

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un meets leading Party and government cadres, congratulates them on National Day and makes important speech on orientation of work by state



KCNA

The Central Committee of the great Workers' Party of Korea is vigorously leading the efforts for achieving comprehensive prosperity and development of the country unprecedented since its birth in all sectors of building a powerful country while unfolding with its brilliant wisdom and indomitable revolutionary faith a series of blueprints for gigantic transformation and eye-opening efflorescence that will surely guarantee the long-term development

of Juche Korea. Its great ambition and outstanding leadership abilities serve as an inexhaustible driving force for our people's revolutionary enthusiasm and a new grand Chollima march.

In the great stirring period when all the Party members and other people throughout the country are writing a heroic chapter of the history of the powerful DPRK by dint of loyalty and patriotism, with which they have achieved single-minded unity with the ever-victorious WPK, the overall guidelines

for further enriching and amplifying the struggle successes, on the basis of a comprehensive analysis of the overall state affairs this year, were solemnly clarified at the headquarters building of the Central Committee of the WPK, the strategic base of the Korean revolution, on the occasion of the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, met and congratulated the leading cadres of the

Party and the government on the national day, September 9, and made an important speech related to the orientation of the future work by the state.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un entered the venue for speech, all the participants paid the highest glory and tribute to him, the supreme representative of the dignity of our Party, state and people and the banner of all victories and glory, who is

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Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un makes an important speech on the founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea



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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, made an important speech, titled, *Let Us Make Redoubled Efforts*

who are invariably following the road of patriotism with ardent love for their socialist homeland, and he thanked the peoples of all the friendly countries for recognizing the sovereignty of the DPRK and supporting its cause of justice.

He then paid noble tribute to the revolutionary

for the Prosperity of Our Great State, on September 9 to mark the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

In the speech he extended warm greetings, on the occasion of the founding anniversary of the country, to the cadres of the Party and the government, who are working strenuously and with devotion to prove themselves worthy of the weighty responsibilities entrusted to them by the great people, and also to the service personnel and all the other people, who are proudly celebrating the national day with the dignity of displaying their pure and boundless patriotic loyalty and devoting untiring efforts in the dynamic, creative struggle for national prosperity.

He also expressed his good wishes towards all the overseas Koreans, including the patriotic compatriots of Chongryon (General Association of Korean Residents in Japan)

forerunners, patriotic martyrs and meritorious persons of the preceding generations, who had created excellent traditions and paradigms worthy of emulation for all posterity by dedicating their precious lives and performing remarkable feats for the founding and development of the country and the victorious advance of the socialist cause.

He continued to say:

No country in the world is as great, wonderful and glorious as our Republic—this is what comes to our minds each time we look up, with a high sense of pride, at our national flag fluttering incessantly and shedding its brilliant radiance all over this land, and whenever we mark our national day every year.

Unheard-of miracles were wrought by the Korean people during their fight to repulse the invasion by the imperialist allied forces boasting of their incomparably superior strength, to say nothing of the period when they were building a genuine people's country after being freed from the vicious colonial rule. And the historic stage of Chollima Korea, Juche Korea, during which they started from scratch on the war debris and made a leap forward towards the goal of building a socialist state, was also replete with such miracles.

We are taking greater pride in the fact that such an honourable course followed by our state is not confined to the history written by our preceding generations.

The reality, as we see today, is an extension of this miraculous past.

Obviously, we are progressing.

Over the last period, when one whole generation has been replaced by another, our Party and people have defended and developed the socialist cause without any slightest vacillation or deviation in the face of countless severe challenges and trials. This constitutes the most faithful and perfect inheritance of the cause of Kimilsungism, a significant political victory and historic miracle that has proved in practice the everlasting

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translating the epochal causes of eternal significance in the durable existence and prosperity of the Republic into brilliant reality with his outstanding ideological and theoretical activities and devoted guidance, cherishing the noble wish and desire of all the generations on this land for building a powerful country.

Present there were members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Party and other leading cadres of the Party and the government, chief secretaries of the provincial Party committees, and senior officials of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet, working people's organizations, ministries,

national agencies and the munitions industry.

Also on hand were commanding officers of the Ministry of National Defence, commanders of the services of the Korean People's Army and senior officials of the armed forces organs.

Kim Jong Un made an important speech, titled, *Let Us Make Redoubled Efforts for the Prosperity of Our Great State*.

He made a comprehensive and in-depth analysis and estimation of the current situation of the overall state affairs so far this year, in which the success in attaining the struggle goals set by the historic Eighth Congress of the Party should be confirmed, and specified the struggle orientation and guidelines to be maintained in the work by the state.

The audience was greatly moved as the

speech, a reflection of his great pioneering spirit and noble view of serving the country and people, clarified a scientific policy to put the ongoing great transformation, to be specially recorded in the history of the Republic's growth and development, on a track of steady upturn and powerfully demonstrate the mightiness, steadfastness and invincibility of our state.

The speech serves as a militant banner guaranteeing dynamic leaps forward and a powerful action programme which makes it possible to further promote balanced, substantial and simultaneous transformations and development in all sectors of socialist construction by holding fast to the advantages peculiar to our state, correctly exploring all possibilities of development and making

redoubled efforts in the historic struggle for building a rich country with a strong army, our noble ideal and sacred cause.

All the participants made a solemn determination to fully equip themselves with the revolutionary ideas and patriotic will of the great Party Central Committee and remain faithful to their important responsibility and duty in leading the high spirit of the Korean revolution advancing toward attaining the ideal of building a prosperous and powerful nation to great leaps forward and successes in the most important and responsible period, when a gigantic struggle for state development, unprecedented in its scale, depth and goal, is underway.

The full text of the speech will be published and distributed to the Party and government organs.



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truthfulness, veracity and vitality of the great Juche idea and its materialization—socialism of our own style.

In this way we have clearly demonstrated to the whole world the truth of Juche, the immutable truth of invincibility, that socialism, whereby the people are its masters and remain faithful to their responsibility and role as such, will grow prosperous for all eternity without ever collapsing or vacillating in the face of the imperialist reactionary forces' desperate manoeuvres and the change of generations within our revolutionary ranks.

This year, too, our Party and government have organized and launched ambitious, gigantic projects, which will serve as a watershed in making an epoch-making advancement of our socialist cause.

As you all know, we are currently implementing the struggle tasks for the fourth year of the five-year plan as was decided upon and assigned by the Eighth Party Congress. Under these circumstances we have, of our own accord, resolved to add medium- and long-term tasks for regional rejuvenation to our work programme. This manifests our self-confidence and firm belief in our strength, the revolutionary viewpoint and attitude of our Party Central Committee in working to fulfil the responsibility and duty it has assumed for the times and history, and its steadfast spirit of serving the people.

We are overflowing with strong confidence in our ability to successfully and bravely pass through this challenging, historic stage of our revolutionary cause.

These revolutionary measures we have adopted recently are an important strategic decision designed to build up the foundations of our social system and accelerate the comprehensive development of our state by substantially displaying the advantages of socialism through the promotion of the well-being of the people throughout the country.

As things stand now, the country's economic situation is not good and it is difficult to find any more reserves. However, our current plan for the next ten years envisages helping all the cities and counties in the country have the major material and technical foundations for their diversified and independent development. This would be unthinkable in the past.

Nonetheless, in order to repay the people's great expectations and trust, our Party and government worked out a scientific strategy and realistic action plan as they believed in the unconditional and absolute loyalty of our service personnel and their strong fighting efficiency. Already, as we expected, major regional-industry factories are taking shape in the 20 cities and counties.

Not content with this, our Party and government have proposed an additional initiative to rid regions of their backwardness as soon as possible, and they are currently

making preparations for implementing it to the letter.

Proceeding from my view of the regional development policy as a key political concern, I have already stressed the need for our Party and government to regard regional development as their most pressing revolutionary task.

This is something that has eluded us for more than 70 years, nearly eight decades, so I am certain that there are some whose attitude and stand towards this regional development plan remain skeptical.

Nevertheless, availing myself of this opportunity, I reaffirm on behalf of the Party and the government.

Is the fulfilment of our regional development policy guaranteed? Is it feasible to carry it through? It is feasible.

Ten years later, we will answer this question with real transformations.

It is also a success we are achieving that we are steadily pushing forward with the efforts to achieve the goals for readjustment and reinforcement for this year, while keeping the overall growth trend of the national economy and fulfilling without fail the monthly and quarterly production plans in different fields of the national economy, including key industries, despite manifold difficulties and obstacles, Kim Jong Un said, and continued:

This year we have provided conditions for bringing about more improved and changed results in light industry, urban management and other sectors directly linked with stabilizing the people's livelihood. The crops are in good conditions as a whole so far, and there is expected to be fairly good harvests.

We can appreciate that a series of progresses have been made in supplementing and completing the functions and capabilities of the state for coping with the crises caused by natural disasters.

Severe flooding hit some areas in North Phyongan Province along the lower reaches of the Amnok River and in Jagang and Ryanggang provinces in late July, which hindered the work of the state and required mobilization of huge forces for rehabilitation, but the Party and the government took it as an opportunity for making a new detailed survey of the shortcomings and gaps in coping with natural disasters and for taking prospective and irreversible measures to prevent them in the future. It can be called an important advance.

Even in this situation, we have achieved great epochal results by vigorously promoting the radical development of the defence capabilities to create a reliable security environment of the country and conditions favourable for socialist construction.

This year, especially in some recent months, we have wonderfully built up our military strength by making important achievements in the research and production for national defence.

When we comprehensively assess the present situation of all these state affairs, we can analyze that almost all

the major extra policy-oriented tasks set forth by the Party Central Committee in planning and arranging this year's work are progressing successfully, correctly and satisfactorily.

Urgent efforts should be made to further enrich and build on the successes achieved this year by making the most of the remaining months, Kim Jong Un said, and continued:

The most important thing to this end is to further raise and expand the boundless patriotism and loyalty of all the Party members and other working people and service personnel and lead these spirits to successful fruition.

This is just the important and essential revolutionary task facing the senior officials of our Party and government.

We should wind up in a responsible manner the economic work for this year aimed at making fresh progress in the efforts for the comprehensive national rejuvenation and further improving the material and cultural living standards of the people.

So far, almost all the fields of the national economy, which are in charge of the 12 major goals, have carried out their assignments without fail. The present fighting atmosphere and spirit are very good.

In order to maintain this trend in a sustainable way, it is necessary for all the fields and units of the national economy to actively apply skilful operations and innovative methods for giving the fullest play to the working people's enthusiasm for production and creativity and improving their technical level and skills.

And by maintaining and repairing the existing equipment regularly, all the production sectors should prevent equipment breakdown, maximize the rate of their operation and ensure the quantitative and qualitative level of products through constant updating of production lines and equipment.

Referring to the tasks to be tackled in fully ensuring stable production activities in the major fields of the national economy, Kim Jong Un went on:

The Cabinet and the state economic guidance organs should learn about the implementation of all the measures the state has already taken to further increase its productivity by carrying out by the appointed time and without fail the plans of the key industries for readjustment and reinforcement to be completed within this year, and take decisive measures at an early date by identifying other problems and unsatisfactory elements.

As the development of the state and social life as well as the economy is mainly expressed as the entities of architectural structures, the construction sector must carry out this year's plan without fail with the main emphasis on ensuring their quality in a thoroughgoing way.

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It should do so for the structures directly related to the actual life of the people, including the 10 000 flats under construction as the third-stage project in the Hwasong area and rural houses and, at the same time, raise the architectural design to the international level and make a remarkable change in the work of standardizing and modernizing construction equipment and tools.

The new hostels built in the city of Samjiyon should be turned into hotels and more tourist attractions be developed to make the city a world-class mountain resort and the projects for perfectly building the Wonsan-Kalma Coastal Tourist Area steadily pushed forward for their operation from next year.

Noting that efforts should be directed to securing a firm guarantee for actively enhancing the abilities of control and command of the economy as a whole by decisively updating the economic means and methods for directing and managing the economy of the state in keeping with the development of the times and the requirements of the reality, Kim Jong Un underlined the need for the state to attach importance to the smooth and comfortable circulation of products, to give priority to creating favourable conditions and environment for production and management activities based on the relative independence of enterprises and to take effective measures for continuously raising the real incomes of the working people.

Saying that to carry out the grain production plan is not a task confined to the agricultural sector but political work to guarantee the victorious advance of socialism, he indicated the clear ways for successfully winding up this year's farming and making good preparations for next year's farming.

Kim Jong Un made an analytical appraisal of what has been done up to now for the campaign of recovering from flood damage, and said:

It is true that we are pressed for time, there are so many objects to rehabilitate and the volume of construction is enormous, but we should never permit lowering of the quality of the structures.

Now that enough reconstruction forces have been mobilized and the enthusiasm of the soldier-builders and shock brigade members is high enough, whether the projects are completed in time or not depends on how the building materials, equipment and vehicles are supplied.

The Cabinet, the State Planning Commission, the Ministry of Railways and other ministries and national agencies should supply steel materials, cement, fuel, timber, glass and other building materials and equipment as planned and in time as scheduled, and take decisive measures for easing the strain on transport so as to ensure smooth progress in the projects.

We should finish the rehabilitation campaign in a

qualitative way within the fixed period and thus bring a normal and stable life to the inhabitants in the flood-hit areas and put the damaged sectors of the national economy back on their regular track so as to successfully complete the struggle with nature.

Kim Jong Un said that the prerequisite task the Party and the government should place particular importance on and push ahead with strongly is to implement the regional development policy in the new era in an unconditional and perfect way, and continued:

As I have already mentioned, there is no more urgent revolutionary task than this one whether it is seen from the fundamental principle of activities of our Party and state that are orienting all the work of the revolution and construction to firmly defending and ensuring the rights and interests of the people and constantly expanding the policies for their wellbeing whatever the conditions and circumstances may be and from the viewpoint of the current situation when epochal regional transformation has become the most important task and indispensable requirement for comprehensive development of socialism and comprehensive rejuvenation of the country.

We should not try to assess the characteristics and advantages of our style of socialist system by simply taking into consideration some new streets built in the capital city and the material and cultural standards of living of its citizens; we should all the more refrain from feeling proud that what we have done is a great success as we have achieved it in the face of the unprecedentedly severe, manifold difficulties.

This opinion and view are detrimental to the developing revolution.

The principle of architectural engineering and structural mechanics demands firm foundations for high-rise and super-high-rise buildings; likewise, the socialist system, if it is to remain consolidated under any circumstances, must be solid in its foundations of the people's conviction in its advantages, enjoy active empathy of all the people which they have got through their actual life, and rely on the unanimous will of the people to share their destiny with socialism to the last and defend it through generations.

Referring to the importance of the regional development policy of developing in a substantial, material and planned way cities, counties and rural communities, the regional bases and terminal units, which constitute the integrated territory of the DPRK and support its state system, he said:

Like this, regional development has risen as a matter of faith in socialism, instead of a simple economic and businesslike issue, and a very important and urgent matter that has a direct bearing on the future of our revolution. So I convened an enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau again as soon as the plenary meeting finished its work earlier this year, and set forth the

Regional Development 20×10 Policy, to which I have attached paramount political importance to its powerful implementation.

And recently, I indicated a new orientation towards accelerating the historic cause of regional rejuvenation by simultaneously building a public health institution, sci-tech dissemination base and grain management facility in each city and county along with regional-industry factories.

This year we solemnly declared the beginning of the campaign to implement the regional development policy in the new era, so we should carry out the planned projects without fail by steadily expanding the successes made so far, and thus definitely open up the stage of full-scale implementation of the ten-year revolution for realizing our Party's cherished desire.

By putting spurs to the construction of regional-industry factories, the primary task in implementing the Regional Development 20×10 Policy, we should simultaneously present the completed entities in 20 cities and counties without fail at the end of the year.

Officers and men of the units at all levels, who are mobilized for regional construction, should direct all their efforts to perfectly completing the construction of regional-industry factories at the highest quality level, staking the dignity of the Party and the honour of the People's Army.

As the construction of regional-industry factories in 20 cities and counties has passed the line of 90 percent, the units in charge of equipment manufacture or import should now push ahead with their work to perfectly carry out their tasks and supply the equipment in time.

Centrally-run light-industry factories, relevant universities, provinces, cities and counties should make an active contribution to implementing our Party's policy on regional development by carrying out within the fixed date the plan of training technicians and skilled workers capable of managing and operating the modern regional-industry factories to be built.

Ministries, national agencies and relevant provinces, cities and counties should stock up on and supply enough raw materials needed for normal production at regional-industry factories as soon as their construction is completed.

In translating the Regional Development 20×10 Policy into reality and making it contribute substantially to improving the regional people's standard of living, it is very important for each city and county to create their own reserves.

So, we took new measures to make a breakthrough in solving this problem by building the Sinpho City Offshore Farm as a model base for offshore farming and revitalizing its operation.

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Referring to the importance and significance of the three construction projects newly added to the Regional Development 20×10 Policy, Kim Jong Un said:

We are going to build the sci-tech dissemination bases, which are intended as an additional project, into comprehensive bases for cultural life. We should build in cities and counties bases that not only are equipped with modern IT means for sci-tech learning but also serve multifunctional and complex cultural purposes, so that local residents can see films or play sports and amusement games there; and commercial outlets and various other welfare facilities with satisfactory hygienic environment and conditions are also to be furnished in them.

As the comprehensive centres for cultural life are a novel project never previously seen in the history of regional construction, I will make sure that their architectural designs including formation plans are properly made taking the sizes and characteristics into consideration according to the geographical conditions and populations of the regions and the budgets for their construction accurately drawn up on its basis.

If we spruce up 20 cities and counties every year like this, we can witness a drastic reduction in differences between urban and rural areas that have been handed down throughout history and a wealthy and civilized life of the regional people as good as that of urbanites.

Kim Jong Un stressed that we should continue to push ahead with the work for further consolidating the national defence capabilities as required by the present situation, and went on:

With the reckless manoeuvres of the US-led military bloc for expansion and its evolution to the one that is based on nukes, the military security environment around the DPRK has come closer to it as a grave threat.

Such imminent threats will inevitably invite more various threats in the future, and the consequential developments demand that we take more important measures and make consistent efforts to maintain and develop our military supremacy.

The obvious conclusion is that the nuclear force of the DPRK and its posture for being properly employed at any time in ensuring the state's right to security should be more thoroughly perfected.

We are now carrying out steadfastly the policy of building up our nuclear armed forces with exponential increase in the number of nuclear weapons, and our Republic's nuclear combat force is being operated under a strict command and control system.

Ours is a responsible nuclear-armed state.

The nuclear weapons we have possessed in defence of ourselves, who are constantly exposed to a serious nuclear threat, do not pose a threat to any others.

Any forces trumpeting about the threat by the nuclear armed force of the DPRK cannot but admit their hostile intention to attack the latter with nukes.

Under the different threats posed by the United States and its followers and the security circumstances facing us, the possession of a powerful military strength is the duty and the right to existence that our Party and government must neither neglect even a moment nor make the slightest concession to.

Strong power—this just means a genuine peace and an absolute guarantee for the development of our state.

Steadily enhancing the capabilities of our army for fighting a war so as to cope with the regional security environment on its own initiative and to defend the sovereignty, security and interests of the state by dint of a powerful strength is the most important of the state affairs of our Party and government and the primary task of the revolution.

The DPRK will steadily bolster its nuclear force that

is capable of effectively coping with any acts of threat imposed by its nuclear-armed rival states, and take measures and make redoubled efforts to maintain the perfect combat readiness of all the armed forces of the state including the nuclear force.

I confirm again: Our Republic's military strength will develop in an accelerated and sustained way by dint of our aspiration and steady efforts, and we will not set a limit of its attainment.

Kim Jong Un said that the success of this year's struggle for providing a sure guarantee for implementing the decisions of the Party Congress entirely depends on the sense of responsibility and role of the Party organizations and their officials, the political staff of the relevant units.

Today our revolution expects that Party organizations and officials will work more devotedly and proactively than ever before.

The organizations and officials of the whole Party, being well aware of the requirements of the revolution and their responsibilities and duties and bearing deep in mind their mission, should aggressively conduct organizational and political work to carry out this year's struggle tasks unconditionally and accurately.

Above all, they should examine in detail the policy-oriented tasks assigned to their sectors and units and progress in the implementation of their Party decisions adopted for the fulfillment of these tasks, and take appropriate measures to ensure their correct implementation.

And they should conduct a stubborn three-dimensional and highly-intensive campaign while intensifying the control and guidance for their implementation and the reassigning.

It is quite possible to produce substantial results at the end of this year, if all the Party organizations and officials plan and oversee the work for unconditionally attaining this year's struggle goals at a lightning speed and in a dynamic manner by giving full play to their organizing, leadership and executive abilities from the standpoint of bearing full responsibility for the work of their sectors and units.

In particular, it is necessary for Party organizations to get rid of the wrong viewpoint and attitude of leaving the work for achieving this year's goals entirely to the administrative officials, and intensify organization, grasping and control from the standpoint of taking full responsibility for the work.

The fighting efficiency and active character of Party organizations are assessed by how fully they give play to the spiritual strength and wisdom of the masses.

Party organizations at all levels should launch a vigorous ideological offensive aimed at giving full play to the patriotic enthusiasm and creative activity of the producer masses by displaying a high sense of responsibility and making redoubled efforts, so as to make the whole country bustle with activities and every unit conduct a more vigorous collective innovation movement.

To this end, they should instil into the Party members and other working people the viewpoint that the policy-oriented tasks facing their sectors and units are realistic and feasible struggle targets, which were set on the basis of a sufficient calculation of overall conditions and possibility of their implementation, and that they must carry them out without fail in any case and they can surely do so, so as to give them confidence and courage.

They should concentrate information and motivation means and forces on the sites of vibrant struggle to carry on a vigorous ideological offensive without a moment of interruption, so as to orient the intention and mind of the masses towards attaining the targets for this year and keep the surging enthusiasm for the revolution and

struggle growing at every workplace.

In victoriously concluding this year's struggle, it is very important for the officials and Party members, who are the organizers and executors of the Party's lines and policies, to give fuller play to their initiative, creativity and activity.

Party organizations should intensify guidance over the officials' Party life so that they redouble their efforts and exert themselves to substantially and perfectly attain the struggle goals set for their sectors and units with the single desire to live up to the Party's trust with exceptional results in their work.

The relevant departments of the Central Committee of the WPK and its organizations at all levels of ministries and national agencies in the government should render a proactive help to the leading cadres, while grasping and controlling their work so that they are deeply conscious of their responsibilities and duties, explore the ways to properly discharge their duties as required by the Party's policies always with a keen sense of responsibility, map out detailed plans and conduct their work in a persistent way.

Party organizations should strengthen the organization and guidance of Party life among Party members so that they find themselves earlier than others in the most difficult jobs in every workplace seething with the struggle for implementing Party decisions, which others may hesitate to do, lead the masses in a revolutionary and positive manner and stand in the vanguard of the struggle for resolutely removing all the obstacles to our advance.

Officials of power organs at all levels, leading economic officials in particular, should further enhance their sense of responsibility and role.

We have not much time left until the end of this year, when we should confirm the feasibility of success in attaining the struggle goals set forth at the Eighth Party Congress.

It is just the leading economic officials who should work in a more responsible manner in the remaining period, which can be said to be decisive of the implementation of the five-year plan for the development of the national economy.

They should waste no time but dash forward to fulfil their duties, well aware that they have only 110-odd days until the target date of implementing without fail the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party.

Saying that all officials should conduct their work in a bold and innovative way with the spirit of ardently serving the country and the people and revolutionary optimism, Kim Jong Un called for enhancing the functions and role of law-enforcement organs in every way so as to make sure that the overall work of the state is conducted smoothly as required by the Party, the revolution, the people and the rapidly changing times. He went on:

As I mentioned earlier, this year our Party and government designed and have pushed ahead with the gigantic and worthwhile undertakings for the comprehensive rejuvenation of the state and the well-being of the people.

Every undertaking is not easy to carry out and faces enormous difficulties to overcome, but we must achieve remarkable results without fail with firm confidence and steadfast will, and thus glorify this year as a year of proud victories in the history of the development of our state.

Let us all wage a more vigorous struggle with renewed dignity and confidence in accomplishing the sacred cause for the peace, prosperity and great glory of our motherland and the well-being of the people throughout the country.

I once again extend my best wishes to all citizens of this country and warmly congratulate them on the national day of our great motherland.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects O Jin U Artillery Academy

He expresses his will to wonderfully turn the academy into a model of the military educational institution of the entire army and a world-class military academy, and takes important measure to this end



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, on September 6 inspected O Jin U Artillery Academy, a pedigree establishment for training the backbone of the artillery force in the country.

The academy is famous as it trains commanding officers of the first arm of the heroic Korean People's Army, which is reliably defending the country and the people and justice and peace

while displaying its invincible might and courage. All its teaching staff and cadets were filled with the great emotion and

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joy as they were to meet the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un in their campus.

When Kim Jong Un arrived at the academy, they raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" as a reflection of the highest respect of the artillerymen for the iron-willed brilliant commander, symbolic of the absolute might of the DPRK and banner of all victories and glory.

He was greeted by Army Senior Colonel Yu Chang Son, rector of the academy, and Army Senior Colonel Choe Hun, director of its Political Department.

After receiving a salute from the rector, he paid homage to the colours of the academy.

An educator and a cadet of the academy presented bouquets of flowers to him, reflecting the boundless reverence of all the artillery officers and men for him.

Responding to the enthusiastic cheers, Kim Jong Un sent militant encouragement to all the teaching staff of the prestigious military academy, which has creditably discharged its sacred mission as the basic cornerstone and driving force for bolstering up the artillery force that reliably guarantees the uninterrupted history of victory in war and the strongest military and technical edge of our revolutionary armed forces, and to its cadets, who are growing up to be commanding officers of the core arm.

He was accompanied by Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the KPA General Staff, Jong Kyong Thack, director of the General Political Bureau of the KPA, Kim Myong Sik, commander of the Navy, Ri Chang Ho, director of the General Reconnaissance Bureau, and leading officials in the field of military education of the DPRK Ministry of National Defence.

Accompanying him were also Jo Yong Won, Ri Il Hwan and Kim Jae Ryong, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un reviewed a march-past of the academy cadets.

He looked round the room for education in the revolutionary exploits.

He stressed that the academy, which has developed into a major base for training artillery commanding officers of the KPA under the great care of the peerlessly great men, recording immortal military feats in its history, should, in the future, too, thoroughly implement the Party's idea of prioritizing the artillery and its policy on military education so as to train competent military personnel, who are strong in idea and faith with absolute loyalty to the Party and the revolution and the spirit of death-defyingly serving the country and the people and

possessed of high military qualifications.

Guided by senior officials, he went round the arms study room and watched drill lectures given at the ground-based artillery firing research room and the artillery tactical research room. Then at the combined pedagogical information control room he learned in detail about the updating of education.

It is our Party's philosophy of the artillery and the core of its idea of attaching importance to the artillery to open the road of advance, overwhelmingly defeat the enemy and set off fireworks for celebrating the war victory with the artillery, and thus the most important aspect on the front of military education, a fortress and the forefront for implementing our Party's line of building a powerful army, is the education field for the artillery, he said.

Noting that no matter how difficult the subjective and objective situations may be, the revolution in training for the thorough combat posture of the entire army and the revolution in military education for making the entire army a cadre army and modernizing it are the two fronts for building a powerful army, which should be pushed forward simultaneously and vigorously without missing any one, he said that the academy should stand in the vanguard of a new revolution in military education for guaranteeing the eternal development of the Republic's armed forces.

Observing that our Party has put the

military technological strength on an absolutely high level by directing the main efforts to bolstering up the artillery force of specially great strategic and tactical significance among all the arms of the army with a keen insight into the trend of the development of modern military capabilities, he stressed that whether or not the very powerful ultra-modern military hardware can fully display their performance for actual war entirely depends on the level and role of the artillery commanders.

He appreciated the fact that the academy has intensified lectures for assessing the abilities of a commanding officer to judge the combat situation and command in a simulated war through a group discussion, and stressed that the work of modernizing educational means and putting education on an IT and scientific basis should be steadily accelerated.

He said that all the teachers and researchers of the academy should turn out as one in the work for bringing about a revolution in the artillery tactics and the military theory of the artillery with a noble sense of duty that they are responsible for the future of the Juche-based artillery force, and thus improve the quality of education. He also instructed them to thoroughly establish a revolutionary habit of studying and the military discipline in the campus so that the cadets can acquire deeper

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Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects site for construction of new naval base

He indicates the orientation of and ways for the construction of a modern naval base



KCNA

In order to thoroughly implement the powerful army-building line and policy of the Workers' Party of Korea, which has set it as an urgent task to bolster up the Juche-based naval force as required by the historic turning point in building up the country's defence capabilities and the army, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un made a field survey for the construction of a modern naval base and clarified the orientation and ways to this end.

He was accompanied by Marshal Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ri Chang Ho, deputy

chief of the General Staff and director of the General Reconnaissance Bureau of the Korean People's Army, Kim Myong Sik, commander of the KPA Navy, and commanders of the East and West Sea Fleets of the Navy.

Looking round the site chosen for construction of harbour facilities along the coast, he discussed with leading officials the practical issues related to the orientation of construction.

He said that the DPRK, a maritime country bounded on the east and west sides by the sea, has always attached importance to the shipbuilding industry and the development of naval force in the building of the state and the national defence capabilities. Adding that to build a modern and multifunctional naval base is a process of key importance in developing the naval force into a powerful

service in conformity with the regional security environment in a short span of time according to the strong army-building goal for the new era set forth by the Eighth Party Congress, he explained the geopolitical advantage of the site for the construction of a new naval base as a strategic vantage.

Now that we are soon to possess large surface warships and submarines which cannot be anchored at the existing facilities for mooring warships, the construction of a naval base for running the latest large warships has become a pressing task, he said, and stressed the need to build a naval port capable of mooring warships and operating the systems of weapons on board and establishing a cultured way of life in a modern base for seamen. And he said that it is an urgent task of the times to build a modern port city as a symbol of

the naval force of the DPRK and a centre of the naval operational command and culture of the Navy.

He also indicated the military measures for deploying the anti-aircraft and coastal-defence weapon systems for defending the naval port.

He underlined the need to make epochal progress in implementing the Party's line of bolstering up the naval combat power by pushing ahead with the immediate measures.

It is the most important state affair and the first task of the revolution advanced by the WPK to steadily develop the revolutionary army, the powerful vanguard and main force for accomplishing the revolutionary cause of Juche, and thus reliably defend the prosperity and security of the country and the people and the happiness of posterity.

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and richer military knowledge during their school days.

He stressed the need to improve and adjust the academic system and courses of the academy in a practical and efficient way in conformity with the trend of developing modern military education to help the cadets learn the practical tactics to be applied surely to actual warfare.

He said that all the artillery commanding officers from this academy should be all-round, a-match-for-a-hundred artillerymen and artillery talents, both in name and reality, well-versed in the Juche-based artillery tactics and ultra-modern military hardware with different striking capabilities and possessed of full combat

command capability for overwhelmingly containing and wiping out the enemy by coping with any situation of modern warfare rapidly and fully.

Saying that improving the educational conditions and environment of the academy in conformity with its important duty and position in strengthening the Republic's armed forces is essential for remarkably raising the quality of military education, he expressed his will to wonderfully turn the academy into a model of the military educational institutions of the entire army and a world-class military academy, and took an important measure to this end.

He indicated the ways for further strengthening the military education institutions at all levels of the KPA in line with the developing trend of

modern education and for improving the educational environment.

He had a photo taken with the teaching staff and cadets of the academy.

All the teaching staff and cadets expressed boundless thanks to the iron-willed brilliant commander who, with an outstanding idea of building up the revolutionary armed forces and far-sighted wisdom, indicated the bright path to be followed by the academy for bolstering up the artillery force and repeatedly bestowed loving care and trust on them.

Kim Jong Un expressed his belief that the prestigious artillery academy would as ever live up to the great expectations of the Party, revolution, country and people with proud military educational successes in training the core backbone

of our revolutionary armed forces most wonderfully and perfectly.

Thunderous shouts of "Kim Jong Un" and "Death-defying Defence," raised at the campus sending off Kim Jong Un, shook the sky and land.

The inspection of the artillery academy by Kim Jong Un with a steadfast will to build a powerful army by firmly consolidating the tremendous military strength and thus reliably defend the sovereignty and interests of the country, an independent power, and the security and well-being of its people for all ages, will remain long in the history of the country as a special occasion in ushering in a new heyday of strengthening the Juche-based artillery force and developing military education.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects defence industrial enterprise

Kim Jong Un stresses need to put munitions production on a more scientific and modern basis and guarantee combat performance of military hardware



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, visited a defence industrial enterprise under the Second Economy Commission to

learn about the production of military hardware.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, Pak Jong Chon, Ri Il Hwan, Kim Jae Ryong, Jo Chun Ryong and Kim Jong Sik, senior officials of the WPK Central Committee.

Going round the production sites of the enterprise, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un acquainted himself with the production of military hardware in the second half of the year.

Highly appreciating the indomitable fighting spirit and extraordinary ideological and spiritual world of its officials and workers, he expressed thanks to them for carrying out the huge munitions production tasks in a responsible and correct way and making a great contribution to the development of our armed forces, true to the Party's

policy on munitions industry.

Learning about the structural characteristics, performance and tactical and technical specifications of military hardware under development and production, he stressed the need to put the munitions production on a more scientific and modern basis and thoroughly guarantee the combat performance of military hardware.

Repeatedly expressing his satisfaction over the fact that the prospect for confidently attaining the goal of military hardware production within the five-year period decided and assigned by the Eighth Party Congress is guaranteed thanks to the dynamic struggle of the munitions industry workers, he clarified the principles and ways for the defence industrial enterprise to hold fast to in the munitions production permanently.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un guides shipbuilding

He clarifies again the direction of revolutionary struggle to open up a new period of development of the shipbuilding industry



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, guided the shipbuilding on the spot.

He was accompanied by Jo Yong Won, Pak Jong Chon, Ri Il Hwan, Kim Jae Ryong and Jo Chun Ryong,

senior officials of the WPK Central Committee, and Admiral Kim Myong Sik, commander of the Navy of the Korean People's Army.

Going round various production lines and a shipbuilding site, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un learned in detail about the recent modernization of shipbuilding process.

Saying that top priority should be given to building up the material and technical foundation of the overall shipbuilding industry and radically raising the level of modernization in order to correctly implement the Party's policies of munitions industry and shipbuilding industry and that it is important to take strong additional state measures to this end, he clarified again the direction of revolutionary struggle to open up a new period of development of the shipbuilding industry.

Repeatedly saying that the strengthening of naval force is the most important matter in firmly defending the maritime sovereignty of the country and stepping up the war preparedness at present, he reiterated that to modernize the shipbuilding industry as required by the new century is an important guarantee and prerequisite for implementing the WPK's line on building the national defences and the economy.

He underscored the need to increase the state investment and intensify the guidance based on policy and technology so that the immediate tasks and long-term plans for laying the foundation for the development of the shipbuilding industry decided and assigned by the Eighth Party Congress can be pushed forward as scheduled on the basis of scientific calculation.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects training base of special operation forces of KPA

He sets forth the militant task of putting main efforts into strengthening elite Korean-style special operation forces by holding fast to the line of making a revolution in training, ideas and equipment



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 training base of the special operation forces of the Korean People's Army to guide the drill of combatants on September 11.

He was accompanied by Marshal Pak Jong Chon, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the KPA General Staff, Ri Chang Ho, deputy chief of the

General Staff and director of the General Reconnaissance Bureau of the KPA, Kim Yong Bok, deputy chief of the KPA General Staff, and other commanding officers in the field of operation and training of the KPA General Staff.

Kim Jong Un went round different facilities in the training base to learn in detail about the situation.

Highly appreciating the base which is strictly training the combatants to be versatile ones by furnishing all the facilities and training grounds in a way that drills simulating an actual war can be conducted efficiently, he stressed the need for the Ministry of National Defence

and the General Staff to pay positive attention to providing conditions for further updating training facilities and putting their operation on a scientific basis in the future.

He mounted the observation post to watch the combatants conducting a drill of scouting and raiding objects according to a training programme.

All the combatants, who have shed the sweat of loyalty and feats at training grounds with the firm readiness to make a sudden attack on the heart of the enemy and open up the route of advance of the attacking units at a go when the moment of fierce decisive battle comes, fully

demonstrated the fighting mettle and spirit of the invincible revolutionary armed forces, which are able to fight a real war and surely win victory once they fight, also in the training conducted in the presence of Kim Jong Un.

Looking with satisfaction at the soldiers, who were sweeping the training ground like lightning, being well versed in the Juche-based and modern combat methods, he highly praised all the combatants for thoroughly maintaining the sure war posture after growing up as stout and brave a-match-for-a-hundred

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combatants through revolutionary and intensive training.

Saying that he felt assured and proud to see the soldiers prepared as brave fighters like tightly-packed bullets, he encouraged the combatants who have grown up to be reliable guards and passionate warriors of the KPA which always emerges victorious and had a photo session with them.

The combatants, who received high praise and great honour in the benevolent embrace of the invincible and iron-willed brilliant commander, were full of boundless gratitude and joy and infinite pride and self-esteem, which turned into enthusiastic cheers as loud as thunder.

Saying that as seen in today's training, such competent and stalwart fighters are needed in the KPA, he gave important instructions calling for more firmly building up the special operation forces of the KPA by training possessors of a-match-for-a-hundred spirit and core combatants capable of wiping out the enemies while courageously sweeping battlefields where bullets and shells

rain thick and fast without the slightest hesitation in case of emergency.

Considering the mood and character of modern warfare, to make well-trained and prepared special operation forces as the main combat force in the battlefield has an important influence on the outcome of battles, and the building of special operation forces is an important component in the building of the armed forces of the DPRK, he said, and set forth the militant task of putting main efforts into strengthening elite Korean-style special operation forces by holding fast to the line of making a revolution in training, ideas and equipment.

Referring to the need to keep intensifying actual war drills above anything else, he said that as he always emphasizes, sweating a lot in training is the way to shed less blood in a war, a war is not preceded by any notice and, therefore, the KPA should be fully ready to control the enemies at a stroke immediately, mercilessly sweep them away and completely subjugate them even if a war breaks out right today. It is the primary patriotism and loyalty to the state and people and the foremost

revolutionary duty for armed soldiers to devote their all to the intensive actual war drills, he said.

He conclusively said that it is necessary to continue to make strict demands in training and constantly improve the contents and methods of Korean-style training so as to get fully ready for war and thereby compel the enemies to shed blood when they encounter the KPA soldiers in case of emergency.

Saying that victory of an army is unthinkable if it is not possessed of the might of ideology, he stated that even a well-prepared army is nothing but an undisciplined army if it has no ideology and that victory will always be on the side of the servicemen when they become genuinely patriotic soldiers who know the Party, the country and the people before knowing how to fight. He called for more wonderfully cultivating and giving full play to the political and ideological advantages peculiar to the KPA and thus preparing the soldiers more firmly as the strongest in mental power.

In intensifying ideological education among the service personnel, class education is an important task which

should never be neglected even a moment, he said, calling for conducting the education in an offensive way to make all the service personnel keep as an element of their faith the unwavering anti-enemy consciousness and view of the principal enemy.

An indomitable and heroic character and fighting spirit that no other army in the world can imitate pervade all the ranks of the revolutionary armed forces of the DPRK and they will grow stronger in the future, too, and become a war deterrent preventing the enemy from provoking, being afraid of them for their reputation and entity alone, he said with confidence.

All the combatants were filled with revolutionary enthusiasm and high spirit to become the first standard-bearers who always defend the DPRK and its people most honourably and reliably in the vanguard of the advance by striving to build more perfect capability for fighting an actual war with a firm patriotic spirit, bearing in mind the great trust and expectation of Kim Jong Un who visited their training ground to tell them ever-victorious war methods and give them militant encouragement.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un oversees test-fire for verifying performance of new-type 600mm multiple rocket launcher

He appreciates the superiority of the newly-developed launcher in terms of manoeuvrability and efficiency as compared to the existing ones



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, oversaw the test-fire for verifying the performance of a new-type 600mm multiple rocket launcher.

A defence industrial enterprise under the Second Economy Commission developed and produced the new-type 600mm multiple rocket launcher whose performance has been improved as required by the army's conducting of operation.

The test was conducted, aiming at verifying the combat effectiveness of the launcher whose driving system has been further developed and whole process of firing has fully been automated.

That day, the excellent combat performance of the launcher was clearly proved through the driving and volley tests, and was favourably commented by service personnel.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un appreciated the superiority of the newly-developed launcher in terms of manoeuvrability and efficiency as compared to the existing ones.

The multiple rocket launcher shells hit a target on an island in the East Sea.

Present at the test were Kim Jong Sik, first deputy department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Jang Chang Ha, director general of the Missile Administration of the DPRK.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects nuclear weapons institute and production base of weapons-grade nuclear materials

He sets forth important tasks concerning a long-term plan for increasing the production of weapons-grade nuclear materials



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 Nuclear Weapons Institute and the production base of weapons-grade nuclear materials, acquainted himself with the production of nuclear warheads and the current production of nuclear materials and set forth important tasks concerning a long-term plan for increasing the production of weapons-grade nuclear materials.

He was accompanied by Hong Sung Mu, first deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

He highly praised the scientists, technicians and officials in the field of nuclear weapons production for carrying out without fail the plan for producing weapons-grade nuclear materials needed for manufacturing nuclear warheads, cherishing the firm and steadfast revolutionary spirit and faith to firmly defend the victorious advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche with the strongest nuclear force.

He went round the control room of the uranium enrichment base to learn about the operation of production lines in all

aspects.

He expressed great satisfaction after being briefed on the fact that the base is dynamically producing nuclear materials by studying, developing and introducing all the system elements including centrifugal separators and various kinds of sensors and controllers with its own efforts and technology.

Personally looking round the production site, he said that it is invigorating to see the place, and continued: In order to exponentially multiply the nuclear weapons for self-defence true to the Party's line of building the nuclear force, it is necessary to further increase the number of centrifuges, not content with the successes achieved, and, at the same time, to enhance the individual separation ability of the centrifuge and push forward with the introduction of a new-type centrifuge, which has already reached the completion stage, as planned, so as to consolidate the foundation for producing weapons-grade nuclear materials.

Going round the construction site for expanding the capacity for the current production of nuclear weapons, he learned in detail about the daily plan for the assembly of equipment.

Expressing great satisfaction repeatedly over the great technological capabilities of the nuclear power field

of the DPRK, he said that the WPK has set forth a new important strategy for building up the nuclear force, believing in the combatants in the nuclear power field who have turned out as one with an ardent mind to open up a broad avenue for the revolutionary cause of Juche on the strength of nuclear weapons. The red nuclear scientists faithful to the Party should implement the Party's policy of nuclear force building unconditionally and without an inch of deflection with their strong faith and high practical ability, he encouraged.

Noting that anti-DPRK nuclear threat moves of the US imperialists and their vassal forces have become more undisguised and crossed the red-line, he said the security environment facing the DPRK, the peculiarity of the Korean revolution compelling the country to constantly confront the US and contain it and prospective threats require the DPRK to steadily expand and bolster up its military capability for self-defence and the capability for preemptive attack with the nuclear force as the backbone. He stressed again that a more rapid and sure advance should be made in the struggle to always maintain the thoroughgoing counteraction posture of the nuclear force and improve the posture to a high level.

The combatants in the field of nuclear weapons production, assuming the most important responsibility, that is, the historic mission to bolster up the nuclear war deterrent of the country in quality and quantity and in a sustained and accelerated way, should keep exerting themselves in production and thus more creditably fulfil the sacred duty they took on for the Party and the revolution, he instructed.

He stressed the need to set a higher long-term goal in producing nuclear materials necessary for the manufacture of tactical nuclear weapons and concentrate all efforts on making a fresh leap forward, and set forth important tasks and orientation.

Upon receiving his on-site instructions, all the nuclear combatants made a firm determination to make a great leap forward in implementing the Party's nuclear strategy and line by absolutely and firmly guaranteeing the continuous and successful birth of powerful Korean-style nuclear weapons, bearing in mind the deep trust of Kim Jong Un, who put them forward on the outpost of the sacred struggle as he further bolsters the world's strongest nuclear arsenal which will steadfastly defend the independent development of the state, the happy life and safety of the people and the road ahead for the Juche revolution.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un receives Sergei Shoigu, secretary of Security Council of Russian Federation



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, on September 13 met Sergei Shoigu, secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, who was on a visit to the DPRK.

Kim Jong Un gladly received Sergei Shoigu and shared with him the joy of meeting again after the lapse of one year. Then he had a talk with the Russian

guest in a friendly, trustworthy and warm atmosphere.

Sergei Shoigu courteously conveyed the friendly greetings from Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, president of the Russian Federation, to the DPRK leader.

Kim Jong Un expressed his thanks for it and conveyed his warm greetings to the respected Russian president.

At the talk, there was a wide-ranging exchange of views on the issues of steadily deepening the strategic dialogue between the two countries and strengthening cooperation to defend

the mutual security interests and on the regional and international situations. The talk reached a satisfactory consensus of opinions on the presented issues.

Appreciating the dynamic development of the bilateral relations in all fields including politics, the economy and culture according to the agreement reached at the DPRK-Russia Pyongyang summit held last June, Kim Jong Un affirmed that the DPRK government would further expand cooperation and collaboration with the Russian

Federation true to the spirit of the Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in the future, too.

That evening Kim Jong Un met Sergei Shoigu again, and continued the constructive talk.

Seeing Sergei Shoigu off, he exchanged warm farewells with him and asked him to convey his greetings, wishing President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of the Russian Federation good health and success in his work. And he wished the Russian people victory, prosperity, happiness and peace.



Meeting and evening gala mark 76th founding anniversary of DPRK



A meeting and an evening gala take place in Pyongyang on September 8 to celebrate the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

KCNA

A meeting and an evening gala took place in Pyongyang, the capital city, on September 8 to celebrate the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

Kim Il Sung Square was crowded with lots of citizens, youth and students, who gathered to celebrate the birth anniversary of the motherland.

Kim Tok Hun and Choe Ryong Hae, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and other senior officials of the Party and the government took their seats on the platform amid the playing of the state welcome music.

Labour innovators and meritorious persons from various fields across the country who were specially invited to the celebrations of the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK also took their seats on the platform.

Present there at invitation were veteran cadres who had worked at the important posts of the Party, government and military for a long time.

Among the audience were overseas Koreans, including the congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan on a visit to the homeland on the occasion of the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK, diplomatic envoys, members of missions and foreigners in the DPRK.

Officials of the WPK Central Committee, officials of ministries, national agencies and armed forces organs, meritorious persons at industrial establishments in Pyongyang and teaching staff and students of revolutionary schools took the reserved seats for invited guests.

A meeting to celebrate the

76th founding anniversary of the DPRK began.

A national flag-hoisting ceremony was solemnly held.

Amid the playing of the song "Our National Flag", representatives of workers, farmers, intellectuals, soldiers, sportspersons, artistes, university students and students of revolutionary schools handed over to the guard of honour of the Korean People's Army the DPRK's flag reflecting its independent dignity and prestige and the aspiration and desire of the people.

Amid the solemn playing of the national anthem of the DPRK, the national flag which has been firmly defended and glorified generation after generation was hoisted.

Looking up to the national flag of glory, all the participants paid high tribute to the 70-odd years of the motherland which has provided them with great national pride, honour, worthwhile life and happiness.

Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and premier of the Cabinet, made a speech.

Upon authorization of the Party Central Committee and the government of the DPRK, he extended warm congratulations to all the people and officers and men of the armed forces of the DPRK, who are opening up a new era of change in the face of manifold difficulties with firm faith in the validity of our cause and with determined confidence in our light, and Chongryon

and other overseas Korean organizations and compatriots, who are making dynamic struggle for the socialist homeland.

The founding of the DPRK was an important political event in which the long-cherished desire of the working masses for their genuine power was successfully realized, he said, adding that the political philosophy of our state, the essence of which is the people-first principle, and Korean-style socialism, its embodiment, fully demonstrate their unique advantages and invincible might despite the raging wind in stern history and show before the times a new definition of what is a powerful country and its new appearance.

The 76-year-long history of the DPRK which has defended the people with the power of loving care and

brought their genuine life into bloom through devoted service is shining as the history of bringing up the good people who have firmly thrown in their lot with the country as one and winning victory together with them. It is a distinguished exploit performed by the DPRK in the human history of state building that it created a new appearance of a genuine state in which all the people anchor their lives and which they love and defend as their lives.

He ardently called for waging a dynamic struggle with courage and confidence under the guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un for the high prestige and immortal glory of the DPRK, saying that only victory is in store for the DPRK as the Korean people ardently love socialism.

There was a demonstration of the national flag of the

DPRK.

The column showing a large national flag entered the square.

The demonstrators with the flag reflecting the history of the development of the DPRK were fully proud of having firmly defended Korean-style socialism, their lives and whole life, and won only precious victories under the leadership of the great leader and the great Party.

The column of members of the Korean Children's Union, the pride of the DPRK and masters of its future, marched vigorously through the celebration square full of the dignity and pride of an independent power.

The demonstrators with the national flag passed the square with beautiful rhythms with the ardent desire to firmly defend and uphold the sacred national flag with their

patriotic blood and devoted efforts.

Then followed an evening gala of youth and students.

They danced to the tune of the songs "Let's Love Our Country" and "My Country Is the Best" full of high spirit and enthusiasm to add shine to the noble name of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League in the worthy struggle for the comprehensive development of the DPRK. Schoolchildren's merry and cheerful janggu and fan dances added pleasure to the participants.

The meeting and evening gala for celebrating the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK fully demonstrated the brave fighting spirit and irresistible might of the Korean people who are dashing toward the rosy future of a prosperous country, redoubling the might of their patriotism and unity.



Senior Party and government officials visit Kumsusan Palace of Sun



Senior Party and government officials, deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly and leading officials of armed forces organs visit the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred temple of Juche, on September 8 on the occasion of the 76th birthday of the DPRK.

KCNA

All the Korean people significantly greeted the founding anniversary of the glorious DPRK on the general advance for dynamically opening a broad avenue to the comprehensive national prosperity under the blueprint of great changes unfolded by the ever-victorious Workers' Party of Korea. They paid the highest tribute and eternal glory to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il, the founder and builders of dignified socialist Korea.

Kim Tok Hun, Choe Ryong Hae and Ri Pyong Chol, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK

Central Committee, and other senior Party and government officials, deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly and leading officials of armed forces organs visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred temple of Juche, on September 8 on the occasion of the 76th birthday of the DPRK.

A flower basket in the name of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was laid at the statues of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il.

Placed at the statues were flower baskets in the name of the WPK Central Committee, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the

DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK.

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

At the halls of immortality where Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance, the participants paid homage to the great leaders in humble reverence for them, who devoted their whole lives to accomplishing the sacred cause of prosperity of the country and wellbeing of the people, performing great immortal exploits and laying a solid foundation for the invincible socialist power independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in national defence.

Art performance given in celebration of DPRK's birthday

KCNA

An art performance was given in celebration of the 76th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the capital city of Pyongyang on September 9.

The venue for the performance given in front of the Mansudae Assembly Hall was full of working people, youth and students who came

to see the performance.

Among the audience were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, other senior officials of the Party and the government, deputies to the

Supreme People's Assembly, labour innovators, meritorious persons, officials of ministries and national agencies, service personnel of the Korean People's Army, teaching staff and students of revolutionary schools, Pyongyang citizens and inhabitants of flood-hit areas staying in Pyongyang.

Invited to the event were overseas compatriots visiting the homeland on the occasion of the 76th founding

anniversary of the DPRK, including the congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan, and representatives and staff members of foreign diplomatic missions in the DPRK and other foreigners.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

The performance which started with "The Glorious Motherland", a monumental ode to the country born along with its founding, put on

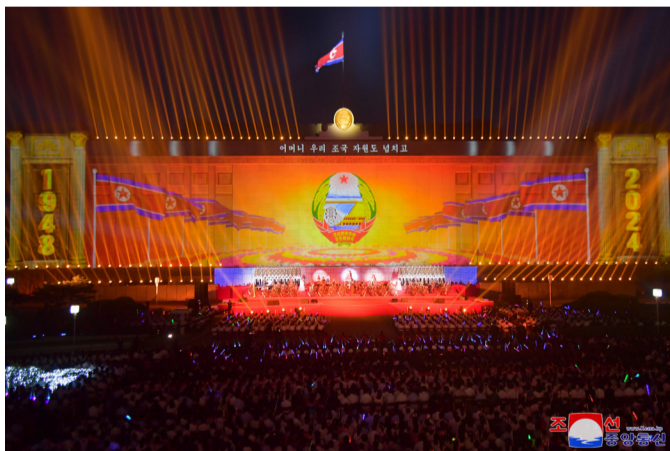
the stage colourful numbers including famous songs on the theme of patriotism sung aloud in the past decades when gigantic struggles were waged to build and glorify the great state.

The performers sang highly of the eternal glory of the DPRK, which has demonstrated its might as a prospering country of miracles and a heroic Korea recognized by the world

according to the unique state-building ideas and under the leadership of the peerlessly great men, and the happiness of its people leading a dignified and worthwhile life as members of an independent powerful country.

The performance reached its climax with the song "Our National Flag".

Fireworks were set off to distinctively decorate the end of the performance.



An art performance is given in celebration of the 76th founding anniversary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Pyongyang on September 9.

Wreaths laid at martyrs cemeteries

KCNA

Wreaths were laid before the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri and the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery on September 8

on the occasion of the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

The guard of honour of the Korean People's Army lined up at the cemeteries.

Present at the wreath-laying ceremonies were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the

Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, and Jo Chun Ryong, Jon Hyon Chol and

Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK, and other officials of the Central Committee of the WPK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, the Cabinet and armed forces organs.

Amid the playing of the

wreath-laying music, wreaths in the name of the Central Committee of the WPK, the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK and the Cabinet of the DPRK were placed at the wreath-laying stands of those

cemeteries.

All the participants paid silent tribute to the memory of the martyrs who devoted their all to the independence and sovereignty of the country and the victory of the socialist cause, remaining loyal to the Party's leadership.

Nation celebrates DPRK's birthday

KCNA

All the people across the DPRK significantly celebrated the 76th birthday of the DPRK.

An endless stream of visitors flowed into the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance.

Officials, working people, service personnel and schoolchildren visited the statues of the great leaders and mosaics depicting their images across the country including Mansu Hill in Pyongyang to pay floral tribute to them.

Many people visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri, the Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery, cemeteries and graves of martyrs and the memorial towers for the fallen

fighters of the Korean People's Army across the country, keeping in mind the noble spiritual world of the martyrs who devoted their all to the country's independence and the victory of the socialist cause under the leadership of the great Workers' Party of Korea.

National flag-hoisting ceremonies took place across the country.

A variety of art performances were given in Pyongyang and local areas, adding to the joy of the holiday.

Cheerful dancing parties of young people and women's union members revved up the atmosphere of national day.

Public service facilities in the capital city and other parts of the country were crowded with visitors.

Working people and schoolchildren enjoyed themselves at cultural recreation grounds in Pyongyang.

Celebratory performance is given at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre.



Banquet given for labour innovators

KCNA

A banquet was given for labour innovators and meritorious persons from various fields across the country at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on September 9. They were specially invited to the celebrations of the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK, our great country.

Jo Chun Ryong and Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of

Korea, and Han Kwang Sang, department director of the Central Committee of the WPK, sat together with them.

The banquet hall was full of boundless gratitude to the great WPK and socialist system which value ordinary citizens who are devoting themselves at their posts and workplaces as the cornerstones and pillars of the country.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Pak Thae Song made a

speech at the banquet.

Upon authorization of the Party and the government, he warmly congratulated labour innovators and meritorious persons who made distinguished feats in the vanguard of the struggle for bolstering up the national defence capability, developing the economy and improving the people's living standards and took part in the celebrations of the national day this year.

He stressed that the pioneers who have firmly

supported the prosperity of the DPRK and the advance of the revolution on major fronts of socialist construction with utmost sincerity for the Party and the leader, the country and its people, and the genuine people who cannot live even a moment away from patriotism and have never thought of their destiny and life and their families' apart from their conscience and service dedicated to the country are the models of the times who deserve boundless blessing by the country and

its people.

He expressed belief that the socialist DPRK, which is supported by the noble spirit of sacrifice to devote their all to the happiness of the rising generations and the prosperous future of the state, not for today's enjoyment, and by the unyielding spirit of service to firmly defend their workplaces and posts despite ordeals, would surely achieve the ideal of comprehensive national rejuvenation and demonstrate its dignity as a

genuine people's country.

All the participants were filled with ardent determination to glorify their patriotic lives as those who personify and display the Chollima spirit of the new era, the new spirit of the times, in the vanguard of the advance for great upsurge under the guidance of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who is setting the building of an ideal society of the working people as the goal and leading it to victory.

National fine art exhibition opens

KCNA

A national fine art exhibition in celebration of the 76th DPRK birthday opened with due ceremony at the Korean National Art Museum on September 5.

On display there are more than 30 art pieces dealing with the immortal exploits of President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Also seen there are artworks of diverse themes and forms showing the praiseworthy reality of the country where the people's desire and ideal are being realized under the leadership of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of

Korea, and the struggle of the DPRK people who are devoting themselves to the prosperity and development of the country with confidence in the more prosperous future.

Present at the opening

ceremony were Choe Chang Hak, deputy department director of the WPK Central Committee, Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, Ri Myong Chol, secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK,

officials and creators in the field of fine art and working people in Pyongyang.

The minister of Culture made an opening address.

At the end of the ceremony the participants looked round the exhibition hall.

A national fine art exhibition in celebration of the 76th birthday of the DPRK opens at the Korean National Art Museum on September 5.



Stamp exhibition begins

KCNA

A stamp exhibition celebrating the 76th DPRK birthday, "Powerful Socialist Country Prospering Forever", began at the Korean Stamps Museum in Pyongyang on September 5.

Stamps carrying photos of President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un are on display at the exhibition venue.

Those stamps remind visitors of the sacred revolutionary history of the President who built an invincible socialist state, independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in national

defence, on this land and laid a solid foundation for prosperity under the banner of Juche.

There are also stamps showing the patriotic devotion of the Chairman who led the socialist cause of Juche along the road of shinning victory, holding aloft the red flag of the revolution all his life.

Other stamps tell the visitors the immutable truth that the dignity and prestige of our powerful state are demonstrated to the full and today's self-respect and prosperity bringing about unprecedented great changes and miracles are guaranteed as they are led by Kim Jong Un.

Public events celebrate founding anniv of DPRK

KCNA

University students hold oratorical meeting

An oratorical meeting of university students, "Patriotism and young students", took place at the Pyongyang Municipal Youth Park Open-Air Theatre on September 5 to mark the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

The performers expressed their great pride and honour of glorifying the youth under the care of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un who is training young people into reliable successors to the revolution and pillars of socialist construction.

The enthusiastic oratories

showed well the spiritual world of passionate young people who will bring earlier the future of a prosperous and powerful country on the strength of loyalty and patriotism, cherishing deep the loving care and trust of the great Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and believing in and following it only.

Present there were Mun Chol, chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, officials of the youth league and university students in Pyongyang.

Performance given by art squad of youth league central committee

A performance of the artistic information squad of the Central Committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League (SPYL) was given at the Central Youth Hall in Pyongyang on September 6 to celebrate the 76th birthday of the DPRK.

Among the audience were Kim Jong Sun, department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Mun Chol, chairman of the SPYL

Central Committee, youth league officials and youth and students in Pyongyang.

The performance, pulsating with the revolutionary will of young people to demonstrate their honour as a detached force and vanguard unit of the Party Central Committee on the road of translating the plan and desire of the Party into reality, won great acclaim from the audience.

Working people's organizations hold celebration meetings

A meeting of workers and members of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea (GFTUK) was held at the Pyongyang Electric Cable General Factory 326 and a meeting of agricultural workers and members of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea (UAWK) at the Jongbaek Vegetable Farm in Rangnang District of Pyongyang.

Pak In Chol, chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee, and Han Jong Hyok, chairman of the UAWK Central Committee, made reports at the meetings to be followed by speeches.

The reporters and speakers said that all the people across the country are significantly celebrating the 76th birthday of the DPRK amid the vigorous struggle to provide a clear practical guarantee for

implementing the five-year plan, firmly united behind the great Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee with patriotism.

They noted that the dignity and prestige of the DPRK are shining on the highest level and a new era of a powerful country, a new history of national prosperity, is being ushered in under the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un's outstanding idea on state-building and seasoned leadership.

They stressed the need to dynamically conduct the socialist patriotic movement and revolutionary mass movement, do more good things conducive to the prosperity of the country and positively display the communist virtue and beautiful traits of helping and leading each other forward.

Women's union meets to celebrate national day

Women's union officials and members met at the Hall of Women in Pyongyang on September 6 to celebrate the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

Present there were officials of the central committee of the women's union and union officials and members in Pyongyang.

Jon Hyang Sun, chairwoman of the central committee of the

women's union, made a report to be followed by speeches.

The reporter and speakers said that the founding anniversary of the glorious DPRK is being greeted at a time when all the people of the country are waging courageous struggle for the comprehensive development of Korean-style socialism with confidence in sure victory under the wise leadership of the great Workers' Party of Korea



Women's union officials and members meet at the Hall of Women in Pyongyang on September 6 to celebrate the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

Central Committee.

They expressed their determination to make contributions to the work for the prosperity and development of the DPRK by

devoting their patriotic sweat and passion with great pride in holding the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un in high esteem as the father of the great socialist family.

Women's union officials and members hold dance party

A dance party of women's union officials and members took place at the plaza of the Arch of Triumph on September 9 in celebration of the 76th birthday of the DPRK.

The participants performed a circle dance with boundless reverence for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il who built the country into an invincible socialist state and laid an eternal foundation for building a powerful nation.

Such songs as "Our Leader Beloved of the People" revved up the atmosphere of the venue, filled with the great pride of

being led by the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who is demonstrating the dignity and might of the great state to the whole world and opening up the future of national prosperity.

Amid the playing of songs "I Will Live like a Star Following the Party" and "Let's Defend Socialism", the officials and members of the women's union were filled with the enthusiasm to contribute to the rejuvenation and development of the country by carrying forward the patriotic spirit and working traits of the preceding generations.

Football match played

KCNA

A men's football match between the April 25 and Amnonggang teams took place at Kim Il Sung Stadium in Pyongyang on September 8 on the occasion of the 76th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

Among the audience were Choe Ryong Hae, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, first vice-president of the State Affairs

Commission of the DPRK and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, Pak Thae Song, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and other senior Party and government officials.

Watching the match were labour innovators and meritorious persons who have contributed to the struggle for attaining the 12 major goals for national economic development, officials and servicepersons of the Ministry of National

Defence and the Ministry of Public Security, officials of the Cabinet, ministries and national agencies, teaching staff and students of Mangyongdae Revolutionary School and Kang Pan Sok Revolutionary School and Pyongyang citizens.

Veteran cadres, who had worked for a long time at important posts of the Party, government and military, also watched the match.

The April 25 beat the Amnonggang 3-1 in the match.



A scene from the men's football match between the April 25 and Amnonggang teams at Kim Il Sung Stadium on September 8.

Maritime sports demonstration performed

KCNA

A maritime sports demonstration took place on the Taedong River in front of the Tower of the Juche Idea in Pyongyang on September 9 in celebration of the 76th birthday of the DPRK.

It was seen by Pak Jong Gun, vice-premier of the Cabinet and chairman of the State Planning Commission,

Kim Su Gil, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, labour innovators and meritorious persons who made contributions to the struggle for attaining the 12 major goals for the development of the national economy, officials of ministries, national agencies, Pyongyang municipal and

district-level institutions, working people and citizens.

Also among the audience were veteran cadres who had worked for a long time at important posts of the Party, government and military.

The players displayed high sports skills they cultivated in their daily practice.

There was also a demonstration of water skiers.



A maritime sports demonstration is held on the Taedong River in front of the Tower of the Juche Idea in Pyongyang on September 9.

Press statement of head of External Policy Office of DPRK Foreign Ministry

KCNA

The head of the External Policy Office of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea released the following press statement, titled "The US instigating NATO and agents to confrontation with Russia is a serious threat to Europe", on September 13:

Recently, US Secretary of State Blinken groundlessly slandered the cooperation based on mutual benefit and equality between the Russian Federation and other sovereign states, and committed a political provocation terming it a "threat" to Europe.

This clearly shows the US sinister intention to overstate the "security crisis" of European countries and shift the blame for the present Ukrainian situation on to a third party and thus more firmly rally its followers on the anti-Russian front and give "legality" and continuity to

its confrontation moves.

The DPRK Foreign Ministry expresses strong regret over the fact that the US top diplomat slandered independent sovereign states while distorting the essence of the Ukrainian situation with extremely irresponsible and improper words, and categorically rejects this.

The US secretary of State is trying to deceive the international community, turning black into white, but such attempt can neither cover up nor deny the fact that the US is the root cause of the outbreak of the Ukrainian crisis and its prolongation and instable situation in Europe.

It is none other than the US which caused the Ukrainian crisis by inciting the reckless advance of NATO towards the east in disregard of the legitimate security interests of Russia and its territorial integrity, with the wild dream to establish unipolar supremacy.

The US is also the arch

criminal that has systematically handed over to Ukraine such lethal weapons and equipment as Abrams tanks, F-16 fighters and ATACMS long-range missiles in a bid to bring a strategic defeat to Russia, in disregard of the unanimous demand and aspiration of the international community for the early peaceful settlement of the Ukrainian situation, and caused innocent civilian deaths and long-term catastrophe.

It is also the US which committed itself to deploying in Europe long-range missiles targeting Russia, has staged NATO-led war drills against Russia one after another and is bringing a horrible war to the whole of Europe, revealing its intention to lift a ban for Ukraine on the use of long-range weapons toward the interior of Russia.

All facts go to prove that the US is an actually existing threat to Europe and the international community as it is inciting conflict and

confrontation, instigating NATO and agents to the confrontation with Russia and fostering the permanent war.

The Ukrainian crisis will never be an opportunity for the US to revive its weakened position, and the Russian people will surely and triumphantly achieve their just aim.

The international community should not tolerate the reckless acts of the US, which is getting frantic with the moves for military confrontation after mortgaging the security of Europe in a bid to realize its hegemonic interests, but should defend the regional peace and stability by its concerted efforts.

We will as ever invariably support the just cause of the Russian people who are striving to defend sovereignty and build a fair and multipolar world, smashing the imperialists' hegemonic policy and high-handed practices.

Japan's dumping of nuclear contaminated water intolerable

By Choe Song Jun PT

Japan keeps dumping radioactive contaminated water into the sea.

On August 25, the Tokyo Electric Power Company announced it finished the fourth round of dumping of radioactive contaminated water of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant this year. It has so far discharged about 62 400 tons of nuclear wastewater into the sea under the active patronage of the Japanese authorities on eight occasions since August 24 last year.

The company has dumped nearly 7 800 tons of the water in the waters about 1 kilometre off by diluting it with a large amount of water every time and is planning to dump the water three times more this year alone.

Japan is facing a barrage of stronger protest and denunciation at home and abroad.

In Tokyo, citizens held a protest rally to mark the first anniversary of the start of dumping. The participants demanded that the authorities stop the dumping polluting the sea, holding such placards reading "Don't discharge contaminated water into the sea".

Researchers of the Pacific Ocean Research Institute of Russia detected that the tritium content has got

higher excessively in the sea off the Russian Far East after the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant dumped the nuclear wastewater.

On the other hand, the fishermen in Fukushima are complaining of their plight as they are compelled to co-exist with the contaminated water in great anxiety under the pressure of the unilateral "safety declaration" of the TEPCO and the government.

It has been revealed that the power plant dumped the wastewater directly into the sea in the fourth time, though it had diluted it with seawater and filled tanks with it to check the tritium concentration even for form's sake before discharging it in the sea during the first three discharges.

It is quite impudent and shameless of Japan to dump the nuclear wastewater into the sea, regardless of whether the Pacific is polluted or the safety of humanity is endangered.

Japan's insistence that the radioactive contaminated water is safe "treated water" gives no scientific assurance and is implausible.

The ocean is not the possession of any country, but belongs to the whole humankind.

Japan's move to sacrifice the lives and safety of others, nay, the entire mankind to serve its own self-interest is absolutely intolerable and it is wholly to blame for that.

'Montreal protocol: Advancing climate action'

September 16 is the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was signed on September 16 1987 in Montreal, Canada, with representatives of 46 countries and the then European Community (EC) in attendance.

The main content of the Montreal Protocol is to phase down the production, development and use of chemicals including Freon gas, the main contributor to the depletion of the ozone layer.

The ozone layer plays a role of protecting life on the earth from ultraviolet radiation.

However, the ozone layer, which is very beneficial to human life and the ecological environment of the earth, is being seriously destroyed for several reasons.

Observation results say that the ozone layer over the Antarctic and Arctic has severely been damaged, arousing concern of the international community. The World Meteorological Organization has already noted that the Arctic stratosphere is still easily affected by the ozone-depleting substances produced by human activities and the observed depletion of the ozone layer demands mankind raise public awareness about it.

The depletion of the ozone layer exacerbates the greenhouse effect and it makes a negative impact on natural environment and human life. Temperature rise causes the spread of various kinds of epidemics and destroys biodiversity.

Such a situation requires the international community to pay closer attention to the protection of the ozone layer.

Therefore, the UN Environment Programme has selected the theme for this year's World Ozone Day as "Montreal Protocol: Advancing Climate Action".

This aim of this year's World Ozone Day is to raise awareness of how far the Montreal Protocol has progressed from ozone layer protection to also become a recognized powerful climate action tool, the Kigali (the capital of Rwanda) Amendment, through several stages of amendments, over the past 37 years since the adoption of the Montreal Protocol.

As temperature records

keep getting broken, the planet continues to heat up, and the demand for cooling is increasing fast. As the world looks for ways to mitigate climate warming, the potential of the Montreal Protocol should not be underestimated. Its Kigali Amendment is a significant climate action tool and could avoid as much as 1°C of warming by the end of the century if it is universally ratified, fully implemented and includes energy efficiency measures.

The DPRK has also taken various measures to protect the ozone layer.

Protecting the ozone layer is an important undertaking for the existence and future of mankind, and only when all countries and regions work hard with a common sense of responsibility, can they achieve better results in their effort to this end.

Ri Song Il, department director of the Central Committee of the Nature Conservation Union of Korea

Briefly

Russia

President refers to development of Far East region

Russian President Vladimir Putin convened a consultative meeting on the issue of infrastructural development of the Far East region in Vladivostok on September 4.

He said at the meeting that transport is one of the major development aspects in the Far East region.

In order to improve transport in the Far East Federal Region, increase the access to transport means in the Far East region and expand connection within the region, we should develop air transport, provide citizens with more convenient new routes and build and modernize the infrastructure of airport, he stressed.

Türkiye

President calls for forming anti-Israel coalition of Islamic countries

Turkish President Erdogan called for forging an anti-Israel alliance of Islamic countries at an event on September 7.

Islamic countries should join efforts to cope with the growing expansionist moves of Israel, he said, noting that creating an alliance of Islamic countries is the only way to stop the arrogant and brigandish moves of the Zionist regime to expand its territory.

He emphasized that his country works hard to join efforts with Islamic countries to counter the increasing threat from Israel.

Iran

FM spokesman calls for stopping Israel's war crime

A spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry called on the international community to check Israel's war crime through an SNS on September 7.

The frenzied destruction committed by Israel in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank shows that the Zionist regime is clinging to a scorched-earth strategy, he said, branding it as a war crime.

He emphasized that it is a duty of the international community to take measures to keep Israel from repeating such reckless war crime.

Iraq

Oil ministry dismisses US congressmen's accusation as unfounded

The Iraqi Ministry of Oil rejected the baseless accusation of US congressmen against the country on September 8.

The American congressmen recently found fault with Iraq, insisting that it is helping Iran avoid sanctions by smuggling oil with the country, and talked about any countermeasure. The Iraqi oil ministry branded their argument as an outright lie.

Iraq has been absolutely astonished at their claim and vehemently rejects it, the ministry stressed.

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DPRK Championships open

KCNA
The DPRK Championships opened with due ceremony at the Basketball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on September 6. At the championships, sports clubs, sports teams and sports education units in Pyongyang and local

areas will compete in more than 550 categories of 39 events such as football, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, gymnastics, weightlifting and Taekwon-Do. The championships will take place in the capital city of Pyongyang, Sariwon and Wonsan cities and other parts of the country.

Present at the ceremony were Vice-Premier Kim Myong Hun, Chairman of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee Kim Myong Gun, officials in the field of sports and sportspersons and citizens of Pyongyang. O Kwang Hyok, vice-minister of Physical Culture and Sports, made an opening address.

The DPRK Championships open at the Basketball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on September 6.



DPRK team advances to quarterfinals at 2024 FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup

KCNA
The DPRK team has advanced to quarterfinals

after defeating the Austrian team in a last 16 match of the 2024 FIFA U-20 Women's World

Cup. The Koreans and Austrians played the game on September 12.

From the beginning of the game, the former put pressure on the latter by dint of fierce offensive

according to the tactical intention of the team, thus beating the opponent 5-2.

The DPRK team will compete with the Brazilian team in the quarterfinals on September 15.

Dark horses in national ssirum contest for Grand Bull Prize

By Ri Sung Ik PT

The 19th Grand Bull Prize National Ssirum Contest took place at

the national ssirum ground on Rungna Islet in Pyongyang on September 5-6. Wondering who would win the 19th Grand Bull Prize,

huge crowds thronged the ground to see the contest of strength and wits. One best player from each province (city under

the direct control of the government) could take part in the contest which decided the rankings through catch-weight matches and therefore it was very fierce from the preliminary matches.

Divided into four groups, the participants played group league and additional matches and winners of them advanced to the finals to compete on a knock-out basis.

Song Chol Min from Pyongyang drew the attention of spectators as he had looked forward to the third consecutive victory. Whenever he defeated his opponent soundly, spectators gave him a big hand.

Unexpectedly, however, Choe Tong Bom from North Phyongan Province was crowned champion.

He was third in the placings in the previous contests, but now beat Kang Song Gun from Jagang Province and Pyongyang's Song Chol Min, who are heavier than him.

Kang weighing less than Song also outdid Song to come second in the final.

Experts said it is the success of the 19th contest as well as of the two players.

In the ssirum contest in which a player has to take

Natural monument— Oldest apple tree

By Choe Yong Nam PT

The oldest apple tree grows in Ryongjon-ri in Pukchong County of South Hamgyong Province, which is noted for apple farming. The luxuriant tree is

much more than 100 years old.

It is 1.2 metres round at the root neck and 6 metres wide at the crown. Its long leaves are dark green and it produces flowers in May.

It is the oldest apple tree in the DPRK.



his opponent's thigh band, the one with less weight or lower height is inferior to his opponent in the grabbing of the thigh band, which has a big influence on the match.

Therefore, relatively small players need agility, quick estimation of the situation, making of correct decision and boldness. Choe and Kang could beat Song as they had the initiative and played games boldly by giving full play to such abilities.

After the contest, Choe said: "I will never forget this game forever. It is not only because I emerged victorious in the tough match, but also because ssirum is an excellent sport which enabled me to experience the pleasure of defeating a larger and stronger opponent."

The spectators heartily applauded as they saw thrilling matches whose results were unexpected.

The trophy cup, medals and diplomas were awarded to winners.



The 19th Grand Bull Prize National Ssirum Contest takes place at the national ssirum ground on Rungna Islet on September 5-6.

