



KCNA

The 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on September 20 and 21.

The session was convened at a time when all the people of the country are further accelerating the general advance to successfully complete all the tasks of

the five-year plan for national economic development set forth by the historic Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and greet its 80th founding anniversary and Ninth Congress with eventful successes to be specially recorded in the history of the country.

Present there were deputies to the SPA and, as observers, officials of the Party Central Committee, the SPA Standing Committee, the Cabinet, ministries,

national agencies and armed forces organs and other officials concerned in Pyongyang and the regions.

A ceremony of hoisting the national flag of the DPRK was held.

Deputies to the SPA paid high tribute to the sacred national flag, reflecting their firm pledge to devote themselves to the struggle for staunchly defending the sovereignty of the state and the interests of the people, thoroughly observing the Constitution of the Republic and steadfastly safeguarding and further consolidating the socialist system as masters of state administration and representatives of the people.

The platform was taken by Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the DPRK Cabinet, Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, and other senior Party, government and military officials, members of the State Affairs Commission and vice-chairpersons, secretary general and members of the SPA Standing Committee.

Before discussing the agenda items, the

session recalled the speaker of the SPA.

Maeng Kyong Il, deputy speaker of the SPA, presided over the session according to the regulations for the operation of the SPA.

When the session was declared open, the national anthem of the DPRK was played.

The 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK brought up the following agenda items:

First, on the deliberation and adoption of the law of the DPRK on grain management

Second, on the deliberation and adoption of the law of the DPRK on intellectual property rights

Third, on the state of inspection and supervision of the enforcement of the law of the DPRK on urban management

Kang Yun Sok, vice-chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, made reports on the first and second agenda items at the session.

The reporter explained the contents of the draft laws according to chapters, saying that this SPA session will deliberate on and adopt the law of the DPRK on grain management in order to better the grain management directly related to the

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improvement of the people’s diet, true to the Workers’ Party of Korea’s grain policy.

The draft law on intellectual property rights stipulates the legal requirements and practical issues arising in hastening



the comprehensive national rejuvenation through the steady increase and active use of intellectual creativity by further consolidating the well-regulated state system of guidance over the intellectual property work and further strengthening the intellectual property protection system, he said.

The SPA Standing Committee submitted the draft law of the DPRK on grain management and the draft law of the DPRK on intellectual property rights for deliberation at the Supreme People’s Assembly.

Kim Kwang Jin, Kim Son Il, Kim Chol

Won and Yun Chun Hwa made speeches on the first agenda item.

They noted that the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, with an insight into the significance and importance of grain management in the struggle to usher in a new era, in which regional areas develop radically and prosper in an all-round way, earlier and simultaneously, took an important measure to include the construction of the city and county grain management stations in the Regional Development 20 x 10 Policy as one of the three essential projects and carry it out with the state taking responsibility for it. They said that the adoption of the new law on grain management is the legalization of the determination and will of our Party to substantially promote the well-being of the regional people.

They expressed full support to the draft law, saying that it provided a sure legal guarantee for establishing a comprehensive and integrated system of grain management by specifying in detail all issues related to the procurement, storage, processing, supply, sale and consumption of grains.

Kim Song Bin, Ri Myong Guk, Pang Tu Sop, Pak Myong Ho, Pak Ji Min and Ri Kuk Chol made speeches on the second agenda item. They unanimously recognized that the strengthening of the intellectual property protection system by establishing a well-regulated system and order for intellectual property work is of great significance in encouraging the broad working masses to take part in the technological development and

creation with the attitude of a master and bringing substantial benefits to the people, the sci-tech talents who work with knowledge and technology and contribute to social progress and development, and thus raising a hot wind of developing new technologies and new products and increasing productivity across the country.

Speakers expressed their resolve to make positive contributions to accelerating socialist economic construction and promoting the development of science, technology and culture by correctly abiding by the requirements of the law on intellectual property rights to be newly adopted.

The session adopted with unanimous approval ordinances of the DPRK SPA “On adopting the Law of the DPRK on Grain Management” and “On adopting the Law of the DPRK on Intellectual Property Rights”.

The session discussed the state of inspection and supervision of the enforcement of the law of the DPRK on urban management as the third agenda item.

Ko Kil Son, secretary general of the SPA Standing Committee, made a report to be followed by speeches of Im Kyong Jae, Choe Hui Thae, Choe Myong Su and Jo Kil Nyo.

The report and speeches analyzed and reviewed the reason why the urban management fails to keep pace with the present situation in which the appearance of the capital city and regional areas, towns and rural areas is undergoing a facelift as appropriate to the appearance

of an advanced and highly civilized country through gigantic creation and changes.

Expressing the will to radically improve and strengthen urban management with innovative working manner and roles, the deputies offered constructive opinions for more thoroughly guaranteeing the enforcement of the law on urban management.

Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet, made public measures related to the presented opinions.

The session adopted with unanimous approval a decision of the SPA of the DPRK “On thoroughly executing the Law of the DPRK on Urban Management”.

The head of state made an important speech at the second-day sitting of the 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly.

The moment Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, appeared on the platform to clarify the important policy orientation of the DPRK government, all the deputies raised stormy cheers of “Hurrah!” looking up to him who is ushering in an era of comprehensive prosperity of our state by achieving great victories and bringing about epoch-making changes with his noble idea of the people-first principle and extraordinary leadership.

In his speech he expressed thanks to the Supreme People’s Assembly for doing

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Dear comrade Deputies,
Esteemed Chairman of the Standing Committee and
Deputy Speakers of the Supreme People's Assembly,
Dear observers,

The 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is successfully conducting its work on the basis of the mission and authority granted to it by the Constitution of the Republic and thanks to the active participation and discussion by all the Deputies.

I feel satisfied that our supreme power organ is pushing forward in a responsible and purposeful way with the important state affairs to provide a legal and institutional guarantee for solving urgent problems of great practical significance in further promoting the consolidation and development of the socialist system and the comprehensive prosperity of the state.

Expressing encouragement to the Deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly, who, as representatives of our people's independent rights and general will, are infinitely faithful to their duties in their fields of socialist construction and are playing a major role in the legislative activities for the perfection of state policy and government work, and availing myself of this opportunity, when numerous officials of the Party, government and leading organs in national defence and security and socio-economic sectors are present as observers, I would like to emphasize the successes achieved so far this year and a series of important tasks arising in state building and activities in the future.

Comrades,

In 2025, when our Party and the government of the Republic have to round off their work at the present stage, great and important undertakings, which were planned scientifically and more actively for the comprehensive development of the state, have been pushed forward in a powerful and balanced way and meaningful successes achieved so far.

The 13th Plenary Meeting of the Central Committee of the Party to be convened this December will make a general review, but if I have to make a preliminary review at this meeting, I think that the five-year plan,

including this year's plan, will be successfully fulfilled, and I do not doubt that this will be reported to the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The political enthusiasm of the citizens to glorify the 80th anniversary of the Party with great labour achievements has been fervent since the beginning of the year and has led to an uninterrupted advance and courageous struggle in the second half of the year as well, following the first half.

This convinces us that the five-year plan, set by the Eighth Central Committee of the Party, is sure to be carried out in 2025, an important year that marks the 80th anniversary of our Party, in the run-up to its historic Ninth Congress.

The achievements made in the nine months of this year are great, and the overall mettle and atmosphere are inspiring.

Before anything else, the metallurgical, chemical, electric power, machine-building and other key industries and major economic sectors are carrying out this year's national economic plan in the main.

Of course, they are not on the level with which we can feel content and satisfied, but it is very good that most enterprises are eager to attain their production targets and are presenting substantial results.

Following last year, the agricultural sector has grown promising crops this year, and it expects to hit the national target of grain production.

The fact that the production and procurement plans of early-ripening crops for this year have been overfulfilled thanks to the devoted efforts of the officials and working people in this sector is something that is unprecedented and has proved in reality the validity and vitality of our Party's new policy of encouraging wheat farming.

The expected yields of the second crops are good as well, so we have definite prospects for attaining the grain production target envisaged for this year.

As a result of our efforts to increase the rate of mechanization in farm work, it has increased by 2% over the previous year; this further strengthening of the foundations of agricultural production constitutes a great asset for its steadier advance.

It can be said that the deviations of only making empty talks have been eliminated, the seed revolution, double cropping, scientific farming and mechanized farming have become part and parcel of bringing about a substantial transformation in agricultural production, all the people's enthusiasm for sincerely assisting the farms has soared, and the capability to cope with natural calamities that hampered farming every year has been raised to a certain degree.

It is the construction sector that most clearly and undeniably demonstrates the nation's progress.

As for industrial construction first, the projects for building bases with a high level of modernization and enormous production capacities in the key industries and light industry sector have been pushed forward through strenuous efforts, and major projects including the first stage of the Tanchon Power Station and the renovation of the Ryongsong Machine Complex expect the day of completion.

On the shore of the Amnok River, which witnessed the removal of flood damage last year and a transformation in the northwestern border area, a

large-scale greenhouse farm is presenting its vivid appearance thanks to the vigorous creative struggle of soldier-builders and other young people.

With the gigantic project of building 50 000 flats in the capital city within the five-year plan period being pushed forward more extensively than the original plan, the fourth-stage construction in the Hwasong area is well underway according to the planned procedure, and construction of hundreds of houses in the Komdok area and tens of thousands of houses in different rural communities across the country will be completed within this year.

The Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area was built in a perfect way and people from different parts of the country started enjoying themselves there; the construction of the Samjiyon tourist area has been dynamically pushed forward; the Pyongyang General Hospital is nearing inauguration; and many other structures, which are symbolic of our style of new civilization and showcase our state's rapid advance, are springing up. These, too, constitute a remarkable success.

With the regional development policy in the new era being pursued in an expansive way, the regional-industry factories, more developed than those built in the first year of enforcement of the policy, are under construction in 20 cities and counties, and another tremendous undertaking for setting up public health facilities and comprehensive cultural service bases, essential for radically improving the quality of life of the regional people, is also going on successfully at a trial stage.

In particular, the Ragwon County Offshore Farm and a modern housing district for its employees, which can be called a substantial target in securing big assets for increasing the development potential of regions and transforming them, have been built in a little over half a year.

Nothing is more encouraging and inspiring than the joy and laughter of the people for the ruling party of a socialist state and its government in convincing themselves of their policies and devoting their all for the people by displaying stronger leadership abilities.

The people are deeply feeling the real change of their own regions as they move into modern houses built by the state and bringing the future goal to the present reality through courageous efforts—this is a great motive force in vividly highlighting the aspirations and development goals of our economy and injecting vitality into our socialist system.

Notable successes have been achieved in the sectors of science, education, public health, arts and sports, making the appearance of development become clear in all the realms of state and social life and giving pleasure and encouragement to the people.

On several occasions including the 80th anniversary of national liberation, 77th anniversary of the Republic and V-Day, our state has demonstrated its dignity and prestige once again and our people renewed their will to keep their self-respect and achieve prosperity by their own efforts.

Our Party and government are also making a steady leap forward in strengthening the defence capabilities of the state.

In accordance with the Party's line of strengthening the naval forces, we have successfully built destroyers capable of carrying out various naval military missions, thus creating a solid strategic axis for

defending our maritime sovereignty and taking a crucial first step in building a marine power. Recently we have set clear targets, ranging from ceaseless strengthening of the strategic forces and the expansion of their capabilities to improvement of the combat performance of conventional military hardware. These constitute a transformation of great significance.

Besides, we have possessed new, secret weapons, and made many achievements in defence science, which would make a great contribution to boosting our military forces more radically.

We have demonstrated how great and precious the assets of the state and the wealth of the people created over the nine months of this year are and how wide our fighting scope for confidently stepping up the remarkable progress of socialism is.

To lay the foundations for achieving prosperity by dint of self-reliance had been included in the long-term plan at the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly held six years previously; now these foundations have been built up definitely in all realms, and the comprehensive development of socialist construction, which had been regarded as an ideal in those days, has already entered a solid phase.

Now, it has become an established theory that no one or no adversity can obstruct or delay our state and people in their onward march to increase their own strength and progress in their own way along the road for their development.

Neither the wicked obstructive moves by outside forces nor the unprecedented public health crisis and natural disasters could undermine our strength and unity.

All these are attributable to the fact that the entire Party, the whole country and all the people, by upholding the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the Party as their invincible struggle programme, have made strenuous efforts to achieve a leap forward by displaying unprecedented perseverance and practical ability year after year, dauntlessly overcoming severe challenges and difficulties.

In the course of this, our will and self-confidence to staunchly advance our cause and open up our future have become stronger, and the role of all the people and their power of advance have gained further momentum.

All the people in the country are witnessing radical transformations where they live, and they are being united more closely with a high sense of pride in their country and devotion for its sake.

I am proud of the fact that the people's pride in and love for their country have never been so great as today in the history of the Republic spanning nearly eight decades.

For us, the economic growth and the increased military strength are of weighty significance, yet what is more important and powerful is the spiritual strength of the people, the motive force, and the preparedness of the politico-ideological force.

Our Party and the government of the Republic

identify reserves and potentials first in ideological factors rather than in economic levers, and they solve all problems by dint of ideology and political offensive; thanks to such leadership mode, the flames of an emulation drive for increased production and practising economy, which were kindled by the workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex, have swept the whole country with revolutionary enthusiasm and fighting zeal. Encouraged by the heroic spirit of the martyrs of the overseas operations units who sacrificed their lives in defence of the honour and dignity of the country, the patriotic enthusiasm and mass heroism are mounting further among the people across the country.

For the future victory, success and development, this is more precious and powerful than anything else.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to extend my warm, sincere gratitude to all the citizens of the Republic who have always rendered absolute support to the policies of the Party and the government and upheld them through a vigorous struggle and brilliant achievements of creation.

Dear Deputies,

We are working hard to develop our Republic into a powerful country that no one would dare to provoke and an ideal society for the people by boosting the soaring spirit of advance with which we have brought about unprecedented changes in all the realms of state and social life since the founding of the country and thus successfully carrying out the heavy tasks of the times and the revolutionary duty. This is the real aim of our struggle, and we are full of self-confidence.

At the present moment, when the struggle to bring about the comprehensive prosperity of the state has entered a period of unprecedented upsurge, our Party and people expect a more correct and proactive role from the government of the Republic.

The government should adhere to the principle of strengthening the people-oriented character in its activities and giving full play to the unity and creativity peculiar to our people.

Revealed in a number of units are such deviations as paying little attention to the working and living conditions for the working people and leaning towards implementing production plans or construction tasks.

We should not tarnish the original features of man-centred socialism in any circumstances, but place man above production and solve one by one the elementary problems arising in promoting the health and convenience of producers.

As the work of finishing this year's farming is in full swing across the country, we should ensure that there are no such instances as taking off the shares of farmers on the pretext of implementing the plans and trading in cereals through illegal channels.

We need the planned quantities of cereals, but more important are the rights and interests of the farmers and more precious is the mindset of the people who absolutely trust the Party's policies.

We should not tolerate even the slightest manifestation of practices that may be revealed in the course of implementing the policies contrary

to our state's people-oriented character, including the abuse of power, bureaucratic behaviour and infringement upon the interests of the people, and instead we should orient all state affairs thoroughly to cementing our single-hearted unity.

It is very important to turn the course of arranging and conducting state affairs into that of giving free rein to the inexhaustible strength of the masses.

In other words, when overcoming the subjective and objective obstacles in the way of our advance or implementing the pressing, essential tasks in a bold manner, we should push ahead with all state affairs by considering first the unrivalled revolutionary spirit of our people and their patriotic loyalty and enlisting their great strength.

The Cabinet should steadily enhance its organizing and mobilizing role.

As it has under its authority the executive institutions and forces capable of performing the mission of government organs and can exercise the relevant authority, the Cabinet should give proper guidance and control over all its affiliated organs so that they can perform their functions with credit.

Also, it should work to ensure close ties and cooperation between the sectoral executive institutions through collective discussion, give regular control and direction over both the overall affairs and the work of individual sectors, and take realistic steps for eliminating the tendencies that may be revealed among economic guidance officials, such as working in a subjective manner, acting on impulse, self-centredness, fame-seeking, irresponsibility and incompetency.

It should establish strict financial discipline in dealing with the overall state affairs to allow no room for such negative practices as misappropriation, waste and embezzlement, and ensure that funds, once invested, are put to proper and effective use for building up the foundations of the independent economy and promoting the wellbeing of the people.

Finding proper solutions to the problems arising in economic management is the most pressing task facing us in putting the overall state affairs in order and achieving sustained development of our economy by relying on our own forces.

It is imperative to conduct a correct analysis of why contradictions and shortcomings are revealed in the present economic work and adopt prompt measures for establishing realistic and rational methods of economic management in order to dynamically propel socialist construction.

From this year the regional development policy has entered a new stage of expanded implementation, based on last year's successes and experience and the long-term demands for putting the regions on a track of diversified and sustained development.

The relevant sectors and units should work with a still higher sense of responsibility as dynamic progress is being made in carrying out the tasks for regional development, such as ensuring scientific accuracy and practicality in designing structures

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under the regional development policy, producing quality equipment and effecting standardization.

An important factor in regional rejuvenation and rural development is to ensure that provinces, cities and counties discharge their role properly, as befitting masters.

Coastal provinces should identify and implement in a purposeful way the construction of offshore farming bases under a plan and other projects that will bring real benefits to the residents by exploiting locally available economic potentials in conformity with their own characteristics, as well as the tasks for transforming their appearances with the entities of the new regional development policy as the standard.

As I pointed out during my visit to Songchon last year, the problem is the low quality of housing construction in the countryside, which is being carried out mainly by the city and county construction workforce.

Cities and counties should act decisively to build up the ranks of skilled construction workers, upgrade construction equipment and strengthen the bases for the production of building materials.

If they neglect this, the prospects of the regional development policy might grow bleak, which will entail serious consequences.

Provinces, cities and counties should also make substantial and assiduous efforts to systematically train large numbers of personnel who will implement the rural revolution programme in the new era as required by Party policy and thus transform the socialist countryside.

If we are to become prosperous and more powerful, not by a lucky chance but on the strength of self-sustenance and self-determination, we have no other choice but to rely on science and technology, and the prospects of our state's development depend on how steadily we increase its scientific and technological forces.

The state should establish a well-regulated system and order whereby the resources of talented personnel are mobilized and used to good effect and a guarantee is provided for the sustainable development of science and technology. Also, all sectors and all units should build up their own scientific and technological forces with a view to finding successful solutions to the technological problems arising in the course of actual work.

The education sector should, with the implementation of the second universal 12-year compulsory education programme as a momentum, make full preparations for educating students at the advanced international level, and it should also ensure that universities and colleges properly implement the new discipline-specific teaching plans to produce a larger number of talented personnel as demanded by reality.

What it must never neglect in this regard is to improve the qualifications and abilities of teachers and their specialization level.

To solve the problem of teachers is the key to developing education, so it is necessary to ensure higher quality of teacher training and improve the continuous education system for them; it is particularly important to give teachers in the regions and the countryside ready access to advanced teaching materials.

We should work hard to renovate treatment and prevention institutions at all levels, fundamentally raise the quality of medical service, and solidify the material and technical foundations of the public health sector, pharmaceutical industry in particular, as demanded by the historic era of the healthcare revolution.

We should steadily update the socialist legal system and improve the functions and role of law in the realms of state and social life.

The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly should continually revise and supplement the sector-specific laws to provide a legal guarantee for implementing new policies of the Party, and it should be effective in perfecting legal and institutional

mechanisms to ensure more efficient and smoother operation of all sectors and put them under strict control.

With the promotion of our exchanges with other countries in recent years, law-enforcement organs should work out a better strategy for, and adopt an aggressive, comprehensive and rigorous approach towards, frustrating the enemy's moves to undermine our system and degenerate our citizens and combatting all manner of crimes that disturb social and political stability.

They should strengthen their legal supervision and control over obstructing or neglecting the implementation of the decisions adopted by the Party and the state, violating the state's economic order and the discipline in implementing the national economic plan, infringing on the people's interests, and impeding the development of the state's defence capabilities; once they find out any of such criminal acts, they must not hesitate to wield the sword of revolutionary dictatorship.

Our Republic is an independent socialist state that never tolerates any kind of subjugation or domination. So, the most important of its state affairs is to strengthen its self-defensive capabilities, and this is something which we must bolster without a moment's halt and make no compromise over.

By relying on the powerful war deterrent we have already built up, we should work responsibly to defend our state's sovereignty and security, and make constant efforts to increase our capabilities with which to counter all kinds of military threats.

We should make proactive efforts to ensure that our paramilitary forces maintain full readiness as required by the features of modern warfare, thus further consolidating the might of the nationwide, all-people defence system. We should also see to it that the national trait of everyone regarding national defence as the highest expression of patriotism and rendering wholehearted support to the People's Army is brought into fuller play.

Today, availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to tell you particularly about our people's admirable deeds.

Recently, after we went public with the heroic exploits the combatants of our overseas military operations units had performed in liberating the Kursk region of the Russian Federation, a climate of mass heroism is prevailing across our society and our young and middle-aged people's enthusiasm for volunteering to join the army is growing more than ever before. These are part of an increasing, positive tendency to turn out in the patriotic struggle staking the dignity of Koreans and the reputation of Korea.

There have been so many instances of giving sincere assistance to the participants in the recent overseas operations and the bereaved families of the martyrs and donating money to help them meet their needs in living.

For less than a month from August 22 to this day, tens of thousands of people—officials, employees and residents—have donated a large sum for the construction of a combat feats memorial museum and a monument to combat feats to honour the memory of the heroes, for the construction of Saeppyo Street and for the bereaved families of the martyrs.

Among these people are honoured disabled ex-soldiers, farmers, scientists and housewives.

Regarding the continuing of this laudable trend, there arose the problem of using the money donated for the participants in the overseas operations and the bereaved families of the martyrs. As the Party and the state should take full responsibility for taking care of them, I have instructed officials to return the money to the donors without fail, thank them sincerely on behalf of the government of the Republic and give wide publicity to their deeds.

These deeds are clear testimony to the virtues and ennobling moral character unique to our people, the stability of our society and its true unity and might.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to express thanks on behalf of the government of the Republic to all the admirable people who, with a noble mind, offered assistance to and donated money

for our heroic combatants and the bereaved families of the martyrs.

Comrades,

The key, crucial variable in continuing the historic course for the comprehensive development of our country is how we defend the security of our state amid the volatile political trends of the world and the changing conditions of the times.

Today, at this meeting, I am going to make clear the status quo of the relations with the United States and the Republic of Korea and their compatibility, which have a decisive impact on the security of our state and the situation in the region, as well as the principled stand which we should maintain in the external activities.

At present, as global unrest and universal crisis are mounting due to the unreasonable ambitions of, and excessive use of force by, the camp led by the United States that is attempting to maintain its rapidly declining hegemony, the security structure surrounding the DPRK is still facing serious challenges.

In particular, the objective security situation around the Korean peninsula is literally renewing one worst record after another.

The United States and its vassal states, in disregard of the DPRK's security concern, have regularly committed provocative actions to exacerbate the tension, the danger of which has now increased to a noticeable level, quite unlike several years previously.

According to the United States' hegemony-oriented Indo-Pacific strategy and the scenario for its implementation, the US-ROK and US-Japan military alliances and the US-Japan-ROK tripartite military cooperation system are mutating into increasingly offensive and aggressive entities, and the direct victim of this is none other than the security environment of our state.

The reality facing us today is that various kinds of bilateral and multilateral war games against the DPRK take place simultaneously and continue without any gap in time and space, involving more and more nuclear elements.

Formerly, the tensivity of the situation around the Korean peninsula used to peak every March and every August, like a seasonal wind, with the frantic, large-scale joint war exercises by the United States and the ROK. Presently, however, chronic tension persists all the year round, caused by a series of bilateral and multinational joint war exercises and frequent deployment of strategic assets.

This is clearly evidenced by the fact that last month, by launching the large-scale joint war exercise Ulji Freedom Shield, the United States and the ROK drove the situation to the extreme, and in September, the enemy continues to bring increasing military pressure to bear upon our state.

Even more serious is the fact that the nuclear operations guidelines presupposing the use of nukes against our state, which were formulated by the previous regimes of the United States and the ROK, have been inherited in their entirety by their current replacements and, accordingly, their nuclear war plan has entered the stage of more practical and concrete implementation.

Some days ago, the United States and the ROK launched Iron Mace, another undisguised nuclear war rehearsal aimed at getting familiar with the procedures and mode for attacking our state with nukes according to the above-mentioned guidelines, while at the same time conducting a multi-realm joint military exercise with the involvement of Japan.

This is an extension of and succession to the anti-DPRK policy the enemy states have handed down through generations irrespective of their regime change, and also a stark revelation of the intrinsic confrontational nature of their present ruling circles.

At the same time, the Japanese mainland witnessed a blitz deployment of the US forces' ground-based medium-range missile system for the first time in its history. As a result, the territorial depths of the regional nuclear powers including our state have

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become the constant, direct targets of the US military, which means they are exposed to an unprecedented security risk as well.

Owing to the adventurous military actions of the enemy states for demonstration, unpredictable and dangerous circumstances have been created in all realms of the ground, sea and air, and the confrontation between nuclear states has become unprecedentedly severe. This is the prevailing military and political situation we are in.

Like this, the present situation is more severe than ever before.

Although the present security situation has turned unprecedentedly bad, the level of security of our state, or the security coefficient, stands higher than ever before.

The security index for prevention of war has risen higher than it was in the past though the tension is getting worse with the passage of time and the fuse is burning—this fact hints at a very important thing.

It is that our nuclear forces are fully and perfectly performing their deterrent function for coping with and overwhelming all security challenges from outside.

In other words, the ever-increasing physical deterrent of our state, which is in direct proportion to the increasing use of military force by the United States and its allies, has completely sapped the will of its enemy states to unleash a war and ensured the balance of strength in the region.

I am sure of this fact, and I think it will be difficult for the enemy to deny it.

No matter how harsh the objective situation may be, war will be fully deterred if the subjective factor, that is, the internal force, grows strong enough to keep it under its control and manage it.

Through its uninterrupted, rapid development and threatening demonstration, our nuclear deterrent has proved its capability for, and reliability in, defending the national sovereignty, territorial integrity and the lives and safety of the people from foreign military threats, aggression and attack, steadily increased the security coefficient on the Korean peninsula and in the region, and made the enemy states dread the possible fatal consequences of an emergency.

Today's reality testifies that our painstaking efforts to speed up the accumulation of physical strength without interruption are entirely justifiable.

As I have already stated, maintaining security and defending peace by overwhelming strength is our unchangeable choice.

I say our enemy states have no means or way to stop the growth of our absolute strength, nor will they get them even in the distant future.

We are ready to cope with anything.

There may be different ways and principles for counteraction, and we are prepared to cope with anything.

Four years ago I stressed the need to get prepared for both dialogue and confrontation, especially to get fully prepared for the latter, in order to protect the dignity of our state and its interests for independent development and to reliably guarantee the peaceful environment and the security of our state.

The administrations of the United States and the ROK that were formed this year are talking about their willingness to have dialogue and improve relations with us. But, their aim to sap our strength and bring down our social system in the long run can never change.

Recently they came up with the idea of “phased denuclearization,” which has led to the destroying with their own hands of the justification and foundations for negotiation with us.

I do not think the United States and the ROK have any good logic to reason with the international community to acknowledge their need for negotiation with us.

The concept of “denuclearization” has already lost its meaning.

We have become a nuclear state, and this was an

inevitable choice we made at the crossroads of rise and fall of our state.

That is why we enshrined our nuclear possession in the supreme law of our Republic as something sacred and absolute, which cannot be affected or amended in any case.

Asking us to accept “denuclearization” now is as good as asking us to go against our Constitution.

There still exist a lot of people who join the United States in clamouring for “denuclearization.”

They should know that they are committing acts of openly disregarding and grossly violating the sovereignty of the DPRK.

Could we go against our Constitution?

For what should we turn to “denuclearization”?

To avoid sanctions?

Never. Never ever.

I say “denuclearization” is the last, last thing to expect from us.

The fact that the DPRK is possessed of nuclear weapons will remain permanently as it is, whether the United States and its allies like it or not and however ardently they call in chorus for “denuclearization” for 10, 20 or 50, nay, 100 years.

Our retaining of nuclear weapons is enshrined in a national law, and we have a legal duty to defend the national law without fail.

Our enemy states' crafty sermon that we can be well off only when we give up our nukes has already lost its power of persuasion as we see the tragedies of bloodshed all around the world, which are of their own making.

The world knows well what the United States does after having others give up their nuclear weapons and disarming them.

We will never lay down our nukes.

The sanctions imposed by the hostile forces on us have taught us a lesson on how to get stronger, and developed tolerance and resistance in us so that we will not yield to any pressure.

There will be no negotiations, and never at that, with our enemy states to exchange something with them, obsessed with trying to get free from their sanctions.

If the hegemony-seeking Western forces led by the United States think they can pressurize and bring us to our knees through sanctions or sabre-rattling, still overcome with the delusion that they can win by inflicting a strategic defeat on the DPRK, a nuclear state, they are sadly mistaken.

The options are on their table.

If they want to continue with their foolish acts like imposing sanctions and pressure still clamouring for “denuclearization” without facing up to the changed reality, let them go ahead with the acts.

To be frank, that will provide us with a greater advantage.

Because we will have more time to do what we intend to do.

Time is on our side.

As befitting a great political power, we will shore up our economy as we have planned, and ceaselessly update our position of being a world-class military power by stepping up the strengthening of our military capabilities, which constitutes our unmistakable strategic aim.

Our Party and government will invariably, firmly and without a slightest deviation defend the Constitution of the DPRK and the basic law on the nuclear force policy, which has permanently codified our possession of nukes, and thoroughly safeguard the supreme interests of our state.

Unless the nuclear threat to us coming from outside is terminated, and as long as there exist the imperialist forces that use the nukes for the means of existence of their tyranny, we will never allow an interruption on our road of bolstering up our military capabilities to safeguard the security of our state and the wellbeing of our people both at present and in the future, but continue to move forward to maintain the edge of our overwhelming strength.

The hostile forces are well advised to be well aware of the fact that if they keep boasting of their strength

recklessly and without limit in our neighbourhood, they might provoke us to impatience.

We are now exercising our war deterrent, and I do not want the primary mission of this deterrent to become invalid.

If invalid, its secondary mission will be put into operation.

I have already mentioned it.

If the secondary mission of the deterrent is put into operation, the military organizations and infrastructures of the ROK and its allies in the vicinity will collapse in a moment, and this just means annihilation.

I never seek the development of such a dangerous situation.

If the United States, freeing itself from its absurd pursuit of other's denuclearization and recognizing the reality, wants genuine peaceful coexistence with us, there is no reason for us not to come face to face with it.

Personally, I still have a good memory of the current US President Trump.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I am going to make our stand towards the relations with the ROK clearer.

We have no reason to sit together with it and will do nothing together with it.

I make clear that we will not deal with it at all.

In fact, we and the ROK have existed in the international community as two states over the last scores of years.

It is a stark reality that the two most hostile states on earth, two belligerent states, have been in acute confrontation on the Korean peninsula.

It was Syngman Rhee, the first president of the ROK, and his clique that rigged up a separate government on one half of the Korean peninsula in stubborn opposition to the aspirations of all the fellow countrymen to get rid of the tragedy of division imposed by foreign forces and live and develop independently on one territory.

In the first Constitution of the ROK fabricated and promulgated in July 1948, Syngman Rhee stipulated that “the territory of the ROK covers the Korean peninsula and its attached islands,” thus codifying its inborn nature which is the most hostile to our state.

The Korean Armistice Agreement, concluded in 1953 after the three-year war, officially confirmed in front of the international community that the two belligerent states undeniably exist on the Korean peninsula without the complete end of the war. And in 1991 the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea joined the United Nations separately, and thereby they came to be internationally recognized as completely two different states.

We defined the ROK as a foreign country and the most hostile state, not based on the judgment formed abruptly in recent years.

This is nothing new.

We simply accepted the hard fact.

We call the ROK the most hostile state, because they have kept writing a history of the most hostile acts against the DPRK.

Starting with Focus Lens after the war, they frenziedly staged anti-DPRK war games almost every day, ceaselessly changing their codenames, including Freedom Bolt, Ulji Focus Lens, Team Spirit, Key Resolve and Ulji Freedom Guardian. At present, the drills developed more viciously into such all-round nuclear war rehearsals as Ulji Freedom Shield and Freedom Edge.

The ROK turned its whole territory into a nuclear outpost and depot, the largest of their kinds in the Far East, by introducing more than 1 000 nuclear weapons of all kinds into the Korean peninsula for the first time in history. It is now in a frenzy with war games by introducing into the peninsula at any time a huge amount of advanced military hardware including the three strategic assets of the United States and even the NATO-led Western forces.

The reckless anti-DPRK military moves, made by

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the ROK in collusion with foreign forces, have turned the Korean peninsula into a constant war danger zone where it would not be regarded as abnormal if a war breaks out right now.

Though government has changed more than ten times and the Constitution undergone revision nine times in the ROK so far, nothing has changed in the territory-related article of the Constitution, which is aimed at invading and annexing the DPRK. And although the National Security Law has been revised several times, the article concentratedly reflecting hostility towards the DPRK has not undergone even the slightest revision.

We have detestably witnessed what the successive rulers of the ROK have pursued.

The history of fierce confrontation between the DPRK and the ROK spanning nearly eight decades and the present reality clearly show that the inborn wild ambition of the ROK, whether they advocate “democracy” or put on the mask of “conservatism,” to make our system and government collapse has never changed and will never change, and that the enemy is the enemy.

Furthermore, in view of national interests, we have no intention to get reunited with the country which has entrusted its politics and defence to foreign forces.

The ROK is a deformed entity with hemiplegia and a colonial tributary whose all fields have been Americanized, a foreign country that has thoroughly become heterogeneous.

It is a matter of course that as water and fire can never fuse into one, the independent politics and the sycophantic and treacherous politics cannot concur, the independent defence and the subordinate defence cannot merge with each other, the self-reliant economy and the colonial contract economy cannot combine, and the socialist culture and the Yankee culture cannot go together.

The reunification of the two entities, which have become completely heterogeneous and mutually exclusive, can never be achieved unless one of them ceases to exist.

Reunification is never needed.

The recently formed Lee Jae Myung government of the ROK is advocating a “line of compromise” with us, talking about “improvement of relations” and “peace,” in a bid to make a distinction between it and its preceding governments. But nothing has changed substantially.

In view of its wild ambition for “unification by absorption,” it puts in the shade its preceding vicious “conservative” regimes, which set the anti-DPRK policy as a state policy.

In public they say they will “assiduously build a tower of confidence with patience” for “restoring the south-north relations without fail,” but behind the scenes they are building higher the wall of confrontation by expanding and strengthening the war rehearsals for aggression such as nuclear operation drill and multi-realm joint military exercise aimed at a preemptive nuclear strike on the other party.

Actually, in the draft budget bill for next year, which the Lee Jae Myung government passed for the first time after they came to power, the military expenditure is expected to increase by 8.2 percent, far surpassing that of the Yoon Suk Yeol regime that

earned notoriety for its confrontational fanaticism against the DPRK.

These days, they say that they will recognize our system and will not pursue “unification by absorption” but coexist with us peacefully. But the chief of his state security office explained quite exactly the true intention of the ruler some days ago.

At a round-table meeting on September 17, he made a remark of totally denying our system and Constitution by saying, “The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is the ultimate goal traditionally pursued by the ROK and the United States, and it remains unchanged, whether anyone likes it or not.”

Now the enemy is openly clamouring for an early resumption of dialogue, saying that the longer the suspension of dialogue gets, “the more boosted the nuclear and missile capabilities of the north will be.”

The “three-stage denuclearization theory” of the current ruler, so-called “suspension-reduction-denuclearization,” is nothing other than a copy from the “workbook” of his predecessors who dreamed of disarming us.

It will be only an expression of deep attachment and obsession to discuss reunification with such an enemy state, and such persistence cannot change anything in reality.

How can we and the ROK be reunified?

Has the world history ever recorded a case of unification between such two sworn enemy states?

Why should we pursue a reunification which cannot be achieved unless one of them ceases to exist?

We will enshrine in a national law that we and the ROK are two states sharing the border, which are heterogeneous from each other and which can by no means become one.

The government of the DPRK will, in the future, too, reliably defend the sovereignty, security and fundamental interests of the state and strongly promote peace and security in the Korean peninsula and the region surrounding it in a most responsible manner.

Comrade Deputies,

In carrying out all the tasks facing the government of the Republic, the rights and authority of our Deputies are by no means light, and this honour of participating in the discussion of state affairs in person is an expression of the great expectations of the Party and the people for your responsible role.

Having been elected by the people and entrusted with the administration of the state and having pledged to serve the people, you should cherish the people’s trust, thoroughly ensure the implementation of state policies through more proactive and devoted efforts, and have your work reviewed before the state and the people by producing results of sincere state political activities.

To this end, you should, first of all, have a correct understanding of state policies and, on this basis, explain them to the residents in your regions and to the people at your units and set an example for them to follow in implementing the policies.

What is important is that you should unfailingly and perfectly carry out all the policies advanced by the Party and the state for your respective sectors and units through meticulous planning, effective arrangement and stubborn persistence.

A Deputy needs to have insight and traits befitting

a political activist of the state, know how to lead the public sentiments and encourage the collective to keep up the atmosphere of unity and struggle, get into the habit of finding and doing anything good for the people, strictly observe the laws and regulations of the state, and lead a frugal life so that he or she will not lose respect and trust of the masses.

All of you, by making redoubled, devoted efforts, should achieve a succession of excellent results you can be proud of before the Party, the state and the people, and your images and achievements will leave a notable imprint on the record of our sacred advance towards the Ninth Party Congress.

Our Party and the government of the Republic will cherish ennobling ideals and wage an unyielding struggle to bolster the people’s firm trust, and they will continually build up the self-confidence and strength with which to translate the people’s cherished desires into reality, thus fulfilling the heavy tasks facing them at every stage.

Comrades,

For the Workers’ Party of Korea, the government of the Republic and our people, the absolute lifeline is to remain faithful to the socialist line and hold higher the banner of socialism.

This is because the advantages and vitality of the socialism of our own choice, which we have defended and glorified by shedding our sweat, and even our blood, unsparingly, have been proved by history and reality.

In the course of experiencing a dramatic change in their destiny and braving all sorts of difficulties, our people have accepted socialism as a requirement of their lives rather than an ideal or political mode; while enjoying one substantial benefit after another, leading a collectivist life in which they help and lead one another forward and share weal and woe with one another, and witnessing the reality of their ever-prospering country, they have keenly realized that socialism and their destiny are inseparably linked.

Our Party and government have no right to give up socialism, which our people have chosen, trust and propel by themselves and which they regard as a truth and treasure more than their own lives. They are duty-bound to develop it in our own way and lead it to attain a succession of great victories.

There will be no change or deviation in the political platform of our Party and government, and we will surely defend and advance socialism, which embody our people’s aspirations and ideals, thus promoting the great prosperity of our state and ensuring the eternal wellbeing of our people.

Our cause is invincible as it advances by relying on the extraordinary patriotic enthusiasm and inexhaustible creativity of the heroic people who remain faithful to the ennobling ideals, and our socialist state’s history of development and prosperity will continue forever.

Comrade Deputies,

Let us accomplish the cause of socialism, which represents our great history, honour and bright future.

Let us work hard for the dignity and comprehensive prosperity of our Republic, holding aloft the banner of socialism that symbolizes our ennobling ideals and beautiful dreams.

Long live our great country, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea!

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its work in a responsible manner based on the mission and authority granted by the Constitution, outlined the qualitative development successes made in the overall national economy in the nine months of this year and made a strict analysis of the trend of the situation on and around the Korean peninsula before clarifying the principled stand of the DPRK government towards the US and the ROK.

He ardently called upon the deputies, who have been entrusted with state administration by the people and who pledged to work for them, to make more proactive and devoted efforts to achieve the prosperity of the Republic and its people’s ideal.

Upon hearing Kim Jong Un’s speech full of a noble sense of duty for accomplishing the socialist cause and the great spirit of serving the country and the people, all the deputies expressed full support for and approval of the

administrative policy of the head of state with enthusiastic applause and cheers.

The historic speech made by Kim Jong Un at the 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly serves as a great immortal programme for state building which enables our people to give fuller play to their unique heroism, indomitable stamina and bold fighting spirit on the invariable path of socialism they chose as an element of their faith and to open up a new stage of the development of the state with

confidence.

The 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People’s Assembly of the DPRK successfully concluded its work amid the extraordinary determination and great political enthusiasm of the participants to fulfill their responsibility and duty assigned by the people at the forefront of the sacred struggle to bring earlier the comprehensive rejuvenation of the dignified DPRK, true to the ideology and cause of the great Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits Pyongyang General Hospital nearing completion

He stresses that Pyongyang General Hospital ought to play a key and leading role in implementing the policy on the revolution in public health set forth by the Party



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited Pyongyang General Hospital nearing completion on September 23.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Ju Chang Il, Kim Jae Ryong and Kim Yong Su, department directors of the Central Committee of the WPK, and officials in the field of public health.

He was greeted on the spot by leading members of the hospital and construction and design units.

He went round various places of the hospital including the image diagnosis

department, emergency department, general experimental test department, such specialized treatment departments as the dental department and internal intensive treatment department, a general operating theatre, inpatient ward, conference hall and helipad.

We have paid close attention to fixing architectural aspects in a way that all spatial environments starting from design in hospital construction can beneficially work on the physical and mental health and treatment for people, he said, noting that it is important to provide patients with a treatment environment and conditions that ensure their mental and psychological stability, since treatment and complete recovery are the core at hospitals. He appreciated that the interior and exterior of Pyongyang General Hospital are

unique and refined in the architectural aspect and that various colours which can enhance visibility and formative beauty have been combined well to give the feelings of modernity and comfort.

Learning in detail about the interior finish and preparations for medical service of the hospital, he said it is great progress made in our design field that the primary attention has been paid to ensuring the smooth medical treatment plan, ranging from the placement of facilities and composition of space to the flow relation and the plane structure of individual rooms. He made a satisfactory appreciation of the fact that the hospital's level of functionality and specialization is high and the spatial and functional connectivity has been ensured wonderfully.

The hospital facilities and treatment equipment should be good, but the important thing is the medical forces, he said, adding that as there is a saying that cure is brought about by both medicine and sincerity, the main thing in treatment is the high level of medical practices and devotion of a doctor in charge of a patient. He gave an instruction to prepare all the medical workers and nurses well so that they would devote their all to the treatment with warm human love as well as professional qualifications.

Saying that three modern city and county hospitals are to be inaugurated at the end of this year and the beginning of next year and 20 regional hospitals to be built every year from next year according

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to the Party's policy on regional development, he stressed that Pyongyang General Hospital ought to play a key and leading role in implementing the policy on the revolution in public health set forth by the Party which intends to rebuild and dramatically develop the country's public health on an advanced foundation.

He clarified a series of important tasks such as the issues of renewing some architectural styles in future hospital designs, working out detailed designs for every element according to a long-term development plan and exactly predicting and reflecting the future demands and changes in the designs.

He said that it is needed to build an advanced and efficient digital medical service network and medical treatment system in city and county hospitals like Pyongyang General Hospital which put the whole course of its management and medical service on an IT and intelligent basis. He noted it is important to establish a nationwide public health and medical service infrastructure comprising central hospitals, provincial, city and county hospitals and even individual families.

In the future, under the supervision of the relevant policy guidance department of the Party Central Committee, we will study a series of important issues for further strengthening the foundations of the country's public health, including the issue of setting up such essential medical institutions as emergency stations between city and county hospitals and ri clinics according to the population density and geographical and traffic conditions, he said.

He also referred to the complicated

problems which have occurred so far in the course of the construction of Pyongyang General Hospital since the day of its groundbreaking ceremony. He said:

Although the external factor related to the global health crisis affected the construction of the hospital, it was delayed compared to other sectors mainly because of the disorder in organizing economic work created by the desire for fame of some leading officials of the then Cabinet and the officials of the then coordination commission for the construction of Pyongyang General Hospital, who posed an artificial obstacle internally.

In those days, they pushed ahead with the construction project at will while neglecting the financial discipline of the state, though the total budget for construction reflecting the changed scale and design of the hospital was not approved, and thus caused economic losses. What is more serious is that they set up even an organization in the form of support panel at will and mounted a fund-raising and aid campaign across the country, which led to a serious political problem of distorting the original intention of the Party, which initiated a glorious and worthwhile project for the people with sincerity in order to realize its cherished desire.

The people-oriented character of this work initiated by our Party was almost misled and the prestige of the Party undermined due to the politically very immature people who failed to discern the purpose and character of this construction project which the Party designated as its cherished desire and the fame-seekers who thought first of being praised for their share by being

involved in the construction to which the Party pays direct attention and gives importance. Among the officials who had done such an unreasonable act at that time were former senior officials of the Organizational Leadership Department of the Party Central Committee, who were politically responsible for the construction coordination commission. In order to recover the political loss caused by the fame-seeking individual officials who regarded their names as more important than the Party's policy, we were compelled to take a special separate measure to return all the funds in December last year to the units and residents who offered aid funds for the hospital construction.

The evil practices and complications revealed in the course of the hospital construction resulted in its one-and-half-year delay and this is a typical example showing the undisciplined practices in economic work, subjective desire of officials and their immaturity in political guidance which are still latent in the state. It taught us a serious lesson related to the necessity to further enhance the political preparedness of leading officials of the Party and the government and to the vacuum in our work.

The political significance and transformative power of construction are incomparably increasing in the course of the struggle of us advancing from a revolution to a more gigantic one and from a stage of development to a higher level of transformation. It is needed to bear in mind that however difficult and hard it may be at present, we should ensure that every structure created by dint of self-reliance becomes a precious treasure bringing happiness and comfort to our

people and posterity and a substantial asset for national rejuvenation.

Saying that hospital, a functional building which requires highly strict standard and specialization compared to any other fields, can be called an aggregation of architectural technology, he indicated in detail the ways for addressing shortcomings revealed in the construction of the general hospital and its preparations for medical service.

We should develop designs of public health facilities before anything else in order to put the country's public health, which has lagged behind any other sectors, on the world level, he said, adding that, to this end, it arises as a primary issue to organize a design institute specializing in the architectural designs, ranging from central hospitals to city and county hospitals, clinics and pharmacies. He then indicated organizational and structural measures for that.

Expressing his pleasure of greeting the day when one of the cherished desires is to be fulfilled in the long run, he said with pride that the foundations of the country's public health will change fundamentally if modern hospitals rise up in over 200 cities and counties across the country in the future and that Pyongyang General Hospital will be recorded in the country's history of construction in the new era as a brilliant monumental entity symbolic of the first year of the public health revolution led by our Party and the first substantial starting point of the public health development.

Noting that Pyongyang General Hospital is a present to be given by our Party to the people on the occasion of its founding day, he gave detailed instructions related to its inaugural ceremony.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un meets scientists and technicians in nuclear field and guides important consultative meeting

He says the WPK and the DPRK government will give top priority to providing and supporting every possibility and condition to the nuclear technology field for its sustained development



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met scientists and technicians in the nuclear field including the Nuclear Weapons Institute and guided an important consultative meeting related to the production of nuclear materials and weapons on September 26.

Present at the meeting was Hong Sung Mu, first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un listened to a report on the implementation of the plan for 2025 to increase the capacity of the nuclear-material production field and learned about the recent work and

major production activities of the Nuclear Weapons Institute.

Saying that the nuclear-material production field and the Nuclear Weapons Institute thoroughly carried out two tasks according to the new important strategy set forth by our Party, he noted with great satisfaction that as a result, major problems in highly developing the country's nuclear capability were perfectly solved.

After acquainting himself with the scale of the next year's plan and development prospect of the nuclear-material production field and the Nuclear Weapons Institute, he said that he highly appreciates with pleasure the ever-growing nuclear technology forces of the DPRK and their increased capabilities. He added that having such strategic

nuclear technological potentials is a great encouragement to our Party and a reliable guarantee for the struggle of our people, the victorious advance of our cause and the security of the future.

As he clarified at the 13th Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly a few days ago, the logic of keeping peace and security by force with a powerful deterrent, namely nuclear forces, as its backbone is the invariable stand of the DPRK, he said. He declared that steadily evolving the state's nuclear response posture is an essential top priority task in view of the security environment of the Republic, the most right choice for the present and future of the state and an unchangeable duty that we must carry out.

Saying that we should constantly strengthen and upgrade the nuclear shield

and sword capable of reliably defending the security of the sovereignty, interests and right to development of the state, he noted that to this end, the WPK and the DPRK government will give top priority to providing and supporting every possibility and condition to the nuclear technology field for its sustained development.

Underlining the need for all the experts in the nuclear technology field to be well aware of the essence of our Party's line on increasing the nuclear forces and greet the Ninth Congress of the WPK with outstanding research successes and proud results of increased production, he indicated important tasks for steadily and highly developing the self-defensive nuclear capabilities of the country.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends excavators for rural construction in Ryanggang Province

KCNA

Ryanggang Province in the northern part of the DPRK is being steadily transformed through the successful implementation of the policy on regional development and the programme for the rural revolution in the new era set forth by the Central Committee of the great Workers' Party of Korea. The respected Comrade

Kim Jong Un, who always pays close attention to the work to turn Ryanggang Province, where the birthplace of Chairman Kim Jong Il is located, into an earthly paradise where the people enjoy all blessings, showed the great loving care of sending equipment for the rural construction in the cities and counties of the province. He ensured that hurrah for

socialism sounded from the first village at the foot of Mt Paektu and dispatched battalions of Party members from the capital city and regions to the province so as to push ahead with the rural construction in the province. And now he sent excavators again to the cities and counties of the province to more dynamically promote the regional construction there.

It reflects the special trust and expectations of the great Party Central Committee that wants the people in the province to take the lead in the sacred and worthwhile struggle to usher in a new era of regional development, in which people and mountains and streams change beyond recognition, bearing deep in mind the great honour and pride of living in the historic place.

The officials and working people in the province, who received the construction equipment provided under the care of the Party, were filled with deep reverence for Kim Jong Un who clearly indicated the orientation and ways so that the rural construction in the province is carried out on a high level and showed great loving care again. All the officials and

working people in Ryanggang Province are full of enthusiasm to fulfill their responsibility and duty in the general advance toward the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Party and the Ninth Congress of the WPK with the benevolence of Kim Jong Un that gets greater as the days go by as the driving force for performing miracles.

Premier Pak inspects various sectors



Premier Pak Thae Song (third from left) looks round construction projects in the Samjiyon tourist area.

KCNA

Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political

Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK,

made a field survey of various sectors.

In the city of Samjiyon he learned about the progress

made in major construction projects, going round the area of Lake Chon on Mt Paektu, the area of Mt Pukphothae, Samjiyon Airport, Ponnamu Hotel, Ikkal Hotel and other major construction projects being accelerated under the grandiose plan of the Party Central Committee.

He noted that the construction headquarters should map out plans and guide the work skilfully as required by the Party's Juche-oriented idea on architecture and policy on construction, thoroughly ensure the quality of structures by enhancing the responsibility and role of civil engineers and inspectors and push ahead with the

projects as scheduled in line with the seasonal conditions.

Inspecting farms in Pochon and Kapsan counties, he stressed the need to actively introduce the scientific farming methods suited to the regional topographical features with high altitude and promote stockbreeding to take advantage of the favourable conditions of mountainous counties.

Acquainting himself with the situation of the Jenam Coal Mine of the Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex and the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex, he called for increasing coal and power production in the spirit of self-reliance based on science

and technology, raising the proportion of mechanization, lowering the norms for materials consumption per unit and rationally using various economic levers to further boost producers enthusiasm.

The field consultative meetings discussed the issue of giving top priority to the supply of materials for the construction of the Samjiyon tourist resort and making preparations for its operation, the issue of providing in time equipment and materials necessary for normalizing power and coal production and the issue of paying close attention to improving the living conditions of the builders and employees.

Photo exhibition opens

KCNA

A photo exhibition "Epochal entities of regional rejuvenation created in the great era of Kim Jong Un" opened in Pyongyang to show intensively and visually the era of gigantic changes of regions unprecedented since the founding of the DPRK and the new fairylands of rejuvenation.

On display at the venue of the exhibition is a photo of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un indicating the principled issues arising in regional construction while giving field guidance at the construction site of the city of Samjiyon.

Exhibited there are more than 630 photos showing the daily-changing appearance of

regions including houses of the people, cultural recreation grounds and modern regional-industry factories which have been built in a unique manner.

The photo exhibition shows in a vivid way that the epochal changes in the regions are the vigorous breathing of the great era of Kim Jong Un dynamically advancing toward the comprehensive

development of socialism and the image of Juche Korea symbolizing the new cultural efflorescence.

An opening ceremony of the photo exhibition took place at the Okryu Exhibition House on September 21.

Present there were Ju Chang Il, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea,

Pak Song Chol, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, officials concerned, officials of ministries and national agencies, and officials and working people of institutions and industrial establishments in Pyongyang.

Ju Chang Il made an opening address.

The speaker said that

through the exhibition, the participants will warmly feel the untiring efforts of Kim Jong Un who has devoted himself to bringing about remarkable changes in the regions and realize once again how unimaginably the country has changed.

At the end of the ceremony the participants looked round the venue of the exhibition.



A photo exhibition "Epochal entities of regional rejuvenation created in the great era of Kim Jong Un" opens at the Okryu Exhibition House in Pyongyang on September 21.

Sci-tech presentation, symposium held

Presentation, exhibition in biotechnological field

A national sci-tech presentation and exhibition in the field of biotechnology was held from September 15 to 19 under the sponsorship of the Korean Biotechnology Society of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

The event was held on the theme of "Rapid development and application of biotechnology".

Submitted to the sci-tech presentation were the basic research achievements for developing biotechnology and valuable papers conducive to putting biotechnology on a practical basis and making products

based on biotechnology.

Symposium in field of printing industry

A national symposium in the field of printing industry took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on September 23-24 under the sponsorship of the Korean Printing Technology Association of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

Present there were officials, lecturers, researchers and postgraduate students of the Publication Guidance Bureau, the Minju Joson Offices, Pyongyang University of Publishing and Printing Industry and other units.

The symposium heard valuable papers conducive to consolidating the material and technical foundations of the printing industry by realizing the domestic production of equipment, raw and other materials. And there was a question-and-answer session related to them.

The studies on the establishment of a lithographic plate production line, the manufacture of auxiliary materials for lithography and water-base ink and other proposals were highly appreciated.

During the period there was a lecture on the world trend of development in the field of printing industry.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Birthday spread sent to centenarian

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to So In Bae, a woman centenarian living in neighbourhood unit No. 40 of the township of Jaeryong County, on her 100th birthday.

She extended thanks to Kim Jong Un, deeply moved by the paternal loving care for an ordinary old woman.

Officials of Jaeryong County and her neighbours visited her family to share joy with her.

Chongjin Restaurant built in North Hamgyong Province

The Chongjin Restaurant has newly been built in North Hamgyong Province.

Built to preserve the unique

features of the Korean-style building in a modern style, the restaurant has dining rooms for serving various tasty and nutritious foods and dishes and a banquet hall.



Present at an opening ceremony held on September 24 were Kim Yong Hwan, chief secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and working people in the province and Chongjin City and employees of the restaurant.

At the ceremony, the speaker said that the new mass public catering service base is a fruition of the benevolent care of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Cooking festival opens

The Wonsan Kalma Cooking Festival-2025 opened at the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of the Korean Association of Cooks.

The festival brought together more than 100 units from the sectors of the Guidance Bureau of Public Catering Service, catering service in Pyongyang and provinces (cities under the direct control of the government), external service, ministries, national agencies and service of the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area.



History resplendent with victory and glory

On the occasion of 80th anniversary of Workers' Party of Korea

Unforgettable decade

By Pang Un Ju PT

Holding high red flag and arms

A global political turmoil swept the world in the late 1980s and the early 1990s.

The frenzied anti-socialist moves of the imperialist reactionary forces overthrew socialist governments in Eastern Europe one after another as if producing a domino effect.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, the imperialist politicians and government-patronized writers advertised the "end of socialism" and cheered for the lowering of red flags in the world while talking about the "wind of the general trend" and "trend of the times". When socialism was shaken to its foundations and its destiny was at the crossroads of life and death, the imperialist reactionaries were bent on the moves to isolate and stifle the DPRK, the bulwark of socialism.

At that time President Kim Il Sung asked Chairman Kim Jong Il what he intended to do to cope with the situation as he talked about the very complicated international environment of the Korean revolution.

The Chairman answered that he would follow the road of socialism to the end whatever happens.

In November 1994 when the vicious moves of the hostile forces reached the extremes and the country was faced with enormous difficulties, he published the work "Socialism Is a Science" in Rodong Sinmun, the organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. In his work he proved the scientific accuracy, truthfulness and invincibility of socialism and expressed the invariable faith and will of the WPK to advance along the sole orbit of socialism undauntedly and without letup.

The work "Socialism Is a Science" was just like the red flag he held high by staking the destiny of the country and socialism as he

felt the pain of unexpected loss of President Kim Il Sung.

Looking back with deep emotion upon the unforgettable years of the Arduous March in September 2011, the Chairman said that his memory of the period of the Arduous March was not that of difficulties and sorrow but that of faith and will with which he overcame them.

Taking advantage of the sufferings the Party, government and people of the DPRK were experiencing, the enemies opened to the public the theory that the DPRK would implode in three days, in three months or in three years by making it a fait accompli and resorted to every possible means and method to topple the government. And their manoeuvres were heinous and persistent.

At that juncture Chairman Kim Jong Il firmly grasped the arms to defend socialism.

Once, General Secretary Kim Jong Un said that if the country had not the powerful arms like those of today, its socialist system would have collapsed more than a hundred times and its people would have been forced to suffer the destiny of colonial slaves again.

There is a saying that justice which is not accompanied by force is injustice.

If our arms are weak, we can neither win the fight against the enemy who are desperately attacking us to do us harm nor defend the destiny of the country and nation. The arms were just independence, dignity, life and red flag.

Indeed, the red flag of the DPRK fluttered over the arms. To this end the Chairman made field inspection tours covering nearly 52 000 kilometres to visit many units of the Korean People's Army for five years after 1994.

Thanks to his outstanding leadership, the new era of history

when the KPA emerged as the pillar and main force of the revolution was ushered in and the DPRK people won victory after victory in the campaign to defend socialism.

If the WPK had not held higher the red flag and the arms when the country was faced with the worst trials, the red flag of socialism would have disappeared from the earth forever in the 20th century.

Though time passes and

generations change along with the long victorious march of the revolution, younger generations of the DPRK will remember forever the image of the WPK which was engraved on the crossroads of destiny and the Arduous March in the 1990s when it honourably defended the dignity of the country and the cause of independence for humankind, breaking through the tempest of history.

On the strength of trust

The Arduous March led by the Workers' Party of Korea in the 1990s was a long march of single-minded unity which was staged resolutely overcoming all kinds of difficulties with the leader believing in the people and the latter absolutely trusting and following only the former.

Trust in himself, trust in his comrades and trust in the people constituted the trust Chairman Kim Jong Il had always had in his mind.

His grief over the sudden loss of President Kim Il Sung in July 1994 exacerbated his intense pain and sufferings.

But with a powerful sense of mission that the country watched him and the people only believed in and followed him and that only when he overcame those difficulties, could he defend the country and provide the people with a happy life, the Chairman built up the capacity of the army in every way and made headway against the desperate offensive of the imperialist allied forces.

During the Arduous March, a hard time for the DPRK people, he made the continuous field guidance tour to see the service personnel of the Korean People's Army and comrades with the self-confidence that he had tens of millions of comrades and he would win as long as there were those comrades.

One day, recalling the past grim years, he said that it was a period of severe trials that should not be forgotten and that in the period when the country experienced all

sorts of hardships and sorrow in tears of blood, he and his comrades always worked together, he trusting them and they longing for him. On another day, he said that there were always comrades beside him and therefore he always felt confident and could make any difficult decisions.

Absolute trust in the people was the starting point of all his thinking and activities during the Arduous March.

In January 1998, he saw a procession of the people carrying manure on handcarts on his field guidance tour in Jagang Province.

The road was jammed by the long procession of them walking along the snowy road. So the driver was nervous and uneasy. But the Chairman told him that it was all right and it was good for them to stage the forced march side by side with the people.

The Arduous March showed not only traces of sorrow and pain. It left unforgettable traces which deeply convinced him that he was right to believe in the people.

The workers of Jagang Province asked him for more work to do rather than food and a woman lecturer held his cold hand and earnestly requested him not to overstrain himself. Greatly encouraged and inspired by them, he held higher the red flag and made his way through the thorny path at the forefront of the Arduous March.

Trust produces yearning and invincibility. Love and trust he showed and tearful experience of affection and ardent yearning for

him of the people were the source of invincible strength that enabled them to create miracles, overcoming all difficulties.

Once, the Chairman met a woman machine operator when he inspected a factory.

Looking with a warm glance at her in overalls smelling of chips who made a deep bow to him, he offered her his hand.

But the woman worker was so embarrassed that she hid her hands behind her back. She did so because she first thought of the Chairman, who would be broken-hearted to see her hands which became rough as she overcame severe difficulties and which were stained with grease, before her great excitement and joy over the fact that she was standing just beside him she had been so eager to see even in dreams.

As if he read her mind, he took her rough and greasy hands in a warm, firm grasp.

The absolute trust in and yearning for their leader inspired the people to burn the flames of a great revolutionary upsurge fiercely across the country while breaking through the pressure and blockade tightened by the imperialists, raise the strong wind of a revolution in potato farming on the Paektu plateau in the northern part of the country and bring about a sea change in the socialist farmland.

Though they experienced manifold difficulties and pains that are so heartrending even to recall, the Korean people cherished afresh through it the precious truth of life that trust is the strongest and most powerful weapon for a revolutionary and the philosophy of victory more precious than life and performed miracles and feats on the strength of unity.

Indeed, the Arduous March led by the Party in the 1990s overcoming manifold difficulties was a bloody long march unprecedented in the history of the development of the country and human history, and it is the immortal annals which proved once again that the single-hearted unity of the DPRK in which the leader and the people are closely rallied with one mind and purpose has an irresistible force.



Working people, youth and children spend a pleasant time at the newly-built Hwasong Video Game Centre. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Amisan Motor Service Centre and the Hwasong Video Game Centre have been successfully built in the Hwasong area of Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, making the area more conspicuous.

The motor service centre

is very unique in service environment, structure, content and form. It sells various vehicles and automobile accessories fittings and management tools.

Vehicles of different kinds and forms, including several types of cars and bicycles are on display at exhibition sections of the centre. On

display in shop sections are accessories and management tools for various kinds of cars, small goods like luxuries and bulky goods like wheels.

The services are divided into direct sale, sale by subscription, order sale and preferential treatment in service to meet the demand and convenience of

customers.

The service centre has a workshop in which all kinds of fittings can be made to suit the taste of customers.

What is conspicuous in the centre's service activities is that "technical lectures" for each commodity are popular among customers.

The Hwasong Video Game Centre also gives pleasure

to customers with games popular worldwide.

The centre consists of three video game halls with 300 seats and a shop and rest section.

At the video game halls, you can play dozens of games, including action, horror, shooting, racing and children's games typical of most popular solo and

online games. Distinctive VR games also can be played there.

The shop of the centre sells dolls depicting characters of the games, souvenirs and computer parts.

The resting hall has table game equipment and a billiard room to add pleasure to the customers.

Videos contribute to developing culinary art

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Newly produced cooking videos are drawing the interest of housewives and culinary experts.

An Song Il, an official of the Korean Association of Cooks, said that the newly made cooking programmes are becoming close companions to cooks helping them to raise their technical levels and skills and put cooking on a scientific and artistic basis.

According to him, videos showing cooking techniques of professional service institutions began to be produced over 10 years ago to improve the people's dietary life, and thousands of such videos have been made so far.

He said that the association built a database by digitizing all the information, ranging from the kinds and varieties of traditional dishes to their nutritional values and recipes and statistics of ingredients, and also added a large amount of data related to world-famous dishes to the videos.

This year, it has produced and promoted cooking videos on a wide scale, he said, adding that hundreds of videos dealing with traditional and foreign

dishes were distributed in different categories according to ingredients and usage in keeping with the people's demand and the developing trend of the culinary art.

It is important to understand the scientific cooking methods in order to raise the level of specialization of cooking, but it is essential to constantly practise the methods, he said, adding that the application of the cooking videos is the fastest way to attaining proficiency.

The cooking videos not only improve the technical skills of cooks but also help to think up and make new dishes.

The hot chicken fry, catfish hard-boiled with coriander and wormwood ice-cream, which have been newly created and served at the Chongnyu Restaurant, are said to have been thought up while watching the cooking videos.

Sin Ryong Sam, manager of the Chongnyu Restaurant, said that the restaurant's success at the fifth sweets and cake sculpture exhibition was attributable to the wide application of the cooking videos which help cooks gain better insight.

With familial love and affection



Employees of the Research Institute for Nutrition Care of Children visit the family of honoured disabled soldier Son Kun Yong.

PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Kwon PT

Among many people who had an acquaintance with honoured disabled soldiers and have helped them with sincerity, there are employees of the Research Institute for Nutrition Care of Children under the Academy of Medical Sciences.

Hong Kum Song, deputy director of the institute, was the first to become acquainted with Son Kun Yong, a special-class honoured disabled soldier.

He visited Son's home for the first time ten years ago.

"I had no special connection with him. As it is the original feature of

our society to help and care for one another, I wanted to do something helpful for him," recalled Hong.

At that time Hong was working as a researcher of the research institute and happened to hear about the special-class honoured disabled soldier and visited him.

He assessed the health conditions of Son to take treatment measures and frequently visited his home, though he was busy with research work, for treatment.

Upon knowing the fact, all the employees of the institute joined efforts for assistance as they kept abreast of any inconvenience and scarcity in his life. They visited him on holidays and his birthdays

to congratulate and encourage him.

When the daughter of the honoured disabled soldier participated in the Ninth Congress of the Korean Children's Union, Hong Kum Song and his fellows called on his house before others to congratulate him as if the happy event was their own.

Once, Son Kun Yong told Hong not

to care much for him, saying he was sorry for imposing a huge burden on many people who were busy with their work.

Then Hong said: "The bright smile of our children and the peaceful life and happiness of working people like me are attributable to the devotion of service personnel and honoured disabled soldiers. Honoured disabled soldiers have the right to be happy and have the obligation to keep the flower of the revolution in bloom."

Thanks to the sincere assistance of researchers and other employees of the research institute, Son's family is always animated and filled with happy laughter.



Global geopark Mt Paektu area (3)

By Pang Un Ju PT

Geo-section in Kat Peak

Kat Peak is located in the east of Lake Chon, leaning towards Hyangdo Peak from the point between Ssangmujigae and Hyangdo peaks.

Its geologic section is an alluvial section of volcanic ejecta that erupted in different types.

It is a geosite of significance in volcanology, as it shows in a single section both the explosive eruption of yellow pumice, which was formed before the Millennium Eruption in Mt Paektu, and the effusive eruption of rhyolitic magma mixed with obsidian, black hyaline volcanic rock, which is called volcanic glass.

Tuff seen in the geo-section in Kat Peak contains volcanic detritus of trachyte, the previous ejecta, and the lumps of obsidian are found in the rhyolitic lava.

Geo-section near the Paektu Bridge

The geo-section near the Paektu Bridge shows the black ignimbrite which erupted in the form of glowing cloud and piled up after pumice accumulated during the Millennium Eruption. Here, glowing cloud means a cloud of hot volcanic ejecta which is a mixture of volcanic gas and ash and which covers the sky.

In the geo-section, the thickness of the pumice layer varies from place to place and is up to some metres. It clearly shows the order of volcanic eruptions. Around it there are buried trees whose upper parts were carbonized as they were buried in hot ejecta.

Paeksam-ri Cliff

Paeksam-ri Cliff is a geo-section showing the number of eruptions of basaltic lava at the first stage of the formation of Mt Paektu and the columnar jointing that formed during the cooling process of the lava.

Generally, jointing refers



Columnar Jointing at Poso-ri



Geo-section in Kat Peak



Volcanic Neck No. 2

Columnar Jointing at Poso-ri

Columnar Jointing at Poso-ri can be seen at Yongjang Peak volcano which is situated at the intersection between the Paektusan fault zone in the northwest 5 kilometres south of Mt Namphothae and the north-to-south Mt Pukphothae-Kwaksa Peak fault.

The cliff of the volcanic body has well-developed columnar jointing which was formed as the lava cooled. It

is about 800 metres wide.

The peripheral part of the volcano which was formed by the eruption of a large amount of trachydacitic magma came off as a result of neotectonics, resulting in the present magnificent looks.

Columnar Jointing at Poso-ri is of great academic value in the study of the cooling process of the trachydacitic magma.

Volcanic Neck No. 1

Volcanic Neck No. 1 is



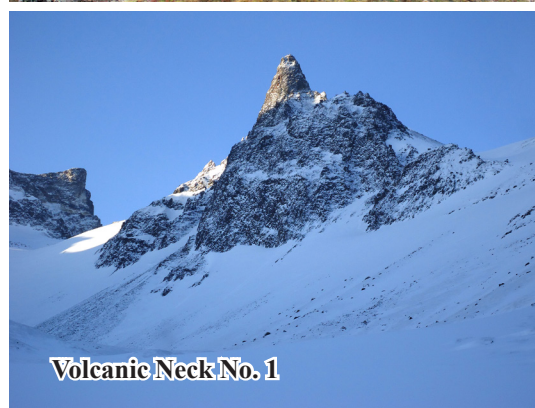
Geo-section near the Paektu Bridge



Paeksam-ri Cliff



Volcanic Neck No. 3



Volcanic Neck No. 1

Piru Peak curiously and magnificently standing in the middle part of the Piru Peak range that stretches northwest from Janggun Peak toward Lake Chon. It is about 300 metres round at the bottom and 70 metres in height.

In general, a volcanic neck is a cylindrical effusive rock formed by magma with high viscosity that flowed out through a volcanic vent to harden without going far away or harden inside the vent.

Volcanic neck No. 1 is a

typical one as a plug, which was formed by magma rising through a volcanic vent and cooling down in the vent during the formation of Mt Paektu and remained intact when the Paektusan volcanic body fell down after the Millennium Eruption. It is formed of porous brecciated trachyte and scoria.

Volcanic Neck No. 2

Volcanic Neck No. 2 is a plug stand about 250 metres away from Volcanic neck No. 1 toward Janggun Peak, and it is similar to Volcanic neck No. 1 in shape but small in circumference and height.

The volcanic neck was also a plug formed in the same way as Volcanic neck No. 1. It is formed of trachyte and scoria.

The northeast cliff of the volcanic neck clearly shows the boundary between the volcanic neck and country rocks.

Volcanic Neck No. 3

Volcanic Neck No. 3 is located in the small basin of the Hyangdo Peak, 2.3 kilometres north-northeast of Janggun Peak. It is about 10 metres in height and about 20 metres round at the bottom.

The volcanic neck is a plug which was formed by magma rising slowly through a volcanic vent and cooling down and remained intact when the Paektusan volcanic body fell down.

The volcanic neck shows alternating layers of obsidian and brown, brecciated porous trachy-rhyolite in the middle and alternating minute brown and white rock belts along the margin. Some parts show striped brecciated anorthoclase-liparite.

On the wall of the neck there exist several chalcedony conglomerations formed by rapid cooling of the lava.

Volcanic necks Nos 1, 2 and 3 are geological relics rare to be found in the neovolcanic area, adding to the pride peculiar to the Mt Paektu volcano, and they are of significance in the study of volcanic vent, plug, and radial crack.

'Tourism and sustainable transformation'



Chae Jae Duk

PhD, Associate Professor and researcher of Pyongyang College of Tourism

September 27 is World Tourism Day.

The 3rd General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization held in September 1979 set September 27 as World Tourism Day to encourage public awareness of the importance of tourism.

The theme for this year's WTD is "Tourism and sustainable transformation".

Tourism, which took its first step with tourist information service, diversified to include different branches like tourist transportation, board and lodging, welfare service and sports and cultural amusements, and developed into a comprehensive service sector by forming an integrated system.

Recently, tourism is sustainably transformed and developed in accordance with object and content of tourism and requirements of tourists.

Some kinds of boundary division of labour have come into being as exchanges in cultural fields, including education, scientific research, sports and arts, between countries are organically combined with tourism.

Ecotourism is gaining momentum as people's interest in the protection of ecological environment and nature is growing. Ecotourism is a form of tourism that helps tourists not only feel the preciousness of nature and broaden their knowledge of nature but also increase their consciousness of the protection of ecological environment and voluntarily take part in its protection as they have a rest enjoying beautiful scenery and fauna and flora in nature with rich biodiversity.

A thick forest with biodiversity itself is a natural tourist resource for people's recovery from mental and physical fatigue and has a decisive effect on the preservation

and protection of the atmospheric environment and water quality of itself.

Meanwhile, the rapid development of tourism causes environmental pollution. This is attributable to various factors such as the destruction of ecological environment due to the development and construction of tourist resorts, the production and use of materials for tourist services, the loss of the balance of the self-purification capacity of tourist resorts caused by the excess of their capacity, and the level of people's awareness of environmental protection.

Therefore, many countries draw up strategies to closely combine the sustainable development of tourism with the green growth plan and concentrate national interest and investment on them.

Our country, which became a member state of the World Tourism Organization in September 1987, actively encourages tourism.

There are many famous mountains in our country 80% of whose territory consists of mountains. The areas of Mts Paektu, Kuwol, Myohyang, Chilbo and Kungang were registered as world biosphere reserves in UNESCO and this year the area of Mt Paektu has been designated as a global geopark.

The principle of keeping natural spectacles intact is adhered to in the development of tourist resorts.

Recently, the world-class Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area has been built in Myongsasimni (4km-long stretch of beautiful sand) on the Kalma peninsula, a scenic spot on the East Sea of Korea.

Our tourism for the people's diverse cultural and emotional life and for the promotion of their well-being will be steadily developed.

Aspiring after multipolar world

By Choe Song Jun PT

Recently, BRICS has attracted the attention of the international community.

It is because BRICS is growing up to be a considerable force that cannot be slighted in the international arena including the UN in solidarity with other developing countries in the face of the unilateral and hegemonic sanctions and pressure by the US and the West.

It continues to expand, demonstrating its enormous economic potentials.

The BRICS member states accounts for nearly half of the world population and 40% of the world economy, and their GDP according to the purchasing power parity indexes markedly surpasses those of G7 and some other alliances of countries.

The Munich Security Conference (MSC), in a report released in February, noted that the order of multipolarization has already begun to be established in the world.

The report said that the BRICS member states have taken a large share of the global trade

and oil production and export, adding that this multipolarization order positively promotes not only redistribution in the material aspect but also diversification in the ideological aspect.

The Western world was also compelled to acknowledge that BRICS has emerged as an independent and influential polar promoting the establishment of a new international economic order and the building of a multipolar world. Countries express their intention to join cooperation with the organization.

The political influence of BRICS is growing day by day. Whereas Western countries stick to the confrontation between camps to arouse antipathy from the international community, BRICS has embarked on the road of building cooperative relations with many more countries under the banner of peace, development and co-prosperity, enjoying enthusiastic response from the broad international community.

In this context BRICS clearly expresses its views on a wide range of issues

ranging from the acute international issues such as the situations in the Middle East and Ukraine to that of the UN reform.

At the 17th BRICS Summit held in Brazil in early July, views of the member states were exchanged on the issues related to public health, trade, artificial intelligence, climate change, security and others and those of major international political situations and the declaration of the summit was adopted.

It also approved the 2025-2028 plan for establishing a reliable natural disaster forecasting system and building up the crisis response capacity.

The BRICS summit held on September 8 by way of videoconferencing discussed the issue of cooperation between member states in various fields including trade and the economy, finance and investment, that of its joint response to threats to the multipolar world order and tariffs and sanctions imposed by the US and others.

The international community is working harder to establish a new world order, just and fair.

Suicide comes into vogue in Western society

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Suicide prevails in Western society.

According to statistics, the annual number of suicides in Germany is about 10 000, more than the number of deaths due to accidents and crimes.

A suicide happens every 51 minutes and a suicide attempt every five minutes in the country.

Men and women accounted for 72.6 and 27.4 percent of suicides respectively in 2023 and most of them were in their fifties and above.

Articles aimed at instigating suicide rapidly spread in the UK.

A charity organization's survey of major SNSs used in the country found that articles inciting children under 16 to kill themselves were flooding into them.

It said that over 44-55 percent of recommended popular videos were those which might entail suicide.

Japan has not rid itself of the stigma as a

"kingdom of suicide".

The Japanese Ministry of Welfare and Labour noted that last year the number of student suicides reached 527, which is larger than that in 2022, a record high previously.

Last year, the suicides, including students, across Japan numbered 20 268 and their suicide notes read, "Body and mind torn to pieces!", "It is really agonizing", "I don't want to live any longer" and so on.

A "suicide site" came into being on the Internet of Japan, in which articles to find persons who can commit suicide together are posted freely, and its subscribers are increasing day by day.

Tourist resorts have

turned into "suicide resorts" and "suicide woods" have come into being in different parts of the country.

In the Western world, people opt for suicide because they have no dream and hope for the future and no attachment to their life.

People give up their life in despair and disappointment owing to all sorts of difficulties in living such as unemployment, dismissal, dropping out of school due to exorbitant school expenses and too expensive doctor's fees, social rejection and domestic anxiety and maltreatment.

Such tragic reality represents the tendencies and incurable ills of Western society.

Briefly

Russia

Aim of talking about 'threat from Russia' exposed

Leonid Slutski, chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the State Duma of Russia, on September 20, condemned the Estonian authorities' provocative behaviour.

Questioning why politicians of the Baltic countries are trying to involve NATO in the conflict with Russia so stubbornly as to be called lunatics and why they are so anxious to ignite the third World War, he disclosed that it was nothing but a hysterical behaviour displayed lest the US' military support should fall.

China

Bid for politicization of human rights rejected

The Chinese permanent representative to Geneva-based UN Office and other international organizations made public a stand of his country against the bid for hegemony and the politicization of the human rights issue at a session of the UN Human Rights Council on September 18.

China vehemently rejects the acts of interfering in the internal affairs of other countries on the pretext of human rights, politicizing them and abusing them as tools, he stressed.

UN

Resolution adopted on Palestine's participation in 80th UNGA session

The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on allowing Palestine to participate in the 80th session of the UN General Assembly on September 19.

The resolution said that as the US refused to issue visas to some of the Palestinian representatives, they can submit pre-recorded speeches in case they are kept from taking part in the meetings of the UN General Assembly.

The UN General Assembly demanded the US immediately withdraw its decision to refuse to issue visas to the Palestinian representatives before the meeting.

Venezuela

UNSC urged to stop US' reckless military moves

The Venezuelan permanent representative to the United Nations demanded on September 19 that the UN Security Council immediately stop the US' military operations in the Caribbean Sea.

The US is deploying huge armed forces while dispatching a nuclear-powered submarine to the sea to make the tension in the region reach a more dangerous phase, he said, branding it as an act against the UN Charter.

He called on the UNSC to denounce the reckless military moves of the US posing a threat to the security of Venezuela and its surrounding region.

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Hyangsan valley in the morning

Only one goal in three matches, heated rivalry to come

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The third-round matches of the 2024-2025 DPRK Premier League are becoming the focus of attention from the beginning.

Six teams being recognized as strong ones among the domestic premier league teams made their appearances on the first day.

They included April 25 and Sobaeksu teams, the first and second placers of the current league, Amnokgang, Ryomyong and Pyongyang teams, the gold, silver and bronze medallists in the Hwaepul Cup football tournament that came to an end shortly ago, and the Rimyongsu team which has made amazing progress since the second-round matches of the league.

The match between the April 25 and Pyongyang teams kicked off by the former attracted the constant attention of spectators.

A player of the Pyongyang

tried a shot in the 12th minute, but the ball missed the goal slightly, and an April 25 player gave the ball a powerful kick over 25 metres away from the goal in the 48th minute, but it hit the crossbar to go outside. Thrilling scenes unfolded repeatedly, but no goal was made.

The following match between the Amnokgang and Sobaeksu teams also made a deep impression.

It was the fifth meeting for both teams this year. The Sobaeksu was superior to the former in game results until then. It beat the Amnokgang 2-0 respectively in the first-round match of the league in February and the ranking-deciding stage match of the senior men's football tournament of the 14th National People's Games in April and 3-1 in the second-round match of the league in May. The Amnokgang defeated the former 2-1 in the group league match of the Hwaepul Cup football tournament.

In the game of that day, the Sobaeksu was relatively superior in ball possession and the number of attacks and shots, but a goal was made by the Amnokgang and thus the latter won 1-0.

In their head-to-head, the Ryomyong and Rimyongsu teams strove to put their tactical intentions into practice, but failed to make a goal.

All six teams put main efforts into defence and waged a fierce seesaw battle to control the midfield, while intensifying one-to-one defence against forwards.

Saying that mental strain on players greatly affected their matches, experts and fans attributed the cause of the day's games witnessing only one goal to the fact that they were first-day matches and every match has a great influence on deciding the rankings in the league. They commented that only a goal in three matches predicts the fierceness of the third-round matches.

Jangyon Korean cattle

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Jangyon Korean cattle are reared in some areas of Jangyon County in South Hwanghae Province.

Adjoining the West Sea of Korea in the southwestern part

with mountains standing in the northeast, these areas have fertile land and it provides favourable conditions for the growth of plants.

Jangyon Korean cattle are husky and have four strong legs, giving an impression

of health. In particular, they are characterized by the well-developed front part of the body, high shoulder and wide space between hind legs.

It is one of the most superior breeds of cattle in the country. Bulls weigh around 500kg and cows around 400kg, and their whole bodies are covered with yellowish brown furs.

Medicinal herb resources abundant in the country (2)

By Kim Il Jin PT

More than 460 kinds of medicinal plants are distributed in South Hamgyong Province.

In Koryo medicine, forest asiabell, which grows well in the Pujon and Tanchon areas, is used as a tonic for the stomach and as cures for xerostomia, loss of appetite and flatulence and its decoction is used as blood-making, invigorating material for anaemia and physical weakness after illness.

Forest asiabell is widely used in the dietary life as well. In May and June, its young leaves and stems are picked to be used as edible herbs, and in autumn, its roots are dug up, peeled and chopped before being roasted.

Deep mountains of the northern region are rich in rare herbs like *Rhodiola elongata* which is called stone flower in Korean.

The herb is called thus as it grows on rock and looks like a flower and it is widely used in the treatment of lumbago, digestive diseases, etc.

More than 550 kinds of medicinal plants are distributed in North Phyongan Province.

Atractylodes, whose

root is used as a medicinal material, is widely used for gastritis and splenic diseases because it is rich in components helpful to sedation, promotion of gastric secretion and digestive absorption. Especially, the regular intake of the root of *Atractylodes* can prevent various diseases.

Schizandra chinensis, whose fruit and seeds are used as medicinal materials, is very good for the treatment of cough and expectorant action.

Artemisia messerschmidtiana and motherwort, whose leaves and stems are used as medicinal materials, are used a lot for the protection of liver functions and for gynecopathy.

The medicinal plants, whose flowers are used as medicinal materials, include honeysuckle along with *Convallaria keiskei*.

Honeysuckle, which is also called kumunhwa (gold and silver flower) as its petals are white at first and turn yellow two or three days later, is highly effective in treating inflammation and checking gastric ulcer and is used for the prevention of cancerous diseases.

More than 620 kinds

of medicinal plants are distributed in South Phyongan Province in the central part of the country.

Tachung, Nyongwon, Maengsan, Pukchang and other counties are rich in such medicinal herbs as *Angelica sinensis*, *Cnidium officinale* and *Prunella asiatica*.

Many regions and units have recently directed efforts to the creation of medicinal herb resources in order to increase productivity and economic effectiveness.

According to Jon Ryong II, a staffer of the Koryo medicine production management bureau under the Ministry of Public Health, herb mountains are being created in a methodological way in Pyongyang, Nampho and many other parts of the country.

The Sinyang County Disabled Soldiers' Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory, which was selected as one of the top 10 businesses of the country for 2023, is a small unit. But it created a herb mountain by itself to produce and supply necessary herbal products, thus making an active contribution to the promotion of the people's health.

