

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits construction site of Ragwon County Offshore Farm

He expresses satisfaction over the fact that important project to give a fresh impetus to the implementation of regional development policy is being perfectly pushed forward



KCNA

July 13.

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, gave field guidance at the construction site of the Ragwon County Offshore Farm on

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, Kim Jae Ryong and other leading officials of the Central Committee of the WPK.

He was greeted on the spot by the commanding officers of the units of the Korean People's Army involved in

the construction project and officials of design institutions.

Construction of the Ragwon County Offshore Farm has been powerfully pushed forward and entered the final stage according to the regional development policy and plan and direct guidance of the WPK to radically develop offshore

farming, which conforms to the natural and geographical features of the country and proved its profitability and prospects, and thus expand and strengthen the economic independence of coastal cities and counties in a sustained way.

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Kim Jong Un heard about the progress of the project in detail.

He highly appreciated the efforts of the soldier-builders, who are glorifying every day and month with labour feats through successive offensive, devoting their all to the worthwhile creative struggle for bringing about the future changes in every coastal city and county, true to the decisions of the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.

He made the rounds of the construction site of the offshore farm.

He said that many things have changed beyond recognition in just some months since the construction of the farm started in February, adding that the current practical changes, not in words or letters, fully and visually show the ambitious plan, steadfast will and executive ability of our Party that is determined to powerfully promote regional development.

Saying that construction of the modern offshore farms directly planned and pushed forward by the Party Central Committee is an innovative field of creation to reliably guarantee the effective rejuvenation and long-term development of more than 60 coastal

cities and counties across the country, he expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the important project to give a fresh impetus to the implementation of the regional development policy, which is getting expanded day by day, is being perfectly pushed forward.

He appreciated that the builders have pushed ahead with the project on a high level in good harmony with the environment of the coastal area, while further applying improved modernity, advanced character and originality, not confining themselves to following the past experience, and continued:

Construction of offshore farms is a strategic creative undertaking for fundamentally strengthening and developing the material foundations of the development of the regional economy and improvement of the people's living standards on the basis of the specific environment and economic potentials of relevant areas. So it is necessary to make exact and substantial plans for all their construction projects from a long-term and scientific point of view. It is indispensable to rationally define the grades of the projects on the basis of scientific research and analysis of the populations, economic foundations and marine and ecological environment of

the relevant regions properly like other projects for the regional development policy, and push ahead with them in a sustained way.

In order to effectively conduct the intermediate- and long-term work of developing and expanding the regional economy across the country on a new basis, it is necessary to give precedence to working out annual plans for the construction of city and county offshore farms in the future struggle stage.

He then indicated important orientation to this end.

Underscoring the need to build the offshore farms as befitting another stage of revolutionary development in the designing of industrial facilities, he set forth the tasks and principles arising in massively building offshore farms on a nationwide scale, including those of attaching greater importance to economic profitability and effectiveness the more rapidly construction develops, increasing the proportion of afforestation in the sections of dwelling houses in rural areas and applying the most rational and optimized plans in the construction of coastal structures including breakwater.

He went round the houses built in the fishermen's village area.

He said that a new phase of development was opened up in the construction of houses that go well with the characteristics of the coastal region, the regional environment became more cultured, and a seaside of paradise, our style of fishermen's village of paradise, has been born. He said with pleasure that our Party's cherished desire to present the most beautiful fishermen's village in the world to the people of Ragwon County on the occasion of the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK is to be realized, adding:

The fishermen's village in Ragwonpho is a proud visual entity of the new phase of development of regional rural culture and our architectural art, which are undergoing a complete change racing against time. It is the firm determination of our Party to turn all coastal areas across the country into seaside of paradise shining with new civilization and new wellbeing enjoyed by the people.

The Party's policy on construction is a policy of constantly aspiring to the new and development, and there should be no absolute model or standard in its establishment and implementation. In order to make our construction work pioneer the future both in name and reality, we should make the most of the already accumulated potential for construction and, at the same time, actively aspire to the advanced ones and wage an uninterrupted struggle.

The successes achieved in the construction of the modern marine industrial bases and our-style modern fishermen's villages are another miracle that can be wrought only by our soldier-builders boundlessly loyal to the cause of the Party and a powerful proof of the validity and might of the policy of our Party, which has set radical changes and steady development in regions as the most important task and carries them out vigorously.

Kim Jong Un expressed expectation and belief that the soldier-builders would perfectly unfold in Ragwonpho by the founding anniversary of the WPK characteristic creations for guaranteeing the wellbeing of the regional people forever, a proud socialist paradise, by redoubling their soaring militant enthusiasm and bold strenuous exertions, and thus translate the plan of the Party Central Committee into a brilliant reality.

Receiving his militant encouragement and great trust, all the builders took an oath of loyalty to surely set in time a valuable creative example in implementing the Party's policy on regional development, which can be generalized in and applied to other parts of the country, by making more courageous efforts staking the honour of our army which is absolutely faithful to the orders and directives of the Party Central Committee.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un meets Russian foreign minister

He expresses conviction that the coordinated and harmonious diplomatic stands of the two countries to take initiative, proactive attitude towards the radically changing international geopolitical situation would make a positive contribution to ensuring peace and security in the region and rest of the world

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met on July 12 Sergei Lavrov, foreign minister of the Russian Federation, who visited the DPRK to take part in the second strategic dialogue between the foreign ministers of the DPRK and Russia.

Present there were Andrei Rudenko, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, and Aleksandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un gladly received Lavrov and had a talk with him in an atmosphere full of warm and comradely trust.

At the talk, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov courteously conveyed the warm greetings of Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin to Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Comrade Kim Jong Un expressed deep thanks for it and asked the Russian foreign minister to convey his friendly greetings to the esteemed Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin.

The talk widely exchanged the opinions of the leaderships of the two countries on a series of important matters for defending the common core interests by faithfully

implementing the agreements made at the historic DPRK-Russia summit talks in June 2024, demonstrating the invincibility and vitality of the future-oriented DPRK-Russia relations in the new era and further developing the comprehensive strategic partnership between the DPRK and Russia, on the items of mutual cooperation in different fields and on the international and regional situations. And it confirmed the consensus of stand.

Kim Jong Un said that the two countries share the views on all strategic issues in conformity with the level of alliance, adding that it shows the high strategic level reached by the two countries.

He listened to the satisfactory result of the second strategic dialogue between

the foreign ministers of the DPRK and Russia and expressed conviction that the coordinated and harmonious diplomatic stands of the two countries to take initiative and proactive attitude towards the radically changing international geopolitical situation would make a positive contribution to ensuring peace and security in the region and the rest of the world.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov explained his impressions of the strategic communication held between the diplomatic fields of the DPRK and Russia, and expressed the stand to further intensify the strategic and tactical cooperation and concerted action between the Russian Federation and the DPRK in the international arena.

the comprehensive expansion and development of bilateral ties and guaranteeing endless wellbeing of the peoples and their bright future irrespective of any change in situation in conformity with the spirit of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership.

Expressing firm belief that the Russian army and people would surely win victory in accomplishing the sacred cause of defending the dignity and fundamental interests of their country and achieving the prosperity of the Russian Federation under the outstanding leadership of President Putin, Kim Jong Un sincerely hoped that only victory and glory are always in store for the great Russia.

Kim Jong Un reaffirmed that the DPRK is ready to unconditionally support all the measures taken by the Russian leadership as regards the eradicating of the root cause of the Ukrainian crisis, in keeping with the spirit of the inter-state treaty between the DPRK and Russia in the future, too.

Clearly expressed at the talk was the will of the leaderships of the two countries to closely support and cooperate with each other in the journey for thoroughly safeguarding the core interests of the two countries, powerfully promoting



Second strategic dialogue held between foreign ministers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Russian Federation

Press statement on second strategic dialogue between DPRK and Russian foreign ministers released



dynamic development of the DPRK-Russia relations in line with the plan and intention of the heads of state. It reaffirmed the firm will to faithfully implement the spirit and all articles of the treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries and thus turn the long-standing DPRK-Russia relations with tradition into the eternal strategic relations.

Both sides expressed once again the stand to further intensify the strategic communication and cooperation for defending the state sovereignty, territorial integrity and international justice while boosting mutual cooperation in the international arenas.

The Russian side resolutely opposed any attempt to deny the present position of the DPRK as regards the situation on

the Korean peninsula and expressed its firm support for the DPRK side in its just efforts for defending the security of the state and the sovereign right.

The DPRK side expressed full sympathy and support for all the measures taken by the Russian government to remove the root cause of the Ukrainian conflict and defend its national sovereignty, security interests and territorial integrity.

The exchange of views on major international issues confirmed that the two sides are unanimous in the judgments on the present complicated international situation and they agreed to coordinate the common stand while further heightening vigilance against the hostile forces' hegemony-oriented moves for aggression getting more undisguised worldwide

and boosting strategic communication.

The DPRK and Russian foreign ministers agreed to continue exchange of views between the foreign policy organs of the two countries at various levels, including ministerial strategic dialogue.

The 2026-2027 exchange plan was signed between the DPRK Foreign Ministry and the Russian Foreign Ministry after the strategic dialogue.

The second strategic dialogue between the DPRK and Russian foreign ministers serves as a significant occasion in expanding and developing the bilateral relations in an all-round way and strengthening the strategic and tactical cooperation and support and solidarity between the two countries in line with the new inter-state treaty.

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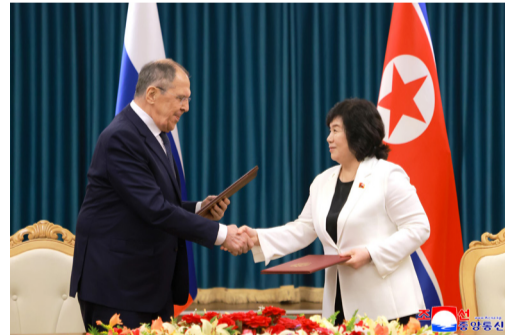
A press statement on the second strategic dialogue between the foreign ministers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation was issued on July 12.

The press statement says:

The second strategic dialogue between Choe Son Hui, foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Sergei Lavrov, foreign minister of the Russian Federation, took place in Wonsan on July 12 at a time when the bilateral relations are developing into the

comprehensive and future-oriented invincible alliance under the strategic guidance of the heads of state of the two countries.

The strategic dialogue between the DPRK and Russian foreign ministers discussed in depth the immediate practical issues arising in accelerating the



The second strategic dialogue takes place between Choe Son Hui, foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Sergei Lavrov, foreign minister of the Russian Federation, in Wonsan on July 12.

DPRK government hosts reception to welcome Russian foreign minister

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The DPRK government hosted a reception at Myongsasimni Hotel in the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area on the evening of July 12 to welcome Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on a visit to the DPRK.

Present there at invitation were Andrei Rudenko,

vice-minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, and other members of the foreign minister's entourage, Aleksandr Matsegora, Russian ambassador to the DPRK, and his embassy officials.

Minister Choe Son Hui, Vice-Minister Kim Jong Gyu and other officials of the DPRK

Ministry of Foreign Affairs were attended the reception.

Speeches were made by Choe Son Hui and Sergei Lavrov.

The participants in the reception toasted the eternal prosperity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, the boundless happiness

and beautiful future of the peoples of the two countries and the good health of the top leaders of the two countries.

Sergei Lavrov, foreign minister of the Russian Federation, left on July 13 after visiting the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the invitation of the DPRK Foreign Ministry.



A reception is given at Myongsasimni Hotel in the Wonsan Kalma Coastal Tourist Area on July 12 to welcome Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov.



On the occasion of 72nd anniversary of victory in great Fatherland Liberation War

Defending territory of their country at cost of their blood



The People's Army soldiers fight to defend Height 1211 at the cost of their blood.

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The mass heroism and self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the soldiers of the Korean People's Army during the Fatherland Liberation War were unprecedented in the world history of war.

At the age of 18, Hero Ri Su Bok died after enabling his unit to countercharge by blocking the enemy pillbox with his chest.

In the course of repelling enemy attack several times, Hero Jo Kun Sil was severely wounded in arms and legs to become unable to keep himself steady. Then he pressed the trigger of his heavy machine-gun with his jaw to mow down the enemy. He fought heroically till the end of his

life, killing or wounding more than 450 enemy troops and making a great contribution to defending the height.

During a battle, Hero Kang Ho Yong became unable to move his body because of serious injuries in both his legs and arms. But with all the strength he could muster, he rolled down into an enemy group with a hand grenade between his teeth, thus inflicting wholesale deaths upon them.

The battle of Kachil Peak during the defence of Height 1211 wrote a special chapter in the history of the Fatherland Liberation War for the fierceness.

In the battle the soldiers of the KPA took an oath to fly the flag of the DPRK on the height without fail

and charged. When the flag bearers fell, the following soldiers took over the flag. At last the 12th flag bearer put up on the height the national flag stained with the blood of comrades-in-arms.

While repulsing the enemy's persistent attack several times to defend a height, Hero Han Kye Ryol encouraged his comrades-in-arms, saying, "The height of the country is mine. I cannot retreat from it," thus crushing the enemy attack and defending the height heroically. Then the "My Height" movement was launched by all frontline units and subunits.

When enemy tanks went up the height, Heroine Jo Sun Ok, a nurse, destroyed the first tank by hurling a bundle of grenades and

when she became unable to move because of excessive bleeding, she, with all the strength she could muster, threw herself under another tank following behind the first one with a bundle of grenades to destroy it. And An Yong Ae, another nurse heroine, sacrificed herself to save a wounded soldier by covering him with her body from enemy strafing. Many other KPA soldiers displayed matchless mass heroism in all fierce battles, terrifying the aggressors.

Their heroic self-sacrificing spirit was based on their absolute trust in President Kim Il Sung and their ardent patriotism.

They could not forget the five years of their life after Kim Il Sung liberated Korea by defeating the Japanese imperialists. In those years, they gathered rich harvest from their land distributed to them for the first time in their life or worked as masters of factories. During

the Japanese imperialists' military occupation of Korea, they had been subjected to colonial slavery. So they valued the five years of leading a new worthwhile life as masters of the country while enjoying genuine human rights and they were determined never to live as slaves of the aggressors again. That is why they displayed matchless bravery in fierce battles to defend the country more precious than their lives.

The iron faith that they would surely win victory as they were led by the President, an ever-victorious and iron-willed brilliant commander, trained the KPA soldiers into indomitable heroes and heroines.

During the war the people in the rear also fought as bravely as the soldiers of the KPA. Farmers produced and supplied grain by ploughing fields and sowing seeds there despite the heavy bombing the enemy carried out scores

of times a day, and other people rebuilt the damaged bridges and transport routes or treated wounded KPA soldiers. To send more weapons, ammunition and hand grenades to the soldiers fighting on heights, the workers in the munitions industry sector kept operating lathes with bruised hands in tunnels where water dripped from the ceilings.

In different parts of the country the people's guerrilla units, youth guards and children's guards destroyed railways, roads and the enemy's magazines and communications means and fought to repulse the aggressors who occupied their native places so as to liberate towns and villages.

The myth of the "mightiness" of US imperialism was completely shattered and the aggressors could not escape a disgraceful defeat in the war with such people with the indomitable spirit.



File photos show farmers out in the wartime increased food production campaign.

Wartime song still popular among DPRK people

By U Jong Hwan

A large number of songs were produced in the DPRK during the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953).

Among the wartime songs is "My Dear Is a Hero Now" written by a platoon leader of the Korean People's Army, not a writer, in 1951.

The song, which turned his life experience into the lyrics, tells an uncommon story.

One day, platoon leader Pak Sam Gyu was wounded in a battle and committed to the hospital of an army corps. The ambulance carrying wounded soldiers arrived at a farming village in Kumgang

County about midday the day after. It was so hot that they wanted to cool themselves by drinking cold water. So they went to a house at the entrance of the village.

It was the house of an old corporal who had been killed in action a few days ago in the same unit as Pak. As he recognized his comrade-in-arms in the framed picture hanging on the wall, the platoon leader felt a pain in his heart. He could not tell his mother and wife, who were taking the lead in the wartime food production and assistance to the KPA soldiers on the front, while waiting for news of him, that the corporal fell in the battle.

So, Pak left the house, encouragingly saying to them that he would return home wearing numerous decorations all over his breast after winning the war.

Back on the ambulance, his mind flashed back to the wife of his comrade-in-arms who expressed her determination to fight and work harder in order to proudly meet her decorated husband on the day of victory and other family members. He also remembered the images of women in the rear who took an active part in assistance to the front, ploughing and sowing the seeds in the fields in place of their husbands fighting on the front.

The platoon leader was so excited that he brought out a notebook and pen from his pocket and began to write his feelings.

The long-awaited news of my husband dear

Was broken by a soldier who came to see me.

You knocked off a hundred Yankees, he said,

And defended the burning height to become a hero.

Our hero, the pride of the nation,

How could I meet without doing anything worthwhile?

After finishing the first verse, Pak continued to write down the story of the wife of his comrade-in-arms in the second and third verses, who

pledged to work well like her husband, who performed brilliant feats in the war, until the day of victory, saying she had finished sowing seeds before others and she had a rich foxtail millet harvest in the fields where seeds were sown after filling shell holes.

As a result, a song was written in the form of a joyful reply letter sent to the front by the women after receiving the news of soldiers who became heroes, not the sad news of their death.

Soon after, composer Jong Jin Ok wrote music for the song.

The song was widely sung on the front and in the rear as soon as it was produced.

The KPA soldiers on the front sang the song, picturing the world of undying love and trust of their parents, wives and children in their native places. Singing the song, the women in the rear turned out more vigorously for wartime food production and assistance to the front.

The song, whose melodies reflect the minds of husbands on the front and women in the rear and which optimistically represents the simple yet beautiful spiritual world of the women, is still sung widely as one of the favourite songs of the DPRK people instilling confidence in victory and optimism in them.

Strong measures taken for disaster prevention

Scientific and practical measures taken

By **Kwon Hyo Song** PT

Different sectors of the national economy are taking scientific and practical measures to actively cope with disastrous abnormal weather.

Provincial power distribution stations of the electric power industry sector far-sightedly push ahead with the work to find out spots vulnerable to damage caused by strong wind and heavy rain and take relevant measures.

They are pushing at the final stage the installing of electrostatic distributed lightning conductors for protecting power transmission lines and the replacement of inferior overhead earth wires and power poles.

The sector of thermal power generation removed sandy-silty soil from the beds of reservoirs in time after finishing the readjustment and repair of pumping stations and pumps. And the hydropower generation sector accurately controlled the water levels of the dams after exactly confirming expected precipitation and finished the repair of the sluice gates in a qualitative way.

The rail transport sector has technically installed lightning arresters at traction transformer substations

to prevent power cuts caused by thunderbolts and meticulously carried out cyclic inspection of transformer facilities and electric car lines while responsibly repairing structures.

The coal-mining industry sector presses on with the work to minimize the damage from natural disasters in a far-sighted way.

The Tukjang Area Coal-mining Complex found out all the dangerous factors that could hinder production to take relevant measures. This year alone it has carried out tens of thousands of cubic metres of dredging and earth laying and thousands

of square metres of stone covering.

The Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex and the Kangdong and Hamnam area coal-mining complexes have completed projects for erosion control by giving precedence to the supply of materials and the Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex and the Tokchon and Kacchon area coal-mining complexes are carrying on the building of retaining walls along rivers at the final stage.

The mining industry sector has carried out the reinforcement of embankments of tailing settling basins and refuse

dumps and the improvement of streams in a substantial way in order to ensure normal production even in the rainy season.

Meanwhile, it thoroughly ensures the safety of production by steadily carrying out the readjustment of pumps needed for preventing submergence of pits and by carefully inspecting and repairing transformers and other power equipment.

The agricultural sector is also speeding up the improvement of medium and small rivers and the repair of coastal dykes, irrigation water ways and irrigation facilities.



River improvement gains momentum in Chongjin City.

To push ahead with construction without interruption in rainy season

By **Kim Il Jin** PT

Officials in the sector of construction are taking detailed measures to prevent damage in the rainy season in a far-sighted way, fully conscious that it is an important issue in ensuring the speed and quality of construction.

Especially, measures are being taken to uninterruptedly carry out the construction projects at a high qualitative level at the construction site of the fourth-stage 10 000 flats in the Hwasong area while preparing in advance to cope with possible emergency situations there in the rainy season.

Looking back upon the disaster prevention work in the past, officials of the construction headquarters are finding out more shortcomings, though they are tiny, rather than successes to take meticulous measures.

While making every construction unit conduct in a methodological way the work to thoroughly guarantee the lives and

safety of builders against lightning and thunder, they see to it that the relevant departments find out all factors that might affect the project in the rainy season to liquidate them in time.

They are also taking measures to make sure that the relevant construction units secure plenty of materials to be used in the rainy season and shorten the period of construction progress to the minimum.

Meanwhile, positive efforts are being made to prevent electrical equipment and power lines at the construction site from being damaged by flood and rainstorm.

In addition, successes continue to be expanded, as detailed measures are taken to push ahead with construction projects without interruption even in the rainy season at construction sites across the country, such as those of regional industry factories and rural houses in 20 cities and counties including Taegwan, Pacchon and Puryong counties.

Focusing on protection of crops

By **Ri Sang Il** PT

All farms across the country put in efforts to protect the crops from extreme weather conditions.

Officials and agricultural workers in South Hwanghae Province work hard to protect the farmland and crops.

Cities and counties carefully assess risk factors in reservoirs, tide embankments and banks of rivers and streams and take urgent measures immediately after identifying any dangerous places.

Anak County pays attention to keeping dry field crops from being damaged by rainstorm and moisture in case of heavy rain and takes appropriate measures.

Farms in the county are directing great efforts to the prevention of damage to dry field crops.

They plough the maize fields and hill crops well to provide favourable conditions for the growth of maize roots and take care of the nutrition of dry field crops to meet the technical requirements so as to make sure that they would put down root firmly and weather the rain and wind well. They also dredge the waterways regularly to increase the volume of

passing water per hour.

Officials and agricultural workers in North Hwanghae Province also press on with the work to ensure the safe growth of crops.

They readjust the drainage canals and ditches and reinforce paddy field ridges, while paying attention to making full preparations for operating drainage water pumps at full capacity.

Jongju City in North Phyongan Province is taking all necessary measures to prevent the inundation of farmland.

The city officials actively work to remedy all shortcomings, while reconfirming and reexamining in the field the work done so far for the prevention of natural disasters.

They pay heed to the floodgate control for the timely draining of water in the reservoirs in emergency situations while directing primary attention to the reservoirs and intensifying the real-time monitoring of them to promptly cope with the situation in case it rains as much as the maximum rainfall in a short time.

The city directs a great deal of energies to reinforcing dozens of kilometres of sea dykes to suit its actual situation as a coastal city.

Afforestation for erosion control goes full steam ahead

By **To Kyong Chol** PT

The afforestation project for erosion control is vigorously pushed forward in different parts of the country to cope with the extreme weather.

Hoeryong City continues to direct great efforts to this project.

The city has so far been free from damage by landslide or flash flood in the mountain areas. But its officials have been on full alert and thought and studied deeply to find out and remove all the dangerous places.

They visited well over a hundred construction sites to confirm their situation and intensify field guidance to prevent repeated construction.

The working people in the city involved in the project are showing a high sense of responsibility in carrying out their tasks to turn their region into a safe zone free from any flash flood.

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Municipality also dynamically presses on with the project to minimize the damage to be caused by flood and landslide.

The municipality paid due attention to the introduction of efficient methods of afforestation for erosion control at the relevant units. One of them is the method based on bioengineering which is effective in minimizing damage by flood and landslide.

It encourages districts and counties to carry out the project for improving the durability and disaster preventing function of the facilities for afforestation for erosion control with natural materials like plants, stones and soil abundant in the mountains while making the minimum use of cement and aggregate.

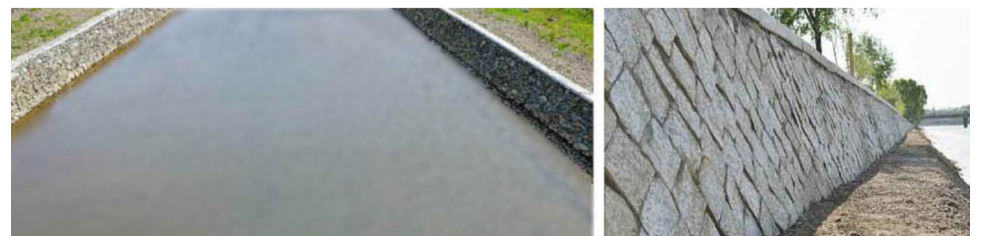
While selecting the kinds of tall

trees and shrubs, which can be used for afforestation for erosion control based on a bioengineering method, for the right soil, it ensures that responsible guidance is given to the construction to enhance the quality of anti-erosion work in the mountain areas and improvement of streams.

Kangdong County successfully completed a huge similar project at dozens of places in several kilometres of section.

Officials worked out a definite plan for each stage, organized a competent designing force and provided materials needed for the project on a preferential basis.

Officials and working people of many units in the county turned out in the project for preventing flood damage with a high sense of patriotism, thus finishing it in scores of days.



River banks are improved in several kilometres of section in Kangdong County, Pyongyang.

Movement of scientists and technicians 50 years on

By Pak Song Min PT

It has been 50 years since the Movement of the February 17 Shock Brigade of Scientists and Technicians started.

Over the past 50 years, the February 17 shock brigade of scientists and technicians has solved many scientific and technical problems arising on the major fronts of economic construction including those of national significance, writing a proud history of the ranks of the vanguard in the mass technical innovation movement.

The movement of the shock brigade of scientists and technicians is a revolutionary movement aimed at boosting the revolutionary enthusiasm and activity of the masses in technical development with scientists and technicians as its main force and at solving the key problems arising in economic construction by

developing new techniques and actively introducing them into production on the principle of giving priority to science and technology.

With a far-reaching plan to bring about a great upsurge in socialist economic construction Chairman Kim Jong Il gave field guidance at the Komdok Mining Complex in July 1975. There he took revolutionary measures to dispatch scientists and technicians from different sectors to the complex and relevant units, thus kindling the first torch of the movement of shock brigade of scientists and technicians.

In the late 1970s when the DPRK was faced with the tasks of implementing the Second Seven-Year Plan, the shock brigade of scientists and technicians was organized in various fields of the national economy and performed miracles and brought about

an upsurge in succession in developing science and technology and carrying out the technological revolution in the country.

When the movement for creating the speed of the 1980s gathered momentum as an all-people movement, the shock brigade members active at the Musan Mining Complex, the Taean Heavy Machine Complex and other units ensured the mass blasting and mining to increase productivity and properly solved the scientific and technical problems arising in the manufacture of large pieces of equipment.

The shock brigade members, who devoted their wisdom and energies to further perfecting the modernization of production processes in major sectors of the national economy, had successfully solved the vital scientific and technological problems in many units in

15 years since its formation, including the one for the comprehensive treatment of potassium feldspar in the first year of the 1990s.

The February 17 shock brigade of scientists and technicians movement has made enormous and dynamic strides in the new stage of development under the energetic leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The shock brigade members who were dispatched to factories and enterprises responsibly settled the problems arising in upgrading the production processes as labour-, energy-, cost- and site-saving and environmental protection-oriented ones.

Those who were active at the Ryongsong Machine Complex further increased the processing speed and precision of large equipment by widely applying advanced

science and technology in cooperation with the technical personnel of the complex.

The shock brigade members made a positive contribution to increasing the output per unit of gas and steam turbines much more than before by completing an advanced distributed control system at the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex. They also made proud achievements in manufacturing subway trains with their own efforts and technology by waging a vigorous mass technical innovation drive in the rail transport sector.

In the construction and building-materials sector they played a big role in turning the city of Samjiyon into a more splendid place as befitting the sacred place of the revolution. They have addressed scientific and technical problems arising in the construction of 50 000

flats in Pyongyang.

In the agricultural sector they made it possible to boost the per-hectare productivity of paddy rice by developing a manuring and cultivating method of rice to put the management of paddy field water and fertilizer application on a scientific basis and introduced such mushroom cultivation technologies as the agaric production technology based on the rice straw fermentation method into production at the Pyongyang Mushroom Farm.

New and valuable successes have also been achieved in every workplace for implementing the regional development policy of the Workers' Party of Korea thanks to the painstaking efforts of the shock brigade members who work hard to open up a new era of comprehensive rejuvenation on the strength of science and technology.

Workshop manager with a 'bright eye' for technical innovation

By Kim Kwang Song PT

Kim Kuk Chol, workshop manager of the nutritious rice powder workshop at the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory, is recognized as a workshop manager who is very good at designing inventions and technical innovations and a competent field official.

After graduating from the automatics faculty of Kim Chaek University of Technology with honours, he has worked at the factory for 16 years. In these years he came up with three national inventions and dozens of technical innovation plans conducive to modernizing production processes, introduced them into production, and developed over a dozen new products including rice powder for helping children grow tall and fruit rice powder.

The employees of the factory say that he has a "bright eye" for finding the seeds of technical innovation.

It is not accidental.

He, who knows the state of

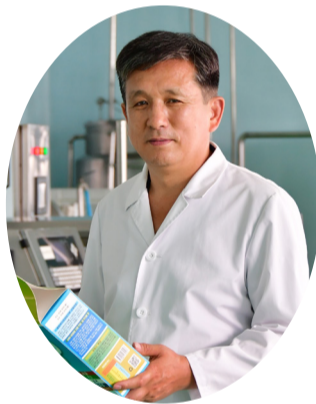
operation of all production lines in the workshop like the palm of his hand, introduced into production the method of making nutritious rice powder based on high-speed cooking method this year.

He racked his brains to make highly nutritious rice powder with better quality and finally decided to upgrade the existing nutritious rice powder production method.

Seeing him always looking at every nook and cranny of production processes carefully in order to find out anything to be innovated, some of the employees wondered if more technological transformation was needed as they were mass-producing products with modern production processes at the moment.

But his decision was firm and he was a man of action.

After conducting painstaking research day and night for three years, he finally developed an effective method for producing rice powder and established the nutritious rice powder production process based on



Kim Kuk Chol, workshop manager of the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory.

high-speed cooking method.

It enabled the workshop to remarkably improve the quality of products while saving a lot of manpower.

"He makes constant efforts to keep abreast of the developing times. Being sensitive to the world sci-tech trend and thinking deeply to improve the quality of products—these are the primary factor that made him have a 'bright eye' for technical innovation, we think," say workers in his workshop.



Kim Kuk Chol teaches workers new techniques.

PAK KWANG HUN/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

New arrester operation counter proves effective

By Kim Il Jin PT

The electric power industry research institute under the Ministry of Electric Power Industry has newly made a lightning arrester operation counter in a Korean way.

The device plays an

of great significance in strengthening the national disaster prevention capability.

The researchers intensified research into increasing the efficiency of the arrester operation counter while applying advanced technological

The new lightning arrester operation counter was introduced into various units of the country including the Jagang provincial power distribution station and was confirmed to be advantageous.

After building a perfect technical process capable

Researchers intensify research into increasing the efficiency of the arrester operation counter at the electric power industry research institute under the Ministry of Electric Power Industry.

RYU KWANG HYOK/THE PYONGYANG TIMES



important role in ensuring a rapid analysis of accidents and protecting power facilities by monitoring the operation of arresters in real time.

An official of the institute said that the new counter of arrester operation is

data in accordance with the actual conditions of the country.

They succeeded in making a core part of the counter with domestic materials and raised the device's precision level to further improve the accuracy of counting.

of meeting the nationwide demand for arrester operation counters, the institute is continuously making achievements in the research efforts for ensuring the safety of the power system from damage by lightning strikes.



'Worker poets' study at university

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Students with unusual careers attend the writer training course of the Philology and Literature Faculty of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education.

They were literary correspondents who cultivated their creative talents as they worked as "worker poets" at the workplaces. Today they, as students of the the writer training course specializing in training reserve writers, are taking literary classes under the guidance of competent lecturers.

They became students of the university according to the state measures to give education to promising literary correspondents at the university to be reserve writers.

Kim Myong Bom, who

was enrolled in the course a few years ago, is one of them.

He began to write poems full of enthusiasm about the worthwhile military service. After being demobbed, he continued to describe in poems the optimism of working life as he worked at a public service unit in Huichon City of Jagang Province.

"Whenever I heard the news about the holding of a national prize mass literary work contest, I could hardly repress the urge to take part in it. One day, the teacher, who was in charge of my class during the middle school days, visited and encouraged me to take part in the prize contest embracing all the working people, saying that everyone could nurture talents if he or she is determined," Kim said. So he composed poems showing the true feelings of working

life and won several prizes in such contests.

The country highly valued his talent and gave him an opportunity to study at the university. During the university years he wrote a lyric "Spring Smiles and Future Smiles", which gave pleasure to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Ri Ji Yong was a worker at the Rason Railway Bureau.

She loved literature in her school days and did not stop writing poems while working after graduating from the middle school. But she had never thought that her talent was uncommon.

The bud of her talent that even she had not known was found and cultivated by the officials in charge of guidance of creative work of the Central Committee of the Writers Union of Korea.

Influential writers came to the Rason area in the

northern tip of the country to give guidance to the creative activities of a girl worker and state measures were taken including the short training course which is offered every year to provide creative lessons to literary correspondents. They greatly helped her improve her creative ability day by day.

As a result, she composed a lyric "Another Line of 'Rails'" in the national prize lyric poem contest held last year in celebration of the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK and gave pleasure to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Recently, she has also enrolled on the course of Kim Hyong Jik University of Education.

They were ordinary working people, but now they are studying to their heart's content at the university, full of hope for the future.

As close as real brothers for over a decade

By Kil Chung Il PT

Villagers of neighbourhood unit No. 42 of Ansan-dong No. 2 in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang, say as follows whenever they see a young man visiting the house of Pak Ju Song, a special-class honoured disabled soldier: "That lad is really admirable as he frequents the house of the honoured disabled soldier" and "They look closer than real brothers".

It has been 13 years since Kim In Song, telematics engineer of the Pyongyang mobile communications operating agency, made the acquaintance of the family of the special-class honoured disabled soldier.

After graduating from a university in a regional area, In Song returned home in Pyongyang and came to visit the family in Phyongchon

sincerity to the honoured disabled soldier like his mother and frequently visited his home.

"We were very touched by the deep sincerity of In Song who often brought medicines good for treatment, health food, daily necessities and the like for my son," said Sim Jong Suk, mother of Ju Song.

When the disabled soldier, who had long been bedridden, wanted to visit Ryomyong Street after it was inaugurated, In Song gave him a four-wheeler and brought him to the new street and when the former got better and rose to his feet, the latter was so pleased and provided him with a sporting apparatus good for restoring physical functions.

"People say I care much for the honoured disabled soldier, but it's me that gets much encouragement



Kim In Song (left), telematics engineer of the Pyongyang mobile communications operating agency, with Pak Ju Song, special-class honoured disabled soldier. Kim has taken care of Pak Ju Song for over ten years. PANG UN JU/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Wonsan Boiled rice with clam meat

Wonsan boiled rice with clam meat has recently become popular as a specialty of Kangwon Province.

It is a kind of boiled rice dish which is prepared by mixing seasonings like red pepper with the main ingredients, clam and polished rice, and steaming in clam shells.

It is one of the favourite foods of tourists visiting Wonsan.

The sweet and spicy dish retaining the natural flavour of seafood is so appetizing.

Long-standing practice of using farina

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Among the Korean cultural heritage is the practice of using potato starch.

This practice refers to a way of life of the people in the northern alpine region of the DPRK who have farina as a staple. The starch is obtained by grinding properly washed potatoes and soaking the sediment in clear water several times before drying it.

Potato began to be

cultivated in the Musan area of Hamgyong Province located in the northern part of Korea in around 1824 and 1825. It found its way from Ryanggang Province in the northern part to Kangwon Province in the southern part by the 1830s-1840s.

To meet the characteristic of the region where cold weather persists, northern highlanders would turn potato into starch favourable for storage to use it conveniently.

Typical foods made of farina include starch noodles,

dehydrated starch noodles and starch cake soup.

The locals prepared starch noodles on ordinary days as well as holidays and feast days, and the food was characterized by pungent spices like red pepper and ample garnishings.

In wintertime, people put coils of noodles on snow-covered roofs or hanged them on ropes to freeze-dry them. Such practice is still carried on.

Starch cake soup is often prepared and eaten in

Ryanggang Province. To prepare it, bits of dough are plucked with hand into boiling water to be done. They are cooled in cold water before being mixed with salty and hot spices and served on a bowl. A bowl of soup leaves a burning taste in the mouth and the forehead of its eater is dripping sweat. People believe that the food drives the chill out of the body in cold winter.

Besides, pancake and taffy are also made with farina.

District led by his mother on a holiday.

That day, he came to know many things about Ju Song, who welcomed them warmly though bedridden with paraplegia, and about his own mother who had so far helped the disabled soldier.

In fact, In Song's mother Ri Ok Nyo had been an old acquaintance of Ju Song's mother.

Ju Song served the army after graduating from a university and returned home as an honoured disabled soldier as he had an unexpected accident during his military duty. At that time, Ri Ok Nyo was the first to visit his house with lots of medicines.

"Thanks to such honoured disabled soldiers who sacrificed themselves at national defence posts, our happiness is being defended," Ri told his son.

Listening to her, In Song came to realize the mind of his mother who took him to the home of the disabled soldier with her.

He decided to devote his

from him every time. I was struck with admiration for the great enthusiasm and fortitude of the honoured disabled soldier who is eager to contribute to society while cultivating life despite serious illness," said In Song.

After getting much better and becoming able to walk relying on a walking stick, Ju Song visited the construction site of the Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station with aid materials prepared by his family and encouraged builders by conducting motivation activities as an honorary shock brigade member. In that period, he had an honour of having a photo taken with the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who visited the construction site.

At present, In Song's wife has joined him in helping the honoured disabled soldier.

"I and In Song have become as close as real brothers through over ten years of relationship. He is really an excellent young man," said Pak Ju Song.

Rungna Islet full of delight and excitement

By Kim Kwon PT

Happy laughter keeps ringing out at the Rungna People's Pleasure Ground, a comprehensive cultural recreation ground built to go well with the scenery of picturesque Rungna Islet in the Taedong River flowing placidly.

Covering a large area, the pleasure ground consists of a water park, amusement park, mini-golf course, etc.

The Rungna Amusement Park is divided into two sections and there is a sightseeing engine plying between them.

The park is filled with laughter when evening glow lights the rolling waves of the Taedong and illuminations are turned on.

As the Mad Mouse runs along the steep and curved track, the Rotary Octopus makes riders feel as if heaven

and earth are reversed and Vertical Swing and other facilities turn round fast, people cry out at the top of their voice with excitement, and bystanders heave a deep sigh of admiration.

Many people are familiar to keepers of amusement facilities as they have repeatedly ridden them.

The Sky Drop symbolic of the pleasure ground is always crowded with people.

Riders feel a real thrill when it jumps up to the air and it is at the dizzy height commanding a bird's-eye view of the surrounding landscape. Regrettably, however, the facility drops in a moment giving no time to enjoy the scenery.

Riders wear varied facial expressions: some do not open their eyes on the constantly moving machine and some others

yell excitedly and cheerfully. Onlookers of all ages burst into laughter as they see those spectacles on the ground.

The amusement arcade equipped with various facilities is always "noisy".

What young people like most is the punch strength gauge.

Even extrovert young men blush when they receive the appraisal of "weakly" from the machine though they confidently deliver a punch with all their strength, which amuses girls watching them nearby.

houses serving noodles, seasoned rice rolled in laver, pancake and soft drinks provide distinctive services to cater to customers.

Lending added beauty to the islet, the Rungna People's Pleasure



Ground rings with the happy laughter of the people until late at night.

Public catering facilities of the pleasure ground also give pleasure to visitors.

The Rungnado Restaurant,

Many working people have a good time at the Rungna People's Pleasure Ground.

WON TONG CHOL/THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Experiencing horror and thrill

By Pang Un Ju PT

People can have such hair-raising adventures as a flight between sky-scrapers on board a light aircraft, encounter with large fish of prey like shark in the deep sea and rafting in the

fast-flowing river.

The location of such escapades is just the Rungna 4D Simulation Cinema in the Rungna People's Pleasure Ground.

"Lots of films have so far been produced since our cinema opened to enable

people to experience various situations in the virtual world. The current blockbusters are 'Beautiful Pyongyang (4)', 'Alpine Skiers', 'Mad Mouse' and 'World Travel'."

According to her, film

themes can be classified into joy, optimism, bravery, boldness, horror, etc. and many people like fiction films such as "The End of the Age of Dinosaurs".

Movie audience feel surprise and fear as they see in virtual reality the

ecological environment of the dinosaurian age of over 150 million years ago and the fight of the prehistoric monsters, the horror of the sudden encounter with sharks in the Antarctic Sea, the thrill of joy of sliding down the slopes of the Masikryong Ski Resort and the pleasure of bombing and destroying the enemy warships on a bomber. These are all exciting and unforgettable experience.

Rim Song Jin, a lecturer of Pyongyang College of Building Materials Industry, said: "I have come here for the first time and watched five films with my son. Rather than seeing the films, I felt as if I was experiencing various circumstances in them for the diverse audio-visual, kinetic and spatial effects of

the 3D glasses. I have been fully relieved of my fatigue here."

A student from Nampho on a visit to Pyongyang said: "Today, on that seat, I have enjoyed a thrill of having a bird's-eye view of Songhwa Street in the beautiful capital city aboard a microlight, the Alps, pyramids of Egypt, the Parthenon in Greece and the Colosseum in Rome. It's really an impressive experience."

Visitors can also fight a battle with enemies with the VR shooting machine in the hall using pistols and machine guns.

They are reluctant to leave the Rungna 4D Simulation Cinema where they can experience all such feelings in the virtual world.



Working people and schoolchildren experience horror and thrill in virtual world at the 4D Simulation Cinema. JO RYONG/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

DPRK-Russia ties grow stronger

By Choe Song Jun PT

Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, visited the DPRK at the invitation of Chairman Kim Jong Il in July 2000.

At that time, meetings and talks were held between the leaders of the two countries and a DPRK-Russia joint declaration was adopted.

The historic Pyongyang summit and the adoption of the joint declaration provided a firm foundation for developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries in a more comprehensive way.

The joint declaration confirmed that the further development of bilateral cooperation and close mutual cooperation conforms to the fundamental interests of the peoples of the two countries and the trend of building a multipolar world and establishing a new fair

and reasonable international order based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and mutual cooperation.

The joint declaration is a historic document of weighty significance in positively promoting the development of the bilateral friendly and cooperative relations in the 21st century.

Since its adoption, the friendly and cooperative ties have steadily been cemented.

With close attention to the development of the relationship, Chairman Kim Jong Il visited the Russian Federation on several occasions afterwards to consolidate the ties and make an immortal contribution to ensuring peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world. In those days, visits and contacts got frequent at different levels and both sides exchanged wide-ranging views on bilateral relations and international issues.

The traditional bonds of

friendship and cooperation between the two countries are now further developing under the close concern of the top leaders of the two countries.

In April 2019, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un met and held talks with Russian President Putin for the first time. He paid another official goodwill visit to the Russian Federation in September 2023 to strengthen and develop the traditional and strategic bilateral friendship, cooperation and good neighbourliness on a new higher level and powerfully encourage and propel the just struggle for accomplishing the cause of independence against imperialism.

A historic DPRK-Russia summit was held in Pyongyang in June 2024 and a bilateral treaty on comprehensive strategic partnership was adopted, which was a specially noteworthy event that definitely developed the

friendly and cooperative relations into an invincible future-oriented alliance and ushered in an overall heyday in the bilateral relationship.

The strong DPRK-Russia relations based on the treaty serve as a powerful security mechanism for promoting the wellbeing of the peoples of the two countries, defusing the regional situation and guaranteeing international strategic stability, and as a powerful driving force accelerating the establishment of an independent, just and multipolar new world order free from domination, subjugation and hegemony.

It is the aspiration of the peoples of the two countries to steadily consolidate and develop the DPRK-Russia ties and it will make a significant contribution to defending the sovereignty of the two countries, promoting their wellbeing and ensuring global independence and peace.

Submission to US brings disgrace and misfortune upon Japan

By Song Jong Ho PT

The Japanese government recently made public the data that 310 Japan-based American service personnel were acquitted of all kinds of crimes in the past 10-odd years.

According to it, the Yokohama and Naha district prosecutor's offices and other prosecution organs dropped the criminal cases of GIs and it was the year 2015 that recorded the largest number of those who were acquitted of crime, which reached as many as 42.

As is known, GI crimes ceaselessly occur in Japan. In particular, Okinawa with many US military bases is a nest of GI crimes.

Data indicates that the cases of murder, rape, robbery, etc. committed by US service personnel in Okinawa Prefecture numbered more than 6 230 between 1972 and 2023.

In particular, the accidents caused by GIs amounted to over 201 000 cases between 1952 and 2004 and about 1 100 Japanese were dead in the accidents. But only one American faced a trial in the period.

This is attributable to the Japanese authorities' policy of submission to the US.

According to the US-Japan status of forces agreement which was concluded after the Second World War, in case an American soldier committed a crime not during the execution of his official duty, primary jurisdiction is granted to the Japanese side. However, with the exception of the escape clauses including the arrest of a criminal in an act of crime, the US side is to detain the person concerned in principle before an indictment is filed. Consequently, American criminals are naturally acquitted of their crimes.

Meanwhile, another clause of the status of forces agreement contains the stipulation that if a member of the US forces causes damage to the body or property of the Japanese citizens, the member is exempt from liability for compensation for damage to the victims as the Japanese government is to pay for the damage.

Last year alone, several concealment cases related to GI crimes happened in Japan.

In November 2024, a GI in his 30s committed a sexual assault on a local woman in a building in the middle part of Okinawa Prefecture to injure her. But the police concealed the case for a long time on the pretext of investigation, before informing the prefectural authorities of it.

Another sexual assault was perpetrated by an American soldier some time later, but the police did not inform the prefectural authorities of that.

As the Japanese people including the Okinawa residents are getting more vocal against their authorities, they are demanding the revision of the unequal status of forces agreement. But the Japanese authorities do never care about the dignity and human rights of their citizens.

Rather, they are trying to appease the growing wrath of the people, saying that the US forces play a big role in ensuring peace and security and that people should not see GIs as villains, while flattering and yielding to the US, only studying its face.

Consequently, the GIs, too puffed up, unhesitatingly commit crimes everywhere and get off scot-free.

Unless the authorities of Japan abandon the policy of submission to the US, its people will remain in disgrace and keep suffering misfortunes.

'Socialist state we aspire to is in sight'



Ham Nam Myong, deputy director of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee

The proud reality, in which the capital envies provinces, the regional rejuvenation represents the advance and development of the state and the ideal appearance of local areas becomes the true picture of Korean-style socialism, is being created in all parts of the DPRK today.

This is a manifestation of the steadfast will of the Workers' Party of Korea to overcome the difference in living conditions between the capital and local areas and the imbalance between regions by accelerating regional rejuvenation and build an ideal socialist state which grows stronger from the low units upward.

The regional development precisely means the overall prosperity and growth of the

state.

In our country, cities and counties are the strategic fortresses and bases of the state. The projects for regional development, including the modernization of regional-industry factories, acceleration of rural construction and renovation of schools and hospitals are also carried out with each city or county as a unit. Therefore, the comprehensive development of the state presupposes the simultaneous and balanced development of all cities and counties.

The eternal prosperity of the state lies in eliminating the gaps between the capital and provinces and between urban and rural areas by strengthening the regional areas in every way.

In our country, the work

of finally and fundamentally eliminating the differences in the standard of living between the capital and provinces and between towns and countryside is making dynamic progress at present.

The regional-industry factories which were splendidly built as first creations of regional rejuvenation in 20 cities and counties are now turning out popular products and commodities that can be representative of their regions.

Gigantic projects are also underway this year, the second year of implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy. The construction of regional-industry factories is being pushed forward vigorously, while modern hospitals, multi-functional leisure complexes and grain storage facilities are being built on an experimental basis.

A modern offshore farm and fishermen's village are being built in Ragwon County and the construction of the largest-ever greenhouse farm and vegetable research centre

is progressing apace on the shore of the Amnok River.

Rural dwelling houses have been spruced up in different parts of the country, creating a new landscape peculiar to our state. In the agricultural sector, the top 10 agricultural counties and the top 30 farms of 2024 were selected amid the growing enthusiasm for scientific farming and high-yield emulation.

Our Party is pushing ahead with the development of the regions vigorously and stubbornly in order to build an ideal socialist state where all people who were born on this land enjoy a cultured and happy life.

When the trend of developing from bottom to top is firmly established and when positive efforts are made to effectively develop and utilize the economic resources and potentials peculiar to regions, it becomes a powerful driving force for the comprehensive development of the country.

The socialist state we aspire to is now in sight.

BYWORD

For larger quantities of better quality products

The Korean people are now making more courageous, effective and intensive efforts to implement the decisions of the Twelfth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of

the Workers' Party of Korea.

Different sectors of the national economy including light and foodstuff industries are conducting a dynamic increased production emulation drive

for turning out famous products and commodities favoured by the people.

Great progress is being made in improving the people's living standards, thanks to the devoted

efforts of the working people to produce larger quantities of better quality goods, which are waited for and welcomed by the people, by their own efforts, technology and resources.

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Press statement by chief of Policy Office of DPRK Ministry of National Defence

KCNA

The chief of the Policy Office of the Ministry of National Defence of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on July 13 issued the following press statement, titled "The US-Japan-ROK military nexus threatening regional peace should be closely watched and deterred":

These days, the US-Japan-ROK's military cooperation and joint military actions are being conducted periodically with more threatening nature. They are the main risk factors heightening the level of the military tension on the Korean peninsula and in its vicinity.

On July 11, the US, Japan and the ROK waged a provocative tripartite joint air drill by mobilizing various kinds of fighter-bombers including the strategic bomber B-52H

in the sky over the Korean peninsula and its vicinity. On the same day, they held a meeting of the chairpersons of the US-Japan-ROK joint chiefs of staff to openly reveal their attempt to further accelerate the tripartite military cooperation targeting the DPRK and other regional countries.

We express serious concern over their hostile acts of persistently conducting provocative and threatening military actions while deliberately ignoring the security concern of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and strongly warn of the grave consequences to be entailed by them on the regional situation.

This year the US is continuously posing a danger to the security environment of our state while renewing the records in the number of

deployment of strategic strike means on the Korean peninsula and drastically increasing the frequency and scale of joint military drills with its satellite countries.

The US strategic bombers, stealth fighters and various air reconnaissance assets are being massively deployed at the US military bases in Japan and the ROK and the US secretaries of Defense and Navy, the transportation commander and other military officials appeared in the vicinity of the Korean peninsula to fan up confrontation hysteria. The US-Japan-ROK tripartite military cooperation is getting more offensive.

The serious development of situation, in which the military alliances between the US and Japan and between the US and the ROK have completely changed into a nuclear-

based triangular military alliance and the tripartite military cooperation is being promoted in all spheres, heralds the fact that the long-running instability and tension on the Korean peninsula may lead to an unpredictable phase of military confrontation at any moment.

The irresponsible acts of the US, Japan and the ROK steadily heightening the level of tension and danger on the Korean peninsula should be closely watched and deterred.

We clearly recognize that the possession of the reliable and overwhelming military capability is the most realistic way to deter the practical application of the doctrine of "peace through strength" pursued by the US and neutralize the joint military action plan of the US, Japan and the ROK.

It is our just sovereign right to take reflexive

countermeasures against provocative military actions such as the moves to strengthen the multilateral military alliance threatening the basis of security of the region and the joint military drills with clear aggressive character.

Our armed forces are always in full military preparedness to check the collective provocations by the US and its vassal forces, deter their aggressive attempt and effectively cope with the acts of war.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea will more clearly express its invariable stand that it will never tolerate any slightest act which exerts a negative influence on the security environment of the state with its practical military counteraction and continue to take responsible measures to defend the sovereignty and security interests of the state.

Japan's defense white paper war scenario for realizing its ambition for reinvasion

KCNA

The policy section chief of the Institute for Japan Studies under the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on July 17 issued the following press statement titled "Japan's defense white paper is a war scenario for realizing its ambition for reinvasion from A to Z":

Japan, which is busy securing the capability for preemptive attack, obsessed with its ambition for reinvasion, released the 2025 Defense White Paper.

Japan again asserted in the white paper on the basis of the stereotyped method that the just measures of the DPRK, China and Russia for bolstering up their military capabilities constitute an "urgent threat".

This is nothing but shameless sophism to cover up the threatening entity of Japan which is escalating the regional situation in a gradual way and justify its reckless moves to turn itself into a military giant, leaving the whole area of the archipelago as a military outpost and logistic base for realizing the US hegemony-oriented strategy in the Indo-Pacific.

It is the common knowledge that Japan formulated the possession of preemptive attack capabilities by revising the "national security strategy" and, for its realization, has

speeded up the development of home-produced long-range missiles as well as the purchase of foreign-produced long-range missiles in recent years.

Japan, which increased its defense budget in 2025 to the largest scale in history, is resorting on a full scale to bolstering up its military capabilities more than ever before, while planning to purchase from the US medium-range air-to-air missiles and long-range air-to-surface cruise missiles and related equipment worth about 3.7 billion US dollars.

Under such situation, Japan is scheming to deploy from this year 400 US-made Tomahawk long-range cruise missiles and type 12 surface-to-ship guided missiles whose range was increased to more than 1 000km and which were remodelled to operate not only on the ground but also in the air and sea.

Japan, a war criminal state, openly declared its possession of the capability for preemptive attack on the sovereign territory of other country and tries to seize the long-range strike means with operational radius far beyond the range of the archipelago. This is a very dangerous attempt to violate peace and security in the region and rest of the world and push the regional situation to the touch-and-go situation.

Japan, which has styled itself a "pacifist state" on

the principle of "exclusive defence" before the international community till now, is working hard to build the capability for carrying out war of aggression such as the capability for long-range strike and trans-domain operation. This is not merely a passive or temporary countermeasure against the "tense situation in the surrounding region" but a military policy orientation which it has persistently pursued for a long time, setting it as a strategic goal since its defeat.

The present development of situation clearly proves once again that the efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to bolster up its nuclear war deterrent constitute an indispensable contribution to strongly suppressing the provocations of the US and its allies, which are becoming undisguised worldwide, and maintaining the strategic balance and stability in the region.

Japan's defense white paper is a war scenario for realizing its ambition for reinvasion from A to Z and its moves towards a military giant seriously threatening regional peace and security can never be tolerated.

The region and the international community ought to heighten vigilance against Japan's ambition for becoming a military giant recklessly transforming day after day and resolutely oppose and reject it.

Ceaselessly record-breaking global warming a serious concern

KCNA

Heat waves and sultry weather have hit every part of the world earlier than usual in recent years, renewing the previous high-temperature record continuously.

According to a report released by the World Meteorological Organization in January this year, the average global temperature in 2024 reached a record high since meteorological observation began.

The mean global temperature last year rose by 0.12°C as compared to 2023, which was the hottest year previously, and this means the temperature is 1.6°C higher than that in the pre-Industrial Revolution days.

Untimely high temperature has been observed in succession in different parts of the world this year, too, after last year, breaking the highest records.

The Copernican climate change service, the meteorological information agency of the European Union, recently announced that January this year was recorded worldwide as the hottest January in history and that the average global temperature in the period was 1.75°C higher than in the period before the Industrial Revolution.

Actually, temperatures higher than normal year

were observed in Africa, South America, South Pole and other regions.

Last June, premature heat waves hit Europe which experienced the hottest March in the history of observation.

The thermometer measured 38.4°C in a city in the southeastern region of Slovenia on June 26, recording the highest temperature in June.

With temperature soaring as high as 39°C in Boston in late June, high temperature records were broken successively in 20 areas of the US.

Heated asphalt roads swelled everywhere in the country to cause traffic accidents one after another and some people who were working outdoors collapsed.

Meteorologists said that summer in the US is about 1.3°C hotter than 50 years ago, adding excessive heat that used to occur in July or August in the past happened a month earlier this year.

There is a growing concern that global warming might generate 216 million refugees by 2050 in different parts of the world including Latin America and North Africa.

The reality shows that a threat to human existence from global warming is no longer a future abstract notion and urgently demands proactive measures to prevent catastrophic disaster.

Briefly

Russia

FM rejects provocative remarks of UN secretary general

The Russian Foreign Ministry issued a statement on July 10 to denounce and reject the provocative remarks of the UN secretary general against his country.

Referring to the Ukrainian issue recently, the UN secretary general said that Russia mounted the largest drone and missile attack, paralyzing the power supply of the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Station.

In connection with this, the statement noted his remarks show that he is actually a political hireling who blindly supports the criminal Ukrainian authorities and NATO behind them and a man with no insight.

Russia has responsibility for ensuring the security of the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Station and such an issue does not belong to the authority of the UN secretary general, it added.

China

FM spokesman: Tariff should not be tool for interference

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China censured the US for imposing tariffs at a press conference on July 11.

As to the US' interference in the internal affairs of Brazil and its decision to impose 50 percent tariffs on the latter, he said that equality of sovereignty and noninterference are the major principles of the UN Charter and basic rules of international relations.

He noted that tariff should not become a tool for blackmail and violence against other countries and interference in their internal affairs.

Palestine

Israel's forcible expulsion bid decried

The Chairman of the Palestine National Council denounced Israel's unethical attempt to forcibly drive out Palestinians on July 13.

Referring to the fact that Israel's Zionist regime is manoeuvring to forcibly move Palestinians to other places on the pretext of building a "humanitarian city" on the ruins of the city of Rafah in the southern part of the Gaza Strip, he asserted that it has nothing to do with humanitarianism and is nothing more than an attempt to confine many Palestinians to a harsh environment.

Saying that behind such a crime is the US' support and conspiracy, he called on the international community, particularly the UN, to take responsible measures to foil Israel's unethical plan afoot in the Gaza Strip.

US

Gun violence

A gun crime occurred in Kentucky, the US, on July 13.

That day, an unidentified suspicious man randomly fired a gun at people in a church, causing several casualties.

Mt Kumgang put on world cultural and natural heritage list

KCNA

Mt Kumgang, a famous mountain of the DPRK, was registered as a world cultural and natural heritage element.

The 47th meeting of the World Heritage Committee

of UNESCO recognized Mt Kumgang as world-class cultural and natural scenery, in which cultural tradition, natural ecosystem and scenic spots are in a delicate harmony, and decided to put it on the world cultural and natural heritage list.

The mountain has been called one of the famous mountains of the DPRK from long ago. It has the beautiful natural landscapes of Inner Kumgang, Outer Kumgang and Sea Kumgang, 12 000 peaks and fantastic rocks, beautiful waterfalls

and ponds, lakes, fresh air, crystal-clear water, seasonal colours and unique natural beauty, diverse biota, cultural heritage such as old temples, temple sites and stone sculptures, and such intangible heritage elements as the legendary tale of Mt

Kumgang.

As Mt Kumgang was put on the World Cultural and Natural Heritage list, the validity and vitality of the Juche-oriented policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on preservation of national cultural heritage

have been clearly proved and Mt Kumgang, a celebrated mountain of the DPRK boasting a long history and culture and superb scenery, has come to achieve greater fame as a treasure common to mankind and world-class tourist attraction.



Three new national youth records established

- 2025 U-20 track and field championships -

By Pang Un Ju PT

Han Il Ryong of the DPRK set a new record and won a gold medal at the 20th Asian Marathon Championships held in China in March, giving great delight to the sportspersons and other people of the country.

Encouraged by this, DPRK players set three new national youth records at the 2025 U-20 track and field championships.

The championships took place, divided into 35 events, bringing together over 260 men and women athletes from nearly 30 units. The contest went on in a fierce atmosphere for the strenuous

efforts of players of all units to reach high records at any cost.

Choe Hyon Ik and Choe Chong Song of Korea University of Physical Education set a new national youth record in the men's 100m race and the men's 110m hurdle race respectively.

Kim Myong Gwon, Ri

Ju Hyon, Ri Hyon Gyong and Paek Jin Hyang of the Pyongyang Sports Club bettered the national youth record in the mixed 4x400m relay.

Choe Hyon Ik also won the men's 200m race, attracting the attention of experts.

The players of Korea University of Physical

Education and the Kigwancha Sports Club were successful in the men's long jump and high jump and some other events.

The Pyongyang Sports Club, the Songchongang Sports Club and several other units were dominant in the women's events.

Jong Yong Yon of the Chongjin Railway Bureau

Sports Club took the first place in the women's 800m race and Jo Mi Phyong of the Marathon Team of the Ministry of Construction and Building-materials Industry in the women's 5 000m race. Other players of various units fully displayed the physical and technical abilities they had acquired in ordinary times.

