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Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division of KPA

Inheritance of tradition underlined, a-match-for-a-hundred versatile crews praised



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, inspected the headquarters of the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division of the Korean People's Army and the 1st Tank and Armoured Infantry Regiment under the direct control of the division on March 24.

He was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, secretary of the Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK, Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, and Ri Yong Gil, chief of the KPA General Staff.

The guards unit, which has grown into strong iron-clad ranks, making the

history of loyalty and feats under the care of the peerlessly great men, was overflowing with the steadfast spirit to defend politically, ideologically and with their very lives the Party Central Committee headed by the great Comrade Kim Jong Un and the indomitable spirit of defending the country unto death.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived at the headquarters of the division, all the service personnel raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" looking up to the iron-willed commander who has developed the KPA into an invincible elite revolutionary army while dynamically guiding it only to victory with his outstanding ideas and leadership and energetic devotion.

After receiving a salute from the commander of the tank division, he reviewed the military colours of the

division and its combined units and the ranks of commanding officers.

He was presented with bouquets by soldiers carrying boundless reverence and gratitude of all the officers and men of the division.

Kim Jong Un looked round the revolutionary museum, guided by the commanding officers of the division.

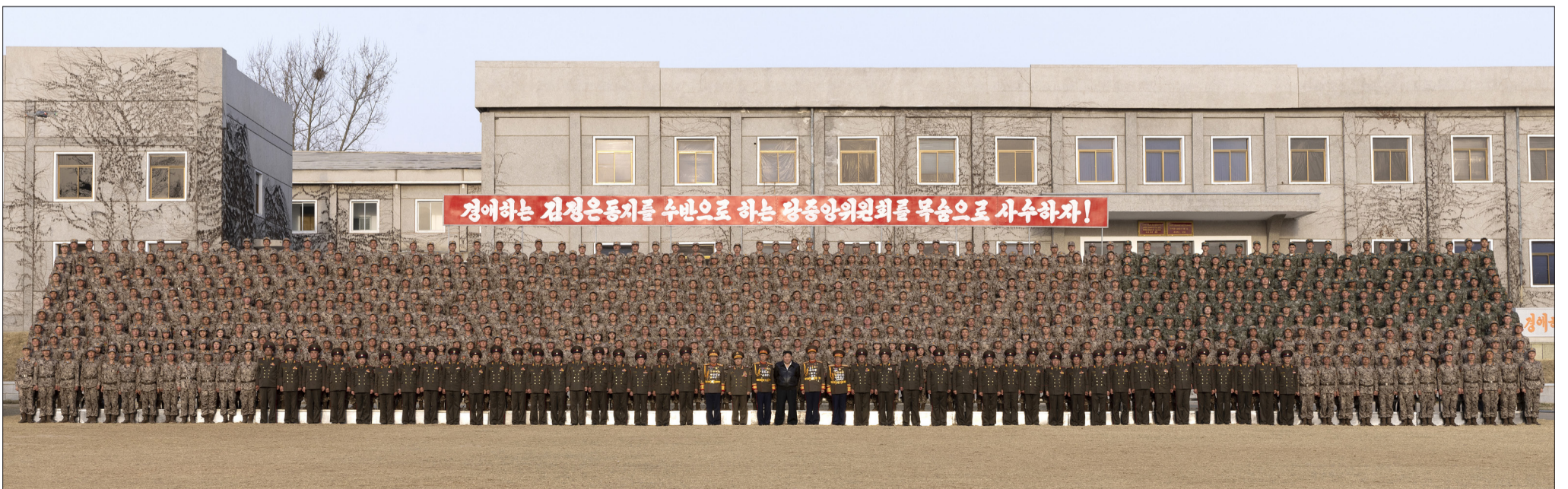
The unit, which was formed as the first tank unit of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK in August 1948 on the initiative of President Kim Il Sung and under his meticulous care and earned fame as a steel-strong elite division, is associated with the undying leadership exploits of the peerlessly great men and has performed lots of militant feats.

The division, born and developed into a large unit of brave independent life-guardsmen under the care of the

President, was the first to charge into Seoul and fly the flag of the DPRK on the puppet Capitol building and performed distinguished feats in many battles during the past Fatherland Liberation War, thus adding the title of guards and Seoul to its brilliant name. In the 1960s, the unit blazed a trail in mass movement by raising the first torch of the Red-Flag Company Movement, and, in the 1980s, became a Kumsong Life Guards unit. And in the new century it has recorded proud achievements in defending the country, flying the flag of O Jung Hup-led Seventh Regiment in the van of the entire army.

Looking round the precious historical relics and data associated with the immortal devoted efforts of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il

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for the development of the sacred and proud unit, Kim Jong Un recollected with deep emotion the proud course of the guards tank unit that has followed the road of loyalty as invincible iron-clad ranks shining with victory and glory.

Noting that recorded in the history of the division are the glorious tradition of defending the Party and the leader unto death and a number of combat feats performed by it in every grim period of the revolution, he stressed that the noble

tradition of loyalty of the guards unit and its tradition of great victory should be carried forward generation after generation forever.

He called for conducting efficient ideological education among the soldiers to make them steadfastly preserve and add brilliance to the immortal achievements of the President and the Chairman with proud successes in rounding off war preparations and beefing up combat capability with the unique pride and honour of serving in the glorious unit associated with the guidance of the great

leaders.

After being briefed on the division's plan for offensive and defensive operations by its commander, Kim Jong Un examined the operational combat tasks and orientation of combat training of the combined units under the division.

He said that the 105th tank division, symbolic of the heroic and brave spirit of the KPA, should hold high the banner as befitting a model of the entire army in the ongoing intensive training for finishing war preparations. He set forth

important tasks for strengthening in every way the combat preparations and combat efficiency of the unit including that of arming the tank crews with overwhelming ideological and moral strength and thoroughly training them in the military, technical and physical aspects and getting combat technical equipment always ready for action.

Kim Jong Un enjoyed a performance given by the art squad of the division at the servicepersons' hall.

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Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends message of sympathy to president of Russian Federation

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of sympathy to Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, on March 23.

In the message, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, on behalf of the DPRK government and people and on his own behalf, expressed deep condolences and sympathy to the Russian president and, through him, to the Russian government and people and the bereaved families and victims, upon the sudden sad news that heavy casualties were caused by a large-scale terrorist attack in Moscow region.

He said that consistent is the stand of the DPRK government opposing all sorts of terrorism and nothing can justify the heinous terrorism threatening human life.

Our people regard the misfortune and sorrow of the friendly Russian people as their own pain and extend firm support and solidarity to the just cause of the Russian people to consolidate the socio-political unity and stability centered on you and defend the security of the country and its sovereign rights, he said.

He sincerely hoped that the Russian government and the strong Russian people would eradicate the aftermath of terrorist attack as soon as possible and stability would be brought to the bereaved families and victims.

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Through the performance pulsating with the revolutionary spirit, the art squad members showed the deep ideological and moral world and valiant disposition of the heroic KPA intensely loyal to the Party and truthfully represented their firm faith and will to vigorously struggle for the eternal prosperity of the country and the security of the people under the leadership of Kim Jong Un.

Kim Jong Un expressed expectation and belief that all the service personnel of the division would give fuller play to the stamina of the guards unit in today's struggle for defending the country and the revolution by carrying forward the indomitable fighting spirit displayed by the tank crews in the Fatherland Liberation War, and had a photo session with the service personnel of the headquarters.

The service personnel, who had an honour of having a photo taken with Kim Jong Un, raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" and shouted slogans of "Kim Jong Un" and "Death-defying defence," making a firm pledge of loyalty and repayment to the great brilliant commander who showed warm love and deep trust and instilled redoubled invincible spirit of the revolutionary army.

Kim Jong Un inspected the 1st Tank and Armoured Infantry Regiment under the direct control of the Seoul Ryu Kyong Su Guards 105th Tank Division.

When he arrived at the unit, the cheers of hurrah raised by the service personnel with boundless honour, happiness, emotion and joy shook the sky and the earth.

Kim Jong Un received a salute from the commander of the regiment.

He met again the tank crews of the regiment, who proved successful in the recent training match among the large combined tankmen's units of the KPA, and warmly encouraged them.

He had a talk with the commanding officers of

the regiment at the building of its command and looked round the barracks of a sub-unit.

He guided tank crews' hurdle-overcoming and high-speed breakthrough drill at the training ground of the regiment.

When the drill started, the "iron horses" launched a general offensive all at once, moving their heavy bodies in a mobile manner and negotiating the solid defence lines at a stretch. The brave tank crews, fully armed with the Juche-based war method and the strong will to annihilate the enemy, strikingly displayed their skillful offensive ability and great confidence.

Kim Jong Un expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the tankmen involved in the drill are fully prepared as a-match-for-a-hundred versatile crews capable of carrying out any combat mission.

He had a photo session with the tankmen and soldiers of the regiment involved in the drill.

Going round a mess hall of the sub-unit, he took warm care of the living of the servicepersons with paternal affection.

Seeing with satisfaction the servicepersons at table, he said that the commanding officers should always pay close attention to further improving the servicepersons' diet, ensure a regular supply of meat, vegetables and various other subsidiary foodstuffs in good time and make sincere efforts to provide them with good living conditions.

All the service personnel of the division expressed their deep gratitude to Marshal Kim Jong Un who visited the unit and greatly encouraged them, showing warm love and deep trust and giving them the greatest glory. They made a firm pledge to prepare themselves as invincible combat ranks unfailingly loyal to and absolutely obedient to the orders of the Party Central Committee and as stalwart fighters ready to open the road of advance for victory in the future battlefields by continuing to carry forward the tradition of the wartime heroic tank unit.

DPRK's leading officials pay condolatory visit to Russian embassy in Pyongyang



KCNA

Leading Party and government officials of the DPRK pay a mourner's visit to the Russian embassy in Pyongyang at dawn of March 26 as regards the large-scale terrorist attack in Moscow Region of the Russian Federation that claimed huge casualties.

Jo Yong Won, Pak Jong Chon, Ri Il Hwan, Kang Sun Nam and Choe Son Hui, leading officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK, paid a condolatory visit to the Russian embassy in Pyongyang at dawn of March 26 as regards the large-scale terrorist attack in Moscow Region of the Russian Federation that claimed huge casualties.

Wreaths in the name of the WPK Central Committee, the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of

the DPRK were laid at the venue of the mourning ceremony.

The participants observed a moment's silence in memory of the deceased.

The leading officials of the DPRK expressed deep condolences to the bereaved families and victims, saying that the Korean people share sorrow with the Russian people at this moment.

They expressed the consistent stand of the WPK and the government of the DPRK against all sorts of terrorism and hoped that the Russian people would eradicate the aftermath of the damage and recover a stable life as early as possible.

WPK delegation visits Vietnam

KCNA

A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Song Nam, alternate member of the Political Bureau and director of the International Department of the WPK Central Committee, arrived in Hanoi on March 25 to visit Vietnam.

Kim Song Nam had talks with Le Hoai Trung, secretary of the Secretariat and chairman of the External Affairs Commission of the Central Committee of the

Communist Party of Vietnam in Hanoi on the same day.

Kim met and had a friendly talk with Truong Thi Mai, member of the Political Bureau, standing secretary of the Secretariat and chairperson of the Organizational Commission of the Central Committee of the CPV, in Hanoi on March 26.

He courteously conveyed warm greetings from Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, to Nguyen Phu Trong, general secretary

of the CPV Central Committee.

Truong Thi Mai expressed deep thanks for this and asked him to convey warm greetings from General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong to General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

Kim Song Nam said that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties and the two countries provided by the preceding leaders of the two countries and firmly consolidated

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The head of the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea meets with the standing secretary of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam in Hanoi on March 26.

Ceremony of moving into new houses held at Kangdong Greenhouse Complex

KCNA

A happy event of moving into new houses has taken place at the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex which has been built as the world's leading modern large-scale vegetable producer.

The magnificent farming town, where diverse styles of low- and multi-storey and terraced houses, schools, a hall of culture, comprehensive welfare service facilities and parks are beautifully arranged to suit the large group of greenhouses, is another model entity born of the efforts to create Korean-style rural civilization.

A ceremony of moving into new houses took place at the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex on March 27.

Present there were Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Man Song, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Rural Economy Committee, Ri Myong Chol, secretary of the Pyongyang

Municipal Committee of the WPK, officials of the Party and power organs in Kangdong County and officials and employees of the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex.

Choe Hui Thae, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, in his speech, warmly congratulated the employees of the greenhouse complex on owning

the dwelling houses built under the loving care of the Party.

He called on all the officials and employees of the greenhouse complex to take good care of their workplaces

and dwelling houses and put the production of various kinds of tasty and nutritious vegetables on a normal basis so as to further develop the complex into a treasure

farm and world-class large-scale greenhouse vegetable producer which substantially plays a part in bettering the diet of the citizens of Pyongyang.



A meeting for moving into new houses takes place at the Kangdong Greenhouse Complex on March 27.

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on the road of the anti-imperialist joint struggle are developing onto a new high level under the deep care of Kim Jong Un and Nguyen Phu Trong.

He called for boosting friendship and solidarity and strengthening mutual support and cooperation in the international arena on the road of dynamically advancing the socialist cause in the future, too.

Truong Thi Mai, on behalf of the CPV, warmly welcomed the WPK delegation visiting the country at a significant time of marking the fifth anniversary of General Secretary Kim Jong Un's visit to Vietnam.

Vietnam sincerely wishes the Korean people

greater success in socialist construction, including economic construction and the improvement of the people's living standards, under the guidance of the WPK headed by General Secretary Kim Jong Un, she noted.

The Vietnamese people are always grateful to the Korean people for their support and encouragement to the national liberation struggle, the cause of national reunification and socialist construction of Vietnam, she said, expressing the stand of the Vietnamese side to promote understanding between the two countries and ramp up cooperation through exchange in all fields so as to further develop the bilateral relations.

Kim Song Nam met and had a talk with Nguyen Van Nen, member of the

Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and secretary of the CPV Ho Chi Minh City Committee, in the city on March 27.

Kim introduced the reality of the DPRK which is achieving overall development of socialism under the wise leadership of WPK General Secretary Kim Jong Un and referred to the need to consolidate and develop friendly relations in line with the noble intention and will of the top leaders of the two parties.

Nguyen Van Nen said he was pleased that the WPK, the government and people of the DPRK have achieved marked successes in socialist construction through an indomitable struggle under the leadership of the respected Comrade

Kim Jong Un, noting that he always remembers the sincere support of the DPRK for the Vietnamese people's anti-US struggle for national salvation and the cause of national reunification.

Saying that the bilateral relations have further been strengthened and developed with the deep trust between General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong and General Secretary Kim Jong Un as the cornerstone, he expressed the will to thoroughly implement the historic agreement by the top leaders of the two parties.

Earlier, the WPK delegation left Chengdu on March 25 after rounding off the visit to China.

During the China visit, the delegation toured various places of Beijing and Sichuan Province.

April Spring Friendship Art Festival to open

KCNA

The 33rd April Spring Friendship Art Festival will be held in Pyongyang, the capital of the DPRK, on the occasion of the 112th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung.

The festival will be participated in by famous art, dance and acrobatic troupes from scores of countries and overseas Koreans' art troupes as well. The videos of performances given by foreign art troupes and artistes to be sent via international

communications will artistically show the progressive mankind's high praise and boundless reverence for and trust in the President, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The festival organizing committee decided to examine the videos of performances and edit them in various forms before broadcasting them on Korean Central TV and put the process and examination results of the festival on such websites as "Korean Art".

Delegation of External Intelligence Bureau of Russia visits DPRK

KCNA

A delegation of the External Intelligence Bureau (EIB) of the Russian Federation led by its Director Sergei E. Narishkin visited Pyongyang from March 25 to 27.

During the visit, talks were held between Ri Chang Dae, minister of State Security of the DPRK, and Sergei E.

Narishkin, director of the EIB of the Russian Federation, and the working-level talks between officials of the Ministry of State Security of the DPRK and members of the delegation of the EIB of the Russian Federation.

At both talks, the two sides briefed each other about the views on the present international and regional situation

regarding the Korean peninsula and Russia, and widely and deeply discussed practical issues for further boosting cooperation to cope with the ever-growing spying and plotting moves by the hostile forces.

The two sides reached a complete consensus of views on the issues on the table at the two talks that proceeded in a comradely and amicable atmosphere.

Central Committee of Democratic Front for Reunification of Korea formally dissolved

KCNA

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of Korea (DFRK) took place in Pyongyang on March 23.

Present there were presidium members of the Central Committee of the DFRK and representatives of political parties and social organizations.

The meeting stressed that the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government branded the

ROK clans, who proclaimed the DPRK the "principal enemy" and have pursued the "collapse of regime" and "unification by absorption" only in collusion with outside forces for nearly 80 years, as the most hostile state, invariable principal enemy and complete foreign country, not the partner for reconciliation and reunification, and set up a new stand on the north-south relations and reunification policy.

And it reached a consen-

sus that there is no need for the Central Committee of the DFRK, a pan-national united front organization, to exist any longer in the situation where the north-south relations have completely been fixed into the relations between two states hostile to each other and the relations between two belligerent states, not the consanguineous or homogeneous ones.

The meeting decided to formally dissolve the Central Committee of the DFRK.

Development of regional industry in DPRK

By **Jong Hwa Sun** *PT*

March 18 this year marks the 60th anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il's publication of the work *The Status and Role of the County in Socialist Construction*.

The past 60 years are a period when a new springboard was created for the development of regional industry by improving the role of the county as an all-encompassing unit for regional economic development and as a hub for economic links between town and country as the Chairman clarified in the work.

Status and role of the county

In the DPRK the county is the lowest unit of guidance of regional administrative district.

The country has over 200 counties to suit its territorial size, natural and geographical conditions and traffic relations.

As a major unit of regional economic development, the county takes an important share in improving the people's standards of living.

As regional bases and units in socialist construction, counties have all the economic sectors and cultural facilities directly connected with the people's living and have different natural resources.

The Chairman said in the work that if the role of counties is enhanced and regional sources and potentials are properly tapped, they can solve the problems arising in economic development and improve the living standards of their residents by themselves and all regions in the country can be developed comprehensively, thus making a great contribution to accelerating overall socialist construction.

Thanks to its perfect logic and

system, practicability and scientific foresight, the ideology and theories of the work exerted great attraction and displayed enormous vitality for the past decades. In recent years, many relevant models have been created under the guidance of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

Samjiyon, model modern mountainous city of culture

The City of Samjiyon in Ryanggang Province has turned into a model of socialist modern mountainous city of culture.

The city northeast of the province, the northern inland region of the country, is a sacred place of the revolution which is associated with President Kim Il Sung's eternal history of resistance and where Kim Jong Il was born.

Even remote mountain villages in the city have taken on new striking appearance thanks to the guidance of the General Secretary for turning the city, the first town under Mt Paektu, into an ideal city of people.

The splendid houses, buildings of various shapes, straight and wide, paved roads and all street trees are associated with his painstaking efforts.

He attached great importance to the construction of Samjiyon not only to spruce up the city but also to get experience and set an example in establishing a future goal for turning all other cities and counties into civilized ones.

During his inspection of the city in November 2021, he said that the successes and experience gained in the construction of the city serve as clear guidelines for pushing the Workers' Party of Korea's policy on regional construction in the right direction and pointed to the need to actively promote and expand

the advantageous experiences accumulated in the construction of the city and thus open up a turning phase in accelerating the development of regional construction and the construction of a civilized society as a whole.

The beginning of regional construction at the foot of Mt Paektu sparked flames of such construction throughout the country, ushering in an era when the countryside changes for the better with fine farmhouses built here and there every year.

Kimhwa flourishes

Kimhwa County of Kangwon Province was an unknown remote mountain county. Now, however, modern factories depending on locally available raw and other materials were built in the county, providing a foundation for fully meeting the basic material and cultural needs of its people.

In October 2020, during his inspection of the site for repairing flood damage in the township area of the county, Kim Jong Un indicated the detailed orientation and ways for turning it into an ideal county of the people and accumulating practical experience in the development of regional industry. At the Second Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK, he set forth the task of splendidly building regional-industry factories in the county.

The days and months from when the first blasting resounded for groundbreaking for the construction of the factories to the proclamation of their completion were associated with his loving care for the improvement of the county people's living standards.

Reading the mind of officials who were at a loss over the uphill task, he

took immediate measures and gave detailed guidance over all problems.

He also ensured that all production processes were established as labour-, energy-, site- and resource-saving, technology-intensive and automated and streamlined ones. And during the construction of the factories, he already made sure that the relevant employees were enrolled in online education courses and passing-on-technique meetings were organized for improving their technical knowledge and skills.

Thanks to his devotion, precious experiences in developing regional industry were created in the county, where living conditions had been poor and economic foundations weak.

The regional-industry factories in the county have produced a variety of quality consumer goods to be supplied to its residents for the past two years.

The residents feel the pleasure of self-sufficiency in practice as all shops are filled with goods which are perfect to be compared everywhere.

Regional Development 20x10 Policy

At the Eighth Congress of the WPK, Kim Jong Un put it forward as an important task to ensure the self-reliant and multifaceted development of cities and counties, and set it as the general goal for building up cities and counties to turn every city and county into a strategic base of a highly civilized and prosperous socialist state, into a developed region retaining their inherent characteristics.

In his speech at the 19th Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK and his important policy speech at the 10th Session

of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly, he set forth in addition to the line for rural prosperity the Regional Development 20x10 Policy reflecting the Party's plan to develop onto a higher stage the basic material and cultural living standards of regional people across the country at the earliest date possible by pushing forward with the regional industrial development.

All policies set by the General Secretary have always been translated into reality, irrespective of whether the conditions are favourable or unfavourable, and this has further built up the people's trust in the Party and the state.

True to his idea that the development of regional industry is the development of regions and the development of regions is the comprehensive rejuvenation and development of the state, the Korean people have turned out in the work to turn the whole country into an ideal land of the people as befits the national dignity and prestige of a power in the coming ten years as they have keenly realized the benevolence of the Party and the state and the advantages of socialist policies through their practical experience, not by rhetoric.

Dawning on this land is the day of ideal society where all dreams of the people will come true as there is the inexhaustible strength of the people who are firmly united with loyalty and patriotism under the guidance of the General Secretary who is continuing with the forced march for fulfilling his cherished desire, the march of devoted efforts, to bring the greatest happiness and civilization to them, holding in high esteem all the people of the country ranging from the capital city to remote mountain villages.

Projects for regional industry development proceed apace

By **Kim Il Jin** *PT*

Efforts are being channelled into developing the regional industry in different parts of the DPRK.

Strong construction forces of the Korean People's Army were rapidly dispatched to 20 cities and counties, which were included in this year's project, and are already performing feats after breaking the ground in succession. In the meantime, cement and other building materials are being supplied to the construction sites of regional-industry factories in time.

Cities and counties are pushing ahead with the work for creating raw material bases and training skilled workers so that modern regional-industry factories could prove their worth when they are in operation.

South Phyongan Province sent farming materials necessary for the creation of raw material bases in Songchon and Sukchon

counties.

North Hamgyong Province sent efficient farm machines and large quantities of aid materials to Kyongsong and Orang counties and South Hamgyong Province is finding out and solving difficulties in the establishment of raw material bases in Hamju and Kumya counties.

North Phyongan and North Hwanghae provinces, Nampho City and other regions have organized competitions for creating raw material bases, while expanding the cultivation area of oil-bearing crops and creating raw-material forests for paper production in the relevant areas.

In South Hwanghae Province, technical training is actively given to workers in the regional-industry sector from Jaeryong and Unchon counties.

Kangwon Province ensures that the working people selected from cities and counties receive technical training according to their occupations at production

units renowned as excellent ones in the province and the whole country.

The province is laying sufficient material and technical foundations while examining and discussing the problems arising in rationally organizing the management structure and distributing manpower at regional-industry factories.

Jagang, Ryanggang and other provinces are also intensifying the training of skilled workers.

Kim Il Sung University is directing efforts into designing and manufacturing up-to-date analytical and measuring equipment capable of improving the quality of products at foodstuff and daily necessities factories. Kim Chaek University of Technology has developed an enterprise resource planning system, production management system and automatic control system programs needed for building a standardized integrated production system at regional-industry factories

and worked out technical specifications for their introduction.

Pyongyang University of Architecture is pushing ahead with the architectural design of new regional-industry factories to meet the characteristics and purpose of the factories, and drawing up the technical assignment lists related to the establishment of production processes at daily necessities factories and the designs of equipment.

Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry is concentrating on creating and leveraging the economic resources and raw materials of cities and counties and developing regional industry in a comprehensive and balanced way. It is also conducting a full-scale research work to examine, revise and supplement the technical assignment lists of regional-industry factories and to give scientific and technological support to the establishment of food production processes.

Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering is stepping up the technical design of various foodstuff packing processes and other projects in the final stage.

Projects enter into framework construction

By **Kim Hye Jong** *PT*

Officers and men of the People's Army, who have turned out in the epoch-making ten-year campaign of creation to bring about comprehensive regional development, are stepping up the construction of regional-industry factories in earnest.

Thanks to the surging spirit and devotion of soldier-builders, the excavation for the foundations of such factories in Songchon and Kosan counties was over in succession and preparations for the building of frameworks are being pushed ahead with.

Soldier-builders in charge of the construction of regional-industry factories in Songchon County introduced rational working methods and increased the operation rate of construction equipment to finish the foundation excavation qualitatively in a short span of time and are speeding up the concrete placing of the groundwork.

The foundation excavation

for such factories in Kosan County was successfully completed.

Soldiers in charge of similar factories in Kusong City and Sukchon County are steadily increasing the successes in the foundation work.

Officers and men of the army dispatched to Yonhan, Unpha and Onchon counties worked out detailed plans for similar construction and are pushing projects in a three-dimensional way. Units of the army mobilized for the construction of such factories in Unchon and Orang counties are carrying out their daily plans.

After finishing in a short span of time the site clearing for similar factories to be built in Kujang and Tongsin counties, soldiers efficiently deployed equipment and manpower according to the scale of each project and are hastening the foundation work according to the plan.

Units out for such projects in Kyongsong, Ichon, Jaeryong, Jangphung and other counties are also performing feats.

Best scientists and technicians of DPRK in 2023

Kwon Chang Dok, PhD and section chief of the Mining Engineering Faculty of Kim Chaek University of Technology



He developed a technology for treating water with electrical pulse and introduced it into paddy rice cultivation, thus playing a key role in contributing greatly to increased food production.

It was nine years ago that Kwon Chang Dok started the research project with conviction that if water treated with electrical pulse is introduced into paddy rice production as irrigation water, it would be helpful in neutralizing the effects of extreme weather conditions and increasing the per-hectare yield without much labour and manpower.

In fact, this research project was far from his major.

But his high sense of patriotism, that if it were an issue which would contribute to easing the food shortage even a little, he had to solve it without failure whether it was in his major or not, and his conscience, that he would never regret even if he had to devote his whole life to it, made him take the untrodden path of development and introduction of a new technology without hesitation.

Without giving up or falling down in the face of failures, sufferings and severe mental and physical exhaustion, Kwon firmly united the research group and resolutely led it to success.

In those years, he developed various kinds of electrical pulse water treatment devices capable of improving the growth conditions of paddy rice, enhanced its technical specifications and capability to a high level and expanded the scope of its introduction to over 100 000 hectares, making it possible to produce one more ton of grain per hectare on average.



establishment of a method of applying fertilizer through irrigation to paddy fields.

After graduating from the Life Science Faculty and postgraduate school of Kim Il Sung University, she assumed it as her duty as a scientist to solve the problems which the Party is concerned about, following in the footsteps of her mother who had kept to the path of scientific research for decades.

She involved herself in the February 17 shock brigade of scientists and technicians together with lecturers and

Kim Mun Chol, Professor, PhD and director of the Microbiology Institute under the State Academy of Sciences

Kim is an authoritative microbiologist who played a leading and core role in industrializing the production of highly active enzyme.

He has taken the lead in the research to raise to the world level the activities of various enzymes badly needed in the fields of agriculture, livestock farming, light industry and food industry.

Despite repeated setbacks

researchers of her faculty and conducted research to put the fertilizer application methods on a scientific and modern basis. In the course of it, she developed and introduced into practice the methods and automated devices helpful in radically improving the effectiveness of fertilizer application, making a positive contribution to increasing grain production.

She obtained her doctorate at the age of 34 for her research finding highly conducive to putting manuring and cultivation on a higher scientific footing in the agricultural sector.

Last year she and her research group held passing-on-technique sessions and demonstrations for the introduction of efficient fertilizer application methods throughout the country including North and South Hwanghae and North and South Phyongan provinces to introduce them into more than 100 000 hectares of farmland.

and failures, he and other scientists of the institute achieved successes in their research into improving the activities of various enzymes including cellulase and proteolytic enzyme to the world level and remarkably increasing the activities of diastatic enzyme and liquefying amylase over the previous ones. And they

solved sci-tech problems arising in the industrial production of enzyme and set up a process for studying enzyme and developing products at the institute to send a large quantity of enzyme to dozens of units.

Their research findings gave great pleasure to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Ri Kwang Jin, PhD and researcher at the Medical Biology Institute of the Academy of Medical Science

Ri is a scientist in his 40s who played a pivotal role in establishing a method of detecting pathogenic microbial nucleic acid in a Korean way.

At the beginning of the worldwide public health crisis caused by the malignant infectious disease, he worked hard to develop a new method of detecting nucleic acid of the malignant virus, bearing in mind that scientific anti-epidemic work begins with scientific test.

At the time he was faced with many problems to be solved including the development of key technologies for producing nucleic acid detecting agents in a Korean way and establishment of a new nucleic acid testing method. And they were urgent tasks with a very high degree of technical difficulties. But he fully applied the knowledge he had acquired with painstaking efforts and finally established a



Korean-style scientific testing method, making a great contribution to the emergency anti-epidemic campaign and public health.

At the National Meeting of Reviewing the Emergency Anti-epidemic Work held in August two years ago, he was honoured to have a photo session with General Secretary Kim Jong Un together with exemplary officials and scientists in the anti-epidemic and public health sector who made contributions to winning victory in the top-level emergency anti-epidemic campaign.



Ji Un Jong, PhD and researcher at the Life Science Faculty of Kim Il Sung University

She played a leading role in the development of a device for applying fixed

quantities of fertilizer to raise the effectiveness of fertilizer in paddy-rice cultivation and

Institute focuses on enhancing role of sci-tech diffusion bases

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

The Sci-tech Diffusion and Management Research Institute has

developed and introduced practicable information systems, making a contribution to raising sci-tech diffusion and

management a level higher.

At present, every unit has a sci-tech learning space, which serves as a powerful base where officials and

employees acquire useful knowledge and techniques and advanced successes and experience to become masters directly responsible for sci-tech development.

“The institute is focusing on making such bases fulfil their mission and role. In particular, it is channelling efforts into the research to raise the informatization level of sci-tech diffusion and management,” said O Kum Sok, director of the institute.

In the course of this, it has completed data browsing system “Pogup (diffusion)” for sci-tech learning space, a sci-tech e-data sharing system, sci-tech diffusion and management support system and others and introduced them into many sectors and units across the country.

The data browsing system is winning popularity at the units that are using it as it has been made multifunctional and standardized so that new sci-tech data can be diffused

from centre down to the lowest units.

The sci-tech e-data sharing system is also recognized as a practicable information system by its users as it enables those who need information to present their needs through the national network in their sci-tech learning space and fulfil them with the consent of those who have relevant information.

It also helps promote rational contact and exchange between consumer and information owner and enables subscribers to share information by means of integrated information retrieval from all websites at once, thus increasing promptness, correctness and efficiency in securing data.

The sci-tech diffusion and management support system grasps and assesses in real time the use of sectoral websites operated by each province.

In other words, it helps

boost sci-tech dissemination by making it possible to grasp in detail the frequency of the use of sci-tech learning space, operation time of websites, number of databases built, readers and data read and estimate the sci-tech data browsed by officials, technicians and workers according to their units and occupations to take relevant measures.

Besides, the institute studies and analyses advanced sci-tech data and domestic sci-tech achievements and builds relevant databases to disseminate them on a regular basis so as to contribute to the development of relevant units and regions.

Last year, too, it disseminated techniques for increasing agricultural productivity, including breeding of new crop varieties and relevant manuring and cultivation methods and data on efficient recycling techniques.



Researchers discuss how to boost the efficiency of sci-tech diffusion at the Sci-tech Diffusion and Management Research Institute. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Patriotism, 4 100 trees

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Four thousand and one hundred young pine-nut trees have taken roots on Jonwi Street under construction in the Sopho area of Pyongyang.

They were planted last autumn by the students of class 6 of the third year of mechanical engineering faculty No. 1 of Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering.

There is an extraordinary story about how they came to plant the tree saplings in the street which is rising up as a symbol of the feats of the youth.

"To an educator, patriotism means training disciples who can truly love the country," said Sin Kum Sun, lecturer in charge of the class.

"Whenever I heard news reports about young people volunteering to work at difficult and labour-consuming sectors for building a powerful socialist country and displaying communist virtues and traits day after day, it seemed to me that it was my fault that none of my disciples were among such excellent young people."

Therefore, she put a great deal of effort into not only transferring knowledge to the students but also instilling patriotism in them.

Sin and her students began to visit the construction site of Jonwi Street with aid materials they had prepared with sincerity.

"As the students gained inspiration from the shock brigade members who are working hard with patriotic devotion at the construction site, a radical change was made in their studies," she said. "What pleased me the most was that they tried to do more good things for the country in their spare time."

Some students wrote letters of encouragement to the youth shock brigade members at the construction site, while others prepared aid materials.

Looking at them, Sin proposed planting 4 100 trees together with the students on the street where the same number of flats are being built.

They turned out as one and, as a result, the 4 100 saplings were planted around the construction site of Jonwi Street in October last year.

Since then, the students have visited the construction site more frequently.

As they were always worried that the saplings might fall down in a storm or be buried beneath heavy snow, the students took good care of them and sprayed root activating solutions so that they would grow firmly.

Looking at the trees that have struck roots and put out lively green leaves even in winter, Sin is fully confident that the students will become excellent talents of the country just like the trees growing strong.

Story of group house-moving in village of Kumchon

“

Single-storied cottages of the past completely disappeared and the low-storied houses have been built instead and all households in the rural village are full of laughter and sounds of singing as they now do not have to envy urban dwellers.”

O Hyong Guk, an old man living in neighbourhood unit No. 44 in Kumchon-dong, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

In December last year, new dwelling houses for hundreds of households were built in the Kumchon Vegetable Farm in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

Cozy and fashionable low-storied houses were built in the village in various architectural styles with features peculiar to the rural area, creating a picturesque landscape.

"Single-storied cottages of the past completely disappeared and the low-storied houses have been built instead and all households in the rural village are full of laughter and



The family of O Hyong Guk spend a good time at a new house in the Kumchon Vegetable Farm in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

RYU KWANG-HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

sounds of singing as they now do not have to envy urban dwellers," said O Hyong Guk, an old man living in neighbourhood unit No. 44 in Kumchon-dong, and proudly recalled the vivid memories of the house-moving day.

That day, as they moved into new houses, all farmers of the village stroked the nameplates on the doors several times before entering their new homes.

The sunny and snug living rooms were equipped with furniture and all kinds of daily necessities.

Looking round the living rooms whose walls and floors are decorated with quality wallpapers and linoleum and the kitchen, lounge and bathroom covered with white tiles, adults wept tears of gratitude and kids were so happy that they ran about the rooms without a break.

Communal domestic animal sheds were built in the yards to suit the characteristics of the countryside.

All the villagers exchanged

congratulations through the whole night and women visited neighbours for a few days talking about their new homes and singing and dancing together.

The delightful house-moving in the village was followed by a series of other happy events.

Two sisters who married men in the village unexpectedly moved into the same block so that they are now living harmoniously in the upper and lower floors of the house. Some unmarried discharged soldiers were also given new houses and they soon tied the knot with girls from towns.

Last January, the eldest of the village celebrated his 90th birthday under the blessings of his children.

With the coming of spring, the farmers of the Kumchon Vegetable Farm have turned out to prepare for this year's farming with the enthusiasm to repay the favour shown by the country that gave them the new houses for free by reaping a good harvest.

A sea change in Komdok

By Han Jong Ho PT

The Komdok area, a leading large-scale mineral production base, has undergone a complete change.

It has revealed the appearance of a civilized city in mountains as low- and multi-storey, high-rise and terraced houses in various unique styles were built wonderfully along a deep gorge.

Originally, as the mountains were deep and rugged, the area was dotted with small villages.

The change in Komdok started with a rehabilitation campaign four years ago when a devastating typhoon hit the area.

It was General Secretary Kim Jong Un who came to the scene of the disaster, deeply grieving over the misfortune and pain suffered by the inhabitants. He came to the site without hesitation along a dangerous railway running over temporary bridge piers built with wooden frames. As he climbed a steep

pass with 55 bends of Unryong Heights rising 1 200 metres above sea level, he opened up a bright prospect for turning the place into a model of city in mountains of the country, a mountain gorge city and mining town unprecedented in history.

From that day, the great construction campaign started and the area began to be changed in its looks.

It was a gigantic drive of creation for completely transforming the landscape of Komdok to build

25 000 flats in the area, including the blocks of multi-storey apartment houses in Sao-dong of Tanchon City where the Komdok Mining Complex taking the lion's share of mineral production in the country is situated.

The locals did not know they would be provided with such wonderful houses at the time of construction and heard such words as mountain gorge city and mining town for the first time after the Komdok area came into being. Therefore, they say that this is just

the creation of a new world and such a transformation can be brought about only by the respected General Secretary who spares nothing for the happiness of the people.

The residents of the mining town endlessly talk about their happiness as new houses boasting elegance peculiar to the mountainous area were built there where no trace of untold damage caused by the wild frenzy of nature can be found at present.

Kan Hye Yong living in neighbourhood unit No. 71 of

Kumgol-dong No. 1 in Tanchon City, said: "I really envied the citizens of Samjiyon which turned into a people's paradise as I saw them on TV. But today we have become happy residents in such a dreamy paradise. I would like to make a deep bow to the respected General Secretary in gratitude."

Every inhabitant in Komdok is determined to repay the favour of the country which provided ordinary miners with many new flats free of charge with increased mineral production.



A bird's-eye view of the mountain-gorge city built in the Komdok area.

Special performance combines circus art with national art

By Pang Un Ju PT

The performance given by artistes of the National Acrobatic Troupe and the National Folk Art Troupe is going on at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre every day, winning great admiration of spectators.

Ri Thae Gum, section chief of the National Acrobatic Troupe, says that unlike the previous performances where only acrobatic pieces were staged, the performance also involves artistes from the National Folk Art Troupe and therefore is evoking a great response from the audience.

The "Formation act of roller skaters", in which actors and actresses flaunt various technical skills on a small circular stage, and the acting of dancers showing beautiful rhythms, lead the audience to the world of acrobatics from the beginning.

The performers of comic circuses "Cup feat" and "A feat of strength" bring laugh all the way to the audience with humorous representation by inviting a viewer to the stage as they display tactful skills.

In the physical stunt "The swing over the iron bar and board", the performers present various stunts of high degree of difficulty while continuously going from the swing to the board and iron bar.

According to director Sin Un Sop, the work performed by nine acrobats has been updated in composition, difficulty and representation with powerful stunts, thereby breaking a new ground in physical stunts. It had already won several gold and silver prizes at the Idol, Wuqiao and Figueras international circus festivals.

When acrobat Yu Jong Min succeeds in a fivefold forward somersault on the floating swing, which can



The National Acrobatic Troupe and the National Folk Art Troupe give a performance at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

be claimed to be the climax of the work, the audience applaud enthusiastically as they are lost in admiration.

The physical stunt "Wire rope walking" adds more to the tensed audience in the wake of Janggu ensemble "Song of Mt Maebong" played with national musical instruments.

When Rim Un Il and three others skilfully perform thrilling stunts including ropeskipping, a backward somersault, two people sitting on the rope and flying over three people without a safety belt on a 12 mm-thick wire rope installed on the height of six metres above the floor, they are highly acclaimed by the audience.

Artistes of the National Folk Art Troupe cheerfully sing various folk songs favoured by the Korean people in solo and mixed duet, relaxing and greatly pleasing the audience, and perform a series of folk dances to lighten the atmosphere.

The performance reach its climax with physical stunt "Fly higher" which won the gold lion prize at the 14th Wuqiao International Circus Festival.

The audience breathlessly watch the work as acrobats create the speed image and three-dimensional effect through backward triple turns and double side turns while turning back double with straight body amid the mutual cross of acrobats in the air.

Acrobat Ryu Chol Ung performs backward quadruple turns, a high skill, drawing tumultuous applause from the audience.

After the performance is over, the audience lavish praise on the performance where circus is combined with national music and dance since it is a truly spectacular, impressive and wonderful one.

With love and zeal for acrobatics

By To Kyong Chol PT

Able man with creative eye

Kim Song Il, a 44-year-old man, became the head of



Kim Song Il

the production office of the National Acrobatic Troupe in December last year.

As a good-looking boy with

flexible and strong build and great creativity, he attracted the attention of instructors as promising reserve in his days at Pyongyang Acrobatic School.

During his 15-year-long career as an acrobat, he won great acclaim of the audience for his brave, nimble and smart stunts in many physical acrobatic pieces.

Especially, he successfully performed a backward quintuple somersault in Seesawing, eliciting the admiration of the audience.

Later, Kim, who is always speculative and fond of conceiving an idea, became a director and created more than ten new acrobatic works.

His creations, including

physical acrobatic pieces "Modelling on unrolled strips of cloth", "Modelling on vaulting pole" and "Joy from full load of fish" and comic acrobatic piece "Ball heading", won active support of the collective as they were based on original ideas. The physical acrobatic piece "Two-person modelling on a rope", one of the works, won the special prize at the 37th Monte Carlo International Circus Festival.

Creators and acrobats of the acrobatic troupe call him a man of ability and he never stops thinking to create new acrobatic works of high degrees of difficulty which will win the admiration of people.

Comic acrobat like his father

Yu Jong Chol is well-known among the Korean people as a comic acrobat.

In a comic acrobatic piece "Merry magicians", a number of the ongoing performance, he successively excited laughter and admiration from among the audience by performing humorous movements and clever movements like a magician, wearing various looks.

He has been working as comic acrobat for about 40 years.

Looking back upon his career, he often thinks of his father who led him to become a comic acrobat.

His father Yun Thae Un was a comic acrobat of dignity who would win great admiration of the audience in every performance for his humorous acting and he performed several times in the presence of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il to be highly appreciated.

On the day when he finished Pyongyang Acrobatic School with honours for his unusual special abilities in turning, handstanding, horizontal bar and wire rope walking, Jong Chol told his father about his dream to become a famous aerial acrobat and sensed a look of regret in his smiling face.

"My father, who had

grown up in the sorrow of an orphan, wanted me to follow in his footsteps so as to repay the favour shown by the President and the Chairman, who had glorified his life as



Yun Jong Chol

an acrobat," said Jong Chol.

That is why Jong Chol became a comic acrobat instead of an aerial acrobat.

Eatery attracts customers with high-grade dishes

By Pang Un Ju PT

The elaborate dishes served at the Delicacy House of the Okryu Restaurant in Pyongyang are popular among local people along with Pyongyang cold noodles, the signature dish of the restaurant.

Its menu features distinctive dishes made of sturgeon, terrapin, swellfish, quail and salmon that are not commonly available in other local restaurants.

According to Hyon Jong Sun who is in charge of catering service, steamed sturgeon in soy sauce is the most popular dish there.

It is made by steaming salted sturgeon and pouring hot oily soy sauce flavoured with spring onion over it before garnishing with coriander. It has a distinctive taste with a subtle blend of the soy sauce flavour soaked in white and soft flesh with the aroma of coriander.

Five kinds of soy sauce can be used in preparing the dish and the taste varies slightly according to which sauce is used.

Chef Kim Chol Nam said that a secret of the recipe is to keep the standard time in steaming sturgeons, adding the time should be strictly observed as the flesh gets tough and tastes bad if it is overdone even a bit.

Quail and terrapin dishes are also winning favour with customers.

The restaurant serves roast quail, fried quail and quail meatball soup.

"The cooks here are so skilful that the fried quails are crispy to the bone," said Jong Su Gil who lives in

Kyongsang-dong, Central District, Pyongyang, adding he has been a regular at the restaurant for four years as he was taken with the taste of fried quails.

Terrapin dishes known as nourishing foods are also symbolic of the restaurant.

A meal set consisting of terrapin soup, terrapin sashimi, liquor made of terrapin blood and terrapin tea is good for invigorating the body for the remarkable medicinal virtues.

A woman, who had been suffering from infertility,

gave birth to a healthy baby son after eating terrapin dishes several times at the restaurant.

Terrapin blood liquor is effective in improving nutrition and preventing cold.

According to Hyon, all the elaborate dishes are served at affordable prices so that everyone can enjoy them.

Many people visit the Delicacy House of the Okryu Restaurant to taste the special dishes enjoying the scenery of the picturesque Taedong River.



Various kinds of dishes are served to working people at the Delicacy House under Okryu Restaurant. RYU KWANG HYOK/THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Family grows flowers all season

By To Kyong Chol PT

Residents of Ryongsong-dong No. 1, Ryongsong District of Pyongyang, call the family of An Yong Su the home growing flowering plants in all four seasons.

According to Jon Un Gyong, chief of the dong office, An's family is well-known as a family skilled in cultivating them in the district as well as the dong.

An Yong Su is 68 years old and grows beautiful flowers all the year round.

He is especially confident in growing crown-of-thorn,

a succulent belonging to Euphorbia.

On his visit to a greenhouse about ten years ago, he was fascinated by the plant having fresh flowers and leaves even in early winter and thought of cultivating it at home.

At that time, he took two cuttings of it to his home to grow, but succeeded in rooting only one of them.

He realized that he couldn't raise it with only ambition, so he read books on flower growing, made an in-depth study of flowering plants and visited those with a profound knowledge of them

to learn their experiences. In that course, he acquired the knack of plant growing and experience as well.

As a result, the single cutting increased to more than 30 plants some years later and thus every windowsill was filled with the plant.

At present, there are only some 10 plants of crown-of-thorn in his house, because he gave others to his neighbours and other people, said his 67-year-old wife Ri Ok Hui.

"His flowering plants are uncommonly beautiful and lovely in colour and shape that

everyone wants to have them. It seems as if any mysterious fertilizer comes out of his hands. Even employees of flower stalls and greenhouses come to purchase his flowers," said Rim Hye Ok, a 49-year-old neighbour.

According to An Yong Su, it is the most important to create the condition for the plants to have enough sunlight. His windows face south, so it is very suitable for growing the photophilic plant, he said.

He successfully combined the ensuring of appropriate sunlight and temperature and scientific application of fertilizer and watering according to their growth state in each season, he said, adding he tells this principle to everyone who comes to purchase his plants.

"Growing flowering plants brings me three kinds of benefits. It is good for health, makes my life full of cultured emotions and feelings and promotes friendly feelings with other people. The most important thing is that it makes my family close-knit and flourish. While growing flowers, the affection between my wife and I has got deeper. We are full of animation and vigour as we are confident that we can enjoy our remaining years more pleasantly and significantly," said An.



An Yong Su(left) grows many flowers inside his house in Ryongsong-dong No. 1, Ryongsong District of Pyongyang. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



Various gadgets and VR technology help visitors experience a fantasy world at the mirror funhouse in the second section of the amusement park of the Rungna People's Recreation Ground. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Renovated mirror funhouse

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

A mirror funhouse is found in the second section of the amusement park of the Rungna People's Recreation Ground.

The funhouse, with 475 mirrors, each of which is 1.5 square metres big, being positioned at different angles three or four steps away from each other, has been renovated again, giving fresh pleasure to the visitors.

Its nearly 300m-long maze is divided into sections of illuminations, spring garden, animation "The Boy General" popular with the locals, autumn garden and others. At every turn of the maze are installed various gadgets and a new VR technology has been introduced into it to help visitors experience a fantasy world here.

According to Yu Son Hui, head of the funhouse, a new program to which various techniques are added has been developed and introduced into it to unfold a fresher and more unique VR world in the section of spring garden with main animals and characters of animation "A Squirrel and a Hedgehog" and the new historical cartoon film "Prince Hodong and Princess of Ranganang", exciting renewed interest in the labyrinth of passages covered with mirrors on all four sides.

If visitors grope for the

hedgehogs to see which one is real out of curiosity as they appear here and there covered in green foliage due to the effect of mirror reflection, a line of the former "you will never damage even a blade of grass nor a tree on the flower garden" is shouted in a sonorous voice, followed by the sound of the volleys of gunfire. Though put behind bars, the mouse codenamed "Forget-me-not" grumbles "What are you looking at? Don't you know this Forget-me-not?" as the visitors look at it. As the mouse looks so pitiable that they try to stroke it, a spray of water spurts out to them. As they see Poryon, a character of "Prince Hodong and Princess of Ranganang", twist her body to attract others' attention, they can hardly control their laughter remembering the scenes of the animation when a voice saying "O, you look ugly" is heard.

In this way, the section of spring garden is so designed to remind people of the scenes of cartoon films that they will feel the special effect of the maze with hearty laughter.

"We had had a lot of fun at the mirror funhouse in spring last year. This time we enjoyed fresh fun here in the changed service environment," said Pak Jin Hyok, a resident of Okryu-dong No. 1 in Taedonggang District, after visiting it with his family members on a holiday.



Historic visit opens up new chapter in DPRK-China friendship

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, paid an unofficial visit to the People's Republic of China from March 25 to 28 in 2018 at the invitation of Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and president of the PRC.

Xi Jinping and other Chinese Party and state leaders heartily welcomed the DPRK leader, who visited their country with a noble sense of mission to herald a new period of vitality in the traditional DPRK-China friendship in keeping with the change of the times, and offered him warm hospitality in all sincerity.

Through meetings and talks the top leaders of the two countries forged a special bond and provided an important milestone in carrying on and developing DPRK-China

friendship in the new era in line with the aspirations of the peoples of the two countries.

The bilateral ties are the relationship forged with blood in the sacred struggle for the common cause.

President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il established and cemented the ties of comradely obligation and created a proud history of winning victory together with Chinese leaders of old generations in the course of fighting for the common cause.

Thanks to the noble comradely fidelity and trust between the preceding leaders of the two countries, the Korean and Chinese peoples have fought shoulder to shoulder against foreign aggressors for a long time. The lands of the two countries are associated with the blood of countless known and unknown revolutionary forerunners who dedicated their youth and lives without hesitation for the freedom and liberation of the

fraternal peoples and territorial integrity.

During the protracted joint struggle for the socialist cause after the establishment of new people-oriented society, the parties and peoples of the two countries supported and cooperated closely with each other, which greatly contributed to achieving the prosperity of the countries and the welfare of their peoples.

The China visit by Kim Jong Un was an expression of his will to honour the long-standing traditions of bilateral friendship, a precious legacy handed down by the President and the Chairman, remain true to the revolutionary obligation and successfully inherit and develop the bilateral relations down through generations.

Since his first visit to China, the relations have been steadily developed.

The fine tradition of the DPRK-China summit meeting is being carried forward.

As they promoted strategic

communication through the significant meetings in Beijing, Dalian and Pyongyang, the leaders of the two parties and the two countries further consolidated the foundation for strengthening and developing the friendly relations, the common asset and option of the peoples of the DPRK and China, even in the complicated international situation.

The two parties and the peoples of the two countries have dynamically advanced the socialist cause by overcoming tough challenges and trials on the strength of invincible militant unity and staunchly defended socialism while boosting mutual support and cooperation and demonstrating their unity and solidarity.

The parties and governments of the two countries designated this year as a "year of DPRK-China friendship".

They will continue to energetically push ahead with the socialist cause on the strength of friendship and unity.

A sea of greenhouses appears for Pyongyang citizens



Jon Man Chol

Department director of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee

A sea of enchanting greenhouses has spread out in the Kangdong area in a Pyongyang suburb in a matter of one year after its ground-breaking ceremony took place in February last year.

This is another crystallization of the affection shown by the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un for the citizens of the capital city.

He always kept it as an important plan in his mind to provide the citizens with fresh vegetables all the year round and elaborated it continuously.

He mapped out a plan for building such a farm for Pyongyangites at the time when he opened up a bright prospect

for building modern greenhouse farms in different parts of the country a few years ago, made sure that the construction of the large greenhouse farm in the Kangdong area was fixed as a major construction project at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and provided energetic guidance to this end.

He indicated the schemes and ways for completing the project in the shortest possible time, ranging from site selection to the formation of construction forces and supply of materials and gave instructions on dozens of occasions so that the greenhouse in the Kangdong area could be built

as an advanced comprehensive greenhouse by introducing the cylindrical and multi-storey vegetable cultivation apparatuses and establishing an intelligent integrated production system.

He gave guidance over 300-odd plans for the construction of the greenhouse complex, including the master plan and bird's-eye views, and 3 280-odd technical blueprints.

Under such loving care, the greenhouse complex was built as a modern and ideal "greenhouse town" and "farming town" with more than 1 050 modern greenhouses and production and public buildings of all kinds and houses for well over a thousand families with a total floor space of nearly 1.2 million square metres in an area of over 260 hectares.

The respected General Secretary endlessly bestows favours on the citizens of the

capital city.

Under his guidance, flourishing socialist living spaces have appeared in different places of Pyongyang every year, and this year, too, products of the newly-built Kwangchon Chicken Farm have arrived in the capital day after day to animate the commercial service bases in the capital city.

And now a modern vegetable production base for Pyongyang citizens has been built to provide them with fresh green vegetables irrespective of season.

Indeed, it is the respected General Secretary who devotes himself to the happiness of the people and finds the greatest pride and worth in that.

I will redouble my efforts for the improvement of the people's standards of living true to his intention of making devoted efforts for the good of them.

Boeing embodies US' obsession with Mammon

By Song Jong Ho PT

Recently, the safety issue concerning US-made Boeing passenger aircraft has prompted an international outcry.

On March 11, a Boeing airplane nose-dived due to a technical problem while flying from Sydney of Australia to Auckland of New Zealand. The fuselage vibrated violently for several seconds, wounding at least 50 people.

Earlier in January, a door fell off in midair from a new Boeing 737 Max 9 of Alaska Airlines of the US, shocking the passengers off their feet.

Though the successive Boeing accidents of this year are not as serious as the crashes that occurred before in Indonesia and Ethiopia, they are adding to the public fear about American airliners.

As already known, Boeing planes belonging to airlines of Indonesia and Ethiopia crashed in October 2018 and March 2019, causing 189 and 157 deaths respectively.

Both of the aircraft that crashed were new-type Boeing 737 Max 8, and abnormalities were revealed in their control after takeoff.

In the wake of the continuous accidents involving Boeing aircraft, world opinion and attention have been focused on the management of the company.

Under pressure at home and abroad, the US Federal Aviation Administration conducted an investigation into Boeing and detected 97 problems.

Ten of them were found in an enterprise manufacturing fuselages and, the reality was truly unnerving.

For instance, they used liquid soap as a lubricant for mechanical parts, inspected the airtightness of airplane doors with hotel keycards, and even installed a defective part from a garbage bin into an airplane.

A video clip showed that some workers in the Boeing's production line were addicted to drugs.

A former Boeing employee had disclosed many problems in the company for some years and even filed a suit, but the company was so obsessed with money-making that it paid no heed to that.

The production of airplanes used by many people is a complex of advanced technologies and a process that requires prudence, and even a screw nail is related to safety.

Nevertheless, the Boeing, which styles itself a world-class aircraft giant, turned a blind eye to guaranteeing the quality of aircraft production, seeking only profit over safety by taking advantage of its monopoly in the aircraft industry.

The international concerns about awe-inspiring Boeing airliners dealt a heavy blow to the company.

This year, the company's share price has dropped by more than 25 percent.

Complaints are voiced from home and abroad that Boeing is stuck with a serious problem with neither proper supervision system nor safety guarantee.

The company's present situation clearly shows that the mode of management based on the money-omnipotent principle and extreme egoism is running through the US industries and its economy as a whole.

BYWORD

Spirit of self-development first

The Korean people step up economic construction in the spirit of self-development first.

Self-development is to boost the strength of a nation by relying on its own efforts, technology and resources.

It is the basic motive force with which to firmly guarantee the present and

future of a country no matter how the objective conditions and environment may change and confidently ensure the sustainable development of the economy.

Its essence is the great spiritual strength and high scientific and technological strength.

On his visit to Kwail

County which reaped a bumper harvest of fruits despite a terrible natural disaster one year, General Secretary Kim Jong Un said that the experience of the county shows that everyone can well beat the drum of victory in any unfavourable conditions if they give free rein to the mental strength

of the masses and display the strength of self-development by relying on science and technology.

At present, the DPRK is putting spurs to the comprehensive development of socialism by holding the spirit of self-development first as the main key to creating miracles.

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What illusion about US and West has brought to Ukraine

KCNA

Three years have passed since Russia launched a special military operation against Ukraine to counter the US and the West seriously threatening its security leverage.

According to the recent data available, in a little more than two years after the start of the special military operation Ukraine lost 444 000 troops and its economic scale decreased by 30 percent with loss of 3.5 million jobs. And about 10 million Ukrainians fled abroad to evade enlistment and others.

Meanwhile, the prospect of aid to Ukraine is getting bleak with each passing day and conflict and rift growing serious as NATO member states have felt extreme fatigue in Ukraine, though they had talked big about Russia's "strategic defeat" while pouring huge amounts of weapons and funds into Ukraine at the instigation of the US.

The West, encompassing more than 30 NATO member states, has supplied astronomical amounts of weapons and funds to the battlefields under the baton of the US, the chieftain of aggression, interference, destruction and plunder, but this is like throwing water on thirsty soil.

The world public is now of the opinion that Ukraine became one of the poorest countries in Europe and a country which lost independence.

Ukraine, bordering Russia on the east, declared its independence in 1991. At that time, it was a country with the territory of over 600 000km², fertile land and abundant natural resources.

After the collapse of the former Soviet Union, the US emerged the

"only superpower in the world" and began to stretch out its tentacles of undisguised interference to Ukraine so as to "enslave" it as a whole. It had worked hard to establish a pro-American and pro-Western government with stooges who were educated in the West and vowed to submit to the interests of the US.

As soon as a pro-American regime was established in Ukraine in February 2014 with the change of state made under the manipulation of the US and the West as an opportunity, the US instigated the puppet regime of Kiev to kick up a frantic campaign for joining NATO. Meanwhile, it had systematically increased the threat of war by massing huge aggression forces in the NATO satellite countries situated on the western border of Russia.

As a result, the relations between Russia and Ukraine, which had closely cooperated with each other within one state formerly called the Soviet Union, were reduced to those of uncompromising confrontation and conflict due to the persistent anti-Russia moves of the US and the West.

Russia could never allow the US-led NATO aggression armed forces to be deployed in the region straight before Moscow through the entry of Ukraine to NATO, and therefore it came to launch a special military operation against Ukraine on February 24 2022.

Political analysts are claiming that the tragedy in Ukraine is attributable to the US policy of hegemony and the reckless policy of the Western rulers on toeing the US line that had incited Ukraine to stand face to face with Russia.

However, there is a more important reason.

The reality clearly shows that it is more attributable to the present Ukrainian regime's policy of worship and flunkeyism towards the US and of dependence on foreign forces.

As soon as the conflict broke out, the puppet group of Zelenskiy, who were tamed by the US as neo-Nazis, visited the US and NATO member states to beg for their military and financial aid.

The US drove NATO and other Western countries following it to full support for Ukraine as if it met a good time while dispatching its military advisers to the Kiev authorities and providing them with a huge amount of war equipment and funds. On the other hand, it tried to destroy Russia's economy and stifle the Russian people by intensifying all-round sanctions, pressure and blockade against Russia as never before.

According to statistics, the US and the West had imposed the largest-ever sanctions on Russia over the past two years. As of November 2023, the number of sanctions reached 17 500.

But such sanctions did not change the situation on the battlefield. On the contrary, they gave Russia a chance of self-sufficiency by boosted domestic production, far from stifling Russia's economy.

Last year the growth rate of Russia's GDP was 3.6 percent, which is higher than the worldwide average index, but the debts of Ukraine amounted to 145.32 billion US dollars, breaking its record in history.

The Zelenskiy group, despairing at its repeated defeats, has visited the US and other Western countries to beg for more funds, missiles,

tanks and shells.

Many Ukrainians are shedding vain blood as victims of the anti-Russia hysterics of the pro-American puppet regime and as cannon fodder of the US and the West.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that the US and the West have inveigled Ukraine into inflicting "strategic defeat" on Russia, and as a result, Ukraine, which inherited rich industrial potential from the Soviet Union, became the poorest state and ruins in Europe and the Kiev authorities became an "international beggar" recognized by all.

German newspaper Die Welt contended that Russia will surely win a military victory as well as a political victory in the conflict, adding that time is passing in favour of Russia with huge resources and human potential.

The Russian government resolutely clarified its stand not to stop the special military operation for protecting the compatriots in the Donbas area, who had been the targets of the Kiev authorities' persecution and killing, and realizing disarmament and non-Nazism in Ukraine.

The present Ukrainian situation clearly proves how foolish and self-destructive the illusion about the US and the West is.

The Kiev puppet regime caused a disastrous tragedy of spoiling its country and nation with its anachronistic worship and flunkeyism towards the US and dependence on foreign forces.

The Ukrainian crisis tells once again the truth that the illusion about the US and the West is self-destruction and ruin.

Fallujah accuses US of brutal atrocities

KCNA

There is a city, called Fallujah, 50km west of Baghdad, the capital of Iraq.

The city, also known as a "city of resistance" as the flames of resistance for driving out aggressors burnt fiercely there more than 20 years ago, has now turned into a polluted area and the ruins where people cannot live due to the heinous unethical crimes committed by the American ghouls.

As is known, the US, which had had its eye on Iraq, a world's leading oil producer and a place of military strategic importance in the Middle East, invented false pretexts of "possession of WMDs" and "support for terrorism" and invaded the country in March 2003.

The US aggressor forces killed peaceful inhabitants and destroyed and plundered indiscriminately everywhere they went, sparking off anger and resistance of the Iraqi people across the country.

Particularly in Fallujah the citizens and anti-US resistance forces put up

stronger resistance than any other regions, throwing the American troops on the defensive. Very upset, the US troops sealed off the city and committed an A-class crime against humanity of intensively showering internationally banned depleted uranium and white phosphorus shells upon it.

At the time, the streets of the city were reportedly covered with dead bodies after being attacked by those shells.

According to the estimates of the United Nations Environment Programme, depleted uranium shells the US troops used in the Iraqi war amounted to 170-1 700 tons.

A nuclear waste produced in the process of uranium enrichment, depleted uranium pollutes air, soil, water and plants and causes serious health problems such as development of cancer and birth of deformed children among the people. Therefore, the international community is strongly opposed to making weapons with it.

The commander of the radiation, chemical and biological defense

force of the Russian armed forces said that Fallujah in Iraq has so far been called the "second Chernobyl" since it suffered the West's attack with depleted uranium shells. The degree of radiocontamination on the spot has been measured markedly higher than in Hiroshima and Nagasaki of Japan in the period after the atomic bomb explosions, he protested.

The damage caused by radiocontamination has inflicted immeasurable misfortune and pain on the inhabitants until today.

Research data showed that the morbidity rate of various malignant diseases and the infant mortality among the inhabitants of Fallujah are much higher than those of A-bomb victims in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Whereas the incidence of leukemia increased 17 times in the A-bomb stricken area in Japan, it recorded a 38-fold increase in the city.

A survey conducted in 2011 confirmed that the number of breast cancer cases among women grew

10 times over that in 2003 and about 147 per 1 000 newborn babies were deformed children.

In 2018, over a dozen children reportedly developed cancer per month on average.

A local inhabitant was so grieved by the loss of his home by bombing, coupled with the tragedy, birth of all two daughters as deformed, that he gave vent to his indignation.

Experts express their concern that the consequences of radiocontamination might last for hundreds of years and malignant diseases continue to spread in the city.

Fallujah is indicting the US imperialists before the world for their appalling atrocity of using chemical weapons in the 21st century.

The souls of Iraqi civilians who died grievous deaths due to the war of aggression by the US and the survivors of Fallujah who have to suffer intense pain and agony all their lives bitterly condemn the US, the criminal state, for its indelible crimes against humanity.

Briefly

Russia

President calls on all people to unite

Russian President Vladimir Putin appealed to all the Russian people to unite in a TV video speech on March 23.

Saying that the large-scale terrorist attack on a theatre in a Moscow suburb was very carefully planned, he announced that special measures have been taken to prevent terrorist crimes in all areas of the country and that an investigation would be conducted to probe into the details of the incident.

The perpetrators, organizers and orderers of the terrorist act shall receive due punishment, he stressed.

China

President stresses need to ensure food security

Making the rounds of Changde City of Hunan Province on March 19, Chinese President Xi Jinping emphasized the need to ensure food security.

He said that as China has a population of over 1.4 billion, it should solve the problem of food security by itself.

He stressed the need to advance safely along the road of agricultural modernization with Chinese characteristics by creating high-standard farmland, intensifying policy support and exemplary guidance, widely distributing good species and diffusing farming methods and doing farming tenaciously and thus further increasing the per-unit-area yield and improving the quality of grains.

UNSC

Resolution demands ceasefire in Gaza

The UN Security Council on March 25 adopted a resolution demanding an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

The resolution called on all sides to immediately cease fire and observe the ceasefire during Ramadan and further achieve a permanent truce.

It is the first resolution adopted by the UNSC in demand of a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip after the eruption of the Palestine-Israel conflict in October last year.

Fourteen of 15 member nations of the UNSC supported the resolution.

The US, which has so far exercised its veto on several occasions, abstained in the recent vote.

Afghanistan, Singapore

Anti-drug drive successful

The Afghan government has destroyed nearly 1 250 drug plants across the country since August 2021.

The country's anti-drug authorities said on March 23 that the cultivation and trafficking of drugs have been socially prohibited since April 2022, adding that the fight against drug-related crimes continues as ever.

Meanwhile, several rounds of anti-drug operations were mounted in Singapore for five days until March 22, arresting 64 criminals.



Chongsokjong

Chongsokjong at the seaside of Thongchon county town in Kangwon Province has been called one of the eight scenes in the Kwandong area since olden times.

FACTS AND FIGURES OF 2023-2024 DPRK PREMIER LEAGUE IN FIRST ROUND

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The first-round matches of the 2023-2024 DPRK Premier League, which kicked off in December last year, came to an end.

The matches held between strong domestic teams produced impressive scenes.

Wrongly predicted rankings

Many of the first-round matches denied the experts and fans' predicted rankings.

Of the 66 matches, 28.79 percent, including those between the Ministry of Light Industry and Ryomyong teams and between the Jebi and Rimyongsu teams, ended in a draw. And relatively weak teams beat the strong ones, contributing to changing the rankings.

Total scores

Eighty-nine players scored 180 goals in total during the

66 matches.

This means that 2.73 goals were scored in each match on average.

The top scorer this time was Pak Kwang Chon, forward of the Ryomyong team.

Pak, who was previously playing as a back, now plays as a forward, unfolding impressive scoring scenes.

He scored nine of the team's 18 goals during the matches.

Eye-catching teams

The Sobaeksu team drew unflagging attention.

The team tied with all its opponents 1-1 in the first three matches after the first-round matches began in December last year, arousing concern from experts and fans. This February it disappointed them by tying with the Ryomyong 0-0 in the first match and lost to the Amnokgang 0-1 in the second match. But later it gradually regained its

rhythm of game play and was placed second in the rankings with six wins, four draws and one defeat in 11 matches.

The Jebi team from the second-division took the ninth place, drawing the attention of the spectators.

Relatively inept teams generally attempted to score by switching from defence to sudden counterattacks, but the Jebi created favourable scoring chances while competing in a fast playing mode.

Change of players turns tide of match

The coach of the Sonbong team replaced a forward with another good at shooting in the match with the Pyongyang, the coach of the Hwaepul a forward with another good at header in the match with the Pyongyang and the coach of the Pyongyang a forward with another good at scoring by side breaks in the match with

the Rimyongsu, unfolding exciting scoring scenes and reversing the tides of the matches.

Backs score

Eye-catching was also backs' scoring during the first-stage matches.

Of the 180 goals recorded during the competition, 28 goals or 15.6 percent were scored by backs.

They showed impressive scoring scenes with free kicks or headers in melees.

Point gap reduced

The difference in points between the first placer and the last one was reduced as compared to last year.

Such difference between teams during the first-round matches of the 2022-2023 DPRK Premier League was 22 points.

But this time it was 16 points.

The reduced point gap suggests that future matches will become fiercer.

Natural Monument Tal Gate on Sea Chilbo

By Song Jong Ho PT

Unlike Inner Chilbo and Outer Chilbo, Sea Chilbo is a spectacular seaside scenic spot featured by sharp coastline cliffs, a myriad of rocks and a group of islets. The blue water of the East Sea of Korea breaks against the cliffs, tossing up sprays.

There stands a natural monument called Tal Gate on Sea Chilbo.

The arched rock is 10

metres high and the opening is nearly 5 metres wide.

It is a sight to behold when a rising full moon is seen through the natural rock gate.

Legend has it that the moon which rose from the East Sea and hung high over the night would take a rest there enjoying the scenery of Sea Chilbo during the day.

The gate is of great academic significance in studying abrasion caves formed in volcanic areas.

