

House moving starts on Hwasong Street



New dwellers begin to move into their houses on Hwasong Street, a new street built in Pyongyang.

KCNA

A happy event of moving into new houses happened in the Hwasong area which rose up as a new street of the people, another grand monument symbolic of the era of gigantic change in socialist construction of a Korean style.

Convoys of moving vans began to enter the Pyongyang street on April 21.

Officials of the 50 000 flats construction headquarters of Pyongyang Municipality, officers of the Korean People's Army unit that built the street, officials of the organs of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government in the

capital city and soldier and civilian builders warmly congratulated the residents of the new modern houses provided gratis by the Party and the state.

Different parts of the street brimming with happiness livened up with merry dances and the flag of the DPRK was seen flying at windows of the new flats in which new residents voiced their deep gratitude to the motherly Party.

So Kyong Hun, worker at the Central District Water Supply and Sewerage Management Station who moved into apartment No. 3 on the second floor of neighbourhood unit No. 41 in Hwasong-dong No. 2 of Hwasong District, Pyongyang, said

he spent a sleepless night after receiving a house licence associated with the benevolence of the Party the previous day, and continued:

"Our family also celebrated the happy event of house moving which is happening all across the country.

"I want to make a deep bow to Marshal Kim Jong Un by reflecting the gratefulness of my entire family."

Kim Ki Ho, a war veteran who moved into a new flat in Kumnung-dong No. 1 in Hwasong District, said he feels as if he has become 10 or 20 years younger after moving into the wonderful apartment thanks to the loving care of Marshal

Kim Jong Un who respects war veterans as treasures of the revolution that cannot be compared to anything, adding he would fulfil his duty as member of the victorious wartime generation in supporting the one and only Korean socialist system with youthful passion and vigour.

Jang Chol Min, worker at the Pyongyang Municipal Tachung Management Bureau who received a flat in the iconic 40-storey apartment building on Hwasong Street, said he can have a spectacular view of the magnificent new street from its windows, adding that although he envied those moving into new houses on Songhwa

Street last year, his family is now at the meridian of their happiness thanks to the Party.

The couple of Maeng Jong Min and Ri Kum Hyang, who settled in apartment No. 4 on the second floor of neighbourhood unit No. 75 in Hwasong-dong No. 3 in the same district, also shared the same feeling.

Maeng said that though they are ordinary workers, they have been provided gratis with a modern flat they imagined only in their dreams and that they are at a loss what to do in order to repay the favour shown by the Party.

"We keenly realized that our people can lead the happiest life in the world when they trust and

follow only our Marshal Kim Jong Un," he said.

Jon Pok Nam, who moved into apartment No. 3 on the second floor of neighbourhood unit No. 41 in Kumnung-dong No. 1, said the country enacted a law on the provision of living conditions for discharged officers to take good care of them lest they should feel any slight inconvenience in life and today it provided him with a modern flat preferentially.

He expressed his determination to faithfully serve the benevolent Party and state in the spirit of continuing his military service like in the days when he defended the Party and the revolution with arms.

On occasion of 91st anniversary of KPRA

Wreaths laid in memory of anti-Japanese martyrs



A wreath laying ceremony takes place at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong on April 25.

Wreaths were laid at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong in Pyongyang on April 25 on the occasion of the 91st anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

The honour guard of the Korean People's Army lined up at the revolutionary martyrs cemetery.

The wreath-laying meeting was attended by officials of the Party Central Committee, the Standing Committee of the Supreme

People's Assembly, the Cabinet and armed forces organs, anti-Japanese war veterans, bereaved children related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, and staff members and students of Mangyongdae and Kang Pan Sok revolutionary schools.

Amid the playing of the wreath-laying music, wreaths were placed at the wreath-laying stand in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, the DPRK Cabinet and the Korean

People's Army.

Written on the ribbons of the wreaths were letters reading: "The revolutionary martyrs will be remembered for all ages."

Participants observed a moment's silence in memory of revolutionary martyrs who dedicated their all to national liberation, the people's freedom and well-being, independent reunification of the country and victory of the socialist cause under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Bereaved children of anti-Japanese fighters visit Korean Revolution Museum

KCNA

Descendants of anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs and those related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle visited the Korean Revolution Museum on the occasion of the 91st founding anniversary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army on April 25.

Leading Party and government officials visited the museum together with them.

Being briefed on the immortal exploits of President Kim Il Sung who achieved the historic cause of the country's liberation in several rooms of the Hall for Period of Anti-Japanese Revolutionary Struggle, they looked round the photos, relics and other materials.



Descendants of anti-Japanese fighters and those related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle visit the Korean Revolution Museum.

Defence ministry song and dance ensemble celebrates KPRA anniversary with performance



The Song and Dance Ensemble of the Ministry of National Defence gives a performance to mark the 91st anniversary of the KPRA at the April 25 House of Culture.



KCNA

There was a performance of the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Ministry of National Defence at the April 25 House of Culture in Pyongyang on April 25 in celebration of the 91st anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

The performance was seen by senior officials of the Workers' Party of Korea, the government and the military, bereaved children of anti-Japanese fighters and those related to the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, wartime persons of merit and their children, officials of armed forces organs, ministries and national agencies, students of

military schools at all levels and university students.

A variety of numbers were put on the stage, including songs in praise of leaders and revolutionary war songs which rang out in the course of the sacred struggle for strengthening and developing the Korean revolutionary armed forces.

The performance was a powerful demonstration of the military respect for the glorious history of the strong revolutionary army which has defended the Korean revolution and supported the invincibility and mightiness of Juche Korea, always standing at the forefront of the struggle as the incarnation of the ideology and will of the WPK and the strength of the state and the people.

Young people, students hold dance parties

KCNA

Young people and students held dance parties across the country on April 25 in celebration of the 91st anniversary of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

The plazas in front of the Arch of Triumph and Pyongyang Indoor Stadium and other places in Pyongyang were filled with joy and happiness of the young vanguard.

Similar events took place in provincial capitals, cities and counties that day.

People joyfully celebrate KPRA anniversary

KCNA

The 91st anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army was significantly celebrated in different parts of the country.

A constant stream of visitors flowed to the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme temple of Juche where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime

appearance.

Entering the plaza park in humble reverence, crowds paid their noblest respects to the President and the Chairman who ushered in the construction of the Juche-oriented revolutionary armed forces and set an epoch-making example.

Service personnel and other people visited the statues of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il and portraits of their beaming images on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and

other parts of the country and paid their profound respects to them.

Many people visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong and the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery, while officials, working people, youth and students made a study tour of the Jongbangan and Majon revolutionary battle sites and other places.

A variety of celebratory performances were given at

theatres and outdoor stages in the capital city of Pyongyang.

Similar performances were given in South Phyongan, North Hwanghae, Kangwon, South Hamgyong and Ryanggang provinces.

Public catering networks in Pyongyang and other parts of the country, including Okryu and Chongnyu restaurants, and the Central Zoo, Natural History Museum and Munsu Water Park were enlivened by distinctive holiday services.



Festival filled with deep yearning

Songs of reverence reverberate on beautiful spring holiday

By Ryom Un Gyeong PT

The Eighth April Spring People's Art Festival ran in splendour on the occasion of the Day of the Sun (April 15), the greatest national holiday.

The event was literally an art festival reflecting the immense yearning of the Korean people for President Kim Il Sung.

The recent festival brought together over 1 300 artists of art troupes and artistic motivational teams and members of mobile artistic motivational teams and art groups at factories and farms throughout the country.

Young people and women's union members held dance sessions, while acrobats staged a performance in front of the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Park Open-air Theatre, the venue of the opening ceremony of the festival, on April 12, thereby hotting up the celebratory mood of the ceremony.

The festival, which drew its curtain with the performance by central art troupes and artistic motivational teams including the Mansudae

Art Troupe and National Symphony Orchestra, took place at different theatres of Pyongyang earning enthusiastic applause of audiences.

It was held divided into professional and non-professional categories and a jugglery festival. The performances given by the South Hwanghae Provincial Art Troupe and art group members of the Sangwon Cement Complex, Changsong County and the City of Samjiyon left deep impression on the audiences.

Performers of the South Hwanghae Provincial Art Troupe reflected in a fine artistic way the profound yearning for President Kim Il Sung, who had indicated the way to do farming well while sitting knee to knee with farmers, as he visited farm villages one after another even at his advanced age of 80 for the development of the country's agriculture.

Their work of peasant dance which included the turning of the 12-fathom long decorative tassels on a cap to the tune of *A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan Plain* reflected the determination of all agricultural workers in the

province who were eager to repay the benevolence of the country, which sent them over 5 000 farm machines last year and ushered in a new era when rural communities change, by having a bumper crop.

A folk song sung by a member of the art group of Changsong County won a special admiration at the joint performance of all provinces and the performance of members of excellent artistic groups which were given forming the climax of the festival on the Day of the Sun.

The artistic group member sang the merry folk song about the favour shown by the President and the pride of the locality which underwent a sea change.

The festival, which added pleasure to the whole country to mark the Day of the Sun, ran until April 18.

In the festival, 12 units won group prizes, 48 artists, members of mobile artistic motivational teams and art groups were awarded individual prizes, ensemble prizes were conferred on 20 works, and eight magicians and amateurs received relevant prizes according to their rankings.

Magic performances add spice to festival

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Pyongyang Circus Theatre, where the magic performance of the Eighth April Spring People's Art Festival was given on the occasion of the significant Day of the Sun, was packed with people every day.

"A larger number of amateur magicians took part in the recent magic festival than previously and their skills were very high," said Kim Yong Jin, section chief of the National Circus.

Performers led the audience into the mysterious magic world with adroit and nimble skills to the tune of light music.

Among them was a magician drawing out small flowers and big magnolias one after another to fill a flower basket and making lovely blossoms appear in several flowerpots to decorate the stage with beautiful flowers.

Jong Chol Min of the Pyongyang municipal artistic motivational team who put this work on the stage said that he wanted to mirror the mind of all the Korean people who boundlessly revere

President Kim Il Sung.

When a magician grasped cloth and vinyl pieces in hand and spread them, gloves, rain coat and suit appeared and when he put into an empty box the scraps of vinyl and paper, there appeared from the box the boots, safety helmet and tens of notebooks. Seeing the magic piece, the audience gave a big hand in praise of the high skills of the performer.

Seeing the work of Kim Pong Hak from the South Phyongan provincial artistic motivational team, the audience said they thought that his magic skills were excellent, but the theme for the work was better.

Illusionary and general magic staged by Sim Song Bin and his wife Kim Kyong Sil from the Ryanggang provincial artistic motivational team, who took part in the festival again after last year, distinctively showed the reality of the socialist country which is enlivened with moving into new houses day after day and won the admiration of audience.

Every magic piece struck the audience with admiration. In an interactive magic piece,

the magician passed a cord through the key of a spectator before presenting it from his inner pocket, and picked several beer bottles out of two empty circular boxes to serve them to spectators. In another interactive and functional magic piece, the magician randomly selected numerical cards to guess a cell phone number written by a spectator on a paper sheet, after burning it without seeing the number, and made several boxes filled with flowers appear from an empty mesh bag.

Particularly, the magic in which cups were piled up on playing cards left deep impression on the audience.

"It was a wonderful performance which seems to have used no elaborate device or trick. When what seemed to be impossible was spread out in front of my eyes, I was surprised before thinking what kind of technique was employed," said Jong Sun Chol, a worker of the Pyongyang Musical Instrument Factory who is keenly interested in magic.

The audience unsparringly applauded the magicians who decorated the festival stage conspicuously.



Performances of the Eighth April Spring People's Art Festival are given at different theatres in Pyongyang to mark the Day of the Sun.

JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Placing great trust on working class

By Yun Kyong Il PT

Rodong Sinmun, dated April 22 2017, carried on its front-page the full text of the congratulatory message Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent to the Ko Kyong Chan-led Hero Workteam of the April 5 Pit of the Kumgol Mine of the Komdok Mining Complex that had carried out the annual national economic plan ahead of schedule on the occasion of the Day of the Sun.

Secretary said the WPK believed in not the heaven-sent mysterious might, but the spiritual strength of the great people who support the Party and the leader with single-minded fidelity like a white gem, and was hastening the building of a powerful socialist country by relying on the revolutionary spirit and creative power of our best working class in the world.

In the message he sent to the workteam members, ordinary workers, calling all of them comrades, can be found the answer to the

question of what is the source of the undying flames of creation and struggle burning in the heart of the working class and all miracles they perform magnificently decorating the new century of the Juche era.

For the General Secretary, the working class is the ranks he always believes in firmly.

Therefore, he bestowed the honourable title of heroic working class of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il on the Korean working class who had supported the Party with loyalty and feats, and continues his endless field

inspection tour to meet the working class who make miracles and innovations in the major theatres of operations for building a powerful socialist country.

It is only the Korean working class that lead a fulfilling life along with the august names of the preceding leaders and the valuable title of hero.

As they cherished the trust of the peerlessly great man who put them forward as the forerunners of the times and an army of those strong in the spirit of self-reliance and self-development well-

known to the country, the working class and people of Kangwon Province rose up and kindled the flames of creating a new miracle. And builders across the country constructed monumental structures in succession including houses for the happiness of the people, creating legendary construction speeds with ambitious fighting spirit and courage that they can lift even the globe if they are trusted by the General Secretary.

The patriotic working people who achieve precious

successes steadily with burning enthusiasm for honestly contributing to the prosperity of the country even in the worst adversity also keep in mind the oath of loyalty to return the infinite love and trust shown by the General Secretary.

Encouraged by the trust of the General Secretary, the Korean working class have become men strong in faith and self-reliant fighters and perform brilliant feats of labour as heroes who are possessed of an indomitable spirit and extraordinary creative ability.

Hostels of workers

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

It is really a surprise, said Sugimoto Tetsuya, an employee of the Kasumi International Joint-stock Company of Japan, in an entry she made in the visitor's book after looking round the workers' hostel of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill built on the picturesque Taedong riverside.

"The hostel with a library, dining halls, birthday party and sports and amusement rooms, a beauty salon, shop, library and bathroom. It is a home for girl weavers of the factory.

Such workers' hostels are seen in every workplace where ordinary workers work in the DPRK.

Particularly those in textile, silk and knitting mills and garment factories girl employees call their "happy homes" with affection have been built to provide them with full conveniences in their life.

Among them are the workers' hostels of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill, Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill and Sinuiju Textile Mill. General Secretary Kim Jong Un selected their sites and mobilized a powerful building force to

build them. For the girls living in them, these hostels are not merely the places for lodging and boarding.

After a day's work they spend a pleasant time in them, reading books, singing songs and doing light exercises. Most attractive is the cooking practice room where girls can acquire culinary skills while cooking foods by themselves.

Cooking contest takes place in the room on holidays and Sundays.

"Whenever I enter the hostel after finishing a day's work, I feel as if I enter my family home. I seem to feel the loving care of my mother in the warm bedclothes of my room, every fixture of the anteroom and washing room and various kinds of equipment and instruments in the exercise room and

cooking practice ground," says Kim Yu Gyong, an employee of the Sinuiju Textile Mill.

On the day when he visited the newly-built workers' hostel of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill on the banks of the Taedong River in Pyongyang, the General Secretary said "Well done" as he saw mirror stands installed in the rooms. He said the girls would like to sit in front of them and make themselves up and bent over to open the drawers. Women look into the mirror at their leisure and they were made well to meet their mentality, he said, showing fatherly care for them.

Every weaver living in the hostel says they would work harder to hand down his boundless paternal love generation after generation.



The workers' hostel built at the Sinuiju Textile Mill as a home of its girl employees.

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Employees of the Sinuiju Textile Mill (left) and the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill (right) spend a pleasant time at the workers' hostels after a day's work.

Treasure of factory



By Chae Hyang Ok PT

People generally associate a worker with a person working diligently at a workplace soaked in sweat. However, Pae Jong Sop (pictured), a cable maker at the Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326, looks like a prudent researcher.

Every employee of the factory says he lives in speculation all the time.

One day over 30 years ago, Pae hurt a leg in an unexpected accident a little after he began to work at the factory.

The enthusiastic young lathe operator had resolved to work hard at the factory where his father had worked, but now he was heartbroken at the thought that he should be pensioned off for the injured leg in his early 20s.

"Though you have been badly injured, you have your brain. Remember, son! What is most dreadful is that you may be distracted from your original aim of life," said his mother who was recognized as a labour innovator at the same factory at that time.

That's why his desk began to be piled with books on electricity, chemistry and other fields and his room was lit until late at night.

And then one day, he happened to hear that the workshop would undertake a project for establishing a new production process. When its officials were racking their brains over a dangerous task requiring great skill, he was the first to ask them to admit him in the technical innovation team for the project.

He delved into the unexplored world of science with painstaking studies and efforts. Finally, he came up with a technical innovation plan which proved valuable in establishing the process and he regained the joy of life.

For scores of years since then, he has deepened his study and presented many more findings. All the factory employees call him along with his father the treasure of the factory.

In recent years alone, he brought considerable benefits to the state by developing several valuable technical innovations and original plans conducive to recycling raw and other materials.

The country awarded him a model worker prize in recognition of his distinguished services and provided him with a luxury house in Kyongru-dong in Pyongyang's Central District last year.

Collective innovations made in custom-built equipment production



RODONG SINMUN

Workers speed up the production of the machine part to be sent to the Ryongsong Machine Complex at the Taean Heavy Machine Complex.

By Kim Il Jin PT

The Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea set forth a task for the Ryongsong Machine Complex to manufacture custom-built equipment of great significance in the economic development of the country within this year.

To fulfil the task, the Chollima Steel Complex, Taean Heavy Machine Complex and Ryongsong Machine Complex are making collective innovations.

The Chollima Steel Complex increases the production of large-sized forgings needed for major custom-built equipment. It sent six kinds of large-sized forgings to Taean until

March 15.

"When we quickly send machined parts, workers of Ryongsong will be able to manufacture major custom-built equipment in time by speeding up the finishing and assembly," said the chief engineer of Taean.

At present, the complex has achieved high machining results by introducing rational methods that can ensure both

processing speed and quality on the basis of detailed calculation of performance of large machine tools.

The Ryongsong Machine Complex also flawlessly produces mammoth custom-built equipment with complex structure and high technological demand.

It has produced three kinds of custom-built equipment since late February.

Power output rises through technical upgrading

By Yun Ki Song PT

The East Pyongyang Thermal Power Station strengthens the role of technicians to produce more electric power while reducing the consumption of fuel.

For example, they remodelled the supply system of temperature reducing water.

One of the technicians proposed a bold plan for changing this process which had been adopted as an established formula. The plan was aimed at using boiler feed water instead of saturated vapour. It won positive support from the technical personnel of the power station because if boiler feed water whose temperature is lower than saturated vapour is supplied as temperature lowering water, the temperature of steam coil can always be maintained at the rated value.

The power station pushed ahead with the technical

remodelling plan to increase the steam production and generate thousands of kilowatts of more electric power in each generator while reducing the coal consumption.

The technical reconstruction of the boiler firing process also began with the original idea of a technician of the power station.

Technicians thought that they could use less heavy oil for firing boilers if they preheat the water supply pipes of the boiler whenever they had to ignite them and confirmed the feed water control plans again, making it possible for the power station to save several tons of heavy oil at every ignition of each boiler and thousands of kilowatts of electric power for auto-consumption.

The technicians of the power station also technically remodelled the water supply pump which had long been kept idle to ensure the safety of electric power production.

Capacity: 120 persons
Seat: 77 seats
Length of body: 12 000mm
Width of body: 2 500mm
Weight: 12 000kg
Max. speed: 85km/h

Pyongyang 816-model Double-decker

Projects pushed to modernize agricultural research units

By To Kyong Chol PT

Projects are progressing apace to modernize agricultural scientific research units all across the country.

It is one of the important tasks put forward by the Eight Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea to finish scientific research units in the agricultural sector into a cutting-edge base by 2025.

The importance of the promotion of the projects was also stressed at the fourth and seventh plenary meetings of the WPK Central Committee.

"The basic way for easing the people's food problem by increasing agricultural production in our country where crop areas are limited is to enhance the sci-tech power of the agricultural sector as soon as possible. To this end, it is necessary to develop agricultural scientific research bases into the cutting-edge ones," said An Chol Su, department director of the Agricultural Commission.

According to him, institutes of agrobiological, protective botany, agricultural nano-technology and agrochemistry have already been built wonderfully in the area of the headquarters of the Academy of Agricultural Science, and the Onchon research branch and Paechon branch of the rice institute and the bee institute of the academy and the South Hwanghae provincial agricultural science institute were inaugurated.

This year, over ten projects including rice institute, agricultural information institute

and sci-tech development prospect institute will be built in the area of the headquarters of the academy and different provincial agricultural science institutes and the poultry institute will be renovated.

Accordingly, the construction command team of agricultural scientific research bases mapped out in detail phased plans according to objects and units and has stepped up their plans.

An exhibition of building equipment and tools was held in March as part of an undertaking for speeding up the construction of the headquarters area of the academy. Over 12 100 articles in about 100 kinds were presented there.

Now several ministries, national agencies and provinces are bringing about good results by introducing technical findings for improving the quality and speed of construction.

The framework of the rice institute has been wound up in the area of the headquarters of the academy, the construction of a nursery and the resting place at a fish farm is under way to provide agricultural researchers with good research and living conditions.

Myonggan County in North Hamgyong Province accelerates the construction of the Myonggan corn research branch under the corn institute by securing such materials as cement and reinforcement bars, while South Phyongan Province puts efforts into a project of the agricultural land resource institute.

University strives to develop high-yielding wheat cultivation technology



Scientists discuss during research into high-yielding wheat cultivation technology at Pyongyang University of Agriculture.

JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

By Ri Sang Il PT

Pyongyang University of Agriculture is stepping up the research for developing a high-yielding wheat cultivation technology.

"True to the decisions of the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on switching over to rice, wheat and barley farming by boldly changing the arrangement of crops, activities are now conducted briskly to increase wheat cultivation areas in every rural area. So, it arises as a very important problem to complete high-yielding cultivation technology as soon as possible," said Choe

Won Chol, section chief of the university.

According to him, the university buckled down to the study of high-yielding wheat cultivation technology nearly a decade ago, thereby providing scientific and technological foundations for producing five tons of wheat per hectare.

On this basis, it has speeded up the work to develop the cultivation technology guaranteeing eight tons of wheat per hectare after forming a strong research group.

According to researchers, wheat cultivation technology is the synthesis of all farming processes like other crops. It

includes the selection of varieties and right soil, soil management, sowing quality, and the improvement of soil fertility.

On the basis of detailed understanding of the global development trend of wheat cultivation technology and the formative characteristics of wheat yield components, research group members selected the yield component indexes and are working to find out optimized indexes in all processes including the rational regulation of sowing amount and fertilizer applying method according to diverse conditions.

In the course of this, new cultivation technology and methods

are completed one by one and they have been introduced into different farms, thus confirming their advantages in practice.

Last year alone, the Yakjon Farm in Sukchon County and different other farms introduced this technology to produce five tons, or over eight tons at maximum per hectare, despite unfavourable farming conditions. On the basis of these achievements, farms have remarkably increased introduction areas this year.

Scientists of Pyongyang University of Agriculture are now stepping up research for further completing high-yielding wheat cultivation technology.

By focussing on main points in farming processes

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Suan County of North Hwanghae Province is achieving remarkable progress in each farming process.

"Our county has worked

out a detailed plan for many farming processes including the application of a ton of quality organic compound fertilizer per hectare of field, the over three-time increase in the production of slow-action

granulated fertilizer and taking of a foresighted measure for the supply of irrigation water," said an official of the county rural economy committee.

The biggest challenge was a severe lack of the source of

organic compound fertilizer. Officials of the county rural economy committee found out a source with high content of humus and large deposits in the Phyongwon-ri area after consulting with old-hand farmers and going

round several places of the county and widely used phosphoric in the Cholsan-ri area and Kungang medicinal stones in the Okchi-ri area as the materials for organic compound fertilizer.

As a result, an open storage ground of the county organic compound fertilizer factory and separate sub-workteam at farms secured a small-size water pump.

The county is now pushing ahead with 10-odd construction projects for irrigation. Based on such preparations for farming, all the farms completed the sowing on rice seedbeds over 20 days earlier than scheduled.

Phyongwon, Sokgyo and several other farms gave precedence to moulding humus cakes and treated seeds in a technological way in keeping with the introduction of a method of cultivating rice seedlings at low-temperature condition and thereby provided a sure guarantee for innovating maize farming, and are now pressing on with spring ploughing as planned.

What is noticeable in its agricultural management is

that each farm has formed an irrigation sub-workteam.

In order to cope with possible droughts, the sub-workteams dug wells and pools in different places and blocked streams to store large amounts of water.

In addition, each workteam and separate sub-workteam at farms secured a small-size water pump.

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Spring ploughing is conducted on a farm in Suan County, North Hwanghae Province.

North Phyongan strives for local development

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

North Phyongan Province, which made remarkable progress in the construction of dwelling houses last year, focuses on building the forces of architectural design and construction of local areas.

In order to strengthen its own construction forces, the province carries on the work to replenish city and county construction brigades, provide them with efficient construction

equipment and organize skills workshops. In particular, it staffed local design institutions with architectural talents, made sure that they increased their practical levels and role and sent promising persons to colleges of the construction sector to prepare them as designers.

It also paid attention to equip the institutions with facilities needed for urban planning and improving the professional levels of designers. Those dispatched to cities and counties fixed new construction

sites in cooperation with a central design team and are working to complete the designs for the construction of dwelling houses.

The province set up building material production bases and has channelled efforts into revitalizing them.

Based on an in-depth survey of the general building material production base and building material producers built in cities and counties, it is pressing on with the projects for overhauling production processes in a

short period and launching into production. Different cities and counties, including Thachon County and Jongju City are now producing various finishing materials like building stones with local raw materials.

Especially, the Sinuju Reed Processing Factory mass-produces high-quality fibre boards from reeds abundant in the province. The fibre boards can be used to make shutterings, fittings and furniture.

Various fittings, furniture, sanitary ware and other exhibits which drew visitors' attention at the recent finishing material exhibition held at the province proved that it is quite possible for the province to satisfy its needs for finishing materials by itself if it relies on local raw materials.

Different city and county sci-tech committees introduced a super fine grinding technology and are working to develop a high-quality inorganic paint with locally available raw materials and ensure the smooth transport of cement to be supplied to cities and counties in contact with the rail transport sector.



RODONG SINMUN

Finishing building materials are produced with locally available raw materials in North Phyongan Province.



Recycling efforts put plastic waste to good use

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Architectural paint "We succeeded in making building paint by recycling such plastic waste as plastic bottles from people's life," said Jo Jong Gil, section chief of the architectural materials institute under the State Academy of Sciences.

In general, paints used as surface coating materials for furniture, machinery and equipment are made mainly from alkyd resin. The resin is made by denaturing with oil a sort of high polymer obtained from the polycondensation reaction of polyvalent alcohol and organic polybasic acid and dissolving it in a certain solvent.

The problem is that most of the materials for the polycondensation reaction have to be imported.

In order to solve it, scientists conceived of an architectural paint made mainly with substances

from decomposition of plastic waste and buckled down to the relevant research.

After ascertaining the condition for the decomposition of plastic waste on the basis of the study and analysis of many technical documents, they conducted necessary experiments repeatedly.

In the process, they fixed technical indexes including mixing ratio of substances for making the paint and reaction temperature and succeeded in establishing a new production process.

The research group applied advanced technologies to establish methods of pulverizing plastic waste and leaching alkali whereby the substances can be treated with ease in simple processes and those of making ethylene glycol, terephthalic acid, organic solvent and others from plastic waste.

Thus it has become possible to recycle such

plastic waste as plastic bottle as various basic chemicals necessary for the production of synthetic resin, adhesive, paint, etc.

Thanks to excellent adhesion and glossiness, the paint can be used for the decoration and protection of almost all products including vehicle, ship and mechanism as well as for buildings.

Plastic necessities

The Phyongchon Daily Necessaries Factory located in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, is well known for being proficient in recycling.

"We produce plastic goods including artificial turf, plastic sack, plastic tile and nutritive granulated rice seedbed by relying on a recycling process using idle materials," said chief engineer Ri Sung Chol

The factory has recently set up a plastic sack production line consisting of sorting, washing, pulverizing and drying

processes.

Its plastic sacks in different colours are now winning favour with many factories and enterprises.

Also, it built a new plastic shuttering joining machine to produce plastic shutterings which has a longer lifespan and better quality than wooden ones.

It is now channelling efforts into technical innovation so as to improve the quality of artificial turf and to upgrade the equipment.

According to Ri Sung Chol, the factory also makes shading nets which have recently become popular with many units as they provide favourable conditions for the finishing construction of structures and the growth of plants.

The factory also established a plastic roofing tile production line based on plastic waste.

Its plastic tiles are said to be light and easy to use and have high heat-preserving effects.

Scientists play big role in local economic development

By Yun Kyong Il PT

Scientists and technicians of the DPRK are playing a major part in developing the local economy in accordance with regional characteristics.

Among them are Son Kwang Hyok, lecturer at Hamhung University of Chemical Industry, and Hyon Su Il, section chief of the industrial technology institute of the Kangwon Provincial Commission of Science and Technology.

Son Kwang Hyok, lecturer at Hamhung University of Chemical Industry

Son, who was chosen as one of the top scientists and technicians of South Hamgyong Province in 2021, is dubbed as a man of unusual enthusiasm and tenacious action.

After finishing a post-graduate course at the university some ten years ago, he joined the February 17 shock brigade of scientists and technicians and embarked on his scientific career at the site of the gasification project of the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex.

In those days, he worked with other scientists of the university to apply some locally abundant materials in place of imported materials and contributed to the construction of the

gasification process and the normalization of the production.

While working on a project for revitalizing the production of the February 8 Vinalon Complex, he developed and introduced a technology which enabled the substitution of an expensive porous filter medium, essentially needed in the production, for a locally available material.

Later on, he made highly-efficient insulating bricks from local materials and applied them into various kinds of furnaces at the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex and the February 8 Vinalon Complex and delivered substantial benefits to the country with valuable research results.

Hyon Su Il, section chief of the industrial technology institute of the Kangwon Provincial Commission of Science and Technology

Hyon Su Il has ensured the Juche-oriented production of many facilities needed for the modernization of production processes at several factories in the province over the past ten years.

Several years ago, he was assigned to make some core facilities which were essentially needed in the development of the local economy.

"The biggest challenge was that we had no idea of such machines," said Hyon. "Whenever the machines made with a great deal of effort wouldn't work, I felt like giving it up immediately."

During the final trial run, the machines which were running smoothly came to a stop all of a sudden. A careful inspection revealed

that the failure was due to an electronic element. Hyon decided to make it on his own and disassembled it to understand the mechanism in detail. He eventually made a better one.

Thus, he played a decisive role in ensuring Juche-orientation of several kinds of machines.

In recognition of his research results that greatly contributed to local development, he was chosen as one of the top scientists and technicians of Kangwon Province in 2021.

He played a pivotal role in the production of a 1 000-ton press needed for tile production last year. Now he is redoubling efforts to present significant research findings conducive to the economic development of the province.



Various species of flowering plants are arranged harmoniously and a distinctive round flower bed formed around the People's Theatre.

RODONG SINMUN

Scenery of capital city gets more beautiful

By Kim Il Jin PT

The capital city of Pyongyang is being given a facelift this spring.

Officials of the landscaping department of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee said that they have directed vigorous efforts to creating spectacular landscapes in the city from the beginning of this year.

As a result, large numbers of trees and flowers have so far taken roots in streets, parks and hundreds of other

places in the city.

Around the People's Theatre, tens of thousands of trees in dozens of species, such as golden-leafed pagoda tree, yellow horn and red maple, and different species of flowers like marigold and tricolor chrysanthemum were arranged in a harmonious way and a round flower bed formed in a distinctive way.

A triangular green area in Munsu-dong No. 1 in Taedonggang District is also an eye-catcher with fir and lots of other trees and flowers taking roots.

The trees and flowers

planted at the central reservation in front of the arboretum of the Central Botanical Garden also add beauty to the surrounding scenery.

Each district landscaping and greening station is now applying different trimming methods to roadside and solitary trees, unlike in the past when they were only used for specific species of trees.

They also push the project for covering all the roadsides with zelkova trees in a few years.

According to experts,

since olden times the Koreans have built pavilions and planted zelkova in the centre of villages much frequented by people and scenic spots.

Because the tree grows tall and large and its branches spread out in the shape of a mushroom cap, providing a shadow in a wide area with a dense crown in summer.

In addition, it is an ideal roadside tree as it naturally grows elegantly without trimming, is highly resistant to cold, strong storm and blight, has a comparatively

great ability to prevent air pollution and lives long.

Working people in the flower-growing sector are unfolding a beautiful sea of flowers in different parts of the city.

According to them, various shapes of flowerpot stands are providing fine views in the streets as they are based on the designs highly appreciated at several rounds of deliberations.

Floricultural farms in the city produced various species of low temperature flowers last February to add beauty to streets.

Pyongyang citizens are very eager to create better environment in their villages and workplaces.

Residents in different parts of the city are cultivating various kinds of flowers and the Ryugyong Mushroom Farm has planted well over a thousand fruit trees.

Builders of flats in the Hwasong area have planted and tended such fruit trees as apricot tree, other trees like goldenrain and willow and trees of high practical value in the residential quarters and parks of the new street.

Distinctive park catches public eye

By Pak Song Min PT

A spectacular landscape in a park near the Pothonggang Fish Shop in Moranbong District, Pyongyang, makes the visitors happy.

"Many customers visit our shop specializing in the sale of seafood every day. So we want them to have a rest in a beautiful environment covered with green foliage and ringing with the chirping of birds," said manageress Ri Myong Hwa.

According to her, its employees buckled down to landscaping in real earnest more than ten years ago.

With the assistance of experts, they worked out designs for the landscaping of the park and paid much attention to ensuring scientific accuracy and formative artistic qualities in choosing and planting every tree and flowering shrub.

They planted good species of trees and flowering shrubs like golden-leaf pagoda

tree and Pinus strobus and carefully considered the types of plants, their colours according to seasons, diverse growth effects of them and a method of combining them according to the lie of the land in order to create a distinctive landscape.

To retain the characteristic features as a fish shop, they made the shape of a fish with Taesong spiraea, the shapes of a spiral and a pile of floats with junipers and an umbrella shape with a maple.

As a result, the park was furnished with good species of trees, flowers and ground-covering plants of ornamental value.

"With the passage of time, we have broadened our understanding of scientific and technical problems arising in landscaping and greening while gaining knowledge and experience for cultivating the plants in a scientific way," said an employee.

They are now working to further improve the looks of the park this year.

Institute breeds new varieties of flowers



Yellow cosmos "Gold", *Chamaecereus silvestrii* "Yellow Jade" and perpetual begonia "White".

By Sin Pyol PT

The Pyongyang Floriculture Institute has bred new varieties of flowering plants which have high ornamental values for the beautiful colours and distinctive shapes of flowers.

Over a dozen new varieties the institute has developed by acclimating the world-famous flower seeds were registered as national varieties.

Among them, varieties of gillyflowers like "pink" and "white No. 1" can bear flowers in winter even in the vinyl sheet greenhouse without heating system and produce quality double flowers two times more in the same area of greenhouse.

They also include perpetual begonia varieties in different colours like "red" and "soft pink" that are short and appropriate for growth in flower beds

and pots and in the shape of close plants.

There are others like a big gaillardia which has a long flowering period and strong resistance to high temperature and humidity in the rainy season, drooping petunia which is of high ornamental value as it bears many flowers for a long time with its stems hanging low, and yellow cosmos.

The institute has achieved marked

successes in research into improving the ornamental effects of cactuses.

Researchers have developed *Chamaecereus silvestrii* "Yellow Jade" and a variety of other cactuses by applying a method of grafting different species to highlight the merits of cactus that is varied in shape and clears the indoor air and overcome the demerits of having monotonous colours.



Aquarium lures many into world of underwater animals

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Most often visitors to the Central Zoo make their way to the aquarium first.

Those heading for the aquarium after passing through the entrance of the zoo have to cross the bridge over the artificial pond. Crossing the bridge, they see the sights of various species of fishes including sturgeon peacefully swimming underwater, feel the spray of fresh water from the fountain thrown up in the air like welcoming confetti and are gradually and unconsciously drawn into the world of water.

The visiting route of

the aquarium is from the fresh water world to the world of sea.

Visitors can see in the fresh water section such rare fishes as silk carp, piranha, Amazon butterflyfish and amphibians and natural scenery area.

"I've seen piranha of the Amazon that I heard gnaws at buffaloes or crocodiles in flocks to the bone for the first time here. Seeing its firm and wild chin and teeth, blood-thirsty eyes and strong body, it came to my mind that it can be called a fish of terror and notoriety," said Tong Un Hyok living in Central District, Pyongyang.

According to Rim Chol

Yong, senior engineer of the aquarium, visitors like having photos taken against the background of the water tanks of fishes with beautiful patterns in the natural scenery area.

The sea world in aquarium further excites the visitors. Entering the tunnel-style water tank via a sea cave, they can see the surging waves of the sea water and fishes freely swimming above their heads. They feel as if they have actually entered the underwater world, expressing admiration for it and are busy taking selfies in it.

Water tanks containing Fugu xanthopterus, koro,

filefish, black ray, varies kinds of sea bream and other beautiful and rare sea fishes and the feel-type water tanks in which visitors can touch asteroid, shellfish and fishes also give pleasure and joy to the visitors.

The tour of the aquarium climaxes with the meeting with sea turtles.

When six sea turtles weighing over 100kg with over 1m long thick shell dabble in the water with four legs eager to come out of the water tank as if saying their farewells to the visitors, the latter wave their hands back to acknowledge them and leave the aquarium.



JO RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Working people spend a good time at the aquarium of the Central Zoo in Pyongyang.

Big landmark in DPRK-Russia friendship

By Song Jong Ho PT

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visited Russia's coastal city of Vladivostok between April 24 and 26 in 2019 and had a significant meeting with Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation.

The Korean leader's first visit to the Russian Federation was a historic event that signalled a new turning point in DPRK-Russia friendship.

The DPRK and Russia have a long history and tradition in

their friendly relations.

Peoples of the two countries forged a strong bond with the affection of comrade-in-arms in the course of the joint struggle during the anti-Japanese war.

During the war, Commander Kim Il Sung undertook military operations to defend the Soviet Union under the slogan of "Let Us Defend the Soviet Union with Arms!" and its Red Army soldiers dedicated their blood in the fight for the liberation of Korea.

Kim Jong Un set out on the journey to Russia in order to reaffirm the invariable friendly relationship between the two countries and lay the cornerstone for the bilateral

ties in the new era.

Devoting especially close attention to his visit, Putin went to the border city far away from the capital city of Moscow to warmly receive him and offer him sincere hospitality.

Through the meeting with the Russian President, he made an intimate acquaintance with him and further strengthened the bond of DPRK-Russia relationship.

At the summit meeting and talks, an agreement was reached on promoting strategic communication and tactical collaboration in the process of ushering in a new heyday in the development of bilateral relations and

maintaining peace and security on the Korean peninsula and in the region.

While keeping step with each other in major affairs of international relations, they strive to keep peace and security in Northeast Asia and the rest of the world and establish a fair international order.

Today, the Russian people are making positive efforts to defend their country's strategic interests in the face of all manner of ceaseless challenges from inside and outside.

The Korean people hope they would achieve success in their efforts to build a powerful and developed Russia by surmounting all challenges and difficulties.

Growing importance attached to IP rights protection

By Choe Song Jun PT

April 26 is World Intellectual Property Day. The World Intellectual Property Organization was established on July 14 1967 with an eye to ensuring cooperation between states and regions in the field of intellectual property rights and promoting the protection of IP rights worldwide.

The treaty on the establishment of the WIPO came into effect on April 26 1970 and the WIPO designated April 26 as World Intellectual Property Day in 2000.

On this occasion every year, many countries over the world arrange a variety of activities to give people a deep understanding of the importance of intellectual property rights and encourage them to positively create the property which plays an important role in social progress and the development of economy and culture. The WIPO set "Women and IP: accelerating innovation and creativity" as the theme for this year's World Intellectual Property Day.

As an entitlement exercised for protecting intellectual creations, the IP right is a special right that is granted on those who created intellectual property, the product of mental labour and intellectual labour of human beings conducive to socio-economic progress. Today, IP rights serve as a powerful means for each country to activate the economy and build up overall state power. In particular, those who have core technologies and IP rights in the cutting-edge industry field can take advantage of the opportunity and have the initiative in the competition.

As society develops and the role of intellectual property becomes bigger, people's interest in intellectual property and its ownership grows remarkably.

That is why proactive efforts are made to create much more intellectual property in the world, thoroughly protect it and powerfully stimulate social development by relying on it.

After joining the WIPO in August 1974, the DPRK has paid close attention to increasing intellectual property further and protect it thoroughly by constantly developing science and technology.

In recent years, it has revised and supplemented in line with the requirements of the developing reality the legal provisions stipulating the procedures for deliberation, registration and protection of IP rights and intensified such activities.

It arranges for officials and other working people in different sectors short courses and lectures related to IP rights protection in keeping with actual situations. In addition, it pushes ahead with the work to attain a national IP rights development goal in real earnest. Amid such efforts, intellectual property is created continuously, and the number of scientists, researchers and officials who received the WIPO medals of inventors and relevant certificates are on the increase.

Women take an active part in socialist construction shoulder to shoulder with men in the DPRK and devote their wisdom, talent and passion. Among the Korean women, there are many inventors who contributed to the economic development of the country by bringing out valuable inventions and some of them obtained the WIPO medals of inventors and certificates.

Social interest in IP rights protection will further grow in the future to give more stimulus to social development.

Japan's heinous crime to obliterate national education denounced

DPRK CAOC releases memorandum

The Committee for Aiding Overseas Compatriots of the DPRK released a memorandum on April 24 to lay bare the Japanese reactionaries' hideous crimes of obliterating national education on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the April 24 education struggle of the Korean residents in Japan for defending their rights to national education.

According to the memorandum, the Japanese authorities have persistently and viciously pushed forward the obliteration of national education of Koreans in Japan, regarding it as a national policy, since their defeat in World War II.

Koreans, who crossed the Korean strait and lived in Japan, being subjected to all manner of national humiliation and discrimination due to the Japanese imperialists' colonial obscurantist policy and "the policy for making Koreans Japanese subjects", built national language education centres in different parts of Japan by collecting hard-earned money with their own efforts in order to raise their sons and daughters into Koreans keeping the soul of the nation by teaching them the Korean language since liberation.

As time passed, the education centres gradually developed into schools, with the number of Korean schools counting over 500, students at least 60 000 and teachers more than 1 300, in early 1948.

The existence of Korean schools in Japan which increased day by day was a headache for the US and Japanese reactionaries keen on the preparations for the Korean War.

On January 6 1948, Royall, US secretary of the Army, spat out that he was going to turn Japan into a protective barrier against communism and thus all anti-US forces had to be thoroughly eliminated, turning towards oppressing the movement of Koreans in Japan.

The reactionary Japanese authorities, who received a tempting treat from their US masters, issued an order "On the treatment of Korean schools" on January 24 the same year to the governors in each prefecture in the name of the director for school education of the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture.

The order issued on January 24, which did not recognize the establishment of independent schools by Koreans and contained the brigandish and mandatory demand requiring children of Koreans in Japan to enter Japanese schools, was a renewal of the notorious "Korean teaching ordinance" which forced assimilation education on the Korean people during the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule in Korea.

When the public feelings of Korean compatriots in Japan were leaning to Pyongyang with the foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the US

and Japanese reactionaries forcefully dissolved the Association of Koreans in Japan (Joryon) on September 8 1949 under the absurd pretext of "violent organization" and "violation of occupation policy" and issued an order to disband the Korean schools again in October.

The memorandum specified in detail that the Japanese authorities used far-right gangsters steeped with national chauvinism to unhesitatingly commit murder, arson and mass violence against Korean schools and children of Koreans in Japan in a bid to stamp out national education of Koreans in Japan.

It said that these acts of murder, arson and group violence against Korean schools and students are an undisguised expression of the Japanese reactionaries' extreme national chauvinism and their discrimination policy against the national education of Koreans in Japan. This is an inhumane crime committed historically and systematically under the manipulation of the reactionary Japanese authorities, the memorandum said, and went on:

Thanks to the vigorous struggle of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) and Koreans in Japan to preserve the legal position of national education, the Korean schools were recognized as legitimate schools under the Japanese school law of education until the first

half of the 1970s. But the Japanese authorities deliberately excluded Korean schools whenever they set up new institutional mechanisms regarding educational matters, thus revealing their immaturity before the world.

The Japanese authorities' discrimination against Korean schools and students became more vulgar and childish during the world public health crisis.

When the Japanese authorities executed the "emergency student aid payment" measure in regard to the spread of COVID-19 in May 2020, it excluded only Korean University of Chongryon.

To ensure the rights of foreigners to education equal to their own people is a main content of the international human rights convention. The UN declaration on children's rights also clearly states that every child has the right to receive education at the basic educational level, and this is the duty of all countries and states.

The Japanese authorities, too, loudly advertised that priority interest and financial support should be given to all children in their law on infant education and upbringing amended in May 2019. However, they, not content with outrageously violating international law and self-centredly interpreting the convention on the rights of children, which should be held sacred, in conformity with their own laws stained with national chauvinism, blatantly violated international law, gave up their

commitment to enforce the "Child Rearing Support Act" to all children equally and mercilessly crushed the juvenile hopes of the innocent children of Koreans in Japan.

This is the true colours of Japan styling itself a "law-governed state".

A former vice-minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan recently said that "the state is taking the lead in letting loose a remark causing discrimination in Japan" and "the person in power has discriminatory feelings against Korean schools and the conclusion that they are excluded from the system comes first and the reason for their exclusion is given afterwards", strongly criticizing the government for brandishing the law which should be fair to all people as a lever for discrimination.

The right to education of Koreans in Japan is an inviolable right that no one can deny or deprive and it should in no case be a political bargaining chip. The democratic national rights and interests of Chongryon and Koreans in Japan are under the strong protection of the law on defending the rights and interests of overseas Koreans of the DPRK.

If the Japanese authorities try to obliterate the national education of Chongryon by wielding a rotten militarist "club", they will face divine punishment and be buried in history as a cold ice floe with no future forever.

No independence, self-sufficiency without self-defence



Han Un Gyong
Lecturer of Kim Il Sung University

Independence, self-sufficiency and self-reliant defence are the basis and dynamic of the existence and development of the state.

Prosperity without self-respect cannot defend the dignity of the people and national power without self-sufficiency cannot give them pride. But military power that fails to achieve self-defence cannot guarantee all of them. Therefore, independence in politics and self-sufficiency in the economy are inconceivable apart from self-defence in national defence.

Self-reliant national defence is the physical guarantee for protecting the destiny of the country and people and prosperity of the nation.

The cause of independence of the popular masses, the socialist cause, is accompanied by fierce face-off with the imperialists. As far as imperialism, which regards invasion and plunder as its nature and means of existence, exists, the root cause of war cannot be eliminated. It is important to build strength powerful enough to

repel the acts of provocation and war of aggression by the enemy in order to defend national independence and peace and win victory of the revolutionary cause.

In the present world where the powers crash into one another fiercely the dignity and sovereign rights of the state and genuine lasting peace are guaranteed by the powerful self-defensive capacity that can overpower any enemy. As it is well aware that building up its own strength to the maximum is the only way to defend the destiny of the country and people and achieve national prosperity, the DPRK has always directed primary efforts to increasing its self-defensive military capability.

The Korean People's Army was founded on February 8 1948 and the self-defensive defence industry established according to the line of building regular revolutionary armed forces advanced by President Kim Il Sung after the country's liberation from decades-long military occupation by the Japanese

imperialists on August 15 1945. In the 1960s when the situation of the country was very difficult due to the machinations of the imperialists, the line of simultaneously pushing the economy and defence building was laid out.

The DPRK further stepped up the building of its self-defensive military capability to cope with the acts of aggression of the imperialists which have persisted decade after decade and century after century. The strategic line of pushing economic construction and the building of nuclear force in parallel was adopted on March 31 2013 and an eye-opening event took place four years after: the country completed the great task of building the nuclear force of the country.

Self-reliant national defence is the military guarantee for defending the dignity and sovereignty of the country and nation.

The dignity of the country and nation is neither protected nor honoured of its own accord. Even if a country has adopted an independent line and policy,

it cannot but be subjected to domination and subordination if it has no power to ensure their implementation. If it depends on others militarily without building its own military capacity, it will be fettered by them politically and economically and eventually lose its sovereignty and dignity.

The dominationists interfere in the internal affair of the weak countries, force their opinion on them, exercise their rights of decision and attach unreasonable political and economic conditions on the pretext of military aid and protection. In the present world devoid of impartiality and principality, many countries failed to protect their independent dignity and regarded it as an inevitable fate to be subjected to the political tools of big powers.

However, the DPRK put an end to the interference of foreign forces in its internal affairs and possessed the absolute power, the most powerful self-defence capacity, which no one can provoke even in the worst circumstances.

The DPRK's self-defensive military capacity, the dignity and sovereignty of the country and the guarantee for the protection of its state interests, will be developed continuously and rapidly.

BYWORD

Self-defensive capability

The DPRK further increases its self-defensive military capability to cope with the reckless war exercises and acts of provocation ceaselessly conducted by the imperialists and their followers against it. Despite its repeated

warnings, the hostile forces have enforced nuclear war exercises targeting the DPRK around the Korean peninsula and the latter has responded to their reckless manoeuvres in kind based on an-eye-for-an-eye, countering their nukes with nukes and frontal

confrontation with frontal confrontation.

All countries and nations have their independent rights and they are not defended of their own accord.

Without building their own self-defensive military capabilities, they can neither

exercise the independent rights nor defend their destiny.

As there can never be satisfaction nor end in building up the strength to defend themselves, the Korean people have turned out as one for increasing their self-defensive military capability.

Contact us

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



URL: www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp

KDLA spokesman decries Japan's crackdown upon Chongryon's democratic national education

KCNA

A spokesman for the Korean Democratic Lawyers' Association issued a statement on April 24 to demand the Japanese authorities immediately stop oppressive and destructive moves against the democratic national education of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon).

Though the April 24 education struggle 75 years ago became a past event, the Japanese authorities steeped in morbid prejudice and inveterate hostility against the DPRK and Chongryon are persistently clinging to the moves to liquidate national education of Korean residents in Japan with craftier and childish methods, the spokesman said, and continued:

With the connivance and under the protection of

the Japanese authorities, unethical crimes continue to be committed against Korean schools and children of Koreans in Japan and xenophobic notices tantamount to the closure order which was issued to Korean schools in the past ceaselessly come to Chongryon schools at all levels even nowadays.

Although the Koreans in Japan pay taxes like the Japanese, the Japanese authorities excluded Korean schools students and other Korean children in Japan from the "tuition-free programmes for senior high schools" and "free infant education and childcare" system and forced local administrations to suspend and cut subsidies for Korean schools. Not content with this, they impose unreasonable taxes on the donations Korean compatriots made for Korean schools with so

much effort.

The spokesman said that the rights to national education of Koreans in Japan is lawful and inviolable ones that are clearly stipulated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, UNESCO's convention against educational discrimination and other international laws and organic law on education of Japan.

Referring to the fact that the DPRK already gave a warning to those that started to join the attempt to strip the country of its sacred dignity and sovereignty while jumping on the US' alliance strategy bandwagon, he stressed that the Japanese authorities will have to pay high prices if they stubbornly cling to unethical crimes to obliterate the national education of Koreans in Japan by making a mockery of international law and human rights.

DPRK Education Commission spokesman urges Japan to stop xenophobic discrimination

KCNA

A spokesman for the Education Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea released a statement entitled "Japanese authorities should immediately stop xenophobic discrimination against democratic national education of Korean compatriots in Japan" on April 24.

The fierce April 24 education struggle that swept through Japan in 1948 was the first struggle to defend the rights of Koreans in Japan with their united efforts against the barbarous oppression of the American and Japanese reactionaries who were hell-bent on depriving them of their right to national education, the statement

said.

According to the statement, despite a great lapse of time since the struggle, the Japanese authorities remain unchanged in their hostility towards the democratic national education of the Korean compatriots and have become craftier and more vicious than the past in such moves.

Saying that they can neither check nor halt the just struggle of the General Association

of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) and Korean compatriots in Japan striving to cultivate a grand flower garden of national education under the special care of the socialist country and active support and encouragement from the people in the homeland, the statement

on behalf of the DPRK Education Commission strongly urged the US and Japanese authorities to reflect on and apologize for their barbarous oppression against the just April 24 education struggle of Korean compatriots in Japan, and the Japanese authorities to immediately discontinue all crude misconduct of discriminating and oppressing Chongryon's national education.

The spokesman expressed his expectation and belief that the Japanese people from all walks of life who love justice and truth and value democracy and human rights and the international community would offer greater support and solidarity to the national education of Koreans in Japan.



Paektu Plain in spring

FESTIVAL SHOWCASES PROGRESS IN NATION'S SPORTS

By Han Kwi Hun PT

As the 2023 spring national sports festival was drawing to a close, keen competition heated up among all the sports clubs and players to win gold medals.

Seesaw between rivals

The women's handball match between April 25 and Amnokgang teams was one of the most impressive and fiercest ones during the festival. The round-robin match drew special attention of the spectators and professionals as it was hard to say which one of the two teams was better than the other.

Soon after the throw-off, Amnokgang's No. 11 Kim Un Sim broke through the opponent's defence line and shot the ball into the net.

The April 25 tried hard to hold the lead in the match by applying half-side attack, middle shots and other attack tactics.

The first round ended 10-9 in the April 25's favour after a seesaw battle.

In the second round, the Amnokgang started intensifying attack.

Amnokgang's goalkeeper Choe Ok Gyong played a prominent role in that round.

Especially skilled at blocking close shots, she saved several dangerous shots to inspire her teammates.

The April 25 beat the Amnokgang 20-17.

Contest of perseverance and stamina

The marathon event

of the festival was held on Kwangbok Street of Pyongyang involving more than 200 male and female players from 27 units including April 25 and Amnokgang sports clubs.

It was divided into full and half marathons.

At 9.00am, the starting pistol went off and the marathoners started their race displaying their physical and tactical abilities to the full.

Significant tactical changes were noticed in the men's event.

Amnokgang's Han Il Ryong, Ministry of Light Industry's Ri Kang Bom, Munphyong Smeltery's Jon Kum Il passed the 5km section and several other sections before others.

The marathon gradually became a race between Han and Ri.

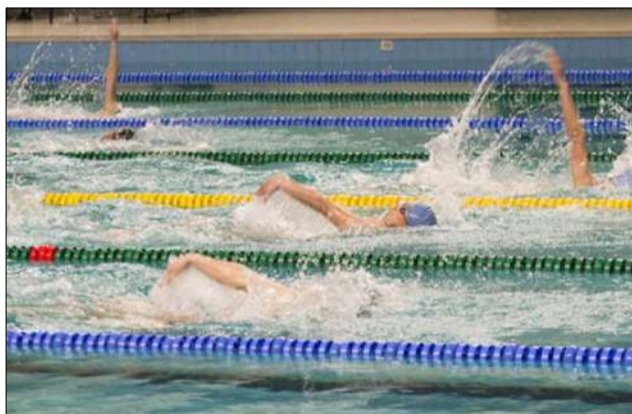
As time went by, the clash between Han, who won golds at some of last year's events, and Ri, who proved successful at several international and national competitions, grew fiercer.

However, after passing the 30km point, Han outstripped his rival and crossed the finish line to win the trophy again.

In the women's event, Amnokgang's Ri Kwang Ok showed off her competence.

Ri ensured a proper speed at every section and displayed untiring perseverance and came first in the women's marathon.

Ri Chung Rim of the Sinuiju external construction



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A swimming match takes place at the Swimming Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang.

company sports club and Pak Sol Gyong of the Ryesonggang Sports Club came first in the men's and women's half marathons respectively.

With accurate stunts

The diving competition of the festival took place in the indoor swimming pool on Chongchun Street.

Over 40 male and female players from five units including April 25 and Pyongyang sports clubs took part in the competition.

The players competed in 10 categories performing stunts with high accuracy.

The divers of the April 25 achieved good results by demonstrating their improved level of diving control.

Kim Song Hak triumphed in the men's individual low board and was also successful in the men's individual high board.

Kim Mi Hwa won a gold medal in the women's individual high board and Kim Song Hak and Jo Ryu Myong took the

first place in the men's synchronized ten-metre platform.

The April 25 also won the mixed event and collected the largest number of medals in the competition.

Players of the Pyongyang Sports Club displayed their excellent techniques in the event.

Pak Sol Hui snatched a gold in the women's individual low board and Im Yong Myong and Kim Mi Rae triumphed in the mixed synchronized ten-metre platform.

The club also came first in the women's synchronized ten-metre platform.

Yu Jong of the Ministry of Fisheries Sports Club performed technical movements with high degrees of difficulty and ensured high accuracy in entry and triumphed in the women's individual ten-metre platform outdoing many renowned players.

Ko Che Won, though very young, was ranked among the top three in several categories.

World Table Tennis Day marked

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

An event to commemorate World Table Tennis Day 2023 took place at the Table Tennis Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on April 23.

The International Table Tennis Federation set April 23, birth anniversary of its founder, as World Table Tennis Day in order to contribute to realizing the Olympic ideal for building a peaceful world by arousing public interest in table tennis and encouraging larger numbers of people to play it and train and harmoniously develop their body and mind.

The event was attended by officials of the Table Tennis Association of the DPRK, coaches, instructors, players and students from the April 25 Team, Hwaepul Sports Club and juvenile sports school of the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sports.

In his speech made at the event, Hong Myong Ryong, chairman of the association, said that all

of us would get strong body, sound mind and delight and optimism in life through table tennis and the event would mark a significant occasion in further stimulating public interest in the sport and giving a powerful spur to developing its techniques.

That day, Kim Hyok Bong and Kim Jong, mixed doubles champions at the 52nd world table-tennis championships, respectively paired with young players to play a match.

"I am so happy with playing with instructor Kim Jong in a pair today. I will be a table tennis star just like her in the future," said Hong Kwon, pupil of Hasinhung Primary School of Songchongang District, Hamhung.

After the match, coaches Ri Kun Sang and Yu Sun Bok, who won fame as a "moving wall" and "offensive-oriented player" in the past, officiated a technical workshop to hand their experience and technical skills over to young players.



An event is held at the Table Tennis Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on April 23 to commemorate World Table Tennis Day 2023.

