



Press release on Enlarged Meeting of 13th Plenary Meeting of Eighth Central Committee of WPK



KCNA

The Enlarged Meeting of the 13th Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea was held from December 9 to 11 to sum up the major Party and state affairs in 2025 and to decide on a series of important issues arising at present including the preparations for the Ninth Congress of the Party.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, attended the plenary meeting.

Present there were members and alternate members of the Central Committee of the WPK and, as observers, officials of the departments of the Party Central Committee, leading officials of ministries, national agencies and provincial-level guidance organs, chief secretaries of the Party committees and

chairpersons of the people's committees in cities and counties, leading Party and administrative officials of major industrial establishments and the relevant commanding officers of the Korean People's Army.

A presidium of the plenary meeting was elected.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee authorized Comrade Kim Jong Un to preside over the plenary

meeting.

Kim Jong Un referred to the main features of the struggle of this year when more gigantic projects were undertaken and greater changes were made than any other years.

Saying that as greater steps forward are taken for the development of the state and the well-being of the people

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across the country, we should never be conceited by the initial achievements and that only when we correctly find out the factors creating artificial difficulties in our way ahead, fiercely fight against the negative practices and elements by setting them as the main target and draw lessons in time, can the Party lead the revolution and construction correctly, he stressed the need for the members of the central leadership of the Party to take an active part in the discussion of agenda items with a deep understanding of the purpose of the convening of the plenary meeting and the importance of the issues to be discussed.

The plenary meeting dealt with the following agenda items:

1. On the review of the implementation of the policies of the Party and the state in 2025
2. On the work of the Central Inspection Commission of the Party in 2025
3. On the important issues related to the preparations for the Ninth Congress of the Party
4. On the implementation of the state budget for 2025 and the draft state budget for 2026
5. Organizational matter

The plenary meeting unanimously approved the proposed agenda items.

It discussed the first agenda item "On

the review of the implementation of the policies of the Party and the state in 2025".

There was a report on the first agenda item.

The report introduced the remarkable successes made in this year's struggle which brought about significant changes in the overall work of the state under the correct leadership of the Party Central Committee and analyzed in detail a series of shortcomings revealed by some Party organizations, state economic organs and others in the course of implementing the policies of the Party and the state, their causes and the lessons drawn from them.

After the report, leading officials at all levels made speeches and presented written speeches.

The speakers made reports on the work of their sectors for implementing the important tasks set forth at the eleventh and twelfth plenary meetings of the Eighth Party Central Committee and suggested measures to the plenary meeting.

Kim Jong Un made relevant appraisals of the issues brought up for discussion.

The plenary meeting discussed the second agenda item "On the work of the Central Inspection Commission of the Party in 2025".

The report on the item referred to the successes made in the struggle for implementing the line of building Party discipline in the new era and cited, based

on data, the deviations revealed by the Party inspection committees at all levels.

The plenary meeting discussed the third agenda item "On the important issues related to the preparations for the Ninth Congress of the Party".

Brought up for discussion at the plenary meeting were a series of issues related to the preparations for successfully holding the Ninth Congress of the Party which will serve as a signal turning point in dynamically promoting the development of the Party and further amplifying the motive force for advance towards the comprehensive development of socialist construction.

The report referred to such issues as those of formation of the preparatory committee for the Party Congress, organization of groups according to panels and sectors, drafting of the amendments to the Party Rules to be proposed for the approval of the Party Congress, reviewing of the work of the leadership bodies of the Party committees at all levels and the method of electing the delegates to be sent to higher-level Party conferences and the Party Congress.

Kim Jong Un made an important conclusion related to the discussion of the first, second and third agenda items.

He gave the Party Central Committee's appraisal of the results of implementation of the Party and state policies in 2025 and summarized major successes.

The general appraisal of this year's work is the accelerated speed of advance and redoubled self-sustaining capacity.

In spite of various challenges and difficulties, the major industrial sectors of the national economy carried out their highly-set production plans in a responsible manner through the vigorous campaign for increased production and economy, the agricultural sector recorded higher grain yields than last year and a lot of major construction projects were successfully completed, and thus the economic development goals for this year have been achieved and the five-year plan was carried out.

The modernization of major sectors of the national economy and the

reinforcement of technical infrastructure have reached the final stage, thus providing the possibility and guarantee for more confidently entering into the fulfilment of the long-term goals for the next stage.

The particularly important success is that we achieved proud results in realizing the ideal and well-being of the people and demonstrated to the full the simultaneous development of our state by launching and completing the projects specified in the more expanded and advanced regional development policy within this year.

Thanks to the significant achievements made in accordance with the Party's policy on modernizing overall components of the national defence capabilities, many issues have effectively and correctly been solved and advanced along the exact direction of development to ensure the security and defence of the country and protect its interests despite the global geopolitical and technological changes.

The brilliant battle results achieved by units of different arms of the Korean People's Army in the overseas military operations over the past nearly one year demonstrated to the world the prestige of the army and state as the ever-victorious army and genuine protector of international justice.

The celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK held this year showed the world the absolute dignity and irresistible might of the Party, state and people and redoubled the strong will of all the people to build a socialist society with their wisdom and efforts and in their own way.

The field of sports, too, achieved good results to contribute to highly enhancing the prestige of the country.

Kim Jong Un said that 2025 is, indeed, a historic year of great turn that broke through the last line in carrying out the five-year plan with confidence and in the dynamic spirit of advance for comprehensive development and charged the motive power for vigorously going



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over to a new stage.

The plenary meeting unanimously recognized that the secret of adorning another year with gigantic successes while advancing along the course of development set by the country itself, remaining unperturbed by worldwide confusion and change and any challenge and obstruction, lies in holding aloft the banner of ideology and that it is important to consistently maintain and further develop the unique mode of struggle and revolution of working miracles by dint of ideology in the future advance, too.

Kim Jong Un pointed out the shortcomings and evil practices that must be corrected for the higher qualitative development of socialist construction.

The conclusion assessed in detail this year's work of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee and the state leadership organs, analyzed the factors creating artificial obstacles to the development of the revolution, and strictly criticized the wrong ideological viewpoint and inactive and irresponsible work attitude of some leading cadres and senior officials.

Kim Jong Un stressed the need to have greater confidence in and courage for our cause and the future of our struggle, boldly rectify the mistakes and deviations and continue to advance to carve out the future by dint of the unique mode of struggle and the might of self-sustenance.

He referred to a series of major tasks facing the Party, government and state organs at present.

Noting that provinces, cities, counties and the agricultural sector should draw up correct plans for farming well next year on the basis of this year's farming experience and push ahead with the preparations for farming, the conclusion set forth the tasks for boosting agricultural production and accelerating rural development, including the issue of increasing the area under wheat cultivation and expanding the wheat-processing capacity until the people's dietary structure is changed, the issue of reforming the distribution system so that

the socialist principle of distribution can be observed strictly.

Kim Jong Un analyzed in detail the present situation of the tideland farms and clarified the intention of the Party Central Committee to take a revolutionary step to transform the newly organized or the most backward farms among the tideland farms on the west coast into modern and civilized ones symbolizing the new transformation of rural development.

The conclusion called on provinces, cities and counties to take part in the work to strengthen the material foundation of the education sector and develop regional areas with the attitude befitting masters.

It called upon other provinces to make many changes suited to their regional characteristics simultaneously and in a three-dimensional way by learning from the experience of Kangwon Province which wonderfully built six power stations by its own efforts to provide a great asset for the development of the economy and the improvement of the people's living standards in the province and the experience of South Phyongan Province which constructed the Unsan Paper Mill as a model of the country.

It referred to the principled issues and tasks arising in strengthening the country's financial and foreign trade discipline.

Kim Jong Un put special emphasis on directing nationwide efforts to the transformation of coal mining villages.

He said that the industrial development and independent economic development of the country are unthinkable without improving the living environment and cultured way of life of the coal mining villages and remoulding the people's understanding of the coal front. Saying that various undertakings have been carried on in different areas at an accelerating pace to eliminate the gap between towns and the countryside in recent years, he noted that the additional forming of another new front for the transformation of the coal mining areas is an important task facing us at present for the long-term development of the country.

The conclusion referred to the tasks for protecting the ecological environment and the measures for actively preserving the original features of socialist society, which takes absolute service to the masses of the people as its physiology, by ensuring that the Party organizations at all levels fully meet the political requirement of giving priority to the things that are popular among the people and oriented to them.

Kim Jong Un stressed the need to make good preparations for the Party Congress and clarified the measures for organizational and political work to be taken throughout the Party.

He clarified the tasks for ensuring the successful holding of the Party Congress, including the issue of completing pending major projects before the Ninth Congress of the Party, the issue for all sectors to correctly set the next five-year plans for qualitative development and propose scientific and realistic ways for their implementation, the issue of increasing revolutionary vigilance and alertness and thoroughly establishing discipline and order in all fields, the issue for the Party and working people's organizations at all levels to conduct the information offensive for heightening the political enthusiasm and spirit of advance peculiar to the Korean people in various forms and methods and the issue of making full preparations for various political and cultural events.

Saying that the period before the convening of the Party Congress is a very important and responsible time for successfully concluding the work of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party and for the transition to a new phase of change hereafter, he stressed the important role of the leading cadres and senior officials at all levels including the members of the central leadership of the Party.

He ardently called for putting more spurs to the daring and offensive fighting spirit and dynamically advancing to a new phase of change with the great pride and honour of having turned the past five years into the great pioneering days of comprehensive rejuvenation.

All the participants fully supported the

conclusion of Kim Jong Un.

The plenary meeting discussed the fourth agenda item "On the implementation of the state budget for 2025 and the draft state budget for 2026".

It decided to organize a state budget deliberation team for examining and deliberating on the implementation of the state budget for 2025 and the draft state budget for 2026.

It discussed the organizational matter as the fifth agenda item.

It decided to recall one member of the Party Central Committee and five alternate members of the Party Central Committee.

Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, informed the plenary meeting of the work of the state budget deliberation team.

The plenary meeting made the final deliberation of the implementation of the state budget for 2025 and the draft state budget for 2026 and approved the submission of the documents on them to the Supreme People's Assembly.

During the plenary meeting, a consultative meeting was held to select cities and counties where projects under the regional development policy are to be carried out in 2026.

Jo Yong Won reported the results of the above-said consultative meeting to the plenary meeting.

The plenary meeting confirmed the 20 cities and counties where the projects under the regional development policy are to be carried out in 2026 and approved them with unanimous approval.

Kim Jong Un concluded the plenary meeting.

The Eighth Central Committee of the WPK successfully went through the preparatory processes essential for substantially wrapping up the work of its term and entering the next stage of development.

The Enlarged Meeting of the 13th Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK marked an important political occasion in clearly defining the road for new progress in socialist construction and vigorously promoting the all-people advance.



Ceremony of welcoming return of KPA unit of engineers held with splendour



KCNA

The Korean People's Army, which regards the absolute loyalty to the Workers' Party of Korea and the revolution as its sacred mission and duty, keeps performing brilliant military exploits with its unparalleled fighting spirit and through mass heroism, adding lustre to the prestige and honour of the DPRK.

The officers and combatants of the KPA unit of engineers who had been dispatched to an overseas operations area by the order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK returned home in triumph after carrying out their military assignment.

A ceremony took place with splendour at the plaza of the April 25 House of Culture in the capital city of Pyongyang on December 12 to welcome the 528th

Regiment of Engineers which returned home after carrying out the combat order of the Party in the overseas operations area.

The plaza overflowed with great enthusiasm for welcoming the officers and combatants of the unit of engineers who demonstrated once again the irresistible might of the KPA after the officers and men of the KPA special operations force performed legendary

combat feats overseas that would shine long in the history of Juche-oriented army building.

The proud sons of the people who entered the plaza with the great pride of having defended the absolute prestige of the state were warmly welcomed by officers and men of the KPA and citizens of the capital city.

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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 welcoming ceremony.

Present there were participants in the 13th Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK and the large combined units of the KPA, families of the combatants of the engineer regiment, service personnel, Pyongyang citizens, youth and students.

When Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived, service personnel and people raised stormy

cheers of "Hurrah!" which reverberated through the sky of December, as they looked up to the ever-victorious and iron-willed brilliant commander who has trained the DPRK armed forces into an invincible army, which wins only victories by means of definite superiority in ideology, spirit and strategy and tactics, with his outstanding military strategic idea, extraordinary commanding art and great trust and love.

Kim Jong Un sent a militant salute to the officers and men of the unit of engineers who defended the immortal reputation and prestige of the KPA and returned home with honour.

A commanding officer of the overseas engineer combat unit courteously reported

to Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un of the armed forces of the DPRK that the unit carried out the Party's combat order.

Kim Jong Un warmly congratulated the regiment on its proud combat achievements.

He made a speech in congratulation of the homecoming of the unit of engineers.

He warmly encouraged the officers and soldiers of the engineer regiment who came back to the motherland after fully executing their combat order given by the Party by displaying matchless heroism and specialized features and referred to his pain of waiting for them for over 120 days during which he had never forgotten the beloved sons even for a moment and to the regiment's combat feats which would shine forever in the history of overseas military operations.

He said that the blood and sweat the soldiers of the DPRK armed forces shed and the sacrifice they made in the overseas operations area will never be in vain and the feats the officers and soldiers of the 528th Regiment of Engineers performed will shine forever along with the fame of our powerful army.

He expressed gratitude and paid ennobling respect to the devoted service of the officers and soldiers who are always faithful to the country at the end of his speech.

When he finished his speech, all the

participants raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" once again, looking up to him filled with overwhelming emotion and happiness of having returned to the embrace of the father whom they yearned for even in dreams and with the greatest honour and joy of being blessed by the great brilliant commander.

Kim Jong Un proclaimed that the motherland decided to award the regiment the Order of Freedom and Independence 1st Class and nine combatants fallen in the course of executing their military missions the title of DPRK Hero, the Order of National Flag 1st Class and the Order of Soldier's Honour 1st Class in order to highly appreciate and add eternal lustre to the bravery displayed by the unit and its brilliant combat feats.

Upon authorization of the Party and the government of the DPRK, he fixed the order awarded by the motherland to the colours of the regiment shining with immortal feats.

The venue of ceremony was full of great emotion and joy of all the officers and men of the engineer regiment.

Kim Jong Un warmly congratulated the soldiers of the regiment on receiving the thanks and high honour from the Party, the motherland and the people.

There took place a march-past of the

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column of the overseas engineers unit of the KPA with their glorious colours.

The participants enthusiastically applauded the soldiers who were granted a special favour of being reviewed by their Supreme Commander after making a report on victory.

Kim Jong Un met the exemplary officers and combatants of the engineer regiment and warmly encouraged them, highly appreciating the spiritual world and military feats of them who are absolutely faithful to the order of the Party and the

and that the bravery and heroism they displayed in the sacred war for defending justice and dignity will be kept as the greatest source of pride and dignity of our state.

Expressing the belief and conviction that the brave combatants, who fully proved the law of victory and development of the revolutionary army invincible with ideology and getting stronger by dint of it in the overseas battlefields, will steadily glorify the dignity and fame of the KPA with the worthwhile military feats of our generation, he posed for photographs with them, which will be eternally recorded in

Honour below their portraits.

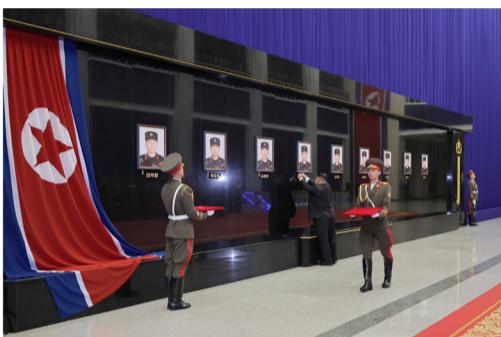
He laid a white flower before the memorial wall and observed a moment's silence, hoping that the noble soul and spirit of the martyrs will be immortal along with their honour.

Flowers were placed before the memorial wall by commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK and the large combined units of the KPA, commanding officers of the engineer regiment and the bereaved families of the martyrs.

Kim Jong Un met the bereaved families of the martyrs and warmly consoled them,

firmly convinced that their motherland will always be strong as it has the reliable lifeguards who have possessed the pure mind of remaining absolutely loyal to the Party and kept matchless heroism and ardent patriotism and comradeship as their mental attributes.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience as it reflected the iron will of the service personnel of the KPA to reliably defend the security of the country and the people, holding the arms of the revolution more firmly while highly displaying the ideological and spiritual superiority peculiar to the army, through wonderful



motherland.

The emotion-filled scene of the venue of the ceremony, in which the leader was sharing ennobling feelings of kinship with his soldiers, was an impressive picture eloquently showing what makes our motherland great and what makes our army strong.

Kim Jong Un said that the motherland and the people will always remember the military feats of the combatants who demonstrated the features of the true soldier, officer and human being, who are faithful to their motherland and fellow people and are proud before them, with their thoroughgoing faith and will and self-sacrificing efforts in battlefields decisive of their destiny, not in words,

the history of army building.

When the photo session was over, the venue of the ceremony resounded with the enthusiastic cheers reflecting the thoroughgoing faith and will of the combatants to more bravely fight for the great Comrade Kim Jong Un and for the lasting victory of the great state and people.

Kim Jong Un visited the memorial wall erected at the central hall of the April 25 House of Culture.

Reverently recollecting the noble life of the martyrs who dedicated their lives to the sacred war for defending the honour and dignity of the country, he fixed the medal of Hero of the DPRK, Order of the National Flag and Order of Soldier's

sharing with them the pain of loss.

A performance was given to congratulate the combatants on their return after carrying out death-defyingly the Party's combat order in the overseas operations area.

When Kim Jong Un appeared in the auditorium together with the commanding officers of the engineer regiment, the engineer combatants broke into cheers, filled with deep emotion of being honoured with the highest glory and happiness in their life under the care of the country and the great father whom they longed for even in their dreams.

The performers put on the stage the songs the brave soldiers had sung in battlefields of the alien land wishing for the well-being of their homeland and the revolutionary military songs which had always inspired them with unyielding bravery and encouraged them to win victory.

The audience was filled with deep emotion as they saw the scenes showing the self-sacrificing combat spirit and the loyalty and patriotism of the combatants of the unit of engineers, who dashed into mine fields, braved a hail of bullets without hesitation and opened the road of advance for victory to carry out the order of the leader and the Party.

Deeply moved by the traces our soldiers left in every bloody battlefield and their warm feelings, the audience was more

ideological and artistic portrayals.

When the performance was over, the audience broke into stormy cheers again, looking up to Kim Jong Un.

He warmly waved back to the officers and combatants of the unit of engineers as an expression of encouragement.

All the officers and men of the unit firmly pledged to regard the warmest affection and greatest trust of the great Party Central Committee as the lifeline of their destiny and sustenance for fostering heroism and record only victories on the glorious colours shining with proud military feats of defending the motherland and revolution.

A reception was given in the evening to welcome the soldiers' homecoming.

Present there at invitation were the officers and combatants of the 528th Regiment of Engineers, their family members and officials concerned.

Also present there were leading officials of the Party and the government.

The spirit of carrying out the order of the Party Central Committee unto death, mass heroism and unparalleled self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the officers and combatants of the 528th Regiment of Engineers of the KPA in the overseas operations area will be handed down forever along with the history of eternal victory of the powerful revolutionary army of the great Kim Jong Un.



Comrade Kim Jong Un's speech delivered at the ceremony of welcoming return of KPA unit of engineers

Dear officers and soldiers of the 528th Regiment of Engineers of the Korean People's Army,

I warmly welcome all of you, officers and soldiers of the regiment, back to your country. In performing your overseas mission you demonstrated the heroic spirit of our army and its specialized features with credit, and carried out your combat tasks in a responsible manner.

I really appreciate you all for coming back in good health.

Just as you yearned, every moment of the day on the foreign battleground, for all the precious things in your country, everyone in your country have never forgotten their beloved sons even for a moment.

Upon receiving the daily reports about your combats, I was deeply moved by the unyielding mettle you displayed in executing the orders from your Party and country death-defyingly. And each time, my wish grew stronger for every one of you to return safely and gladly.

In retrospect, for me, this can be said to be a year of longing; to the marrow of my bone, I have felt the pain of waiting that I have never experienced before.

One hundred and twenty days have passed since the moment when I had to dispatch you, combatants of this regiment, to the dangerous battleground; every day of this period seemed like a decade, just as when I had been waiting for the combatants of the special operations units, who had been involved in the liberation battles.

As the days went by, I found myself unable to accustom myself to, or get used to, worrying about the safety of the precious sons of this country who were fighting on the foreign battleground.

Now I feel at ease.

I am fairly relieved to see all of you come back like this.

You have fought very bravely.

True to the expectations of the Party, the country and all who are dear to your hearts, you displayed your mettle befitting true combatants, to the admiration of the world. Now you look more robust and dignified, and once again I warmly congratulate you, all the combatants of the regiment of engineers, for returning home with pride.

Comrades,

The 528th Regiment of Engineers is another proud combat unit that justly represents the matchless bravery and powerfulness of our army and its specialized features.

This regiment was formed on May 28 according to the decisions and orders of our Party Central Military Commission to build on the valuable victory in the overseas military operations. Early in August you, engineers of the regiment, left for the Kursk region of the Russian Federation, which your comrades-in-arms had retaken at the cost of their lives, and you achieved brilliant results in the course of performing your combat tasks there.

You fought in a life-and-death situation, braving the grave invisible dangers here and there, and your faith and willpower were tested every step of your way. Despite the harshness of the circumstances on the battleground, our engineers of the regiment never

vacillated or hesitated, but all of you were courageous and responsible all the time.

As all of you, both officers and soldiers, displayed mass heroism overcoming unimaginable mental and physical burdens almost every day, you could work a miracle of turning a vast area of danger zone into a safe and secure one in a matter of less than three months, the task which was believed to be impossible to be carried out even in several years.

The cardinal importance of the battle results the regiment achieved this time lies evidently in that they were not feats performed by a few well-trained fighters but the fruition of mass heroism displayed by all the officers and soldiers.

In the rigorous battleground, where even a trifling slip or carelessness was not allowed and where even going to and from the battleground was accompanied by combats, you, caring for your comrades-in-arms first, shielded one another from the bursting shrapnel, and fulfilled your missions unto death even when you were critically wounded. Your ennobling comradeship, matchless self-sacrificing spirit and indomitability deserve everybody's admiration, I believe.

I was convinced that our regiment of engineers would fight like that as they were ordered by the Party Central Committee.

Your brilliant battle results were also associated with the devoted efforts of the signalmen and medics who accomplished their tasks faithfully risking their lives almost every day.

All the officers and soldiers were equally brave, competent, devoted and heroic, indeed.

The fundamental key to the invincible fighting strength our regiment of engineers demonstrated in the alien battleground lies in the revolutionary fighting spirit that prevailed in the entire unit.

As definite precedence was given to political work, which was conducted in an ingenious, fresh and prompt way to suit the frontline situation, the spiritual and moral merits of our army were fully displayed typically to demonstrate the unconditional implementation of orders, loyalty, patriotism, unity between officers and soldiers, and comradeship.

What impressed me particularly were the performances given by company art groups in humble barracks on the holidays of September 9 and October 10, and the soldiers singing revolutionary songs on their way to the battleground and reciting



the poems of their creation and writing letters to their home towns and villages at breaks of the mine-clearing hours.

Such a way of life could hardly be seen in such deadly circumstances unless they are men of optimism who are strong in faith and will as they are entirely filled with affection and respect for their Party, their country, their home towns and their parents and siblings and are firmly convinced of their victorious cause.

No other armies could imitate our service personnel's ennobling ideological mentality of considering it a source of their honour instead of death to sacrifice themselves for their country, nor could they produce at any exorbitant cost mass heroism, a powerful weapon unique to our army.

The armed villains of the West, armed with whatever latest military hardware they are, cannot match this revolutionary army with an unfathomable spiritual depth.

It is regrettable that I cannot enumerate now all the combat feats performed by the hundreds of officers and soldiers of the regiment of engineers.

However, these feats will shine forever in the history of our army's overseas military operations as well as in the history of the unit of engineers.

Comrades,

You left your homeland without much fanfare

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Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends condolences to Russian President and sympathy to Russian embassy

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, sent a message of condolence to Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, on December 8 as regards the passing of Aleksandr Ivanovich Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK, on December 6 2025.

In the message, Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed deep condolences to the Russian President, the leadership of the Russian Federation and the bereaved family on behalf of the DPRK government and on his own behalf over the sudden demise of Aleksandr Ivanovich Matsegora.

Comrade Matsegora was a close friend and comrade of the DPRK people who devoted his whole life to the development of the DPRK-Russia friendly relations for over 30 years, he said, noting that the course in which the DPRK-Russia relations have developed into the present firm

alliance is clearly associated with the devoted efforts of the ambassador who dedicated all his tireless passion to implementation of the intention and will of the leaderships of the two countries.

The sudden loss of the ambassador at the present time when the development of relations between the DPRK and Russia has entered a crucial historic phase is indeed a heartrending event and a great loss not only to the Russian government and people but also to him and the DPRK people, he said.

Although Comrade Matsegora left us regrettably, his noble life devoted to the militant friendship of the DPRK and Russian peoples and to the accomplishment of their common cause will shine forever and will always be remembered by the peoples of the two countries, Kim Jong Un said, sincerely hoping that the bereaved family would be relieved of their pain over the loss and their living brought back to normalcy as soon as possible.

He expressed deep sympathy to the Russian embassy over the passing of Matsegora.

Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui sends condolatory message to her Russian counterpart

KCNA

Choe Son Hui, minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of condolence to Sergei Viktorovich Lavrov, minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, on December 8 as regards the demise of Aleksandr Ivanovich Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK.

She said in the message that Comrade Matsegora

was a veteran diplomat of versatile talents and close friend of the DPRK people who made a distinguished contribution to the journey for more firmly cementing the broad avenue towards the eternal future of the bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation true to the noble intention of the top leaders of the DPRK and Russia, adding that his demise is a great loss to the peoples of the DPRK and Russia.

Noting that even though we lost a precious comrade,

the name of Comrade Ambassador Matsegora who was a witness and contributor to the history of the DPRK-Russia friendly relations will be remembered forever as a noble example of diplomatic officials of the rising generations together with the history of friendship between the two countries, she sincerely hoped that the bereaved family members who lost their close blood relatives and friends would recover inner peace as soon as possible.

KCNA

The secretary office of the premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on December 10 informed the Korean Central News Agency that 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, expressed deep condolences over the demise of A. I. Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un pays condolatory visit to Russian embassy



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, paid a condolatory visit to the Russian embassy in Pyongyang on December 10 as regards the demise of Aleksandr Ivanovich Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK.

Comrade Kim Jong Un laid a bunch of flowers and observed a moment's silence in memory of Aleksandr Ivanovich Matsegora, who devoted his noble life

to boosting and developing the DPRK-Russia friendship.

He met with the bereaved family members and leading staff members of the embassy and expressed deep condolences to them.

He said that Matsegora was a competent diplomat who made a distinguished contribution to the history of the DPRK-Russia friendly relations and a close friend and true comrade

deeply kept in the hearts of the Korean people as a man.

Saying that the loss of the ambassador at a time when the development of the relations between the two countries has entered an important historic phase is, indeed, a heartrending event and great loss not only to the Russian government and people but also to the government and people of the DPRK, Kim Jong Un stressed that he passed away, but our respect for and memories of him would last forever and the DPRK-Russia relations would continue to develop as he wished.

Leading Party and government officials visit Russian embassy to offer condolences

KCNA

Choe Son Hui, minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, and Kim Song Nam, director of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, visited the Russian embassy in Pyongyang on December 10 to offer condolences over the demise of Aleksandr

Ivanovich Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK.

Laid at the venue of the mourning ceremony were the wreaths in the name of the International Department of the Central Committee of the WPK, the Foreign Ministry of the DPRK, the Department of Foreign Military Affairs of the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK and the DPRK-Russia Inter-governmental Committee for Cooperation in Trade,

Economy, Science and Technology.

Leading officials of the Party and the government observed a moment's silence in memory of Aleksandr Matsegora who devoted himself to the development of the DPRK-Russia friendly relations over the past thirty-odd years and expressed condolences to members of the bereaved family.

Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui made an entry in the condolence book.

Leading officials of WPK Central Committee pay condolatory visit to Russian embassy

KCNA

Pak Jong Chon and Jo Chun Ryong, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kim Jae Ryong, department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Kim

Jong Sik, first deputy department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, paid a condolatory visit to the Russian embassy in Pyongyang on December 10.

The leading officials of the WPK Central

Committee observed a moment's silence in memory of Aleksandr Matsegora who devoted his all to the DPRK-Russia friendship.

They met and consoled the bereaved family and expressed sadness over the loss of their true

friend.

Pak Jong Chon made an entry in the condolence book.

On the same day, senior officials of ministries and national agencies visited the Russian embassy to express their condolences.

Premier Pak Thae Song expresses condolences over demise of Russian ambassador

KCNA

The secretary office of the premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on December 10 informed the Korean Central News Agency that Pak Thae Song,

FROM PAGE 7

on receiving the order of the Party, but you have returned with something really great that adds to the glory of your country, your fellow people and army.

Your regiment accomplished the order unto death, but there was no reward or remuneration for it. Yet, it has earned the most valuable thing in the world that cannot be bartered for anything else.

That is the trust and confidence of the Party, the country and the people in our army.

Our army should expect nothing other than the trust of the Party, the country and the people.

By displaying an unrivalled fighting spirit and writing legendary tales in your combat records, you have faithfully and wonderfully lived up to the trust and confidence of your Party, your state and your fellow people in you.

The regiment of engineers has once again etched in history and highlighted in front of the world the unique mightiness of our army that has held ideological and spiritual perfectness, the core of which is the absolute loyalty to the Workers' Party of Korea, as a banner of making itself a strong army. Herein lies the special significance of the feats performed by the regiment.

I, in the name of the Party and the country, extend thanks to all the officers and soldiers of the 528th Regiment of Engineers, who, by displaying matchless mass heroism and indomitable fighting mettle, carried out to the death the combat order issued by the Party and fully demonstrated once again the prestige of our state and the fame of the Korean People's Army.

Comrades,

The priceless blood and sweat the regiment shed and the invaluable sacrifice it made in the course of perfectly carrying out the combat order of the Party will never remain in vain.

The immortal feats and exploits you performed will shine forever along with the fame of our powerful state and army and with our socialist country that will prosper infinitely.

Except the heartrending loss of nine lives, all the officers and soldiers of the regiment have returned to the motherland, and I express my thanks to you for this.

All the officers and soldiers of the armed forces of our Republic will regard the fighting spirit and exploits of the 528th Regiment of Engineers as another model. And your parents, siblings, wives and children, and the teachers of your alma maters will

feel greatly proud of you.

I really feel proud of you, ranks of stalwart soldiers, and your powerful combat unit.

I hope that in the future, too, you will continue to perform brilliant exploits on the sacred road of safeguarding our great state and people.

The motherland decided to confer the Order of Freedom and Independence on your regiment in order to highly appreciate and add eternal glory to its bravery and brilliant combat feats.

In addition, it decided to award the title of Hero of the DPRK, Order of the National Flag 1st Class and Order of Soldier's Honour 1st Class to the nine engineers who, to our regret, fell in the course of carrying out their combat orders.

Today I, upon authorization of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Republic, will confer the Order of Freedom and Independence 1st Class on the colours of your regiment, its banner of victory and glory, and fix the orders on the portraits of our fallen comrades-in-arms.

I express my gratitude and pay ennobling respect to you, who are always faithful to your country, for your devoted service.

Long live the heroic Korean People's Army!

Chairman of SPA Standing Committee inspects various units

KCNA

Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, inspected various sectors.

At the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex, Choe Ryong Hae called upon officials to organize and guide the production in a more energetic and responsible manner in order to implement

the Party's decisions and make a stride forward in realizing the domestic production of catalyst by steadily strengthening its own scientific and technological capabilities and giving full play to the creativity of the masses.

He noted that the workers of the complex should more dynamically conduct the socialist patriotic movement, the revolutionary mass movement, to greet the Ninth Congress of the WPK with proud successes in increasing fertilizer production.

Going round the Unjon

County Foodstuff Factory, he called for devoting primary efforts to the quality improvement of products and actively developing and producing various kinds of foodstuffs peculiar to the county so as to make a substantial contribution to improving the people's standards of living.

At the township farm, the Posok Farm and the Organic Compound Fertilizer Factory in Unjon County, he underlined the need to make full preparations for next year's farming, further expand the areas for green

cultivation and fish breeding in paddies and fully tap the organic resources of the region to produce and properly supply organic compound fertilizer to the farms in the county.

Learning in detail about the work of the county people's committee, he called for further enhancing the functions and role of the socialist law-observance guidance committee to reliably guarantee the implementation of the Party's policies by law and steadily improve the effectiveness of education in law observance.



Choe Ryong Hae (centre), chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, inspects the Namhung Youth Chemical Complex.

Young people tour revolutionary battle sites in Mt Paektu area

KCNA

Bearing in mind the noble soul and spirit of the revolutionary forerunners, youth and students successfully made a study tour of the revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu.

A kick-off meeting took place at the plaza before the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il in Hyesan City of Ryanggang Province on December 1.

Present there were Kang Sin Chang, secretary of

the Ryanggang Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials of the youth league and members of the study tour group.

The participants laid a flower basket and bouquets before the statues of the great leaders and paid tribute to them.

Pak Myong Jin, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, made a report at the meeting to be followed by speeches.

After the meeting was over, the members of the study tour

group left for the Pochonbo Revolutionary Battle Site.

The expedition of youth and students from across the DPRK to revolutionary battle sites in the area of Mt Paektu visited Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp on December 3.

The expedition members laid a flower basket and bouquets at the mosaic depicting the peerlessly great persons and paid tribute to them at the sacred place of the revolution.

They looked round historical relics preserved at the historic house, recollecting the noble revolutionary career of Kim Jong Il.

That day they visited the Sajabong Secret Camp and grasped the revolutionary spirit and militant way of life of the members of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, being briefed on the sites of the guerrillas' quarters and campfire.

They had a contest of singing revolutionary songs in chorus while marching in array.

The expedition climbed Mt

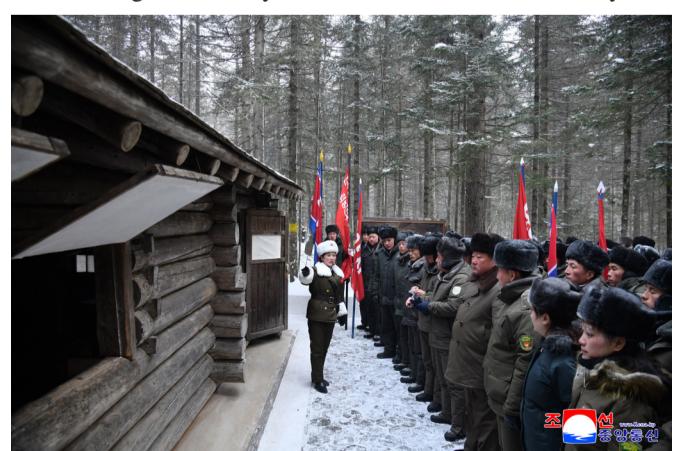
Paektu on December 5.

Mt Paektu, the ancestral mountain, echoed with shouts of the passionate youths.

Looking at the mountain ranges, the expedition members hardened their iron will to wage a more dynamic struggle for the rosy future of the great state, inheriting the spirit of the fighters who created the precious tradition of loyalty and patriotism.

The young people from across the country met at the plaza before the statue of President Kim Il Sung at the Samjiyon Grand Monument on December 7 to vow to prepare themselves to be the true young vanguard unfailingly loyal to the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un.

All the members solemnly pledged to firmly defend the revolutionary traditions of Paektu created by the first generation of the revolution, glorify them generation after generation and surely bring about a new era of comprehensive national rejuvenation in which the desire of the fighters will be fulfilled on this land.



Study tourists visit Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp.

NEWS IN BRIEF

KCNA

Korea.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends birthday spread to centenarian

Amid the growing joy of the macrobians leading a blessed life under the socialist system of the DPRK, Yonha-dong of Sinuiju City, North Phyongan Province, greeted an auspicious event.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to Pak Tung Rim, a woman centenarian living in neighbourhood unit No. 46, Yonha-dong, Sinuiju City, on her 100th birthday.

After receiving the dream-like honour and happiness, she extended boundless gratitude to Kim Jong Un.

She is enjoying the remaining years of her life in good health. She requested her children to work hard at their revolutionary posts, bearing deep in mind that the family's happiness lies in faithfully upholding and following the leadership of the Workers' Party of

Officials of the Sinuiju City Committee of the WPK and villagers visited the family to congratulate her.

Provincial building materials exhibition opens

The provincial building materials exhibition-2025 opened with due ceremony at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on December 9.

Presented to the exhibition are more than 27 000 exhibits of over 200 kinds including building materials, models of production lines and utensils and tools produced with locally available raw materials and resources.

The exhibition will assess the level of quality and quantity of building materials production in every province by synthesizing the state of building materials production bases and the variety and quality of goods being produced in the provinces.

Chairman Kim Jong Il's outlook on life



By Ri Sung Ik PT

This year marks the 14th anniversary of the demise of Chairman Kim Jong Il.

On this occasion the DPRK people recollect the noble outlook on life of the Chairman who devoted all his life to the country and people.

Live for tomorrow!

One day in the mid-1990s when the DPRK was overcoming severe trials, Chairman Kim Jong Il told officials about what outlook on life the revolutionaries should have.

That day he said: A revolutionary should live not merely for today but for tomorrow. It is more important for the revolutionaries to live and struggle for tomorrow, not merely for today. I work, picturing our socialist country which will prosper forever and our people who will enjoy a worthwhile and happy life in its embrace.

He went on to say that it was his outlook on life to live not merely for today but for tomorrow.

To him, tomorrow meant the appearance of the



Chairman Kim Jong Il's desire comes true.

prosperous country where the people would live happily with nothing to envy in the world.

'Let us become roots!'

Chairman Kim Jong Il devoted his all to the country and people, continuing his high-intensity forced march till the last moments of his revolutionary life.

In February one year, an official told the Chairman that he would become a green leaf of a giant tree, vowing to devote himself to the country and the revolution.

Then the Chairman said: A man who works for revolution should resolve to become roots. A tree should have strong roots in order to grow well. It can grow

into a strong giant tree only when its roots are strong and even a big tree will be blighted if its roots rot. A big tree with thick branches and leaves can stand imposingly because its healthy roots keep providing it with nutritive substances. A big tree is visible, but its roots are not. There are people who admire an armful-thick tree, but

few who think of the roots supporting it. Roots work constantly in the ground for the big tree whether they are appreciated or not. Let us become the roots of the revolution—this is the outlook on life we revolutionaries should have today.

The Chairman consolidated the single-minded unity and invincible

military might and sowed a myriad of seeds for the prosperity of the country, continuing his long arduous journey of patriotic devotion. He devoted himself not merely for today but for tomorrow like the invisible roots that support a big tree. His outlook on life serves as the guideline for the life of the DPRK people.

Expressions representing the times

By Yun Ki Song PT

The Korean people call the present times the golden age of construction and the new era of comprehensive development of socialism.

Groundbreaking and inauguration

Many groundbreaking and inauguration ceremonies took place after the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. So such expressions as "groundbreaking season" and "inauguration season" were coined, which cannot be found in Korean dictionary. Here groundbreaking and

inauguration do not simply mean the start of construction and the completion of new structures.

Thanks to such groundbreaking and inauguration, our people have become the owners of new houses, working people of the new, modern factories and enjoyers of civilization. For our people groundbreaking means construction projects start for their happiness and inauguration signifies they have been translated into reality.

At the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the fourth-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area held in February this year

the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said: "I said this in Ragwon County two days ago. To be frank, these days I am really tired and busy attending inauguration and groundbreaking ceremonies that have been scheduled one after another. We are facing such moments of drastic change." Then he added: "This is a fact that clearly proves how many goals we have advanced and are striving to achieve for the prosperity and transformation of the country."

'Season of moving into new houses'

After the historic Eighth

Congress of the WPK, new houses were built every year in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, including Songhwa Street, Kyongrudosong and new streets in the Hwasong area and people moved into them with joy.

In the new era of rural development many modern houses were newly built in rural villages across the country as well as the capital city and the news of moving into new houses was reported continuously.

Referring to the reality that happy events of moving into new houses take place in succession and the ordinary working people become their owners, people say that the

"season of moving into new houses" has come.

The "season of moving into new houses" comes every year like the seasons of nature and it has become an expression that makes everyone feel the golden age of construction, the new, thrilling era of comprehensive development of socialism.

'Inauguration season'

Last year the WPK put forward the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Accordingly, regional-industry factories are built in 20 cities and counties every year, eliminating the centuries-old backwardness of the countryside.

The first entities of the policy sprang up successfully from late last year to early this year, resulting in the birth of literally an "inauguration season" of regional-industry factories.

Another year has passed and the second "inauguration season" will soon start in the country.

The "inauguration season", during which inaugural ceremonies of dozens of regional-industry factories are held, has also become an expression showing the development and changes in the new era of regional rejuvenation, the new era of comprehensive development of socialism.

News of inauguration reported day after day

KCNA

Hamhung Wheat Processing Factory renovated



The Hamhung Wheat Processing Factory has been remodelled in South Hamgyong Province.

The factory, which has been upgraded technologically to improve the quality of wheat flour and increase its output, has selection, milling and

packing processes, a bread production room, integrated control room, sci-tech learning space and supply service foundations and cultural and welfare facilities.

Its inaugural ceremony was held on the spot on December 4.

Kanggye Building-materials Factory renovated

Jagang Province has renovated the Kanggye Building-materials Factory.

The completion of the

building-materials production base with several production buildings, an office building and cultural and welfare establishments has made

it possible to sufficiently produce and supply building materials necessary for the construction sites and urban management in the province.

Mindulle Paper Mill renovated

The Mindulle Paper Mill on the banks of the Taedong River has been remodelled.

The mill, a labour-, water- and site-saving enterprise, is furnished with various kinds of measuring equipment and experimental apparatuses and cultural and welfare facilities for employees. Its production processes have been automated and streamlined.

The remodelling of the comprehensive paper production base capable of leading the development of the country's paper industry laid the material and technical foundations for producing not only paper for notebooks but also that for different other purposes.

An inaugural ceremony took place on the spot on December 5.

Black swan and ostrich production base built in Jagang Province

Jagang Province has newly built a black swan and ostrich production base at the Hungju Chicken Farm.

The completion of the large-capacity production base, fully equipped with the conditions for breeding black swans and ostriches irrespective of season,

including blocks for breeding swans, cygnets and ostriches, has provided another foundation for improving the provincial people's life.

Officials of the Party and power organs in the province looked round the new production base on December 8.

Chongjin Water Park newly built



North Hamgyong Province has newly built the Chongjin Water Park.

The public service centre with unique architectural and modern beauty in downtown Chongjin is furnished with a shower bath place, a seawater pool, a sports

ground and a soft drink shop so that the local people can enjoy themselves in water and conduct diverse sports activities all the year round.

The inaugural ceremony of the Chongjin Water Park took place on the spot on December 4.

Hamhung Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory remodelled

South Hamgyong Province has remodelled the Hamhung Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory.

The factory, furnished with dozens of kinds of modern

equipment, put the production lines on a germ-free and dust-free basis. It has several production rooms, analysis room, integrated control room, sci-tech learning space and sample room.



The exhibition of products of Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories-2025 takes place at the Okryu Exhibition House. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Il Jin PT

The exhibition of products of Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories-2025 took place at the Okryu Exhibition House from November 26 to December 2.

The theme of the exhibition was "Diversification of effective Koryo medicines".

Koryo medicines are the traditional ones which have been used by the Korean people from ancient times and the DPRK is very rich in Koryo medicinal materials.

The Korean people are making effective use of Koryo medicines which suit their constitutions and improve their health while treating diseases.

So cities and counties across the country have Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories and they have been modernized in recent years to revitalize production.

The exhibition, which was

developed rapidly in recent years.

On display at the exhibition were over 350 kinds of products presented by more than 180 units in the field of Koryo medicine production across the country.

Among them the newly-developed Koryo medicines drew particular interests of visitors, adding weight to the exhibition.

The Sinyang County Disabled Soldiers' Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory, the Koryo medicine production base of the mountainous county, presented a variety of new products including insam injection, musk injection and ginkgo leaf injection for cardiac diseases.

The factory grasped the development of instant Koryo medicines, which overcome the defect of Koryo medicines that produce effects after using them for a certain period of time, as the seed of development of new

higher treatment effect when injected than when applied internally, the developers extracted the effective active ingredients of musk and develop a musk injection.

Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory, which is well-known in the production of Koryo medicines, exhibited sugar-coated Baical skullcap and dandelion pill

is a functional health drink made with highly-effective bioactive substances which are extracted from such rare tonics as Kaesong Koryo insam, well known as the

the treatment of mastopathy and other women's diseases.

The Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories in Nampho Municipality exhibited over a dozen

Exhibition highlights diversification of products

held on a nationwide scale for the first time in the field of Koryo medicine, fully showed the high profile of Koryo medicine which has

products, directed efforts to it and finally produced good results.

According to the research results that musk has a

The musk injection is well absorbed, has a marked anti-inflammatory and anticancer effect.

The Phyongchon Koryo

against hepatitis, *Bupleuri radix* and parsley pill for liver protection, insam and *Ganoderma lucidum* fermented drink and others.

The sugar-coated Baical skullcap and dandelion pill against hepatitis is specially efficacious for chronic active hepatitis and hepatic cirrhosis as it has a visible effect on lowering enzyme activity, producing bile, counteracting poison, lowering the content of serochrome and increasing serum protein.

The insam and *Ganoderma lucidum* fermented drink

best for long life and good health and the treatment of diseases of the people for a long time, and fruits. Daily consumption of the drink helps people make skin glossy, invigorates them and gives them beauty and youth.

The Taedonggang Koryo Medicine Pharmaceutical Factory presented the newly-developed icariin and berberine capsule for women.

It is reportedly made with barrenwort and Amur cork bark as the main medicinal materials and very effective in

kinds of effective Koryo medicines for the treatment of cerebrovascular diseases, attracting interest among the visitors.

Saying that technical exchange on the newly-developed Koryo medicines was very active during the exhibition, an official of the Ministry of Public Health noted that the exhibition was an occasion for further heightening the atmosphere of competition for ability and products between the Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories.



Visitors show great interest in newly-developed Koryo medicines.

Farmers move into new houses across country



Happy events of moving into new houses take place in rural communities day after day.

KCNA

Modern villages have sprung up at the Hungsang Farm in Ragwon County and the Township Farm in Kumya County, South Hamgyong Province, presenting a new landscape of rural development in the era of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Attending the ceremonies for moving into new houses held on the spot were officials of the Party and power organs in the province and counties, builders and agricultural workers.

Addresses were delivered at the ceremonies and licences for the use of houses were handed over.

Listening to the impressions of the farmers who moved

into new houses, officials encouraged them to make innovations in agricultural production for the benevolent Party and socialist system.

Ideal socialist villages have appeared in Ogye-ri of Anbyon County and Sangjari and Jungyong-ri of Wonsan City, Kangwon Province.

Ceremonies of moving into new houses were held on the spot.

Licences for the use of houses were handed over at the ceremonies.

Colourful art performances and cheerful peasant dance parties were given in the new villages which were in a festive mood.

Agricultural workers of the Taedong Farm in Tongchang County and the Namha Farm in Pyoktong County, North

Phyongan Province, have become the owners of new modern houses when the whole country is in a festive mood with events of moving into new houses happening every day.

Congratulatory addresses were made at the ceremonies of moving into new houses attended by Choe Yong Man, chairman of the North Phyongan Provincial People's Committee, officials concerned and those of relevant areas, builders and agricultural workers.

Then, licences for the use of houses were conveyed.

Cheerful dance parties were given at the fairyland villages filled with people's songs and laughter and officials visited the families who received new houses to congratulate

them.

Proud entities visually showing the rapid development of the socialist countryside flourishing day by day are being built one after another in the suburbs of Pyongyang.

The modern cultural dwellings built at the Songil Farm in Sunan District and the Ponghwa Farm in Kangdong County are the homes of all blessings associated with the warm love and benevolence of the motherly Workers' Party of Korea determined to provide agricultural workers with good living conditions as soon as possible.

Attending the ceremonies of moving into new houses held on the spot were officials of the Party and power organs of Pyongyang Municipality and the masters of the new houses to congratulate them and encouraged them to do the farm work with sincerity, always remembering the benevolence of the country.

Sunan District and Kangdong County, builders and agricultural workers.

At the ceremonies, addresses were made and licences for the use of houses were conveyed to be followed by speeches.

As art performances and cheerful peasant dance parties were given to congratulate farmers on moving into new houses, the villages were in a festive mood.

Officials visited the farmers' families to congratulate them and share joy with them.

The Usan Cotton Farm in Hanggu District of Nampho Municipality and the Konha Farm in Manpho City of Jagang Province have greeted the auspicious events of moving into new houses,

demonstrating the appearance of the countryside which is undergoing radical changes day by day.

Attending the ceremonies of moving into new houses held on the spot were officials of the Party and power organs in Nampho Municipality and Jagang Province, builders and agricultural workers who were to move into the new houses.

Congratulatory addresses were made at the ceremonies and licences for the use of houses were conveyed.

As farmers began moving into new houses, officials visited the masters of the new houses to congratulate them and encouraged them to do the farm work with sincerity, always remembering the benevolence of the country.

Scrupulous guidance provided for building Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area

By Pang Un Ju PT

A world coastal tourist town, a cultural recreation centre for the people, rose up at Myongsasimni on the Kalma peninsula, a scenic spot on the east coast of the DPRK.

It is the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area, which can be claimed to be a grand monumental structure epitomizing civilization and prosperity.

The place could turn into a world tourist resort thanks to the energetic guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who loves the people most and who is determined to pluck even a star from the sky, if it is for the people.

It was a long time ago when he thought up an idea of building a world-class holiday resort at Myongsasimni on the Kalma peninsula, which has been renowned as a superb scenic spot since olden times for the beautiful natural landscape and the sand beach extending for four kilometres along the seashore.

In the New Year Address he delivered in 2018, he set forth the task of completing the coastal tourist area as early as possible by the concerted efforts of the army and people and took all measures from the formation of a powerful construction force to the supply of equipment and materials.

Busy as he was with the overall state affairs, he personally studied the formation plans for the tourist area and indicated the ways to complete a perfect design on the spot in the fierce sea wind. And as he examined large numbers of artist's impressions one by one, he corrected defects in the representation of every detail.

He provided guidance for thousands of artist's impressions.

He inspected the dust-swirling construction site for the first time in May 2018 to learn about the progress of the project, steps for supplying materials and equipment and all other matters, and took a powerful measure to speed up the construction successfully.

He visited the construction site

again in August and October that year and pointed out the defects revealed in the designing and building work. He pointed to the need to artistically refine the architectural formation of the overall street, instructing that the connection of buildings and the change in the form and size in architectural composition should be made in a diverse and more harmonious and distinctive way and high compatibility and connectivity should be ensured.

He also gave detailed instructions to build office buildings in the form of high-rise united office building, large-sized hotels and multi-storey hotels, additionally locate a cinema, amusement arcade and other kinds of service buildings to ensure a harmonious combination of high and low buildings, link buildings at the platform storeys to form the street in a unique way, build a huge parking lot, renovate Kalma railway station, landscape the area and solve the problem of public transport.

His instructions served as important guidelines in bringing about a great turn in building the

Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area into a model entity in the development of Korean-style tourism which retains the charm peculiar to the DPRK.

On his visit to the construction site at dawn in April 2019, he said that since it was a construction project that the Party was carrying on by investing huge funds and manpower for the people with a firm determination, the quality of execution should be ensured at the highest possible standard in every element and detail of all structures so that they could stand comparison even after 50 or 100 years.

On July 16 2024, he again inspected the construction site, which was turning into a modern tourist resort with each passing day, and stressed the need to further expand the successes in construction, not slackening the high spirit, as the project entered the final stage and make thorough preparations for the operation of the tourist area according to the well thought-out plan.

He also provided guidance at

Myongsasimni on the last days of December in 2024 to provide important guidelines for the building of tourist industry in new era. Saying that the service capability and level constitute the value of a tourist attraction and a factor decisive of its prospect, he referred to the need to proactively develop various kinds of new service categories and train world-level service specialists.

After cutting the inauguration tape at the inauguration ceremony of the tourist area on June 24 this year, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, enjoying a bird's-eye view of the coastal tourist town presenting a wonderful scene, said with great satisfaction that what he most wanted to do for the people and the thing to which the Party devoted a great deal of effort for a long time with cherished desire were translated into a brilliant reality and that the inexhaustible pioneering spirit of the country was fully demonstrated once again through this gigantic construction project.

To ensure human rights of masses



Ri Kyong Choi
PhD, associate professor and section chief of the Academy of Social Sciences

December 10 is the Day of Human Rights.

Genuine human rights are realized only by a social system under which politics for the people is administered.

In the DPRK where the masses of the people are the masters of the state and society and everything serves them, their independent rights are thoroughly guaranteed.

All members of society have the rights to elect and to be elected, irrespective of sex, occupation, standard of learning, political view and religion. In the elections of deputies to the provincial (municipal), city (district) and county people's assemblies held on November 26 2023, 99.63

percent of registered voters took part in the voting and 27 858 workers, farmers, intellectuals and officials were elected deputies. The DPRK people fully enjoy not only political freedom and rights but also socio-economic and cultural rights and other rights as social beings.

All the working people are provided with stable jobs by the state according to their wishes and talents.

All the material and cultural assets created by labour are

provided to them in addition to the distribution according to work done.

The rights of the working people to rest are fully guaranteed by the paid leave and recuperation and relaxation systems and others.

Women lead an independent and creative life in all fields of social life with equal rights with men. Putting it forward as its consistent policy to prioritize children and ensure their rights and interests on a preferential basis, the state always pays close attention to their growth and development.

The personality of the disabled is respected and they are provided with the same rights, freedom and interests as the normal people.

All the rights the DPRK people enjoy are thoroughly guaranteed by the laws of the state.

Japan's plunder of mineral resources seen through 'Korean mining act'

By Choe Song Jun PT

The Japanese imperialists plundered enormous quantities of resources of Korea during their military occupation of the country (1905-1945).

A typical example was the pillage by dint of the "Korean mining act".

Japan investigated the distribution of mineral resources of Korea from the early 1910s and cooked up and promulgated the act in December 1915.

The act stipulated that it makes it a rule to confer the mining right on the first applicant, except for specified regions or kinds of minerals. Based on its survey data, it informed its capitalists in advance of promising mineral fields and significant kinds of minerals and let them submit applications before others,

thereby enabling them to monopolize the mining right to major mining areas.

The act also forbade foreigners, who were not Japanese, to have a new mining right and specified the condition that the mining right would be granted only to so-called corporate companies. It stipulated that the mining right, which was already possessed, would remain valid even if a new act would come into force, thus confirming and protecting by law the ownership of the mining right the Japanese capitalists had already seized.

The development and management of mines by Koreans were severely limited due to the mining act and Japanese businesses were allowed to plunder natural resources of Korea without limitation.

The plunder of resources by the Japanese imperialists reached extremes from the late 1930s. At that time, they were hell-bent on expanding the

war of aggression. They tried to plunder different kinds of minerals of Korea to use them as raw materials for the production of weapons and other war supplies.

Hence, they developed mines in the northern areas of Korea on the pretext of "exploitation", and shipped away large amounts of resources.

For the transport capacity failed to keep up with the ever-growing amounts of iron ore, they opted to produce iron in Korea and carry it to Japan. In this way, they took enormous quantities of iron and nearly 400 tons of gold.

While taking away lead, zinc, nickel, magnesite, manganese, graphite and large quantities of other resources, they even robbed the Koreans of such household goods as brassware in order to meet ever-growing material needs.

The past crimes of Japan who inflicted tremendous damages and sufferings on the Korean people must be punished at any cost.

BYWORD

Juche-oriented view on people, people-centred philosophy

The Juche-oriented view on the people and people-centred philosophy are the viewpoint and attitude of regarding the masses of the people as masters of the revolution, advancing the revolution by relying on their inexhaustible strength and devotedly serving them. Korean-style socialism is the people-centred socialism embodying the

Juche-oriented view on the people and the people-centred philosophy.

In the DPRK making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people has been established as a revolutionary trait of the Workers' Party of Korea and a national trait of the

state and it has become the most important affair to fulfil the demands of the people and promote their interests.

In the worst situation at the time when the country is experiencing severe difficulties, people-oriented policies are being enforced

invariably and gigantic construction projects for the happiness of the people boldly undertaken on a nationwide scale.

The WPK's people-first politics are mirrored in the slogan "Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!"

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Pyongyang is covered in the first snows of winter.

News of 2025-2026 DPRK Premier League

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The 2025-2026 DPRK men's and women's premier leagues started amid high expectations and interest of

soccer experts and fans.

It drew over 20 teams including men's and women's teams that had shown their power in the 2024-2025 DPRK men's and women's premier

leagues and the men's and women's teams that were placed first in total at the second-division soccer tournaments in the last league season.

Both men and women footballers of the April 25 Team won the 2024-2025 DPRK Premier League and its best player prizes were also awarded to the

male and female players of the same team.

But the male top scorer award went to the player of the Ryomyong Team and the female top scorer award and the best female goalkeeper award to the players of the Pyongyang Team.

The 2025-2026 DPRK men's and women's premier leagues are to be held in three rounds like the previous ones. Then which

teams will win them?

As part of the first-round Premier League there was a match between the male players of Jebi and Wolmido teams at Kim Il Sung Stadium on December 5.

The Wolmido ranked ninth and Jebi 11th in the 2024-2025 DPRK men's Premier League.

Many spectators predicted that Wolmido, which had taken part in all the previous

premier leagues, would defeat Jebi, which had participated in them only a few times.

But the match ended with Jebi beating Wolmido 2-1.

The 2025-2026 DPRK men's and women's premier leagues are a hot topic among many people at the moment, attracting public interest with the estimates and results being reversed.



The Jebi and Wolmido teams play a first-round match of the 2025-2026 DPRK Premier League at Kim Il Sung Stadium on December 5. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Choe Song Jun PT

As a bird under protection, the Mundok white crane lives in a vast expanse of tideland in the estuary of the Chongchon River and in plains in and around Mundok County of South Phyongan Province.

The area is inhabited by well over a

Mundok white crane

hundred kinds of birds including this white crane.

Of them, 90-odd kinds of migrant birds

pass the area in spring and autumn on their way to and from their breeding and wintering places.

