counties every year. Model entities of civilization and rejuvenation have sprung up, including city and county hospitals and leisure complexes built in several places and offshore farms in Sinpho City and Ragwon County.

All these achievements were not made with the accumulation of time.

They were made by the policy of the WPK which makes selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people.

The WPK adopts the desires and wishes of the people as important state policies and implements them unconditionally and consistently.

Regarding it as its mode of existence and revolutionary climate to make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people, it set forth at its Eighth Congress the task of providing the people with more cultured living conditions by pushing ahead with the major construction, including housing construction, on a large scale.

The Ninth Congress of the WPK stressed the need to continuously press on with the construction projects during the period of the new long-term plan in order to consolidate the foundations for boosting the national strength, lead the people to enjoy a new civilization and promote their wellbeing.

The WPK, which gives top and absolute priority to what the people desire in policy making and implementation,

unveiled a grand plan to make the country the first one which solved the housing problem by forging ahead with the housing construction in the capital and all other parts of the country.

And as it is the mode of advance and development of the revolution to show greater sincerity for children when it faces increasing difficulties and vigorously advance towards the future of communism on the strength of love for them, the WPK adopted a new childcare policy on supplying nutritious foodstuffs including dairy products to all children across the country at the state's expense at the Third Plenary Meeting of its Eighth Central Committee.

The Regional Development 20x10 Policy was adopted according to its plan and decision to develop onto a higher stage the elementary material and cultural living standards of the regional people across the country in the shortest possible time by strongly promoting the development of regional industry. Later, the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of its Eighth Central Committee discussed and

decided on the matter of formally including in the new regional development policy the simultaneous construction of advanced public health facilities, scientific, educational and cultural facilities and grain storage facilities, the three essential projects, in addition to the construction of regional-industry factories.

The WPK continues to adopt new policies for the people such as the programme for a rural revolution in the new era, the policy on the development of public health and the construction and education policies and consistently implements them. It is not because the conditions and environments are favourable for it and it has something in reserve.

Thanks to the WPK's determination to unconditionally accept all what the people want and translate them into reality without fail before discussing their possibility though everything is in short supply and it is difficult to do, a series of projects have been undertaken across the country to bring greater happiness to the people.

Great trust in coal miners of Chonsong

By Pang Un Ju PT

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un took part in the election of deputies to the 15th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK at the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine of the Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex on March 15.

After voting for the manager of the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine who was a candidate for SPA deputy that day, the respected General Secretary met and encouraged him, hoping that he would faithfully discharge his responsibility and duty as a genuine representative of the people, a person in direct charge of activities of state power and a political activist, deeply mindful that the trust and expectations of the coal miners and other residents there are just the earnest requests of the country and the people.

Then, what made the General Secretary visit the polling station of the coal mine among the numerous stations across the country?

That day, he most highly appreciated before the country and the times the pure conscience and unassuming efforts of the workers of the coal mine, who have written an admirable chronicle of struggle in every decade of the revolution to defend the rejuvenation and prosperity of the country.

In the DPRK advancing the socialist cause while blazing a new path of history, the working class is the most powerful force of creation and transformation.

Among them, the workers in the coal-mining sector are the hard core of the country performing the most valuable feats in the vanguard of state building.

Coal miners are digging mountains of coal for the country, leaving traces of patriotism every day for all seasons under the ground people tread on casually.

It is because they love their country and live with the single desire that only when they produce a large amount of coal, the food of industry, can the economic development of the country be promoted.

Therefore, there are an increasing number of families of patriotic coal miners working at the collieries for three generations and young people unhesitatingly take their first step of working life at the coal fields.

That is why the General Secretary highly appreciated the miners' heroic struggle for and exploits in building up the lifeline of the self-supporting economy and supporting the state by unsparingly devoting their precious sweat and enthusiasm at deep underground pits and also extended warm greetings to their wives making sincere, devoted efforts for coal production, sharing mind with their husbands and children.

His deep trust in the coal miners has served as a source of strength that encouraged the workers at coal mines across the country to attain a higher goal of increased coal production.

He also unveiled a brilliant blueprint for transforming the coal mines across the country during his visit to the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine.

That day, he said that as it is necessary to raise good crops for the living of the people, it is needed to increase coal production for the running of a state, and continued: The Party and the state should attach importance to the production of coal, the food of industry, and increase the state investment in it. Building up the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine into a standard one, where mechanization and informatization of the work inside the pits are realized, is a starting point of the long-term project to transform the material and technical foundations of all the coal mines across the country and the working conditions of coal miners.

Comrade Kim Jong Un's visit to the coal mine marked a historic occasion that declared a new start for civilization and modernization of the coal-mining industry, finally breaking with its technical and cultural backwardness.

BYWORD

'Unite on the strength of patriotism!'

The slogan "Unite on the strength of patriotism!" can be seen everywhere in the country.

The might of the people who are united on the strength of patriotism is the cornerstone of the country's prosperity and the fundamental source of its leap forward.

Working people in

the DPRK dynamically conduct various types of patriotic campaigns including the socialist patriotic movement for increasing coal production and everybody voluntarily does good things for the

country with patriotic fervour.

The Korean people could open up a new era of overall development of socialism by overcoming manifold difficulties and trials during the

eighth term of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, as their love for the country developed into the all-people sentiment and they united firmly on the strength of patriotism.

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Bahrain of today

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Bahrain is a country which consists of Bahrain Island located in the southwest of Asia and off the coast of the Persian Gulf in the east of the Arabian Peninsula and dozens of islands around it.

It had been subjected to domination by and become a protectorate of the imperialists for a long time. It achieved independence in 1971 and named the country the State of Bahrain. Later, it renamed the State of Bahrain the Kingdom of Bahrain in February 2002 according to the new constitution.

The name Bahrain is derived from the meaning of "two seas". It carries the meaning that seawater and underground water have been directly linked to the destiny of the nation in this country, which is short of water, from olden times.

Hot weather is the characteristic of the country, with the temperature often rising above 40°C and falling down to about 18-20°C in winter. The annual average precipitation is about 100mm.

Oil and natural gas are the main natural resources of the country. The quality of oil is high and it is deposited in the shallow stratum.

The key economic sectors are the oil and natural gas production and processing

industries, which take up a large portion of its financial incomes. Now, the government of Bahrain employs measures to reduce dependence on oil and develop the economy in a many-sided way.

As part of its efforts to this end, it has put in a great deal of effort to develop financial business and tourism. They have already become two major industries in the economy.

The main agricultural crops are date, grape, orange, vegetables, wheat and barley.

It relies mainly on motor and maritime transport and has no railways.

The Bahraini government ensured that a bridge across the sea connecting Bahrain Island to Saudi Arabia was built and opened in November 1986 to solve the problem of traffic to the Arabian Peninsula.

The main exports are oil and aluminum products and pearls and major imports are food and industrial products.

As a member state of the Gulf Cooperation Council, it directs positive efforts to ensuring regional peace and security.

May 23 this year is the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

'Acting locally for global impact'



Hong Hyo Song

Staffer at the Central Committee of Nature Conservation Union of Korea

May 22 is International Day for Biodiversity.

Biodiversity refers to the variety of ecological environment where there are interactions among living things, the variety of species in ecosystems and the variety of genes in species.

Biodiversity on the Earth constitutes a major asset for the existence and sustainable development of mankind.

Despite the growing interest in the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems, the number of species still keeps dwindling and lots of animals and plants are on the verge of extinction due to human activities and for different other reasons.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat and other international organizations call on all nations, regions and relevant organizations to work to achieve the global targets specified in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The theme of International Day for Biodiversity 2026 is "Acting locally for global impact".

The international community stresses that success in halting and reversing biodiversity loss hinges on each nation's efforts to apply the whole-of-society approach for it.

The DPRK has expanded the area of different types of reserves in stages to protect biodiversity.

Such relevant units as the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection and the Biodiversity Institute under the State Academy of Sciences made field surveys into the situation of major reserves, including biosphere, animal and plant reserves, in recent years. On the basis of the surveys, they set national ecological pathways before designating them as reserves. And they update the lists of biological species and endangered species in the country on a regular basis.

The country works to confirm the candidates for reserves based on the evaluation of its present biodiversity situation and increase the area of reserves in a prospective way. It also pushes ahead with the work to find out and take measures against artificial intervention factors exerting negative impacts on ecological environment in provinces, cities and counties. It also supervises the work to conserve animal and plant resources and conducts mass information work and arranges sci-tech presentations, seminars, workshops and various other events in order to conserve and increase the country's biodiversity.

China strongly opposes unilateral sanctions by US and UK

By Song Jong Ho PT

China expressed its will to strongly counter the unilateral sanctions by the US and the UK.

Recently, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman commented in defence of the relevant countermeasures taken by its Ministry of Commerce against the US sanctions imposed on five Chinese businesses on the pretext of their involvement in the oil transactions with Iran. He noted that the Chinese government invariably opposes illegal and unilateral sanctions.

The countermeasures taken by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce to check the enforcement of US sanctions are the concrete steps to

block the unjustifiable extra-territorial application of foreign legislation and other measures, he noted, adding that China will firmly safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese citizens and businesses in accordance with the law.

On the other hand, the spokesman expressed strong discontent with the UK for imposing sanctions against the Chinese businesses for the reason that they supply drone parts and other war materials to Russia.

Regular travel and cooperation between China and Russia should not be disrupted or affected, he said, stating that China will take all necessary measures to firmly protect its legitimate and lawful rights and interests.

Earth's climatic balance suffers disruption

KCNA

The climatic balance of the Earth is being disrupted at a fast rate.

This year, high temperatures have been observed in different countries earlier than usual.

Temperature went up to 42.8°C in New Delhi of India on April 25 as an intense heatwave persisted, and the mercury rose to a record high of 46.9°C in some parts of Maharashtra on April 26.

In Bangkok of Thailand, the temperature rose up to 34-38°C on April 30 and therefore a high temperature warning was issued. The city authorities took emergency relief measures including the putting up of hundreds of summer refuges.

Last year, extremely high temperatures continued to be monitored in many countries and regions throughout the year. For example, a thermal roof was formed in the sky over the region

of the Balkan countries, raising the temperature by 10°C more than average.

And an intense heatwave killed about 2 300 people in 12 big cities of western Europe, including Barcelona, Madrid and London, in ten days. The number of deaths caused by heatstroke in Spain from May to July was over ten times higher than that in the same period of the previous year. Such high temperatures have brought irretrievable disasters to mankind as they have been accompanied by forest fires, heavy rains and landslides.

A forest fire and wildfire burned down over 32 600 hectares of area in Indonesia in the first two months of this year. In the period from January to early April, over 700 spots prone to fire were detected across the country. The figure is over five times the number in the same period of last year.

In Afghanistan in April, there was a huge loss of life and many

dwelling houses and farmland were destroyed due to flash floods and landslides.

In July last year, Chicago of the US was hit by a heavy downpour which is said to come once in a thousand years, while New York City had the second heaviest per-hour rainfall in history. In early October, a southern area of Ukraine received a rainfall equivalent to the one in the period of nearly two months in only seven hours, thereby suffering serious flood damage.

In Pakistan, monsoon flooding caused more than 2 000 casualties and destroyed over 8 400 houses.

The rise in sea surface temperature is also a serious international concern.

According to research findings, it is expected that the global seawater temperature will be 5°C higher in around 2100 and, in that case, 60 percent of fish species might be unable to survive.

Seawater temperature in the North

and Baltic Seas rose to an all-time high last year.

The average sea surface temperature of the North Sea was 11.6°C, the highest ever since observation, and that of the Baltic Sea was 9.7°C, the second highest since 1990.

The World Meteorological Organization recently said that there is a strong possibility that El Niño will occur in the middle of this year, warning that temperature will be higher than average in almost all regions around the world.

El Niño is an irregular phenomenon where the sea surface temperature abnormally rises in the vast water area of the equatorial Pacific region centring on the waters off Peru and it has been a cause of all kinds of disastrous abnormal weather.

Meteorological experts of different countries are expressing concern that the climatic balance of the Earth is being disturbed more rapidly than ever before.

Briefly

Russia

Presidential press secretary: Nuclear deterrent constitutes cornerstone of national security

Russian presidential press secretary Dmitri Peskov said that nuclear deterrent is the cornerstone of national security of Russia at a press conference on May 17.

No one should threaten a nuclear power and its existence, he noted, adding a nuclear deterrent is an inseparable part and cornerstone of national security.

China

Vice-representative to UN mentions Palestinian issue

The Chinese permanent vice-representative to the United Nations referred to the Palestinian issue at an event on May 15.

Saying that the Palestinian people have made every effort to win the legitimate rights and interests for decades through generations but the history unfair to them is still going on, he accused Israel of frequently mounting attacks, expanding military construction and restricting the introduction of humanitarian materials.

Owing to this, the number of civilian casualties in the Gaza Strip is increasing continuously and the humanitarian crisis worsening, he noted.

The two-state proposal is the only and viable way for settling the Palestinian issue, he said, calling on Israel to lend an ear to the strong voice of the international community and put an end to the illegal occupation.

India

Efforts for birth rate growth

Andhra Pradesh of India is encouraging families to give birth to many children.

Calling on women to have many children, the pradesh is conducting positive information activities on the negative consequences of population reduction and ageing.

On May 16 it unveiled a plan for supporting the families with over three children.

At present, the population in the region is reportedly decreasing as the birth rate goes down.

Japan

Citizens say no to authorities' lifting of arms embargo

Many Japanese express strong discontent with the authorities' decision on lifting the arms embargo.

According to an opinion poll conducted by the Kyodo News Service on May 17, 57.2% of the respondents clarified their stand against the authorities' measure.

An earlier poll by NHK also showed that the majority of the respondents said no to it.

Foreign media outlets said that such a move pushed ahead by the Takaichi government to realize the wild ambition for reinvasion has sparked serious concern and strong denunciation at home and abroad.

DPRK TEAM WINS 2026 AFC U-17 WOMEN'S ASIAN CUP

KCNA

The final match for the 2026 AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup took place between the DPRK and Japanese teams on May 17.

The DPRK players took the initiative and mounted strong attacks on the opponents from the beginning full of confidence in victory.

In the 30th minute of the first half player No. 10 Yu Jong Hyang made an opening goal with a correct shot.

In the second half, they continued to put pressure on the Japanese. Yu Jong Hyang scored the second goal in the 50th minute, followed by the third goal by player No. 15 Kim Won Sim in the 55th minute. Yu succeeded in scoring two more goals in the 81st and 89th minutes in succession.

As a result, the DPRK team beat the Japanese team 5-1 and won the Asian Cup.

Yu Jong Hyang scored four goals in the final.

DPRK players won victories in all the six matches from the group league matches to the final, scoring 36 goals in total.

At the award ceremony, a trophy and gold medals were conferred on the DPRK women footballers who won the 2026 AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup, and the best player award and the top scorer award on Yu Jong Hyang, the best goalkeeper award on Kim Son Gyong and the prize of morality on the DPRK team.

The proud success achieved by the DPRK footballers in the women's football event greatly encourages

all the people of the country who have turned out in the struggle to lead the period of pioneering

the comprehensive development of socialism on to that of a great upsurge and the heyday of sweeping

changes in order to carry out the decisions of the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.



The DPRK team celebrates after beating the Japanese team 5-1 and winning the Asian Cup.

Weightlifters win golds, set new world and Asian records at 2026 Asian Weightlifting Championships

KCNA

DPRK players continued to achieve good results in the 2026 Asian Weightlifting Championships.

They won seven gold medals and set new world and Asian records in succession on May 14.

In the women's 63kg category, Ri Suk won gold medals in clean and jerk and total and a silver medal in snatch by lifting 111kg in snatch, 143kg in clean and jerk (new world record and

new Asian record) and 254kg in total (new world record and new Asian record).

In the men's 71kg category, Ri Won Ju was placed first in clean and jerk and total and second in snatch by lifting 154kg in snatch, 197kg in clean and jerk (new world record, new Asian record) and 351kg in total (new world record and new Asian record).

In the men's 79kg category, Ri Ryong Hyon bagged gold medals by lifting 206kg in clean and jerk (new world

record and new Asian record) and 364kg in total and a silver medal in snatch. In the same category, Ri Chong Song received a gold medal by lifting 161kg in snatch and silver medals in clean and jerk and total respectively.

On May 15, Song Kuk Hyang won three gold medals in the women's 69kg category by lifting 112kg in snatch, 151kg in clean and jerk (new world record and new Asian record) and 263kg in total.

Meanwhile, in the men's

88kg category, Ro Kwang Ryol won two gold medals in clean and jerk and total and a silver medal in snatch by lifting 167kg in snatch, 220kg in clean and jerk (new world record and new Asian record) and 387kg in total (new Asian record).

DPRK player Kim Kyong Ryong won three silver medals in the women's 77kg category of the 2026 Asian Weightlifting Championships on May 16 by lifting 115kg in snatch, 145kg in clean and jerk and 260kg in total.

Naegohyang advances to final of 2025-2026 AFC Women's Champions League

KCNA

A semi-final between the Naegohyang team of the DPRK and the Suwon team of the ROK for the 2025-2026 AFC Women's Champions League took place in the ROK on May 20.

The Naegohyang team

conceded a goal in the second half of the match, but players No. 14 Choe Kum Ok and No. 17 Kim Kyong Yong scored goals in the 55th and 67th minutes.

Thus, the Naegohyang beat its rival 2-1 and advanced to the final.

The final match will take place on May 23.

