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Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un oversees test fire of super-large multiple rocket launcher

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, guided the test fire of a new super-large multiple rocket launcher on August 24.

He was accompanied by Ri Pyong Chol, Kim Jong Sik, Jang Chang Ha, Jon Il Ho, Jong Sung Il and other senior officials of the Party Central Committee and in the field of defence science.

He learnt about the development of the new weapon system and issued an order to start the test fire.

The test results proved that all the tactical and technological specifications of the weapon system correctly reached the preset indexes.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un was greatly pleased to see the significant combat power of the weapon system. He highly appreciated young defence scientists, saying that they are so clever as to conceive and design the greatly powerful weapon purely on their own and bring it to success at



the first try, although they have never seen it, and they have done a great job.

What made him happy today, he noted, is that the development of the new weapon has resulted in raising a contingent of young and promising talents who will shoulder the rapid development of the Juche-oriented defence industry. Describing them as precious treasure and wealth of the country which would not be bartered for anything, he stressed that the Juche-oriented defence industry will make steady progress thanks to those competent personnel

faithful to the Party.

Each Juche weapon we have developed embodies the greatness of the Workers' Party of Korea which has provided the war deterrent powerful enough to guarantee the destiny and future of the country and people and safeguard Korean-style socialism with responsibility, he said, and it also represents the noble loyalty of our defence scientists who are devoting blood and sweat true to the leadership of the Party.

Kim Jong Un together with his dear comrades-in-arms recollected

the unforgettable days when he was braving manifold trials to develop strategic weapon systems, saying August 24 is really an unforgettable good day and just today three years ago we succeeded in the test fire of SLBM to become one of the few countries with that weapon in the world.

The important mission our defence industry takes up, he said, is to help cement the country's defence capabilities so as to defend the Party, revolution, country and people,

guarantee the final victory of the revolution and lead and push the building of a powerful socialist nation. And he stressed the need to push ahead with an indomitable offensive in order to build up our strength onto the desirable level so that we could continue to step up the development of Korean-style strategic and tactical weapons for resolutely frustrating the ever-mounting military threats and pressure of the hostile forces.

Compiled from KCNA





ASSEMBLY

14th Supreme People's Assembly meets for second session

Deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK got together for its Second Session at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on August 29.

The items on the agenda were the amendment and supplementing of some articles of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK and the tackling of organizational matters.

Choe Ryong Hae, president of the SPA Presidium, delivered a report on the first agenda item.

He said that the session would deliberate on and adopt draft amendments and supplements to the constitution in order to provide a firm legal guarantee for stepping up the building of a powerful socialist country more dynamically under the unified leadership of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

He referred to the amendment and supplementing of some

articles concerning the authority of the state organs in Chapter VI "State Organs" of the constitution.

As to the legal status and authority of the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, he said a provision stipulating that the SAC Chairman is elected at the Supreme People's Assembly in accordance with the unanimous will of all the Korean people and the Chairman is not elected as deputy to the SPA has been added to the constitution. This will legally fix the status of the Chairman as the supreme leader of the Party, state and armed forces of the DPRK who is elected according to the unanimous will and desire of all the Korean people, both in name and reality, he pointed out.

Saying that a new provision concerning the duty and authority of the SAC Chairman

has been supplemented, he stated it specifies that the Chairman is authorized to promulgate SPA ordinances and major SAC decrees and decisions and to appoint or recall diplomatic envoys to foreign countries.

He referred to the amendment and supplementing of some articles concerning the duty and authority of the SAC, noting that the SAC shall supervise and take measures for the implementation of the orders given by the SAC Chairman and its decrees, decisions and instructions.

He also referred to the basic contents of the draft amendments and supplements to the constitution including some amended, supplemented and adjusted contents related to the duty and authority of the SPA Presidium and the authority of the SPA.

He submitted the draft amendments and supplements to

the constitution for deliberation by the SPA.

SPA Ordinance "On some amendments and supplements to the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK" was adopted with unanimous approbation at the session.

The second agenda item was discussed.

Upon authorization of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kim Yong Dae was recalled from the post of vice-president of the SPA Presidium and Pak Yong

Il, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, was elected to the post.

Jang Se Chol, chairman of the North Phyongan Provincial People's Committee, was by-elected to the Legislation Committee of the SPA.

At the suggestion of the premier of the Cabinet, Son Yong Hun was newly appointed as secretary general of the Cabinet.

Compiled from KCNA



Deputies vote at the Second Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang.

CELEBRATION

Young population celebrates their holiday

Young people across the country celebrated Youth Day in splendour.

Senior Party and government officials celebrated the day together with young men and women on August 28.

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee, and Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, member of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and premier of the Cabinet, went to Kim Chaek University of Technology, the Sunchon Cement Complex and the State Academy of Sciences to congratulate young people.

The senior officials gave pep talks to young people who are performing miracles and innovations on a grand march of self-reliance toward the goals of the five-year strategy for nationaleconomicdevelopment, and saw art performances given by youth and students and their sports and amusement games.

The artistic motivational team of the Central Committee of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League gave a performance at Kim Il Sung Square on the same day.

Having begun with narration and choruses *Glory to General Kim Jong Un* and *Korean Youth March*, the performers staged a variety of numbers like male solo *Youth*, brass quartet and song *Do Envy Us* and national instrumental ensemble and song *Let Us Sing Army-People Unity*.

The audience was deeply impressed by female solos *We Have Entrusted Our Destiny and Future to Him* and *My Country Filled with Hope*, guitar ensemble *Toward Another Upsurge under the Uplifted Banner of Self-reliance* and male quartet *We Are Mallima Riders*, which reflect the Koreans' ardent reverence for Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un and the revolutionary spirit of young vanguards.

The performance climaxed with poem and mixed trio *Our National Flag* and ended with numbers expressive of the determination of the Korean youth to advance dynamically towards a prosperous future of the country following the WPK.

Youth Day was also celebrated with a dance party at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang on the evening of the 28th.

Young people unfolded a delightful scene as they started dancing to the tune of *Song in Praise of Youth*.

The artistic motivational team of the Central Committee of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League sang songs of youth on the stage put up in the arena.

Such songs as *I Too Will Live Like a Star to Follow the Party*, *We Are Mallima Riders*, *Youth Day Waltz*, *Maidenhood and Whistling Boy* reverberated continuously across the arena.

Foreign visitors joined the party and shared the joy with Korean young people.

The festive mood was boosted by brass band performances of students of universities and senior middle schools in different parts of Pyongyang.

Performances were given at theatres in the capital and various events were held throughout the country.

A national exhibition of sci-tech achievements of young people was held at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on the same occasion.

The event drew over 550 pieces of data and technical innovation plans youth league officials and young people collected and made in the course of scientific research and the mass technical innovation drive.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



On the occasion of Youth Day, senior Party and government officials congratulate and join young people enjoying art performances and sports and amusement games. A variety of cultural events are held in different parts of the country, including art performances and dancing in Pyongyang.

PROFILE

Lecturer makes his mark in metallurgical engineering

There are many teachers who put their heart and soul into the education of the pillars of the country. Among them is Kim In Gyu (pictured), a department chief of the Faculty of Metal Engineering at Kim Chaek University of Technology.

He began to work as the chief of the Department of Industrial Furnace Engineering in 2011.

"At the time our department failed to give a correct understanding of industrial furnace to students. So they felt it hard to understand the complex course of metallurgical heat engineering and were unable to apply it in practice. After grasping such a situation, Kim decided to launch a drive to improve the knowledge and capacity of the lecturers at the department," said lecturer Mun Chang Won.

Kim carefully organized lectures and strengthened the discipline of education, while placing the focus of scientific research on national projects.

In particular, he involved all members of the department in the scientific research project to introduce high-temperature air combustion technology using anthracite coal gas into industrial furnaces using heavy oil for the first time in the country, so that it would be an important occasion for acquiring high scientific and technical knowledge and enhancing practical ability.

"We completed the designs of all processes in a short time by pooling collective wisdom, providing a scientific



and technical guarantee for employing high-temperature air combustion technology. We succeeded in introducing the technology into heating furnace No. 3 for hot rolling at the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex at one try," recalled Im Thae Song, another lecturer of the department.

In the course of relentless pursuit of science Kim In Gyu won the title of Labour Hero and the February 16 Science and Technology Prize. Three lecturers of his department were awarded the same prize, with four obtaining the title of Merited Scientist and doctorate and five associate professorship and 12 MSc, meaning the department was built up as a competent academic research group.

Kim also paid close attention to cognitive development of students.

He came up with a computer program showing the complicated heat process of industrial furnace in virtual reality to improve the understanding of students of their major subjects and applied it to the lecture of the major basic subject of Metallurgical Heat Engineering.

He also positively involved students in scientific research projects undertaken by the department to improve their practical ability, with the result that an entire 15-member class proposed valuable ideas or plans and obtained certificates of invention and registration of scientific and technological hit.

Over the past 30-odd years he made a great deal of achievements: he modernized or designed and made many new experimental apparatuses and equipment, developed several new subjects including industrial furnace heating technology, authored lots of textbooks, reference books and essays and built a base for the production of the once imported beehive-style heat storage material.

Many of his former students are now playing their part as competent scientists and officials in various sectors of the national economy after graduation.

People often say he is a gifted lecturer.

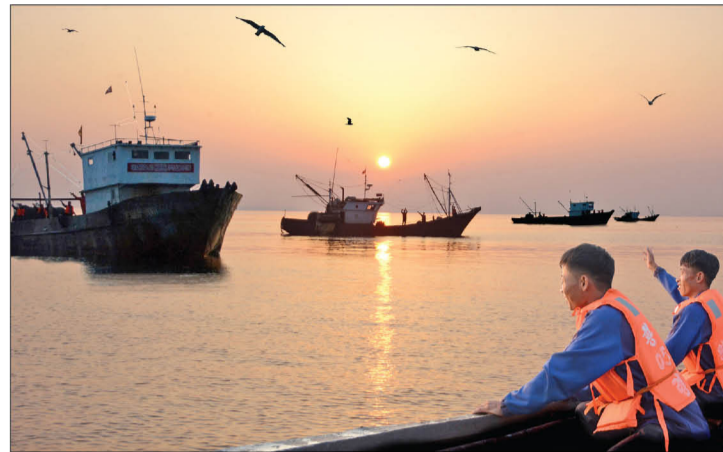
And Kim often tells them: "Practical ability is an indispensable weapon for teachers, while conscience and honesty are their life and soul."

He has devoted his all to the country's prosperity by taking education of younger generations and scientific research as his duty, and the government praises him as a model teacher in the Mallima era.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

FISHERIES

Technical innovations key to success



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Fishermen return to port with the joy of a big haul.

The Nampho Taegyong Fishery Station has less than 10-year history. But it is already a leading unit in the fisheries sector and is well known across the country.

"The secret of success is to give great importance to science and technology and ensure 300 days of fishing every year," said manager Pak Sung Il.

Not many people would believe that a small fishery station, not a shipyard, makes ships of any kind.

"We needed good ships to catch many fishes. So we began to build all-purpose fishing boats of Hwanggumhae family by our own efforts," said the manager.

It has so far built dozens of vessels including a fishing catamaran and several hundred ton-class store ships which provide service for fishermen in the middle of the West Sea of Korea.

The station has also directed

great efforts to remodelling fishing tackle.

According to technical officer Kim Chol Ryong, the conditions for fishing are limited in the West Sea of Korea as there are periodic ebb and flow every day and sea warnings are given frequently. "We have introduced many technical innovation plans and new ideas to catch fish continuously unaffected by them," he said.

The technical innovation plans include the twin long sack-shaped netting and scooping.

Long sack-shaped net can be used only when the water current is strong, which means ships with such nets have limited days of fishing. Therefore, the station modified the equipment to use long sack-shaped nets in slow currents and adopted the method of twin long sack-shaped netting to increase the fish haul 1.5-2 times. It also mechanized the scooping equipment to operate it in slow currents.

The station pushes ahead with the undertakings to protect and propagate aquatic resources.

Jang In Ho, head of the fry breeding department, said that they bred a new variety of swellfish that can live in any waters and has a high rate of survival by means of hypophyseal artificial fertilization after years-long research and stocked the sea with over a hundred thousand swellfish this year.

They developed the methods of stocking the lower part of the Taedong River with Chongchongang sweetfish that only lives in clear water.

The station does mixed farming in several layers in its breeding ground.

Many technical innovation plans proposed by the station were highly appreciated at various sci-tech festivals and exhibitions. Especially, the single-ship trawling technology by fishing catamaran won the top prize at this year's science and technology festival.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

PRODUCTION

Factory combines technology with production

The Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory keeps the production of processed goods going at a high level.

To this end, the factory upgraded production processes by relying on science and technology while pressing ahead with the development of new products.

According to chief engineer Ri Song Hyok, the most important thing in putting production on normal track was to perfect the selection process, the primary process in production, so as to supply large quantities of flour of good quality.

Therefore, the factory buckled down to building a new selection process capable of processing any sort of raw materials. Rational designs and hundreds of pieces of equipment and parts in dozens of kinds were made in

close contact with scientists and technicians of relevant units, thereby establishing a new flour production system that can ensure both quantity and quality in any raw material conditions.

Previously, the factory used the water of the Sunhwa River in a faraway place as industrial water. So it found out a stream of Ryongaksan spring water noted for good quality and installed nano filters to it in order to establish a regular water supply system, improve the quality of products and ensure hygienic safety.

It gives free rein to the creativity of technicians and skilled workers and encourages every employee to present at least one technical plan and take an active part in developing new products. A database has been built in PDF format and

multimedia presentations at the sci-tech learning space so as to enhance the level of scientific and technical knowledge of employees. Many of them have enrolled at online colleges. As a result, lots of employees have become highly skilled workers and improved in technical knowledge and skills.

As it taps production potential, the factory develops and turns out functional foods including

nutritious spirulina sandwich and chlorella noodles.

"We are planning to develop and produce more functional foods good for health by combining science and technology with production and satisfy the need for yeasts by domestic production instead of importing them," said the chief engineer.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A worker monitors facilities in full operation at the Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory.

HEALTHCARE

Nation puts utmost importance to baby health



A workshop is held at Kim Jong Suk Nursery in Pyongyang to observe World Breastfeeding Week 2019.

The DPRK has an advanced system for the nursing and upbringing of children which proves effective in reality.

A regular medical service system for children is in place from clinics and people's hospitals to national-level hospitals and there are paediatricians in nurseries, kindergartens and anti-epidemic centres at all levels to ensure double and treble child protection.

According to the government policy on preventive medicine, children get regular medical check-ups and vaccinations.

"The expanded programme on immunization of children is being carried on successfully under the regular medical service and vaccination systems established from top to the lowest units. For example, children are given vitamin A, multi-nutrient tablets and mebendazole tablets for deworming on the occasion of May 20 and November 20 that are set as Child Health Day," said Pang Yu Il, researcher at the Children's Nutrition Research Institute under the Academy of Medical Science.

The recent remarkable progress made in children's health care is a marked rise in the rate of exclusive breastfeeding that is regarded as the fundamentals of life.

Speaking at an event for celebrating World Breastfeeding Week 2019 held on August 22, Pak Jong Min, department director of the Ministry of Public Health, said that thanks to various IEC activities which have been conducted to mark the breastfeeding week for over a decade every year, many people including health workers, inhabitants and mothers were able to get a scientific, logical and practical understanding of the advantages of breastfeeding.

Breast milk is the essential nutrient for the healthy growth of children and scientific breastfeeding plays a decisive role in preventing malnutrition and reducing their

morbidity and mortality. And breastfeeding enhances their brain development and nutrition with impacts that endure over a lifetime.

That is why the UNICEF calls on all countries to pay close attention to raising the breastfeeding rate.

According to data available, the DPRK increased the proportion of exclusively breastfed babies in the first six months of birth to 70 percent.

Myo-Zin Nyunt, representative of the UNICEF, described this as great progress in the above-mentioned event and commended the DPRK government for taking practical and significant steps to create an enabling environment and increase child survival.

The nutrition strategy for women and children 2017-2021 is being implemented in the country with the main focus directed towards improving the nutrition management of sucklings.

To this end, IEC activities are conducted in many ways on the importance of nutrition in the first 1 000 days of birth focusing on breastfeeding, practical indicators for breastfeeding have been integrated in the quality assessment system of health care and breastfeeding is encouraged within an hour after childbirth at maternity hospitals.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



Diners have a variety of rabbit dishes at the Taesong Rabbit Meat Restaurant.

CONCEPTION

Two students dream up future things

Recently, there was the national exhibition of children's science fiction literary works and models-2019.

At the exhibition, where over 400 science fiction literary works and models were presented, a science fiction model "Tramcar 'Sonyon' based on wireless electric transmission" presented by Kim Hyon Song, a third-year student in junior class of Pyongyang Middle School No. 1, and a science fiction model "Natural energy centre" by Pyon Ryong Jin, a first-year student in senior class of the same school, won the first prizes.

The tramcar "Sonyon" is a new-type vehicle designed to travel along rails without power cables by converting electricity into microwaves.

Thirteen-year-old Hyon Song developed this idea when he travelled together with fellow students by a new type of homemade tramcar.

Seeing electric cables and power poles along the tramcar route at that time, he came to have an idea that it would be ideal when smart tramcars run wirelessly and made up his mind to design a wireless tramcar model with his own effort.

A boy with particular interest in physics, he delved deeply into ways of wireless electric transmission after lessons to develop a good idea.

According to it, special antennas installed on rails at certain intervals detect the position of tramcars, other vehicles that run near them and crossing pedestrians, and electricity is converted into microwaves and transmitted in a safe mode to a special antenna installed at the lower part of tramcars to operate transmission gears and electronic devices.

"This model helps reduce power loss and save the cost for power cables and poles. And it is also useful in preventing the loss of life and the collision with vehicles," said Hyon Song.

The fiction model "Natural energy centre" conceived by 14-year-old Pyon Ryong Jin is designed to supply electricity for production and living by generating it at hydroelectric, geothermal, space solar and

nuclear fusion power stations.

What is interesting in his model is a space solar power station which is designed to launch carrier rockets loaded with solar panels to a space station which produces electricity and transmits it to a laser sensor at the general control centre.

Ryong Jin said that he wanted to build a pollution-free city by tapping renewable energy sources.

His model is aimed at producing more electricity by relying on renewables free from fossil fuel and served as a good source of creative inspiration.

Not only his parents but also teachers are often struck by him as he delves into difficult problems until he works them out.

By Pang Un Ju PT



PHOTOS BY RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Kim Hyon Song (left) and Pyon Ryong Jin, both students at Pyongyang Middle School No. 1, pose with their own ideas presented to the national exhibition of children's sci-fi literary works and models-2019.

FOOD

Rabbit dish popular for health-promoting effect

Rabbit dish is known as the one good for health and longevity.

According to *Umsikjimibang*, *Jungbosallingyongje* and *Kyuhapchongso*, history books on national foods, rabbit meat is good for invigorating health.

Ri Yu Mi, a culinary expert, said that rabbit meat contains 40 percent of albumin and has

much more lysine and vitamin PP than other meats, and the meat cooked with ginkgo, chestnut and date promotes people's health.

"The demand for the dish is on the rise as the days go by with research into traditional national foods being intensified and the medicinal effect of the dish scientifically proved," she added.

The Cooks Association of Korea hosts the rabbit dish show every year in Pyongyang and more than a hundred rabbit dishes are presented, especially *sinsollo*, health-promoting steamed meat with *Artemisia messerschmidtiana*, smoked meat with *Artemisia messerschmidtiana* and broth.

Among them, rabbit soup is called the best food for recuperation. Sin Hye Ok, cook at the Taesong Rabbit Meat Restaurant, is a master-hand at the dish.

She won first prizes at cooking festivals and contests on several

occasions.

"In order to cook rabbit dish properly, it is important to draw out blood completely and not to puncture the bladder when you butcher a rabbit. It is needed to add a certain amount of radish when you boil the meat, which will remove an impure taste and help boil meat hard. The match of the original taste of rabbit meat with the sweet taste of jujube, ginkgo nut and chestnut further improves the taste of the soup," Sin said.

The soup with remarkable effect on the restoration of energy after illness is good for the treatment of heart trouble and circulatory diseases.

"The mouth-watering soup gets you to realize the delicate flavour of sweet rabbit meat. The meat is so soft and digestive it is suitable to the recuperation of the aged people. When asked about the secret of longevity, I usually advise questioners to have rabbit soup twice or so in a month," said Kim Myong Gyu, an 86-year-old man living in Ryonghung-dong No. 3, Taesong District, Pyongyang.

More and more people favour the dish, so the number of visitors to the restaurant rises.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

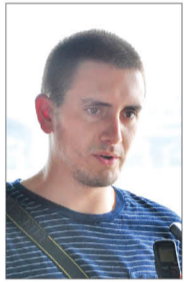
IMPRESSION

Gala performance holds foreigners spellbound

The grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance "The Land of the People" is drawing admiration of viewers from abroad.

Here are some impressions voiced by members of a delegation of the Korean friendship association based in Spain.

I'll come and see again



The performance was like nothing we have seen before in our country.

It was like seeing an Olympic Games opening ceremony on the level of details. It was well worth seeing and very impressive. We have been talking all the morning about how it was and that there is nothing similar in our country.

We feel very lucky to have the opportunity of seeing that. We are very moved.

Definitely, I would like to come again and see that kind of performance, every one of

them.

Santiago Lascano Santa Cruz

Impressive spectacle

The most impressive thing in this tour of Pyongyang was the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance.



The whole performance was extraordinary but the most exciting part was acrobatics.

It was really amazing to see acrobats zooming down from an airborne motorcycle and some others flying up high and passing through rings in the air.

I have never seen such a magnificent stunt in my life.

I will tell my family, relatives and colleagues about the wonderful performance.

Joan Balomares

Well coordinated

The performance was really amazing. All the participants

had to do a lot of work, yet it was well coordinated and well executed. So it was really impressive.



Guillermo Pedros Raigon

It tells many things

I agree with my friends that the performance was great.

It was something we could not see before and I am pretty sure that the performers



have been working very hard. We did not see any mistake and the performance was perfect.

I wonder how they could organize the students to make all the cartoons and pictures.

I think the people who were organizing the performance, especially the background stand, were really good.

Laureano Recio

BEER

Taeha attracts drinkers for refreshing taste

Taeha beer is one of the Taeha-brand drinks that are winning growing popularity.

The volume of sale of the beer is increasing rapidly at restaurants and pubs in all places of the country.

A typical example is the restaurant on the second floor of the Kwangbok Area Supermarket at the entrance to Kwangbok Street in Pyongyang.

"More than a thousand diners visit our restaurant every day, and most of them ask for Taeha beer. The volume of its sale amounts to thousands of jugs," said Pak Sun Yong, official of the restaurant.

The semi-buffet restaurant serves more than 350 kinds of dishes, and the waitresses who serve beer seem to be busier than cooks.

Waitresses incessantly fill empty jugs with beer from taps.

Each jug overflows with white, clean and fine foam in harmony with light brown liquid, which is clear and transparent, and gemlike tiny bubbles rise up incessantly from the bottom of the jugs.

The beer brings water to

drinkers' mouths and cools their heated body in an instant.

"I often come to this restaurant with colleagues to drink beer. It is very appealing that even a sip of the beer gives refreshing taste," said Jon Hyon Ung living in Tongsang-dong No. 1 of Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

"As the restaurant is widely known, I dropped in at the restaurant during my visit to Pyongyang. When I drank a jug of beer, it removed my heat in a moment. It has no mixed taste,

but is mild. I'm voracious," said Pae Su Mun from Phyongsong in South Phyongsong Province.

"Bitter taste peculiar to beer disappears soon. Therefore, Taeha beer is very popular even among old persons, I think," said a beer lover living in Yokjon-dong of Central District, Pyongyang.

"Many foreign tourists also drink beer in our restaurant. Whenever I see pleased diners, I feel animated, no matter how hard my work is, and I want to do my best for them," said Sin Jong Ok, waitress of the restaurant.

The restaurant opens from 11:30 to 20:30 every day without holiday.

By **Kim Rye Yong PT**



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Drinkers enjoy Taeha beer at an eatery of the Kwangbok Area Supermarket in Pyongyang.

Recent events

University students exceed international memory records

The 2nd Memory Contest of University Students took place in Pyongyang on August 20-21.

It brought together 36 students from universities in Pyongyang and provinces.

It was more conspicuous as Kim Su Rim, student of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education who bagged one silver and two bronzes in the 27th World Memory Championship held in Hong Kong of China last year and Ri Song Mi, student from the same university who won two gold, three silver and two bronze medals in the juvenile category of the championship, as well as the international memory master prize, attended the contest.

The contest was divided into ten categories including the memory of random words, binaries, abstract diagrams, speed numbers, calling numbers and speed cards. Each participant was allowed to compete in four events.

"Students' interest and enthusiasm for the contest are very high. So we have offered

many students a chance of emerging victorious by giving rankings in each event," said Ko Ui Min, department director of the Education Commission who is one of the organizers of the contest.

In the contest, Kim Su Rim and Ri Song Mi won three and two events respectively by proving themselves as the winners of the World Memory Championship.

Kim Ju Song from Kim Chaek University of Technology showed off his credential strong enough to become a world-level memory contender by coming first in the memory of historical and future happenings and speed cards.

In particular, he attracted the admiration of the jury members and participants by memorizing a full card set in only 11.8 seconds.

The international memory records were broken in five events including the memory of random words, speed cards and ten-minute cards.

Kids stage art performance

A national art performance of kindergarteners "Flower-festooned Gate" was held at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace in Pyongyang on August 27.

Among the audience were Pak Thae Song, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea,

Vice-Premier Jon Kwang Ho, Kim Sung Du, chairman of the Education Commission, and officials in the field of education and teachers at schools and kindergartens in Pyongyang.

The repertoire encompassed songs, dances, light music, national instrumental ensembles and others.



A national art performance of kindergartners is given at the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace.

Short course given for peasant dancers

There was a peasant dance training course for agricultural workers in Pyongyang between August 19 and 25.

It brought together dance directors and composers from the union of agricultural workers in each province and more than 200 agricultural workers selected from cooperative farms.

The short course was divided into theoretical and practical training.

Lectures were given by Kim Son Yong, researcher at the Folklore Research Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences, and Ju Kun Yong, lecturer at

Kim Won Gyun University of Music.

Han Thae Il, researcher at the Korean Dance Research Institute of the Phibada Opera Troupe, officiated the practical training.

The participants saw a video showing the performance of units which entered rankings in the past contests.

Farmers from the Jangchon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Pyongyang, said that they had a better understanding of peasant dance through the training course.

By **Kwon Hyo Song PT**

VIEW

Sanctions cut no ice with DPRK

The prestige of the DPRK advancing on the strength of self-reliance is drawing worldwide attention.

Most recently, the director of the CNA Institute of the United States asserted that sanctions have no effect on north Korea at present and neither would they in the future. In an article posted on the website of The Hill, he maintained that the US conservative rulers should admit their maximum pressure policy has failed and that sanctions will do little to force north Korea into changing its mind.

This can be viewed as a frank confession that the US' sanctions and pressure fail to work on the DPRK.

Given some views from Washington's political establishment, however, it seems that the US still finds it hard to discard its old way of thinking.

The US is resorting to military hostilities toward the DPRK, and it is, on the other hand,

calling for "more pressure and sanctions" while describing the latter's justifiable exercise of its right to self-defence as provocative.

The US Congress Research Service in a report on August 5 feared that lifting of all sanctions might reduce the tools for pressurizing north Korea.

Time flies but they are still steeped in anachronistic mentality. Preposterously, they regard sanctions lifting as a significant "concession" or "gift" to the DPRK, fumbling with the old key of sanctions and pressure.

The international community admires the economic progress the DPRK has made in its efforts to implement the new strategic line and acknowledges that the country has entered a new phase of development in the socialist cause despite the pressure.

It is not true that the DPRK has built up its national strength and attained such a strong position free from the hostile forces' sanctions and blockade.

In the face of hostile moves, we are working hard to build a powerful socialist country while striving to develop the economy and improve the people's living standards.

We have the strength and foundation, as well as our own fighting strategy and mode of creation, with which to shape a brighter future of socialism by dint of self-reliance.

The US should know that we do not care about the lifting of sanctions and furthermore we will never swap the country's strategic security for that.

The US would probably have felt that sanctions and pressure or the lifting of sanctions are now nothing to us and that they cannot bring any "change".

It is well advised to see the reality squarely, though belatedly, free from the time-worn mentality.

This is the excerpt of Jong Hyon's Aug 24 article, titled "Sanctions will never work on the DPRK".

NAM

Unity and solidarity essential among NAM members

September 1 is the Day of the Non-Aligned Movement.

On September 1 1961 the first non-aligned summit meeting was held in Belgrade in former Yugoslavia. Members of the NAM set the day as the Day of the Non-Aligned Movement and have arranged a variety of events to commemorate the anniversary every year.

The DPRK joined the NAM in August 1975.

Since it emerged as an independent political force in the international arena, the movement has exerted a positive impact on the process of change of the world and international political life.

As it rejects the attempts of hegemony-seeking forces to divide the world into blocs in order to expand the sphere of their influence, it fights against aggression, interference, subjugation and inequality. It works to oppose the tyranny of particular states in international relations and contribute to settling international issues in the common interests of the world people.

The NAM is faced with huge challenges at present as hostile forces grow more vicious in their moves to weaken and obliterate the movement.

Hegemony-seekers are getting more undisguised than ever before in their bids to violate the sovereignty of different countries in disregard of the UN Charter and international law. Examples are serious political crises in Iran, Venezuela and China's Hong

Kong, the arms race caused by the US' withdrawal from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, heated disputes and such humanitarian disasters as refugee crisis.

The reality requires the NAM to decisively enhance its position and role as a political force that represents the countries aspiring after independence. Only when the NAM members which make up the absolute majority of the UN member nations continue to boost collective actions on the strength of unity, can they play a leading part in building a new world peaceful and prosperous.

The DPRK that is directly opposed to hegemony-seeking forces of the world channels sustained efforts into building up the NAM.

It takes part in the summit, foreign ministerial meeting and other major gatherings of the movement to help the NAM adhere to its ideal and mission and bolster up the unity among member nations.

It also fosters unity and cooperation with non-aligned countries in the efforts to oppose high-handedness, arbitrariness and unilateralism of the West in international relations and establish a fair international order.

The DPRK will remain committed to the ideal of the NAM and hold higher the banner of independence against imperialism for accomplishing the cause of global independence.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

ECOSYSTEM

Flora and fauna species threatened with extinction

According to information available, 75 percent of land environment and 66 percent of marine environment have changed and wetland areas decreased by 35 percent between 1970 and 2015.

Early this year, an international bird protection organization said that the number of more than half of rapacious birds in nearly 550 species including eagle, hawk and owl continues to diminish and 18 percent of them are now endangered.

Recently, the UN issued a report that nearly a million species of animals and plants are in danger of extinction and many of them will die out in decades.

Today, it is an undertaking for mankind itself to rescue animals and plants that are nearly extinct.

A typical example is the reduction of bees.

Bees not only make honey good for human health but also carry pollen to promote the fertilization of lots of plants, most of which are used by humans as foodstuffs. And they are vital to human existence.

In Europe, 9 percent of bee species are in jeopardy.

The main cause of this crisis is related to the wanton destruction of ecological environment caused by

massive deforestation, emission of carbon dioxide and global warming.

At least 13 million hectares of forest are destroyed every year worldwide, and last year saw a reduction of about 12 million hectares of tropical forest.

The World Natural Protection Fund already warned that if global warming persisted, it would exterminate half the number of fauna and flora species in 35 regions with rich biodiversity.

Especially, the southwestern part of Australia and the southern forest area of Africa will reportedly suffer great damage.

Illegal hunting for moneymaking is another cause of animal extinction.

For example, South Africa, a habitat of over 80 percent of rhinoceros in the world, arrested 375 poachers and confiscated lots of hunting tools in the first half of this year.

Experts also describe excessive fishing as a major threat to marine ecosystem.

Such worries by international organs and experts are not accidental.

Facts and figures show that if the international community neglects the protection of

animals and plants, their extinction is a matter of time and this will also pose threat to human existence.

By Min Chol PT

JAPAN

Discrimination against Korean children appalling

The unreasonable discrimination recently committed by Japan against Korean children in Japan has sent shock waves throughout the world.

As was already reported, the Japanese authorities are to implement the measure aimed at making all children between three and five go to infant education and childcare institutions including nurseries and kindergartens "free of charge" from October 1, according to the "law on support to the upbringing of children" which was passed in the Diet on May 10. The content of the law is "free infant education and childcare".

The problem is that they excluded the infant classes at Korean schools in Japan from the benefits of the support system.

On April 5, a month before the aforesaid law was adopted in the Diet, the authorities already issued a directive to all local self-governing bodies to exclude infant education and childcare facilities of Korean and other foreign schools from the application of the system and not to accept applications for permission to open childcare facilities at various kinds of schools.

On May 30 the Cabinet office in charge of "free infant education and childcare" forced officials in local administrations to strictly follow the instructions of the authorities.

Underlying all these moves is a politically motivated intention to ruin national education of Koreans in Japan and cast a dark shadow over the future development of the Korean community.

What the Abe regime seeks while taking issue with the "teaching content that does not meet the standards" is to force the families of Koreans in Japan with pre-school children to give up sending their children to Korean schools by placing heavy financial burdens on them and to finally weaken and obliterate national identity of all Koreans in Japan.

The wicked discrimination against Korean children in Japan is reminiscent of the attempts at obliterating the Korean nation Japan had made during its military rule over Korea to deprive them of their own language, characters and even their names.

Such behaviour is a breach of international laws, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child which stipulates that children should be provided with maximum benefits and financial support, and the "law on support to the upbringing of children" Japan instituted allegedly to fairly apply to all children.

By Om Ryong PT

SOCCER

April 25 advances to AFC Cup finals

The inter-regional semifinals of the 2019 AFC Cup tournament are going on.

The DPRK's April 25, winner of the East Asian regional preliminaries, clashed with Bangladesh's Abahani Limited Dhaka, which won in the South Asian region, in the east regional semifinals. The second leg was held on August 28 at Kim Il Sung Stadium in Pyongyang.

Abahani Limited Dhaka is the six-time national champion, and it is the first time for the team to take part in the AFC Cup.

April 25 has won the national premier league and other tournaments several times and taken part in the AFC Cup successively since 2017.

It made its debut in the 2017 event and just passed the group league. Last year, it proceeded further to inter-regional finals.

The first leg at the Abahani Limited Dhaka's base on August 21 finished with the home team's 4-3 win.

The second leg was very fierce from the kickoff as both teams had a good grasp of each other through their first clash.

The DPRK team pushed its defence line to the midfield and mounted a ceaseless offensive, while the Bangladeshi team put up a stout defence while trying to make counterattack as it had

one-goal lead from the first leg.

The first half ended in a goalless draw.

In the second half April 25 intensified attack and the ball constantly moved around the opponent's defence area. After a series of palm-sweating scenes in the goal area, April 25's No. 18 Kim Yu Song who came into the ground as a substitute in the 49th minute opened the scoring.

Amid the Korean team's full-scale offensive, a Bangladeshi defender was shown the red card.

In the 83rd minute, Kim Yu Song deceived the goalie in collaboration with Rim Chol Min and scored one more goal

to clinch the win.

The Bangladeshis tried hard to make up for the loss, but in vain.

With the 2-0 win in the second leg, April 25 defeated Abahani Limited Dhaka 5-4 and has been qualified to advance to the inter-regional finals.

"We put much strength in defence but could not check the opponent's attack," said Abahani Limited Dhaka's head coach Mario Lemos. "April 25 has a strong offensive capability and watertight defence. I wish the team a good result in the future."

By Jong Tang Song PT



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

April 25's No. 18 Kim Yu Song stabs the ball home in the 83rd minute in the second leg against Abahani Limited Dhaka on Wednesday.

HERITAGE

Astronomical chart dates back to 14th century

Among the rich national cultural heritage of Korea is *Chonsangryolchabunyajido*, which is recognized as one of the oldest astronomical charts in the world.

It was made in 1395 based on an astronomical chart carved on stone in the period of Koguryo.

The Korean ancestors made the astronomical chart carved on a stone about 2 metres long and about 1.2 metres wide between the late 5th and early 6th centuries.

Marked on the stone are 1467 stars that were visible in the nocturnal sky of Pyongyang, the capital of Koguryo at the time, divided into 282 constellations in a circle. They were printed on paper with ink to make a "star map", which was used as basic materials for astronomical observation and compilation of calendar.

It enabled everyone to easily

understand the astronomical theories and knowledge at the time and was helpful to making calendar as it provided clear basic materials needed for astronomical observation.

Chonsangryolchabunyajido was made with some amendments to it to meet the astronomical conditions in the late 14th century.

The 122.8cm wide and 209.9cm long astronomical chart was a very scientific and elaborate one at the time.

As the positions of the constellations changed a little from those in the period of Koguryo due to the precession, that is, a phenomenon that the position of the sun on the first day of spring moves 50.2 seconds to the west every year, the constellations of the astronomical chart carved on stone were turned 12.5 degrees in it.

Chonsangryolchabunyajido

was a very convenient and important map in finding out the positions of stars quickly to make correct and timely astronomical observation at the time.

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

SPA

County likely to benefit from spa resources

Korea boasts numerous hot springs that are good for health and effective for the treatment of diseases. Among them are those in Yangdok County, South Phyongan Province.

According to Ri Hye Gyong, section chief of the environmental hygienics institute under the Academy of Medical Science, hot springs in the Yangdok area contain much sulphur and very little radon, yield a large quantity of water and take marked pharmacological effects.

Sokthang hot spring has been used for hundreds of years. Referring to the spa, *Tonggukyojisungnam* (1481), a geography book from the middle ages of Korea, says that hot spring comes out in three places about 8 km north of the county and they are very hot.

The ancestors named it "tolthang (stone hot spring)" as it gushes out of a crack in a rock and later the name changed into "sokthang" with the same meaning.

Divided into three areas, the hot spring is found 28 km away from the present Yangdok county town.

It is said that in the past local residents widely used the hot spring for the treatment of diseases and its high heat was used to steam medicinal herbs.

There is also Yangdok hot spring in the Yangdok area.

It comes out in two places, called Sothangji and Taethangji, with the former located in the county town and the latter about



two kilometres away from Yangdok railway station.

Yangdok hot spring has also been used since olden times and Sothangji, or "hot spring for the blind", was called thus as it was mostly used by the blind.

The high-temperature, simple silica and fluorine-low alkaline spa is one of the typical sulphur hot springs in the country.

The two hot springs have good effects on softening skin, remedying myocardial contraction, promoting circulation of blood, accelerating antiphlogosis and tissue regeneration and stimulating enterocinetic motion.

Hot springs in the Yangdok area are effective against such diseases as chronic eczema, psoriasis and lichen, arthritis of all kinds, external wounds and after-effects of operations, neuralgia and neuritis, chronic gastritis, gout, obesity and diabetes.

Treatment methods include drinking, stomach wash, application inside the rectum and bathing of the whole body.

The Yangdok area is developing into a hot spring resort with investment from the government.

By Kim Il Jin PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The 18th Pyongyang anglers' competition is held on the banks of the picturesque Pothong River.

