

National flag-hoisting and oath-taking ceremony takes place on birthday of DPRK



KCNA

All the citizens and families of the DPRK greeted the 78th national day amid ever-soaring patriotic enthusiasm of all the people to make great transformations and strides, true to the revolutionary programme unveiled at the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

A national flag-hoisting and oath-taking ceremony took place solemnly at the Pyongyang Assembly Hall on September 9, the 78th founding anniversary of the glorious motherland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

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, attended the commemorative event.

Present there were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and other leading cadres of the Party, government and armed forces organs, senior officials of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet, commissions, ministries and national agencies, commanding officers of the Korean People's Army and deputies to the SPA in Pyongyang.

The KPA guard of honour lined up at the venue for the commemoration.

A ceremony of hoisting the national flag of the DPRK took place.

Guards of honour of the KPA solemnly escorted the national flag of the DPRK to the venue of the ceremony.

All the participants paid high tribute to the sacred national flag symbolic of the pride and valiant spirit of heroic Korea and its heroic people that have won priceless victories and raised the dignity and honour of the Republic to the acme of the century, bravely following the untrodden path of history with a strong sense of patriotism.

The glorious national flag of the DPRK was hoisted.

The venue overflowed with an intense desire of the participants to devote all their strength, wisdom and enthusiasm to the glorious and worthwhile struggle for steadily leading the great history of

the ever-victorious country to a brilliant future.

Led by the head of state, the participants solemnly pledged before the sacred national flag to devote themselves heart and soul to adding eternal glory to the greatness and beauty of the country by defending the sovereignty of the DPRK and interests of its people, remaining boundlessly sincere in promoting the people's wellbeing and the growth and development of the country as responsible members serving the state and people, thoroughly defending the Constitution of the Republic, strictly observing the legal duties, firmly defending the socialist ideology and the socialist system and remaining faithful to the beloved motherland.

Comrade Kim Jong Un delivered a congratulatory address to all the people on the occasion of National Day.

He extended warm congratulations and thanks to the working people, service personnel and families across the country for their continuous creation, boundless devotion and responsible contribution to the prosperity and development of the country on the occasion of National Day.

His warm congratulations also went to the overseas compatriots' organizations and overseas compatriots that always breathe the same breath and share mind with the homeland, praying for the brilliant journey of the Republic. And he offered special thanks and paid high tribute to the commanding officers and soldiers of the KPA involved in the overseas military operations.

Our ideals are being realized rapidly one after another thanks to patriotism, voluntary service and devoted contributions by all citizens praying for the country's prosperity, and the fighting power of us advancing towards the goal

has also been greatly boosted, he said, adding that the national prestige and dignity have been further enhanced year by year, thanks to the arduous struggle of the Korean people, and their spirit to bring earlier a dignified, powerful, peaceful, secure, revolutionary and prosperous era has also soared high.

Saying that as our socialist cause advances further, our ideals and ambitions get higher before our joy and satisfaction get greater, he stated that the reality of the Korean revolution, in which everyone is waging the struggle for tomorrow with higher and more goals than today and vigorously achieving development of the Korean style, is clearly demonstrating the inexhaustible potentials and united strength of the country and the absolute confidence in the future, and this remarkable development is being realized by none other than the resourceful Korean people.

Noting that the minds and efforts of the righteous people loving and supporting the country and serving it with loyalty have become the pillars of irresistible might to powerfully prop up the brilliant today of the country, he said that the extraordinary pride and self-confidence in their great country, fervent patriotism and outstanding talents and strong self-respect of the Korean people make everyone aspire to a more powerful, prosperous and beautiful future of the DPRK. This shared desire unites our country and all its people, constantly increases the national power and instils into them the confidence, courage and inexhaustible creative power for racing against time, he added.

Expressing his will to ensure that the Party and the government do their best to shoulder heavier responsibility and make bigger strides and dynamic advances, he affirmed that only victory and glory are in store for the great, resourceful and brave people and wished all the people and families across the country warm peace, joy and happiness.

The participants were greatly excited by the enthusiastic speech made by Comrade Kim Jong Un who declared the unshakable faith and will to bring earlier a powerful, prosperous and beautiful future of the country with a firm belief in the ardent patriotism, wisdom and inexhaustible creativity of the great, resourceful and brave Korean people.

When Comrade Kim Jong Un finished his speech, all the participants burst into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!"

They hardened their strong will to fulfil their important responsibility and duties, entrusted by the people, with tireless passion and strenuous efforts in the vanguard of the historic sacred cause for the immortal glory of their country and the victory of Korean-style socialism, true to the original idea of the great Comrade Kim Jong Un on building a country based on the people-first principle.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un meets and congratulates labour innovators and meritorious persons invited to celebrations of National Day

KCNA

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, met labour innovators and meritorious persons invited to the celebrations of the 78th

founding anniversary of the DPRK at the Pyongyang Assembly Hall on September 9.

The participants, who greeted the glorious moment they had greatly yearned for, broke into enthusiastic cheers out of reverence for Comrade Kim Jong Un, whom they had so much longed to see, with pride and honour of devoting all

their patriotic enthusiasm and efforts to the vital course of advance for making a breakthrough in attaining the new long-term goals set by the historic Ninth Congress of the Party.

Comrade Kim Jong Un warmly congratulated the delegates from different sectors, who were invited to the celebrations of National Day for the labour achievements they had made with inexhaustible devotion, sharing intention and will with the Party in the vanguard of the struggle for adding more to the greatness of the country and accelerating its progress.

The ranks of patriots regarding it as the most honourable and happiest life to dedicate themselves to the victory and glory of the Republic, linking their destiny with that of the country, are increasing day by day, he said, adding that this is the very key and inexhaustible strength

guaranteeing the vigorous development of the state and the success of the Party policies.

He said that the struggle at a new stage for making the period of unprecedented upsurge in the development of the state lead up to that of steady upswing will add another page of great transformation to the history of building a powerful nation, thanks to the more positive activities of the pioneers personifying the characteristics and mettle of Koreans, who are strongest and most diligent and resourceful in the world, and the patriotic enthusiasm of all other people striving in response.

Expressing the expectation that all the participants would fully demonstrate the pride and honour as dignified masters of the times and socialist patriotic workers by making more enthusiastic, innovative and strenuous efforts in the course of the development and offensive advance of the state, Comrade Kim Jong Un had a photo session with them.

When the photo session was over, cheers of excitement echoed in the sky of auspicious September.

All the participants were full of determination to dedicate themselves to the struggle for realizing earlier the beautiful and sacred ideals and ambitions under the leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un.



Ceremony for marking commissioning of destroyer *Kang Kon* held with splendour

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un attends the ceremony

KCNA

At a time when the era of eye-opening transformation in strengthening the Juche-oriented naval forces is being ushered in thanks to the outstanding military strategic ideas and energetic leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea, another powerful warship, which will reliably defend the inviolable maritime sovereignty and interests of our state, was commissioned into the Navy of the Korean People's Army.

The destroyer *Kang Kon* is the second *Choe Hyon*-class destroyer possessed of the complex combat capability to perfectly complete the operational mission assigned to it even in any waters by

accepting the original conceptions for bolstering the naval combat power in a Korean way. Its commissioning serves as a significant occasion in demonstrating



the steadfast will of the Party Central Committee to build an ocean fleet with the ardent desire and aspiration for a rich country with a strong army and its nonstop

progress towards the modernization of the Navy.

A ceremony took place at Wonsan Port on September 6 to commemorate the

commissioning of the destroyer *Kang Kon*.

The port, which shows the past and present development of our naval forces as a whole, was filled with the boundless gratitude to Comrade Kim Jong Un who is translating into the present reality the long-cherished desire of the people who had longed for a powerful navy and is injecting the vitality of sure victory into our navy.

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, attended the ceremony.

When Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived at the venue of the ceremony amid the welcome music, the participants broke into enthusiastic cheers out of their absolute trust and boundless reverence for him who set forth the



FROM PAGE 2

original development orientation for building the modern naval forces and has powerfully guided the struggle for its realization to usher in a new stirring heyday of the navy capable of extending the strong strength and spirit of the DPRK to the vast ocean.

The KPA Navy courteously greeted Comrade Kim Jong Un, the outstanding leader and great defender of our state and people, with the highest respect.

There took place a ceremony of greeting the head of state.

Comrade Kim Jong Un reviewed the glorious flag and guard of honour of the KPA Navy.

There was a march-past of the guard of honour of the Navy.

Present there were senior Party and government officials including members

of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, officials of the WPK Central Committee, leading officials of ministries and national agencies, commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence and the KPA large combined units, officers and men of the Navy, sailors of the former generation, workers, scientists, technicians and officials in the field of shipbuilding industry and citizens, youth and students in Wonsan City.

The sacred flag of the DPRK was hoisted amid the solemn playing of the national anthem.

An art performance was given to commemorate the commissioning of the new-type destroyer.

Put on the stage were pieces of music dealing with the militant course of the Navy of the Republic, which has

demonstrated the matchless heroism, bravery and spirit of annihilating enemies to defend the inviolable sea of the motherland, and the life of sailors shining on the voyage of loyalty and songs on the theme of patriotism.

The performance showed through wonderful artistic depiction the high ideological and moral world of the officers and men of the Navy, who are determined to invariably remain faithful to their sacred mission assigned by the Party and the country, setting the coordinates of their life on the voyage of defending the country forever and adding eternal brilliance to the immortal ennobling name of Comrade Kim Jong Un's navy and its history of victory. It added pleasure to the significant and auspicious event in September.

Then followed a commissioning ceremony of the destroyer.

Jo Chun Ryong, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, made a report on the preparations for the commissioning of the destroyer *Kang Kon*.

He said that the destroyer *Kang Kon* will be formally commissioned into the KPA Navy at a historic time when a new heyday of strengthening the Juche-oriented naval forces is being put on a higher stage, adding that since its launching, the destroyer's combat efficiency and reliability have been comprehensively verified through several-stage professional assessment and test.

On behalf of the workers, scientists and officials in the field of defence industry including Chongjin Shipyard and Rajin Shipyard, he courteously declared that the destroyer *Kang Kon* with the mission to

SEE PAGE 4





FROM PAGE 3

defend the sea of the DPRK was ready to be delivered to the Navy of the KPA.

Thanks to the outstanding and correct guidance of the Party Central Committee, the rapid growth and development of the naval forces of the Republic has been put on a firm track, he stressed.

Saying that it is the firm faith and high enthusiasm of the workers in the shipbuilding industry and the national defence scientific research group to glorify the great era by building and launching more powerful warships every year, he expressed the determination to ensure the radical development of the naval forces of the DPRK by making more responsible efforts and struggles true to the line of developing the national defence clarified by the Party Congress.

Minister of Shipbuilding Kim Kwang Il handed over the document of delivery of the destroyer *Kang Kon* to the Navy of the KPA.

Comrade Kim Jong Un made a meaningful speech.

Expressing his historic excitement he felt over the fact that with the high ambition for ocean navigation the destroyer of a new generation came to commence its operation at the port, where the ranks of anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters led by Comrade Kim Il Sung landed by the *Kaesong* on a triumphant return to their country in September 81 years ago, he said that the great ambition for a prosperous country with a strong army harboured by the small *Kaesong* is now to be carried forward to the vast ocean by this ultramodern warship at this very memorable port.

Under the situation in which everything

is difficult as it is now, he said, we evaluated the needs of history and the present times with a responsible attitude and viewpoint towards the thoroughgoing security of the present and future, and valiantly confronted challenges in our own way of calculation, and this started from the self-consciousness and sense of mission of our generation never to pass over to the coming generations the great historic cause of building a powerful navy in line with the position of a maritime nation. The *Kang Kon* is a manifestation of the sense of self-respect and will of this Korea and the crystallization of its indomitable spirit to defend its rights and interests, before being an ensemble of our economic, defence and sci-tech strength, he added.

By realizing the programme of equipping our Navy with nuclear weapons, we should develop for an actual war the multifaceted and efficient operation of nuclear combat systems and make clearer the military activities for maritime defence and war deterrence and it is the constitutional duty of the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, he said, stating that the responsible activities and important role of our Navy will strictly restrain the enemies' aggressive fleets and surely result in forcing them to make a strategic retreat.

Saying that there is no other option for safeguarding peace than maintaining the balance of forces and we will deploy the most powerful strategic assets in the most important waters in order to show our principled and responsible will to defend the maritime sovereignty of our Republic, the security environment in Northeast Asia and the global peace, he clarified again the invariable stand of the WPK and the DPRK government to continue to build up overwhelming military muscle in such a way as to make the enemies fear the DPRK.

When Comrade Kim Jong Un finished his speech, all the participants expressed their firm pledge to uphold with the most thoroughgoing practical successes the unshakable will of the Party Central Committee to defend the national sovereignty and its policy of building a powerful army, breaking into thunderous cheers of "Hurrah!"

Upon authorization, Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, read out the order of the WPK Central Military

Commission on commissioning the destroyer *Kang Kon* into the KPA Navy, and handed it to Senior Vice Admiral Pak Kwang Sop, commander of the KPA Navy.

On the order of the WPK Central Military Commission, the destroyer will be commissioned into the East Sea Fleet of the KPA Navy to fulfill the responsible mission of defending the maritime sovereignty of the DPRK and serving as part of the nuclear war deterrent.

On behalf of the sailors of the destroyer, Senior Commander Choe Chol Jin, captain of the destroyer, made an oath-taking speech.

Referring to the great honour and pride of commanding the powerful new-type warship, the captain extended high tribute and thanks on behalf of the warship to the workers of the Chongjin and Rajin shipyards and the relevant defence industry sector faithfully upholding the Party Central Committee's grand plan for building the naval forces.

He said that they will sail along the course indicated by the Party Central Committee without an inch of deviation as befits the sailors of the destroyer *Kang Kon*, a capital ship of the Navy in the new era which carries the immortal soul of the army-founding generation and shoulders a heavy responsibility of defending the maritime sovereignty, and exercise in a responsible manner the invincible defence capability and tremendous deterrent assigned by the country and the people to the warship.

The captain expressed the will of sure victory of the sailors of the destroyer to vigorously make a voyage of ocean with the most brilliant feats, always cherishing the pledge made before Comrade Kim Jong Un and the country and its people at the commissioning ceremony, and thus more highly and fully demonstrate the dignity and honour of the glorious DPRK.

Then, amid the enthusiastic encouragement and cheers of the participants in the ceremony, the sailors of the destroyer got on the warship with the honour of being sailors of the Republic, holding high the fleet flag and the ensign in the van.

There took place a ceremony of hoisting the flag of the KPA Navy on the destroyer *Kang Kon*.

SEE PAGE 6



Comrade Kim Jong Un's speech at commissioning ceremony for the destroyer *Kang Kon*

Admirable workers of Chongjin and Rajin shipyards and talented persons of the technical teams in the shipbuilding and defence science sectors,

Sailors of the destroyer *Kang Kon* and brave officers and other sailors of our Navy,

Dear Wonsan citizens,

Comrades,

Today we are greeting another noteworthy moment in the course of our advance for accelerating the buildup of our powerful naval forces.

Three months ago, the destroyer *Choe Hyon* sounded a whistle of its commissioning on the West Sea of Korea, and today a ceremony for commissioning another destroyer is being held in splendour here on the East Sea of Korea.

This is a remarkable reality that showcases the speed of change of our Navy.

I would like, first of all, to pay my heartfelt tribute to the workers of Chongjin and Rajin and the sci-tech teams in the shipbuilding and defence industry sectors who have unsparingly devoted their patriotic sweat and passion for this significant day of etching new coordinates in the course of strengthening our maritime sovereignty in the new era.

Comrades,

The excitement and emotion I feel today is beyond description as a ceremony that injects new strength into our Navy is being held not anywhere else but at this historic port.

If there is a most heart-gladdening and emotive historic moment in the history of building our nation and our armed forces, that will be today.

In this September, 81 years ago, the ranks led by Comrade Kim Il Sung landed here at Wonsan Port by a warship on a triumphant return to their country which they had so missed.

Mooring now at the harbour, where the *Kaeson* put into on that historic day, is a destroyer of a new generation that gives a glimpse into our naval capability and its development.

At the port, where the anchor of national liberation was dropped with a cheerful dream, our destroyer will raise its anchor with a far-reaching ambition of sailing to the ocean.

From this very moment, not just in the near future, that powerful naval combat complex will put out to sea to defend the national sovereignty and write the first page of its log, reflecting the desire of the great people.

As the great ambition for a prosperous country with a strong army harboured by the small *Kaeson* is now to be carried forward to the vast ocean by this ultramodern warship at this very memorable port, this emotion will remain in my memory forever.

I am really glad to share this historic emotion with you comrades.

The forerunners, who, at this port, stepped on the soil of their country, are not here now, but they would share their desire with us today, I am sure.

The primary significance of the commissioning of the *Kang Kon*, held in splendour in the meaningful September, is that we are proudly raising the anchor of building a maritime power at the place where the anchor of national liberation was dropped.

Today this port has gained a new significance as a historic place, where the warships of our Republic will



raise anchor one after another to defend our national sovereignty and security in every way, and as an area, which will exhibit the uninterrupted improvement of our naval combat capability.

Comrades,

We are now seeing historic things symbolically showing the past and present of our naval combat capability.

That warship at the quay by the museum over there is just the *Kaeson*.

That warship represents our past and this one before us, our present.

Nothing can explain more impressively than this what turn has been brought about now by a history in which it was impossible to hold the esteemed man, benevolent liberator of a country and nation and founder of a state, in all respect and sincerity.

What we should pay attention to is that a more important thing than this historical comparison or the dramatic contrast that is clearly visible is the fact that such a change has been made in only two or three years.

As I have already stated, the workers, scientists and technicians of our generation have accomplished the thing, which had failed to be done for nearly 80 years since the founding of our Navy, with the enthusiastic support of all the people and amid their expectations.

Modernization of the naval armaments has always been an essential requirement for the geopolitical factors of our state, and the efforts of the Korean people desirous of a powerful navy have never stopped, but until a few years ago our Navy failed to have warships commensurate with its mission and military achievements.

Of course, it may also be attributed to the military and strategic demands of the past and present times, but this is not the only reason.

To tell the truth, this is related with our history.

It reflects the peculiarities and arduousness of our revolution and the history of hardship which we were compelled to experience inevitably for that, and contains a myriad of stories beyond what we know and have seen.

It is by no means easy to arm the Navy this much under the situation in which everything is difficult as it is now.

But by transcending everything, we evaluated the needs of history and the present times with a responsible attitude and viewpoint towards the thoroughgoing security of the present and future, and valiantly confronted challenges in our own way of calculation.

Such attitude and new awareness doubled the self-consciousness and sense of mission of our generation never to pass over to the coming generations the great historic cause of building a powerful navy in line with the position of a maritime nation that is bounded by the sea on both sides.

The course of naval modernization can be said to be a process of adhering to the principle of bringing ability in step with a goal set by the times, instead of setting a goal based on the calculation of ability, and a process of attaining the goal without compromise or delay under any circumstances.

But for the viewpoint, stand, courage and calculation method that there should be the will to attain an aim before a guarantee for the attainment of it is provided, our Navy would have still remained in the past.

Our future cannot be bought with financial resources.

We are a people who cannot wait.

The *Kang Kon* is a manifestation of the sense of self-respect and will of this Korea and the crystallization of its indomitable spirit to defend its rights and interests, before being an ensemble of our economic, defence and sci-tech strength.

The commissioning of the new-type destroyer here today will be an important occasion for redoubling our will of, and our motive power for, transformation amid genuine recollection.

Comrades,

Our Navy has eagerly waited for the moment when a new-type destroyer of ours would leave its wake just here on the East Sea, not elsewhere.

Today we are witnessing with our own eyes how the aspirations and dreams the Korean people have cherished for ages are coming true.

In the past, because of the limitations of our military equipment, we had no other alternative but to leave the enemy warships move rampantly around our territorial waters as they wanted, although we had such great courage and mettle to defend the seas of our country firmly. Such a thing of the past shall never be repeated.

The security of our country is exposed to constant and direct threats from all sides—on the land, in the air and on the sea—and the first and foremost of them is what comes from the East Sea of Korea and the neighbouring waters.

No waters can be found around any other country than ours where warships of the belligerents appear any time to move and deploy nuclear assets and conduct joint war rehearsals freely, using our waters as a theatre for tracking and inhibiting even our legitimate exercise of the right to self-defence.

These days we have often witnessed here the tireless efforts of our enemies to improve their readiness for war against us.

Our national security is now under serious threat posed by the open hostile military actions of the enemies to wreck the regional stability.

The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea can never allow such phenomena to go unheeded any longer.

Dangerous shadows must be removed as early as possible.

We must cope with these threats resolutely by employing quite a professional and overwhelming power, with a willingness to use it and a sufficient ability for it.

In this sense, the commissioning of the *Kang Kon* has virtually incomparable significance, although it is identical in terms of class and weaponry to the *Choe Hyon* which was already delivered to the West Sea Fleet.

The proclamation of the commissioning of this virtually attack destroyer itself is enough to inform the world of our views and attitudes.

The fact that the warship has officially been commissioned to the naval group on the East Sea, and the information that naval bases are under construction on the East Sea will give a clear signal to the enemies, who will inevitably find themselves in deep distress.

It is high time we exercised our sovereignty properly both on and under the sea.

We have become able to use stronger and more deadly power.

We will exercise the legitimate right to self-defence and respond as much as necessary.

The results of our views and efforts are successfully preventing the geopolitical threat from the enemies.

We need to change faster.

As I mentioned at the previous commissioning ceremony for the *Choe Hyon*, the change of our Navy does not simply mean that its vessels are becoming larger and that the shipborne weapons systems are getting further modernized.

The most important change and the most significant progress worth mentioning is that it is a source of the greatest fear for the enemies.

It means that the programme of equipping our Navy with nuclear weapons has been realized so as to become more suitable, diversified and practical for the use of their deterrence.

By further bolstering up the powerful and reliable nuclear war deterrent, we should develop for an actual war the multifaceted and efficient operation of nuclear combat systems and make clearer the military activities for maritime defence and war deterrence.

It is the constitutional duty of the armed forces of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to safeguard the absolute security of the state, maintain the strategic stability and the balance of forces in the region and contain geopolitical threats.

The responsible activities and important role of our Navy will strictly restrain the enemies’ aggressive fleets and surely result in forcing them to make a strategic retreat.

As was proved yesterday and is proved today, there is no other option for safeguarding peace than maintaining the balance of forces.

Our stand is clear.

We should make the enemies fear us.

Only when the enemies fear us, can they never dare provoke us, and can we defend the peace and development environment of our country.

In order to cope thoroughly with the existing, lurking and prospective threats, we must continue to build up overwhelming military muscle.

I emphasize once again.

We will deploy the most powerful strategic assets in the most important waters in order to show our principled and responsible will to defend the maritime sovereignty of our Republic, the security environment in Northeast Asia and the global peace, and also make a great contribution to this end.

Comrades,

Our state’s security and our national interests have never been separated from the defence of maritime sovereignty, and a powerful navy is a stout pillar for national defence and a reliable means for exercising national sovereignty.

Like the goals all maritime countries pursue, we must put the modernized naval weapons systems on the axis for deterring and fighting a war so as to defend today and the future.

We should make the world know what we are doing and how we are preparing ourselves to defend our rights and interests with a bolder decision and a faster and perfect result.

The appellation for the strong and for a power in the 21st century can be obtained only by making ceaseless efforts and can be won without any regret only by bringing about vigorous innovations and upsurge.

Our massive plans include the building and commissioning of warships of various types which are compatible with the two aspects of war deterrence and

fighting of war and which can satisfy such needs, the modernization of shipyards and the construction of infrastructure, the reorganization of the naval forces and the establishment of new units. These are great undertakings our generation must accomplish without fail.

We should make clearer our courageous stance and efforts to implement these tasks of the present times and push ahead with them at top speed.

Today marks another new start in the relay which should continue uninterruptedly.

We are now carrying out an important plan for the buildup of the naval forces.

I will prove this to the world once again eight months later.

Comrades,

Our warships going out to wider waters must sail across the boundless ocean valiantly at full throttle.

Let us dash unrelentingly until we can satisfy our steadfast will to defend our national sovereignty and lofty self-respect.

Commanding officers and other sailors of the destroyer *Kang Kon*,

You will soon be assigned with a strategic mission.

It is because this warship is a means and force included in the country’s nuclear counteraction system.

You ought to play an important role through your responsible service.

As the first crewmen of the destroyer, you, with the pride and mettle of standing in the most responsible position in safeguarding the country, should prepare and train yourselves thoroughly to perform various tasks in different circumstances and in this way you can record only victorious battles in the history of the destroyer.

If our enemies dare to have recourse to armed force against us, I will order you to use our absolute strength, which would deal the most fatal blow to them.

You must deal an annihilating retaliatory strike to the enemies if such an order is issued at any time.

The professionalism and bravery you would display and the unlimited strength you have possessed will further boost the fighting efficiency and fame of our East Sea Fleet.

I hope that the ensign fluttering over the *Kang Kon* will always shine radiantly as a symbol of dignity and honour, a banner of victory and feats, of our Navy.

Brave sailors of the destroyer,

Forward for our great motherland!

Amid the boom of a 9 gun-salute, the flag was solemnly hoisted on the warship with the wish and militant salute of all the participants.

Comrade Kim Jong Un got on the destroyer.

The captain greeted Comrade Kim Jong Un with the great honour of having the head of state on his warship again before leaving the port.

Going round various combat spaces of the warship, Comrade Kim Jong Un extended warm congratulations and militant encouragement to all the commanding officers and sailors who start their honourable military service together with the DPRK’s new-generation destroyer No. 2, which was named after the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter, with the sacred and important mission of defending the inviolable national sovereignty.

Comrade Kim Jong Un met the sailors on the bow of the destroyer.

The destroyer *Kang Kon* was awarded a pair of binoculars in the name of Comrade

Kim Jong Un.

Comrade Kim Jong Un said that today’s ceremony of transferring the warship held with splendour amid the blessing of the country and the people constitutes a historic event of making another step forward in improving the operational capability of our navy to the strategic level and a clear proof of the invincibility of our cause ushering in a heyday of the navy.

He said that once given an order anytime, the new-generation destroyer should deal a deadly retaliatory blow to the enemies as it is a force involved in the state nuclear counteraction system. He expressed belief and expectation that the commanding officers and sailors of the destroyer *Kang Kon* embodying the might, spirit and courage of the DPRK would win only victory, covering the militant course of the Navy of the Republic with greater glory, and had a significant photo taken with them.

All the commanding officers and sailors of the destroyer solemnly pledged to glorify the honour of the Navy of

the Republic with a record of proud battle victory, holding fast to the helm of invariable faith and sailing the ocean along the course indicated by the Party Central Committee.

Comrade Kim Jong Un got off the warship and met with the navy commanding officers of the former generation who took part in the ceremony.

The commander of the Navy ordered the destroyer *Kang Kon* to leave the port.

All the warships of the Navy staying in the port raised the code flags of congratulation at once amid the gong of departure of the destroyer and the let-off of fireworks and balloons.

The participants extended their warmest and enthusiastic congratulations to the sailors of the destroyer, waving their hands.

Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a militant salute to the destroyer, hoping that it would demonstrate only the honour of invincibility.

On the same day, senior Party and government officials and other participants went round the venues of the

exhibition of warship military hardware and the photo exhibition of the history of the Navy and realized with deep emotion the rapid development of our Navy being accelerated beyond precedent and limits thanks to the energetic around-the-clock leadership of Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The KPA Navy hosted a reception in commemoration of the commissioning of the destroyer.

The commissioning of the destroyer *Kang Kon* clearly proved the epoch-making progress and development of the building of the modern naval forces led by Comrade Kim Jong Un and gave redoubled strength and encouragement to the ranks of the all-people general advance working heart and soul for the successful implementation of the grand revolutionary programme set forth by the historic Ninth Congress of the WPK.

Only traces of victory and glory will always be recorded in the future of our Navy thanks to Comrade Kim Jong Un, the symbol of the mightiness of the great DPRK, banner of invincibility and iron-willed commander.

On the occasion of 78th founding anniversary of DPRK

Senior Party and government officials visit Kumsusan Palace of Sun

KCNA

All the people in the DPRK celebrating National Day on the worthwhile journey of ushering in an era of comprehensive development of our socialist state by dint of single-minded unity based on patriotism are paying the highest tribute and the eternal glory to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, the founder and builder of the dignified DPRK.

Senior Party and government officials including members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, leading officials of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet, ministries and national agencies and commanding officers of the armed forces organs visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun on September 8 on the occasion of the 78th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

A flower basket from respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was laid at the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Also placed were flower baskets in the name of the WPK Central Committee, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the SPA Standing Committee of the DPRK and the DPRK Cabinet.

The participants paid high tribute to the great leaders at the statues.



Floral tribute paid at revolutionary and patriotic martyrs cemeteries

KCNA

Flowers were laid at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong and the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri on September 8 on the occasion of the 78th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

Present there were Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, other senior Party and government officials, officials of the Party Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet and armed forces organs and meritorious persons of socialist patriotism.

The participants observed a moment's silence in memory of the martyrs who devoted their all to the prosperity of Juche Korea, happiness of the people and the sacred cause for victorious advance of the socialist cause, true to the ideology and leadership of the Party.

The participants laid flowers before the busts and tombstones of the martyrs and paid high tribute to them, recollecting with reverence the valuable exploits of the forerunners who always live in the memory of the country and the people.



Street parade and evening gala held

KCNA

A street parade and evening gala took place in Pyongyang on September 8 to celebrate the 78th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Mansu Hill, a historic place where the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are solemnly standing, was crowded with Pyongyang citizens who gathered to take part in the significant street parade.

Before starting the parade, Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a speech.

Amid the playing of "Song of the Proclamation of the People's Republic", the parade began with the column holding a large national flag of the Republic in the lead.

The participants in the parade extended the highest glory to the President and the Chairman who set an epochal example in building a prosperous and powerful socialist state independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in defence with their outstanding ideology and leadership.

All the columns, including the column with a float depicting the national emblem, column of rhythmic national flags and column of persons in three-colour clothes, extended the highest tribute to respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who is ushering in the era of the most powerful country in the 5 000-year history, the era of our-state-first principle, shouting slogans in sonorous voices.

The columns of the parade entered Kim Il Sung Square.

Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, and other senior officials of the Party, government and armed forces organs and leading officials of ministries, national agencies and working people's organizations appeared on the platform of the square.

Members of the diplomatic corps in Pyongyang took their seats for invited guests of the platform.

Labour innovators and meritorious persons invited to the celebrations of National Day, participants in the 15th National Conference of Teachers, service personnel, youth and students and schoolchildren of revolutionary schools warmly welcomed the columns of the parade entering the square.

A ceremony of hoisting the national flag of the DPRK took place solemnly.

All the participants paid high tribute to the dignified national flag of the DPRK, full of pride and patriotic enthusiasm and confidence in the bright future.

Then an evening gala of youth and students took place.

The participants in the evening gala danced to the tune of "Song of Youth" and "Dear Father", flying the national flags of the DPRK. They were filled with boundless reverence and gratitude to respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un who has put forward the young people as an advancing group of socialist construction and brought them up to be heroes of the times while entirely entrusting them with huge projects for creation.



A street parade and evening gala take place in Pyongyang on September 8 to celebrate the 78th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

On the occasion of 78th founding anniversary of DPRK

Performance given to mark founding anniversary of DPRK

KCNA

National day celebrations in the DPRK culminated with a grand art performance given before the Pyongyang Assembly Hall on the evening of September 9. Members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and other leading cadres of the Party and the government watched the performance together with the labour innovators

and meritorious persons invited to the national day celebrations, the participants in the 15th National Conference of Teachers, officials of ministries and national agencies, deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly in Pyongyang, the teaching staff and students of revolutionary schools, and Pyongyang citizens. Put on the stage were famous songs on the theme of patriotism which resounded in the course of the founding and development of the

DPRK. Listening to the memorable famous songs, the audience hardened the will to more firmly uphold their socialist country with redoubled courage and self-confidence in their strength and cause. The performance reached the climax with the National Anthem of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Fireworks were successively let off to brighten the nocturnal sky of celebrations.



A grand art performance is given before the Pyongyang Assembly Hall to celebrate 78th founding anniversary of the DPRK on the evening of September 9.

Reception given for labour innovators, meritorious persons

KCNA

A reception was given at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on September 9 for the labour innovators and meritorious persons invited to the celebrations of the 78th founding anniversary of the DPRK. Pak Thae Song, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, and other senior officials of the Party, government and armed forces organs were on hand. Pak Thae Song made a

congratulatory speech at the reception. The participants toasted the eternal prosperity of the DPRK, their beloved country, and the well-being of the people across the country.



A reception is given at the People's Palace of Culture on September 9 for the labour innovators and meritorious persons invited to the celebrations of the 78th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

National sculpture and craftwork festival opens

KCNA

The Seventh National Sculpture and Craftwork Festival opened with due ceremony at the Pyongyang International House of Culture on September 3 in celebration of the 78th birthday of the DPRK. On show at the festival are more than 300 works created by sculptors and

craftsmen from art studios, amateurs and schoolchildren across the country. Those works represent the reality of the country, which is being transformed every day under the wise leadership of the great Workers' Party of Korea, and the happy looks of the people enjoying a new civilization and life. They include sculptures

and craftworks of various themes portraying the bright and cheerful looks of the younger generations realizing their dreams and cultivating talents thanks to the benefits of the benevolent socialist system. Present at the opening ceremony were officials concerned, the festival participants and citizens.

Working people's organizations hold various events

KCNA

Meetings with meritorious persons of socialist patriotism and winners of Model Worker Honour Prize were held respectively by the working people's organizations on September 7 to mark the 78th birthday of the DPRK. Present at the meetings were officials of working people's organizations, youth and students, workers and trade union members and agricultural workers in Pyongyang.

The participants were all full of ardent enthusiasm and will to fulfill their responsibility and duty, giving fuller play to their loyalty and patriotism in the sacred struggle to accelerate the great change and development of Korean-style socialism and usher in the era of comprehensive prosperity true to the leadership of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. Officials and members of the women's union had a story-telling meeting "The

Motherland and I" at the Hall of Women in Pyongyang on September 7 to celebrate the 78th founding anniversary of the DPRK. Present there were women's union officials and members in Pyongyang. A dance party of women's union officials and members took place on September 9 at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph in Pyongyang. Dance parties of women's union officials and members were also held in other parts of the country.

Swimming contest held

KCNA

A swimming contest of central-level universities in the capital city of Pyongyang was held at the swimming pool of Kim Il Sung University on September 8 to mark the 78th founding anniversary of the DPRK. Among the spectators were Sin Yong Il, Ju Chang

Il and Kim Sung Du, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and other senior Party and government officials, officials of the Cabinet, commissions, ministries, national agencies and armed forces organs and teaching staff and students of universities in the city. The swimming contest

brought together players selected from central-level universities in the city. It was held, divided into men's and women's 100-metre freestyle and breaststroke swimming events and medley relay. Kim Il Sung University came first in total rankings. Relevant prizes were conferred on the teams that proved successful.

Schoolchildren hold oratorical meeting

KCNA

There took place a schoolchildren's oratorical meeting "Flag of the DPRK and Children's Union Member" at the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Park

Open-air Theatre on September 7. Present there were officials of the youth league and schoolchildren in Pyongyang. At the meeting, performers ardently praised

the world of boundless devotion and love of respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un who is ushering in a rosy era of a prosperous power for the bright future of the rising generation.

National Day celebrated across the country

KCNA

All the people across the country significantly celebrated the 78th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. An endless stream of visitors flowed into the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il lie in state. Officials, working people,

service personnel, youth and students visited the statues of the peerlessly great leaders and the mosaics depicting them on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and in other parts of the country to lay flower baskets, bouquets and flowers before them. They also paid floral tribute to the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs, patriotic martyrs and fallen fighters of the KPA at the

Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery, other martyrs cemeteries, memorial towers for the fallen soldiers of the Korean People's Army and graves of martyrs in different parts of the country. There took place national flag-hoisting ceremonies in different parts of the country. Performances were given

in Pyongyang and local areas, adding pleasure to the significant holiday. On the same day, public catering establishments in Pyongyang and all other parts of the country were full of visitors receiving holiday service. Cultural recreation grounds were crowded with working people and schoolchildren enjoying themselves on the holiday.



Performances are given in Pyongyang and local areas, adding pleasure to the people on the significant holiday.

Tuman River motor bridge named after Yakov Nobichenko inaugurated



An inauguration ceremony of the Tuman River motor bridge named after Yakov Nobichenko takes place simultaneously in Rason Municipality, a border city of the DPRK, and Khasan, a border city of the Russian Federation, on September 7.

KCNA

The Tuman River motor bridge linking Rason Municipality with Khasan, border cities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, was successfully completed at a time when bilateral multi-faceted cooperation and exchanges are further developing day by day on the firm basis of the comprehensive strategic partnership and invincible alliance.

True to the noble intention of Comrade Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, the governments and builders of the two countries successfully built the bridge in a sincere manner, as required by the design and construction methods, in a matter of 495 days, out of the single desire to demonstrate the durable and future-oriented friendship and contribute to promoting the wellbeing of the peoples of the two countries.

The completion of the motor bridge, which can ensure the safe passage of various kinds of vehicles

and people, has built up and reinforced the important infrastructure for economic cooperation between the two countries and provided a guarantee for revitalizing multi-faceted cooperation including people's exchange, tourism and commodity circulation.

The monumental structure to be brilliantly recorded in the history of the DPRK-Russia friendly relations was named after Yakov Nobichenko, an officer of the Red Army and internationalist soldier. This is a manifestation of the steadfast will of the leaderships and peoples of both countries to invariably strengthen and develop the good-neighbourly relations between the two peoples into the genuinely comradely relations of trust.

The inauguration ceremony of the Tuman River motor bridge named after Yakov Nobichenko took place simultaneously in Rason Municipality, a border city of the DPRK, and Khasan, a border city of the Russian Federation, on September 7.

Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, and Mikhail Vladimirovich Mishustin, prime minister of the Russian Federation, respectively attended the ceremony in Pyongyang and Moscow through video-

conferencing.

The ceremony was attended by Kim Tok Hun, first vice-premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, Yun Jong Ho, minister of External Economic Relations and chairman of the DPRK side to the DPRK-Russia Inter-governmental Committee for Cooperation in Trade, Economy, Science and Technology, Yang Yong Jin, minister of Land and Environment Protection, Sin Chang Il, chairman of the Rason Municipal People's Committee, Kim Jong Gyu, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, officials concerned, builders and working people in Rason Municipality.

Also present there were Vladimir Topekha, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Russian embassy in Pyongyang, and Oleg Koshev, Russian consul general in Chongjin.

The national anthems of the DPRK and the Russian Federation were played.

Prime Minister Mikhail Vladimirovich Mishustin made a congratulatory speech.

He noted that the cooperation on the construction of transport facilities between the two governments was an item of the agreement reached at the meeting between Comrade

Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, and Comrade Kim Jong Un, President of the State Affairs of the DPRK, in Pyongyang two years ago, saying that they were to witness a historic event of inauguration of the motor bridge today.

The relations between Russia and the DPRK have been put on an unprecedentedly high level of comprehensive strategic partnership, he said, stating that the two countries are actively cooperating with each other in all domains and directing their efforts to ensuring the regional peace and stability.

He said that the long-standing friendship, good-neighbourliness and mutual assistance between the two countries are impervious to the international situation, adding that Russia will as ever do its utmost for the multi-faceted development of the bilateral ties.

Premier Pak Thae Song made a congratulatory speech.

He expressed heartfelt thanks to the designers, builders and personages of relevant institutions of the two countries who devoted their inexhaustible enthusiasm and efforts to bringing earlier the inauguration of the Tuman

River motor bridge.

The completion of the bridge is a significant event adding new dynamism to the overall bilateral cooperation, he said, stressing that the eye-opening reality, in which the monumental wealth of the DPRK-Russia friendship and cooperation is growing, gives pleasure and joy to the peoples of the two countries while steadily injecting vitality into the development of the bilateral ties.

He noted that the governments of the two countries would continue to achieve substantial successes in the cooperation work for common development and co-prosperity, based on the valuable achievements and experience accumulated through the construction of the bridge.

According to the instructions of the heads of government of the two countries, Kim Tok Hun, first vice-premier of the DPRK Cabinet, and Vladimir Topekha, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Russian embassy to the DPRK, cut the inauguration tape at the venue of the ceremony in Rason Municipality and Alexandr Kozlov, minister of Natural Resources and Ecology of Russia who is chairman of the Russian side to the Russia-DPRK Inter-governmental

Committee for Cooperation in Trade, Economy, Science and Technology, Minister of Transport Andrei Nikitin, Minister of Development of the Far East and Arctic Aleksei Chekunkov and DPRK Ambassador to Russia Sin Hong Chol at the venue of the ceremony in Khasan.

Trucks of both sides passed through the bridge amid the letting off of fireworks in congratulation of the completion of the bridge and the loud applause of the participants.

The heads of government in their concluding speeches said that the Tuman River motor bridge is a new symbol and proud creation of friendship between the two countries, expressing the unshakable stand of the two governments to actively implement the agreement made at the historic meeting between the top leaders of the two countries.

Then the participants looked round the bridge.

The inauguration of the bridge serves as a significant occasion in designing and actively implementing the equally-beneficial bilateral exchanges and long-term cooperation projects in all fields according to the outstanding foresightedness and under the strategic guidance of the top leaders of the DPRK and Russia.

New barbecue restaurants inaugurated in provinces

KCNA

A new barbecue restaurant has appeared in Sinuiju City, North Phyongan Province.

The restaurant, another catering service facility for the people, was built in a distinctive way at a scenic place of the border city. It has hundreds of seats and various service rooms meeting the convenience of diners.

Its inauguration ceremony took place on September 8.

Present there were officials, working people and builders of the province and the city and employees

of the restaurant.

Choe Yong Man, chairman of the provincial people's committee, addressed the ceremony. Then a speech was made.

After the ceremony the participants looked round the restaurant.

War veterans, honoured disabled soldiers, labour innovators, meritorious persons and other citizens were served that day.

Barbecue restaurants were also built in Kanggye City of Jagang Province and Phyongsong City of South Phyongan Province.



The Phyongsong Barbecue Restaurant.



The Sinuiju Barbecue Restaurant.

Horticultural exhibition house lures many



Many people visit the horticultural exhibition house on Saeppyo Street of Pyongyang. WON TONG CHOL/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Many people visit the horticultural exhibition house on Saeppyo Street of Pyongyang.

Some of them come here to buy ornamental plants and others want to have photos taken at the exhibition house with a beautiful indoor landscape on birthdays, holidays and wedding days.

The interior of the exhibition house with a small wooden bridge going well with fresh green plants reminds visitors of a lush garden.

On display at the exhibition house are ornamental plants and flowers needed for urban landscaping and indoor and outdoor greening of dwelling

houses and public buildings in a balanced way.

It has over 50 kinds of ornamental trees including cycad and Queensland umbrella tree, potted needle leaf trees like pine and juniper, potted broadleaf trees like maple and potted apple, lemon, grape and other fruit trees.

Most attractive among them are potted fruit trees.

It is said that children especially like them.

Kim Kyong Il, a staff member of the exhibition house, said that seeing the landscape of fruits they could see only in greenhouses and in the right season in the countryside, children feel a strong urge to cultivate trees and pick fruits from them and some of them pester the

keepers to pick fruits from the trees for them.

The exhibition house also provides kind technical services related to plant cultivation, indoor greening and landscaping at the request of the visitors.

People want very much to create a fresh natural environment, but indoor greening is not so easy as it has to produce an ornamental effect with living plants, said Kim Kyong Il. "The exhibition house introduces customers in detail how to select plant species according to the internal structures and functional features of houses and public buildings and landscape them by using walls and columns and provides related technical services for them."

Flower garden renovated in Songdowon area

By Pang Un Ju PT

The flower garden of the Songdowon Pleasure Ground Management Station in the Songdowon area, a scenic attraction on the east coast, has been renovated.

Ground cover plants such as Phlox subulata and Zoysia

tenuifolia, roses and dozens of other species of flowering and ornamental plants grow in an area of tens of thousands of square metres of the flower garden, creating a beautiful landscape.

It has several flower petal-shape walkways centring around the pool with a dancing fountain fitted with

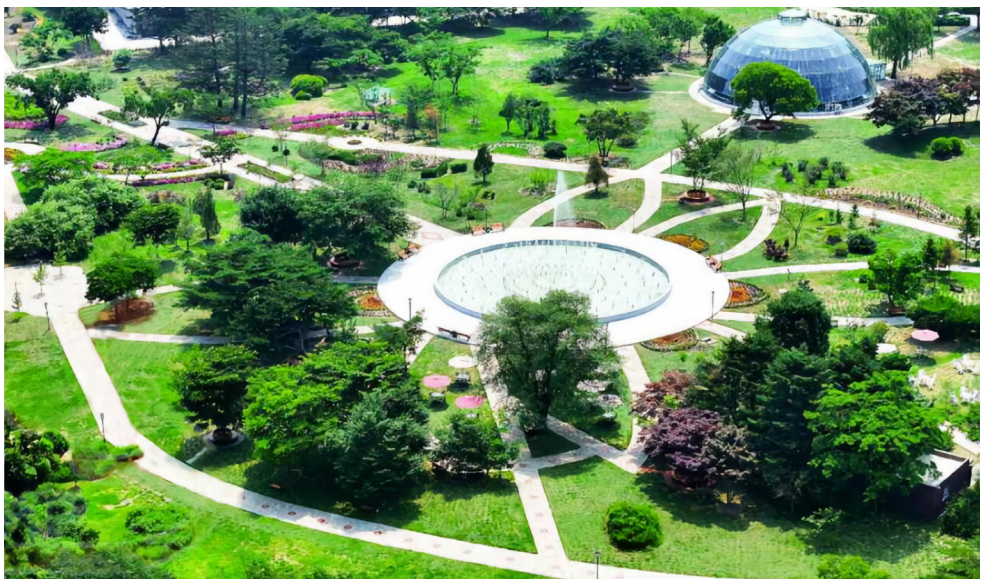
underwater lighting of various colours and cosy resting sites in the shade of trees of good species.

Ornamental animals also find home in the flower garden, adding to its scenic beauty.

The dome-shaped greenhouse for growing flowering plants in it catches the eye of the people.

Various kinds of flowers are cultivated in the greenhouse to give visitors a good idea of plants and spread general knowledge about flower growing.

Now many people come to spend a good time in the flower garden with beautiful scenery.



The renovated flower garden of the Songdowon Pleasure Ground Management Station.

New park built on Songhwa Street



A new park adds beauty to Songhwa Street. RYU KWANG HYOK/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Ri Myong Jun PT

A park has been newly built on Songhwa Street.

The park with a boating ground and fish farm also has soft drink stands and various amusement equipment along the paths.

Residents of the street say with pleasure that with the boating ground built on the street they have become able to enjoy themselves seeing videos on a large electronic screen or fishing on boats.

According to Jang Un Gyong, chief of the park, the park is attracting many people.

Especially, the boating ground is frequented by many schoolchildren in their summer vacation and other children with their grandparents.

The scenes of schoolchildren rowing hard and the elderly and their grandchildren enjoying themselves on board round sightseeing boats on the wide boating ground with a fountain sending a jet of water add to the unusual scenery of Songhwa Street with high-rise apartment houses standing in rows.

When it gets dark, the park gets more splendid with illuminations.

Then the park is crowded with people out there to enjoy themselves after a day's work.

Some people take a stroll along the paths of the bright park, young men and women date and children are engrossed in boating with their parents.

And other people refresh themselves relishing soft drinks at the soft drink stands of the park.

Meanwhile, angling fans are engrossed in fishing, adding to the night scenery of the park.

According to Jang Un Gyong, the boating ground serves as an ice rink in winter.

Neo-militarists' moves will bring terrible disaster to Japan: int'l security affairs analyst

Kang Won Chol, an international security affairs analyst of the DPRK, released the following article "Neo-militarists' moves to turn the Japanese archipelago into an 'invincible aircraft carrier' will bring terrible disaster to Japan":

The neo-militarists of Japan, who have emerged as a warlike force after putting off the veil of the "pacifist state", are bringing a whirlwind of building a war-capable state and reviving an aggressor nation to the archipelago. This pushes the peace and security environment in the Northeast Asian region to a seriously critical phase.

As made public, a joint military drill Orient Shield will reportedly be staged by the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" in the largest-ever scale with the US and Australian forces in and around Hokkaido of Japan from September 8 to 24, timed to coincide with the US-Japan-ROK multi-domain tripartite joint

military exercises Freedom Edge which are staged from September 7 to 11 in the Korean peninsula region.

Orient Shield is the military drill the ground SDF and the US army have staged since 1982 almost every year. The Australian army joined it last year.

Asserting that the drill codenamed "Orient Shield" is aimed at "strengthening solidarity for coping with various threats in East Asia", Japan has openly pursued military confrontation with other regional countries.

About 3 700 troops from Japan, the US and Australia will reportedly take part in the exercises to be staged around Hokkaido. The exercises involve live-ammunition firing, airborne dropping and especially the use of the US intermediate missile system Typhon deployed in Japan for Valiant Shield, large-scale mobile exercises of the US Pacific forces held in June, for the first time.

The Typhon system, composed of Mk41 vertical launching platforms, is

capable of launching the Tomahawk long-range cruise missile and SM-6 ship-to-air missile which respectively have a range of 1 600 km and 300 km, which means that it can be used to strike naval and ground targets.

Japan, which has focused on deploying long-range strike means in recent years by lavishing a huge amount of money as military expenditure, resorts to bilateral and multilateral joint military exercises with the US and its vassal forces more eagerly than ever. This is a manifestation of their sinister scheme to round off its real war capabilities against the DPRK and other neighbouring countries.

Japan, a defeated nation banned from possessing war capabilities, the right to participate in war and the right to belligerence, conducted the first test launch of Tomahawk long-range cruise missiles from a warship in the Pacific Ocean at the end of July in violation of its constitution. It is seeking

to introduce even the US forces' Typhon system into the war rehearsal. This is just targeting the regional sovereign countries and it is bad enough to amplify due concern and vigilance.

Moreover, the present Japanese authorities seek to stage a series of war games at the doorstep of neighbouring countries with the backing of their American master seriously destroying and violating the existing international order through illegal and arbitrary practices and tyranny. Therefore, their dangerous military manoeuvres indicate the present address of Japan evolving in an offensive manner with the passage of time.

The neo-militarist warmongers of Japan, who have added an item of "new combat mode" to the 2026 Defense White Paper, are persistently pushing ahead with such militarist policies as the determination of the highest-ever military expenditure, development of underwater-launched hypersonic missile and

unmanned submarine capable of long-distance navigation, introduction of AI into the SDF commanding system and an attempt to reorganize the mechanism of the Ministry of Defense. Due to their moves, the frenzy for reinvasion in the archipelago has reached the extremes.

In the past 80-odd years since its defeat, Japan placed its whole territory of archipelago ranging from Hokkaido to Kyushu in the US hands as a nuclear forward base and a logistic base for aggression against the DPRK, clamouring about an "unsinkable aircraft carrier". Now, it has thrown away even the yoke of the defeated nation and is rushing headlong toward neo-militarism. The international community should never remain a passive onlooker to this grave situation.

The attempt of the neo-militarists of Japan to turn the whole archipelago into an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" will inevitably invite great misfortune.

To achieve social development with unity and cooperation

By Choe Song Jun PT

Developing countries are striving to strengthen self-sufficiency in the economy and achieve social development through regional unity and cooperation.

The issues for strengthening regional integration and trade and investment were discussed at the 46th Summit of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) held recently in South Africa.

While expressing solidarity to the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo undergoing social disorder and sufferings caused by the dispute and Ebola virus infection, the summit reaffirmed support of the SADC to regional and international efforts and mediation for restoring peace and stability, providing humanitarian and health service assistance, promoting comprehensive dialogue and overcoming the present challenge crisis.

And considering the recent changes in the geopolitical situation and economic system, it called on the member states of the SADC to direct joint efforts in order to strengthen regional

integration, trade and investment and mobilize domestic resources to promote sustainable development and regional advance.

Also it appealed to the member states to continue to support the DR Congo suffering from the Ebola virus infection, while sharing real-time information, detecting early and prevent in time the infectious disease through regional mediation and intensifying monitoring and readiness to build up such response system. In this regard, it appreciated the funding and technical support from Angola, South Africa, Zimbabwe, the African centre for disease control and prevention, the WHO and other partakers.

In India there was held a ministerial meeting of BRICS in different fields including science and technology and environment on the theme of "construction for resilience, innovation, cooperation and sustainability".

At the meeting, the minister of State (independent) of the Ministry of Science and Technology of India suggested that the BRICS member states seek a practical way to promote cooperation in such fields as cutting-edge research,

innovative finance, mobility of talents and strengthening of new business cooperation and forces. He added that such cooperation would contribute to building up a future-oriented sci-tech innovation system of BRICS in response to global challenges.

Meanwhile, a vice-minister of sports, arts and culture of India, who attended the meeting of ministers of sports of BRICS held on the theme of "construction for ensuring vitality, innovation, cooperation and sustainability", said that sports unite countries, nations and peoples beyond borders, build lasting friendship and promote mutual understanding and cultural exchange, expressing his belief that the power of sports can be used in promoting the development of BRICS member countries and improving the well-being of the peoples of its member nations.

At the meeting the sports ministers and delegates of BRICS member states discussed the matters of fixing the priority cooperation fields related to sports, finding practical ways and obtaining future-oriented results.

Anti-Israeli sentiment prevails in West

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The international community is becoming increasingly vocal in denouncing the Israeli warmongers for their illegal massacres and wild ambition for territorial expansion.

The anti-Israeli sentiment runs high even in Western countries.

Shortly ago, the Israeli minister of state security demanded that 30 to 40 Palestinians be killed every night, saying that those in the Gaza Strip are not worth living.

In this regard, the French foreign minister condemned the Israeli minister's remarks as "unpardonable and inhumane" and declared that the ban of his entry into France would immediately take effect.

The foreign minister also said in an interview with a French newspaper that the incident in the West Bank is shameful in every way and arouses resentment of everyone.

Western countries are expressing the consensus in their opposition to Israel's settlement construction project.

The settlement construction project, which is to build more than 1 200 blocks of dwellings in the "E1" area near al-Quds, reportedly aims to divide the West Bank into north and south so as to make it impossible to establish a geographically linked state of Palestine and separate East al-Quds from the rest of the West Bank.

Therefore, Western countries including Canada, Australia and Germany have warned their businesses not to participate in the construction of the West Bank settlements and the "E1" area.

The British foreign minister condemned Israel's decision to push ahead with the settlement construction as "intolerable and destructive", warning of sanctions and countermeasures against it. He stressed in a statement that the UK would not remain an onlooker to the act of jeopardizing the establishment of two states.

Western countries have already imposed sanctions on the major Israeli personages involved in the construction of settlements.

In the past, the West has taken the stand of defending Israel, clamouring for "recognition of its right to self-defence". But today there has been a volte-face in their attitude.

Israel, which is denounced and rejected even in the Western world, is bound to face international isolation.

Briefly

KCNA

Russia

FM denounces hostile acts of Western countries

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov made a speech in a lecture held at the Eastern Economic Forum on September 3.

Saying that sanctions have become the main means of foreign policy of the West, he stated that Russia would never beg Europe to lift the sanctions, while currying favour with it.

The fear that Russia would "conquer" EU member states is a result of the pathological symptoms, he said, adding that there should always be an enemy for NATO and the EU and that if there are no such artificially concocted enemies as Russia any more, voters in the most of the countries belonging to the EU and NATO will topple their governments.

China

Japan's neo-militarist moves denounced

A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry condemned Japan for its reckless moves toward neo-militarism at a press conference on September 3.

The military budget for the 2027 fiscal year recently requested by the Defense Ministry of Japan exceeded an all-time high again.

Answering a question as to this, the spokesman said that Japan should fulfil its international obligations, thoroughly eradicate the poisonous aftereffects of militarism and maintain peaceful development.

China, together with other peace-loving countries of the world, will resolutely deter Japan's neo-militarism from prevailing under a veil of "normalization of the state" to bring disaster to the region and inflict harm on the rest of the world, he stressed.

Nepal

Survey result of damage caused by massive landslide and flood released

The Nepalese government announced a survey result of damage caused by the recent massive landslide and flood on September 5.

According to the result, the total number of victims was over 32 900.

Thirteen hydroelectric power stations suffered damage, resulting in a decrease in power generation.

At present, a large number of people have been reduced to homeless refugees.

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Lake Jangjin in summer



Sports roundup

By Ri Sung Ik PT

National open paduk contest held

A national open paduk contest took place in Phyongsong City, South Phyongan Province, amid the great expectations and interest of amateurs and experts.

The contest, which was divided into children's, schoolchildren's, amateurs' and open categories, brought together more than 530 players from all parts of the country and they competed

in several events including individual, doubles and team events.

The games of each category were fierce from the beginning.

The team of Pyongyang Municipality led others in the tally of medals.

But South Phyongan, North Phyongan, Kangwon and South Hamgyong provinces ranked the same, so the matches were more intense.

The South Hamgyong Provincial Team led the three other teams by obtaining a gold medal first, but all the three teams earned one gold medal respectively in the next matches to stand on the same ranking again.

Their team standings were decided by the results of the games in six events of the open category.

In the open category, the Pyongyang Municipality

Team won five gold medals to assure its victory, with the South Hamgyong Provincial Team receiving two gold medals to finish runner-up.

In the contest which took place with 43 gold medals Pyongyang Municipality got 27 of them and was placed first in the total rankings, followed by South Hamgyong and South Phyongan provinces.

Hwaepul Cup soccer tournament ends

Both men and women players of the Amnokgang Team snatched victory in the Hwaepul (Torch) Cup football tournament.

The men's team made strenuous efforts to preserve its original character, though it faced new difficulties caused by a series of changes in the team composition every year.

As a result, experts and fans still consider the Amnokgang Team as a considerably strong team.

In the recent Hwaepul Cup soccer tournament, too, the Amnokgang Team beat the Pyongyang Team which cruised

to the final 1-0 by fully displaying its physical, technical and tactical abilities and lifted the trophy for the third time after 2023 and 2025.

The April 25 Team raised the cup two times in the Hwaepul Cup soccer tournament (women's) which began from 2023 and the Sobaeksu Team won it last year.

The female Amnokgang players won the fourth Hwaepul Cup tournament amid different predictions of experts and fans.

The Amnokgang Team (women) emerged as a new winner of the Hwaepul Cup, after the April 25 and Sobaeksu teams.



Men and women footballers of the Amnokgang Team celebrate their win at the Hwaepul Cup football tournament.

National ICH element Korean roofing style

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The resourcefulness and wisdom of the Korean people are also reflected in architecture.

A typical example is the Korean roofing style, a national intangible cultural heritage element.

The Korean roofing style is the modes of forming roofs and their shapes that have long been refined and consolidated to suit the aesthetic tastes of the Korean people.

The Korean-style roofs are divided into gable, shed, hip-saddle roofs, etc. according to their forms.

They are marked by elegant and beautiful curves.

The Pohyon Temple, a historical relic in Mt Myohyang, shows the distinguished architectural skills and good artistic

skills.

The Tacung Hall, the biggest and most splendid building of the temple, is well balanced by the not-so-high walls and a hip-saddle roof with soft curves.

The Korean ancestors built roofs and pillars with unique and slight curves and curved surfaces for buildings and decorated them with soft, gentle and bright colours.

The formative representation of the elegant Korean-style roofs has steadily developed to be able to symbolically express the optimistic sentiments and resourcefulness of the Korean people.

The Korean roofing style was widely applied to such monumental edifices as the Grand People's Study House, the People's Palace of Culture and the Okryu Restaurant in the capital city of Pyongyang.



The Taedong Gate with Korean-style roofs.

