

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends congratulatory verbal message and flower basket to Chinese President Xi Jinping

KCNA

The respected Comrade 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 verbal message and a flower basket to Comrade Xi

Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and President of the People's Republic of China, on June 15 in congratulation of his birthday.

In his verbal message, Comrade Kim Jong Un warmly congratulated Comrade General Secretary Xi Jinping

on his birthday.

He sincerely wished the General Secretary good health and greater success in leading the cause of socialist construction in China as the leadership core of the CPC.

Written on a ribbon of the flower basket were the letters "I warmly congratulate Comrade

General Secretary Xi Jinping on your birthday".

The DPRK ambassador to the PRC courteously conveyed the congratulatory verbal message and flower basket sent by Comrade Kim Jong Un to a senior official of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee.

By pursuing idea of 'The people are god'

By Kim Hyon PT

The Workers' Party of Korea invariably upholds the idea of "The people are god" during the ninth term of its Central Committee.

This is the immutable idea of the WPK.

At the Eighth Congress of the WPK, the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un said that the important historic tasks facing the Korean revolution require the whole Party to deeply cherish again and uphold higher the ideas of "The people are god", single-minded unity and self-reliance, adding that the idea of "The people are god" reflects the permanent demand for the whole Party to strictly maintain its revolutionary traits of making devoted service for the people the starting point and invariable principle in its building and activities.

As it had done in its 80-odd-year history, the WPK continued to adopt and implement the policies regarding the people as god and giving top priority to and absolutizing the demands and interests of the working masses in the past five years.

According to its policies, the construction of dwelling houses was pushed ahead in the capital and the provinces, large-scale vegetable greenhouse farms were built, various construction projects were pressed on for regional development and the programme for the rural revolution in the new era was promoted actively.

All these policies reflect the unshakable will of the General Secretary to bring the greatest happiness in the world as soon as possible to the faithful Korean people.

That is why he uninterruptedly continues the journey of devotion to the people.

During the construction of 50 000 flats in Pyongyang, he attended the groundbreaking ceremonies to shovel the first spadeful of earth and press the button for blasting, and when dwelling houses were completed, he took part in their inauguration ceremonies to congratulate the people who were

provided with new flats.

When modern regional-industry factories, public health facilities and leisure complexes were to be built in different parts of the country in accordance with the Party's Regional Development 20x10 Policy, large-scale greenhouse farms in Ryonpho, Kangdong and Sinuiju areas and an excellent tourist resort and holiday camp respectively in the Myongsasimni area on the east coast and the Onpho hot spring area, he examined the designs and formation plans for them and visited the construction sites of them repeatedly to give detailed instructions in order to build them as flawless structures.

The Korean people still remember July 2024 when an awful natural disaster struck the Amnok River basin in the northwestern tip of the country.

At that time, he visited Sinuiju City and Uiju County, which suffered flood damage, to command a rescue and evacuation operation for the inhabitants. He went round the dangerous submerged area on a rubber boat to work out a plan for turning the disaster-stricken area into a paradise for the people.

At the 22nd emergency enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK held on a flooded paddy field in the afflicted area, he took an important measure for disaster recovery and visited the rehabilitation site repeatedly to provide detailed guidance.

As a result, splendid dwelling houses were newly built in the island area of North Phyongan Province, where suffering from flood had been regarded as a fate, in only a few months and, later, a super-large greenhouse group was completed, and thereby the island of disaster was turned into a fairyland, an ideal "modern rural town".

As seen above, the WPK is always invincible together with the people as it regards "The people are god" as its political idea and making selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the people as the mode of its existence.

Miracles and innovations made in implementing new five-year plan

The Korean Central News Agency on June 15 released a report on the fact that the working class and all other people across the DPRK are all out for the implementation of the new five-year plan, true to the decisions of the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the First Plenary Meeting of the Ninth Party Central Committee.

All sectors and units of the national economy have turned out under the leadership of the Party Central Committee, waging a vigorous mass technical innovation movement and in the course of it, the overall industrial production showed a 5 percent increase in the past 100 days after the Party Congress, the report said, and went on:

At the Ninth Congress of the WPK, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un clarified the direction of advance and the policies of struggle to boost overall socialist development with confidence and aroused all the people to the grand revolutionary advance once again, with firm belief in the working class who has devotedly defended the Party Central Committee with proud labour achievements by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance in every decade of the revolution.

The workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex

carried out their production plan at 107 percent on a daily average in March and implemented the highly set cement production plan in April and May, too, injecting vitality into the socialist construction sites.

Those of the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine under the Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex achieved a 6 percent increase in production over the same period of last year.

The workers of the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine produced well over a thousand tons of more coal than planned in May alone.

The Sunchon Cement Complex turned out tens of thousands of tons of more cement in 100 days. And other cement production units brought about an unprecedented upsurge in production.

The Musan Mining Complex overfulfilled its production plans of concentrated iron ore in March, April and May and workers and technicians of the Unnyul Mine provided a guarantee for revitalizing the production of iron ore and concentrated ore.

The chemical industry sector increased production.

The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex exceeded its highly set fertilizer production target by finding reserves for increased production in technical innovation and

actively introducing original inventions.

The Hungnam Fertilizer Complex produced well over a thousand tons of more fertilizer than planned by applying the operating method suited to the conditions for supplying raw materials and taking technical measures to increase the output of gas per hour.

The number of units boosting production by dint of science and technology increased in the electric power industry, too.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex updated the technical and economic indices of generating equipment such as increasing the combustion efficiency by widely introducing the method of building the ignition bands of fire chambers of boilers with far-infrared heating elements and thus boosted electricity output while saving a large amount of coal.

The Suphung, Jangjingang and Sodusu power stations increased their power output by controlling load dispatch according to the technical specifications of generators and ensuring the high water level and high efficiency operation based on scientific water control.

The workers in the machine-building industry conducted the April 15 technical innovation shock brigade campaign to improve the technical performance

of equipment and increase production both in quality and quantity.

The Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326 made innovations in the production of various kinds of quality electric cables.

The Anju Insulator Factory increased the production of paints and insulating materials by ensuring the normal operation of the existing production lines while stepping up the work to build up its own technical force and modernize the production process of insulating varnish.

The mining and light industry sectors, too, conducted a mass technical innovation movement so that all the working people have a keen interest in preparing themselves as intelligent and technical personnel.

The rail transport workers, timber producers and fishermen also carried out their monthly plans for railway freight transport and the production of timber and marine products.

The report said that thanks to the struggle of the heroic working class who made strenuous and confident efforts to carry out the tasks for the first year of the new five-year plan, the overall industrial production increased by far over the planned targets, providing a sure guarantee for steady and sustained growth of the country's economy.

Premier Pak inspects various economic sectors

KCNA

Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, inspected various sectors of the national economy.

At farms in Sinchon, Thaethan, Ongjin and Kangnyong counties of South Hwanghae Province, he acquainted himself with the situation of the immediate farming process, giving pep talks to officials and agricultural workers who are striving to bring about a rich harvest in the first year's farming, true to the decisions of the Ninth Congress of the

WPK.

He called for setting the right harvest time on the basis of detailed calculation of the ripening rate of the earlier crops of wheat and barley and weather conditions and gathering in them in time without loss by raising the operation rate of combine harvesters and other farm machines.

He underscored the need to manure and cultivate rice and maize in a sci-tech way in conformity with their growth state, make foresighted preparations for coping with the disastrous abnormal weather, actively introduce advanced farming methods whose advantages have been proved in reality and organize and conduct brisk activities

to generalize the experience of advanced units so as to increase the ranks of high-yield farms, workteams and sub-workteams.

Learning about the situation of the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine under the Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex, the Premier stressed the need to bring about innovations in coal production by further raising the proportion of face work done by machines and to step up the remodelling of the Sunchon Coal-mining Machine Factory in a planned way while focusing on putting production processes on a streamlined and specialized basis.

He stated that the units in charge of producing supplies

and providing them to the coal miners in the Sunchon area should steadily improve the management method and take reasonable measures for the supply of raw and other materials so as to increase the kinds and quantity of supply-service materials.

Discussed at field consultative meetings were the issue for the Cabinet, the State Planning Commission, ministries and national agencies to ensure timely supply of materials and equipment necessary for farming in South Hwanghae Province, the issue of actively developing and introducing cutting face equipment suited to the coal mine situation and the issue of holding fast to the strengthening of talent forces



Premier Pak Thae Song (second from left) looks round the Wonsa Farm of Ongjin County.

as the main link in the whole chain of unit development.

Earlier, the Premier visited the Phyongsong Wheat Processing Factory under construction and underlined the need to rationally arrange production processes and raise the qualitative level of modernization of equipment so as to increase the wheat processing capacity.

Delegation of Vietnamese Ministry of Public Security visits Pyongyang

KCNA

A delegation of the Ministry of Public Security of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam led by Minister Luong Tam Quang visited the DPRK between June 13 and 16.

Talks were held between Pang Tu Sop, minister of Public Security of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Luong Tam Quang, minister of Public Security of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at the Pyongyang Assembly Hall on June 14.



Pang Tu Sop, minister of Public Security of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, has talks with Luong Tam Quang, minister of Public Security of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, at the Pyongyang Assembly Hall on June 14.

Present there from the DPRK side were Kim Song Nam, vice-minister of Public Security, and officials concerned and from the Vietnamese side were members of the delegation of the Ministry of Public Security of the SRV.

At the talks, both sides exchanged the successes and experience gained by the public security organizations of the two countries in the field of law enforcement and discussed the issues of expanding and developing bilateral exchanges and cooperation.

The delegation laid a flower basket in the name of the Vietnamese minister of Public Security at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman

Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang, and paid high tribute to them.

Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, met and had a talk with Luong Tam Quang, minister of Public Security of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, who paid a courtesy call on him, at the Pyongyang Assembly Hall on June 15.

Present there were Kim Song Nam, vice-minister of Public Security of the DPRK,

and officials concerned and leading members of the delegation of the Ministry of Public Security of the SRV and Le Ba Vinh, Vietnamese ambassador to the DPRK.

The delegation visited the International Friendship Exhibition House, the Pyongyang Metro and various units of the public security sector.

The Ministry of Public Security of the DPRK gave a reception for the delegation.

The delegation left Pyongyang for home on June 16.

The delegation was seen off at Pyongyang International Airport by Kim Song Nam, vice-minister of Public Security of the DPRK, and Le Ba Vinh, Vietnamese ambassador to the DPRK.

DPRK acrobats win top prize at world festival of circus art

KCNA

The World Festival of Circus Art "Idol-2026" took place in Moscow of Russia from May 30 to June 7.

The festival brought together more than 180 excellent acrobats from twelve countries including

the DPRK, China, Russia, Mongolia and Italy.

At the physical acrobatics "Wire Rope Walking", the DPRK acrobats were acclaimed by the audience for the wonderful skills they displayed on an 8-metre high wire rope.

At the award ceremony, the Grand Prize, the highest prize of the festival, and two other gold prizes were awarded to the DPRK's physical acrobatics "Wire Rope Walking" and the Idol silver prize and a bronze prize to its physical acrobatics "Balancing Etude".

World Blood Donor Day observed

KCNA

An event took place at the National Blood Centre under the Ministry of Public Health on June 16 to mark World Blood Donor Day.

Present there were officials of the ministry, blood donors, medical workers in Pyongyang and employees of the centre.

At the event, the speaker expressed thanks to those who voluntarily donated precious blood to save people's lives and help restore their health, and referred to the theme of World Blood Donor Day this year and the purpose of blood donation activities.

The speaker stressed that medical workers in the field of blood transfusion should decisively improve the quality of experimental tests and develop more safe blood and blood products to make a contribution to the treatment of patients.

Then the participants looked round photos introducing blood donation activities.

Day of Persons with Disabilities marked

KCNA

A meeting took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on June 17 to mark the Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Present there were Jon Chol Hi, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the

Protection of the Persons with Disabilities (KFPPD), officials and employees of relevant units, persons with disabilities and their families.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

At the meeting, donation certificates were awarded to those who actively supported persons with disabilities and the achievements made in the work to protect the disabled were introduced.

The participants in the meeting watched a video dealing with the work which was conducted to protect the disabled in recent years and looked round the exhibits presented by persons with disabilities.

NEWS IN BRIEF

KCNA

Birthday spread sent to centenarian

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a birthday spread to Sin Chol Sim, a woman living in neighbourhood unit

No. 60 of Saeppyol-dong in Tonghungsan District, Hamhung City of South Hamgyong Province, on her 100th birthday.

After receiving a dreamlike glory, she expressed her boundless gratitude to the respected Marshal

Kim Jong Un.

Her house was crowded with officials of Tonghungsan District, her family members and relatives and neighbours who came to congratulate her.

Born as a daughter of a fire-field peasant, she suffered humiliation and insults before national liberation. She could lead a genuine life only after General Kim Il Sung liberated Korea.

She always asks her descendants to do more things at sacred revolutionary posts for national prosperity to defend and add lustre to the benevolent socialist system which values the working people most.

National sci-tech presentation of rail transport sector held

A national sci-tech presentation of the rail

transport sector took place on June 11 and 12 under the sponsorship of the Korea Rail Transport Association under the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

Present at the presentation on the theme of "Developing new-type electric train and putting its normal operation on a scientific basis" were lecturers, researchers

and postgraduates of the Academy of Railways under the Ministry of Railways and Pyongyang University of Transport.

Papers, including those on rational designs of asynchronous traction motor of tourist train to be operated in the Samjiyon area and traction converter of energy-saving subway train, were highly appreciated for their great practical significance.

Key industries make innovations in production

By Ri Sang Il PT

Fresh innovations are being made in the key industrial sectors to carry out the tasks set forth at the First Plenary Meeting of the Ninth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The metallurgical industry sector has increased the production of iron and steel while further consolidating the existing foundations for Juche-based iron production

and expanding its capacity. The Kim Chack and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes and the Chollima Steel Complex have made steady efforts to perfect the Korean-style iron production method, thereby updating the technical and economic indices of energy-saving oxygen blast furnaces and UHP electric arc furnaces and increasing the production of iron and steel.

Many other units of the sector keep expanding production, including the Musan Mining

Complex, the Unnyul and Jaeryong mines and the Puryong Ferroalloy Factory.

The electric-power industry is increasing power output by actively combining thermal power and water power.

Electricity output is being increased by introducing new technical innovation plans for putting water management on a scientific basis and increasing power generation.

The coal industry is also boosting coal production by dint of mass innovation.



The Musan Mining Complex boosts iron ore production.

Good production results achieved by dint of technical innovations

By Sin Pyol PT

Fertilizer producers of the country are registering good production results.

According to data available, the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex produced hundreds of tons of more fertilizer than planned in April and achieved an increase of tens of tons in production on a daily average in May.

The complex arranges a contest of technical innovation plans and findings every quarter of the year

to introduce highly rated ones into production and steadily pushes ahead with the improvement of the performance of equipment.

It rationally remodelled an ammonia condensing and separating tower to boost the separation efficiency and developed and introduced a gas analyser and vibration gauge suited to the actual conditions to further increase the utilization rate of equipment.

The Namhung Youth Chemical Complex is also making all efforts to increase fertilizer production.

The complex has so far produced thousands of tons of more fertilizer than planned this year.

Officials and employees of the complex have introduced advanced technology and new operating methods to make the most of the existing production foundations and successfully solved technical problems arising in normal operation.

For example, they improved the quality of coal bars by exploring a rational way to ensure the proper particle size of anthracite.

Catfish production gets increasingly scientific and intensive

By Kil Chung Il PT

The Pyongyang Catfish Farm continues to raise the level of scientific and intensive catfish farming.

This year, the farm renovated various production processes to improve the quality of floating feed for catfish.

Technicians renovated the selection equipment so as to completely remove impurities from among raw materials and remodelled the raw materials transfer process into an air pressure-based one.

This has made it possible to improve the quality of floating feed 1.5 times and save as much as 60 percent of the fund for the repair of the equipment.

The farm further raised the operation rate of catfish catching and feed supply machines by improving them in collaboration with scientific research institutions.

It also introduced technologies for remarkably increasing the digestibility and absorptivity and fattening rate of catfish as compared to before and for reducing the death rate, as well as a water

management system capable of optimizing catfish breeding.

According to section chief Hwang Myong Chol, the farm has kept increasing output of catfish by channelling efforts into shortening the growth period of catfish and lowering the feed unit while maximizing the hatching capacity of high-yielding varieties of catfish.

The farm is now pushing at the final stage with the research for producing floating feed with such non-grain raw materials as used mushroom substrates and mud.

Cement production continues to rise at Sangwon

By To Kyong Chol PT

The Sangwon Cement Complex, a leading building-materials production base of the country, is achieving good production results.

On his visit to the complex on March 1, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said that great records are found in each chapter of the chronicles of the past five years when socialist construction was marked with unprecedented upsurges and transformations and they surely include the unbounded devotion and sincere efforts of Sangwon workers, and that the whole country should have a deep understanding of this.

The workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex, greatly inspired by his love, trust and words of encouragement, are boosting production by displaying the enthusiasm for increased production.

“Even though the cement we produce is buried underground as the foundations of structures

and covered by finishing materials, we have nothing more to desire if each gram of cement associated with our patriotic efforts contributes to national prosperity,” said Yun Jae Hyok, manager of the complex.

Sangwon workers effected a great upsurge in production, while exceeding the peak-year level in succession in the recent years.

They renewed the record again in 2024. Their output was so high that they could be proud of themselves. However, the target of increased production for 2025 was 10 times higher than their increased output in 2024. As it was impossible to be attained by existing conception and methods, if it was achieved, that could be claimed to be the creation of a new miracle, rather than increased production.

Realizing once again the importance of their position in definitely stepping up grand construction projects as planned, they buckled down to work with an

extraordinary resolution and carried out their production plans every day, every week and every month from the outset of the year 2025. As a result, they increased the output of cement and gypsum by more than 7% and produced tens of thousands of tons of more clinker and over 100 000 tons of more limestone as compared to 2024, successfully executing the production plan of the complex on all indices.

They also carried out the national economic plan for January this year ahead of schedule, implemented the monthly cement production plan for February, while drastically increasing the per-hour clinker output over the previous month through the introduction of valuable technical innovation proposals, and overfulfilled the cement production plan for March by over 6%.

At present the complex is carrying out its daily cement production plan 1.2 times with the firm determination to renew the previous year's miraculous production record, an all-time high since its inauguration.



The Sangwon Cement Complex fully supplies cement to major construction projects.

Cost-effective cold soap production line established

By Yun Ki Song PT

The Ryokpho Disabled Soldiers' Essential Goods Factory has completed a cold soap manufacturing technology and established the foundations for production.

According to an official of the factory, they could not improve the medicinal efficacy of soaps with the previous production method as various components with moisturizing and skin-softening effects were removed during the saponification at a high temperature.

The new cold soap manufacturing technology

can preserve the medicinal components in raw materials by saponifying vegetable oil at a low temperature and ensure the quality of products at low cost without going through such processes as hydration refining, low-temperature alkaline refining, decolorization and deodorization.

The factory had to find out how the pharmacological components of the oil change in different temperatures and build machines that can ensure the maximum profits while maintaining a rational temperature.

After dozens of failures, officials and employees of the factory came up with a

rational plan for building the saponification equipment which can ensure the temperature needed for the cold soap production and carried it out successfully.

During the trial production, the factory's multi-functional saponification equipment proved to be able to improve the quality of soap by fully removing the neutral oil components of oil materials and save electricity and labour much more than before while greatly increasing the output.

The factory continues to develop and introduce new technologies so as to improve the quality of various kinds of soap products, including cold soap.

Reformation of *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* forests pushed at final stage

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The reformation of *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* forests which began this spring is being pushed ahead at the final stage.

An *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* tree bears tens of kilograms of fruits and can yield fruits for a hundred years, so that a large amount of oil can be produced per hectare.

In the DPRK, a large area of *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* forests have been created in all cities and counties except those in northern highlands.

It is of great significance

to increase the productivity of such forests in order to supply newly-built regional-industry factories with oil materials needed for their normal production.

Therefore, the effort for reforming *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* forests by grafting buds and branches of good species to those with low fruit productivity is going on simultaneously on a nationwide scale.

When complete, it would effectively solve a series of problems arising in the manuring and cultivation and fruit harvesting by making

the trees shorter than those in the past and, in particular, advance the period of harvesting and raise the utility rate of land by increasing the production per hectare.

More than 130 cities and counties across the country are engaged in the full-scale reformation of the existing *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* forests and scaling up successes.

Researchers of the Academy of Forest Sciences are giving scientific and technical assistance to the reformation effort in relevant areas while organizing technical courses and classes

in an effective way.

Together with the employees of the oil-producing forest stations across the country, they collected plenty of grafts of good species of *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* in their sleeping period.

Employees of city and county oil-producing forest stations have successfully grafted buds and branches of good species to trees with low fruit productivity.

The reformation of *Evodia Daniellii* *Benn* forests is proceeding apace in different parts of the country.

Youth and happiness of life devoted to greening mountains



Ri Yong Sik



Jong Hyang Hui

By Kim Il Jin PT

At the Pukchang County Forestry Management Station in South Phyongan Province, there are a forest ranger couple who are devoting their all to afforestation.

They have grown forests of economic value in the area lying between Hocan Railway Station of Pukchang County and Namdok Railway Station of Tokchon City for over a decade. People call them a patriot couple.

“When I first came here, I could see mountains all around, but scarcely see trees,” recalled Jong Hyang Hui, a forest ranger of the Phunggok forest control branch under the Pukchang County Forestry Management Station.

She felt mixed feelings when she moved to that unfamiliar place with her baby, who was not yet one year old, on her back to live with her husband Ri Yong Sik who was appointed as a ranger of the branch.

She was not sure when her husband could cover all those mountains with trees and therefore suggested to him that they stay there only for some time before moving elsewhere with favourable conditions.

At that time, her husband said that anyone should afforest the mountains as they are part of the country, adding that he was determined to stay there all his life.

The following day, they planted a sapling and named it *Musong* (exuberance) after their son.

The number of the saplings they planted has increased to hundreds with the passage of time and the residents called the forest *Musong* forest.

Jong later became head of a mountain workteam. Sometimes she patrolled the mountains like a forest patrolman and stayed up all night with her husband for forest fire monitoring as she had already regarded his work as her own.

Her little son became

accustomed to getting to sleep and waking up in the houses of the villagers. Jong’s mother, who came to the village to see her grandson, saw that and told Jong and her husband that she would take care of him, encouraging them to devote their all to afforesting the mountains.

In 2018 Jong became a ranger and went on her first patrol with her husband, when a forest ranger of the preceding generation in the village gave her instructive words:

A forest is a fenceless storehouse of the country and a forest ranger is a guard protecting wealth in it. Even a bare mountain can become a treasure mountain under the care of a true master, otherwise a treasure mountain would be reduced to a dump.

Bearing in mind the request reflected in his words, the couple climbed the mountains, rain or shine, and their sincere efforts increased the number of tree nurseries between forests in different parts of the mountains.

They grew saplings, accurately weighing the seeds to be sown per *phyong*, and tended the trees with devotion, weeding forests until just before the first frost. Thanks to their sincerity, the bald mountains gradually got green and the Korea larch trees planted in perfect lines began to grow taller and taller.

They would plant saplings together with their son on his birthday, and it is said that the number of the trees planted thus is now more than a thousand in total.

Over the past 10-odd years, they planted more than one million trees in 350 hectares and filled more than 1 300 hectares of forests with trees for mine props.

Seeing them devoting themselves with the mind of sowing and growing seeds in their hearts, not in the ground, the people of Pukchang County say that they have come to know what it is like to live a life for the country and younger generations.

Hundreds of millions of saplings produced

By An Hyok Chol PT

The second forest restoration campaign has begun in the DPRK.

The campaign is not for usual afforestation but will be conducted to enrich forest resources necessary for the economic and regional development of the country so as to turn all mountains into

“gold and treasure mountains” and to enhance the ability to protect the ecological environment of forests.

Innovations are being made in the production of saplings, the first process of afforestation this year, the first year of the second forest restoration campaign.

The sapling producers of all provincial tree nurseries

have produced hundreds of millions of saplings.

The saplings will be transplanted to the vicinity of relevant mountains to further grow for one or two years before being planted in the mountains.

Officials and employees of Kangwon and North Hamgyong provincial tree nurseries have produced

saplings in a large quantity and qualitatively after learning in detail what kind of species are badly required in their provinces and how many will be needed.

The North Hwanghae Provincial Tree Nursery has produced many saplings by raising the level of scientific and intensive sapling production.

The producers of the tree nursery secured enough seeds of good tree species, pepped up light substrate production based on compound bacilli to save manpower, nutritive solution and agrochemicals and applied the spraying of smaller molecular water effective for preventing damage from blights and harmful insects to achieve successes.

Tree nurseries of other provinces have worked hard to increase the production of saplings.

While consolidating their material and technical foundations, they have maximized the operation rate of automated equipment and produced enough organic fertilizer and humus soil to grow healthy saplings of good tree species.



The North Hwanghae Provincial Tree Nursery turns out a large number of saplings by raising the level of scientific and intensive sapling production. KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A good example of afforestation

By Yun Ki Song PT

Thick forests of economic value stretch far and wide in the areas between Hocan Railway Station in Pukchang County and Namdok Railway Station in the City of Tokchon, South Phyongan Province.

They cover the areas of Husonyu Peak and Mt Jangan with the Taedong River meandering through the coal fields in between, presenting a beautiful natural scene.

In the mountains of these areas there are excellent tree nurseries in forests, and the 0.7 hectare-wide one in the area of Husonyu

Peak produces over 200 000 saplings of good tree species a year. And those in the area of Mt Jangan also provide a firm foundation for ensuring successes in the afforestation of the region.

In the course of the introduction of a rational planting method of mixed forests many useful species of trees took root in the high and low mountains of the Husonyu Peak area including pine nut, oak, chestnut and wild-walnut trees.

The forest of oil-bearing trees yields nearly three times more pine nuts and other fruits than previously, bringing considerable benefits to the economic growth of the

county, and a large quantity of timber produced from the timber forest is also used effectively.

Wild fruit trees are heavily loaded with fruits including acorns every year, adding to the pleasure of the local people.

The mixed forest in the area is planted by a rational method in a far-sighted way to suit the commensal relations of trees, weather and soil conditions in the relevant areas, purpose of planting forests and others.

Pine nut, wild-walnut and other species of trees are grown together according to their specific characters to create favourable conditions

for growth and forests are planted with various kinds of trees to prevent damage from landslide and flash flood, increasing their water storage capacity and keeping soil from acidification.

These achievements are the results of the patriotic efforts of officials and working people in the region who put their heart and soul into afforestation.

Many units learn from the successes achieved in afforestation in the areas between Hocan Railway Station in Pukchang County and Namdok Railway Station in the City of Tokchon covered with dense forests of various species of trees.

New scenery created on Wihwa Island

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

A spectacular scene has unfolded in the area of Wihwa Island in the northwestern part of the country.

In the devastated area swept away by the unprecedentedly catastrophic flood two years ago, new posh houses were built in several months and later the largest-ever group of greenhouses in the country's history sprang up, drawing the admiration of all

people.

This year, a vast sea of rape flowers has stretched far and wide in the area.

Residents say that the sea of rape flowers covering hundreds of hectares is a spectacle to behold for the first time on the island.

It is well known that rape, an annual and biennial plant of *Cruciferae*, is of great economic significance as an oil crop and is widely cultivated as a garden plant.

The island area was formed

by the change in the course of the stream of the Amnok River and sedimentation. It is said that vegetables have grown well in the area from ancient times as its soil is fertile.

But it often suffered vegetable crop failure as it was hit by flood almost every year.

Now it is protected with solid embankments, vegetables are grown in a large group of greenhouses and rape is cultivated in

hundreds of hectares of fields, providing the residents with conditions to enjoy a happy life. As a result, the area of Wihwa Island has become the focus of national attention and the envy of all people across the country.

The more cultured life they enjoy, the deeper gratitude the residents feel to the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un for the tireless efforts he made to bring about the changes of today.

The miracle that occurred

in the area of Wihwa Island is the fruition of the intense love for the people of the respected General Secretary who spares nothing for them and devotes his all to relieving their sufferings.

When the area was totally flooded two years ago, he got on a small rubber boat without hesitation and inspected every nook and cranny of it and unveiled a grand plan to turn the island from the one of disaster into that of paradise. And he

visited it again and again and wisely led the whole course of the construction project.

As a result, modern apartment houses, nurseries, kindergartens, schools, hospitals, clinics and others were newly built and a group of greenhouses, the largest-ever in scale and the highest in modernity, rose up in the island area, which had been covered with water and mud.

When all the people were filled with great joy at the miracle worked in the area of Wihwa Island, the respected General Secretary came up with a plan to plant rape in a wide area so that it would bring substantial benefit to the people's dietary life and radically improve the ecological environment of the area.

On May 31 this year, he visited it again and was very pleased to see the sea of beautiful rape flowers, saying that rape plots were really spectacular and they presented a distinctive sight of a large farm town which literally bears a resemblance to a picture.

He said that the beautiful landscape of the island area with a sea of greenhouse vegetables and that of rape flowers reminded him of the course of transformation in the area of Wihwa Island, adding that changes which took place in the area are a proud epitome of socialist Korea showing the true meaning of dramatic transformation in the new era.



A spectacular scene unfolds on Wihwa Island in the northwestern part of the country as rape flowers are in full bloom.

Big efforts put into riverside improvement, management

By Kim Il Jin PT

In recent years a series of projects have been undertaken to create beautiful river landscapes along with river improvement in different parts of the country.

"River water is the resources of the most basic and strategic significance which have important influence on the human life and health and the ecological environment of the country. As a key element of the environment, it also plays an important role in ensuring the sustainable and safe development of society, the environment and economy," said Kong Sun Chol, section chief of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection.

According to him, the rapid economic growth, disorderly development of resources and disastrous abnormal weather are leading to the increase in quantity of wastewater and sewage and the ensuing shortage of water resources and water pollution in the world.

Flood and drought damage in particular inflicts

tremendous losses on the economic development and people's lives and property and has become a major factor threatening the existence of mankind.

The DPRK has directed a great deal of energies to protecting water resources as much as possible and improving the ecological environment of rivers by setting the improvement of them and management of their basins as an important national affair.

Along the Pothong River near Kyongru-dong of Central District in the capital city of

Pyongyang, a project was carried out to remove hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of mud and unwanted material from the bottom of the river, plant ground cover plants, create bank-protecting forests and improve the surrounding environment. As a result, a beautiful riverside park was built and a floating flower garden decorated with various flowers created on the river, presenting a lovely riverscape in organic combination with the riverside terraced houses district.

On Kumran Islet, a good

place adding to the beautiful scenery of the Pothong River in perfect harmony with Kyongru-dong, were built a cosy pavilion covered with Korean-style roofing tiles and a comprehensive sports park with such sporting facilities as volleyball, basketball and badminton courts and ssirum (Korean wrestling) ground, contributing to the cultural and emotional life of the people. A small suspension bridge connecting charmingly landscaped Kumran Islet with Kyongru-dong was newly built to improve the scenery

of the Pothong River.

And the riverside was also cleared in the Komdok area, which has been built as a mountain gorge city, presenting a beautiful riverscape in good harmony with the magnificent natural beauty of mountains.

Permanent embankments were built as impregnable protective walls against any flood and a model of river dikes in the City of Sinuiju and the island areas of Uiju County of North Phyongan Province in the northwestern part of the country, which had

suffered from floods through generations. And in striking contrast to the huge concrete embankments sprawl the vast stretches of green lawn in harmony, and the promenades and riverside park present a picturesque scene, gaining the admiration of visitors.

At present, more detailed mid- and long-term plans for flood control mainly aimed at conserving water resources, improving water quality and protecting the ecological environment of rivers have been worked out and are rolling full steam ahead.



Newly landscaped Pothong riverside in the capital city of Pyongyang.



Stride forward in improvement of educational structure, contents and methods

By Kim Hyon PT

In the DPRK successes have been made in the work to modify the educational structure of the country to give advanced education, and to improve the teaching contents and methods more rationally.

The education sector pushed ahead with the work to put the country's education on an advanced level with the stress on the reorganization of the educational structure.

A new teaching management system was introduced and applied at Kim Il Sung University, Kim Chaek University of Technology, the University of Sciences and Pyongyang University of Architecture, and their experience widely

introduced into other universities, including teacher training institutions.

And subjects of cutting-edge and cross-disciplinary science sectors were newly established at major universities.

At the same time relevant measures were taken, including that to improve the structures of the curriculums to train excellent scientific and technical talents including those in the fields of IT, chemistry, material engineering and biotechnology.

The sector of general education conducted the work to implement the elective educational courses according to the economic and geographical features of relevant regions and the

aptitudes and personality of students.

Excellent teachers were mobilized to promote the planning of the second universal 12-year compulsory education programme and the writing and publication of textbooks. And efforts were made to select different cities and counties representing the industrial city, flat area and mountainous area and introduce the new education programme there on trial for a year.

On this basis, the new education programme has been carried out at all schools since the new school year this year.

Education in the country has entered another new stage of development with the Ninth Congress of the

Workers' Party of Korea held last February as an occasion.

Major universities are making preparations for establishing AI-related courses.

Meanwhile, the improvement of the medical education system and the trial application of online education for employees of regional-industry factories at vocational colleges have been pushed forward.

The work to create and introduce the research-oriented teaching and study methods is also going on vigorously.

The sector of general education, too, is redoubling its efforts to build up teaching forces and create and introduce education methods.

Girl doctor pioneers new subject



By Pang Un Ju PT

State academic degrees and titles were awarded to intellectuals who achieved great successes in scientific research in February this year.

Among them was Pak In Hyang, a researcher of the Modern Pedagogy Institute of the Pedagogy Faculty of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education.

She pioneered a new subject, pedagogical aesthetics.

In Hyang, who had a penchant for mathematics in her childhood, majored in mathematics at Kim Hyong Jik University of Education.

Later, after finishing the postgraduate course, she began to work as a lecturer at the university as she wished.

With a new determination and ambition, she gave much thought to how to make it possible for students to enjoy math lessons.

One day, during a talk with a veteran professor of Kim Il Sung University, she came to know that it is important in making

students become active learners and searchers to combine pedagogy and aesthetics and that to that end it is necessary to develop all elements of teaching contents and methods and educational management as required by aesthetics.

She decided to pioneer a new cross-disciplinary science as a combination of pedagogy and aesthetics, which was an unexplored field in the pedagogical practice of the country.

After fully analysing preceding research data on pedagogical aesthetics and the importance of pedagogical aesthetics research, she found points to be newly addressed.

The points included the

definition of the essence and characteristics of pedagogical aesthetics in the country, the basis of its mission and requirements in making the whole process of education a process of creating beauty.

In order to address the points theoretically, she delved into the works of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un and relevant social sciences including pedagogy, aesthetics and philosophy.

With burning passion and deep thought, she solved the problems arising in applying the Juche-oriented idea on aesthetics to educational practice. On this basis she pioneered pedagogical aesthetics as a new subject.

After newly establishing the scientific and theoretical system of pedagogical aesthetics in a Korean way, she, in her paper, newly defined the essence of educational beauty on the basis of the Juche-oriented idea on aesthetics and clarified the features of the beauty essentially different from those of others existing in reality.

She also clarified the basic type of educational beauty and its expressions under the socialist educational system and relevant educational systems and the ways for creating educational beauty.

"In Hyang's paper on pedagogical aesthetics is a valuable theoretical basis for supporting the development of the country's education by giving it as required by pedagogy and aesthetics. I look forward to a striking research finding from her who has great academic and practical abilities, enthusiasm and perseverance," said an official of the Academy of Social Sciences who participated in the examination of the paper.

Nation set to bridge gap between urban and rural areas in educational level

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Efforts are being made to narrow the gap between urban and rural areas in the educational level.

The general education sector set a goal of improving the educational level of rural schools while putting main focus on improving the quality of basic education, and has directed efforts to strengthening the ranks of teachers and raising the level of basic knowledge of students.

It selects bright students from senior classes of rural schools to give them education at city and county

seats' senior middle schools high in educational level and sends them to teacher training colleges preferentially.

According to an official of the Ministry of Education, thousands of graduates of rural schools across the country have entered teacher training colleges, which will further strengthen the ranks of teachers of rural schools in the future.

Excellent graduates from universities of education and teacher training colleges across the country have actively volunteered to work at rural schools.

Many graduates from teacher training colleges across the country, including

those from universities of education and similar colleges in North Phyongan and South Hwanghae provinces, have begun to work at rural schools.

Meanwhile, positive efforts are being made to raise the qualifications of teachers of rural schools by enrolling them at the online education systems of teacher training colleges, to dispatch excellent teachers of urban schools to improve the abilities of rural school teachers and to disseminate and transfer advanced teaching resources of Pyongyang and urban areas.

The provincial teacher training schools and city and county teachers in-

service training centres dispatch instructors to rural schools to help their teachers improve their educational qualifications. The instructors provide guidance over the preparation of teaching plans, making of multimedia for education and extracurricular teaching.

In North Phyongan Province, the Sinuiju City Teachers In-service Training Centre and schools in the city produced and sent more than 1 200 pieces of multimedia to rural schools in the first quarter of the year alone.

Other provinces are pushing ahead with construction projects to spruce up rural schools.

'I also can do'

By Ri Sang Il PT

Today, working people who prepare to become intelligent workers under the study-while-you-work system are seen in any workplace in the DPRK.

The same is the case with the Anju Insulator Factory.

According to an official of the factory, among its employees there are dozens of students who study at the distance education faculty of Hamhung University of Chemical Industry.

Among the students are employees with considerable length of service, including workteam leaders, as well as newcomers.

"At first I worried that I

might not study at my age. But when I buckled down to study with determination, I gradually felt confident. From then on, I began to resolve some technical problems at the production site by myself," said Kim Chol Min, a workteam leader who is over 50 years of age.

Kim Chung Guk, a worker of the factory, has recently been awarded a certificate of invention by inventing an efficient bar cutting method.

A few years ago, he began to study in the online education system. He, however, often missed lessons on the pretext of pressure from work. Consequently, he failed to finish the first-term course in time. The following inspired him to make strenuous efforts

again.

An old skilled worker, who had started to study together with him, worked hard to successfully finish the course and go up to the next term. Shortly afterwards, he came up with an original idea to contribute to the growth of production.

Chung Guk thought a lot at the development of the skilled worker who was older than him.

Later he studied hard and became a talent, pride of the factory, after finishing the online education course with honours.

Jong Yu Song, worker of the insulation workteam, is a young newcomer, but he is recognized as a proficient worker student as he has

studied hard without wasting time with a burning ambition.

The factory also has many married women students.

The manager of the factory said that thanks to the online education system established in the country, they, too, have proposed good ideas for the modernization of equipment and the growth of production.

Though they are different in age and career, all the worker students are full of confidence that through the online education, they can become talents, masters of science and technology, who will be able to greatly contribute to the development of the factory.

All of them say, "I also can do."



Educational policy for disabled persons

By Pak Song Min PT

The DPRK pays close attention to enabling disabled persons to exercise with dignity their rights as members of society.

In particular, they are provided with the right to learning.

In 1951, during the Fatherland Liberation War, President Kim Il Sung said that to protect honoured disabled soldiers and the persons who had become disabled by the enemies' atrocities and stabilize their life was an important undertaking that the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government should carry out in a responsible

manner, and took steps for establishing a school for honoured disabled soldiers to teach them useful knowledge and techniques and skills. After the war, he saw to it that educational institutions for the disabled were built across the country.

The Law of the DPRK on the Protection of the Disabled was adopted in 2003, which made it possible to conduct the work to protect them in a more extensive way, based on the legal guarantee.

The Ninth Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly held in September 2023 adopted the Law of the DPRK on Ensuring the Rights

of the Disabled to put forward the disabled as genuine masters of the state and society and enable them to enjoy genuine freedom and a happy life as human beings.

The law stipulates that those of school age are registered without omission to be provided with the right to attend school and can enter schools of higher grade at all levels, including universities, as they wish and that educational and relevant institutions shall neither limit their recommendation to and entry into schools of higher grade nor expel them from school for the reason of disabilities.

In the DPRK, children with

disabilities receive 12-year compulsory education like normal children after getting special education including finger reading and sign language, and go to university or learn various special techniques at vocational training schools for persons with disabilities as they wish.

The vocational training schools for persons with disabilities steadily improve educational contents and methods so that they can make an active contribution to social development with their techniques.

The Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea stressed the need to establish an education

support system for disabled persons on a nationwide scale.

Accordingly, the education sector is striving to establish a new education support system for disabled persons and a class of disabled children was newly established at Hwawon Kindergarten No. 2 in Hwasong District, Pyongyang, in April last year on the occasion of the new school year.

Experts say that this measure for disabled children to receive kindergarten education together with normal children constitutes another step forward in the education for disabled persons.

Federation endeavours to improve quality of life of persons with disabilities

By Sin Pyol PT

The Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Persons with Disabilities (KFPPD), the successor to the Korean Association for Supporting the Handicapped established in 1998, speaks for and protects the rights and interests of all those with disabilities in the DPRK and contributes to providing them with a stable and favourable living environment and conditions in all fields of social life.

The affiliates of the federation include the Korea Art Association of Persons with Disabilities, the Korea Sports Association of Persons with Disabilities, vocational training schools for persons with disabilities, the Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disability and the Korea Economic and Cultural Centre for Persons with Disabilities.

The Law of the DPRK on the Protection of the Disabled was adopted on June 18 2003. In keeping with the closer government attention being paid to persons with disabilities, the federation has conducted positive activities for them.

It pays special attention to

the education for them.

It works to improve their educational environment and conditions and promote vocational technical education and higher education in order to fully develop their creative talents.

It arranged a short course of Korean sign language last year for training teachers for the disabled across the country in contact with the Ministry of Education so as to lay a foundation for the establishment of a nationwide education support system for disabled persons and offered it cooperation in writing "Pedagogy for children with disabilities", "Education of children with hearing impairments" and other textbooks, thereby contributing to drawing up a new educational programme for the disabled.

The federation works hard to provide the disabled with proper working conditions.

It helps persons with disabilities at the working age choose right jobs according to their hopes and demands and provides them with full conditions for rest and working environment including rest at sanatoria and holiday homes.

While paying close attention to the sports and cultural life of them, it organizes a variety of sports

and cultural events to boost their self-reliance.

Those belonging to the KSAPD have achieved good results in such events as table tennis, archery and shooting at sports games of persons with disabilities and amateurs held under the sponsorship of the federation, while those belonging to the KAAPD have won great accolades from audiences at art performances for their refined artistic skills.

The federation performs active and scrupulous activities in contact with the Ministry of Public Health and other related units in order to steadily improve the rehabilitation of the disabled and medical service for them.

The Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disability provides disabled children with medical treatment for rehabilitation, while nursing and edifying them, and conducts scientific research into rehabilitation and relevant external exchanges to help them enjoy a happy life just like normal children.

"The federation will continue to work hard to enhance the quality of life of persons with disabilities," said Jon Chol Hi, chairman of the KFPPD Central Committee.



Officials of the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Persons with Disabilities discuss ways to improve education for the disabled. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Hearing-impaired couple live dancing dream

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

An art performance of persons with disabilities was given at the Nampho Municipal Youth Open-air Theatre on June 18, the Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Among the numbers applauded by the audience was a dance performed by Ju Su Yang and Ryu Jin Hyok.

Though they are hearing-impaired, the dancers of the Korea Art Association of Persons with Disabilities performed incredibly graceful and elegant dance movements to a cheerful tune to be appreciated and acclaimed by the audience.

It is over ten years since they started dancing on the stage as first members of the dance group organized along with the KAAPD.

Having lost her hearing at two, Su Yang was said to have been good at handicraft as a child and those who saw dolls and pictures she made and painted said she would become a famous painter or craftswoman someday.

But growing in her heart was a dream to become a dancer.

"Every time I saw her mimic dancers on TV, I could not help thinking it was an impossible dream," said her mother An Song Hui. "But my daughter realized her dream under the care of officials of the art association of the disabled."

Ryu Jin Hyok who lost his hearing in an accident was particularly fond of dancing from his childhood.

Thanks to officials of the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection of the Persons with Disabilities who were eager to find and nurture the talents of disabled persons, he became an art group member of the KAAPD at the age of 13.



Ju Su Yang (left) and Ryu Jin Hyok.

On the day when his mother Ri Ok Suk saw him full of vigour after receiving the first dance lesson at the group, she wept tears of gratitude to the country for bringing into full bloom her son's dream of becoming a dancer.

Jon Kyong Sim, who was a dance instructor of the association, devoted her all to teaching Su Yang and Jin Hyok dance movements one by one by applying a guidance method suited to the hearing-impaired so as to train them as brilliant dancers. Officials of the association showed fraternal affection to them lest they should give in to the heavy burden of training.

With the help of these kind people, they could bring their talents into full bloom.

When they put their first dance piece "Trio Dance" on the stage, all family members of the disabled as well as their parents shed tears of joy.

After winning the highest praise at domestic performances, they toured the UK and France, where they excellently performed as leading dancers in the

foreign fairytale dance "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" in February 2015, becoming great sensations.

After enjoying their performance, a professor of Oxford University said that it was unimaginable for the hearing-impaired to perform dances in groups and that he wondered how the conception of timing and rhythm was given to the deaf children so that they could make quick dances collectively.

While joining efforts to perfect dance movements and caring for each other, Ju Su Yang and Ryu Jin Hyok fell in love and tied the knot under the blessing of the officials and employees of the Central Committee of the KFPPD in 2023.

"Thanks to the country's benevolent policy of protecting the disabled and the meticulous care of the officials of the association, we could live our dream," said Ju and Ryu with sign language.

Singing the ode to the motherland in their minds, they are putting their heart and soul into their beautiful and marvellous dances.



Central Zoo rings with laughter

By Kim Hyon PT

Many people visit the Central Zoo to spend a pleasant time. According to an official of the zoo, it has received thousands of visitors every day since early summer. People get cheery at the entrance to the zoo depicting the head of a tiger with an open mouth.

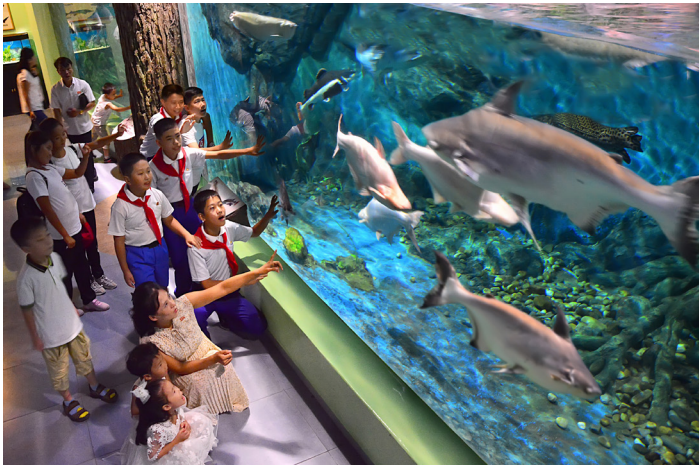
an aquarium. It keeps more than 240 species of fish from different parts of the world. Various fishes in distinctive shapes swim freely to please the visitors and children in particular are reluctant to leave there as they adore fish with beautiful colours. The tiger shed is one of eye-catchers of the zoo. In the shed, there live white and Bengal tigers, African

lions, etc. People especially like the Korean tiger, which is bigger, quicker and more intrepid than other sub-species and renowned for the beautiful pattern of the skin. When the weather is sultry, the tigers which naturally lived in deep forests stay in their cool cages, but the lions from Africa roam around in the outdoor cage or slumber peacefully. Elephants and giraffes

seem to warmly welcome people. The elephants of the zoo are so familiar with visitors they nod their heads when people tell them to bow, and then stretch out their long trunks or open their mouths wide to ask for a “reward”. The cat shed and dog house are favourite haunts for children and students especially. “I have been visiting the Central Zoo every year since

I came here with my parents for the first time when I was very young. Every time I visit the zoo, I come to the dog house without fail,” said O Sol Hyang, a student of Puksong Senior Middle School in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang. Many of her friends like to see pet dogs, but she prefers to see the gallant and intelligent Phungsan, the national dog of the DPRK, she added.

In the house of parrots that can imitate people well, there is a kind of “conversation” between people and the birds, amusing visitors. Loud laughs and applause ring out from everywhere in the Central Zoo. A single day seems to be not enough to look round all the animal houses of the zoo as visitors find every house attractive, and every visitor says they will come there again before leaving.



People have a pleasant time at the Central Zoo in Pyongyang.

Gift animals on the increase

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

Gift animals are increasing in number at the Central Zoo. President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il

and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a lot of gift animals to the zoo. Between January 6 this year, when a hamadryas baboon (descendant) gave birth to a young, and May, 20 kinds of gift animals brought

forth over 40 young. On January 8 an Asiatic black bear (descendant) gave birth to a cub, which weighed 500g. It now weighs 9kg. The zoo has worked to preserve and breed gift animals.

The breeders in charge of gift animals breed the animals in a scientific way from their mating seasons to pregnancies and pay special attention to ensuring the living environment of the young and their mothers, thus

raising the survival rates of the young. On the basis of a good understanding of the animals’ ecological features and ways of life, the zoo has conducted research to adapt them to its conditions

and environment and raise the breeding rate to achieve relevant successes. The zoo has sent rare animals to other zoos in different parts of the country to contribute to the leisure activities of the people.

'Our home is best'

By Ri Sung Ik PT

“Our home is the best”—this is what every inhabitant of the workers’ hostel at the Sariwon Textile Mill says.

One October day last year, the hostellers of the mill moved into the newly-built workers’ hostel.

That is why providing the hostellers with good living conditions had always been a focus of attention of the factory’s officials, an issue to which precedence is given over the production.

Accordingly, the hostel was renovated several times, and it was given a total

library when they have leisure time.

Sim Kyong Sil, a keeper of the hostel, said that on girls’ birthdays there are birthday parties associated with the sincerity of its officials followed by girls’ singing and dance parties.

The hostellers include over 100 girls who



Women workers enjoy themselves at the workers’ hostel of the Sariwon Textile Mill.
RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

“Whenever people praise us officials for splendidly renovating the hostel of our factory, we feel ashamed. It is the intention of the Workers’ Party of Korea to give precedence to the health and life of workers over the production and we only tried to be true to it.”

Kim Yong Chol, manager of the Sariwon Textile Mill

That day, officials of not only the factory but also the province visited the hostel to congratulate the hostellers and the whole factory was wrapped in a festive mood.

Most of its employees are women and many girls live in the hostel.

dining hall, library, cooking practice room and laundry as well as rooms.

Girls, who love music, spend a pleasant time singing and dancing at a hall on every floor in the evening after a day’s work and on holidays and those who love reading visit the

facelift last year.

“Our hostel is wonderful both inside and outside. It is smart and has all conditions for living,” said Mun Un Sun, one of the hostellers.

The new seven-storey hostel is fully provided with living conditions to ensure the convenience of hostellers, including a

volunteered to work at the factory after graduating from middle schools for orphans.

Though different in appearance, age and character, they are energetic and full of hope alike. They increase production as they always operate their machines in high spirits.

It is because all the officials of the factory, including its manager, take care of all the girls with parental affection.

“Whenever people praise us officials for splendidly renovating the hostel of our factory, we feel ashamed. It is the intention of the Workers’ Party of Korea to give precedence to the health and life of workers over the production and we only tried to be true to it,” said Kim Yong Chol, manager of the factory.

Gardeners of new streets

Employees of the Hwasong District landscaping station decorate a street beautifully. PAE CHOL SU / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



By Jong Chol PT

New streets in the Hwasong area are now decorated with beautiful flowers.

Flowering shrubs in bloom, green leafy trees and village greens in the Hwasong area, in which high and low buildings are distributed in a harmonious way with the broad and open roads as the axis and modernity and national identity are well combined artistically with the mixture of buildings of the Korean architectural style, not only look attractive but also provide the people with spaces for leisure activities.

“As most of the buildings are painted in deep colours, they look gentle and dignified. But with the change of season beautiful flowers bloom and the lawns and street trees turn green, creating another spectacle in the Hwasong area,” said an old man who, with his wife, does morning and evening walks and has a rest at the thickly wooded parks like those in forests.

Such a beauty was never

created of its own accord.

The employees of the Hwasong District Horticultural Station rack their brains to show fresh and beautiful sights in the area. And they feel proud and happy when the residents are pleased to see the beautiful scenes they created.

Kim Myong Gun, a landscape architect who came to the district horticultural station from other district, said he wanted to improve the landscape of the new streets with his knowledge and techniques.

Such a desire is stronger among the residents who moved into new houses in the Hwasong area.

Kim Yu Rim volunteered to work at the horticultural station as she wanted to beautifully decorate the wonderful street, in which ordinary working people like her are owners of new houses. She said that she could still vividly remember the excitement and joy she felt the day when she moved into her new house.

According to her colleagues, she worked

hard without having a rest. Then she said: “I do not mind the rain nor the scorching rays of the sun. Instead, I am happy to think that the flowering shrubs and trees I cultivate would grow stronger when it rains and that the flowers become more beautiful and the trees greener under the warm sun.”

Even though they are busy planting and cultivating lots of plants, they share experience during breaks and hold study sessions of new techniques at their leisure time.

According to Kim Myong Gun, many employees acquired extensive knowledge and presented lots of new ideas to improve the landscape in the district in a few years after the establishment of the station.

“I often ponder the meaning of ‘master’ these days,” said Cha Sun Hwa, another employee who moved into a new flat in Hwasong Street. “I cannot see even a tree and a blade of grass carelessly. The consciousness of being a master has changed many things.”

Worker poet

I am not a poet.

But I wrote a poem.

The poem won a prize at a national prize lyric contest.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un saw several poems written by literary correspondents, including my poem “Builders of My Contemporaries”, in September 2024.

I was deeply moved and really excited when I heard the news that the General Secretary saw the poem written by me, an ordinary worker, though he was busy with many state affairs.

Still it is a surprise for me.

Even now, people call me a “worker poet”, asking me how I could write such a fine poem.

Whenever I faced this question, I thought a lot about

the secret of success.

It is not because I have an outstanding talent.

It is nearly two years since the glorious day. Sharing growing happiness with the people living in the times of sea change in this not so long period, I found the answer.

Poem is a paeon to the times.

Now our country has grown incomparably stronger, the happy news about moving into new houses are heard everywhere in the capital and rural areas, villages have been turned into good places to live in and they are brimming with great joy of the people, and the country is growing younger and more beautiful.

I wanted to sing of my old comrades-in-arms, my

contemporaries and young builders who devote patriotic efforts and passion at the construction sites of major projects for the prosperity of the country along with the change of times.

The era in which the people’s ideals are coming true and the reality of our socialist country which is resounding with the people’s laughter gave me poetic inspiration and enabled me to pick gemlike poetic words.

I will keep writing poems in this nice era when the people’s laughter rings out louder, our era when everything develops beyond recognition every day.

Kim Kang Chol, worker at the Pyongyang Chemical Building-materials Factory



Reliable 'pedigree' institution for training Party cadres

By Kim Hyon PT

The Central Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea is a reliable base for training cadres and a pedigree institution for training Party cadres.

Over the past 80 years, graduates of the school have become the pillars of the Party generation after generation and played a pivotal role in achieving the historic development.

President Kim Il Sung advanced the idea and policy of training Party officials at the time when he achieved the historic cause of founding the Party after Korea's liberation (August 1945) and pushed ahead with the work for implementing them.

As a result, a permanent Party school was established on June 1 1946 to train Party cadres, and in a little over a year after the founding of the Party, bases for training Party cadres with a well-regulated system and structure capable of training the Party's hard core by national efforts were established from the capital

down to local areas.

Today when the people's centuries-old desires and ideals are being realized in an all-round way, the importance of training Party cadres is becoming more and more pronounced.

In order to develop the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK, the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un saw that it was built into an excellent political school, impeccable even in the distant future.

He chose the site of the school near the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance, and the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, which embodies the WPK's will to carry forward and develop the traditions of the Korean revolution down through generations. And he gave meticulous guidance so that everything from architectural design and formation to educational facilities and equipment could be policy-based and

exemplary.

Saying it is a matter related to the destiny of the Party to train staunch revolutionaries who are fully armed with the red flag idea at the Central Cadres Training School, he saw to it that the Party flag and emblem and the tower symbolic of the WPK were set up there and red flags were placed in all parts of the school including the lecture rooms.

As a result, the opening ceremony of the Central Cadres Training School was held on June 1 2024, marking its 78th founding anniversary.

In his important speech made at the school on the occasion of its 80th founding anniversary, the respected General Secretary said that the Central Cadres Training School, shouldering the responsible mission of guaranteeing the eternal future of the Party and the revolution, has made a tangible contribution to training Party cadres equipped with faithfulness and high practical qualifications and to

enriching the treasure house of the theory of building a revolutionary party, adding that such a firm stronghold enabled the WPK to chronicle its sacred chapters without any mistakes or twists even in the tempest of history and maintain its dignity still today with outstanding leadership abilities.

He also said if the Party is to be strong and the country is to develop, the "pedigree" institution for training hard-core cadres of the Party should be firm, and talents of the talents of the country must be produced by the school.

The Central Cadres Training School of the WPK is now training personifiers of the red flag spirit who are firmly armed with the revolutionary ideas of the respected General Secretary, well versed in the five-point Party-building theory in the new era and in the practical work of the Party and share the destiny with the red flag to the last, and standard-bearers of the Juche revolution who firmly guarantee the glory and future of the Party.

General goal of WPK's policy on strengthening cities and counties

By Choe Song Jun PT

It is the unshakable will of the Workers' Party of Korea to increase overall national power and achieve the comprehensive rejuvenation of the country by making cities and counties rich and civilized regions.

The general goal of the WPK's policy on strengthening cities and counties is to turn every city and county into a strategic base of a highly civilized and prosperous socialist state.

It is the strategic line the WPK has constantly adhered to in socialist construction to promote the development of the rural economy and regional economy and the improvement of the people's living standards with cities and counties as the bases.

The comprehensive development of the rural economy and regional economy with the city or county as a unit and the strengthening of economic ties between regions accordingly are of great significance in enhancing the economic development of Korean society as an organic body and stabilizing and improving the people's living standards. They also play an important role in bridging the gap between the capital city and provinces and between urban and rural communities and achieving the unified development in the overall cultural fields.

The Eighth WPK Congress held in January 2021 set forth the fighting programme for enhancing the position and role of cities and counties in today's struggle to take a step forward in socialist construction. The first workshop for chief secretaries of the city and county Party committees held in March 2021 stressed the importance of city and county which are the lowest-level guidance and executive units for the implementation of the Party policies, the regional bases directing the rural and regional economy and the powerful fortresses supporting

the comprehensive development of the country.

The general goal of the WPK's policy on strengthening cities and counties is to turn all cities and counties into the developed regions with their unique features.

Socialist society promotes the balanced and harmonious development of all regions.

In the DPRK coastal and mountainous areas make effective use of the seas and mountains and the regions with tourist resources widely encourage tourism.

Cities and counties rationally fix development indexes reflecting the specific features of their regions and mobilize and exploit their independent foundations and potentials to the full.

With a new era of regional changes having been ushered in, a vigorous drive has been waged to do farming scientifically and technologically in line with the topographical features of the regions, and livestock farming and fish farming are widely encouraged on a large scale in different parts of the country.

Regional industry factories, which are built in 20 cities and counties across the country every year, produce various kinds of quality products and specialties by relying on raw materials available in their regions.

Modern farmhouses and apartment houses of various styles continue to spring up and the construction projects for the implementation of the regional development policy have been undertaken across the country.

The City of Samjiyon has been turned into a standard of mountainous city of culture and significant progress made in each region in economic construction and the improvement of the people's living standards according to its own mode of development that suits the regional features. These are the demonstration of the validity and vitality of the WPK's policy on strengthening cities and counties.

Under the ideal of Olympics



Ko Chol Ho
Department director of the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports

June 23 is Olympic Day. Many countries in the world hoist the Olympic flag, organize sports games and conduct other colourful activities related to the Olympics on the day every year.

The Olympic Games have a very long history.

The International Olympic Committee set June 23, the day when it had decided to hold the modern Olympic Games, as Olympic Day and agreed on staging various

events to commemorate it.

The Olympic flag has five intertwined rings, each being blue, yellow, black, green and red, on the white field, meaning five continents of the world.

The Olympic motto is "Faster, Higher, Stronger-Together."

The Olympic Games include Paralympics and Special Olympics.

The Olympic Games are not regarded simply as a sports field for sportspeople

to compete with each other. They have become an international festival for promoting peace and friendship, equality and solidarity.

Today the Olympic Games bring together a large number of players from over 200 countries and regions.

DPRK sportspersons also achieved great successes in the Olympic Games in the past.

Kim Kum Yong, Ri Jong Sik, Kim Mi Rae and Jo Jin Mi won silver medals in the table-tennis mixed doubles and women's 10-metre platform synchronized diving event of the 33rd Olympic

Games held in 2024.

Ri Se Ung, Kim Mi Rae, Pang Chol Mi and Choe Hyo Gyong earned bronze medals in the 60kg category of Greco-Roman wrestling, the women's 10m platform diving, the women's boxing 54kg category and the 53kg category of women's wrestling.

The Olympic movement should make a positive contribution to promoting the development of sports worldwide, boosting friendship and cooperation between countries and building a more peaceful world in conformity with its ideal.

Contact us

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

URL: www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp



Press statement of DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesperson

KCNA

A spokesperson for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued the following press statement on June 13:

The US and its satellite countries had such confabs for nuclear war as a "nuclear consultative group" meeting and "extended deterrence dialogue" and let loose rhetoric about the nuclear threat to the DPRK and clamoured for someone's "denuclearization" again.

It is an unreasonable talk and fantastic daydream to mention the removal of the other belligerent party's nuclear weapons in meetings for adopting it as a policy to use nuclear weapons targeting the DPRK and other regional countries and for hatching a detailed plan for

it.

The DPRK Foreign Ministry roundly denounces and rejects the nuclear confrontation racket of collective nature of the US, Japan and the ROK and the sinister attempt of Western countries to impose an unconstitutional act on a sovereign state in the international arena and warns of the consequences to be entailed by the repetition of such provocations.

The meaningless anti-DPRK rhetoric and cooperation in posing a nuclear threat employed by the US and its vassal forces can never affect the irreversible position of the DPRK as a nuclear weapons state.

The "denuclearization" is an irreversibly finalized matter.

The US is busy with war moves simulating the use of nuclear weapons while massively

delivering various types of military hardware, including latest air-to-air missile, to the ROK and Japan. The reality clearly proves the reason and justness for our state to concentrate its efforts on bolstering up the capacity for self-defence essential for ensuring its security.

The building up of our nuclear shield is a legitimate process for deterring interference and threat from outside, guaranteeing the sovereignty and security of the state and ensuring regional peace and stability.

To cope with the enemy countries' daily-growing nuclear threat to it, our state is taking military and technical countermeasures in an all-round scope, the countermeasures making the most of its capabilities and means of every category.

The DPRK is firm and unshakable

in its determination to control and manage with nuclear weapons the nuclear threat by the enemy countries, which try to encroach upon its absolutely inviolable sovereignty and security on the principle of ensuring security and defending peace by dint of powerful strength.

No matter how hard the US, Japan and the ROK may quibble, they will never be able to change the present position of the DPRK as a nuclear weapons state.

No one can recover the "denuclearization" that permanently went missing in the trend of the times.

The expansion of the DPRK's nuclear capacity and its capability for self-defence based on it is irreversible and constitutes a strong security guarantee for regional stability and peacekeeping.

Massacre unpardonable forever

By Choe Song Jun PT

The US imperialists, who started a war of aggression against the DPRK on June 25 1950, resorted to the "scorched-earth warfare" of destroying and burning down everything in the country through indiscriminate bombing and shelling in violation of international law and humanitarian principles.

During the three-year war, the US Air Force aircraft made more than 800 000 sorties and the US Marine Corps and Navy aircraft over 250 000 sorties to drop nearly 600 000 tons of bombs, 3.7 times as much as those dropped on the Japanese mainland during the Pacific War, of which 85 percent targeted peaceful objects. This is tantamount to dropping 18 bombs per square kilometre of the DPRK's territory on average. The enemies made more than 1 400 rounds of bomb attacks on Pyongyang alone, dropping over 428 000 bombs, which outnumbered its population at that time.

The US imperialists committed the massacre of the Korean people in an organized and planned way in the war.

During the period of the Korean People's Army's strategic temporary retreat in the Fatherland Liberation War, the aggressors occupied Sinchon County of South Hwanghae Province. They kept 400 mothers and 100-odd children separately in two warehouses, saying that the mothers and children would be so happy if they were together. They poured petrol over the children crying for hunger, set fire and threw hand grenades into the warehouses through the windows, thus brutally killing the children and mothers. In similar ways, the aggressors killed more than 35 380 people in the county, corresponding to a quarter of its

total population, in a little over 50 days.

Not content with shooting, beating or burning people to death, the US imperialists committed appalling atrocities beyond human imagination everywhere they temporarily occupied, using all kinds of killing methods such as quartering, pulling people along with their noses or ears pierced with wire, gouging their eyes out, cutting off women's breasts, hammering nails on people's foreheads, pressing their necks with rocks or square bars, skinning them and cutting off their lips and tongues.

They unhesitatingly conducted a large-scale germ and chemical warfare and even schemed to drop nuclear bombs on the DPRK.

More than 1.2 million civilians of the country were killed in the US massacres during the war.

A fact-finding commission from the Women's International Democratic Federation, which investigated the atrocities of the US imperialists in Korea in May 1951, denounced the aggressors in a report. It said that each fact proved that it was a war of massive destruction destroying more grain than military objects and killing more women and old people than combatants, noting that the war was being fought against life itself.

A member of the commission said to the following effect: The concentration camps set up by the Hitlerites were infamous prisons where people were killed with poisonous gas, but the atrocities being committed by the US imperialists in Korea are several times more terrible than those by the Hitlerites.

The US imperialists must be punished for their barbarities as they resorted to every possible means and method to exterminate the Korean people and wipe out the DPRK from the earth.



'Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore.'

Marked on June 17, Desertification and Drought Day is the UN's global moment for raising awareness of land degradation and drought and for mobilizing action to protect and restore healthy land.

On June 17 1994, the UN adopted the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) aimed at increasing the utilization of land by taking measures to overcome drought and declared the day "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought".

This year, Kenya hosted the global observance of Desertification and Drought Day under the theme "Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore."

The event highlighted the central role of the world's rangelands in climate resilience, food and water security, biodiversity conservation and the cultural identity of pastoralist and indigenous communities.

Rangelands cover more than half of the world's land surface yet remain among the most undervalued ecosystems. They face increasing pressures from climate change, land degradation and competing land uses.

Up to half of all rangelands are already degraded or at risk, jeopardizing food and water security, climate resilience and rural livelihoods.

Countries and communities should recognize rangelands' economic contribution to national and regional economies, their role in sustaining biodiversity and wildlife and the multiple benefits they provide, from regulating water cycles to storing carbon.

They should respect the customary governance systems and knowledge of pastoralists, indigenous peoples and local communities and restore degraded rangelands by investing in sustainable land and water management, strengthening governance and improving drought preparedness.

They should also give priority to

reforestation and tree regeneration to reduce the desertification of land and, at the same time, continue to push the effort for buttressing the soil through the water management and use of sand fences, shelter belts, woodlots and windbreaks.

In the DPRK with limited arable land, natural grasslands are turned into rangelands to raise grass-eating domestic animals on a large scale.

Rangelands for the production of dairy products have been built in all provinces, cities and counties to supply the children across the country with nutritive foodstuffs including milk products at state expense.

The livestock management bureau of the Agricultural Commission, the Academy of Agricultural Sciences and other relevant units are creating protection forests according to the plan for creating pastures in order to prevent soil loss and landslide in rangelands. To prevent soil erosion by rainwater and snowmelt on steep hillsides, various species of trees are planted along contours to create land protection forests, and grassland plots are divided for rational cyclic pasturage and fencing forests are created to prevent livestock from entering and leaving the plots.

The Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea gives wide publicity to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on nature conservation and environmental protection among the working people and other residents through the land conservation associations, forest conservation associations and other sectoral associations and provincial, city and county committees of the union. It also introduces scientific and technological achievements made in land conservation into practice on the occasions of national sci-tech presentations in the field of land and environment protection.

Ho Un Ju, *staffer of the Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea*

Briefly

Vietnam

President stresses importance of external affairs

Vietnamese President To Lam at a meeting on June 11 underlined the importance of external affairs.

Noting that strategic independence, etc. form the keynote of Vietnam's external affairs, he said that the ultimate goal is to defend national interests and put the people at the centre of policy decision.

He stated that external affairs should conform to the prestige and international position of the state and contribute to building a Vietnam which is independent, self-supporting, peaceful, cooperative and responsible.

Brazil

President denounces US for unjust threatening moves

The Brazilian President rejected the unjust threatening moves of the US against his country on June 11.

As to the fact that the US is threatening to levy new tariffs on the goods from Brazil while finding fault with its forest management, he refuted that remarkable progress has been made in forest conservation in his country.

He made a stand against the US' threatening moves, saying that the US chief executive is the president of the country, not an emperor of the world that does everything at will.

Russia

Sergey Lavrov: European security system has collapsed

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov referred to the issue of the European security system on June 10 at a meeting of the foreign ministers council of the collective security treaty organization.

The European security system has finally been dismantled by the Western group, he said, noting that all of the most important treaties in the field of arms control were abrogated.

Against such a background, it is important not to allow the Eurasian region to become a theatre of geopolitical confrontations, he stressed, adding that NATO advocates ensuring a Eurasian security "according to its rules, opinions and modes".

China

Ministry of Commerce censures US for injustice

A spokesperson for the Chinese Ministry of Commerce strongly denounced the US Defense Department on June 13 for infringing the just and lawful rights and interests of Chinese businesses.

The US constantly interprets the concept of national security broadly and is clamping down on Chinese businesses by abusing state power, he asserted.

China strongly demands that the US give its businesses fair, just and equal treatment, he said, warning that if not, China will take strong retaliatory measures and the US will be to blame for all the ensuing consequences.



Ryomyong Street in the evening

News about second-round matches of 2025-2026 DPRK Premier League

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The matches between the Sobaeksu and Kigwancha teams, between the Rimyongsu and Hwaepul teams, and between the Ministry of Light Industry and Wolmido teams for the second round of the 2025-2026 DPRK Premier League took place at May Day Stadium on June 3.

The match between the Kigwancha and Sobaeksu teams, which had previously

shown good performances, was interesting from the beginning.

The Kigwancha team, whose players have high techniques, scored the opening goal by breaking through the rival's defence based on two- to three-person combinations and the Sobaeksu team scored three goals by dint of fast counterattacks. Thus the match ended in the victory of the Sobaeksu team.

Meanwhile, the match

between the Rimyongsu and Hwaepul teams ended 1-0 in the victory of the Rimyongsu, which has shown good trend from the beginning of the second round.

What impressed the spectators that day was the match between the Wolmido and Ministry of Light Industry teams.

In the previous matches, the former had already scored nine points, and the latter had not scored even

a single point. Therefore, their recent match failed to draw the interest of many people.

From the beginning, however, the Ministry of Light Industry team took the initiative and continued to threaten the opponent in the goal area and cheers for the former rose from the spectators.

In the first half, the Ministry of Light Industry team was remarkably superior to the opponent in shots, ball possession and the number of corner kicks, but unfortunately scored no goal.

In the second half, the Wolmido team, which grasped the weak points of the opponent, scored three goals by means of fast counterattacks and midfield shots.

The match thus ended in the victory of the Wolmido.

But experts and fans encouraged the Ministry of Light Industry team with unstinting applause, saying that it showed its new looks in the match.



A scene from the match between the Wolmido and Ministry of Light Industry teams. JO CHOL JU / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Living monument

Pinus densiflora form. octopartina in Hamhung



By Jong Chol PT

Pinus densiflora form. octopartina is a variety of pine tree with some features. The trunk generally grows ramifying at the lower part and the crown spreads in the shape of a wide eclipse or a round tray. It does not grow tall, as it spreads out branches near the ground.

This deformed tree in Hamhung is over 400 years old and grows in the front yard of a historic building in Hungdok District, Hamhung City.

The evergreen tree going well with the old historical site is rare to be found in the world.

The trunk grows sloping southeastwards and then

stretching southwestwards horizontally. Two big branches spread out, gradually slanting downwards to the ground.

Lots of twigs grow out of the branches and have green leaves at the tips, forming a crown in the shape of a beautiful tray.

And there are two small branches drooping from the trunk.

Seeing the tree in February 1948, President Kim Il Sung told the accompanying officials its features and historical origin and made sure that it was well protected and tended.

The tree is of great significance in botanical study for the curious appearance and old age.

