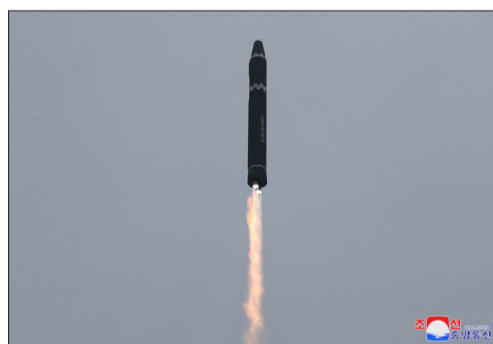


KPA carries out surprise, demonstration launching drills

ICBM launching drill staged



Hwasongpho-15 is launched at a high angle through the maximum range system at Pyongyang International Airport on February 18.

KCNA

An ICBM launching drill was conducted on the afternoon of February 18.

The Missile General Bureau guided the drill, and involved in it was the First Red Flag Hero Company which has rich launching experience among the units operating ICBMs.

The company is a firing combat sub-unit with the most excellent combat capability among those sub-units wholly responsible for the strategic mission. It performed a proud feat by launching a new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17 on November 18 2022.

The drill was suddenly organized without a previous notice under an emergency order for standby for firing combat given at dawn of February 18 and a written order by the Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea at 8:00 a.m. that day.

Specified in the written

order on launching drill carrying a personal signature of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un were the contents that the First Red Flag Hero Company of the Missile General Bureau shall be mobilized in a drill using ICBM Hwasongpho-15 and, through a sudden launching drill, the reliability of the weapon system be re-confirmed and verified while getting the combat preparedness of the DPRK nuclear force recognized and proving confidence and guarantee for correct operation, reactivity, reliability, effectiveness and combat capability of the components of the state nuclear deterrent.

On receiving the combat order with honour, the First Red Flag Hero Company made a high-angle launch of Hwasongpho-15 through the maximum range system at Pyongyang International Airport on the afternoon of February 18.

The missile travelled up to a maximum altitude

of 5 768.5 km and flew 989 km for 4 015 seconds before accurately hitting the pre-set area in open waters of the East Sea of Korea. The company got an "excellent mark" at the assessment.

The WPK Central Military Commission highly appreciated the actual war capacity of the ICBM units which are ready for mobile and mighty counterattack.

The surprise ICBM launching drill, conducted in the present situation under which the military threats of the US and south Korea are getting serious to the extent that cannot be overlooked, is an actual proof of the DPRK strategic nuclear force's consistent efforts to turn its capacity of fatal nuclear counterattack on the hostile forces into the irresistible one as well as a guarantee for and a clear demonstration of the sure reliability of our powerful physical nuclear deterrent.

Multiple launch rocket systems fired

KCNA

Relevant multiple launch rocket system sub-units under the Korean People's Army long-range artillery unit on the western front conducted a multiple launch rocket system launching drill at 7:00 a.m. on Monday.

The US and the south Korean puppet forces have already staged such combined air drills several times this year alone, escalating the military tension.

The enemies are estimating themselves that they demonstrated the combined defense capability and posture through the prompt introduction of combat force for extended deterrence, while stating that they would continue to increase the frequency and intensity of deploying US strategic assets in south Korea

in the future, too.

On the order to conduct a power demonstration firing, relevant multiple launch rocket system firepower sub-units of the KPA long-range artillery unit on the western front set virtual targets 395km and 337km away from the launching points respectively and fired two shells of 600mm multiple launch rocket system towards the East Sea on the morning of February 20.

At the same time, other sub-units conducted firepower training at the tunnel positions without live firing.

The 600mm multiple launch rocket system involved in the firing is the latest type of multiple launch precision attack weapon system of the KPA. It is a tactical nuclear attack means boasting of the great might

powerful enough to assign only one multiple launch rocket system with four shells so as to destroy an enemy operational airfield.

At the donation ceremony held at the end of December last year, the Academy of Defence Science and the Nuclear Weapons Institute expressed their firm view that the explosive power of four multiple launch rocket system shells can reduce to ashes the enemy's operational airfield to paralyze its function.

Through today's firing drill with the involvement of super-large multiple launch rocket system, the tactical nuclear attack means, the KPA fully demonstrated its full readiness to deter and will to counter the US and south Korean combined air force bragging about their air superiority.

KCNA

A strategic cruise missile launching drill was staged at dawn of February 23.

Involved in the drill was a relevant sub-unit of a strategic cruise missile unit of the Korean People's Army in the eastern region, and other sub-units conducted firepower training in the tunnel positions without live firing.

The sub-unit, involved in the launching drill, fired four "Hwasal-2" strategic cruise missiles in the area of Kim Chaek City, North Hamgyong Province, towards the East Sea of Korea.

The drill reconfirmed the reliability of the weapon system and examined the rapid response posture of strategic cruise missile units

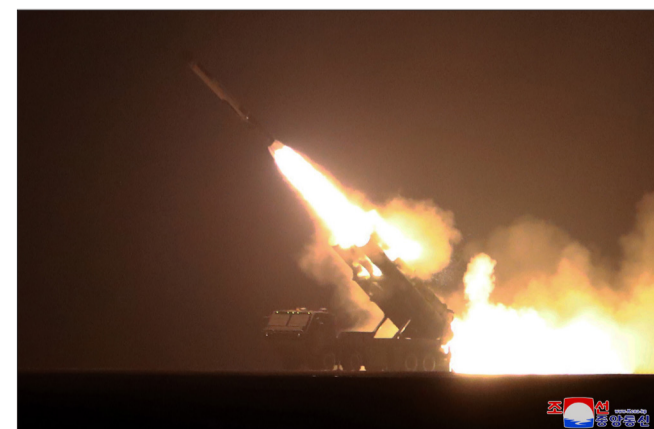
that constitute one of major forces of the DPRK nuclear deterrent.

The launching drill successfully achieved its object.

The four strategic cruise missiles precisely hit the preset target on the East Sea

of Korea after travelling the 2 000km-long elliptical and eight-shaped flight orbits for 10 208s to 10 224s.

The Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea expressed great satisfaction over the results of the launching drill.



A strategic cruise missile launching drill is conducted at dawn of February 23.

Day of Shining Star celebrated abroad with public events

KCNA

The Russian government, political parties and organizations held an event in Moscow on February 14 to celebrate the 81st anniversary of the birth of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

It was attended by personages from the government, political parties, organizations and institutions including the State Duma, Federation Council, ministries of Foreign Affairs and Natural Resources and Ecology, the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, the Party for Peace and Unity of Russia and the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, as well as members of the Group for International Solidarity with the DPRK, the DPRK ambassador to Russia and his embassy staff members.

The participants laid bouquets at an artwork

depicting President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il together and made a bow to them.

They looked round the photos of the President, the Chairman and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and others showing the proud reality of socialist Korea.

They also saw a film representing the noble life and exploits of the Chairman and videos showing bright and happy looks of Korean children.

Speakers extolled the sacred life of the Chairman who performed the undying exploits for the country and people and for the times and history through his energetic ideological and theoretical activities and great revolutionary practice, and highly praised the great personality traits of Kim Jong Un who is demonstrating the prestige of the DPRK to the whole world.

A national seminar on the theme of "Chairman Kim Jong Il's life and exploits" took place in Mexico on the occasion of the Day of the Shining Star on February 11.

It was attended by personages of the Mexican political parties and social organizations, members of the Juche idea study group and other people.

In his keynote speech at the seminar, the chairman of the Study of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism who is director-general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea, said that Chairman Kim Jong Il clearly analyzed the limitation of the times of the preceding revolutionary theories of the working class and clarified the originality of the Juche idea. He noted that thanks to his efforts, the masses of the people could have immutable guidelines in their struggle to achieve

independence and a new era of the cause of independence for humankind has been opened.

Speakers highly praised the immortal exploits Chairman Kim Jong Il had performed for party building and Songun-based leadership and for accomplishing the socialist cause and the cause of independence against imperialism.

They referred to the eye-opening achievements the DPRK has made in the buildup of self-reliant defence capability, economic construction and improvement of the people's living standards under the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

A joint seminar on the exploits of Chairman Kim Jong Il was held on February 10 in Dacca in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star under the sponsorship of political

parties and organizations in Bangladesh.

It was attended by personages of the Workers' Party, National Socialist Party, the Communist Party (Marxism-Leninism), the Awami League, the institute of the Juche idea and the Group for the Study of Songun Policy of Bangladesh, the Bangladesh-DPRK Friendship and Solidarity Committee and other political parties and organizations.

The speakers recollected with emotion the undying exploits Chairman Kim Jong Il had performed for accomplishing the world socialist cause on the occasion of the 81st anniversary of his birth.

They lauded him as an outstanding statesman who had built the Workers' Party of Korea as the ever-victorious and steel strong party and the powerful staff of the Korean revolution and

a great leader who held high the banner of Songun and firmly defended the socialist cause of Juche in the late 20th century when the world socialist movement suffered serious setbacks and twists and turns.

The whole world saw once again the spirit of the powerful DPRK which wins victory after victory under the leadership of General Secretary Kim Jong Un through the military parade held in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Korean People's Army, they said. The progressive political parties and people of Bangladesh are convinced that the heroic Korean people would vigorously advance socialist construction, closely rallied around their leader single-mindedly, and extend invariably support to and solidarity with the struggle of the WPK and the Korean people, they noted.

HOME NEWS

Kim Jong Un sends birthday spreads to centenarians

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to Kim Tok Sun living in neighbourhood unit No. 11 of Songhung-dong, Wonsan City on her 100th birthday.

Officials of the Wonsan City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea visited her home to congratulate her and learn about her health and living conditions, sharing joy with her family members.

She was greatly excited to receive the birthday spread from the leader, expressing her gratitude to the warm care of the respected General Secretary.

He also sent a birthday spread to Mun Pok Nam living in neighbourhood unit No. 7 of Phungho-dong No.1 in Tonghungsan District, Hamhung City on her 100th birthday.

Officials of the district committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and people in the dong and neighbourhood unit visited her home to congratulate her and shared joy with her family members.

New flower species bred in Pyongyang Floriculture Institute

The Pyongyang Floriculture Institute has made achievements in breeding and cultivating flowers of various species.

Last year alone, the institute introduced various breeding methods to acclimatize the world-famous flower seeds to the conditions of the country, and registered 10-odd new species as national ones.

It bred new varieties of *Matthiola incana* and thus made it possible to grow the flowers in a plastic sheet greenhouse without a heating system in winter, opening up prospects for doubling the production of high-quality flowers in the same greenhouse area and with the same labour.

Varieties of perpetual begonia of different colours suited for flower beds and pots have newly been bred.

Among the new breeds are *Gaillardia asiatica* "Sachol" that blooms long and resists high temperature and humidity and *Petunia hybrida* "Jinbunhongsack" of high ornamental value.

Electricity production by solar energy propelled in Pyongyang

Pyongyang Municipality pushes ahead with the work to increase the production of electricity by solar energy.

Big efforts are directed to building a large number of grid-connected solar power plants jointly participated in by several units in major

districts and putting the production on a normal basis.

The municipal people's committee has helped various districts to ensure the construction of solar power plants on a scientific basis by providing necessary sci-tech data.

The installation of solar panels is now progressing apace in Moranbong District.

The construction of similar power plants is being pushed forward as planned in Sosong, Songyo, Taesong and other districts, too.

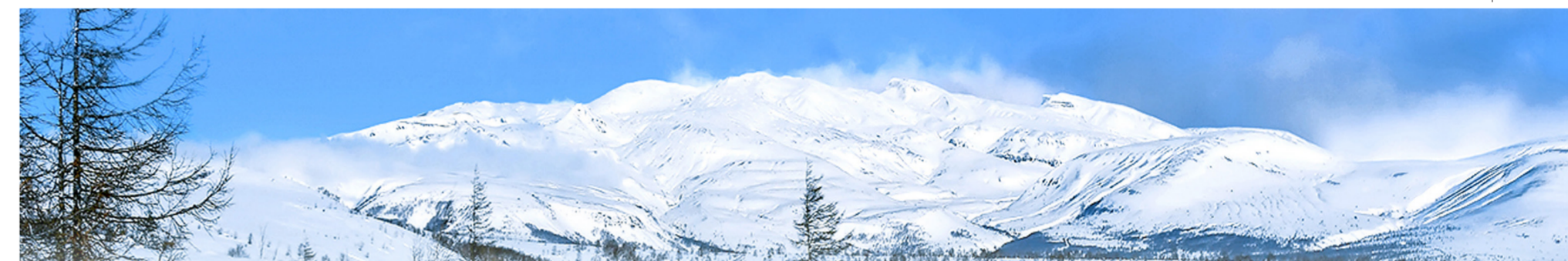
Phyongchon District has set it as a goal to increase the production capacity of its solar power plant more than four times.

Show of small, medium-sized farm implements held

There was a show of small- and medium-sized farm implements in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

Presented to the show were farm implements which are convenient to handle and efficient and which can be introduced easily everywhere. Also seen there were inventions, which gave substantial help to farming practice.

The show was an important occasion for checking whether all farming work can be done qualitatively in time.



Revolutionary spirit of Paektu ideological, spiritual wealth of Juche Korea

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Today the Korean people dynamically advance, frustrating all manner of challenges and obstacles of history full of confidence in victory of the cause of socialism.

They have produced entities of enormous changes and miracles in the face of decades-long sanctions and blockade, military challenges and manifold difficulties caused by the hostile forces.

All these achievements find their origin in the revolutionary spirit of Paektu, which was created in the flames of the anti-Japanese war organized

and led by President Kim Il Sung.

The revolutionary spirit of Paektu—it is the spirit of getting up a hundred times and fighting to the end even if you fall a hundred times, full of confidence in victory of their own strength and cause, even in the worst trials and hardships. It is the main source of the great spiritual strength of the Korean people and the priceless ideological and spiritual wealth for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of Juche.

In retrospect, the whole course of the Korean revolution is run through with this spirit.

Early in the past century when the destiny of the

nation was at the crossroads of life and death due to the military occupation of Korea by Japan, Kim Il Sung embarked on the road of anti-Japanese war to liberate the country with a clear independent stand and firm confidence in the victory of the revolution, resolute offensive spirit for independence by the Koreans' own efforts and indomitable will.

Under his leadership the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners fought a war against one million-strong Japanese army, making weapons and bombs by themselves in the face of severe difficulties which compelled them to supply

by themselves the arms and ammunition, food, clothes, medicines and others as they had no support from the state rear nor regular army and make their way through the sea of primitive forests in the blizzards of winter, finally achieving the historic cause of national liberation.

Without confidence in the validity of their cause and victory of the revolution and the indomitable revolutionary spirit created in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, it was impossible for the officers and men of the Korean People's Army to win victory in the fierce three-year Fatherland Liberation War against the

US, which boasted of being the "strongest" in the world.

The Korean people made steel and tractors and lorries in the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude from the war debris and performed a miracle of carrying out the task of socialist industrialization in a matter of 14 years.

In the periods of the Arduous March and forced march in the 1990s they firmly defended the socialist cause of Juche on the strength of this spirit.

The revolutionary spirit of Paektu is now carried on by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un as the eternal lifeline and treasured sword for victory of the Korean revolution.

The Korean people are now confronted with unprecedented difficulties.

However, the DPRK rises up with greater tenacity and its people are optimistic about their future.

Underlying the situation is the revolutionary spirit of Paektu.

As they have this indomitable revolutionary spirit and the tradition of self-reliance and fortitude, the Korean people are not afraid of any trials and difficulties, but vigorously advance under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea full of confidence in the victory of the building of a powerful socialist country.

More and more people tour Mt Paektu area

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Endless streams of study tourists are flowing to the revolutionary battle and other sites in the area of Mt Paektu.

Mt Paektu is special to the Korean people.

This is not only because it is the ancestral mountain of the Korean nation. It is the cradle of the Korean revolution.

The mountain encapsulates the sacred history of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle led by President Kim Il Sung and is associated with the souls of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners

who sacrificed their youth and lives unhesitatingly for national liberation and the freedom of the people.

It is the place where the revolutionary spirit of Paektu was created as the main source of all victories and glory of the Korean people.

In her famous lyric poem *I Will Go up Mt Paektu Wherever I Am*, the poetess said that even a handful of pine moss of a dead tree and a full-blown rhododendron in snow are associated with the immortal exploits of the President, so every larch tree stands as a grand monument and even the wind flows into her heart like a deep breath

and that whenever she goes up Mt Paektu, she finds her body and mind refreshed.

Today, the Korean people refer to the revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu as Paektusan University and during their tour of the battle sites they recollect the bloody history of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters who engraved the solemn first page of the Korean revolution and their spirit, soul and unique ideological and spiritual property created in the flames of the anti-Japanese revolution.

A large number of officials, working people, university

and college students, youth and schoolchildren have toured the revolutionary battle sites so far.

Shortly ago, many young people and students of hundreds of units in Ryanggang Province and members of the three-revolution teams across the country toured the revolutionary battle and other sites in the area of Mt Paektu.

In the revolutionary battle sites that turned into the centre for education and real experience in the revolutionary traditions, the study tourists earnestly learn the immortal revolutionary history and fighting exploits of the

peerless great persons and the noble fighting spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners, through the visits to Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp, Chongbong and Konchang bivouacs, the Samjiyon Grand Monument, the Monument to the Victorious Battle in the Musan Area and so on and through various political and cultural activities, including gatherings for hearing impressions about the reminiscences of anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters on the day when they finally achieved the historic cause of national liberation after overcoming all kinds of hardships.

On the top of the mountain, they express their impression, pledging to implement the decisions made at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea without fail.

After arriving at the top of Mt Paektu through the waist-deep snow in the face of biting cold and snowstorm, they shout hurrah at the top of their voice imagining the emotion of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters on the day when they finally achieved the historic cause of national liberation after overcoming all kinds of hardships.

Women's union officials, members tour battle site

KCNA

Women's union officials and members made a study tour of the Madusan Revolutionary Battle Site on



Women's union officials and members make a study tour of the Madusan Revolutionary Battle Site on February 21.

Tuesday. The battle site is associated with the undying exploits of President Kim Il Sung and the indomitable spiritual world of the first generation of the revolution.

Hearing explanations about the secret base in the Anju area which was established according to the strategic plan of General Kim Il Sung at the room for education through trees bearing slogans, the visitors keenly realized the personality traits of him as the great man born of heaven brilliantly etched in the history of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

Seeing the slogan "Long Live the Women's Emancipation", they learned about the exploits of the General who pioneered the Juche-oriented women's movement in the flames of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and trained the Korean women as genuine revolutionaries.

Limestone mine carries out huge blasting

KCNA

The Sunchon Limestone Mine successfully carried out a 220 000-cubic-metre blasting on February 21.

The mine fixed the efficient blasting area to ensure the present and future production in a balanced way and solved technical problems arising in securing more ore reserves through several rounds of consultative meetings.



RODONG SINMUN

The Sunchon Limestone Mine conducts a 220 000-cubic-metre blasting on February 21.



Groups of young study tourists of the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt Paektu area climb up Mt Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution.



RODONG SINMUN

To put chemical industry on firm upward stage



By Sim Jong Min

The chemical industry takes an important share in making this year a year of making a big stride in the development of the national economy.

Now the Ministry of Chemical Industry set an innovative goal of putting the country's chemical industry on a firm upward stage and works hard to attain it.

Above all, it is directing a great effort to the production of fertilizer for this year's farming.

It pushes forward the readjustment and reinforcement of the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex and Hungnam Fertilizer Complex to make technical preparations for the production of slow effective fertilizer and finish within this year the construction of a nutritive solution fertilizer plant in the western part of the country that started last year.

Today it is an important

matter in making the chemical industry Juche-based to increase the production of chemical goods and establish a new sectoral structure of the independent chemical industry.

Measures are now taken to provide different chemical factories with necessary raw and other materials as planned and the work is under way to decisively increase the kinds of chemical goods and finish the construction of the first line of the methanol production process for the establishment of the CI chemical industry.

Scientific and technical steps are taken to carry out all the tasks successfully.

Meanwhile, efforts are made to achieve clear progress in domestic production of various kinds of catalysts for the production of chemical goods and strengthen the factories' own technical forces.

The ministry also pushes in a planned manner the work to have field officials and employees enrolled in the study-while-you-work educational system. And it has established a well-organized system of diffusing data on advanced technology, thus promptly providing production units with technical data they require.

The author is department director of the Ministry of Chemical Industry



Bags of chemical fertilizer roll off the production line at the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex. RI RYON SONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Complex taps reserves to produce more fertilizer

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex increases fertilizer production by tapping existing reserves.

This year, the complex has set an ambitious goal.

To attain it the complex vigorously pushes ahead with production without additionally receiving hundreds of tons of anthracite, the main raw material of fertilizer production, every day from the state.

"In fact, the complex undertook a variety of research projects aimed at reducing the consumption of anthracite coal in the past, but failed to produce good results," said Kim Myong Hui, head of a department of

the complex.

What was important was to ensure the granularity of the coal to meet the standard.

Last year, the coal dressing and supply workshop worked hard to solve the problem and produced a good result.

It led to the improvement of the quality of coal rod and a marked decrease in the consumption of coal rod with increased per-hour gas production at the gas generator workshops.

Now, the complex concentrates efforts on putting fertilizer production on a growth track while further decreasing the consumption of anthracite.

It is also noticeable in the production of the complex that it has achieved

significant progress in the management of equipment.

Last year, it paid attention to the maintenance and repair of equipment as it tried to find a way to implement its annual production plan.

It has many large pieces of equipment in different production processes.

And it was an established practice that all employees turned out for an overhaul in midsummer days.

But it took much labour and time.

The complex put an end to it with the decision to switch over to regular maintenance.

An example was set in the repair of the generators which needs too much effort, demonstrating surprising vitality.

The repair of generators, which began in March,

reached an 80 percent level in midsummer, which meant the complex got 20 days more for production.

As a result, the complex fulfilled the annual fertilizer production plan, which was too uphill a task for it to do at first.

This year the complex presses on with the extension project of the urea fertilizer production process and gas purification process and builds a cooling tower to ensure normal production in midsummer days which have negative effects on fertilizer production.

Han Nam Chol, manager of the complex, said that if it advances at the present speed, the whole equipment of the complex will be upgraded in the period of the five-year plan.

Chemical industry focuses on revitalizing production, readjusting and reinforcing processes

By Kim Kum Myong PT



Technicians discuss the ways to integrate science and technology with production at the February 8 Vinalon Complex. RODONG SINMUN

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea defined 2023 as a year of taking a long stride for national economic development and of achieving key targets in production growth, implementation of the readjustment and reinforcement strategy and improvement of the people's living standards and set it as the major task of economic work to mainly carry out the readjustment and reinforcement plan decided on at the Eighth Party Congress while revitalizing production in overall sectors and units.

The chemical industry sector is now channelling efforts into the activation of production and readjustment and reinforcement.

Last year the February 8 Vinalon Complex carried out in a short period the overhaul of the circulating fluidized-bed boiler which had taken over six months previously, thus setting a new record in the readjustment and reinforcement of production

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Last year the February 8 Vinalon Complex carried out in a short period the overhaul of the circulating fluidized-bed boiler which had taken over six months previously, thus setting a new record in the readjustment and reinforcement of production

foundations.

It is now devising and properly maintained and repaired the butanol production process to lay the foundation for normalizing production.

It is now devising and introducing the methods of repairing furnaces in a qualitative way while reducing the repairing time.

It also works to increase the production of such chemical products as vinalon, caustic soda and vinyl chloride and improve their quality according to a detailed plan, while undertaking the construction project for the base for producing salt by an industrial method using sea water.

The Hungnam Fertilizer Complex is trying to innovate technical management of overall

processes, while increasing daily fertilizer production by ensuring the full operation of facilities.

It also steps up the projects for remodelling several production processes into electricity- and labour-saving ones and technical preparations for building a new chemical goods production base.

The Suncheon Chemical Complex, Ponghwa and Myonggan chemical factories, Chongjin and Sinuiju chemical fibre mills and Pyongyang Rubber Factory are also speeding up projects for readjusting and repairing production processes and remodelling them into electricity-, resources- and labour-saving and environment-friendly ones.

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Irrigation system readjusted, reinforced

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea stressed the need for the agricultural sector to push ahead with the readjustment, reinforcement and completion of the irrigation system in order to overcome the negative effect of disastrous weather and produce high crop yield this year.

The September 1958 Plenary Meeting of the WPK Central Committee was of great historic significance in the development of rural economy of the country.

At the meeting President Kim Il Sung clarified the way to finish the irrigation of agriculture across the country in the shortest period and called on the whole Party and all people to turn out for the grand nature-harnessing project.



A partial view of the Miru Plain waterway. JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

With the campaign for the irrigation of agriculture gaining strength across the country, exciting news about labour feats were published one after another.

At the construction site of a youth reservoir in Anak County, South Hwanghae Province, the working speed was so fast that if they entered inside the bottom of the dam

in the morning, means of transportation mobilized in the project had to make a detour of over four kilometres to come out of it as the dam rose higher in the evening.

As a result, many reservoirs, pumping stations and other irrigation facilities were built across the country

to form a new waterway extending for thousands of kilometres, contributing to the irrigation of agriculture.

Gravity-fed waterways using no pumping facilities and electric power were built in the new century.

The Kacchon-Lake Thacsong, Paengma-

Cholsan, Miru Plain and South Hwanghae provincial waterways were newly constructed to provide large areas of farmland with enough irrigation water.

Last year, a more than 40 kilometre-long waterway was built in the Kumya area, South Hamgyong Province.

Rising from the Kumya River, it is a gravity-fed waterway to irrigate over 4 000 hectares of paddy and dry fields of more than 10 farms in Kumya County. As the waterway was built, an irrigation system was set up to enable farms to do farming safely even in the dry season

by making effective use of the abundant water resources of the Kumya River and the province to increase agricultural production without using millions of kWh of electric power it consumed every year for water pumping and pumping facilities.

Farming methods against extreme weather established across country

By Ri Jang Chol PT

Disastrous extreme weather conditions, like drought, torrential rain and typhoon, are sweeping over the earth, harassing humankind.

They have also inflicted considerable damage on the DPRK.

From early April to June last year, low temperature, severe drought and storms accompanied by downpour hit the country, making negative impact on grain production.



Researchers take sci-tech measures to ensure steady increase of agricultural production at the Rice Institute under the Academy of Agricultural Science. JANG KYONG NAM / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

To cope with such situations, the agricultural sector has paid attention to establishing scientific farming systems and methods, regarding it as an important way to implement the grain production plan for this year.

North Phyongan Province puts efforts into improving the crop structure to minimize the damage from abnormal climate after scientifically analysing the changes in climate in the local area.

It also plans to go through all farming processes from seed treatment to harvest in a

scientific and technical way.

Water-saving farming methods are widely introduced in South Hamgyong Province. It encourages farms to employ such farming methods by making the most of experience they gained last year in applying the dry field harrowing, advanced rice seedling growing and other methods.

Kangwon Province has taken a series of agricultural and technical measures to suit the geographical

characteristics according to a well thought-out plan in order to protect crops in farmland along the coast from cold weather damage, while pushing ahead with the construction project of sea dikes.

At the same time, the Rice Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science takes scientific and technological measures to reduce the lopsidedness in agricultural production even under the disastrous abnormal weather.

Sci-tech forces dispatched to rural areas

By Kil Chung Il PT

A fierce scientific farming drive is under way in South Hwanghae Province, the largest agricultural province of the DPRK.

Attaching foremost importance to the role of science and technology in this year's farming, the province has dispatched hundreds of scientists and researchers of agriculture-related universities and institutes to farms in the locality. This is aimed at teaching agricultural workers there much more advanced farming methods in order to attain the goals of grain production.

The province makes sure that lecturers and

researchers fully acquaint themselves with successes and experiences gained at the farms of cities and counties to which they are dispatched and data on advanced farming methods suited to the characteristics of the relevant areas and regions so as to fully discharge their responsibilities and duties.

Scientists and researchers dispatched to farms on Jaeryong Plain give their employees a course in technical matters in further perfecting irrigation systems. This inspires all the employees to take active part in mass discussion on how to make effective use of their irrigation systems, proposing relevant measures.

The former also inform

the latter of advanced agricultural science and technology and experience from leading units, thus helping them find out farming methods applicable to the actual conditions of their units.

After analysing the farming methods they employed last year in detail, farms on Yonback Plain are solving urgent technical problems in collaboration with the sci-tech forces dispatched to them.

According to farmers, assistance of the scientists and researchers is like a rain after the drought in rationally distributing varieties and establishing scientific cultivation techniques suited to the actual conditions of their farms.

Farmers learn advanced farming techniques at the Ryongi Farm of Phyongwon County in South Phyongan Province. RODONG SINMUN





Strong technical force key to production growth



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The Ryugyong Mushroom Farm produces dozens of tons of various mushrooms a month.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT
Mushroom picking is now at its height at mushroom farms across the country. The Ryugyong Mushroom Farm in charge of mushroom supply to Pyongyang citizens is one of them. The farm is a modern mushroom production base where mushroom farming has been put on an industrial and intensive basis. It has attached importance from the beginning to steadily building up the technical force through mass technical innovation drive while directing main efforts to improving technical

knowledge and skills of its employees. "Modern facilities are important, but they cannot produce due results unless technical knowledge and skills of employees are enhanced," said manager Ryang Kwang Il. The farm encourages employees to actively enroll in online education course, while positively pushing ahead with the diffusion of advanced science and technology through sci-tech learning space. As a result, the mass technical innovation drive has gained strength and everyone is eager to develop and introduce technical

innovations helpful to increased production. The farm increases mushroom production by using waste substrates from the production of *Pleurotus eryngii* two to three times. Now the farm uses a container for mushroom production invented and introduced by its employees. It can be used for a long time and is recyclable and effective in making its production process highly automatic and streamlined. The mushroom farm produces dozens of tons of mushroom a month and supplies them to many units in Pyongyang.

Farm produces many kinds of mushroom

By To Kyong Chol PT
The Mangyongdae District Mushroom Farm has recently turned out different kinds of mushrooms. "In the past, we only produced *Pleurotus eryngii*, *Pleurotus ostreatus* and a few kinds of mushrooms. However, we are now attaching great importance to increasing its varieties as different kinds of mushrooms of high nutrition are in great demand," said Manageress Pak Chan Ok. The farm gave priority to establishing scientific cultivation techniques and supplying enough substrates in order to cultivate diverse kinds of mushrooms. In particular, it applies hukposan fertilizer to making substrates, obtaining great benefit from



RODONG SINMUN

The Mangyongdae District Mushroom Farm harvests mushroom.

According to technical instructor Ryom Kum Chol, these mushrooms are very good to eat as they taste sweet to some extent and feel soft in the fibre. They are suitable for closed cultivation for their high yield and rooting rate and as they are unaffected by carbon dioxide, he added. *Cortinarius multififormis* is also favoured by many as it is good for the treatment of stomach disorder and has anti-cancer effects.

Substitute material applied to produce mushroom substrates

By Jong Chol PT
It is important to solve the problem of raw materials for substrates in order to normalize the production of mushrooms. The Hamhung Mushroom Farm solved this problem by relying on locally abundant materials. In the past, they used to bring corncobs from a far-away farm to make mushroom substrates. However, it involved huge costs in terms of transport conditions and materials supply. Therefore, they set themselves a goal of lowering the norm of materials consumption per unit and normalizing the production using the materials abundant in their locality. At first, they used grain straws, which are easily

Factory increases kinds of functional nutritious foods

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Yongbong Foodstuff Factory has developed a natural inulin sugar tea, a functional and nutritious drink, which produces gently sweet taste and delicate and special flavour without using sugar and is very helpful in promoting health. The tea is made by cultivating plants containing fructan by organic farming methods and collecting and processing them with an autolysing method. It has inulin-type polysaccharide (inulin, fructose and inulofructo-oligosaccharide) as its main ingredient and also contains saponin, pectin, amino acids, vitamins, and macro- and micro-elements in a balanced way. According to researcher and key developer Jo Chun Ok, the tea is convenient to drink in office rooms, at workplaces and on official tour. "If you put three grams of it into hot water and drink it after breakfast and supper, it promotes digestion, makes you feel pleasant and invigorates you," she said. It is effective in regenerating liver cells damaged by drinking too much alcohol and treating fatty liver. When you have a headache or a dim consciousness due to the aftereffects of drinking



Some products made by the Yongbong Foodstuff Factory.

Shoppers buy functional nutritious foods at the Pyongyang Yokjon Department Store.

RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

alcohol, you can solve it in hot water and drink it. It helps you feel refreshed soon, quench thirst and purify blood. And as it contains no sugar and regularly produces blood and urine sugar, it is very effective as a nutritional supplement and material for the treatment of diabetics. Fructan nutrient solution is one of the products developed by the factory. Its characteristic is that it rationally regulates and controls the physiological balance of organisms in the human body to prevent poisoning by toxic materials. In particular, it removes a large amount of cholesterol or glucide in blood to purify it and produces much energy to invigorate the drinkers. Fructose in the nutrient solution increases the glycogen generating capacity three times more than dextrose in the liver without the help of insulin. So far the factory has developed over a dozen kinds of functional nutritious foodstuffs. They were presented to the national sci-tech presentation and exhibition of the anti-epidemic and public health sectors-2022 and the 36th Central District sci-tech festival, attracting interest of many visitors.



Hibiscus esculentus seed essence

By Ri Jang Chol PT

Hibiscus esculentus seed essence is a natural health-promoting solution which helps boost immunity by removing oxidized ageing agents and oxidized waste matters that become a contributory factor of all diseases and by promoting metabolism in the body, said Ri Sun Yong, researcher at the Mannok foodstuff processing company. According to her, it was recently discovered that constitutional and functional limitations found in the human body are attributable to acceleration of the oxidizing process due to delayed discharge of oxides from various types of reactions taking place in the course of intake of all kinds of foods and medicines and also a variety of virus infections, including new variant diseases. The cytological lifespan of a human being depends on how high the immunological functional quotient is during the anti-oxidation process that can change the course of the oxidation process inside the body. According to a foodstuff



The natural health syrup removes aging factors and oxide wastes to improve immunity.

analysis table compiled in the NDBS, *Hibiscus esculentus* seed has a very high analysis value in terms of bio-active substances that improve the anti-oxidation process and immunity as compared to relevant nutritive values of other foodstuffs. The essence was made by fermenting and filtering *Hibiscus esculentus* seeds so that various kinds of microelements needed in the human body could sufficiently be combined without adding any sugar and antiseptic. As it has rich contents of different nutrients, including carbohydrates, proteins, minerals, vitamins B6, E and D and essential amino acids, the essence is administered to those who are suffering from chronic cardiovascular diseases, arteriosclerosis and vitiminosis. It is also high in biological activity and contains more vitamin C than other foodstuffs. With such good properties, it is noted for being effective for healing lesions like

Health food for strengthening bone developed

By Ri Sang Il PT

Vitamin D calcium nourishing tablets developed by the Munsu functional foodstuff production station are favourably commented upon by the users as they can prevent various bone diseases and help children grow tall. According to available information, only ingestion of food is not enough to supplement the human body with vitamin D and calcium which are necessary for its activities. Children who are deficient in vitamin D and calcium can easily take rickets and have growth trouble. In case of old persons, osteoporosis and osteomalacia occur among them and their bones can be broken even by a light hit. Especially, it is essential for menopausal or pregnant women and nursing mothers that they additionally take vitamin D and calcium every day. Vitamin D calcium tablets, health food for strengthening bones registered as patented product No. 7342, promote ionization and dispersion and enhance absorption in the human body as they are made mainly with animal calcium and vitamin D. Vitamin D and calcium in the tablet interact cooperatively and increase density and quantity of bone so as to strengthen bone tissues and also help prevent and cure the deformation and fracture of bones. Taking the tablet on a regular basis can promote growth development of children and prevent and treat rickets. In addition, it is especially efficacious in preventing and treating pre-senile and senile osteoporosis or bone fracture and restoring pregnant women to health.

To bring earlier spring in midwinter



JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Employees grow flowers to decorate streets in spring at the Pothonggang District floricultural farm.

By Kim Hak Chol PT

There are people who strive to harness nature to bring earlier spring in midwinter.

The wind is still cold outside, but flowers are in full bloom in the greenhouse of the Pothonggang District floricultural farm in Pyongyang. Visitors are struck with admiration at the sight of full-blown flowers including common marigold and pansy.

Every year, the farm decorates streets in the district with big and beautiful flowers even in winter.

It is not an easy job to make flowers bloom in midwinter.

All employees of the farm worked with one accord to provide favourable conditions for the growth of young flowering plants while improving soil conditions.

They secured thousands of vessels of sizes suitable for flowers to healthily

grow by absorbing enough nutrients and prepared plenty of organic and chemical fertilizers and infused plant fermentation liquid as well.

They were previously at a loss what to do even when petals grew yellow. Now they have become experts on flowers capable of guessing what colours flowers will have before they come into bloom.

The farm installed an automatic temperature regulation device to ensure temperatures suitable for various kinds of flowers different in demand for temperature, unaffected by outside temperature.

"Now, I feel I cannot live apart from flowers. I come to the greenhouse even on holidays and other rest days as I feel as if young flowering plants call me. Only sincere devotion can make flowers bloom," said a girl worker of the farm.

Through their efforts

Beautiful flowers make people more lively, cheerful

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The Pyongyang Floriculture Institute produces various kinds of beautiful flowers by directing efforts to putting flower production on a scientific and industrial basis.

The institute introduced advanced techniques for cultivating flowers and learned from relevant experiences so as to choose and properly dry, sterilize and keep seeds of the varieties which are long in lifespan, strong in vitality and good in propagation and adopted methods of tissue culture to overcome the seasonal limitations in flower production.

It also works to acclimatize world-famous flowers to suit domestic conditions and breed new varieties of flowers.

According to Ri Chol Jun, deputy director of the institute, it has been regarded as difficult to grow tulip and garden hyacinth in large numbers at home because of their seasonal characteristics.

To solve the problem, it found out the favourable temperature for preserving their bulbs and established the technology of growing bulbs appropriate to domestic conditions, thus laying the scientific and technological foundation for growing the flowers in large numbers.

Through their efforts

to breed Phalaenopsis aphrodite, a famous ornamental flowering plant, to suit domestic conditions, researchers solved the problem of the relevant cultivation substrates, Ri said.

Meanwhile, the institute is diversifying ornaments made with flowers in terms of kind and variety by making many dried flowers in great demand among the people.

Originally, dried flower products came into being as people wanted to preserve and enjoy the beauty of flowers for a long time and it is said that making flower products with their shapes and colours left intact requires a complicated scientific and technical process and much effort as well.

Researchers of the institute are producing dried flower products conducive to the cultural and emotional life of people by organically combining physical methods, including those of drying flowers in natural condition or in a high temperature or freeze-drying them, and a chemical method of using organic solvent.

Splendid dried flower products with harmonious features, including framed dried flowers, peacock made of dried flowers and wall-hanging ornaments of dried flowers, on sale at department stores and many flower shops in Pyongyang are popular among consumers.

Through research for



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
A researcher is engaged in research to rear new varieties of flowers at the Pyongyang Floriculture Institute.



Raising flowers is part of life in the family of Sin Kyong Ha.

KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Neighbourhood unit No. 17 of Mirae-dong in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, on the picturesque Taedong riverside boasts a family well known as a "flower house".

It is the family of the old couple Sin Kyong Ha and Choe Jong Suk.

According to their

neighbours, they, who turn 67 this year, have cultivated flowers for two decades. The neighbours call the devoted man and wife "couple of gardeners" or their "flower house".

Not long ago, The Pyongyang Times reporter visited the family.

The moment he entered their house led by the couple who welcomed him, he felt

refreshed by clean and fresh air. Various species of full-blown flowers and other ornamental plants boasted their special features on every wall and at every window of four rooms. They included dozens of species such as geranium, vincristine, broadleaf liriopie, tufted bracket plant, and Japanese rhodora.

According to Choe, her

'Flower house' full of fragrance

husband had worked as a lecturer at Kim Chaek University of Technology for four decades and she a teacher at then Pyongyang Puhung Senior Middle School for 15 years. As she busied herself giving students lessons and guiding them in their study, she was laid up with a nervous system disease. At that time, a woman neighbour working at the Pyongyang Floriculture Institute told her that cultivating flowers would help alleviate her neuralgia and change her mood.

Choe thus came to pay attention to flowers and read relevant books, cultivating flowers.

"Mysteriously, I found myself pleased and refreshed

as I saw flowers bloom almost every day, breathing fresh air," she said.

It was most interesting to cultivate vincristine as it bloomed every day, she said, adding that their conjugal affection grew deeper and both of them achieved success in their educational work as the husband joined her in tending the flowerpots.

Their children and students increasingly respected the couple of educators who taught them to be persons as beautiful as flowers pleasing all people.

Since their retirement, they have been growing ornamental fishes, including goldfish, in nine big and

small fish basins. It is said that the excrement of the fishes and water from the fish basins serve as organic fertilizer good for the cultivation of flowers.

They either plant flowers they have grown in the park of their village or distribute some to their neighbours and little friends.

"The state provided gratis a new, modern flat on Mirae Scientists Street to us when we were ordinary educators. We want to cultivate beautiful flowers at this fine house all the year round to make it fragrant with the smell of flowers and further beautify the village and street with the flowers," said the couple.

Culinary skill contest catches special interest of cooking fans

By Pang Un Ju PT

The 11th culinary skill contest in celebration of the Day of the Shining Star took place at the Pyongyang Noodle House between February 12 and 14.

It brought together cooks, waitresses and officials selected from ministries, national agencies and public catering and external service units in Pyongyang.

According to Hwang Myong Chol, vice-chairman of the Cooks Association of Korea, the contest consisted of a technical competition in which cooks made and presented designated dishes and drinks on the spot according to sectors, an exhibition of dishes showing the characteristic features of each unit, a demonstration of excellent cooks and specifically, cooking by officials from public catering units.

In the technical competition, cooks dexterously completed in

appointed time appetizing dishes, including steamed pork ribs, fried catfish flavoured with fruit juice, flatfish roasted in oil, steamed mushroom-chicken balls and meat dumpling soup, which can be widely used in the dietary life of people.

Waitresses also prepared and presented carrot-milk juice, black chokeberry tea and others by employing scientific and unique



Excellent cooks show their skills at the 11th culinary skill contest.



methods.

On display at the exhibition of dishes were a variety of dishes and drinks including broiled beef and celery, steamed pork chops, salad of tomato and cucumber, Taedonggang mullet soup, cakes and vinegary apple drink.

The exhibition hall thus was crowded with many cooking fans and visitors every day.

"The kind of dishes

presented at the contest increases every year. The current contest shows over 600 kinds of dishes that can be made with cooking materials often used in our dietary life. Now I've learned how to make a salad of tomato and cucumber and quail egg soup. I will prepare such dishes for my family members this evening. As a housewife, I am pleased to think that it will take nearly two years

to cook at home each of all such dishes presented at the contest every day. I can imagine how delighted my husband and children will be," said Ri Jin Suk, a resident of Moranbong District in the city.

During the contest, officials of public catering units displayed well methods of using mussels and bean curd to cook tasty roast mussels, skewered roast mussels, broiled bean curd

and broiled bean curd and crab meat.

The demonstration of excellent cooks was held amid the interest of many cooking fans.

Cooking fans and other visitors could not repress their admiration for the way the cooks skillfully made steamed unsliced terrapin, roast eel, grilled turkey, roast sliced fillet of beef, sliced raw seafood and chopped noodles.

Korean costume adds beauty to streets

By Han Kwi Hun PT

Women dressed in various Korean costumes add beauty to the streets in Pyongyang.

The well-balanced long *chima* (traditional Korean skirt) hanging down from the shoulders rhythmically swings and the long breast ties of *jogori* (traditional Korean jacket) flap like butterflies as the wearer takes steps.

At present, Korean costume shops draw many people with the approach of holidays and other significant occasions, said Kim.

"As I wear Korean *chima* and *jogori* with their elegance and beauty enhanced by various ornamental methods, I feel as if I were a fairy in a legend," said Hyon Jin Gum, worker at the Okryu Restaurant who bought the clothes at the Sochang Korean Costume Shop under the Central District General Tailor Shop on the occasion of lunar New Year's Day this year.

Today, Korean costumes which the Korean people have long favoured are developed more gracefully to meet the modern aesthetic tastes.

According to Kim Son Yong, researcher of the Academy of Social Sciences, from ancient

times the holiday clothes they wore on lunar New Year's Day were called *solbim* or *sejang*. Especially, parents put beautiful holiday clothes on their children first and dressed themselves in different kinds of holiday clothes to celebrate the holiday.

Although such clothes were not new ones, people would clean and wear them and such custom is still carried on.

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According to Kim Son Yong, researcher of the Academy of Social Sciences, from ancient

Over ten years of devotion to honoured disabled soldier

By Sin Pyol PT

The family of Sin Hwa Sil living in neighbourhood unit No. 9 of Jungsong-dong in Central District, Pyongyang, have devoted their sincerity to a special-class honoured disabled soldier for over ten years.

It was more than ten years ago that Sin became familiar with Kim Ki Jong, the special-class honoured disabled soldier living in neighbourhood unit No. 89 of Haeun-dong No. 2 in Phyongchon District.

One day, she came to know that a younger brother of a woman living in her apartment house is a special-class

honoured disabled soldier.

The fact that he was the same age as her son in military service prompted her to visit his house.

Ki Jong had been diagnosed with paraplegia after saving his comrades-in-arms at the risk of his life at a critical moment. He, however, led an optimistic life, which deeply impressed Sin.

Then she began to take care of him more out of noble civic conscience beyond maternal affection and became his elder aunt of her own accord.

She provided him with many tonic medicines for the treatment of his disease and daily necessities and took the preparation for his wedding upon herself.

When he and his wife had a baby girl and on the baby's first birthday, she showed great concern for them.

Her care for him made her son Un Hyok feel brotherly affection for him. They missed each other while exchanging affectionate letters. After Un Hyok was discharged from military service, the affection between them became more special.

On New Year's Day this year, Sin and her son's family visited Ki Jong's house to spend a good time together.

The special-class honoured disabled soldier enjoys deep happiness under the socialist system where all people form a large harmonious family caring for each other.



The family of Sin Hwa Sil prepare tonics and daily necessities for an honoured special-class disabled soldier.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

For protection, development of mother tongue

By Choe Song Jun PT

There are many countries and nations in the world with lots of languages for them.

The linguistic diversity shows the diversity of histories, cultures, customs and others of many countries and nations.

It is very significant to protect mother tongues, means of communication and symbols of culture and identity of the countries and nations.

There was a demonstration of residents in east Pakistan (today's Bangladesh) on February 21 1952 calling for including Bengali as an official language of the state and government organs. The demonstrators clashed with police and in the course of it five of them

were shot dead.

In 1999 UNESCO designated February 21 as International Motherlanguage Day in memory of those local residents who were killed in the fight to restore the right to use their mother tongue.

The designation of the day was aimed at preserving languages of the world, encouraging the sustainable development of diverse cultures and promoting mutual understanding between peoples of different countries.

However, a large number of languages perish in the international community, posing a threat to human civilization and an obstacle to the development of languages and cultures.

For this reason, many countries pay attention

to preserving languages of ethnic minorities. In particular, they conduct a variety of activities to practise and develop national languages to observe International Motherlanguage Day.

The DPRK government works to promote excellence and national identity of its national language.

The mother tongue of the DPRK is Korean. The Korean language has been developed and enriched through 5 000-year history of the Korean nation.

Today it has become a state affair in the country to maintain and further develop the homogeneity, eternity and purity of the Korean language.

A habit of noble and cultured linguistic life has strictly been established

throughout society. Regulations, references, dictionaries and others related to the use of written Korean language have been compiled and published, revised and supplemented. Books are also printed, which are conducive to further enriching linguistic theories and improving the quality of Korean language education and linguistic life.

The education sector directs attention to making new generations deeply understand the excellence of the Korean language with the power of rich figurative expression.

The Korean language is further developed in conformity with the requirements of the socialist way of life with the cultured language of Pyongyang as the standard.

Secondary general education needs to focus on technical education



Sok Kyong Hwa
senior school inspector of the Education Commission

Nowadays processes equipped with modern facilities are increasingly added to production units, creating growing demand for technicians and skilled workers.

Therefore, it has become a qualification badly needed for all members of society to skillfully handle modern information and technical means which are indispensable to not only production units but also office work and family

life.

To satisfy this demand the secondary education sector has set a goal to increase the number of students who receive technical education this year by teaching more basic technical subjects and opening more technical senior middle schools and technical classes.

Technical classes are mainly designed to give students education in literature, natural science, the arts and technical knowledge according to their

individual characters so that they can acquire more than one technical skills.

And in the vocational technical education students are encouraged to select technical classes that suit their individual characters.

The purpose of technical education is to help students acquire at least one technical skill at school so that they can take an active part in technical innovation drive as they find jobs after school graduation and accelerate the

country's economic growth that much faster.

Now we concentrate efforts on opening many technical classes across the country and providing students with vocational training for production and construction to suit the regional characters and their aptitudes and individualities.

To this end, a programme has been undertaken to change the educational structure and provide full conditions for experiments and practical training.

Japan's crime seen through 'Korea-Japan protocol'

By Pak Song Min PT

Recently, member nations of AUKUS staged a combined aerial drill in the air above the Nevada Desert and other areas of the US.

AUKUS was rigged up by the US in September 2021 by rallying the UK and Australia.

A British news agency said the recent air drill was aimed at narrowing the regional gap between the US, the UK and Australia far away from each other during military operations in the Pacific and improving mutual operational

capacity of the air forces of the three countries.

Prior to the aerial exercise, the commander of the air mobile force of the British Royal Air Force said the drill would be planned to support the advance of armed forces to the field of operations and reduce the enemy's capacity by striking the major assets.

A high-ranking USAF official involved in the drill argued that preparations should be made for coping with the upcoming challenge. Meanwhile, collusion between AUKUS member nations has been intensified in the field of

cooperation on nuclear submarine technology.

The support of the US and the UK to Australia for building nuclear submarine is the very core of AUKUS.

According to a foreign media outlet, AUKUS member nations would hold a meeting concerning the assistance to Australia in the building of nuclear submarine in the US in March.

In this regard the spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that the decision made by the US, the UK and Australia to proceed with cooperation on

nuclear submarine technology has caused grave danger of nuclear proliferation, aggravated arms race and undermined regional peace and stability, expressing his country's serious concern over and strong opposition to it.

He also strongly demanded that the three countries lend an ear to the voices of the international community, fulfil their commitments to nuclear non-proliferation, withdraw the decision on cooperation on nuclear submarine technology and work to defend regional and global peace and security by actual deeds.

By Song Jong Ho PT

In the past, Japan fabricated all manner of illegal fraudulent documents by high-handedness and force in order to reduce Korea to their complete colony. Among them is the "Korea-Japan protocol".

Its attempt at cooking up the protocol had started before the Russo-Japanese war broke out.

At that time, Japan tried to forge the protocol because it wanted to put the Korean feudal government under its control before the Russo-Japanese war so as to create favourable conditions for fighting the war and provide a legal guarantee for colonizing Korea in the future.

In November 1903, Japan sent Hayashi, its minister resident in Korea, to Emperor Kojong and urged him to break off all relations with Tsarist Russia and promote friendship and cooperation with it.

The Emperor gave no definite answer to the rude demand of Hayashi, who blatantly interfered in the internal affairs of a sovereign state as an individual minister.

Under the circumstances, Japan made a surprise attack on the Russian fleet anchoring in Lushun port of China with no declaration of war on the night of February 8 1904, thereby provoking a war against Russia.

After building up its huge aggression forces in Korea on the pretext of the war, Japan drove them out to block the royal palace on the signboard of "preservation of the Korean imperial family and territory", making it impossible for the Emperor to find shelter in other place and refuse to conclude the protocol.

When its moves to fabricate the protocol encountered vehement opposition from the officials of the Korean feudal government, it mobilized aggression troops to arrest "opposition forces" and did not hesitate to abduct a Korean government official at midnight and take him to Japan.

Under such threat, Japan egged on pro-Japanese lackeys of the Korean feudal government to conclude the six-point Korea-Japan protocol on February 23 1904 by force.

The protocol said that the Korean government shall firmly believe in the Japanese government, accept its advise on political improvement and is not allowed to conclude any agreement contrary to this agreement with the third country, that the Japanese government shall guarantee Korea's independence and preservation of its territory and take necessary measures in case the well-being of the Korean royal family and the preservation of territory are in danger and that the Korean government shall offer convenience for it.

The protocol is woven with spacious words including friendship, peace and Korea's independence and preservation of territory. But it was, in essence, an unequal and aggressive treaty in every way to use Korea as a yard for aggressive war and provide conditions for charging the heavy burden to fight a war onto the Korean people.

Later, the Japanese imperialists fabricated the Ulsa five-point treaty in 1905 to seize the diplomatic right of the Korean feudal government and enforce barbarous colonial rule.

This is just the tip of the iceberg of Japan's crimes committed in the past against the Korean people.

However, Japan has not recognized any wrongdoings it had committed in the past century.

It should be well aware that thoroughgoing apology and compensation for the past crimes will only earn it the trust of international community and promote peace.

Ambition of territorial seizure a pipe dream

By Song Jong Ho PT

Japan is hell-bent on realizing its wild ambition of territorial expansion.

It continues to claim that Tok Islets, an inalienable part of Korea, belong to it.

The Japanese rulers named them Takeshima and set February 22 as the Day of Takeshima, whipping up hysteria for seizing Tok Islets.

The historical ground for their claim to the islets is the "Shimane prefectural proclamation" which said that the Japanese cabinet included them in Shimane Prefecture on February 22 1905.

However, several documents declassified in Japan said that the Japanese government had gone

ahead with the incorporation of the islets to set up an observation post for the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905) though at the time the residents of the prefecture had known that Ullung Island and Tok Islets were originally the two islands on the East Sea of Korea.

They are correctly marked as part of Korean territory on the Sea Route Map of Korea of 1908, the coastline maps of Korea of 1923 and 1945 and the contemporary map published for the exclusive use in Japanese school textbooks in 1951.

In the 1690s, the Edo shogunate and the governor of Tsushima recognized Ullung Island and Tok Islets as part of Korean territory and issued an order forbidding Japanese to make voyage to the islands. Even after the Meiji Restoration, Japan dispatched officials of its foreign ministry to Korea, who wrote in their reports the survey results on how Juk (Ullung) Island and Tok Islets were attached to Korea.

There are many historical documents proving that the islets are the inherent part of Korea.

They are correctly marked as part of Korean territory on the Sea Route Map of Korea of 1908, the coastline maps of Korea of 1923 and 1945 and the contemporary map published for the exclusive use in Japanese school textbooks in 1951.

There are also a wealth of objective materials proving that Tok Islets belong to Korea.

The maps of the US and UK published in 1949 and 1951 respectively mark Tok Islets as part of Korean territory.

Despite clear evidence, Japan hysterically insists that it has dominion over the islets. It is a very dangerous act aimed at reviving militarist Japan which came to an end suffering ignominious defeat in the war of aggression.

Japan is advised to abandon its foolish wild ambition to seize Tok Islets.

Tok Islets are an inseparable part of Korean territory for good from the historical and geographical point of view and in the eyes of international law.

Israel worsens Middle East situation

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

From the beginning of the year, Israel has intensified its oppression of Palestinians.

It wages a war of murder almost every day in towns and villages on the West Bank.

As a result, more than 40 Palestinians lost their lives this year.

On January 26 alone, Israeli troops stormed into a refugee camp in Jenin to open random fire on Palestinian protesters, killing nine of them.

The number of the Palestinians killed by the murderous repression of Israeli troops on the West Bank and Gaza Strip last year reached about 170, which reportedly means the greatest number since 2006.

And there was an incident that an

Israeli government official entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque, an Islamic holy land, in East al-Quds, early January this year.

In mid-January, the Israeli authorities forcibly dishoused Palestinians in the southern city of Hebron on the West Bank and began the construction of a barrier covering 4.6 kilometres around the Gaza Strip on the pretext of "protecting" Israeli communities.

All these acts are contrary to Palestine's effort to realize its territorial integrity and the demand of the international community for peaceful settlement of the situation in the Middle East.

In January the spokesman for the Palestinian president issued a statement, describing the Israeli acts

as a challenge to the international effort for peace and stability of the region and a provocation against Palestinians. The Palestinian Foreign Ministry warned that the acts might aggravate the regional tension, saying that they are a revelation of the colonialist way of thinking based on the logic of force.

Now analysts predict that it will be more difficult to make a breakthrough in the settlement of the Palestinian issue now that the right-wing government has come to power in Israel.

As is known, the ultra-rightist coalition government was formed in Israel at the end of last year, and it includes the conservative Likud Party led by Netanyahu and the forces insisting on the expansion

of Jewish settlements on the West Bank and the annexation of the region.

The current authorities gave top priority to the expansion of the settlements on the West Bank in the political guidelines of the new government and decided to legalize nine Jewish settlements newly built in the region.

All this is aimed at depressing the Palestinian people who hope for the founding of their independent state with East al-Quds as its capital and obliterating the very existence of Palestine.

Extreme tension has been created in the Middle East due to the illegal oppressive policy of Israel which is driven by its wild ambition of territorial expansion.

Briefly

Russia
Israeli armed provocation against Syria decried
Maria Zakharova, a spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, criticized Israel for making another missile attack on Syria on February 19.

She denounced it as a serious violation of international law. She demanded Israel discontinue acts of armed provocation against Syria.

Middle East
Iran, Lebanon denounce Israel's missile attack on Syria

On February 19 Israel's troops made a missile attack on Damascus, Syria, resulting in 20 casualties.

A spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry noted that the incident proved that the Israeli authorities attempt to inflict greater pain on the Syrian people suffering from the severe earthquake.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Lebanon made public a statement, stressing that Israel's atrocity which infringed upon the sovereignty of Syria is a wanton violation of the basic regulations of international law and a quite immoral act, which arouses increasing criticism from the international community.

WMO
Danger of sea level rise by global warming warned

Recently, the World Meteorological Organization published an information which said that the world average sea surface would rise about 2-3 metres after 2 000 years even if temperature rise by global warming is restricted to 1.5 degrees centigrade.

The sea level rise is especially dangerous for about 900 million people living in the coastal areas with low sea level and the consequences are unimaginable.

In this connection, the United Nations warned that continued global warming would be a death sentence to those countries vulnerable to damage by the rise in sea level.

Turkey
Another quake hits southern Turkey, expanding damage

Earthquakes measuring 6.4 and 5.8 on the Richter scale hit southern Turkey on the night of February 20.

Three persons were killed by them and 210 others taken to hospital.

Economic losses are estimated to reach \$84 billion.

COVID-19
Global casualties

According to a foreign news report, 679 060 679 persons contracted novel coronavirus, 6 793 400 died of it and 20 430 355 were undergoing medical treatment in the world as of 24:00 on February 22.

BYWORD

Talent farming

The present era is the one of attaching importance to talents in which national power and economic and cultural development depend on talents.

There are talents in all the units taking the lead in realizing domestic production of raw and other materials and

equipment and model factories turning out famous products good enough to match those of other countries and be favoured by people by establishing their own superior way of production and management.

Such talents can be prepared only when they are

systematically trained with efforts like growing bean sprouts.

Talent farming for training talents is unthinkable apart from education of rising generations.

At the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of

Korea, General Secretary Kim Jong Un emphasized the role of sci-tech talents and the need for educational revolution once again.

At present, the DPRK puts forward the training of talents as the most important task, an urgent one for the country and nation.

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World record holder craves for more glory

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Kwon Kwang Il, a shooter of the Amnokgang Defence Sports Club, is a man of extraordinary enthusiasm.

“His training ground is everywhere, and everything that he sees can be his training target,” said his coach Kim Chun Sam.

According to him, Kwon is especially well prepared physically.

As his physical constitution was suitable for shooting, he had already been cutting a conspicuous figure at youth-level games when Kim set eyes on him.

However, Kwon also had some defects at that time, said Kim.

He was too complacent about his successes in the youth level.

“But it was only before he got to know himself,” said the coach.

He failed to reach the top three at running target shooting events held in 2011, which was his senior-level debut.

As Kwon was writhing with the shameful result, the coach came to point out his defects which could not be



Shooter Kwon Kwang Il of the Amnokgang Defence Sports Club.

discovered by himself and suggest ways to correct them showing him footages of the competitions.

After that, his training intensity was greatly increased.

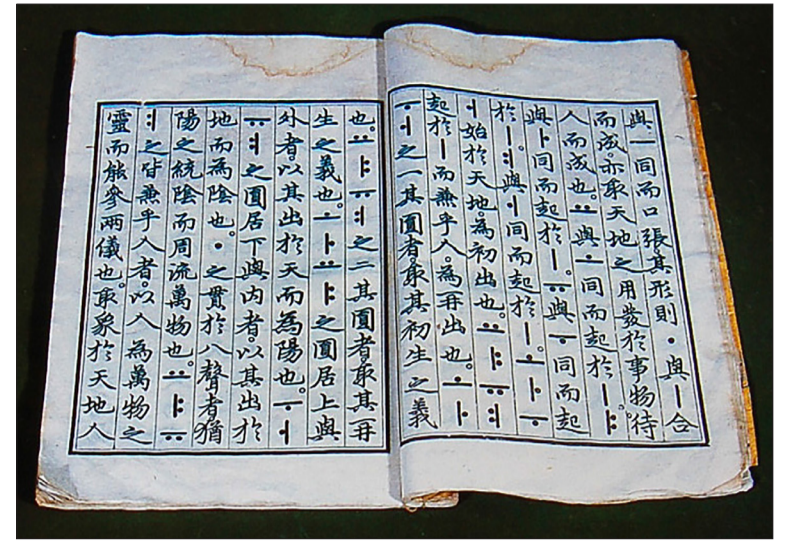
Though it was much harder to correct the faulty habits than to start afresh, he had to conquer himself.

He began to win bronze medals and then silvers and golds, but he was never satisfied.

With such painstaking efforts, he set a new Asian record in a 50-metre

running target standard speed shooting in 2017 and established a new national record and broke the Asian record at an event in June 2021 and beat the world record at the national championships held in September that year.

He also bettered his world record in the men’s 10-metre running target mixed shooting event at the national championships last year and was selected as one of the top ten players of the DPRK in 2022.



Hunminjeongeum (Korean alphabet) created in 1444.

Hunminjeongeum, Korean alphabet of intrinsic value

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

Hunminjeongeum is the Korean alphabet which was independently created on the basis of the long-standing experience of writing customs of the Korean people.

The name *Hunminjeongeum* literally signifies that it is an excellent alphabet recording correct sounds for teaching the people.

It was created by renowned scholars of

Jiphyonjon, a national agency for authoring important books during the feudal Joseon dynasty, under the personal direction of the dynasty’s fourth king Sejong in 1444.

It can express all syllables properly as it was created on the basis of an in-depth study of interrelationship between sounds and letters and consonants and vowels of the Korean language.

The Korean alphabet is also able to express almost all the sounds of any other

foreign languages in the world.

It was made on the unique principle of imitating the shape of human speech organs. The creators made the main letters in the shapes of such speech organs as the tongue, lips and throat that change according to each sound and, on that basis, systematized their derivatives as well.

Hunminjeongeum is easy to learn and convenient to write and has many other advantageous features.

Mundok white crane habitat



By Ri Sang Il PT

Mundok white crane is one of the migratory birds that winter in the DPRK.

The bird lives under government protection in the tideland on the estuary of the Chongchon River and the wide plains of Tongnim-ri and Ryongo-ri in Mundok County, South

Phyongan Province.

The area is an ideal place for food, breeding and inhabitation for the abundance of such plants as reed, cattail, Suaeda japonica, sea blite and

Salicornia europaea. The habitat is now under the protection of the nature conservation policy of the DPRK.

Over 180 species of migratory birds live there.

