

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un gives field guidance at School Things Factory and School Fixtures Factory under construction

He clarifies the detailed tasks in completing the construction by the end of the year and inaugurating the factories within the first half of next year

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, gave field guidance at the School Things Factory and the School Fixtures Factory under construction on November 4.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

He was greeted on the spot by No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence, the commanding officers of the units of the Korean People's Army involved in the construction, officials of design institutions and officials concerned.

First, he visited the construction site of the School Things Factory.

After acquainting himself with the progress of the project, he went round the site.

He stressed once again that the construction of the School Things Factory, the School Fixtures Factory and the Educational Apparatus Factory to which the Party attaches importance is of great significance in consolidating the material foundation of the educational field of the country and improving the

educational conditions and environment.

Saying that thanks to the devoted efforts of the soldier-builders, the construction of the factory, to which only lip service had been paid in the educational field for several years, is to be completed in a matter of a few months and our army has created a precious wealth for the future of the country through another worthwhile 24-7 struggle for creation which no one else can conduct, he highly appreciated their efforts.

He noted that the issue of consolidating the material and technical foundation of

the educational field was dealt with as an important agenda item in every plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee for the past several years, but the project was not yet carried out until the middle of this year although five calendar years have passed. He said that this is a matter of viewpoint and attitude of the leading officials of the Cabinet and the educational field towards the Party's policies and the future of the state before taking into consideration the economic and practical conditions.

He went on:

The plenary meetings of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea adopted as many as eight similar decisions on the establishment of those factories. However, they have not been implemented, and the relevant sector also has not presented a clear way for their implementation.

The plenary meeting to be held in December should strictly review the reason why the important policy-oriented projects referred to each time as the most important state affair were neglected and put aside for several years.

Then, he went round the construction site of the School Fixtures Factory.

After receiving a report that the soldier-builders finished the construction of the factory's main frame and are stepping up the final work, he highly appreciated their efforts again.

He expressed satisfaction over the fact that the soldier-builders are ensuring high quality in the construction. And he repeatedly commended them, saying that he could fully sense that all the elements up to every corner of the architectural space are associated with the steadfast ideological and moral world and pure loyalty of the People's Army committed

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to implementing the Party’s policies.

He noted that the School Things Factory, the School Fixtures Factory and the Educational Apparatus Factory should be flawless in all aspects of construction and process architecture of equipment as well as the production and living environments as they are the key factories aimed to meet the demand of the whole

country, clarifying the detailed tasks in completing the construction by the end of the year and inaugurating the factories within the first half of next year.

Looking at the samples of school fixtures to be supplied to all schools across the country, he emphasized the importance of establishing a system of supplying raw and other materials in a long-term and scientific way to fully satisfy proper standard, demand and

quality according to schools, ages, figures and varieties and referred to the relevant measures to be taken in the future.

He earnestly requested all the soldier-builders to complete the construction projects for strengthening the educational foundation of the country into the excellent monumental edifices clearly demonstrating the eye-opening development of our times, bearing deep in mind the pride and responsibility that

they are building creations directly related to the future of the country by their own efforts true to the plan and intention of the Party Central Committee.

In response to his militant call, the soldier-builders firmly pledged to achieve a successful result to materialize the cherished desire of the WPK as early as possible through high-spirited struggle and make a report of glory and loyalty to the Party Central Committee.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects headquarters of 11th Corps of Korean People’s Army

He sets forth the strategic policies and important tasks for the strengthening and development of the special operations forces of our armed forces



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, inspected the headquarters of the 11th Corps of the Korean People’s Army on November 1.

Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission and secretary of the Central

Committee of the WPK.

When he arrived at the headquarters, all the officers and men of the special operations force raised stormy cheers of hurrah, looking up to the ever-victorious iron-willed commander who has ushered in a heyday of building a strong army and glorified the fighting efficiency and heroism of our army at the highest level with his outstanding and extraordinary philosophy and art of command.

The special operations corps received

the head of state with the highest reverence for him.

Present there were commanding personnel of the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un gave a militant salute to the glorious colours of the large combined unit and exchanged warm greetings with the military and political officers of the large combined unit and a combined unit under it.

Representing the unanimous mind of

all the officers and men, the commanding officers saluted with best wishes Kim Jong Un who has meticulously led the unit to be the ranks of elite soldiers with constant and particular attention to the strengthening and development of the unit and visited the large combined unit today to give on-site guidance at it.

Kim Jong Un waved as an encouragement to the officers and men

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Kim Yong Nam passes away

KCNA

Kim Yong Nam, former chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, passed away at the age of 97 at 12:00 on November 3 2025, due to multiple organ failure caused by carcinomatous poisoning.



The life of Kim Yong Nam was a brilliant one in which he was highly honoured for his allegiance to the revolution with pure loyalty and high ability under the care of the Party and the leader.

Born into a family of the ruined nation and living in distress under the

An obituary of his death was announced on November 3 by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the DPRK Cabinet.

The obituary said:

colonial rule of foreign imperialism, Kim Yong Nam greeted the national liberation at the age of 17. After the liberation he devoted his efforts to social activities for the prosperity and honour of the country and the freedom and happiness of the people.

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of the large combined unit who are glorifying the years of their military service with distinguished successes in completing combat preparedness to be indefinitely faithful to their noble mission to safeguard the security of the state and the well-being of the people.

He looked round the revolutionary museum in the first place.

Recalling the sacred and proud militant course covered by the unit under the leadership of the Party, he appreciated that the corps is the one clearly associated with the leadership exploits of the Party and the reliable vanguard combat ranks playing a role of cornerstone in demonstrating the noble prestige and immortal appellation of our army. He added that the corps can be justifiably called the symbol of the heroism of the People's Army only for its honourable record of having produced a large number of heroes of the Republic in the new era of the Juche revolution.

The lofty spiritual world, mass heroism and matchless fighting spirit of the service personnel of the unit who have accepted the ideas and decisions of the Party as a supreme military order and responded to them with perfect execution are the exemplary model of our army today, he said, adding it is the will and desire of the Party to turn the whole army into a strong and heroic one like the unit that always wins victory in every battle.

Saying that, as witnessed by history, all the stages of high prestige and victory of our state are associated with the precious feats our army has performed while making heavy self-sacrifice and rendering

distinguished heroic services, he noted that the People's Army should steadily carry forward the tradition of loyalty and patriotism unparalleled by any others' in the future, too.

Guided by the commander of the corps, Kim Jong Un visited the operation study room.

He received a briefing from the commander of the corps on the plan of the military action of the large combined unit to provide for different circumstances of operations.

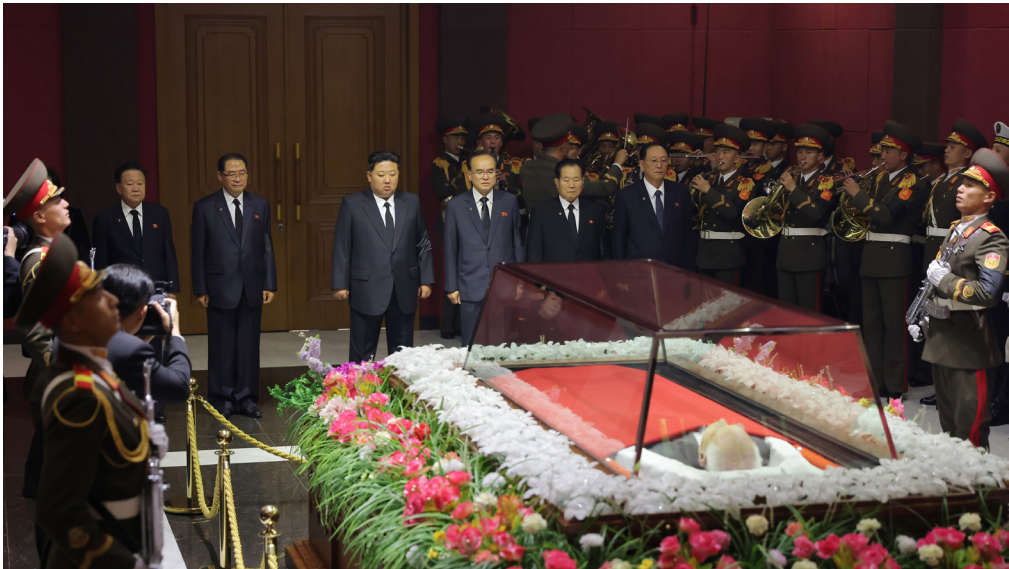
He set forth the strategic policies and important tasks for the strengthening and development of the special operations forces of our armed forces.

Referring to the need to take a military organizational and structural measure for strengthening the pivotal and core forces of our armed forces, he said that the Party Central Military Commission will examine this issue in earnest.

He said that, with the main stress on putting the training on a scientific and practical footing, we should make our army the one capable of fighting a real war, the one which wins only victory once it fights and the one which the enemies are afraid of. As he has always emphasized, he continued, it is the basic way of accomplishing the cause of building a strong army to bring about a substantial revolution in the training sector of our army. And he referred to some important tasks for implementing the Party's policy of bringing about a radical turn in training.

Specially pointing out the issue of making the mass heroism prevail over the whole army, he indicated the importance of the ideological education in the army

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits bier of late Kim Yong Nam



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 the bier of the late Kim Yong Nam at 01:00 on November 4 to express deep condolences over his death.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by major senior Party and government officials.

A wreath bearing the august name of Kim Jong Un was laid before the bier of the deceased.

and major tasks for it.

At a meeting with the military and political officers of a combined unit under the corps, he highly appreciated their devoted efforts to increase the unit's combat capabilities.

He warmly encouraged the political officers, saying that the ever-victorious fighting spirit, mass heroism and bravery of our soldiers are associated with the unknown merits of the political officers at all levels who have played the role of mudsill and pabulum for the spiritual growth of the officers and men of the unit.

The main factor deciding the victory or defeat in a war or battle is the ideology and our Party holds great expectations in the important role of the political officers in implementing the line of making the KPA politically and ideologically stronger, he said. He earnestly requested the political officers at all levels of the KPA units to train the soldiers to be genuine revolutionaries who think first the country, the revolution and the people and are ready to defend the honour of the KPA before possessing the military and technical qualifications.

Expressing firm belief that the military and political officers of the combined unit under the corps would train all the officers and men into a-match-for-a-hundred combatants strong in political, ideological, military and technical aspects, upholding with practical successes the Party's idea of building the special operations forces, he had a photo taken with them.

Then, he watched the training of the combatants of the special operations

unit.

Seeing the training of the combatants fully demonstrating their unrivalled bravery and mettle, he expressed great satisfaction over the perfect war posture of our armed forces which are fully ready for carrying out the crucial mission of thoroughly defending the sovereignty and development rights of the state and reliably safeguarding the destiny and future of the people against the most vulgar and despicable enemies in the world.

He warmly encouraged the soldiers who are devotedly fulfilling their sacred duty with the will to record only the brilliant and victorious military achievements in the history of the proud unit with legendary heroic tales, and in the colours of glory and had a photo taken with them, which will go down forever in the history of army building.

That day, he had a photo taken with the officers and men of the headquarters in commemoration of his visit to the large combined unit.

He expressed expectation and belief that all the service personnel of the large combined unit would more firmly prepare themselves to be the honourable guards and the ranks of point-men of the Republic with their bold heroism, strong mettle and matchless fighting spirit as their special features.

His visit to the headquarters of the 11th Corps of the KPA serves as a historic occasion of great significance in developing the armed forces of the Republic into a modernized and invincible army that emerges ever-victorious in any form of war.

Funeral for late Kim Yong Nam held

KCNA

The state funeral for the late Kim Yong Nam, former chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was solemnly held in the capital city of Pyongyang on November 5.

The Sojang Club, where the bier of the deceased was laid, was wrapped in bitter grief over the loss of Kim Yong Nam, a revolutionary of the older generation who made distinguished achievements in the history of the development of the glorious Party and state.

A flag was hoisted at half-mast and the guard of honour of the Korean People's Army lined up at the state funeral venue.

Present at the funeral were the members of the state funeral committee including members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials of the WPK Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet, ministries, national agencies and armed forces organs and the bereaved family of the deceased.

There took place a ceremony of carrying the coffin out of the club amid the playing of the dirge.



Guards of honour solemnly covered the sacred DPRK flag over it.

The participants saw it off, expressing their deepest condolences over his death.

Standing along all the routes to the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri, a large number of Pyongyang citizens expressed their condolences towards the funeral car out of the sorrow of bidding last farewell to the late Kim Yong Nam, who devoted his whole life to the Party, country and people and the victorious advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche and strove to carry out the honourable mission of demonstrating the dignity and might of our socialist state.

A ceremony of bidding last farewell to the late Kim Yong Nam took place at the

Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri.

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, attended the ceremony.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was standing at the entrance to the cemetery together with leading officials of the Party and the government when the coffin arrived.

With the remains of the deceased at the head, the members of the state funeral committee and the bereaved family members climbed the cemetery.

When the start of the ceremony was announced, the DPRK national anthem was played.

Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and premier of the DPRK Cabinet made a condolatory address.

Kim Jong Un paid silent tribute in memory of the late Kim Yong Nam together with all the participants in the ceremony.

The remains of the deceased were buried.

A volley was fired in reflection of the high reverence of our Party, state and people for the veteran revolutionary who added lustre to his life with ardent loyalty and genuine

patriotism.

Wreaths were laid at the grave amid the playing of the wreath-laying music.

All the participants prayed for the immortality of the pure soul and revolutionary spirit of Kim Yong Nam, who made a distinguished contribution to laying everlasting foundations for the eternal victory of socialism of our style in faithful support of the cause of the Party, along with the prosperity of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un paid his respect to all the patriotic martyrs, who lived a heroic life with firm confidence in the victory of the revolution and fervent patriotism, before the monument to the patriotic martyrs of the cemetery.





Condolatory address



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 DPRK Cabinet, made a condolatory address at the ceremony of bidding farewell to the late Kim Yong Nam on November 5.

Pak Thae Song in the address said that Kim Yong Nam was an excellent and ardent revolutionary and genuine patriot of the Korean

people, who left clear traces in defending the validity of the great revolutionary idea and line and protecting the political and ideological might and interests of the state, while following the Party and living a life of glory with it for nearly 80 years.

Kim Yong Nam devoted his all to the country and the revolution as a prominent statesman and leading cadre of the WPK and the DPRK and received deep respect and love of all the people for his noble traits and personality and merits, Pak said, adding that his whole life was the shining career of a true son boundlessly faithful to the country and the people.

As Kim Yong Nam said, the significant days and months when he was directly taught by President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il were the course of turning the destiny when his brains and heart were imbued with the completely new Juche idea and

the unforgettable days in which he received mental nutrition that he had kept more precious as time wore on, Pak said, and went on:

Kim Yong Nam made a contribution to ensuring the successful external activities of our Party and state regarding the strong independent stand and revolutionary principle as the life and to arousing the support and encouragement of the progressive forces to the DPRK's cause on a world-wide scale by steadily enhancing his ideological, mental and practical preparations capable of perfectly fulfilling his mission under any condition and circumstances.

The proud pages of the DPRK's political and diplomatic history could be written along with the career of the revolutionary elders who defended the invincibility of the socialist cause and thoroughly embodied the foreign policy of our state with their transparent revolutionary faith, high political

and theoretical level and seasoned diplomacy.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un always respected and put forward him, who performed distinguished merits in the realization of the country's foreign strategy and the development of the people's government, as the state's veteran, awarded the title of the twice Labour Hero to him marking his 90th birthday, sent a warm greeting to him on the occasion of his 95th birthday and even left an unforgettable image by holding his hands who was difficult to move his body in July last year. The warm love of Kim Jong Un served as precious tonics that made him glorify his long career as a political activist with the ever-strong faith.

In view of the period of working at important positions of the Party and the state and the exploits performed by him, his perfect life would have had no scruples even though he had spent his remaining

days in good rest. But he repeatedly said it was still far to repay the trust and love he received, and devoted his all to writing about the great state political history and undying exploits of the great leaders.

Though he, who had grown up under the trust of the Party and the leader and enjoyed the happiness and glory of his life on the road of sincerely supporting the Party and the leader, passed away, the traces of his life recorded in the history will not be erased and the noble revolutionary spirit of his loyalty will be alive in the hearts of all of us.

Pak Thae Song said that we will remember the shining traces of life of Kim Yong Nam who devoted his all to the development of our Republic and the steady advance of the Juche cause and bring earlier the bright future of the national rejuvenation true to the ideas and leadership of Kim Jong Un, as desired by him.

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He, who left to study abroad in the early days of building a democratic state, returned home in July 1952, when the homeland experienced a fierce war, and devoted himself to training Party cadres at the then Central Party School. He worked at the Central Committee of the WPK from the mid-1950s to the first half of the 1960s, contributing to enhancing the external prestige of the Party and conducting dynamic work with the progressive forces supporting and encouraging our cause in the international arena.

After working as a vice-minister of Foreign Affairs for four years,

he successively held an important post in the field of international affairs of the Party from September 1967. In the period, he displayed strict principle and high practical ability in the important and difficult work of modelling the whole Party on the revolutionary idea of the leader, exposing and frustrating the moves of the counterrevolutionary forces that left a stain in the history of the world socialist movement and defending the revolutionary character and authority of our Party.

From 1983 he conducted dynamic political and diplomatic activities to defend the rights and interests of the dignified DPRK in the international arena for nearly 20 years as a vice-

premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister.

In the days when he devoted all his wisdom and energy to thoroughly implementing the foreign policy of the state with independence, peace and friendship as its main idea, he made a great contribution to expanding the scope of the DPRK's external relations and creating favourable environment for socialist construction.

When our country and people were consolidating the foundations for building a powerful country under the uplifted banner of socialism in the face of severe trials, Kim Yong Nam assumed the post as the chairman of the Standing

Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, faithfully supported the Party's ideas and leadership and demonstrated his unique ability and experience in the international arena, thus recording remarkable merits in the history of the DPRK's politics and diplomacy.

During his service as a member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and a senior official of the DPRK supreme power organ, he remained faithful to his duty as a revolutionary veteran to ensure that the whole state affairs advanced along the correct track of development in the new era.

For nearly 80 years of his

revolutionary activities, Kim Yong Nam had always served the Party, the country and the people with rich knowledge and high responsibility and devoted himself to writing precious books to convey to posterity the proud history of the DPRK which has been associated only with victory and glory in spite of his great age of over 90.

The merits he performed by devoting his life to the Party, the revolution and the people will shine with the future of the DPRK which will win victory after victory and he will be remembered by the great history of the country and the people as a veteran of the state, the obituary said.

Premier Pak inspects various sectors



Premier Pak Thae Song (centre) looks round the Ryongsong Machine Complex.

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 Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made a field survey of the construction of the Samjiyon Tourist Resort and major enterprises in Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province.

Going round the tourist road, Ikkal Hotel, Potnamu Hotel and other projects in the Samjiyon Tourist Resort, the

premier stressed the need to take measures for warming up the construction projects as the temperature falls, push ahead with the projects as scheduled and enhance the responsibility and role of the construction officials and supervisors so as to thoroughly ensure the quality of constructions.

He pointed out that the construction projects planned for this year should be unconditionally finished by taking measures for the supply of manpower, equipment and materials and preparations be made for next year's

construction in a far-sighted way.

At the Ryongsong Machine Complex, he said that the complex should successfully attain the goal of the first-stage modernization project, true to the intention of the Party to turn it into a model of the machine-building industry, and put spurs to the current production in order to timely produce the major custom-built equipment in a qualitative way.

He underscored the need for the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex to steadily increase

the productivity by making effective use of the existing production capacity and step up the construction of the production line of slow effective granule urea fertilizer and thus make positive contributions to increasing the overall agricultural production of the country and improving the people's living standards.

Earlier, the premier acquainted himself with the production at the Jangsan Electric Appliances Factory and stressed the need to produce more electric motors and transformers.

Secretaries of WPK Central Committee inspect Jenam Coal Mine

KCNA

Jo Yong Won and Ri Hi Yong, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a field survey of the Jenam Coal Mine under the Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex on November 1.

Going round the coal mine, they encouraged

the coal miners who are making a dynamic drive for increased production with high enthusiasm to greet the Ninth Congress of the WPK as the one of victors and glory.

The secretaries of the Party Central Committee stressed the need for the officials of the coal mine in charge of

power production base to play the leading, creative and positive role in the production command, pay close attention to improving the working and living conditions of the coal miners, concentrate manpower and means on tunnelling and increase the transport capacity in order to decisively boost the coal production.



Jo Yong Won and Ri Hi Yong, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, inspect the Jenam Coal Mine under the Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex.

Photo exhibition on Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area opens



Visitors look round the photo exhibition "The Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area, a magnificent world created on the east coast in the great era of Kim Jong Un".

KCNA

A photo exhibition "The Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area, a magnificent world created on the east coast in the great era of Kim Jong Un", was opened at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on November 4.

On display at the exhibition venue are photos showing the exploits of the peerlessly great man who has unfolded a civilized magnificent world by devoting all his thinking and heart and soul to building a world-class cultural resort

for the people in the scenic spot on the East Sea.

The photos deal with the journey of the devoted service for the people's wellbeing of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who came to the spot and energetically led the whole course of construction, despite midsummer heat and the cold wind in the late autumn.

On show at the exhibition venue are photos showing the pleasure and optimism of the people in the tourist resort on the east coast, including the happy appearance of the men and women of all ages

who are bathing in the clear and blue sea water and are tasting specialties of the East Sea at the public catering establishments built in a unique style.

There are also photos dealing with the changes of the coastal tourist resort of national treasure value, a grand monumental edifice, adding to the beautiful scenery of the scenic spot.

Officials of the Ministry of Coal Industry, the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of Fisheries and other ministries visited the exhibition venue.

Pyongyang General Hospital opens

The Pyongyang General Hospital opens on November 3.



KCNA

The Pyongyang General Hospital opened in the DPRK on November 3.

The medical workers and employees of the hospital are determined to devote

themselves to ensuring that the great benevolence of the Workers' Party of Korea would lead to protecting the people's lives and promoting their health.

On November 3, the hospital started the medical

treatment of patients sent by the central-level hospitals.

The patients were most grateful to the motherly Party, which values the lives of the people most while receiving the best medical services at the world-class hospital.

Exhibition on sci-tech achievements in public health opens

KCNA

The National Exhibition of Sci-tech Achievements in the Field of Public Health-2025 opened with due ceremony at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on November 4.

On display at the exhibition are more than

2 300 data on sci-tech achievements and over 1 850 kinds of medicines, medical appliances, health foods, hygiene products and health IT products presented by many units in the capital and local areas.

Present at the opening ceremony were Choe Tong Myong, secretary of the

Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Jon Sung Guk, vice-premier of the Cabinet, officials concerned, scientists, technicians and three-revolution team members.

Jong Mu Rim, minister of Public Health, made an opening address.

Pyongyang autumn international trade fair held



The 17th Pyongyang Autumn International Trade Fair is a crowd-puller at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang between October 27 and 31. RI CHOL JIN / PICTORIAL KOREA

By Kim Il Jin PT

The 17th Pyongyang Autumn International Trade Fair took place in the DPRK from October 27 to 31.

Presented to the fair were tens of thousands of products of more than 1 400 kinds, including electronic goods, machines, building materials, seafoods, sanitary and light-industry goods and food and consumer goods produced by over 210 enterprises and companies of the DPRK, Russia, China, Mongolia, Cambodia, Thailand and India by applying advanced science and technologies.

According to Kim Il Hyok, section chief of the Ministry

of External Economic Relations, the exhibition was aimed at promoting friendship between countries, expanding external economic relations and making greater contributions to developing the economy and improving the people's standard of living.

On display at the exhibition were special and natural products of the DPRK, drawing the attention of visitors.

The Kumgangsan speciality exchange company presented more than 140 products of over a dozen kinds including apicultural products, agricultural produce, drinks and souvenirs made with natural raw materials in

Mt Kumgang, a world celebrated mountain and pollution-free area. In particular, various health promoting teas of third-stage processing, including those made with mulberry mushroom, Ganoderma lucidum, Inonotus and matrimony vine fruit, were very popular as they maintain their unique tastes and fragrance and dissolve in hot water in an instant while preserving their characteristics and state.

Visitors showed a special interest in the 60-odd kinds of processed insam products made by the Kaesong Koryo Insam Trading Company with Kaesong Koryo insam, whose mysterious medicinal effects have been widely

known as a tonic for making people enjoy a long life in good health since ancient times.

Health foods of the Samjiyon Blueberry Drink Factory made by processing blueberry from Mt Paektu, a celebrated mountain of the DPRK, were also popular among the visitors.

The booths of home-made electronic goods also lured many people.

On display at the smart phone booth were Jindallae(azalea)- and Phurunhanul (blue sky)-brand smart phones with stylish external shapes and superior functions, which are familiar to the local people.

The electronic products presented by many local

production units, including media player, intelligent wattmeter, cameras, wireless network adapters, smart card payment machine, imbued the visitors with a strong sense of pride in domestic products.

Other eye-catchers included various kinds of handmade bags from the Sojang Light Industry Goods Manufactory under the Trading Department of the Ministry of Light Industry. As they looked fashionable with ornaments applied by a variety of traditional hand embroidery in good harmony with metal fittings, they won favour with many women visitors.

As in the past, Kumgangsan-brand cosmetics enjoyed

popularity as they are made with Kaesong Koryo insam as the main ingredient, clear and clean water from Mt Kumgang and extracts of natural resources by employing latest science and technology and help people look young and beautiful with marked skin elasticity improving, whitening, wrinkle prevention and moisturizing effects.

Meanwhile, the household appliances, decorative building materials, light industrial goods and others from foreign companies added colour to the exhibition.

There was a briefing session on economic exchange and cooperation during the exhibition.

Carving a niche in world market

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Many products presented to the recent Pyongyang autumn international trade fair showed their international competitive edge.

The Kaesong Koryo Insam Trading Company exhibited 60-odd kinds of products including Kaesong Koryo insam tea, Kaesong Koryo insam liquor, Kaesong Koryo red insam powder and Kaesong Koryo insam extract.

Ri Hyok Song, staffer of the company, said that

Kaesong Koryo insam products are widely exported to Russia, China, Southeast Asia and other countries and regions of the world, adding many local and foreign visitors purchased Kaesong Koryo insam products at the fair, too.

According to the research and analysis made by scientists, Kaesong Koryo insam is very effective in boosting immunity of the human body and preventing and treating diabetes and other endocrine and metabolic system disorders. It is also good

for invigorating people, relieving them of mental and physical fatigue and making their skin clear and soft.

Such products were also in great demand at the fair as sportswear and vests for children of the Taebosan Joint Venture Company, which has become familiar to the people for having presented many children's garments in the past, bleaching and hemp laundry soaps and honey cleaning soap of the Jangsan Export Processing Company and "Adalsan"-brand powder soap of the

Korea Ryongwang Trading Company, which can be used even by allergy sufferers.

As they saw at the fair the products whose values are guaranteed with original ideas and advanced technologies to meet the ever-increasing demand of the people and reflect the world trend, foreign visitors lavished praise on them saying that they could feel the development of the DPRK and they are sure that the DPRK's brands would enjoy greater fame in the international market.

Growing pride



People, who have tasted various kinds of confectioneries of our factory, say with pleasure that their tastes have really improved.

Because not only tastes and nutritive value of

such confectioneries as banana cake, strawberry cake, perilla cake, spirulina sandwich cake, chocolate pine nut candy, strawberry milk candy and cocoa candy but their packaging are as good as those of centrally-run factories.

All these achievements are a precious fruition of the Workers' Party of Korea's regional development policy.

We will exert ourselves to produce more products of our brand winning popularity across the country.

Yun Chol, staffer of the Paegunsan General Foodstuff Factory

NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF IT SUCCESSSES-2025 HELD

By Ri Myong Jun PT

The national exhibition of IT successes-2025 was held at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang from October 20 to 30.

The exhibition, held on the theme of "Successful completion of the five-year plan and enthusiasm for informatization", was aimed at actively sharing and transferring the successes and experience gained in the field of information industry in the course of the struggle for implementing the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of

Korea to accelerate the informatization of the national economy and IT development of the country.

The venue of the exhibition was divided into several exhibition areas including those for successes in informatizing the state public service, successes in informatization by sectors and regions and successes in information industry and the display area of information device products.

On display at the exhibition were over 1 700 pieces of data dealing with successes and products presented by more than 500 units in Pyongyang and regions which have taken the

lead in the informatization drive.

It was noticeable that units at all levels presented achievements that are able to raise the informatization of their business activities, business management and production a level higher.

The South Phyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee exhibited an agricultural production control system which supports production control in accordance with the actual agricultural production and the future weather conditions. The Ministry of Disaster Prevention presented a disaster management support

system to ensure real-time monitoring, forecasting and assessing of natural disasters and minimize damage.

The Ministry of Electric Power Industry presented several IT products conducive to putting the electric power sector on an IT basis.

A real-time state monitoring system of transformer for power supply to prevent transformer accidents and ensure the stability of power system operation and a transmission line malfunction detection system using drones were rated as highly applicable and effective.

On show were also successes in informatization

for regional development, including the integrated production systems of the Ragwon County Offshore Farm, the Kwangchon Chicken Farm, the Songchon County Foodstuff Factory and the Kalma Foodstuff Factory and the intelligent integrated production system of the Kangdong Combined Greenhouse Farm.

And the information products for children were also displayed at the exhibition.

The robot game board presented by the Changgwang Kindergarten has a good effect on the development of children's logical thinking, thus helping them acquire a

broader knowledge of things.

The AI Technology Institute of the AI Faculty of Kim Il Sung University, the IT Institute of Kim Chaek University of Technology, the Phurunhanul Trading Company, the Pyongyang Kwangmyong IT Company and others were registered as the top ten IT businesses in 2025, and the certificates of the top ten IT products in 2025, trophies and medals were awarded to the most excellent IT products.

During the exhibition, there took place a programming contest, a sci-tech presentation and a lecture on the world developing trend of IT.

National machine design festival held



Visitors show keen interest in the displayed items at the 19th National Machine Design Festival. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Il Jin PT

The 19th National Machine Design Festival took place at the Okryu Exhibition House between October 24 and 30.

On display at the festival, held on the theme of "The highest civilization starts from design", were hundreds of designs of machinery, equipment and production processes and more than 200 products and models which are of substantial significance in revitalizing production and attaining readjustment and reinforcement goals in major sectors of the national economy and in normalizing the operation of regional-industry factories and

modernizing them.

"The recent festival was aimed at actively sharing and transferring achievements and experience gained by the sector of machine design in conducting the work for the successful execution of the five-year plan and the perfect implementation of our Party's regional development policy," said Kim Kwang Hyok, head of an office of the National Industrial Design General Bureau.

Machine designs and products presented by different units including the Control Machine Institute and Mechanical Engineering Institute of the State Academy of Sciences attracted many people.

A CNC machine tool

presented by the Control Machine Institute is very high in machining accuracy as compared to before as it is equipped with a new-type material touch sensor for the three-dimensional measurement of various kinds of materials to further improve the convenience and productivity of processing.

A vertical lifting jib-type winch pull-balanced cylindrical crane which lifts and carries a heavy load while minimizing power consumption can reduce manpower to one fifth as compared to before.

The automatic poultry weighing and monitoring system for putting breeding management on a scientific basis by automatically

monitoring in real time the biological information of poultry makes it possible to increase the productivity of poultry and save manpower.

The machining simulation system and the control device of 10-ton overhead crane presented by the Central Industrial Process Design Institute of the National Industrial Design General Bureau also attracted visitors for the good possibility of their introduction in practice. The machining simulation system, which ensures the scientific accuracy and promptness of process design and equipment selection, can reduce the loss due to the remodification of technical process by 10 percent on an

average. The control device of the 10-ton roof crane also makes it possible to ensure the smoothness of control and increase the lifespan of mechanical devices while saving 30 percent of electrical energy by enabling the speed control of motor for the running of the crane, the movement of the flatcar and lifting.

The non-contact three-dimensional measuring instrument presented by the Electronic Automation Design Institute of the Ministry of IT Industry was popular with experts.

The measuring instrument makes it possible to ensure quickness and accuracy and markedly save labour and time in the morphological measurement of an object

complex in shape as it can obtain a three-dimensional form model of an object by photographing the surface of the object and processing the image by a mathematical method.

Besides, a lot of machinery and equipment, including the metalworking machine, welding and pipe-making equipment, boiler and heat equipment presented by scientific and educational research units drew the attention of experts.

During the festival there were a multi-dimensional design contest with the main emphasis put on putting designing on a higher scientific basis, technical presentation and design support program prize contest.

ICH exhibition full of national flavour



Snapshots of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Exhibition-2025. RA PHYONG RYOL / PICTORIAL KOREA

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Exhibition-2025 was held at the Moranbong Youth Park in Pyongyang between October 27 and November 2.

It was attended by more than 80 units which had received certificates of registration of intangible cultural heritage, including the Agricultural Commission, Korean Taekwon-Do Committee, ministries of Education, Public Health and Regional Industry and Guidance Bureau of Public Catering Service.

On display at the exhibition were over 100 national and regional intangible cultural heritage elements including the “practice of using wormwood”, “practice of cultivating and using Kaesong Koryo insam”, “grasswork”, “custom of Korean costume dressing”, “Kamhongno liquor”,

“Pyongyang onban” and “moxibustion therapy”.

Participants showed visitors, through videos, visual aids and practical actions, the intangible cultural heritage elements which reflect the time-honoured history and superiority of the cultural heritage created by the Korean ancestors and their noble spiritual world and unique lifestyle.

Eye-catching were the sights of men in traditional costumes pounding boiled glutinous rice on a big flat stone with mallets to make glutinous rice-cake in a flash and some others playing ssirum (Korean wrestling).

The booths of Okryu and Chongnyu restaurants were crammed with lots of women as they introduced about Pyongyang cold noodles, sinsollo, terrapin dish, yakbap (glutinous rice mixed with sugar, dates, chestnuts, pine-nuts, sesame oil, etc.), beef-rib soup, mung-bean pancake,

beef stew and red-bean porridge taken on the winter solstice.

They elucidated traditional recipes and precautions to be taken in cooking the Korean traditional dishes like yakbap, beef-rib soup and mung-bean pancake.

Ri Jong Nyo, a woman living in Inhung-dong, Moranbong District, Pyongyang, said that she used to buy and eat yakbap produced by a foodstuff factory as she thought that it would be hard to make, but now that she learned the recipe at the exhibition she would make it by herself and serve it to the family members.

The Moranbong maize food restaurant under the Moranbong District Restaurant Group received certificates of registration of intangible cultural heritage by making a rice-cake soup with bar rice-cake as the main ingredient and using chicken, *Letinus edodes* and laver and another

kind of rice-cake soup by adding sautéed beef, eggs and crumbled laver to beef broth.

Ri Myong Sim, a waitress of the restaurant, said that rice-cake soup, one of the original national foods which the Korean people have widely applied in their dietary life from olden times, is efficacious for strengthening spleen and stomach and recovering the health of old persons and children after suffering illnesses and is regarded as an ideal food for reinvigoration and recuperation of parturient women, adding that the restaurant offers the flavour of the Korean nation to the guests by serving special rice-cake soups.

The booth of the South Hwanghae provincial craftwork technology introduction station caught eyes of visitors with their grasswork and sea snail-shell craftwork pieces that show the wisdom and wits of the Korean people.

Visitors were filled with admiration as they saw the grasswork pieces made of sedge, such as cushions, hats, slippers and bags, and various craftworks delicately made of shells of sea snails living on natural rocks on shores and in deep sea water.

According to Pak Sung Gyu of the national heritage preservation department of the South Hwanghae Provincial People’s Committee, grasswork has become varied in kinds and shapes as goods for cultural life and snail-shell craftworks with a long history are popular among people. He said that they would conduct the preservation of heritage elements properly to hand down the techniques of making craftworks to the rising generations.

Many people visited the exhibition.

Kim Chan Myong, student of the history faculty of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education, said that he acquired a wide knowledge

of intangible cultural heritage as well as of the wisdom and wits, time-honoured culture, lifestyle and custom of the Korean people, adding that he wished such exhibitions would be held frequently in the future.

There was a presentation of experience related to ICH during the exhibition.

In addition, a performance was given at the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Open-air Theatre as part of the exhibition.

Performers staged various numbers including women’s group dance, kayagum solo, male folk solo and oungeum ensemble which brimmed with national sentiments and flavour, greatly amusing the audience.

In particular, the demonstration of players of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee won a huge ovation as it showed the power and valour of Taekwon-Do, the orthodox martial art of the Korean nation.

Show stirs up public interest in national dog

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The Show of National Dog Phungsan-2025 took place at the Central Zoo in Pyongyang from October 29 to 31.

Present at the show sponsored by the Zoology

Society of Korea under the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea were scientists and technicians in the fields of zoology and animal husbandry and veterinary work and citizens from all

provinces who are raising Phungsan dogs.

The show brought together dozens of Phungsan dogs selected from all provinces, drawing the attention of many people.

Phungsan dog indigenous to the DPRK originated in

Kim Hyong Gwon County (former Phungsan County) of Ryanggang Province. It adapts to the topography and climate of the mountain and forest region and is highly resistant to cold and diseases. It is well known as a famous dog for its great

cleverness, perseverance and agility and for the dauntless courage with which it rushes like a shot at its quarry, controlling and fighting it to the last.

The Phungsan dog show is aimed at increasing the number of the purebred dogs by conducting a registration and survey of the dogs under protection nationwide, evaluating them and disseminating sci-tech knowledge about the standard form and biological characteristics of the national dog.

The show was held by means of appearance, special technique and general examinations.

What was popular at the show was the special technique examination.

The dogs’ basic responses at the word of command, their movements for hunting, their movements done as intended by their owners,

their long jump, their jump over a high wall, their hurdling and others evoked the exclamation of the audience.

In particular, the “Phungsan” (male) bred by Jon Pun Son, a woman from Ryanggang Province, jumped nimbly over a two-metre-high wall and the “Chunggyon” (male) bred by Pak Un Hyang, a woman from North Hwanghae Province, correctly grasped the intention of its owner and sorted out things to the audience’s surprise.

According to the results of the examinations, Pyongyang Municipality and Ryanggang Province came first, South and North Hwanghae provinces second and South Phyongan Province and Kaesong Municipality third.

There were a lecture and speeches on experience at the show.



The Show of National Dog Phungsan-2025 takes place at the Central Zoo in Pyongyang from October 29 to 31. SONG JONG HO / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Five years of defence buildup results in defence capability no one can belittle

By Choe Song Jun PT

The DPRK's national defence capability has reached the highest level beyond anyone's denigration in the past five years thanks to the wise leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who intends to build a powerful and prosperous socialist country, regarding the self-reliant defence as the mainstay of defending the revolution and developing the country.

The respected General Secretary solemnly clarified the revolutionary standpoint that the national defence capability, the cornerstone for the existence of the state and a reliable guarantee for defending the dignity and security of the country and people and peace, should be strengthened continuously, at the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. He said that as long as imperialism remains on the earth and the threat of war of aggression by the hostile forces against the DPRK remains, the historic mission of the revolutionary armed forces can never be changed and the country's national defence capability must be steadily bolstered along the new track of development.

With a firm will to train the revolutionary armed forces into

invincible elite ranks that no one dares provoke, he guided the First Workshop of Commanders and Political Officers of the Korean People's Army and the Eighth Conference of Military Educationists of the KPA. He also attended the Fourth Conference of the Battalion Commanders and Political Instructors of the KPA and made an important speech.

When he visited Kim Il Sung Military University, Kim Jong Il Military and Political Academy, O Jin U General Artillery Academy and Kang Kon General Military Academy, he indicated the tasks for training more military personnel and reliable commanding officers, who are fully prepared for modern warfare.

He guided military exercises and training matches of various services and arms, including a drill of tactical nuclear operation units of the KPA, fire strike drill of long-range artillery sub-units on the front and flying corps and training match among the large combined tankmen's units, encouraging the officers and men of the People's Army to raise a hot wind of intensive training as befits the army of Mt Paektu and vigorously conduct the movement to win the title of crack shots so as to defend the forefront and sovereignty of the country with matchless military

capabilities.

Thanks to the leadership of the respected General Secretary who firmly defends the destiny of the country and people with the strongest national defence capability, the defence industry of the DPRK has entered a higher stage of development since the Eighth Congress of the WPK.

Saying that the essence of the Party's defence policy is to defend the country and people by their own efforts and to contain any threat and challenge and reliably and steadfastly safeguard peace by consistently developing a powerful defence capability, he indicated the tasks and ways for bolstering up the defence capability on various occasions including an important Party meeting.

The defence development exhibition Self-Defence 2021 was held with splendour in October 2021 as an intensive, visual demonstration not only of the far-sighted ambition, leadership ability and executive capability of the Party in bringing about a fresh turn in consolidating the country's defence potential by invariably holding fast to the invincible line of self-defence, but also of the remarkable level of development of the state's defence science and munitions industry and their bright future.

The legalization of the state

nuclear forces policy, which was carried out in September 2022 in accordance with the general will of the Korean people, was a historic event that fully demonstrated the independent decision of the WPK and the DPRK government and their steadfast will to defend the sovereignty and national interests.

Major military activities were conducted in an offensive way to overwhelmingly counter the frantic war drills staged by the US and its followers.

The ICBMs Hwasongpho-17, Hwasongpho-18 and Hwasongpho-19, unmanned underwater nuclear attack boat Haeil, an underwater strategic weapon system, and reconnaissance satellite Malligyong-1 were successfully launched, a tactical ballistic missile in which a new guidance technology was introduced was test-fired, a strategic cruise missile launching drill was conducted, and unmanned weapons were developed.

The test-fire of a submarine-launched strategic cruise missile was successfully conducted to demonstrate the rapid development of the Juche-based naval force and convince people of the good prospects of the buildup of the naval force, and newly-built tactical nuclear attack submarine Hero Kim Kun Ok and destroyers Choe Hyon and Kang Kon were launched in

succession.

The military hardware exhibitions Defence Development-2024 and Defence Development-2025 served as significant occasions in demonstrating the inexhaustible development of the national defence capability of the DPRK and heralding the changes of the armed forces which will become more powerful beyond comparison.

The military parade held in celebration of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK fully demonstrated the inexhaustible potentiality of defence technology and eye-opening development speed of the DPRK as well as the valiant spirit of the KPA as the ranks of elite soldiers firmly armed with the ideas and will of the Party, the ranks of strong soldiers that always win victory in every battle and the ranks of point-men who make a breakthrough in socialist construction.

As the eternal victory, genuine peace, happiness and wellbeing are underpinned by the inexhaustible strength that is upgraded constantly, the Korean people are continuously putting spurs to bolstering up the national defence capabilities with the will that there is no satisfaction or accomplishment in cultivating strength for defending themselves.

National heritage conservation is all-people patriotic undertaking



Jang Hak Ju

section chief of the National Authority for the Protection of Cultural Heritage

The national heritage elements, the wealth of our country, include historical sites and relics, scenic spots, natural monuments, intangible cultural heritage and others.

The capital city of Pyongyang alone has many historical sites, including the Taedong Gate, Pothong Gate, the Ryongwang, Ulmil and Chongnyu pavilions, the Nam Gate of the Taesongsan Fort, the Kwangbop Temple, the Pobun Hermitage and Ryonggok School.

There are more than 120 historical relics in Kaesong City, the capital of

Koryo (918-1392).

Our country conducts national heritage protection month activities in spring and autumn every year.

As for the historical relics, the colourful painting and repainting are done on the principles of historicism, protecting facilities put up, hedges planted, landscaping done, masonry carried out and retaining walls built.

Scenic spots, service buildings and facilities are spruced up, approach and sightseeing roads flattened and embankments built as measures to provide convenience

for visitors.

Such historical relics as the Mausoleum of King Tangun, the Mausoleum of King Tongmyong, the Mausoleum of King Wang Kon, the Mausoleum of King Kogugwon (Anak Tomb No. 3), the Tokhung-ri mural tomb, the Sungin-ri dolmens Nos 1 and 2, and the Phyongsan dolmen are also positively protected and managed.

This year alone, the Myongbu Hall of the Woljong Temple in Anak County of South Hwanghae Province, the Taehung Temple in Kaesong City were repaired and restored to their original state.

And many other historical relics were colourfully painted on the principles of historicism. They include the Kyongam Pavilion in Sariwon City and the Simwon Temple in Yonhan County of North Hwanghae Province, the Chuksong Hall at the Pohyon Temple in Hyangsan County of Jagang Province, the Manse Pavilion at the Ryangchon Temple in Kowon County of South Hamgyong Province and the Junghung Temple in Samsu County of Ryanggang Province.

Kaesong City took measures to preserve historical sites and relics in their original state, take good care of facilities and protect the ecological environment of scenic spots.

Amid the brisk work to unearth, verify and inherit and develop more intangible cultural heritage elements, Korean folk song "Arirang", the Kimchi-making

practice, national sport ssirum, the practice of making Pyongyang cold noodles and the custom of the Korean costume dressing were put on the list of the global intangible cultural heritage.

On display were over 100 national and local intangible cultural heritage elements at the intangible cultural heritage exhibition-2025 held from late October to early November. The exhibition served as a significant occasion in raising public awareness of intangible cultural heritage and in carrying forward and developing the excellent traditions and customs created by our ancestors as required by the times.

It is an all-people patriotic undertaking to positively protect and manage the national heritage associated with the time-honoured history and culture.

BYWORD

While new dwelling houses and cultural and leisure centres are built one after another in cities and rural villages across the country, islands are also undergoing sea changes.

Wihwa Island on the northwestern tip of the country had an auspicious event.

The Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm, the largest of its kind in

the DPRK, is under construction on the island which suffered flood damage last year.

Following the construction of modern dwelling houses on the

shore of the Amnok River, permanent embankments are being built on the island. The innovative development is filling the local residents with deep emotion and joy.

Sea change on island

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Japan’s enhancement of warring capacity precipitates its self-destruction

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Japan has recently staged the combined military exercise of the Ground, Maritime and Air “Self-Defense Forces” on the largest scale in collusion with the US and Australia. The actual manoeuvres were conducted across Japan in late October with an involvement of about 52 300 SDF troops, 5 900 US troops and 230 Australian troops and about 60 SDF warships, 310 warplanes and others. The SDF warplanes were deployed at two airports in Wakayama and Kagoshima prefectures for the first time and many other civil airports and harbours were used for the drill.

Article 9 of the current constitution of Japan stipulates that it renounces war for ever and that it will neither possess the ground, naval and air forces and other war capacity nor approve the national right of belligerency. However, it has staged joint military drills with the armed forces of various countries including NATO, not content with crying out for the revision of the constitution while persistently making every attempt to realize its revanchist ambition for overseas reinvasion for 80 years since its defeat. It has resorted to every possible means and method to boost its military cooperation with other countries, including the agreement reached between Japan and the

US on the joint production of the latest air-to-air missile AIM-120 when the US secretary of Defense visited Japan, the ongoing joint development of the next-generation fighter planes with the UK and Italy, the joint development of a new-type warship with Australia, the joint research with the US to put a microwave weapon to practical use and the joint maintenance and repair of US warships and aircraft. In order to get closer to the environment in which it can translate into action the war of aggression by reinforcing and reorganizing its military strength and modernizing its armed forces according to the “national security strategy”, “national defense strategy” and “defense

capability buildup outline”, Japan is developing and deploying all kinds of preemptive attack means and massively purchasing such strike means as medium-range air-to-air missiles, air-to-surface long-range cruise missiles from the US. The Japanese Ministry of Defense expected the largest “defense expenditure” in history in the draft budget for the 2026 fiscal year in order to further bolster up the capabilities to fight a war. As a result, the SDF is now rapidly changing into a typical offensive and aggression force. But Japan, a war criminal state, should not act rashly. Japan’s moves for overseas reinvasion only precipitate its self-destruction.

Refugee disaster in the Mediterranean teaches a lesson

By Song Jong Ho PT

The Mediterranean is turning into a “deadfall” for refugees. Recently a UN spokesman said that more than 32 700 refugees lost their lives up to now from 2014, while crossing the Mediterranean Sea. This year alone, over 160 African refugees were drowned and some 230 others went missing as they tried to go over to Europe via the Mediterranean. Even now, many African refugees are flooding into Libya and Tunisia on the Mediterranean coast to cross over to Europe and escape from the political turmoil and military conflicts in their countries. The refugee disaster continues to take place in the Mediterranean

because criminal groups and brokers who organize the smuggling of refugees take them on board scrapped ships or old fishing boats far beyond their capacities and so they capsize or sink. Then why do the refugees risk taking such ships through the Mediterranean? It is because Western countries overthrew the legitimate state systems of African and Middle Eastern countries and destroyed their political stability, thus aggravating disputes and civil wars. In particular, the majority of African countries suffered from the tribal, national, border and other disputes more than any countries in other continents due to the harmful consequences of the imperialists’ past colonial rule. However,

Western countries used it as a lever to interfere in the internal affairs of the African continent and realize their dominationist ambition. Political riots and military coups broke out in over a dozen countries in less than one and a half years from the end of 2007, which was also a result of the Western forces’ interference in their internal affairs and dominationist moves. Reportedly, Africa has now 35 million refugees who try to find shelter from conflicts. In the Sudan alone many civilians have been killed and over 15 million reduced to refugees since the conflict began in 2023. But many European countries turn their face away from the refugees by adopting it as their main programme to exclude

immigrants. They are rejecting them, arguing that there are refugees among those involved in the serial terror attacks taking place in their countries. Even though they put their feet on Europe, refugees suffer all manner of maltreatment and contempt at makeshift shelters without basic living conditions and are finally deported to their countries. Whereas the Mediterranean is the “sea of death” for refugees, Europe has become a “land that they can never tread on”. The refugee disaster in the Mediterranean teaches a serious lesson: If a country is weak and is not firm in its independent stand, it will be unable to repel foreign interference and domination and its people will be displaced and forced to suffer a miserable fate.

International community puts in efforts to solve water shortage

By Choe Song Jun PT

Water is an element most essential to the existence of humanity. As the world population increases and the economy develops, the demand for water is further growing. But water resources that can be used by humans are extremely limited. Fresh water accounts for the extremely small part of the total amount of water stored in the earth and even that continues to decrease due to various factors. Furthermore, water resources have been rapidly reduced in many countries owing to extremely high temperatures in recent years. Underground water resources also continue to decrease. According to data available,

water volume was drastically reduced in the 37 largest aquifers in the world. They are drying up as there are hardly natural water supplements to them as compared to the quantity of water extracted from them. Experts insist that the rapid decrease in underground water should not be overlooked any longer. Water shortage has inflicted severe damage on humanity. Last year about 3 billion people and large numbers of bread baskets in the world suffered from drought or were in a situation in which they faced the faint possibility of using water. According to the recent report on the global water resources released by the World

Meteorological Organization, abnormal phenomena of excessive increase or decrease in water flow were observed in about 60 percent of river basins in 2024. Shortly ago, the Kazakh president called for protecting the water resources of the Caspian Sea in his speech at the UN General Assembly. Noting that the water resources of the Caspian Sea are rapidly decreasing, he said that it has already become a warning signal to the world rather than a regional issue. And he insisted that not only the regional countries but also the international community should jointly take emergency measures to protect the water resources of the Caspian Sea. Many countries are taking

measures to protect, economize on and make effective use of water resources. They are implementing a licensing system for the use of water for farming and widely introducing water saving equipment while instilling into people the approach to water saving. Some countries are enacting and implementing a strict law on reprocessing sewage and collecting and using rainwater. Under the circumstances, different technologies of desalinating seawater by using solar energy are being developed and introduced. It has become a pressing task directly related to the existence and future of mankind to protect and economize on water resources as much as possible.

Briefly

Mexico
President censures US for attacking vessels
The Mexican President at a press conference on October 28 condemned the US for attacking vessels in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific on the pretext of “anti-drug operations”. In connection with the fact that the US is attacking civilian vessels, accusing them of transporting drugs without any evidence, she said Mexico opposes such attacks, adding that its navy has launched search and rescue operations for survivors. She noted that her country’s navy is conducting the operations from a humanitarian standpoint and in conformity with international treaties.

Russia
FM condemns EU’s hostility
The Russian foreign ministry released a statement on October 31 to denounce the hostile acts of the European Union. As to the EU’s announcement of imposing the 19th anti-Russia sanctions, the statement said that such acts cannot affect Russia’s policy. Russia will defend the interests of the state and the rights and freedom of its citizens and continue to adhere to the line of building a multi-polar world, it noted.

China
FM rejects Japan’s interference in internal affairs
A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry denounced Japan’s interference in China’s internal affairs at a news conference on November 1. The Japanese Prime Minister has recently met a staffer of the Taiwanese authorities and talked about it. In connection with this, the spokesman said that this is seriously contrary to the one-China principle and the basic rule of international relations and that it is very bad in terms of character and impact as it constitutes a wrong signal to the forces seeking the “independence of Taiwan”. He stressed that the Chinese government strongly demands Japan reflect on its wrongs and discontinue its interference in the internal affairs of China.

Iran
FM: American politicians have become intoxicated with supporting terrorism
A deputy spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry criticized the US politicians for having become completely intoxicated with supporting terrorism on October 31. Referring to the fact that a deputy spokesman for the US State Department posted on an SNS an article “mourning” the death of the head of a terrorist organization, he said that the US politicians were so intoxicated with supporting terrorism against Iran that they showed such a disgraceful behaviour of shedding tears for the death of the terrorist who took “pride” in killing innocent civilians. It shows that the US conspired to commit acts of terrorism, he noted.

DPRK team advances to final of 2025 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup



KCNA

The 2025 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup is now underway in Morocco.

Divided into six groups, the teams competed in league matches and winners and runners-up from each group and four teams with high scores among the teams

which came third will play knockout games in the next stage to decide the final rankings.

The DPRK team, belonging to group B, defeated the Mexican team 2-0 in the first match and the Cameroonian team 2-1 in the second match. It played the last match with the Dutch team on October 24 (local time).

It took first place in the group with nine points in total and advanced to the last 16.

In the last 16 match the DPRK team beat the Moroccan team 6-1 on October 28 (local time) and advanced to the quarterfinals.

In the quarterfinal between

the DPRK and Japanese teams that took place on November 1 (local time), No. 15 Kim Won Sim scored the first goal in one minute after the kickoff, and No. 7 Ri Ui Gyong and No. 10 Yu Jong Hyang made goals in the sixth and 22th minutes respectively.

The DPRK team succeeded in scoring two more goals in

the 73rd minute and in the sixth minute of second-half stoppage time.

It defeated the Japanese team 5-1 and advanced to the semi-finals.

The semi-final between the DPRK and Brazilian teams took place on November 5 (local time).

The powerful two teams made a fierce seesaw battle

from the kickoff.

No. 10 Yu Jong Hyang succeeded in a penalty kick in the 44th minute. She made another goal in the 52nd minute.

The DPRK team beat its rival 2-0 and advanced to the final.

The final will take place on November 8 (November 9 Pyongyang time).

DPRK players win gold medals at 2025 Asian Cup Rowing Games

KCNA

DPRK players won gold medals at four events of the 2025 Asian Cup

Rowing Games held in China.

Ri Yun Gyong and Ri So Yon took first place at the light category of women's 1 000m double sculls,

Choe Ryong Hyok at the light category of men's 1 000m single sculls, Jong Kwang Bok and Choe Myong Sik at the light category of men's 1 000m

double sculls, and Kim Kye Hyang, Ri So Yon, Ri Hye Jong and Ri Yun Gyong at the heavy category of women's 1 000m quadruple competitions.

DPRK players successful at 14th Asian Acrobatic Gymnastic Championships

KCNA

DPRK players proved successful at the 14th Asian Acrobatic Gymnastic Championships

held in India from October 31 to November 2.

Ro Hye Song and Ryu Il Chon came first respectively in the mixed pair balance, dynamic and

combined and bagged three gold medals.

Pak Jin Ryong and Kim Kwang Myong came second respectively in the men's pair balance, dynamic and

combined.

Meanwhile, Han Il Ryong won a bronze medal in the men's marathon of the 2025 Beijing International Marathon held in China.

Young players return home after taking part in Third Asian Youth Games

KCNA

DPRK players returned home on November 4 after taking part in the Third

Asian Youth Games held in Bahrain.

They bagged eight gold medals, five silver medals and two bronze medals, 15 medals in total, in athletics, boxing, wrestling and weightlifting events of the games.

At Pyongyang International Airport, officials in the field

of sports and officials concerned greeted the players, who returned home after demonstrating the honour of the country.

Natural monument— Stone river on Mt Okryon

By Choe Song Jun PT

The stone river on Mt Okryon, a natural monument in Pujon County of South Hamgyong Province, is located in the upper reaches of the river valley flowing down the southwestern slope of the mountain.

Mt Okryon rises 2 164 metres above sea level in the southern part of the Puksubaek Mountains.

The stone river on Mt Okryon was formed in the period from about 120 000 to 6 000 years ago, the last Ice Age, as some of the masses of rocks which had formed a stone sea on top of the mountain moved along the river valley, showing the marvellous trick of nature.

The stone river starts at a point about 1 850 metres above sea level and ends at a point 1 460 metres. It is 120 metres wide and 700 metres long and its surface gradient is about 10 degrees. Visitors cannot see the water as it flows beneath the stones, but hear the sound of the water.

Stones are piled up 4-5 metres thick on average and 15-20 metres thick at the valley.

The edges of the stones are worn a bit. The stones are irregular in shape and cubes or plates of different sizes. The stone river is about 2 kilometres long when the part covered with plants is added.

The stone river, which adds beauty to the mountain scenery, is of academic significance in the study of mountain glacier.

