

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un guides building of nuclear-powered strategic guided missile submarine

He clarifies the steadfast will and strategic and tactical policy to steadily press on with arming of the navy with nuclear weapons



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, provided on-the-spot guidance for the building of an 8 700-tonnage nuclear-powered strategic guided missile submarine.

Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by leading officials in the sectors of the warship-building industry and the defence science research and production.

He went round the site of the building of the nuclear-powered submarine and received a report on its progress.

Workers, scientists and technicians in the warship-building field, who are all out in the honourable struggle for implementing the WPK's policy of modernizing the navy, are pushing ahead with the building of a strategic nuclear attack submarine, one of the five major tasks for developing the defence capabilities set forth at the Eighth Congress of the Party, by giving full play to the great power of self-reliance and inexhaustible patriotic enthusiasm.

Kim Jong Un stressed once again the importance and significance of the building of the strategic nuclear attack submarine in carrying out the self-reliant defence policy of the WPK and the government of the DPRK.

Our defence policy is a defensive policy based on the greatest offensive

power from A to Z and to this end we regard the super-powerful offensive capability as the best shield for national security in building up the armed forces, he said.

It is the noble mission and duty of our generation to further strengthen the nuclear shield that represents the prestige and honour of the DPRK and absolutely guarantees its security and to consolidate its irreversible position, he said, stressing that the WPK and the government of the DPRK will remain unchanged in their determination to permanently ensure the peaceful environment of the state and its absolute security by composing the nuclear forces that the enemy cannot help fearing.

We have made strenuous efforts to build the nuclear shield capable of reliably defending our national security and secured the capability for expanding it to the extent necessary for ensuring the national security environment, he said, adding that the newly-built nuclear submarine will represent an epoch-making crucial change that further assures ourselves and even the enemies of the war deterrent level the DPRK has reached. He clarified the steadfast will and the strategic and tactical policy to steadily press on with the arming of the navy with nuclear weapons.

The Party Central Committee is pleased to see the warship-building field achieving signal production successes,

true to the WPK's line of building up the naval forces in the new century, he said, noting that the strategic nuclear attack submarine that would become an important component of the nuclear war deterrent will constitute the greatest and immortal feat performed by the working class and defence scientists and technicians, our driving force, for the times and history.

Saying that the present world is by no means peaceful, he affirmed that such situation and the prospective threats undoubtedly highlight the point that the decision made by the DPRK with regard to its future security is the most just option and the manifestation of its will to safeguard its sovereignty and interests in a responsible manner.

Saying that the nuclear submarine development plan of the ROK, which Washington recently agreed on at the solicitation of Seoul, will worsen the instability in the Korean peninsula region, he stressed that the DPRK regards that as an offensive act severely violating its security and maritime sovereignty and a threat to its security that must be countered.

Given the negative security environment that has come as present reality, it is an urgent task and indispensable option to further accelerate the radical development of the modernization and nuclear weaponization of the naval forces of the DPRK, he said.

Attack destroyers and nuclear submarines that are being built these days will greatly boost the combat capabilities of our fleets and contribute to defending the strategic sovereignty and security of our country, he said, adding that the DPRK will build up the navy and its strategic components in a constant and diverse way, gradually increase and expand the speed and scale of the building of various surface and underwater warships and constantly equip them with different offensive weapon systems.

Noting that the WPK and the DPRK government will stay definitely unchanged in their national security policy and principle of deterring the enemy, he said it is needed to make the enemy undoubtedly realize that they will be surely forced to pay a dear price when they violate the security of the DPRK's strategic sovereignty and that they will face a merciless retaliatory attack if they try to select a military option. The DPRK will continue to show such capabilities and this is just the responsible exercise of the true nuclear war deterrent and a reliable shield for defending sovereignty, he added.

That day, he learned in detail about the ongoing research on the new secret underwater weapons under development and clarified a strategic plan for reorganizing the naval forces and establishing new units.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un gives field guidance at major munitions industry enterprises

He acquaints himself with the missile and shell production in the fourth quarter of this 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, visited major munitions industry enterprises to acquaint himself with the missile and shell production in the fourth quarter of this year.

He was accompanied by Jo Chun Ryong, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Kim Jong Sik, first deputy department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, Jang Chang Ha, general director of the Missile Administration of the DPRK, leading

officials in the defence science research field and managers of the major munitions industry enterprises.

He received a report on the production results of the missile and shell production sector in 2025 and its production in the fourth quarter.

He referred to the need to work out the production plan for 2026 higher in a development-oriented way in line with the prospective national demand of the operation of the missile and artillery forces and to accordingly reinforce the technical foundations of the relevant production enterprises in a balanced

SEE PAGE 3



New hotels inaugurated in Samjiyon Tourist Resort



KCNA

On the direct initiative and under the energetic leadership of the great Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, modern hotels have been newly built and inaugurated in the

city of Samjiyon, whose attractive appearance undergoes a change for the better as a typical mountainous city in the northern part of the DPRK and a distinctive all-season mountainous tourist resort.

The hotels, which have special

SEE PAGE 4



FROM PAGE 2

way so as to further expand the overall production capacity, before advancing the technical and economic tasks for that.

He highly praised the major munitions industry enterprises for having successfully fulfilled their production plans for 2025, the last year of implementing the five-year plan set forth at the Eighth Congress of the WPK, and made a pivotal and core

contribution to implementing the plan for developing the defence capabilities in the period under review.

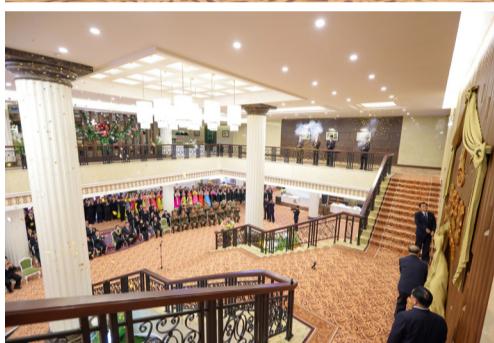
In order to satisfy the prospective demands of the missile and artillery forces of the Korean People's Army, it is necessary to continuously raise the level of modernization of the munitions industry by establishing new munitions industry enterprises as planned, the construction of which will be decided

on at the Ninth Congress of the WPK, and steadily updating the production structure of the existing factories in a more efficient and practicable way, he said.

In particular, the missile and shell production sector holds the most important position in bolstering up the war deterrent, he said, stressing that the Missile Administration and the relevant general bureau of the Second

Economy Commission should make thorough preparations for unconditionally accepting and responsibly achieving the new modernization and production target to be set at the Ninth Congress of the Party.

That day, he ratified the draft documents on the modernization plans of the major munitions industry enterprises to be submitted to the Ninth Congress of the Party.



FROM PAGE 3

peculiar to the Samjiyon area such as Sobaeksu, Ikal, Potnamu and Chongbong, are the proud creations in the present era which have opened up a new phase of public service centres in all aspects of content and form.

Inauguration ceremonies of five hotels newly built in the Samjiyon Tourist Resort took place on December 20 and 21.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the inauguration ceremony of the Ikal and Milyong hotels on December 20.

When he arrived, all the participants raised stormy cheers looking up to him

who is bringing earlier the rosy future of Korean-style socialism with his untiring thinking and devotion out of a fervent desire to make the Koreans the most dignified and happiest people in the world.

Present at the ceremonies were officials of ministries, national agencies and armed forces organs, officials in Samjiyon City

and employees of the hotels.

Speeches were made at the ceremonies.

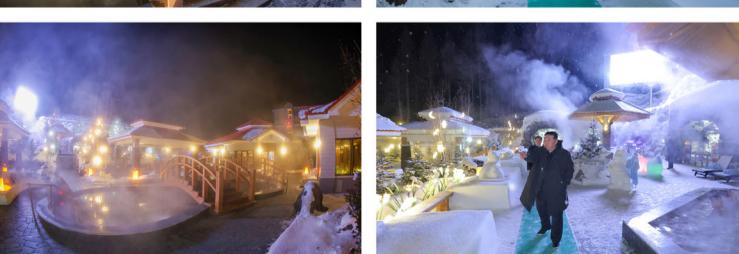
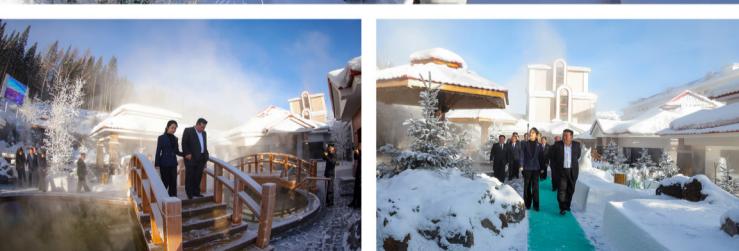
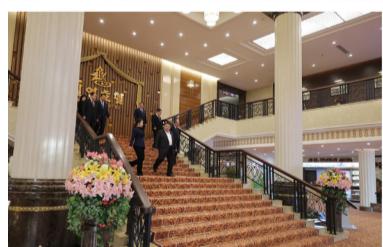
Referring to the painstaking efforts made by Kim Jong Un to bring about a great transformation in the Paektu area, where beautiful scenes which it is impossible to create only with the mystery of nature, are unfolding, the speakers said that the hotels are the meaningful creations heralding the emergence of a large tourist zone covering Mt Paektu, Mt Pukphothae and Mt Namphothae.

Expressing their belief that Samjiyon City will soon be renowned as an attractive mountainous tourist area and a recreational resort for the people, they declared the completion of the hotels.

Then ceremonies were held to commemorate the inauguration of the hotels.

Kim Jong Un, together with the participants, went round the hotels.

Going round the bedrooms, cosy recreational spaces in the interior and commercial and public catering facilities



SEE PAGE 5

FROM PAGE 4

of the hotels, he said that all elements are at a high level in terms of practicality, diversity and formative art, preserving their own attractiveness and that he was pleased to see such wonderful public service facilities built in the city.

He expressed his unshakable will to turn Samjiyon into an innovative, highly civilized and more wonderful city representing the tourism culture of the country, noting that it is just a clear proof of the ever-growing ideal of our people

and our state's potential for development to build the entities of modern civilization in tourist attractions on a large scale, while steadily writing new pages of history of radical development and transformation in different parts of the capital and the regions.

Expressing expectation and belief that the officials and employees of the hotels would achieve successes in their work, he wished the hotels prosperity.

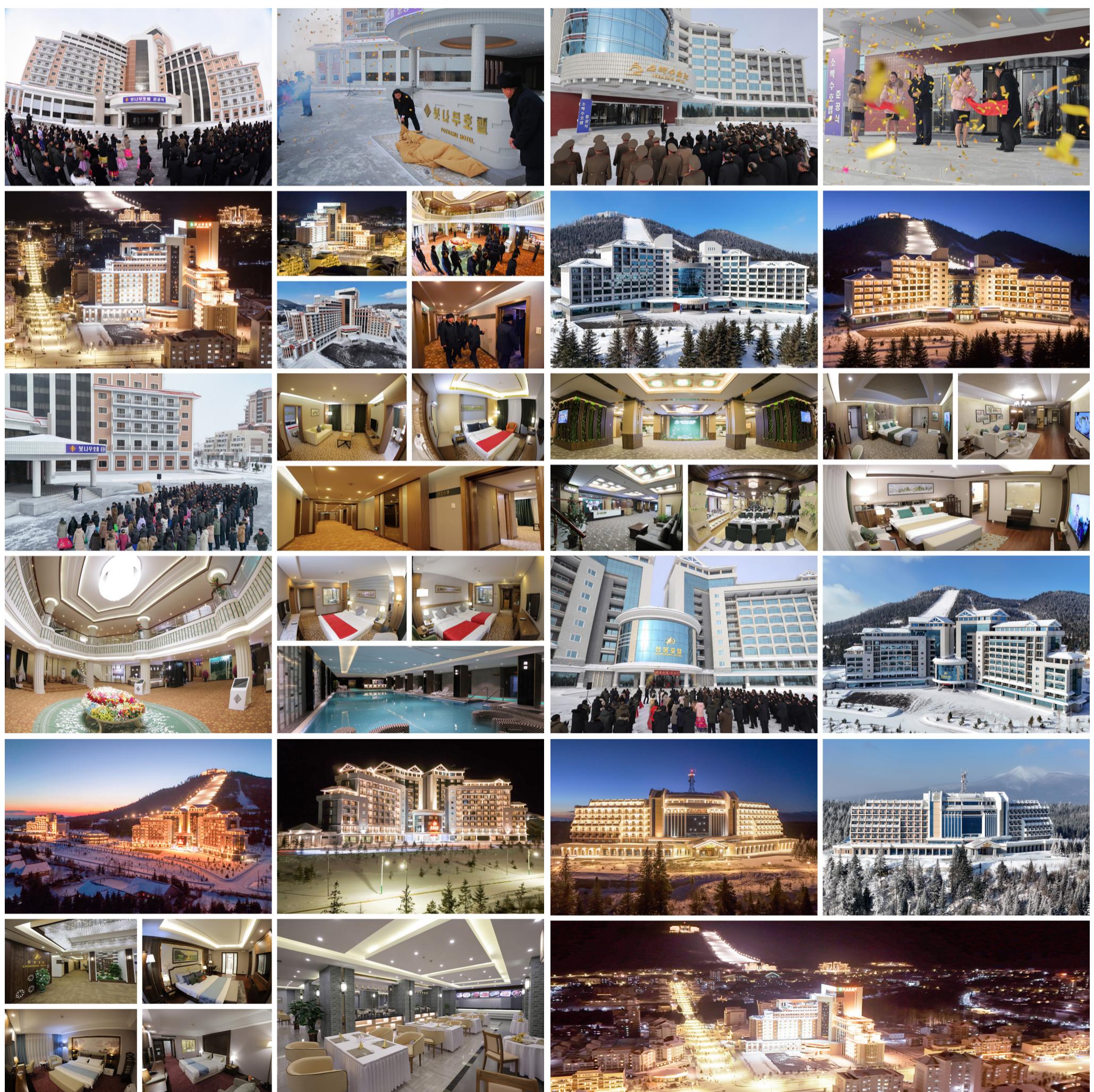
Inauguration ceremonies of the Sobaeksu, Chongbong and Potnamu hotels took place on December 21.

The participants in the ceremonies went round smart rooms capable of satisfying various tastes of guests, different service facilities providing abundant cultural living environments, indoor and outdoor spas arousing sweet feelings and giving fresh vitality in all seasons and other parts of the hotels.

They fully experienced the eye-opening reality of the country which is undergoing transformation with each passing year thanks to the noble intention and determined efforts of Kim Jong Un, who is absolutely subordinating everything

to the good of the people, and the lively vibration of new civilization coming closer to the people's life.

The completion of modern hotels demonstrating the dynamic changes in the city of Samjiyon vividly shows the high spirit of the state, which is advancing steadily toward a high stage of comprehensive rejuvenation and development under the great leadership of Kim Jong Un, and the bright prospect of the Mt Paektu area which will shine more brilliantly as a world-renowned scenic spot.



Regional-industry factories and leisure complex inaugurated with splendour in Jongphyong County



KCNA

When the whole country is pulsating with great transformation and fresh hope, an inauguration ceremony of the regional-industry factories and leisure complex in Jongphyong County for the Regional Development 20×10 Policy took place with splendour on December 24.

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.

When he arrived at the venue for the ceremony, the participants raised thunderous cheers with reverence for the great leader of the people.

Comrade Kim Jong Un received a report on the completion of the project from the commanding officer

of the military unit involved in the construction of the regional-industry factories and leisure complex in the county.

Present at the ceremony were members of the central leadership of the WPK, commanding officers of the large combined units of the Korean People's Army, officials and working people in South Hamgyong Province and Jongphyong County, soldier-builders and employees of the regional-industry factories and leisure complex.

Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, addressed the ceremony.

Saying the joy of great transformation in the new era of regional construction has also come to Jongphyong County, the speaker warmly congratulated the county residents on having come to lead a better life and new culture with the completion



of modern regional-industry factories and leisure complex.

Thanks to the noble intention and sincerity of Comrade Kim Jong Un that the people's long-cherished desire is the long-cherished wish of the Party and the struggle for bringing wellbeing earlier to the people should be intensified nonstop, the construction of regional light-industry factories, which are as



good as those in the capital city, has been pushed forward at state expense, and the regional-industry factories, which are more advanced than those built last year, have appeared in 20 cities and counties across the country, he said.

He noted that the leisure complex in the

FROM PAGE 6

county is a valuable creation embodying the high intention of Kim Jong Un to bring about a sure change in the cultural progress of the regions by providing the conditions for enjoying advanced civilization not only in material life but also in all aspects of mental and cultural life.

The speaker expressed belief that the officers and men of the construction units, who wonderfully built the regional-industry factories and leisure complex in Jongphyong County in the high revolutionary spirit peculiar to the KPA remaining absolutely loyal to the order of the Party and devoted to fulfilling its long-cherished wish, would perform brilliant feats in every site of the further expanded regional construction under their uplifted glorious colours.

Kim Jong Un unveiled the monument to the inauguration of the regional-industry factories and leisure complex.

Lovely children presented him with bouquets of fragrant flowers reflecting the unanimous gratitude of the county people.

Kim Jong Un met some working people in the county and commanding officers of the construction units who participated in the inauguration ceremony, and shook hands with them one by one as a token of warm encouragement.

He went round the leisure complex.

Going round the library and various places of the shopping mall, he stressed the need to run and manage the complex effectively in conformity with its characteristics as a public leisure centre for improving the regional cultures of life, study and commerce and training the local people to be pioneers and creators of new culture.

Saying that the true significance of the regional revolution lies in raising the people's level of ideological consciousness and culture to the one corresponding to the new era and



continuously setting higher goals and levels of creation, he clarified a series of tasks related to the construction of leisure complexes to be carried out in 20 cities and counties next year.

Then he visited the regional-industry factories.

There was an inauguration ceremony. Kim Jong Un cut the inauguration tape.

He visited the Jongphyong County Foodstuff Factory.

He said: When deciding on the

and the inauguration season which has come without fail this year, too, in the wake of last year.

I think the greatest success we have made through the struggle of two years for bringing about fundamental changes of the regions is that the masses of the people have come to have deeper trust in the Party and absolute confidence in its policy.

He earnestly requested the officials and employees of the regional-industry factories to regard the people's



Regional Development 20x10 Policy, there were certainly those who were sceptical about its implementation even among cadres as the plan for regional development was largest ever in scale, but not only those cadres but also all our people are now convinced of the validity of the Party policy, its practical executive ability and bright prospects as they witness the domains of construction further expanding and intensifying with each passing year

demands and evaluation as an absolute criterion and conduct management and operation in a responsible manner so as to keep the production going at a high rate.

He sincerely hoped that the new leisure complex and regional-industry factories in the county would make a substantial contribution to the economic development of the county and the improvement of the living standards of the local people.

Regional-industry factories inaugurated with splendour in Sinpho City

KCNA

The Central Committee of the great Workers' Party of Korea is bringing earlier the eye-opening future of the comprehensive development of socialism through the epochal transformation of the whole country. Thanks to its dynamic and powerful leadership ability, a fulfilling and stirring era unprecedented in history is being ushered in on this land.

Modern light industry factories perfectly built this year in Sinpho City of South

Hamgyong Province, which witnessed the completion of a new offshore farm last year, greeted the significant moment of their inauguration.

It signifies the establishment of another reliable material foundation, which will enrich the life of the residents in the historic place, the venue of a consultative meeting on the development of the regional economy recorded as the present-day Changsong Joint Conference in the history of the Korean revolution. This striking reality is a brilliant result of the

unique state-building idea and energetic leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un who is making constant efforts to develop all the cities and counties across the country into civilized and prosperous regional bases.

The inauguration ceremony of the regional-industry factories in Sinpho City for the Regional Development 20×10 Policy was held with splendour on December 19.

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.

When he arrived at the venue of the ceremony, all the participants raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" in reflection of their great emotion and delight of being honoured to have him, the great father of the large family of the whole country who is translating all dreams and ideals of the people into reality of the present times, in their place again.

Present at the ceremony were



members of the central leadership of the Party, commanding officers of the large combined units of the Korean People's Army, officials and working people in South Hamgyong Province and Sinpho City, soldier-builders and employees of the factories.

Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, addressed the ceremony.

Saying that the coastal area of the East Sea is also overflowing with the joy over the completion of modern regional-industry factories in different

parts of the country, which highlights the historic significance of 2025, a year of great transformation, the speaker congratulated the Sinpho citizens on greeting the moment of glory today again in the wake of the splendid inauguration ceremony of an offshore farm held in the presence of Kim Jong Un a year ago.

As witnessed by history, the current transformation is the precious fruition of the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un

SEE PAGE 9





FROM PAGE 8

who indicated the path and ways for Sinpho City to achieve development and prosperity with its own resources and took all measures to that end, he said.

He referred in an excited tone to the devoted efforts of Kim Jong Un who led the city step by step to turn it into a comprehensive industrial zone capable of making effective use of marine resources, as he instructed that the Party's regional development policy should not merely become a symbolic one but should be the one that radically improves the living conditions of the regional people and promotes the distinctive development of the areas.

Pointing to the fact that 40 cities and counties have laid the foundations for independent development already in the second year as the cause of transforming the whole country has been advanced at lightning speed, he stressed that it is a convincing demonstration of the truthfulness, inexhaustible might and bright prospect of the Party's regional development policy set forth and being guided by Kim Jong Un.

When we continue to follow the course of courageous creation and advance, valuing the precious fruits of the persistent struggle, our strength will grow

greater and the goal of comprehensive rejuvenation, in which all cities and counties undergo transformation and development in a balanced way, will surely be attained earlier, he said, ardently calling upon everyone to dedicate themselves with single-minded patriotism to bringing about the prosperity of the beloved motherland, a more civilized and beautiful life and a bright future of the rising generations.

As cheers of excitement resounded throughout the venue of the inauguration ceremony, fireworks were set off with many balloons floating up into the sky.

Kim Jong Un cut the inauguration tape.

The residents of Sinpho City extended thanks to Kim Jong Un for repeatedly visiting their hometown, leaving the traces of great guidance, to enable them to enjoy benefits from the regional-industry revolution earlier than others, and for continuously showing them great benevolence as if the affection he showed them was insufficient.

Lovely children presented Kim Jong Un with bouquets of fragrant flowers reflecting the unanimous wishes of the residents.

Kim Jong Un waved back to the enthusiastically cheering participants and warmly wished the city a bright

future when it would be richer along with the history of steady transformation of regions.

He met commanding officers of the army unit involved in the construction of the regional-industry factories in the city and encouraged all the officers and men of the construction unit who successfully built reliable production bases conducive to improving the local people's living standards with their vanguard role of ushering in an era of regional transformation.

He went round the Phungo Shop and the Sinpho City Foodstuff Factory.

Looking at the products produced by regional-industry factories, he said that Sinpho City has now reliable potential and strong driving force for its independent development and that the Phungo-dong area has turned into a centre for local economic development and a powerful base for improving the people's standard of living.

He reaffirmed the will and determination of the WPK to set a higher goal of regional development and take longer strides for progress to perseveringly attain it without an inch of deflection.

Going round various production rooms of the foodstuff factory, he pointed to the need for the recently-built regional-industry factories to exchange with each other their experience gained in production and generalize the advantages so as to positively inspire the light industrial production bases across the country to develop together.

He requested the officials of Sinpho City and employees of the regional-industry factories to steadily and persistently push ahead with the work for the normal operation and increased production of the light industrial bases in the spirit of devoted service for the people so as to make sure that the vitality of the Party's policy leads to the promotion of the wellbeing of the local residents.

He then visited the Sinpho City Offshore

Farm.

He learned in detail about aquaculture production and processing.

He expressed his great satisfaction, seeing every freezing warehouse filled with products.

Recollecting with deep emotion the time when he had a consultative meeting on the development of the regional economy in the place, which had only a pine forest and sandy beach in July last year, he said with pleasure that the aquaculture base, which has entered the track of steady development in a matter of one and a half years, is producing marine products on a regular basis and the light industrial bases of the city has come to have a strong development potential for producing various kinds of processed seafood and daily necessities at their will.

Saying that the vitality of the Party's policy proving effective in reality makes us feel the pride of having made a correct decision and harden the will to go along the road chosen by ourselves to the end, he affirmed that our ideal, will and efforts reflected in our today's every step will surely bring earlier a prosperous future when all the people across the country lead a happy life together.

He hoped Sinpho City, which is undergoing the process of development as a model for the cities and counties in the coastal areas of the country, would achieve fame as a highly civilized and rich city which definitely writes a new history of prosperity by relying on its independent foundation.

As they are led by Kim Jong Un, who regards the people as heaven and unconditionally subordinates every affair of the country to their wellbeing, the cause of the DPRK bravely advancing with the most just and far-reaching ambition will be invincible forever and the happy laughter of the people will resound endlessly year after year along with the assets of prosperity rising up across the country.





Test-fire of new-type anti-aircraft missiles conducted

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, oversaw a test-fire of new-type anti-aircraft missiles.

The Missile Administration of the DPRK conducted a test-fire of new-type high-altitude long-range anti-aircraft missiles under development in the East

Sea of Korea on December 24.

This is the first test-fire for assessing the

tactical and technical features of the high-altitude long-range anti-aircraft missile system in development.

The launched missiles accurately hit the mock targets at a high altitude 200 kilometres away.

The test-fire is part of the routine activities of the Missile Administration and its affiliated anti-aircraft weapon system research institutes for the rapid technological development of national air defence means.

Comrade Kim Jong Un extended congratulations on the successful test-fire.

A historic day

By Ri Sung Ik PT

December 30 this year is the 14th anniversary of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un's assumption of the supreme commandership of the armed forces of the DPRK.

The revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK have grown stronger as they have held him in high esteem as their supreme commander.

He set forth unique army-building ideas, theories and strategic lines, including the programme of modelling the whole army on Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism and the four-point line of building a powerful army, in order to train the Korean People's Army into an elite force which is prepared not only politico-ideologically but also in military technique and morally.

The important guidelines he advanced for perfecting the combat preparedness of the KPA are that the enthusiasm for training should further be aroused in the entire army so as to prepare all the service personnel to be genuine fighters possessing the ever-victorious strategy and tactics, the mode of daring attack and perfect actual war capacity and that it should intensify training by creating difficult and complicated combat situations and conditions that they might encounter in real battles so as to prepare them to be gallant combatants.

This year, too, he set forth important tasks which would serve as guidelines in strengthening and developing the KPA on his congratulatory visit to the Ministry of National Defence on the occasion of the founding anniversary of the KPA.

The KPA's combat efficiency remarkably increased under the care of him who put forward the militant task of turning units

of different services, arms and specialized corps into the ranks of a-match-for-a-hundred combatants and guided practicable actual manoeuvres at the training fields.

This year he organized the Seventh Conference of Training Officers of the KPA and guided lots of military exercises, including the general training of the KPA special operations units and the firing contest of artillery sub-units of the KPA large combined units, to indicate the ways for perfecting the combat readiness of the army.

Under his energetic guidance, the Korean workers developed in succession the powerful Korean-style weapon systems capable of accurately and quickly carrying out the strategic strike missions in any operation spaces under water and on the ground and even built new-type multi-mission destroyers.

The military hardware exhibition Defence Development-2025 held last October in celebration of the 80th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea was a significant occasion heralding the changes of the DPRK's armed forces to be stronger along with the advance and development of the revolution in the national defence industry in the new era.

It is a distinguished exploit he performed for building the Juche-oriented revolutionary armed forces that he put the national defence capability of the country on a high level.

Experiencing the might of the KPA growing stronger day by day, the Korean people are full of boundless pride and self-confidence in holding Kim Jong Un in high esteem as the supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK.

Code of laws of people

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Constitution of the DPRK was promulgated at the First Session of the Fifth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on December 27 1972.

The Constitution of the DPRK is a code of laws of the people which thoroughly embodies the character of the people-centred socialism of the country.

It comprehensively reflects the will and demands of the people and thoroughly defends their interests.

It stipulates that the DPRK law is the reflection of the will and interests of working people and the main means of state administration.

In reflection of the demand and desire of the people to become masters of state power and production means, it clarifies that the sovereignty of the DPRK belongs to the working people including workers, peasants, soldiers and intellectuals, that the supreme principle of state activities is

to steadily improve the material and cultural standards of the people and that the state provides all the working people with every condition for obtaining food, clothing and housing.

Its articles are consistent with the content of thoroughly defending the interests of the masses of the people.

The constitution grants genuine freedom and rights to the people and guarantees by law the conditions for their realization.

All the people are given democratic freedom and rights as masters of state power and the means of production.

Every citizen is provided with political rights and freedom, including the rights to elect and to be elected, the freedom of speech, the press, assembly, demonstration and association and the rights to submit complaints and petitions, irrespective of gender, occupation, property status, degree of knowledge, political view and religious belief.

The working people are also provided with broad rights and

freedom, including the right to employment, the right to receive distribution according to the quality and quantity of work done, the rights to receive education and medical treatment and the freedom of scientific, literary and artistic activities, and it is legally guaranteed that the state takes full care of the people's material and cultural life in a responsible manner.

That is why workers, farmers, intellectuals and other working people become deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly and all citizens of the DPRK take part in the elections. All the people learn to their heart's content and lead a genuine life as social beings.

Not only the constitution but also the sectoral laws are enacted on the principle of attaching importance to the people and respecting them.

Therefore, the DPRK people regard socialism as their life and soul and devote their all to the prosperity of their socialist country.

People's rights and interests further expanded and promoted

By Kim Hak Chol PT

In recent years, many laws for the rights and interests of the people have been newly enacted or amended in the DPRK.

The Sixth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK held in February 2022 newly adopted the law on childcare.

An auxiliary of the DPRK law on the nursing and upbringing of children adopted in the 1970s, the law stipulates the order related to the production and supply of nutritious foods for children and the provision of the conditions for their upbringing.

Since the adoption of the law, dairy products and other nutritious foods have been provided to all children across the country on a regular basis without fail, and strenuous efforts made to build or renovate nurseries

and kindergartens to provide better conditions for their upbringing.

The laws for protecting the people's health and providing them with the environment and conditions for their stable and happy life were newly enacted or amended.

The 21st Plenary Meeting of the 14th Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK held in August 2022 adopted the Law of the DPRK on Medicines and public health and medical service laws were amended the following year.

The law on socialist rural development was adopted in September 2022 and the law on house maintenance in October 2023.

The law on socialist rural development stipulates that the state shall build rural villages into ideal socialist ones to be flawless even in the distant future and excellent

in all aspects and the law on house maintenance stipulates that families, who lost their homes due to natural disasters, shall be compulsorily provided with houses.

As modern dwelling houses have been built in rural areas across the country, agricultural workers greet the "season of moving into new houses" every year. Last year the flood-hit areas of North Phyongan, Jagang and Ryanggang provinces turned into ideal socialist villages in a little over four months, the flood victims becoming the owners of new houses. In addition, the existing people-oriented systems, including the social insurance system and social security system, were legalized and many laws, including that on labour protection, were amended to ensure the rights and interests of the people on a higher level.

Inauguration ceremonies of regional-industry factories for Regional Development 20x10 Policy held in succession

Regional-industry factories inaugurated in Paechon, Koksan, Sepho, Kim Jong Suk and Kilju counties



In Paechon County, South Hwanghae Province.

KCNA

The great Workers' Party of Korea is translating the centuries-old desire of all the people into reality by building entities of prosperity favoured by them in different parts of the country. Thanks

to its wise leadership, the county of Paechon, a granary on the west coast, has marked the inauguration of regional-industry factories.

On December 20, there took place an inauguration ceremony of regional-industry factories built in

Paechon County for the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Present there were Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, Kim Chol Bom, chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, officials

of the Party and power organs and working people in the province and the county, employees of the factories and officers and men of a construction regiment.

Pak Thae Song addressed the ceremony.

He stressed that the modern

light industry factories that would firmly support the improvement of the local people's living standards and the development of the regional economy are the precious fruition of the devoted efforts of the respected Comrade

Kim Jong Un who set the rapid development of regional industry as an important task that cannot be stopped even for a moment for the realization of the comprehensive national

SEE PAGE 12



In Koksan County, North Hwanghae Province.



In Koksan County, North Hwanghae Province.

FROM PAGE 11

rejuvenation and is bringing epochal changes to this land with his energetic leadership.

He ardently called upon all the officials and working people to struggle more dynamically with greater confidence and courage for the successful implementation of the Party's policy on regional development and for bringing earlier the future of a prosperous and highly civilized country, congratulating the residents of Paechon County who will lead a happy life with the operation of the factories.

Jang Sang Ryong, chairman of the Paechon County People's Committee, expressed his resolve to uphold with his whole heart the plan and intention of the Party Central Committee to accelerate the comprehensive rejuvenation of socialism through the powerful promotion of regional development and to fulfill his

role as a leading member of the revolution in the struggle for promoting the wellbeing of the people, mindful of the importance of the responsibility assigned by the Party and the people.

As balloons of various styles and colours floated up into the air, the premier cut the inauguration tape with employees of the new factories.

At the end of the ceremony, the participants looked round the factories and the shop where products were displayed.

With a broad smile on their faces, they looked at various kinds of sweets and cakes, condiments and daily necessities and various clothes for different seasons with the local brand.

An art performance was given to celebrate the inauguration and the sky was aglow with fireworks.

On the same day, there took place an inauguration ceremony of the regional-industry factories of Koksan

County for the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Present there were Choe Ryong Hae, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, officials of the Party and power organs and working people of North Hwanghae Province and Koksan County and employees of the factories.

Working people, youth, students and children of the county waved bouquets in welcome to the soldier-builders entering the venue.

Choe Ryong Hae addressed the ceremony.

He said that the grand ceremony is a powerful proof of the steadfast will and executive ability of the Workers' Party of Korea keeping without fail the promise made to the people and a great auspicious event convincing them of steady advance and miraculous successes.

He referred to the world of devoted service for the people's wellbeing of the

respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un, who is leading the era of great prosperity with his noble idea that the long-cherished desire of the regional people is the long-cherished wish of the Party, the development of the regional industry is that of the regions and the development of the regions is the comprehensive rejuvenation and growth of the state.

The speaker called upon all the service personnel, officials and working people to more dynamically struggle with loyalty and patriotism for the brilliant victory of the Party's regional-development policy aimed at making the people enjoy more creations of a new civilization favoured by them as soon as possible.

Then Kim Son Il, chief secretary of the Koksan County Committee of the WPK, made a speech.

He pledged to hold fast to the normal production and improvement of quality at the regional-industry factories

as an important policy task, fully aware of his mission to assume full responsibility for all the work of the county, one of the regional bases of the country, before the Party and the state, and turn the place of glory, associated with the undying revolutionary exploits of the peerlessly great men, into a more beautiful socialist paradise.

When Choe Ryong Hae cut the inauguration tape with the masters of the new factories, fireworks went up and balloons floated up to present a spectacular sight in the sky over the venue of the ceremony.

After the ceremony was over, the participants looked round the foodstuff, garment and daily necessities factories.

That evening there was a firework display, adding to the joy of residents of the county.

In Sepho County of Kangwon Province, too, modern regional-industry

factories have been built as another asset of prosperity to translate into reality the centuries-old desire of the regional people who want to lead a life as affluent and civilized as in city.

There also took place an inauguration ceremony of the regional-industry factories built in Sepho County for the Regional Development 20x10 Policy on December 20.

Present there were O Su Yong, general economic policy advisor of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and working people of Kangwon Province and Sepho County, soldier-builders and employees of the factories.

O Su Yong addressed the ceremony.

The speaker extended warm encouragement and congratulations to all the residents of the county who have greeted the inauguration of the factories guaranteeing

SEE PAGE 13



In Sepho County, Kangwon Province.



In Kim Jong Suk County, Ryanggang Province.



In Kilju County, North Hamgyong Province.

FROM PAGE 12

the prosperity and development of the county with the hopeful New Year just at hand.

Then, Pae Chang Gon, chief secretary of the Sepho County Committee of the WPK, made a speech.

O Su Yong cut the inauguration tape with employees of the factories.

Confetti was thrown and balloons released into the air, adding to the atmosphere of celebration.

At the end of the ceremony the participants looked round factories equipped with modern production lines.

A colourful art performance and cheerful dance party were given

and fireworks were set off to add to the joy of the inauguration.

Modern regional-industry factories have also been built in Kim Jong Suk County, a historic place filled with the strong pulse of a new life and new civilization through the construction of the solid embankment on the shore of the Amnok River and the successive building of modern dwelling houses, adding to the joy of the second inauguration season in the course of the implementation of the regional development policy.

An inauguration ceremony of the regional-industry factories in Kim Jong Suk County for the Regional Development 20x10 Policy

was held on the spot on December 20.

Present there were Ju Chang Il, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and working people in Ryanggang Province and Kim Jong Suk County and employees of the regional-industry factories.

Ju Chang Il addressed the

Kim Chang Su, chief secretary of the Kim Jong Suk County Committee of the WPK, said in his speech that the proud reality of regional change has also unfolded in a remote mountain village, thousands of kilometres away from Pyongyang, stressing that today's great auspicious

event is a precious fruition of the noble outlook on the people of the great Party Central Committee.

Ju Chang Il cut the inauguration tape with masters of the new factories.

At the venue of the inauguration ceremony, art performances and dance parties were given and fireworks displayed in the sky, adding joy and optimism to the residents in Kim Jong Suk County who would lead a new abundant life under the great loving care of the Party Central Committee.

The residents of Kilju County, North Hamgyong Province, greeted an auspicious day to be specially recorded in the history of the county, as all

the people are filled with deep emotion and joy at the appearance of assets for prosperity being inaugurated one after another across the country under the care of the great Workers' Party of Korea.

An inauguration ceremony of the regional-industry factories of Kilju County for the Regional Development 20x10 Policy was held on December 23.

Present there were members of the central leadership of the Party, including leading officials of the Party, government and armed forces organs, officials and working people in North Hamgyong Province and Kilju County, soldier-builders and employees of

the factories.

Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, addressed the ceremony.

Amid the loud applause of the participants, Ri Il Hwan, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Jong Kyong Thack, director of the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army, and Pak Jong Gun, vice-premier of the Cabinet and concurrently chairman of the State Planning Commission, cut the inauguration tape.

Fireworks were displayed and a large number of balloons released in the sky over the venue of the inauguration ceremony filled with cheers of pleasure.



New houses built in Songhan-dong and Sonsang-dong of Sinuiju City, North Phyongan Province, and in Sanbuk-ri of Suan County, North Hwanghae Province.

Modern houses continue to spring up in rural villages across country

KCNA

Modern houses of diverse and unique styles have been built in Yonggo-ri of Sinhung County and Pulgunhyol-ri of Hamju County, South Hamgyong Province. The houses are designed to offer inhabitants good living conditions and convenience.

In the two areas, there took place ceremonies of moving into new houses.

Present there were officials of the Party and power organs of the province and the two counties, builders and the agricultural workers who would move into the new houses. Congratulatory speeches were made at the ceremonies.

Licences for the use of houses were handed over to be followed by speeches.

As art performances and dance parties were given amid the great joy of people enjoying a new highly civilized life thanks to the benevolence of the Workers' Party, the villages were in a festive mood.

New houses have been built at the Ujung and Phyongsang farms in Usi County and the Wolmyong Farm of Kophung County in Jagang Province.

Ceremonies of moving into the new houses held on the spot were attended by officials of the Party and power organs in Jagang Province and relevant areas, builders and agricultural workers.

At the ceremonies, speakers congratulated the agricultural workers who were to move into new houses.

Licences for the use of houses were handed over.

As farmers began moving into the new houses, cheerful dance parties and congratulatory performances were given at the villages.

New houses have been built in Songhan-dong and Sonsang-dong of Sinuiju City, North Phyongan Province, and Sanbuk-ri of Suan County, North Hwanghae Province.

Attending the ceremonies for moving into new houses were officials of the Party and power organs in relevant regions, builders and agricultural workers. Congratulatory addresses were made there.

Then, licences for the use of dwellings were conveyed.

As moving into the new houses began, the villages were in a festive mood amid dance parties.

Officials visited the owners of the new houses to share joy with them and encouraged them to do more things for the benevolent socialist system.

The owners of the new houses extended deep gratitude to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Modern houses were built at the Jangbang Farm in Haeju City and the Rimok Farm in Sinchon County, South Hwanghae Province. They

are a precious fruition of the warm loving care for the people shown by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un to turn all the countryside into the ideal one and enable the agricultural workers to enjoy socialist civilization.

Ceremonies of moving into the new houses took place on the spot with the attendance of officials of the Party and power organs in the province, Haeju City and Sinchon County, builders and agricultural workers.

Speeches were made there.

As cheerful dance parties were given and farmers began moving into new houses, officials visited the families of the farmers to congratulate them.

New houses have appeared at the Wonjon Stockbreeding Farm under the South Hamgyong Provincial Rural Economy Committee and

Sangok and Songnae farms in Kowon County amid the growing joy and optimism of the agricultural workers who are leading a new civilized life at the homes of happiness built in the rural areas across the country.

Congratulatory speeches were made at the ceremonies of moving into the new houses attended by officials of the Party and power organs, builders and agricultural workers in South Hamgyong Province, Riwon County and Kowon County.

Then, licences for the use of houses were handed over.

As farmers began moving into new houses, the farm villages were in a festive mood and every house was full of joy of the residents.

Amid the art performances and cheerful dance parties, officials paid congratulatory visits to the families of agricultural workers moving

into new houses.

New houses have been built at the Tongsan Industrial Crop Farm under the North Phyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee, and the Sangi Industrial Crop Farm in Kujang County of North Phyongan Province.

Choe Yong Man, chairman of the provincial people's committee, made congratulatory speeches at the ceremonies of moving into new houses attended by officials, builders and agricultural workers in North Phyongan Province, Kusong City and Uiju County.

Ceremonies of moving into the houses took place on the spot.

Present there were officials of the Party and power organs, builders and agricultural workers in North Phyongan Province, Kusong City and Uiju County.

Choe Yong Man, chairman of the North Phyongan Provincial People's Committee, made congratulatory speeches at the ceremonies.

Licences for the use of houses were handed over to be followed by speeches.

Farmers began moving into new houses amid cheerful dance parties at villages.

Officials congratulated the agricultural workers full of pleasure of receiving new houses.

Modern houses were built at the Tongsan Industrial Crop Farm under the North Phyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee, and the Sangi Industrial Crop Farm in Kujang County of North Phyongan Province.

Ceremonies of moving into the houses took place on the spot.

Present there were officials of the Party and power organs, builders and agricultural workers in North Phyongan Province, Kusong City and Uiju County.

Choe Yong Man, chairman of the North Phyongan Provincial People's Committee, made congratulatory speeches at the ceremonies.

Licences for the use of houses were handed over to be followed by speeches.

Farmers began moving into the houses amid cheerful peasants' music and dance parties.



New houses built at the Jangbang Farm in Haeju City and the Rimok Farm in Sinchon County, South Hwanghae Province.



New houses built at the Wonjon Stockbreeding Farm under the South Hamgyong Provincial Rural Economy Committee and at Sangok and Songnae farms in Kowon County.



New houses built at Tami-ri and Songam-ri of Taean District and Taedae-dong of Waudo District in Nampho Municipality.

Political festivals in the year 2025

By Choe Song Jun PT

2025 was truly a significant year for the Korean people.

The celebrations of the 80th anniversaries of national liberation and the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea the Korean people commemorated with splendour this year were political festivals recorded in history.

Congratulatory messages and letters came from leaders of political parties and states, personages and organizations of different countries and overseas Koreans in congratulation of the significant holidays of the Korean people.

For the Korean people, August 15 1945, when Korea was liberated from the military rule by Japanese imperialism, was a starting point of the turn of their destiny, when they regained the independent dignity that is as precious as their life, and is a day of great victory.

With national liberation on August 15, the Korean people regained all that they had lost—their sovereignty, territory, resources, history and culture—and secured all possibilities for achieving their freedom and carving out their destiny, thus embarking with the dignity befitting masters on the road of great pioneering cause of democratic development and wellbeing.

With the day as the watershed they started their struggle to build a powerful country so as to put an end to the history of sufferings for good. They established and defended by themselves the government which would provide them with an independent life and future and built up their great might that no force could dare to belittle, and they are achieving prosperity in their own way.

A meeting took place splendidly in Pyongyang to celebrate this day of victory.

The impassioned speech made by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un at the meeting encouraged the Korean people to take greater pride in being Koreans and have higher self-esteem and strengthened their will to build the DPRK to be stronger and more prosperous, true to the intention of their forerunners.

A variety of colourful events took place on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of national liberation including art performances, art exhibitions, celebratory meetings of working people's organizations and oratorical meetings, adding to the holiday mood.

The 80th birthday of the Workers' Party of Korea (October 10 1945), which was celebrated in a new era of overall development of socialism by faithfully inheriting the ideal of the founding generation of the Party, was a great event which marked a watershed in the history of the WPK which has

changed the destiny of the country and people.

Great celebrations were held in succession to mark the WPK's 80th founding anniversary.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un made significant speeches at the events.

In his speeches at the celebratory meeting, the military parade and other celebrations of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK he reviewed the proud 80-year course followed by the WPK together with the people and promised the country's future that would be prosperous with the people.

The celebrations clearly showed all the way the true features of the WPK, which regards the people as the root of its existence and selfless and devoted efforts for the good of the people as the mode of its existence, and the enthusiastic support for the Party of the Korean people who trust and follow it as

their mother.

On October 12, he congratulated and encouraged the participants in the celebrations and auxiliary group members and watched the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance again with them. And he said that thanks to the utmost sincerity and devoted efforts of them all, the celebrations of the holiday were wonderful, expressing his heartfelt gratitude to their precious mind.

As all the people across the country were in ecstasy, they could not sleep at night during the celebrations in October.

The celebrations of the 80th anniversaries of national liberation and the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea clearly showed the world the will of the Korean people to shape a brighter future that is not inferior to the proud history by forming a community of shared destiny of the Party, socialism and the people.

Construction of 50 000 flats progresses apace in Pyongyang

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

At the historic Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Party put forward a policy of working out a yearly plan for building 10 000 flats every year and solving the housing problem of the Pyongyang citizens in the main by concentrating efforts on the construction of 50 000 flats in the capital and launched a gigantic project to carry it out.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who has always applied his mind to providing the Pyongyang citizens with a civilized and happy life, clearly indicated the orientation and ways for implementing the grand plan for bringing about a substantial and fundamental change in the people's living, saying that the construction of dwelling houses in the capital city is a long-desired project being pushed by the Party and

the state as a top priority and a promise made by the Party and the government to the people.

It was a courageous decision to build houses in the face of the obstacles and difficulties more serious than ever before and during the intensive struggle to accomplish the great cause of boosting the national power and push on with innovative changes in various fields.

Especially, house construction presupposes huge economic losses for the country as dwelling houses are built at state expense and are allocated to the working people free of charge.

However, the Party has made sure that the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang proceeded steadily with the firm faith that the building of dwelling houses, an undertaking most welcomed by the people, should be carried

out without fail, no matter how severe difficulties it may face.

The construction of first-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area can be cited as an example.

The DPRK faced severe difficulties and urgent and enormous tasks due to the unexpected public health crisis, natural disasters and ever-increasing obstructive moves of the hostile forces.

Under the situation, it was too much for the country to start the construction of first-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area, whose area nearly tripled that of Songhwa Street, in parallel with the construction of 10 000 flats on Songhwa Street.

However, the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un unfolded a blueprint for building a modern new street in the Hwasong area and wisely guided the project to boldly build the street as a model district of a modern city

in the Korean way, while acquainting himself in detail with the progress of the construction, busy as he was with the overall state affairs.

Thus, in just four years since the first blast resounded for the start of the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, Songhwa Street and the first-, second- and third-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area were completed in succession to be followed by joyful events of moving into new houses.

In his speech made at the groundbreaking ceremony for the fourth-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area on February 16 this year, the General Secretary said with pride that the construction of 10 000 flats in Pyongyang Municipality has been promoted most steadily and without delay every year during the eighth term of the Party Central Committee.

Practising economy as social habit

Practising economy arises as an urgent matter as the economy develops.

In order for economy to produce a great result in the development of the state and society, it should be made uninterruptedly as a drive involving the entire country and the whole society, not by a certain sector at a certain time.

The Workers' Party of Korea puts forward economy as one of its important policy issues.

It makes sure that the importance and utility of economy and the achievements and experience gained in the course of economy are actively introduced through mass media and that all sectors and units practise economy.

A habit of saving even a single watt of electricity has been established in institutions, enterprises and families.

Scientific research has been conducted actively to economize on raw and other materials.

There has been established a habit of saving even anything trivial as much as possible.

During the overhaul of a kiln, the Sinwon Cement Factory came to a scientific conclusion that if some devices of the kiln were changed, it would make it possible to increase the actual yield over the past and save much coal and therefore the factory turned the overhaul into technical transformation to markedly increase its productivity.

Everyone is active in economy with great interest in it, for example making maximum economy in the use of tap water at workplaces and homes and saving even a gram of fuel.

The social habit of economy is one of the factors that increase the wealth of the country and further hasten economic construction.

Ri Un Chan, department director of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee

BYWORD

Self-dependence and dependence

What is essential for the development of a state is national self-dependence and its own strength. It is like a suicidal act of digging its own grave to try to depend on others by pinning its hope on them.

Self-dependence is the

life and soul of the Korean people and the fundamental cornerstone of the Korean revolution.

Whenever they faced manifold difficulties and trials in the revolution and construction, they firmly believed in their own

strength and powerfully accelerated the building of a thriving nation, fully displaying the true merit and spirit of the Koreans.

If they had chosen the mode of depending on others without displaying the spirit of

self-dependence and the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, they might have failed to build a socialist state which is independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in defence.

Contact us

Address: Sochon-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang
Tel: 850-2-18111(8456)
Email: flph@star-co.net.kp
Fax: 850-2-3814598

URL: www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp



Country seethes with enthusiasm for sports all year round

Positive efforts are made to develop the sports of the country and make them mass-based

By Kim Hak Chol PT

In 2025, the DPRK made positive efforts to develop sports and make them mass-based.

Fierce games

As in 2024, many sports games held in 2025 attracted public attention.

For example, a lot of football matches continued to take place all year round, including the 2024-2025

sports events including Taekwon-Do, *paduk* and *wushu*, were very popular.

The Kangwon Provincial Taekwon-Do Team won the Taekwon-Do event of the championships and the *paduk* team of the Pyongyang Municipal Paduk Centre its *paduk* event.

Meanwhile, championships, league matches, inter-provincial games, technical innovation games and all-star

colourful amusement games such as basketball, volleyball, table tennis, tennis, Taekwon-Do, *ssirum* (Korean wrestling), 4x100 metre relay and *yut* (four-stick) game, highlighted the aspect of mass sports developing day by day and marked an important occasion in arousing the zeal for sports across the country.

There were also sports games for amateurs and elderly persons.

The contests for bowling

the country in attendance.

With such grown enthusiasm for sports, many units were appreciated as the units good at sports in 2025.

Material and sci-tech foundations laid for sports

Sports facilities have been renovated or newly built in different parts of the country.

The Ice Rink was splendidly remodelled as a multi-functional sports and cultural complex and the general

aviation clubs and North Hwanghae Province built the Sariwon Riding Club.

In particular, South Hamgyong Province built an aviation club, remodelled Hamhung Stadium and newly constructed a distinctive sports village in 2025.

Meanwhile, the 27th national exhibition of sports sci-tech achievements and the national symposium on teaching methods in the sports sector-2025 took

papers on sports science and technology presented by hundreds of units including the Academy of Sports Science and Korea University of Physical Education.

At the symposium attended by teachers, coaches, instructors and researchers from the sports education sector and sports teams and clubs across the country, participants presented papers on effective and advantageous methods of



A snapshot from the Hwaepul Cup football tournament.



A scene from the 14th National People's Games.



A snap from the 2025 spring contest for bowling amateurs.

A view of the renovated Ice Rink.



DPRK Premier League, football matches of the professional sports sector of the 14th National People's Games, the Hwaepul Cup football tournament, the Football Association Cup domestic powers' tournament and the Challenge Cup soccer tournament.

What drew special attention was the 2024-2025 DPRK Premier League held amid the great expectation and interest of football experts and fans.

It recorded 60-odd more goals than the previous 2023-2024 DPRK Premier League and the difference in points between the first and second placers significantly decreased as compared to the previous league matches.

The National Martial Arts Championships, which were held divided into several

tournaments were held fiercely in each event. In the course of that, new national, national youth and championships records were established in several events including weightlifting and track and field.

Undiminished enthusiasm for mass sports activities

Mass sports games were also briskly held like those of professional sports.

Various sports contests took place, including the category of the general field of the 14th National People's Games, the 12th Sports Contest of the Public Health Sector and the 55th Sports Contest of Artistes, among which the 14th games were held on the largest scale.

The games, which included various sports events and

and golf amateurs took place in spring and autumn and the national open *paduk* contest and other games open to both professionals and amateurs captured the close attention of many.

At the Autumn Sports Contest of Aged People-2025 held on the occasion of International Day of Older Persons, the players were full of vigour and stamina in their advanced age thanks to the state policy on the care of the aged and showed off their various sports techniques.

There also took place national sports games.

As Taekwon-Do associated with the resourcefulness and spirit of the nation is practised briskly all across the country, national amateur Taekwon-Do players' contest-2025 took place with more than 600 players selected from across

training centre and hostel for sportspeople of the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport Sports Club were newly built boasting their unique architectural beauty.

Several provinces newly built and inaugurated the

place last November as part of the efforts to improve the level of sports science and technology.

On display there were programs, measuring devices, sports goods, medicines and tonics and books and

The general training centre and hostel for sportspeople of the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport Sports Club.



education, instruction and training they invented and applied to practice and shared their experience.

Exhibitions of sports sci-tech achievements also took place in South Phyongan and other provinces.

Rinsan white-bellied black woodpecker

By To Kyong Chol PT

White-bellied black woodpecker belonging to Picidae stays in one place all the year round.

It is 46cm long and weighs 330 to 360g.

Its head, neck, back, wings and tails are black

and its flank, chest and belly are white. The male has red markings on its crown and cheeks. The female's whole body is black.

It eats insects living underneath the bark and wild fruits in winter.

During April and May, it digs a hole in a hollowed tall tree, makes a net and

lays three or four eggs. The female and male take turns to brood the eggs for some 20 days until they are hatched.

It is an endemic species that only lives in the DPRK.

The Rinsan white-bellied black woodpeckers inhabit some areas of Rinsan County, North Hwanghae Province.

