The Political Bureau convenes a consultative meeting on May 14 to overhaul the top emergency epidemic prevention system under operation and take additional political and practical measures. Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea, guided the consultative meeting. It was attended by members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Present there as observers were officials in the state emergency epidemic prevention sector and a leading official of the Ministry of Public Health.

SEE PAGE 5
Kim Jong Un issues a special order of the WPK Central Military Commission for stabilizing the supply of medicines in Pyongyang by committing powerful force of KPA medics

KCNA

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea convened an emergency consultative meeting again on May 15 to discuss measures to fight the epidemic.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea, guided the consultative meeting.

Attending the meeting were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee.

Present there as observers were officials of the state emergency epidemic prevention sector and a leading official of the Ministry of Public Health.

The Political Bureau heard the report of the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters on the spread of the epidemic as of May 15.

The consultative meeting intensively discussed the issue of reexamining the nationwide anti-epidemic situation after the state epidemic prevention system was switched over to the top emergency anti-epidemic system and quickly correcting the deviations revealed in the supply of medicines.

Referring to the supply of medicines throughout the country, the respected General Secretary analyzed the current situation in which the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee issued an emergency order to immediately release and timely supply the state reserve medicines to medical centres and control the spread of the epidemic and an order for all pharmacies to switch over to the 24-hour operation system, but the system is not yet mobile, the orders have not yet been carried out properly and medicines have not been supplied to pharmacies in time.

Saying that the medicines provided by the state have not been supplied to inhabitants through pharmacies correctly, he noted it is because officials of the Cabinet and public health sector have not taken themselves into their job, without a correct understanding of the present crisis and only talking about the spirit of devotingly serving the people. He strongly criticized the Cabinet and public health sector for their irresponsible work and taking the administrative order of the Party’s policies by law have failed to exercise legal supervision and control properly and correct various undesirable practices in the handling and sale of medicines across the country so as to make the administrative order concerning the supply of medicines be immediately and exactly carried out, he censured the director of the Central Public Prosecutors Office for the negligence and dereliction of his duty without feeling any responsibility and corruption and playing any role.

He referred to a series of deviations revealed in the overall epidemic prevention work and took practical measures for correcting them immediately.

He issued a special order of the chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission for immediately stabilizing the supply of medicines in Pyongyang by committing the powerful forces of the military medical sector.

Stressing that officials should not allow any slightest imperfection and vulnerable points by maintaining high tension and vigilance in the acute anti-epidemic war and scrupulously organizing and guiding every work in a scientific way, he said that they should take the anti-epidemic campaign with effective work and beneficial results.

On the basis of the detailed analysis of the present anti-epidemic situation of the country, he discussed ways for enforcing the anti-epidemic policies more efficiently and indicated the orientation and goal for the immediate struggle.

The consultative meeting also discussed the issue of improving the state’s administrative control over the emergency anti-epidemic work, the issue of thoroughly ensuring the hygiene of medicines at pharmacies, the issue of further strengthening the legal control over the anti-epidemic work and the issue of enhancing the state’s capability for coping with crisis.

Just after ending the meeting, he visited pharmacies in Pyongyang Municipality to acquaint himself with the supply of medicines.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won and Kim Tok Hun, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, Choe Kyong Chol, minister of Public Health, and senior officials of relevant departments of the Party Central Committee.

According to his instruction, members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee visited pharmacies in Pyongyang to learn about their situation.

He dropped in at pharmacies in Taedonggang District and learnt in detail about the supply and sale of medicines.

He acquainted himself in detail with what kind of medicines have been supplied to them after the top emergency epidemic prevention system was in operation, whether medicines have been kept as required by regulations, whether the pharmacies have been turned into a 24-hour service system, whether they hold consultations with patients, what kinds of antipyretics and antibiotics they have and what kinds of medicines inhabitants demanded most now and how much they cost.

He repeatedly stressed the need to correct the vulnerable points in medicine supply system and take strong measures for transporting medicines.

Saying that most of the pharmacies have not been arranged so as to properly fulfill their function and are in such a poor situation that they don’t have medicine stores separately except showcases, he also pointed out the situation in which saleswomen offer service without wearing proper white gown and hygienic environment that does not reach the standard.

Noting that today’s anti-epidemic campaign is that of the people, for the people and by the people, he repeatedly called on all the officials to make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people with the mindset that they would bear full responsibility for the security and well-being of the country and people.
The General Secretary makes an important conclusion in regard to the implementation of the Party and state anti-epidemic policy at present

KCNA

A meeting of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea was held on May 21 to discuss the issues of implementing the anti-epidemic policy at the state and party levels.

The meeting made an analysis of the current situation of the state anti-epidemic policy and the orientation for executing the Party and state policies under the top emergency anti-epidemic situation.

The meeting also examined a report on the execution of the Party and state policies for the first half of this year as of May 17 before discussing the documents and agenda item on an organizational matter to be submitted to the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee.

The Presidium of the Political Bureau made a comprehensive analysis of merits and demerits in the activities of the members of the leadership body of the Party Central Committee and made a study of relevant measures.

It discussed the issue of helping the Party organizations at all levels, leading officials and officials of the state organs enhance their role with firm will and confidence, boundless devotion and responsibility and achieve remarkable progress in implementing the policies of the Party Central Committee, headlining for its unified leadership and for the first time in its history and thus play a leading role in building the social economy and national defence and overcoming the severe health crisis.

It analyzed the reality in which the leading officials of the Party and state organs fail to properly handle affairs in the emergency anti-epidemic situation due to lack of experience, studied and discussed the issues of enhancing their leading role, creativity and activity.

It discussed measures to get a firmer grasp of and close control over the work, activities and role of the Party organizations at all levels, leading officials and officials of the state organs so that they would not maintain their position with incompleteness and self-protection and to exercise strong working discipline in the whole Party and state organs.

It discussed the issue of further intensifying the discipline inspection within the Party, strengthening the Party organizational and ideological life and enhancing the guidance and control including organizational control and inspection to make all Party organizations and officials of the state organs fulfill their duties and further perfecting the organizational and instrumental measures for rigorously implementing the Party’s grand line of socialist construction.

Increasingly the meeting was the issue of further enhancing the functions and role of the Secretariat and all departments of the Party Central Committee.

The General Secretary analyzed the limitations and deficits revealed in the activities of the Secretariat and the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and clarified the measures for overcoming them.

The Presidium of the Political Bureau examined a report of the state emergency epidemic prevention headquarters on the spread of the infectious disease as of May 17 and recognized the jujitsu, efficiency and scientific accuracy of the state emergency anti-epidemic policy at present and the spread of the infectious disease as of May 17 and recognized the jujitsu, efficiency and scientific accuracy of the state emergency anti-epidemic policy at present.

It discussed the issue of continuously maintaining the good chance of winning on the overall anti-epidemic front by adhering steadily and in a mobile way the state anti-epidemic policy in keeping with the sustained favorable turn like today and changing anti-epidemic situation.

It intensively studied about the work launched in immediately rectifying the deviations in medical supply, the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee assigned a task to study such additional anti-epidemic measures as the establishment of a medicine supply centre and regional medical treatment centres throughout the country.

At the meeting, the General Secretary made an important conclusion in regard to the implementation of the Party and state anti-epidemic policy at present.

He said that immediately in the current situation is not an uncontrollable state anti-epidemic capacity building. In order to overcome the present acute anti-epidemic war, we should always take care of each other which prevents our society in any adversities are the key to and guarantee of a great victory in the epidemic prevention campaign which is more than any other medical science and technology, he said, calling upon all the Party organizations to similarly conduct the organizational and political work so that our best communist virtues and beautiful traits, which no one on earth can possess or imitate, are given full play in implementing the state anti-epidemic policy campaign.

Noting that the public health crisis facing us is also attributable to the incompleteness and self-protection of the Party and state organs in the epidemic prevention campaign, he said that all officials of the Party and state, raising their awareness of the critical points of and responsibility for the grim state epidemic prevention situation, educate and guide all of them to sincerely fulfill their voluntary duty and overcome the anti-epidemic challenges under the united efforts of all the people by relying on them, he said.

The crisis we have faced offered a test board to distinguish between merits and demerits of all working systems of our state, he noted, stressing that we should correctly scrutinize all the phenomena of the emergency situation and take measures from the critical and developmental point of view, unconditionally uniting the thoughts and actions of all Party organizations, power organs and all sectors of society with the decisions and wishes of the Party Central Committee and make them keep united pace with the Party Central Committee in execution of and faithfully in all duties.

It is important to impel again the idea of the Party Central Committee on attaching importance to Party cells and Party organizations and Party cells so as to enhance the core and vanguard role of the Party.

In particular, it is important to make the cadres lead the Party members and broad masses of people in the van of the fighting forces and front, fight valiantly as scouts and fully discharge their duty and role as bulwark posts, he noted repeatedly.

He affirmed that he would impel the whole Party to turn out like an erupting volcano once again under the state anti-epidemic situation to make the trend leadership peculiar to our Party verified by the history and times and make the Party fulfill its responsibility and thus defend the wellbeing of the country and the people, with the dedication and determination and the strength and spirit of heroic Korea to whole world once again.
KPA medic hold oath-taking meeting, launch into combat against epidemic in Pyongyang

Korea Central News Agency (KCNA) - A strong contingent of medical personnel in the military medical sector of the Korean People’s Army was urgently committed to the battle for the supply of medicines which is vital for victory in the anti-epidemic campaign on the special order of the Central Military Commission of the Workers’ Party of Korea.

The contingents hold a meeting on May 16 at the Ministry of National Defence to receive an order to be assigned duty in the fight against the spread of the malignant disease in the capital city of Pyongyang.

It was attended by the commanders in the KPA military medical sector to be directly responsible for the mission of service of medicines and transport of medical supplies in the capital city and provincial regions.

The plenary was taken by Pak Jong Chon, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party and KWP Central Military Commission and commanding officer of the defence ministry.

Pak Jong Chon read out the special order of the KWP Central Military Commission on urgently committing a contingent of medical personnel in the KPA to the front of anti-epidemic anti-epidemic efforts in the capital.

The sparks expressed the determination to work hard for the transport and management of medical supplies with warm affection of the KPA whose mission is to serve the people, fully ensure that the provisions of medical supplies is not merely a logistical work for medical treatment, but a noble patriotic undertaking to convey the heartfelt sincerity of the Supreme Commander to the people.

KPA has publicized the meeting and launched an oath-taking campaign on May 16 at the Ministry of National Defence to fulfill their responsibilities in the campaign to control the prevailing health crisis in the capital city of Pyongyang.

KPA official said that while the epidemic is spreading nationwide, the capital city of Pyongyang is the battlefield of the anti-epidemic campaign.

The capital city has been declared as a special order of the WPK in the campaign to stop the spread of the malignant disease.

The state medical organs are tightening their efforts in the capital in accordance with the national emergency order.

The KPA military medical sector is fighting on several fronts and taking unexpected measures to control the spread of the malignant disease.

The soldiers have started the anti-epidemic campaign on the special order of the KWP Central Military Commission.

Anti-epidemic campaign intensified to reverse unfavourable trend

The officials of the health organs in the capital city of Pyongyang carry out an intensive anti-epidemic campaign on the special order of the KWP Central Military Commission.

The officials are earnestly working to control the spread of the epidemic in the capital city of Pyongyang and launch into the campaign to control the spread of the malignant disease.

The military medical sector is working with the capital city’s Party committee and others to build a smoothly working system for medical treatment for all citizens under the 24-hour medical service system.

The capital city has mobilized all the medical resources across the country to battles against the epidemic.

The capital city has an intensive anti-epidemic campaign and has mobilized all medical resources across the country to battle against the epidemic.

The officials of the medical organs in the People’s Republic of Korea are working on the campaign to control the spread of the epidemic and to establish a smoothly working system for medical treatment.

The epidemic, however, is spreading from the capital city to other parts of the country and is following the trend of increased number of patients.

The epidemic crisis has been created nationwide.

In this connection, the officials of the health organs are mobilizing all medical resources across the country to control the epidemic.

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The officials of the health organs in the People’s Republic of Korea are mobilizing all medical resources across the country to control the epidemic.

The epidemic crisis has been created nationwide.

In this connection, the officials of the health organs are mobilizing all medical resources across the country to control the epidemic.
All people turn out to reduce drought damage

Rural communities busy with rice-transplanting

Rice-transplanting is in full swing in various counties of the DPRK.

On June 1 in Chongsan County in South Phyongan Province, a demonstration on transplanting rice was held.

On June 3 in North Hwanghae Province, a demonstration on transplanting rice was held.

On June 1 in North Hamgyong Province, a demonstration on transplanting rice was held.

On June 1 in North Pyongan Province, a demonstration on transplanting rice was held.

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Mastermind behind increased tension on the Korean peninsula

PROVIDED BY THE PYONGYANG TIMES

RECENTLY, THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH KOREA, THROUGH ITS STATE NEWS AGENCY, SPOKE OF THE "MASTERMIND" BEHIND THE TENSIONS ON THE PENINSULA AS "THE THREAT TO REGIONAL STABILITY". THIS STATEMENT COMES AS THE REGION CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE HEIGHTENED TENSIONS DUE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NORTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT.

The statement highlighted the role of "outside forces" in escalating tensions, referring to unspecified "entities" and "interests" as the "masterminds" behind the regional instability. The North Korean government has frequently blamed "imperialist schemes" and "anti-Pyongyang forces" for provoking disputes and conflicts in the region.

The government also noted the "unpredictable actions" of "outside forces" which have been instrumental in destabilizing the peninsula. These actions include supporting and funding "anti-Pyongyang elements" and "hostile propaganda campaigns".

The state media further stated that these "masterminds" have been acting to "undermine" the "socio-economic achievements" of the North Korean people and "sabotage" the "peaceful reunification" of the peninsula.

The government has repeatedly emphasized its commitment to "self-reliance" and "self-reliance policies" in the face of such provocations, and has called on the international community to "cease such schemes".

The statement concludes by urging the "international community" to "join hands" in achieving a "stable and prosperous" peninsula.
The South Gate of the Taesongsan Fort (left) and a section of the fort (right).

**PAGYON FALLS, SCENIC BEAUTY**

One of three renowned waterfalls of Korea.

The waterfall is located in Pagyon-ri, Kaesong. It is 37 metres high, 1.5 metres wide.

**By Han Kwi Hun PT**

From time immemorial, Korea has been widely known as a “country of scenic beauties”. Among them is Pagyon Falls, one of the three famous falls in Korea. It is located in Pagyon-ri, Kaesong City, and is 37 metres high and 1.5 metres wide. The crystal-clear water, which runs down into the rugged ravine between Songgo and Chonnim mountains, falls down a rock wall and flows into Pak Pool before cascading down as a waterfall.

There is a singular pond called “Pag Pool”, originally a broad and flat rock which was hollowed in the shape of bucket, on the top of the falls with a standing-stone in the centre.

At the bottom of the falls there is another pond named “Komo Pool”. And there is a round rock named “Ryongbawi” (dragon-shaped rock) by the side of the pond.

Therefore, Hwang Jin I, Korean poetess in the first half of the 16th century who was well-known as one of “three famous figures of Songdo” along with philosopher So Kyong Dok (1489-1546) and Pagyon Falls, praised the waterfall in the namesake poem as follows:

The falling water roars inside the valley like thunder
Water drops scatter into the sky like beads

**By To Kyong Chol PT**

There are a lot of historical relics in Mt Taesong which is invariably tinged with green even in early spring and late autumn as it is thickly covered with evergreen pine trees and therefore is renowned as one of eight scenic attractions in Pyongyang.

The relics date back to the period between around the 3rd century and the mid-7th century when Koguryo advanced to the Pyongyang area. Typical of them is the Taesongsan Fort, one of Koguryo’s exemplary mountain fortresses, which was great in size and built by making good use of natural features.

The fort was built by linking six peaks of Ulji, Somun, Jangsu, Pukjang, Kuksa and Jujak from the south with the first peak as the centre. It had two valleys wide and deep enough to keep lots of people and combat equipment and materials.

Unearthed in the fort were sites of granaries, arsenals and barrack, over 170 ponds such as Ingo, Sasum, Kuryong and Jangsu ponds, Koguryo roof tiles, gilt-bronze images of Buddha, a stone box that had contained the Buddhist scriptures and many other historical sites and relics.

There is the site of Anhak Palace that Koguryo used as a royal palace for a certain period after it moved its capital to Pyongyang in 427. The palace site is surrounded in a square by the earth-and-stone palace walls, and there are gate sites in each of four cardinal points at the walls.

The buildings were arranged on a shaft line from south to north with the middle gate on its south wall as the centre, and the buildings were linked by corridors. This alone shows the comparatively advanced architecture of Koguryo.

And there remain cornerstones and stones on the footstone sites in the palace site, and many relics were unearthed from different places, including various kinds of roof tiles, antefixes, hip or gable ridge tips with queer faces and earthenware.

Relics in Mt Taesong and its vicinity serve as good data that testify to the long history of Korea and the excellent cultural tradition of the Korean people, and thus are under good protection and management as national treasures and relics of conservation value.