

## Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits destroyer *Choe Hyon* and observes test for assessing its manoeuvrability

### He issues an order to transfer the warship to the Navy in oncoming mid-June

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on May 7 visited the destroyer *Choe Hyon* and observed a test for generally assessing its manoeuvrability conducted in the run-up to its commissioning.

He was accompanied by Jo Chun Ryong,

secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Kim Jong Sik, first deputy department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, Pak Kwang Sop, commander of the Navy, Pak Jong Chon, advisor to the Ministry of National Defence, Kim Kang Il, vice-minister

of National Defence and director of the General Armaments Bureau, Kim Yong Hwan, president of the Academy of Defence Sciences, Yu Chang Son, director of the Artillery Bureau of the General Staff, Kim Myong Son, director of the Armaments Examination Bureau

of the Ministry of National Defence, and other leading officials in the national defence and warship-building sectors.

Comrade Kim Jong Un boarded the destroyer *Choe Hyon* to learn about a navigation plan for the test for generally assessing its manoeuvrability.

He highly appreciated the successes made by the crew members of the destroyer in their training for fully acquiring the professional qualifications for skilfully operating the new-type destroyer, a combination of modern military and technical capabilities.

He went round the combined control centre, weapon system control room and other combat duty spaces and elements of the destroyer to learn about

its operational preparations.

A navigation test to assess various manoeuvring elements of the warship was conducted in his presence in the section of 12n-mile of the West Sea of Korea.

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The crew members of the destroyer were in full excitement and high spirits as they had the honour of making a voyage in the presence of Comrade Kim Jong Un again.

He expressed satisfaction over the fact that the combat manoeuvrability of the warship complied with the operational requirements and the advantages of the Korean-style warship control system were proved.

Appreciating that all the tests for the operational commissioning of the destroyer were progressing smoothly, he issued an order to hand it over to the Navy in oncoming mid-June as planned.

He laid down the position, disposition

and operational duties of new-type destroyers to be built and clarified a series of tasks to be carried out by the Navy for them.

He specially emphasized the important tasks related to the establishment of a new naval base.

At a consultative meeting with officials in the warship-building sector on the day, Comrade Kim Jong Un received a report on the results of examination over the design changes and the newly-planned weapon system on warships Nos. 3 and 4 to be built and made an important conclusion. Saying that the new decision on the revised and changed warship building plan is of crucial strategic nature, he particularly stressed the meaning of the decision which will

fundamentally update the readiness of the army's strategic action and bring about a great change in the building of the war deterrent.

We have our reliable and powerful defence research group and shipbuilding industry, he said, expressing his great expectations and belief that the tasks set according to the new decision will be carried out without fail thanks to their irresistible might of self-reliance.

Reaffirming the steadfast will of the WPK to build a powerful navy at any cost, he referred to the long-term plan for navy building and a series of projects.

That day, he sat together with all the seamen of the destroyer, encouraged them, who felt unusual pride and self-confidence in carrying on the honourable

duty, and called on them to continuously put spurs to training with a keen sense of mission and responsibility in order to remarkably increase the combat capability.

He had a photo taken with the seamen of the destroyer on its foredeck.

The seamen, who were honoured to meet Comrade Kim Jong Un again and received great glory and trust from him, made a firm determination to reliably defend the country's maritime sovereignty and remain faithful to their original and sacred mission of taking charge of a part of war deterrence by actively conducting intense training to possess the great capability to fight an actual war as befitting the brave seamen of the Party.

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



### He appreciates the advantage of the new-type self-propelled 155 mm gun-howitzer system being newly produced at the enterprise

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on May 6 visited a major munitions industry enterprise and acquainted himself with the production of major weapons and combat equipment in the first half of the year.

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FROM PAGE 2

He was accompanied by Jo Chun Ryong, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Kim Jong Sik, first deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee, Pak Jong Chon, advisor to the Ministry of National Defence, Kim Kang Il, vice-minister of National Defence and director of the General Armaments Bureau, Yu Chang Son, director of the Artillery Bureau of the General Staff, Kim Myong Son, director of the Armaments Examination Bureau of the Ministry of National Defence, and Kim Yong Hwan, president of the Academy of Defence Sciences.

Comrade Kim Jong Un learned about the production of new-type self-propelled gun-howitzers for three battalions to be deployed at the long-range artillery unit in the southern borderline within this year according to the decision of the First Plenary Meeting of the Ninth Central Committee of the WPK.

He heard in detail the opinions of experts on the results of various travelling, terrain negotiation and submerged river-crossing tests of the new-type self-propelled 155 mm gun-howitzer carriage and the test-fire of improved shell, which were

conducted according to a test plan.

He expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the research group and workers in the field of defence sciences have achieved the signal success of manufacturing an excellent new-generation artillery weapon with very high mobility and firepower strike ability.

He extended militant encouragement to the workers at the enterprise who are waging a dynamic labour struggle to attain the set artillery weapon production goal, while registering good results every day with the bold pattern of creation and revolutionary spirit, true to the idea and decision of the plenary meeting of the Party Central Committee.

Appreciating the advantage of the new-type self-propelled 155 mm gun-howitzer system being newly produced at the enterprise, he mentioned its military strategic value.

He said that this large-calibre rifled gun to be deployed in the frontline units as replacement, along with various operational and tactical missile systems and powerful multiple rocket launcher systems, will now have a striking range of over 60 kilometres and the rapid extension of such striking range and remarkable improvement of target-destroying

capability will bring a great change and advantage to the land operations of our army. And he referred to the need to redefine the operational concept of the use of forces and equipment on the basis of the actual conditions under which new weapons and equipment are being introduced.

He said that the new-type artillery weapon system with superior mobility, enhanced combat environment information processing capability and automatic firing system will bring about a radical improvement in the composition of our artillery force and is of important significance in implementing the Party's military strategic policy on bolstering up the long-range artillery force.

Referring to a series of defects latent in the composition of the production system, processing section and arrangement of equipment at the enterprise, he gave an instruction on working out a plan for introducing an automatic production line system supported by a more efficient and innovative idea.

He stressed the need to always pay close attention to constantly improving the production conditions and environment.

That day, he inspected a new-type main battle tank and various launchers which

are being produced by the Armoured Weapons Institute and several munitions industry enterprises.

It is a matter of urgency to technically remodel the major munitions industry enterprises, which hold a key position in the work to improve the modernity of our armed forces, at an ultra-modern level and at the earliest possible period and to set up a modern production and management system, he said, adding that the Second Plenary Meeting of the Ninth Central Committee of the WPK will examine and approve the plans for technical renovation of the relevant munitions industry enterprises and the relevant budget.

He affirmed that the year 2026 will also record an unprecedented upgrade in the course of the struggle for bolstering up the national defence capability of the country, and called for achieving signal successes day after day by making strenuous efforts for the strengthening of the national defence capability, the highest expression of patriotism.

Comrade Kim Jong Un's on-site guidance over the defence field on the day is an important occasion in increasing the country's defence capability in a practical way.



# Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un meets participants in Eleventh SPYL Congress, has photo taken with them

**He says that the strength and honour of the youth league, the powerful vanguard of patriotic youths, should steadily be boosted**



KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met the participants in the Eleventh Congress of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League on May 2.

Present there were Kim Jae Ryong, Ri Il Hwan and Ju Chang Il, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Kim Song Gi, director of the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army.

The participants in the congress were filled with excitement and joy as they would get the glory and happiness they had wished even in their dreams at a time when they started the struggle for a new stage of transformation with redoubled enthusiasm and spirit and boundless pride and honour of performing feats as the advance group and shock brigade in the vanguard of accomplishing the cause of the WPK.

When Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived at the plaza in front of the venue of the congress, the participants broke into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" looking up to the outstanding leader of the Juche-oriented youth movement, the benevolent father of all the young people across the country.

Young male and female delegates presented fragrant bouquets to the fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un, reflecting the boundless reverence and best wishes of

all the participants for him.

Comrade Kim Jong Un warmly congratulated the chairman and vice-chairmen of the newly elected Eleventh Central Committee of the SPYL, shaking hands with each of them.

He met the youth delegates, who have performed distinguished feats and displayed communist traits in their efforts to bring prosperity to the country and add glory to the Korean-style socialist system, and highly appreciated their efforts.

Acknowledging the enthusiastic cheers of the participants in the congress, he warmly congratulated them on the successful Eleventh Congress of the SPYL held amid special interest and expectations of the Party and the people. He said:

In the past period, too, the ideas and ideal of the Party had always been those of the young people and the course of building and developing our state had coincided with the course of their worthwhile life, but there has been no such era as the present one when extraordinarily high patriotic consciousness, towering enthusiasm for the revolution and valiant effort of the young people are definitely pervading all the sectors of socialist construction. The noble traits and iron-willed fighting efficiency of the young people that cannot be found in any other country in the world are a proud symbol of our national strength.

As time goes on, more pages written with blood and sweat of the youth are

being added to the history of the country and the legendary feats of the young people are constantly being recorded along with the era of gigantic change, and this is a source of great pride of our Party and the great motive force of our cause. The strength and honour of the youth league, the powerful vanguard of patriotic youths, should steadily be boosted in the era full of unprecedented heroism and bravery.

The reality in which our Party and revolution are faced with new and huge tasks requires more active advance and courageous role of the young people. It is necessary to orient all the work of the youth league towards educating and training all the youths as passionate patriots who regard it as their goal in life to realize the Party's ideal and find pride and happiness of their youth in attaining it.

The dynamic steps of the ranks of young people firmly united under the banner of patriotism are just the lively motion of the new era of change and the vigorous advance of our cause. It is needed to focus on strengthening the basic organizations so that the revolutionary spirit and fighting efficiency of the group of young people can be steadily inherited generation after generation and to wage the dynamic revolutionary mass movements, the precious nourishment for training young people to be pioneers and shock brigade of the times so as to make the journey for implementing the

decisions of the Party Congress replete with the feats of the youth exciting the whole country.

Comrade Kim Jong Un had a photo taken with the participants in the congress, expressing his belief that the youth league would dynamically inspire the young vanguard of the country to display their remarkably high revolutionary spirit and patriotic zeal and thereby courageously usher in a period of greater boom in the Korean youth movement.

The participants burst into enthusiastic cheers again, being filled with the infinite excitement as they received the great trust and affection of the fatherly Marshal.

Led by the chairman of the SPYL Central Committee making a pledge of faith to become the socialist patriotic youth adding lustre to the era of Kim Jong Un, the participants enthusiastically chanted the slogans of patriotism and loyalty.

Comrade Kim Jong Un gave militant encouragement to the young vanguard cheering like an erupting volcano.

All the participants were full of burning enthusiasm to carry forward in the purest and most thoroughgoing way the proud tradition of the youth movement, which has responded to the call of the Party and the country with heroic struggle, and perform fresh miracles and feats in every theatre of the campaign for great transformation unveiled by the Ninth Congress of the WPK.

# Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends greetings to Russian President

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent a message of greeting to Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, President of the Russian Federation, on May 9.

The message said:

My closest Comrade,

On behalf of the government and people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I extend the

sincerest congratulations to you and the state leadership and all the fraternal people of Russia on the occasion of the 81st anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War.

I also pay high respect to the war veterans of the preceding generation who destroyed fascism and defended the freedom and liberation of mankind and the peace and security of the world with their matchless bravery and noble patriotic spirit,

and to the great years.

Esteemed Comrade Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin,

I am always pleased and proud of the fact that we, you and I, are leading the present DPRK-Russia relations and writing a new brilliant history of independence, dignity, peace and prosperity in conformity with the common ideal and desire of the peoples of the two countries.

Reconfirming the stand of the

government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to give top priority to the comprehensive strategic partnership of alliance character between our two countries and invariably promote and develop it, I affirm once again that we will always fulfil our obligations with respect to the inter-state treaty between the DPRK and Russia in a responsible manner.

Dear Vladimir Vladimirovich,

Pyeongyang is always with you and the fraternal Russian people.

I sincerely wish you good health and greater success in your responsible work for defending the dignity and interests of Russia on the occasion of the great V-Day.

I hope that only victory and glory are always in store for the fraternal Russian people.

Russia's great history of victory in the war will go on.

## Boundless respect to noble patriotism of war martyrs

KCNA

Many people from all walks of life in the DPRK are visiting the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations, a seat of immortality showing the great heroic spirit and the noble soul of patriotic loyalty of the brave soldiers involved in the overseas military operations, the proud sons of the country.

Over the past ten days since its opening, the memorial museum has been visited by more than 232 000 working people, service personnel, youths and students, including the participants in the Eleventh Congress of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, who paid high tribute to the war martyrs representing the dignity and honour of the country.

The flowers, laid in

succession at the Memorial Wall where the precious lives of the martyrs are shining as the eternal stars, are boundless respect and reverence for the noble patriotism of the war heroes, who demonstrated the reputation and mightiness of the country with their noble sacrifices and heroic feats and prayed for the prosperity of Pyongyang as they met the end of lives with their option of pure conscience, and an expression of the Korean people's love and passion for the country.

Cherishing the truth of struggle and victory taught by the hearts of passionate youths pulsating with patriotism, the visitors have hardened their firm will to devote themselves to the sacred cause for the safety and prosperity of the great state. Their looks tell that though the martyrs passed away, their noble soul and

spirit have been engraved on the minds of the people to add loyalty and patriotism to them.

All visitors, men and women, young and old, were deeply impressed to see the photos and relics showing the feats of the heroes, who made a charge in the teeth of death on the orders of the country, and traces of fierce battles.

Looking at the photo of a hero of their age, university students wrote down his last request in their pocketbooks. Service personnel recalled in tears the feats of the brave fighters, who made a breakthrough for the victory, devoting their precious youth. All their faces revealed single-minded determination to strive for the steady prosperity of the country, always remembering the desire of the martyrs.

Being briefed on the heroic

end of the martyrs who showed the patriotic loyalty to the country with their records of bloody battles, the visitors were convinced that the DPRK is so strong and great and its august name will shine forever as the banner of victory and glory as it is supported by the ardent patriotism and loyalty of tens of millions of the people.

The Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations, which shines thanks to the great love and revolutionary obligation of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un putting the lives of the defenders devoted to the sacred war for justice and dignity on the highest peak of glory and honour, injects inexhaustible vitality into the patriotic all-people general advance for the comprehensive development of socialism, along with the steady current of respect.

## Anniversary of publication of *Sonyon Sinmun* marked

KCNA

A meeting was held at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on May 5 in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the publication of *Sonyon Sinmun*.

O Hye Son, director and editor-in-chief of the Kumsong Youth Publishing House, made a commemorative report.

The reporter referred to the fact that the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il Sung saw to it that *Sonyon Sinmun* (then *Orini Sinmun*) was founded on May 5 1946 and clarified the principles, orientation and contents of newspaper editing in every period and at every stage of the developing revolution while leading the newspaper to become an excellent educator and close companion of schoolchildren.

The great leader Generalissimo Kim Jong Il clarified the issues to be regarded as guidelines in

editing and publishing, including those of steadily improving the editing contents and form of the newspaper and raising its effectiveness in conformity with the characteristics of the Korean Children's Union members, she said.

The reporter said that *Sonyon Sinmun* is opening a new chapter of its development in the new era of the Juche revolution under the guidance of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un.

It has impressively shown the happy looks of the KCU members growing under the loving care of the fatherly Marshal and contributed to preparing the schoolchildren to be dependable future pillars of prosperous Korea, she added.

She called on all officials, journalists and editors to make fresh innovations and steady progress in the media activities, true to the ideology and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

## Pyongyang spring international trade fair held

KCNA

The 24th Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair took place between May

4 and 8.

Presented to the fair on the theme of "For the common development and prosperity" are excellent

products that more than 290 enterprises and companies of the DPRK, Russia, China, Mongolia, Switzerland and Thailand

produced by introducing advanced science and technology.

Tens of thousands of products of over 1 700 kinds are displayed at the Central Youth Hall and the Okryu Exhibition House.

During the fair there will take place an introduction of enterprises and companies for economic exchange and cooperation and a briefing on products.

An opening ceremony took place at the Central Youth Hall on May 4.



The 24th Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair takes place from May 4 to 8.

## New natural monuments registered

KCNA

Ponghak spring water, Rungnado ginkgo tree and Paektusan *rhodiola elongata* have been registered as new natural monuments in the DPRK.

Ponghak spring water gushes out from a natural cave located in the Ponghak-dong area of Phyongsong City.

Rungnado ginkgo tree grows on the picturesque Rungna Islet.

As it is stronger in the growing force than other ginkgo trees, it looks imposing.

Paektusan *rhodiola elongata*, a perennial herb belonging to *Crassulaceae*, is a singular natural medicinal herb that grows in the areas of Mt Paektu, Mt Rangnim, Mt Turyu and other highlands.

The DPRK has *Rhodiola elongata*, *Rhodiola angusta*, *Rhodiola ramosa*, *Rhodiola rosea* and other species.

*Rhodiola elongata* is considered to be the most ideal medicinal herb for relieving mental and physical fatigue as it has more than 40 kinds of medicinal ingredients in its root.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Aesthetic symposium in field of land and environment protection held

A spring aesthetic symposium in the field of land and environment protection-2026 took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang via video conferencing on May 6.

The participants watched a video on the achievements made in creating riverscape.

Speeches were made by

Kim Kwang Il, department director of the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection, Pak Ok Chol, section chief of the river design institute, Hwang Myong Jun, section chief of the Sariwon river design institute, Kim Chol Jun, dean of Pyongyang University of Architecture, and Ri Yong Gil, a researcher of the Hydraulic Engineering Research Institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

### National children's football tournament opens

The Eleventh National Children's Football Tournament opened with due ceremony at the Hamhung Stadium on May 6 to mark the 80th founding anniversary of the Korean Children's Union.

In the tournament, over 400 players selected from all provinces will play league matches and semifinals in Hamhung City. The finals will take place at the Songdowon International Children's Camp.

At the ceremony, a speaker said that the tournament, held every year under the care of the respected fatherly Marshal

Kim Jong Un, serves as a significant occasion in demonstrating the vigorous appearance of schoolchildren

The flag of the tournament was hoisted and the players marched in file.

Then there was a match between the boys' football teams of South Hamgyong Province and Kaesong Municipality.

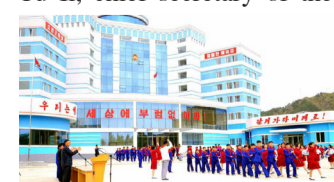
### Camping begins at Kyongsong Children's Camp

The first-term camping began at the Kyongsong Children's Camp.

A ceremony of kicking-off

the camping took place on the spot on May 3.

Present there were Kim Tu Il, chief secretary of the



North Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, officials of the youth league, officials and teaching staff of the camp and campers.

At the end of the ceremony, there was a march-past of campers.



Many people visit the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations every day. RYU KWANG HYOK/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

## A platform of honour dedicated to proud sons of the country

By Pang Un Ju PT

The Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations was opened in Saeppol Street of the capital city on the occasion of the first anniversary (April 26) of the conclusion of the operations to liberate Kursk of the Russian Federation.

The monumental edifice, which was completed in a matter of some months under the great concern and devotion of the Workers' Party of Korea, the DPRK government and its people, shows through the highest architecture and lofty artistic portrayal the traces of life left by the officers and soldiers of the overseas operations unit of the Korean People's Army in battlefields, their brilliant military achievements and their noble soul.

The central group sculpture stands at the entrance to the museum.

It represents the KPA and Russian soldiers advancing in the vanguard, holding the national flags of the DPRK and Russia, a KPA commanding officer leading the soldiers to perform feats and Korean and Russian combatants bravely fighting battles to liberate Kursk.

On both sides of the central group sculpture there

are the sub-thematic group sculptures depicting soldiers of the two countries, and on the wall portraying the national flag of the DPRK and a five-pointed star are inscribed the names of the martyrs who bravely fought to defend the honour and dignity of their country.

When you go past the gatepost of the museum, you can see the Monument to the Korean People's Army Martyrs in the Special Military Operations representing a KPA soldier.

The left and right sides of the monument are the areas of graves of the heroes who devoted their precious lives at the overseas military operations without hesitation for the honour and eternal prosperity of their country.

In the museum there is a memorial wall with a DPRK Hero Medal and the stars symbolic of the immortality of martyrs.

On display on the ground floor of the museum are photos, other objects and materials showing the indomitable spirit and feats of the martyrs who demonstrated the capability of the special operations unit to fight an actual war and won victories in battles in different areas for liberating Kursk by Korean-style tactics, and letters left by

the martyrs to their parents, wives and children.

On the first and second floors of the museum there are the rooms where the remains of the martyrs are enshrined.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un looked round the museum on April 26 when the inauguration ceremony of the museum was held and wrote in the visitor's book:

"The soul of the martyrs will be eternal along with the great honour they defended although their lives are buried with the earth with which they fought in their chests.

"The Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations is dedicated to the admirable sons—officers and soldiers of this country—as the platform of honour.

"Kim Jong Un  
"April 26, 2026"

These days, many people from all walks of life visit the museum, which is associated with the boundless devotion, respect and noble sense of moral obligation of the WPK, the DPRK government and its people and service personnel and which epitomizes the heroism of the present times and the invincibility of the cause of the DPRK.

## Heroes held in embrace for immortality

By Pak Song Min PT

The lives of the brave combatants who participated in overseas military operations are shining as the bright stars of the country that never fade forever under the warm care of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

A ceremony of awarding state commendations to the commanding officers and combatants of the overseas operations unit of the Korean People's Army was held at the headquarters building of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on August 21 last year in the presence of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

The respected General Secretary personally pinned the DPRK Hero Medal beside each of the portraits of the martyrs who laid down their precious lives in the overseas military operations to faithfully carry out the order of the motherland and embraced the commanders and combatants who returned to the country.

A few days later, he met the bereaved families of martyrs again, presented photos of the martyrs wrapped in the national flag of the DPRK to the bereaved families respectively and had a photo taken with them.

That day he said that a new street would be built in Taesong District, Pyongyang, for the bereaved families and named Saeppol (morning star) Street in praise of the soldiers' exploits as brilliant as the star. And he noted that the remains of the martyrs would be laid to rest in the best place of the arboretum just in front of the street and a monument to the immortal combat feats be erected in memory of the great soldiers.

He also called the senior officials of revolutionary schools and said that we should bring up the children of the martyrs well to be hard-core elements of the revolution and genuine sons and daughters of the country.

Afterwards, he provided careful guidance over the buildings to be built in Saeppol Street to ensure every element of them shows the warm sincerity of the state for the bereaved families left by the brave fighters. He also energetically guided on several occasions the whole course of the construction of the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations from design and building to the arrangement of the details about combat feats and the creation of symbolic memorials so that the names and features of the martyrs will shine forever as a cluster

of stars.

As a result, Saeppol Street sprang up in the Hwasong area in February for the bereaved families and the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations was inaugurated to praise the great heroic spirit of the brave Korean People's Army soldiers, who participated in the overseas military operations, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the conclusion of the operations to liberate Kursk of the Russian Federation in April.

He said in his speech in commemoration of the inauguration that the overseas military operations of the KPA were unheard-of activities conducted by the service personnel who upheld the order of the Party and the country with their voluntary conscience and moral rights, the most sincere and beautiful men who burned their hearts with pure, strong loyalty and overcame the extreme limits with its infinite viability.

Comrade Kim Jong Un has put on the apex of glory the fine sons of the country who performed immortal feats for the times and history and the younger generations with their noble self-sacrifices and heroic military services and takes responsible care of the destiny and future of their bereaved families.

# National sci-tech festival held

By Kim Il Jin PT

The 39th National Festival of Science and Technology took place at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang from April 28 to May 7.

The festival, held on the theme of "Guarantee for implementation of the new five-year plan, science and technology", brought together scientists and technicians from more than 590 units nominated by commissions, ministries and national agencies and highly appreciated at provincial (municipal) sci-tech festivals.

The festival was divided into dozens of panels including those of metal, chemical, electric power and machine-building industries. Displayed there were successes achieved in the course of research for the economic development of the country and the improvement of the people's living standards.

Unlike in the past, the venue of the festival was partitioned in a fresh way into the sectors of the national economy, provinces, and science and education.

The most noteworthy were the proposals made in the field of science and education.

The booth of the State

Academy of Sciences, which plays a key role in developing science and technology of the country, was located in the atrium.

It put on display scores of achievements of great practical significance in various fields of the national economy, including a metal-oxide arrester for high-voltage use and 80-hp tractor transmission gear.

The Academy of Agricultural Science presented proposals conducive to putting agricultural production on a scientific, modern and IT basis, including a new plant-active fertilizer, compound microbial treatment agent, plant growth regulator and agricultural science and technology service system using the mobile communications network.

The Ice Rink integrated management system and the extended weather forecast system based on AI presented by Kim Il Sung University, the intelligent integrated production system of the Samgwang Livestock Farm and the prospecting and using of rare-earth resources by Kim Chaek University of Technology and the method for improving the quality of honeyed chestnut based on refrigeration and enzymatic treatment by Pyongyang Han

Tok Su University of Light Industry attracted much attention of visitors for their great practical significance.

In particular, the academy of fisheries of the Ministry of Fisheries presented the scallop farming technology and the research achievements for raising the survival rate of artificial fries of flatfish to draw the interest of experts. The scallop farming technology helps raise the productivity by solving problems arising in artificial breeding of scallops in a scientific and technological way. It is said to be able to increase the per-hectare production of scallops as compared to previously.

An official of the Central Committee of the General

Federation of Science and Technology of Korea said that the scientific and technological achievements made by the scientific research units and universities show that the overall atmosphere of the scientific community in recent years is firmly oriented toward ensuring the scientific and technological guarantee for the fulfilment of the tasks which are prioritized by the state.

Meanwhile, the products presented by factories and enterprises were also eye-catching.

Experts expressed keen interest in an industrial robot and a mobile bedroom using heat-proof composite boards presented by a factory.

The robot's control device and main body are quite

different from conventional ones, greatly reducing the production cost and doubling the working efficiency. The visitors also appreciated the mobile bedroom using heat-proof composite boards, which can provide lodgings to builders in construction sites.

The automatic vending machine "Silli" 1.0 presented by the Pyongyang Kwangmyong Information Technology Company received positive feedback from visitors for its selling accuracy and convenient operation method.

Many proposals conducive to implementing the regional development policy have been made by North Phyongan, Kangwon and North Hamgyong provinces and other regions.

During the festival, there took place a sci-tech seminar, presentation, technical lecture and exchange service on new technical products.

"The festival, which provided an arena for wide-ranging exchange and cooperation in the field of science and technology, served as an important occasion in promoting social progress and overall prosperity of the state by dint of the steady development of scientific and technological capabilities and the practical vitality of the principle of attaching importance to science and technology," said Choe Yong Chol, department director of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.



Visitors look round the venue of the festival. RYU KWANG HYOK/THE PYONGYANG TIMES



## Winners of February 16 Science and Technology Prize

By Han Jong Ho PT

Diploma and medals of the February 16 Science and Technology Prize, the top prize in the sci-tech field of the country, were conferred on several projects conducive to the economic development of the country and the improvement of the people's living standards.

Certificates of the February 16 Science and Technology Prize were awarded to 134 scientists, technicians and lecturers of Kim Il Sung University, Kim Chaek University of Technology, Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry, the State Academy of Sciences, the Musan Mining Complex, the Agrochemistry Institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science, the Academy of Poultry Science, etc.

Kim Il Sung University established a process for producing high-pressure sealing rings for compressors and other sealing products with superior technical and economic indices by developing a nano-material synthesis technology and a scientific interfacial treatment and uniform composition technology.

Kim Chaek University of Technology contributed to putting the metal industry on a Juche basis by developing and completing a steel-making method based on an oxygen converter and ultra-high-power electric arc furnace, a process for producing activated quicklime and a process for refining molten iron using carbon monoxide gas instead of argon gas, thus making it possible for the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex to improve the quality of steel and establish a new heavy-duty rail production process.

After scientifically elucidating the characteristics of the formation of volcanoes and the evolution of magma in Mt Paektu, scientists and technicians of the State Academy of Sciences selected 30-odd typical geological relic sites including Lake Chon and Rimyongsu Falls which were formed during volcanic activities and newly proved their scientific value, thus contributing to registering the Mt Paektu area as a UNESCO Global Geopark.

Scientists, technicians and lecturers of the Control Machine Institute of the State Academy of Sciences,

the Academy of Food and Consumer Goods under the Ministry of Regional Industry and several universities established a method of designing clothes for optimizing the production of garments and improving their quality and an integrated production system capable of putting the management of offshore farms on a scientific basis, thus contributing to setting up the production processes at regional-industry factories and offshore farms on a high level.

Hamhung University of Hydraulic Engineering developed a safety assessment method based on a three-dimensional analysis of the structure of the Ryongnim Dam of the Huichon Power Station, thus ensuring the slide stability of the dam in a scientific way.

The Pyongyang cutting-edge biotechnology development company of Kim Chaek University of Technology developed phytochrome, a physiological activator, in a Korean way and, on that basis, analysed its components and established a production process. They also scientifically verified the effect of phytochrome on the growth of crops

and introduced it into the agricultural field, thus providing a scientific and technological guarantee for increasing the yield of rice, wheat and maize and making a great contribution to boosting agricultural production.

The Academy of Agricultural Science developed the seed coating agent "Phungnyonmo No. 1" capable of scientifically providing the conditions for the growth of rice seedlings, which is urgently needed in the advanced cultivation of nutritive cold-bed rice seedlings and greenhouse rice seedlings, and established the method for its industrial production, thus contributing to expanding the cultivation area of nutritive cold-bed rice seedlings across the country and putting rice cultivation on a scientific and industrial basis.

The Academy of Poultry Science of the Agricultural Commission made a great contribution to developing the country's animal husbandry technology by breeding "Pyongyang Chicken No. 1" and solving technical problems arising in establishing its purebred maintaining and improving system and the raising and tending methods.

## Researchers focus on major projects

By Ri Sang Il PT

Scientific research units in the DPRK concentrate their efforts on major projects for economic development.

The State Academy of Sciences directs all efforts to solving urgent problems arising in developing science and technology and the economy of the country.

In particular, it has mobilized all research forces and means to solve the energy problem.

Scientists of the Paper Technology Institute, who made a great contribution to the development of the country's paper industry, have kept researching on the spot with a single mind to further perfect the Korean-style method and technique of making paper by relying on local raw materials.

Other scientists of the academy have made steady preparations for expanding the success made in developing a Korean-style pressurized airflow fine coal gasification technology to the next stage.

Officials and scientists in the agricultural sector also conduct an intensive scientific research campaign to increase grain production during the period of the new five-year plan.

Hundreds of members of the

scientific farming promotion teams are now active in different parts of the country.

They intensify scientific guidance for this year's farming while increasing the regeneration rate of wheat and barley.

The Academy of Agricultural Science is engrossed in research to breed the varieties that will ensure high and stable yields despite unfavourable weather conditions and to develop labour- and cost-saving agricultural sci-tech products.

And as the production of the seed-coating agent "Phungnyonmo No. 1" and the fertilizer effective in land improvement has been finished, the academy is pushing ahead with the work for sending the products to farms without delay.

Scientists of the Academy of Light Industry under the Ministry of Light Industry conduct research into the projects for developing light industry.

Many other scientific research units have concentrated their research forces on major fronts for the economic development of the country, the implementation of the regional development policy and the improvement of the people's material and cultural life, thus solving sci-tech problems arising there.

# Efforts to secure water resources, maintain irrigation facilities

By An Hyok Chol PT

Farms across the DPRK are concentrating efforts on securing enough water resources and ensuring the full operation of irrigation facilities to cope with drought.

Officials of the Agricultural Commission and other agricultural guidance organs at all levels are paying primary attention to the maintenance and repair of irrigation facilities while taking effective measures to irrigate farm fields.

Pyongyang Municipality has taken steps to find out all water resources and make effective use of them for agricultural production.

Mangyongdae, Rangnang and Sadong districts have stepped up in a far-sighted way the work for storing river water in reservoirs as much as possible while effectively pushing ahead with the projects for increasing water

storing capacities.

South Phyongan Province newly secured over 1 000 wells and ponds and dammed more than 100 rivers and streams to create reservoirs in a matter of some days.

Provincial officials have conducted a detailed survey of the amount of water secured and the conditions of irrigation structures and pumping equipment to take timely measures and steadily pushed ahead with the expansion and dredging of waterways so as to remarkably increase water passing capacities.

Officials of North Phyongan Province have directed efforts to building more auxiliary reservoirs and groundwater facilities on the basis of a detailed survey of the situation of the water-deficient areas.

The province has correctly determined the amount of water needed according to the fields and plots at all

farms and installed pumping facilities to effectively use every drop of water.

Officials in the irrigation sector of Jongju and Kusong cities and Unsan County have carried out an extensive survey of the technical preparedness of facilities and made exact demands on technicians and skilled workers so that they would finish repairs in a qualitative way and as early as possible.

South Hwanghae Province is scrupulously organizing and carrying out the work for making the irrigation system prove its worth.

Officials of the province have already put much effort in the preparations for the operation of the irrigation system, while pressing on with the project for increasing water passing capacities of main waterways in a big way. They have reconfirmed the amount of water secured and the state of water supply

and use in each area to take timely steps.

They have made sure that water is controlled effectively, a system of directing water supply established strictly and pumping facilities operated at full capacity.

Jaeryong, Pacchon and

Unchon counties in the province have increased the amount of water secured by increasing and expanding ponds near rice-seedling beds.

Hwangju, Yonhan and Kumchon counties of North Hwanghae Province have stepped up the repair

and maintenance of water pumps, electric motors and transformers.

Officials and working people in Kangwon and South Hamgyong provinces and other parts of the country are also working hard to secure water resources and repair irrigation facilities.



Irrigation systems prove effective on farms in South Hwanghae Province.

## Vegetable production boosted through scientific manuring and cultivation

By To Kyong Chol PT

Large-scale greenhouse vegetable producers of the country are expanding their achievements in production through scientific manuring and cultivation.

A sea of fresh green vegetables is unfolding at the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm.

While channelling efforts into the regulation of temperature and humidity and nutrition management in keeping with the growth of crop varieties, it transplanted healthily-grown vegetable seedlings to greenhouse blocks and manured and cultivated them on a scientific and technological basis, thus reaping a good crop from the first harvest. Thanks to its researchers' in-depth research into the cultivation technology for boosting productivity, there evenly grow such fruit and leaf vegetables as tomatoes and red peppers which can be

harvested for more than eight months after being planted.

The Kangdong Combined Greenhouse Farm has also increased productivity by taking realistic steps to satisfactorily supply the citizens of the capital city with tasty and nutritious vegetables.

After establishing a system of recycling nutrient solution, the farm provided a solid guarantee for revitalizing production by increasing the rate of reuse while filtering and sterilizing used nutrient solution and adding necessary nutrient elements in a scientific and technological way. It built an agrochemical substitute production base in keeping with its actual situation to produce germicides, pyroligneous acid, etc. with raw materials abundant in the country, thus bringing in considerable profits. While putting much effort into manuring and cultivation based on such nutrition boosters as phytosine, it has made an

effective use of greenhouse spaces by applying a box-type vegetable growing method and introduced a double cultivation method to suit the characteristics of crops, thus increasing output per unit area.

The Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm arranges the technical study and field passing-on-technique session on a regular basis to improve the employees' technical knowledge and skills and ensured a timely supply of the liquid nutrient fertilizer to enhance productivity. In addition, it has carried out work in each process in a qualitative way, ranging from the treatment of seeds to gathering by raising the scientific level of production and business management, thereby growing a variety of fresh vegetables including cabbage and cucumber in large numbers.

The Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm has increased vegetable production 1.4 times as

against the same period of last year by concentrating on the strengthening of technical forces.

While making an in-depth study of the global development trend as to the management and operation of greenhouses, the farm increases the cultivation area by putting in efforts to acclimatize new varieties of vegetables that are highly resistant to diseases and produce high yield. In particular, it introduced a device for automatically controlling ventilation windows according to the temperature required by crops and successfully updated the nutrition solution supply program. And it set up a production base of efficient microbial agrochemicals and applied a nutrition booster rich in various microelements to further improve the quality of fruit vegetables and boost their yields. Employees of the farm grew functional vegetable seedlings healthily with a scientific cultivation method, properly controlled temperature and humidity and took precautionary steps to prevent damage from blights in a far-sighted way, thus achieving success in vegetable production.

The greenhouse vegetable production units in Nampho Municipality have conducted manuring and cultivation scientifically and technologically to increase vegetable production 1.3 times as compared with the same period of last year.

## Technical workshop on rice-transplanting, manuring and tending of dry field crops held

By Ri Sang Il PT

A technical workshop on rice-transplanting and manuring and tending of dry field crops was held for officials in the agricultural sector across the country at the Yakjon Farm in Sukchon County, South Phyongan Province, on May 3.

Though it is an annual event, the recent workshop was characteristic in that it dealt with various problems arising in radically increasing grain production and in pushing ahead with the work for putting agricultural production on a modern, informatized and industrial basis.

At the beginning of the technical workshop, there was a general briefing on the matters of transplanting rice and manuring and tending dry field crops as required by the Juche farming method, including those of reducing the rooting time to ensure earring and pollination of paddy rice and setting the rice-transplanting period properly to raise the rooting rate.

In particular, it theoretically dealt with the technical problems for thoroughly keeping to the rice-transplanting period. It put emphasis on the

problems of minimizing drought damage in the preceding wheat and barley farming, taking technical measures to maximize a thousand-grain weight and the ripening rate and making foresighted preparations for harvesting, drying and procurement and of ensuring the total number of plants by species and fields in corn farming without fail.

There was a show of high-efficiency grain dryers and small-size soil management machines and a visit to a catfish fry pool and a mud snail farm.

The briefing held in the fields on the method of making fields for fish breeding in paddies, the no-tillage cultivation method, the method of manuring fields where nutritive cold-bed seedlings are transplanted and the method of evaluating the growth condition of crops and yield by using drones and a show of spraying fertilizer by drones left deep impressions on the visitors.

Looking at healthy rice seedlings in the greenhouses for cultivating nutritive cold-bed seedlings, the visitors came to know better that the active introduction of advanced farming methods means increased production.



Lots of fresh vegetables are produced at the Sinuiju Combined Greenhouse Farm.

# Top ten teachers in 2025



Ri Chol



Rim Hye Sim



Kang Sun Hwa



Kim Un Hye



Kim Hyang Gum



Kim Myong Ok



Kim Yun Bong



Yun Jong Hwa



Kim Un Suk



Ri Un Chol

By **Ko Kwang Yon** PT

**T**op ten teachers in 2025 have recently been selected in the DPRK.

Ri Chol, lecturer at the Physics Faculty of Kim Chol Ju University of Education, trained two students as Kim Il Sung scholarship winners and all students of the class in his charge as honour students in all subjects, winners of the university student scientific search prize and polyglots, while working for years as an instructor of the continuous course of the physics department of the faculty. He took part in writing a textbook and reference book on the information processing technology subject of senior middle school for the implementation of the second programme for universal 12-year compulsory education.

Rim Hye Sim, teacher of

Jungdok Primary School in Phyongsong City affiliated to Phyongsong Teachers Training College, has taken parental care of many students and trained them to be honour students in the past 30-odd years. She made a lot of teaching aids and experimental apparatuses to enhance their practical abilities and thus contributed to giving students a good theoretical understanding of teaching contents of natural science subjects.

Kang Sun Hwa, teacher of Jongju Primary School in Jongju City, was highly appreciated at the 30th national symposium on teaching methods and presentation of experience in instruction and edification in the field of primary and secondary education and created and generalized new teaching methods. She helped Koan Primary

School in Jongju City, a rural school, with education work to enable several teachers to be highly appreciated at the provincial teaching contests and the national symposiums on teaching methods and presentations of experience in instruction and edification in the field of primary and secondary education.

Kim Un Hye, teacher of Haeun Primary School in Haeju City, helped students complete several collections of literary works by directing efforts to improving their writing abilities. In the past five years, she produced 10 winners of various literature prizes including the children's literature prize and "Our Classroom" literature prize and contributed to the development of several education support programs and to instruction and edification work by creating valuable teaching methods.

Kim Hyang Gum, teacher of Anchang Senior Middle School in Rinsan County, took the first place in the provincial and county teaching contests and won top prize in the national teaching contest of primary, junior and senior middle schools last year, instilling into other teachers in rural schools the confidence that they can also create effective and superior teaching methods. She also trained the students of her class as A and B students.

Kim Myong Ok, teacher of Phyonggang Primary School in Phyonggang County, took part in the provincial and county teaching contests and conducted demonstration classes on 16 occasions to generalize excellent teaching methods. As a section chief, she also intensified guidance for new teachers over teaching to help them take the first place in the

county teaching contests and teaching experience-sharing meetings.

Kim Yun Bong, physical education teacher of Kwangpho Senior Middle School in Jongphyong County, actively applied to teaching various multimedia presentations and steadily conducted extracurricular teaching for students, thereby making his class always take the first place in the county academic contests.

Yun Jong Hwa, teacher of Hyejang Primary School in Hyesan City, who cured her student with paraplegia, took warm care of several students, thus making her class a model one. She also presented new valuable teaching methods and made experimental apparatuses and teaching aids to win 18 certificates.

Kim Un Suk, teacher of Nongsa Senior Middle School

in Tachongdan County, volunteered to work in the county after graduating from the Mathematics Faculty of Kim Chol Ju University of Education 26 years ago.

She has devoted all her wisdom and passion to students since then. Last year, she contrived over 10 pieces of teaching aids including a robot to generalize them to the schools in the county.

Ri Un Chol, department head of Kanggye Teachers Training College, worked out an experimental education programme related to the introduction of a new teaching management system for the first time in the teachers training sector and delivered experimental education for the past three years. Based on the successes and experience gained in that course, he gave lectures at the national short courses on several occasions.

## Distance education system over a decade on

By **An Hyok Chol** PT

**O**ver ten years have passed since the distance education system was launched in the DPRK.

This system which is being actively operated on a nationwide scale plays a big role in training working people into possessors of profound knowledge and remarkable cultural attainments.

Any working people can join the distance education system.

A well-knit distance education system was established in major universities including Kim Il Sung University and sci-tech

diffusion bases were set up across the country and the law on distance education was adopted.

The universities put in steady efforts to make the teaching contents of subjects included in the distance education curriculums practicable, comprehensive and up-to-the-minute in the direction of bringing them closer to the practical requirements of production sites.

Kim Chaek University of Technology which plays a pacesetter role in the development of distance education made great progress in establishing a Korean-style intelligent distance education system.

The intelligent teaching

management system the university introduced into the distance education system automatically appraises the study results of students, offers them appropriate study materials in order of the cognitive process, simulates the thinking process of excellent teachers and has the learner models which enable the user to correctly understand students' progress of study. Therefore, it makes an automatic analysis of the reason why students cannot understand any points in their study and supports their study.

The system is greatly helpful to each student in study and designs a system for the analysis of the attitude towards study and for the

automatic formulation of notice about progress of study for tens of thousands of working people, thereby firing students with enthusiasm for study.

The distance education system is giving full play to its vitality.

Large numbers of workers and farmers in all parts of the country received or are receiving higher education under this system and in the course of this they present valuable technical innovation plans to contribute to boosting their units and become inventors and master contrivers.

Each year thousands of working people join the distance education system.

## Ceremony for graduation and start of new term held at Vocational School for Disabled

KCNA

A ceremony took place for the 12th-term graduation and the start of the 14th-term at Vocational School for the Disabled affiliated with the Central Committee of the Korea Federation for the Protection

of the Persons with Disabilities (KFPPD) on May 2.

Present there were Jon Chol Hi, chairman of the Central Committee of the KFPPD, teaching staff, graduates, new students and parents.

Speeches were made at the ceremony.

# Victory of self-reliance

By **Kwon Hyo Song** *PT*

The Workers' Party of Korea victoriously greeted its Ninth Congress and the First Session of the 15th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK by overcoming all sorts of trials and difficulties with its own efforts, holding fast to the revolutionary line of independence after 2019 when the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK was held.

As to this, the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un proudly said at the First Session of the 15th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK on March 23:

"The past decade clearly showed that no objective conditions and circumstances can ever check the advance of a state and people that have turned out in the struggle to shape their future, rallied as one with a firm faith, and that the most correct road to prosperity is to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency."

2019, seven years ago, was a period that demanded a truly important and responsible choice

and fresh courage on the part of socialist construction and the DPRK government.

At the time the hostile forces intensified their moves to contain, weaken and stifle the DPRK and the contradictions and confrontation for hegemony between big powers were further aggravated on the regional and worldwide scale.

In such a situation, the respected General Secretary, in his policy speech "On Socialist Construction and the Internal and External Policies of the Government of the Republic at the Present Stage" delivered at the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly, clarified the issues of thoroughly implementing the revolutionary line of independence in state building and activities, consistently applying the people-first principle to state activities and social life as a whole, adhering to the line of building an independent national economy and displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance to the full, putting the national economy on a Juche, modern, IT and scientific basis, solving the shortage of food and consumer goods in the earliest

possible time, pushing ahead with grand construction projects for providing the people with better and more civilized living conditions and other strategies for nation building.

The nation-building strategies were detailed and expanded at the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, the plenary meetings of the Party Central Committee and the sessions of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly, which were held later.

Accordingly, the WPK steadily implemented the political line and the national development strategy based on self-reliance by firmly believing in the people and preserving its fighting traditions in the face of the manifold difficulties and painful ordeals, thereby achieving proud successes in succession.

The national defence capabilities were steadily expanded and strengthened, and the economic fields successfully carried out the long-range development plans for the first time in decades and laid the foundations for the growth of production.

The regional development policy

for improving the material and cultural life of the regional people was vigorously enforced, with the result that modern regional-industry factories were built in 40 cities and counties in two years to promote regional development. In the capital city of Pyongyang the construction project for 50 000 flats was forged ahead to solve the housing problem of the citizens. As a result, houses for nearly 60 000 families were built.

Changes took place in the work attitude of the agricultural workers to produce high yields with scientific farming in accordance with the rural revolution programme in the new era, a new history of irrigation started to ease the water shortage in farming and the mechanization of agriculture was pressed on vigorously.

The construction of farmhouses was undertaken on a large scale, with the result that modern houses for over 113 000 families were built in 1 860-odd rural villages at some 500 farms across the country and many agricultural workers moved into new houses in all four seasons in the past four years.

The Korean people also achieved

a great deal in terms of spirit, ability and materials by dint of self-reliance in the past seven years, including the successful launch of the overall technical reconstruction and a step forward made in science and technology, education and public health.

Therefore, the respected General Secretary said in his policy speech at the First Session of the 15th Supreme People's Assembly:

"Though we felt difficult at every step and were short of everything, we were firm in our conviction that we have nothing to rely on other than our own strength and were full of confidence in our own strength; as a result, we could unyieldingly and to the utmost do more things we wanted for the prosperity and development of the state and the well-being of the people while rapidly increasing our own potentials, and, furthermore, advance these undertakings in breadth and depth beyond precedents and beyond the imagination of the world."

The victory of self-reliance, it is the brilliant success the DPRK achieved in the past seven years.

## 'Every Bird Counts—Your Observation Matters'



**Ri Chung Song, PhD**, associate professor and director of the Biodiversity Institute of the State Academy of Sciences

Birds that are found almost everywhere on the earth are closely related to human existence and development.

Recently, however, some birds are on the verge of extinction as ecosystems have been destroyed for several reasons. Therefore, it is more important to protect birds, especially migratory birds.

Migratory birds are those inhabiting different countries and regions while passing through them, and are under worldwide common protection.

To raise public awareness and correctly inform people of the need to protect migratory birds, the international community set the second Saturdays of May and October as World Migratory Birds Day (WMBD) with a view to giving people a correct understanding of the need to protect such birds and drawing their positive attention to it.

The theme of this year's WMBD is "Every Bird Counts—Your Observation Matters".

Regular surveys and conservation of migratory birds, which travel across the continents and oceans according to seasons, and of their habitats cannot be expected to be successful without international cooperation and efforts.

The protection of migratory birds is done under the national concern in the DPRK.

Our country is located at the centre of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. The wetland ecosystem of the country is developed with large areas of tideland, lagoons and estuaries on the east and west coastal areas of the country and with many rivers and artificial lakes in the inland areas, thus providing

favourable physiological conditions for the inhabitation of migratory birds. Accordingly, our country plays an important role in the stopover, breeding and wintering of migratory birds in well over a hundred kinds, including over 30 kinds of migrants belonging to globally endangered species.

Our institute has regularly surveyed migratory birds inhabiting the country according to seasons and on an annual basis to estimate their change and solved sci-tech problems for their protection.

From 2019 to February this year, it regularly surveyed and estimated the resource quantities concerning such birds wintering in over 70 wetlands on the east and west coastal and inland areas and regularly shared the results with the Wetlands International. And it has regularly surveyed the stopover of migratory birds during their migration in spring and autumn and their breeding in summer in many migratory bird reserves, including the Mundok and Kumya migratory bird reserves which are international wetland reserves.

It also updated the list of endangered species on the basis of the survey and evaluation of the change and habitats of migratory birds inhabiting our country and has conducted the work for protecting them.

Recently, it has made achievements in confirming 10-odd candidate areas of tens of thousands of hectares for migratory bird reserves and setting them as new similar reserves.

Not content with its achievements, the institute will fulfil its responsibility in protecting biodiversity.

## Evolution to war state, war merchant will only reproduce disgraceful misfortune of 'Empire of Japan'

KCNA

Japan has become ever more brazen in its attempts to revive as a dangerous aggressor state.

Recently, the Japanese ruler held a "crudite meeting" with former officials of the Foreign Ministry and Defense Ministry, personages of the financial, social and academic circles and experts and openly declared that to revise the three security-related documents including the "national security strategy" for "fundamentally strengthening the defense capabilities" and "building up the overall national strength" is an "important effort decisive of the destiny of the state".

Intensively discussed at the confab to decide on the direction of Japan's future military security policy were the response to the "new way of battle" drawn from the lessons of the Ukrainian and Middle East crises, "preparations for a long-drawn-out war in an emergency", a reform of the munitions industry and others.

At a following LDP meeting the present ruler justified the revision of the "three principles of defense equipment transfer" restricting arms export and its operation guidelines, arguing that Japan "needs a fellow country with which to support each other through the transfer of military equipment".

A clear manifestation of neo-militarism and revanchism Japan pursues to bring back the old imperial era at any cost by accelerating the evolution to a war state and war merchant, all these facts constitute a naked challenge to international peace and mankind.

In fact, the notorious three security-related documents of Japan have already been translated

into practice one after another and entered the stage of full-scale operation before the revision is decided on at the end of the year.

As is known, the main contents of these three documents Japan is going to amend include the increase of "defense expenses", the lifting of restrictions on arms export and the full development of offensive military capabilities.

However, Japan has increased the military spendings every year as it attained the goal of increase in the "defence expenses" in proportion to the GDP, which was planned to reach by 2027 at the time when the "national security strategy" was revised in late 2022, ahead of schedule in 2025.

Recently it amended the "three principles of defense equipment transfer" and its operation guidelines to ease the restrictions on arms export.

The present government is engrossed in exporting lethal weapons despite the public opposition at home, insisting that "the time has changed". The purpose is clear. Needless to say, it is not merely for money making, but for the revival of the munitions industry and the improvement of the warring capacity of the "Self-Defense Forces".

Japan stepped up the deployment of the armed forces in all operational areas and preparations for an actual war.

Now the Japanese politicians do not hesitate to make such reckless remarks that "Japan should possess nuclear weapons" and "it will not rule out any option".

The misbehaviour of the present Japanese government clearly shows the sinister intention of the Japanese reactionaries to realize their centuries-old ambition for reinvasion without fail by heading straight for a war state and war merchant riding on the crest of a wave of the tense situation in which the international military security environment has worsened day by day due to the unintelligent outrageous behaviour of the A-class rogues.

The reckless moves of the war criminal state regarding the present chaotic international situation as a good opportunity for realizing its wild ambition for aggression will inevitably meet the merciless counterattack of the enraged international community.

The radical evolution of Japan to a war state and war merchant led by neo-militarism will only reproduce the disgraceful misfortune of the old "Empire of Japan".

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# To make Russia powerful and defend sovereignty

By Song Jong Ho PT

May 9 is the day of victory in the Great Patriotic War the Russian people celebrate with splendour.

The victory made a great contribution to rescuing many European countries from the invasion by Nazi Germany and encouraging the world's democratic forces in the liberation struggle against fascism.

The Russians, regarding the victory as a source of great pride, are directing efforts to adding eternal brilliance to the history of war victory and boosting national strength.

It is a stand of the Russian government that defending the history of war victory

and adding lustre to it is not simply a matter of making a fair and correct appraisal of the past history, but an affair essential in defending national sovereignty and building a powerful Russia.

As the Western countries more undisguisedly resort to distorting the history during the Second World War and reviving fascism, Russia makes more strenuous efforts to protect its territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

Saying that a decision on conducting special military operations was made according to requests from heads of the republics in Donbas and for the implementation of the UN Charter and the relevant bilateral treaties in a televised special

speech in February 2022, Russian President Putin announced that the aim of the operations is to step up the denazification and disarmament of Ukraine and protect his country from those plotting to ignite a war against Russia with Ukraine as "hostage".

The Russians declared the year 2025 marking the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War as a "year of the defenders of the country" and successfully rounded off the operations to liberate the Kursk region by resolutely carrying out the special military operations in Ukraine with confidence in another victory in the just war. Last April, it completed the operations to liberate the Lugansk People's Republic.

Today, the Russian army, with firm belief in the validity of its cause, is taking the strategic initiative on all the fronts of the special military operations and boldly advancing forward, smashing enemy groups and reserves.

Russia also continues to develop and make public up-to-date weapon systems to cope with the anti-Russia confrontation moves of Western countries clamouring against "threats from Russia", in order to display its resolute counteraction will, while putting great efforts into building up its military muscle.

In recent years, it made public such cutting-edge weapons as new-type intermediate-range

ballistic missile Oreshnik, nuclear-powered strategic cruise missile Burevestnic and nuclear-powered unmanned diving apparatus Poseidon.

It is also working to improve the combat capabilities of all services and arms and promote cooperation with other countries in the military field.

Nothing can check the aspirations of the Russian people for eradicating neo-Nazism and defending freedom, justice, peace and security.

The Korean people extend warm congratulations and firm solidarity to the Russian people on the occasion of the 81st anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War.

## World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day

By Choe Song Jun PT

May 8 is World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

The ideal of the Red Cross and Red Crescent does not assume any governmental, national and political characters. It assumes only humanitarian character of preventing and relieving the pain of human beings.

The origin of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement is related to war.

The movement originated in a big battle in Solferino in northern Italy in June 1859.

In the battle both sides suffered 40 000 casualties and the injured were bleeding to death with no medical assistance. At that time, Henri Dunant, a young Swiss who passed the area on a business tour, helped the wounded soldiers who had suffered a misfortune by rousing up its residents.

He later wrote a book in memory of Solferino and in it he proposed establishing humanitarian organizations which were able to assist with medical activities in all countries and concluding an international convention on protecting the people engaged in relief operations in the battlefield.

His proposal was supported in Switzerland, with the result that the

"international committee for relieving wounded persons" was organized in 1863 to realize the humanitarian ideal and later it was renamed the International Committee of the Red Cross in 1876.

Red Cross organizations were formed in many countries to meet the growing demand after the First World War and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies was founded in 1919 as they felt the need to cooperate with each other and coordinate their activities more closely.

Today, Red Cross activities are vigorously conducted to protect the lives and health of the people from frequent disputes and natural disasters in different countries and regions of the world and stabilize their life.

Founded on October 18 1946, the DPRK Red Cross Society joined the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in May 1956 and is playing the role of an auxiliary organization of the DPRK government in various fields including public health, hygiene, relief work and disaster prevention.

The DPRK Red Cross Society has made every effort to improve the health and well-being of the people by thoroughly applying the people-first principle to its work.

## 'Respect for human rights' hyped by West a hypocrisy

By Choe Yong Nam PT

A European media outlet recently commented that since there is clear evidence on Israel's war and anti-humanitarian crimes, if the European Union takes no measure against the country, it would only confirm that the EU applies double standards.

The Western countries have taken every opportunity to style themselves the "defender" and "arbitrator" of peace and "champion" of international law and human rights.

But this is nothing more than a lie and hypocrisy.

The West has become more blatant in its double-dealing practice by taking advantage of the Middle East crisis.

After the outbreak of the Gaza crisis, some high-ranking politicians of the West tried to justify Israel's criminal acts, saying that they support its right to self-defence and that a ceasefire might give time for Hamas to pull its forces together again and possess missiles.

But when the international community raised voices

against Israel's massacre of Palestinians, the Western countries outwardly denounced Israel while putting on a show of recognizing Palestine as a state. However, they did not take any practical measure to check Israel's atrocities.

This is because the West gives precedence to its economic interests over the human rights of Palestinians.

As a major trade partner of Israel, the West fears that its economic interests would be jeopardized, if it gives up trade deals with Israel, and therefore it turns a blind eye to Israel's war crimes and miserable deaths of the Palestinians.

The calculation of the selfish West, which places its economic interests above the lives of the Palestinian civilians and peace in the Middle East, has resulted in Israel's military attacks against Lebanon, Syria, Iran and Qatar, to say nothing of Palestine.

The reality clearly shows that the "respect for human rights" much touted by the West is nothing but a fiction, as it concerns itself with its own interests.



Israel's air raids cause heavy damage to Lebanon.

## Briefly

### South Africa

#### President demands reparations for West's slavery and colonial exploitation

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on May 4 demanded reparations for the slavery and colonial exploitation by the West.

Over the past centuries, the Western powers have made millions of Africans slaves, raked up a huge amount of wealth in the vast lands of Africa by inhumanely abusing them and even took away many cultural relics, he exposed.

Reparations should be made not merely by financial compensation but by positive investment, dissemination of technologies and skills and unconditional return of stolen cultural relics, so that Africa can clear its debts and attain its development goals, he said.

### China

#### FM blasts Japan's moves to revive militarism

A spokesman for the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on May 3 answered a question raised by a reporter in relation to the 80th anniversary of the beginning of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East.

To accept the judgment of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East is a prerequisite for Japan to return to the international community after the war, he said, adding what rouses indignation of people is that though 80 years have passed since the war, the hangovers of Japanese militarism have not been wiped out, but rather revive.

He stressed that anyone or any force that tries to reverse the judgment on the aggression will be brought to the court of history.

### Algeria

#### France censured for nuclear disaster

The Algerian ambassador to the United Nations at a recent international meeting condemned France, the former suzerain state, for the crime of bringing a nuclear disaster to his country.

He disclosed that France did nuclear tests 17 times within the territory of his country before and after its achievement of independence in the 1960s.

Noting that the French authorities are making efforts for decontamination and so on in French Polynesia, where a similar test was done after Algeria, but are refusing a proposal for decontamination in Algeria, he stressed that it can never be justified.

### United States

#### Working people hold demos

On the occasion of May Day, tens of thousands of people turned out in streets to hold demonstrations and rallies to oppose war and defend the rights of workers and immigrants across the US.

Protest actions were staged in about 30 cities.

The participants shouted slogans against the war moves and immigrant policy of the authorities.

## *Kumgang Rock in Inner Chilbo of Mt Chilbo*



## Mausoleum of King Kogugwon

By Kim Hak Chol PT

The Mausoleum of King Kogugwon situated in Anak County of South Hwanghae Province is the tomb of the 21st monarch of Koguryo (the first feudal state of Korea that existed from 277 BC to AD 668). It is also known as Anak Tomb No. 3.

The size of the tomb is about 33 metres from north to south, about 30 metres from east to west and some 6 metres in height.

The large mound is situated on a mountain and the tomb blends into it to assume a magnificent appearance.

The chamber was built with stones half underground and

consists of door compartment, front compartment, two side compartments in the east and the west of the front compartment, inner compartment and a corridor.

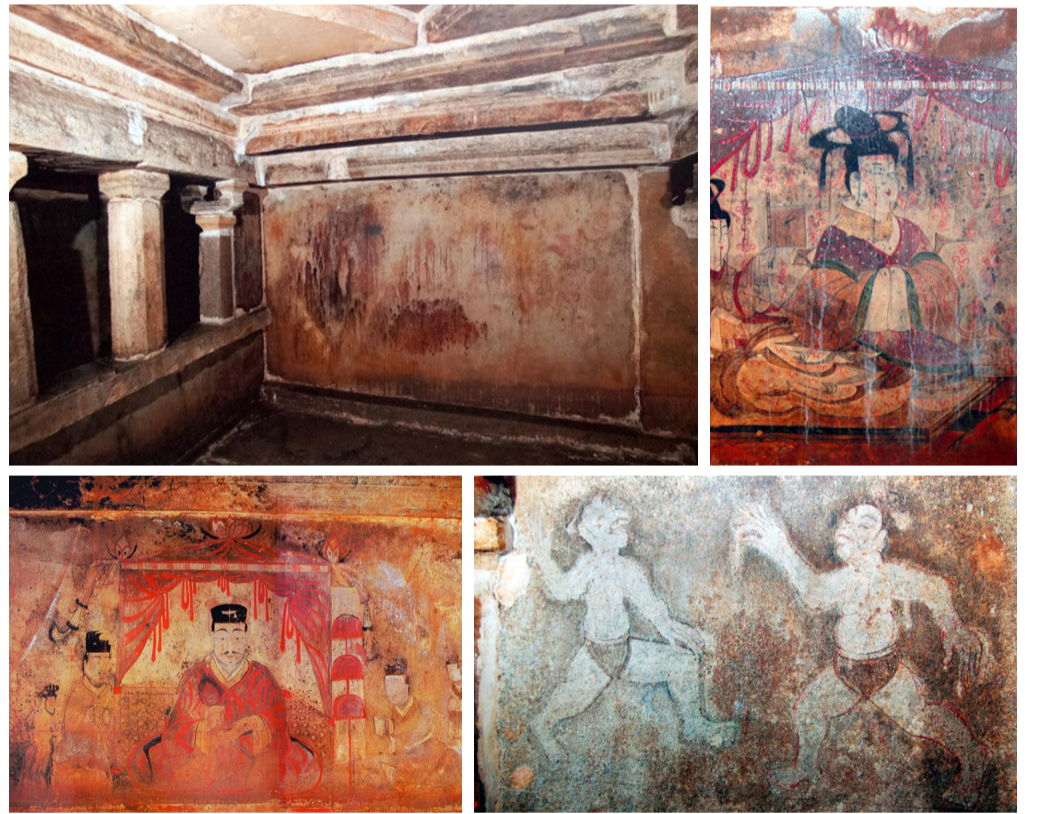
The mural paintings were drawn directly on the stone wall.

A picture of a royal guard is seen in the door compartment and those of an honour guard, Subakhui (a Korean style of martial art using only the hands) and music and dance performance in the front compartment.

The mural in the corridor shows an imposing and majestic procession of the king escorted by numerous civil and military officials and a band of musicians.

A manifestation of the advanced painting techniques of that time, the mural is rated as the greatest masterpiece among the Korean tomb murals in view of the number of characters depicted, over 250 persons, the size of the scene and the complex and diverse content.

The Mausoleum of King Kogugwon is under good preservation as a precious cultural heritage element of the country, which vividly shows the history, customs, architecture, painting, music, dance and weapons and equipment of Koguryo through the structure and mural contents of the tomb chamber.



The chamber and tomb murals in the Mausoleum of King Kogugwon.



## *Natural monument—Fir forest in Inner Kumgang*

By Pang Un Ju PT

In and around Mt Kumgang, one of the famous mountains of the DPRK, there are many natural monuments which are of great

academic significance and add beauty to the scenery.

One of them is the fir forest in Inner Kumgang.

The forest stretches around the Jangan and Phyohun temples in Mt Kumgang.

It is 128 hectares in area.

A 300-odd-year old tree there is 23 metres high and 13 metres wide at the crown.

It comes into leaf in late April and a leaf lasts for 5-6 years.

Male and female flowers of a fir tree bloom on old branches and the tree starts to bear fruit when it gets 30 years old.

As a typical fir forest in the country, the forest is of academic significance.

