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## Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un guides firing drill of KPA large combined units

### Satisfaction expressed for full readiness for mobilization for battle

KCNA

The large combined units of the Korean People's Army conducted an artillery firing drill at a time when the high fighting spirit of the entire army has been boosted day by day to dynamically usher in a new heyday of bolstering up the military capability for self-defence.

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 artillery firing drill of the KPA large combined

units on March 7.

Accompanying him was Pak Jong Chon, [SEE PAGE 2](#)

secretary of the WPK Central Committee and vice-chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted at the training ground by Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the KPA General Staff, and commanders of the KPA large combined units.

The drill was aimed at increasing the combat readiness posture and actual war capability of artillerymen by





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inspecting and evaluating the firepower strike capability of the artillery units under the KPA large combined units in the way of power demonstration and competition.

The drill started with the power demonstration firing of the long-range artillery sub-units near the border who are performing important military missions for war deterrence by putting the enemy's capital in their striking range. The artillery sub-units selected from the large combined units were to take the firing positions according to the order of firing set by lot and fire at the targets and then to be ranked by summing up the number of hits and the time taken for fulfilling their firepower missions.

The artillerymen, who had the honour of conducting the drill under the guidance of Kim Jong Un, were filled with the ardent desire to fully display the fighting efficiency of them who have developed into the world's strongest branch of the army, of which everybody else is afraid,

under the guidance of the great brilliant commander who clarified the unique outlook on attaching importance to the artillery and the philosophy of the artillery and continues devoting his great efforts to developing the Juche-based artillery force.

Kim Jong Un mounted the observation post and was briefed on the plan for the drill, before guiding it.

In the drill, the commanders of the KPA large combined units took charge of fire control over the artillery sub-units of their units and decided on the method of firing the artillery pieces according to their determination.

The moment the commanders gave the order to fire, the artillerymen opened fire.

The valiant artillerymen involved in the drill fully displayed the rapid and accurate marksmanship they have steadily refined in the days of actual war drills for the mobilization of artillerymen for war, always aware of their mission for defending the country, and thus fully demonstrated the high combat capability

of the all-round artillerymen prepared as a-match-for-a-hundred fighters.

Kim Jong Un expressed his great satisfaction over the fact that all the artillery sub-units involved in the drill are fully ready for constant mobilization for battle.

He personally went to the firing position and warmly congratulated the brave artillery combatants who fully demonstrated the might of the KPA and the honour of a-match-for-a-hundred artillerymen.

He stressed the need to train all the artillerymen of the whole army into experts in artillery engagement and a-match-for-a-hundred crack gunners by further boosting their enthusiasm for training and emulation and thus prepare them to rapidly and accurately fulfill any combat mission assigned to them in actual battle as in the present drill, and set forth important tasks for rounding off the artillery war preparations.

He said that it is necessary to push forward more vigorously the work

for making preparations for regular combat mobilization so that all the artillery sub-units can take the initiative with merciless and rapid strikes at the moment of their entry into an actual war and organize more effectively the actual manoeuvres for remarkably increasing the combat capability of the artillerymen with realistic and scientific training goals envisaging different situations and thus continue to increase the might of the artillery, the pride and core of the KPA, in every way.

On receiving his great trust and important instructions, the commanding officers of the KPA and all the artillery combatants who took part in the drill were filled with the strong will and revolutionary enthusiasm to bring about a great innovation in this year's struggle for increasing their combat efficiency without fail by making strenuous efforts for the new year's training, renewing their faith in the Party's policy on effecting a revolution in training and its idea of attaching importance to the artillery.



# Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un inspects major operational training base in western area

## Important tasks set for intensifying practical actual-war drills

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 a major operational training base of the Korean People's Army in the western area on March 6 to make rounds of training facilities and guide the actual manoeuvres of units.

Accompanying him was Pak Jong Chon, secretary of the WPK Central Committee and vice-chairman



of the WPK Central Military Commission.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un was greeted on the spot by Kang Sun Nam, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, Ri Yong Gil, chief of the KPA General Staff, the deputy chief of the KPA General Staff, the director of the combat training department, commanders of units for major missions and other commanding officers of the KPA.

He learned in detail about the

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facilities and training grounds in the base.

He appreciated the fact that all the elements have been built in a practical way so that various kinds of training can be conducted in high intensity in an actual war atmosphere, true to the important military policy-oriented tasks set forth by the Party Central Committee before the army. And he stressed the need to make positive use of them so as to practically contribute to strengthening the combat capability of the People's Army, further consolidate the material and technical foundation and properly conduct the maintenance work for them.

He mounted the observation post and received a report on the programme for actual manoeuvres of the units planned that day before guiding the drill.

Taking part in the drill were combat units at all levels recruited according to the plan.

In the drill, the valiant combatants, who have fostered matchless strength with their unsparing sweat in regular training for strengthening the combat capability, being boundlessly loyal to their noble mission of defending the security of the country and the people, fully displayed their actual war capability in full readiness to fight and surely defeat the enemy, staking the honour of their units.

Expressing his great satisfaction over the training of servicepersons, Kim Jong Un highly praised the strong revolutionary spirit and the indomitable fighting spirit of the combatants who are keeping their perfect battle readiness.

Saying that he felt very glad and inspired to see the soldiers display to the full the brave stamina of a stalwart fighter in the training environment little different from actual war, he encouraged the servicepersons, who are fulfilling their duty always with battlefield in their mind, with ardent patriotism.

Stressing the need for the KPA to further intensify training at present, he set forth important tasks for intensifying practical actual-war drills to ensure victory in war.

To contain the constant threat of the enemies with overwhelming force, successfully control even their slightest attempt at igniting a war and correctly carry out the important mission in contingency, our army should always make more exact demands on itself in keeping with the aspects of changing and developing modern warfare and steadily intensify actual war drills aimed at rapidly improving its combat capabilities for perfect war preparedness, he said, underscoring the need for the units at all levels of the entire army to dynamically usher in a new heyday of intensifying war preparations in line with the requirements of the prevailing situation.

The country is secure and its people's security is defended and their happiness is created thanks to our army, the genuine

defender and servant of the people that dashes forward in the van of the era, taking charge of both national defence and socialist construction, he said, adding that our army should continue to reliably play the leading role in our great era, bearing deep in mind the trust and expectation of the Party and the people.

That day he had a photo session with the dependable combatants who powerfully demonstrated a-match-for-a-hundred fighting efficiency in the drill with their strong will and courage.

Commanding officers and all the combatants of the KPA pledged their intense loyalty to Kim Jong Un, who guided their training and gave them great trust, encouragement and matchless courage and pluck, and hardened their resolve to fully discharge their honourable duty as the army of the Party and the people in the sacred struggle for the security of the country and happiness of the people.



# Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends efficient tractors to cities and counties of Ryanggang Province

KCNA

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent efficient tractors to cities and counties of Ryanggang Province.

Present at a meeting for conveying the tractors held in Hyesan City on March 4 were Ri Thae Il, chief secretary of the Ryanggang Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kim Chol Nam, chairman of the provincial people's committee, Kim Yong Nam, chairman of the provincial rural economy committee, and other officials and working people in the province.

A conveying address was read out by the chief secretary of the provincial Party committee.

He said that Kim Jong Un always keeps the people of Ryanggang Province in the closest place in his mind and shows them all affection and benevolence.

He called upon the officials and working people in the province including those in the City of Samjiyon and Tachongdan and Paegam counties to fully devote their loyalty and patriotic strength and enthusiasm to the all-people general advance for implementing the Party's decisions, always

remembering the glory and benevolence of that day.

The tractors sent by Kim Jong Un were conveyed amid the enthusiastic applause by the participants.

Then followed speeches.

Speakers expressed their determination to turn out in the drive to attain the goal of grain production this year without fail by firmly uniting on the strength of patriotism and steadily boosting the redoubled spirit of advance and thus uphold the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party with bold practice and proud fruition.



A ceremony for conveying tractors takes place in Hyesan on March 4.

# Ground-breaking ceremonies for regional-industry factories take place in city, counties

KCNA

The construction of regional-industry factories started in the cities and counties in North and South Phyongan, North Hwanghae and North Hamgyong provinces and Nampho City amid the growing patriotic enthusiasm of the service personnel of the People's Army and people who have turned out in the epochal ten-year campaign for creation to bring about comprehensive regional development.

The ground-breaking ceremonies for regional-industry factories took place in Kusong City, Sukchon, Unpha, Kyongsong, Orang and Onchon counties to implement the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

Present there 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, Ri Il Hwan, Pak Jong Chon, Kim Jae Ryong and Jon Hyon Chol, secretaries of the Central Committee of the WPK, officials of the Party and power organs in the relevant provinces, cities and counties, members of the non-permanent committees for promoting Regional Development 20x10 Policy, soldier-builders and working people.

Speakers said at the ceremonies that it is of great significance to successfully build regional-industry factories with modern equipment and production processes in all cities and counties of the country within ten years.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un personally initiated the gigantic regional-industry revolution, dynamically pushed forward with the preparations for it,

took Party and state measures for supplying funds, manpower and materials needed for the construction and personally attended the ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of the regional-industry factories in Songchon County to kindle the flames of the

regional-industry revolution, the speakers noted.

They called on all the service personnel and officials and working people in the provinces, cities and counties to successfully carry out the Party's regional development policy by pooling patriotic

efforts and wisdom in the all-people drive for creation to implement the grand plan and intention of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un.

They appealed to all the officials and builders to devote their loyalty, patriotic enthusiasm and

energy and advance with redoubled courage and confidence for building a rich and civilized society where the whole country develops together.

Then followed speeches. Soldier-builders started the construction in high spirits.



Ground-breaking ceremonies for regional-industry factories take place in Kusong City, Sukchon, Unpha, Kyongsong, Orang and Onchon counties to implement the Regional Development 20x10 Policy.

# International Women's Day celebrated across country

KCNA

March 8 International Women's Day was significantly celebrated across the DPRK.

People visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme temple of Juche, with boundless yearning and reverence for President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Meanwhile, a large number of people visited the statues of the President and the Chairman on Mansu Hill in Pyongyang and in different parts of the country to lay baskets

of flowers, bouquets and flowers at them and make a deep bow to them.

A national meeting took place at the People's Palace of Culture on March 8 to celebrate the 114th anniversary of International Women's Day as warm respect and love were expressed for women in all parts of the country.

A joint performance was given by the National Circus and the National Folk Art Troupe at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre on the same day.

It was seen by 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 other senior Party and government officials, officials of the Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea and working women in Pyongyang.

Sports and amusement games of officials and

members of the women's union across the country took place at the Taekwon-Do Hall from March 6 to 8.

Officials and members of the women's union in all provinces competed with each other at various sporting events like volleyball, badminton and yut-game.

The finals of each event took place on March 8.

The spectators were deeply impressed by the events full of joy and optimism of women who bring harmony and happiness to the large socialist family.

Colourful amusement

games held amid the enthusiastic cheers of women's union members added to the festive mood.

An event took place at the Rungna People's Sports Park on March 8 to mark "AFC women's football day".

Officials of all provinces, cities, counties, institutions, factories, enterprises and farms met and congratulated exemplary working women, including scientists, teachers and innovators of relevant units, on the occasion of International Women's Day.

Colourful congratulatory

performances, dance parties and amusement games took place across the country to rev up the festive mood.

Okryu and Chongnyu restaurants and other public catering establishments across the country served special dishes to women.

Souvenir and flower shops and flower stands across the country were unusually crowded with people who tried to choose bouquets and flowers for their wives and mothers who devote themselves to society, the collective and the family.

# Practical measures taken to implement Regional Development 20x10 Policy

The Cabinet intensifies its control and leadership while working out detailed plans for implementing the WPK's regional development policy

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The Cabinet and economic guidance organs are organizing their economic work for carrying out the Regional Development 20x10 Policy under detailed plans.

The Cabinet intensifies its control and leadership while working out detailed plans for implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Workers' Party of Korea administratively and economically.

On the basis of a scientific analysis of the situation in cities and counties, the Ministry of Regional Industry, the National Industry Design General Bureau and other relevant ministries and national agencies are creating

the designs of factories to be newly constructed on a manpower-, site area- and energy-saving and technically-intensive principle in a far-sighted way and taking measures to establish close ties between the designing, construction and management units.

The State Planning Commission, the Ministry of Metallurgical Industry, the Ministry of Forestry and the Ministry of Railways are organizing production and transport in a scrupulous manner to give precedence to the materials needed for construction so that projects are actively pushed ahead as planned without any delay. Relevant units are taking measures to provide the construction equipment,

vehicles, small tools and items for labour protection in a responsible manner and solve the problems that may arise in the course of construction in time.

And the ways are also detailed to steadily normalize and reenergize the production at regional-industry factories according to well thought-out plans.

Measures are taken by the Agricultural Commission, the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection and others to properly select the land needed for the creation of raw material bases in cities and counties, actively help them secure natural raw materials suited to the regional characters and at the same time provide necessary seeds, farming materials, parts

of farm machines and proper technical guidance over farming processes.

The Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Electric Power Industry are making full preparations for ensuring continuous production at factories to be newly built by taking measures to supply raw materials and electricity to them, while rationally establishing management apparatuses and distributing manpower to suit their sizes and production capacities and training skilled workers in earnest.

From late January hundreds of officials, scientists and designers selected from scientific research institutions, universities and designing offices across the country work hard to confirm the

production indices and capacities of regional-industry factories to be built in 20 cities and counties planned for this year to suit the specific features, economic potentials, prospects for development and populations of the relevant areas and complete the designs of their buildings and production processes.

Officials and scientists in charge of technical assignment sheets of city and county foodstuff factories are correcting and supplementing them, carefully examining the assessment of the sizes of those factories and their indexes of consumer goods and production capacities, the conditions for proper supply of raw materials and the level of modernization.

Officials and designers of

various units including the National Industry Design General Bureau, the National Design General Bureau and the provincial design research institutions direct efforts to better perfecting the designs of technical processes according to the technical assignment sheets.

Besides, experience-sharing and technical exchange are widely encouraged among scientists, designers and technicians in charge of the technical assignment sheets, designs of processes, plans for distribution, mock-ups and the design and making of equipment to improve economic effectiveness and raise the modernization level of those factories and produce goods to be favoured and welcomed by the people.

## Scientific research stepped up for implementing Regional Development 20x10 Policy

KCNA

Lecturers and researchers of different universities are putting spurs to scientific research conducive to implementing the policy of developing regional industry.

They set as seeds for research projects the technical matters conducive to developing the regional economy and improving the people's living standards and are striving to produce substantial successes whose economic effectiveness is scientifically guaranteed.

Kim Il Sung University concentrates on designing and making modern analysis and measuring equipment for improving the quality of consumer goods and condiments at foodstuff and daily necessities factories.

Kim Chaek University of Technology developed programs for an enterprise resource planning system, production management system and automatic control system necessary for establishing a standardized integrated production system at regional industry factories and worked out a technical plan for their

introduction.

Pyongyang University of Architecture channels efforts into designing the buildings of regional industry factories on a high level to suit their characteristics and serve their purposes and completing the technical assignments related to the establishment of production lines at daily necessities factories and the manufacturing designs of equipment.

With the main stress put on ensuring that regional industry is developed in a comprehensive and balanced way by effectively creating and using economic and

raw material resources in cities and counties, Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry is earnestly conducting research activities to provide scientific and technological support for examining, revising and supplementing the technical assignments of regional industry factories and establishing food production lines.

Pyongyang University of Mechanical Engineering is pushing ahead with the technical design of processes for packaging a variety of foodstuffs and others in its charge at the final stage.

## Production of materials for construction of regional-industry factories increases

By Kim Hye Jong PT

The Sangwon Cement Complex and the forestry sector are expanding successes in production of the materials needed for the construction of regional-industry factories, true to the grand plan and intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to substantially improve the people's living standards a level higher and accelerate the overall development of socialism by pushing ahead with the development of regional industry.

The complex supplies cement as scheduled to the construction sites of regional-industry factories in different parts of the country while taking measures conducive to ensuring the safe operation of major equipment.

Workers of the calcination and cement workshops provide a guarantee for increasing production by vigorously waging a mass-based technical innovation drive, while controllers of the central control room make a scientific analysis of equipment and introduce rational operation methods based on it.

Units in charge of the supply of raw materials and fuel including the Sangwon

Limestone Mine and Hwachon Coal Mine register good results in production as they raise the operating rate of equipment.

The forestry sector produced and supplied thousands of cubic metres of logs by February 21 for the construction of regional-industry factories.

The Ministry of Forestry carefully organized the work to supply facilities and materials needed for forestry and mine prop production stations in charge of log production and concentrate manpower on it. Jagang, North and South Hamgyong and South Phyongan provincial forestry management bureaus carried out their plans ahead of schedule by positively introducing rational cutting methods suitable for lumbering grounds and directing efforts to ensuring full operation of vehicles involved in the final transport of lumber.

North Phyongan and Kangwon provincial forestry management bureaus sharply increased log production by applying rational methods to shorten loading and unloading time as they raised utilization rate by taking timely measures to solve problems arising in production equipment while tapping internal reserves.

## Strivings for improving soil fertility, laying foundations of raw material bases

By Kim Il Jin PT

Efforts are being made in earnest to improve soil fertility of raw material bases and consolidate their production foundations in different parts of the DPRK.

North Phyongan Province is striving to improve soil fertility of raw material bases while giving precedence to the work to push ahead with the creation of such bases in all cities and counties in a far-sighted way.

Different cities and

counties in the province are concentrating efforts on the production and transport of compost while informing the masses of the importance of supplying raw materials to regional-industry factories to be newly built.

On the basis of the soil analysis information of each plot and field, they secured large quantities of homemade manure and are transporting it to raw material bases.

North Hamgyong Province is working hard to consolidate the production foundations of

such bases.

The province is taking sci-tech measures to increase per-hectare crop yield at the bases while giving technical guidance to all cities and counties on creating and expanding the bases and improving soil fertility there.

Recently, a scientific farming promotion group arranged an agricultural science and technology course in the field of raw material base through video-conferencing at the Academy of Agricultural Science.

There were over 20 lectures

on seeds of good strains conducive to increasing per-hectare yield at raw material bases, advanced cultivation techniques, an effective method of applying fertilizer, the way to improve soil fertility and so on and a question-and-answer session.

The scientific farming promotion group is now concentrating on making videos for giving correct answers to hundreds of questions asked by the participants to disseminate them to relevant units.

# House of learning modern science and technology

Working people from all walks of life and students visit the Sci-Tech Complex, a palace for all-people learning and advanced science and technology diffusion base, to build a tower of knowledge

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

Many years have passed since the Sci-Tech Complex was splendidly built in the shape of atomic structure on Ssuk Islet in the Taedong River as a palace for all-people learning and a base for disseminating latest science and technology.

Working people from all walks of life, including scientists, technicians and educators, and students in Pyongyang and all other parts of the country visit the complex every day to build a tower of knowledge, as it is capable of providing sci-tech information service and equipped with educational conditions as required by the age of knowledge-based economy.

They are different in age and sex, but all of them have an inquiring mind.

"I often visit the complex to learn the latest science and technology. Whenever I visit this place equipped with all necessary conditions for study, I get ever more enthusiastic for learning," said Ri Kum Chol, a worker from the Pyongyang Textile Machine Factory.

According to an official of the complex, visitors can read all pieces of sci-tech data stored in its database and those in homepages of the sci-tech diffusion bases connected to the national computer network. The number of visitors and readers is increasing every year and they have accessed

enormous data, he said, adding that there are many people who are registered as regular readers in the website of the complex.

The information service of the complex draws special attention of people.

E-books, scientific films, other videos and photos are popular among agricultural workers and scientists as they help them solve the problems arising in scientific farming, a shortcut to high yield, and tell them good methods of scientific research.

Along with the expansion of the national network of sci-tech diffusion centred on the Sci-Tech Complex, many sci-tech diffusion bases have joined the sci-tech learning space network and the number of users of the sci-tech information service through it continues to go up. And many working people improve their abilities through the online education system.

An honoured disabled soldier said his dream of becoming an inventor came true thanks to the complex. A middle-aged woman enrolled at the online education faculty of Pyongyang Han Tok Su University of Light Industry said she would study harder at the complex and colleagues feel proud of her.

A large number of preschool children, primary schoolchildren, students and working people visit the children's reading room where they can read various electronic intellectual books suited to the children's

minds, the video room and the 4D cinema every day to consolidate their knowledge and cultivate their practical abilities.

The Sci-Tech Complex also provides the venue for

the national sci-tech festival, the national exhibition of IT achievements and other shows, symposiums and academic presentations of different sectors.

Many working people

can promptly obtain data on scientific and technological problems arising in their units through the website of the complex.

This is a clear demonstration of the ever-

growing enthusiasm of all the Korean people for learning through the complex and the advantages of the socialist system in which everyone cultivates talents to their heart's content.

Many people and students visit the Sci-Tech Complex every day. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



## Factory runs sci-tech learning space effectively

By Kim Hye Jong PT

The Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory is making innovations in the development of the unit and production of goods by

effectively operating the sci-tech learning space.

The factory takes the lion's share in growing healthy children, the future of the country.

"Science and technology should be regarded as the

lifeline in order to produce much more tasty and nutritious foodstuff for children. To this end, officials and employees are required to acquire special knowledge to suit their factory and occupational category and here the sci-tech learning space serves as the place of study. The Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea underlined this point," said the manager of the factory.

The factory analysed and reviewed the past operation of sci-tech learning space and has run it in a fresh way from this year.

In the past, only the sci-tech lecturer gave lectures, but now a sci-tech lecture is given by the manager and chief engineer once a quarter to officials including workshop managers and

department chiefs and by workshop managers and department chiefs once a week to the members of their workshops and departments.

"This has made me think deeply about the bottlenecks in our workshop and do an in-depth study of the ways to solve the problems. To find out suitable techniques, I visit the sci-tech learning space in leisure time. There is enough necessary information there and, in the course of this, I can improve my knowledge and make good teaching plans," said Kim Kuk Chol, manager of the nutritious powdered rice workshop.

He gave a lecture entitled "The strengthening of nutritious elements in foodstuff in the process of pressurized swelling" in February.

Such lectures are favourably responded by employees.

"It is only a month since I came to the factory, but I now know what kind of factory it is, how my machine runs and what kind of products are made here, thanks to the lectures given by the workshop manager. Therefore, I have become more enthusiastic about work and exert myself," said worker Kim Pok Sil.

Employees remarkably improve their technical knowledge and skills in the course of exchanging experience and achievements and learning what they do not know.

Researchers of the children's nutrition institute of the factory and three-revolution team members also give lectures on the development trend of children's nutritious foodstuff and advanced science and technology.

Jon Song Hyon, a sci-tech diffuser of the factory, says that it has become customary for employees to hold heated discussions at the sci-tech learning space after a day's work.

Every worker is eager to come up with valuable technical innovation plans and presents such a plan at the regular technical innovation presentation of conceptions.

As they see such plans are introduced into production, all the employees become confident that they can reach the peak of science and technology.

The factory's baby formula, powdered nutrition rice and various powdered products like vegetables, kelp and fish are much favoured by mothers as they contain enough nutritious elements good for the growth and development of children.



Workers acquire expertise through the sci-tech learning space at the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

# Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music and Dance, 75 years on

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music and Dance significantly celebrated its 75th anniversary.

Modernly built on the picturesque Taedong riverside in the capital city of Pyongyang, the university has created a proud history as a pedigree establishment for training reserve musicians of the country and a palace of education of the Juche-oriented music and arts.

Since its foundation as the first base for training musical talents of the country on March 1 1949, it has made a great contribution to the development of the Juche-oriented music and arts, winning Order of Kim Il Sung and Order of Kim Jong Il, People's Artists, People's Artistes, candidate academicians, professors, PhDs and other honorary title and academic degree and title holders and winners of the February 16 Art Prize individual contest and international contests.

The course of its development is associated with the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung, Chairman Kim Jong Il and the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

Despite the difficult situations during the period of a new nation building after Korea's liberation from Japanese military rule, the President saw the importance of music education in the building of a democratic national culture and ensured that a national music school was established as a base for training reserve musicians and artistes and national musicians.

National Music School was founded with three-year undergraduate and two-year postgraduate courses at the time.

Looking forward to the future of the country which would emerge victorious in the Fatherland Liberation War, he saw that the school was renamed the University of Music in December 1952 and took measures to recall the students fighting at the front and continue music education without interruption. He watched performances prepared by the university on several

occasions and indicated the path to be followed by the education of the Juche-oriented music and arts.

Chairman Kim Jong Il published many works in the field of literature and the arts, including drama, film, music, dance and acrobatics, starting from literature, ushering in a heyday of the Juche-oriented arts. He also paid close attention to the work of the university and ensured that it was wonderfully rebuilt.

He named the university after Kim Won Gyun, who created immortal revolutionary hymn "Song of General Kim Il Sung" and "Patriotic Song", to be called Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music at the time and ensured that his bust was erected on the campus.

Today the university has developed into the highest institute of education in music and the arts and the centre of music education and scientific research of the country with many faculties and subjects of special study, hundreds of competent educational and scientific research personnel and creative groups and modern educational conditions and material and technical foundations.

A regular artistic talent training system has been set up in the university including the early education system for the selection of talented reserve artistes with natural aptitudes for the arts from across the country and genius education for them, the in-service training system and the distance education system.

The university has constantly updated the content and methods of education and improved the scientific and informatization level of teaching and practical training in line with the trend of the development of education in the new century to train promising vocal and instrumental soloists, composers, conductors, music critics and creative workers.

The graduates of the university play a key role in major art institutions of the country including the National Symphony Orchestra and the Mansudae Art Troupe.

World-famous music professors, renowned instrumentalists and bands gave lectures or performances at the university and many foreign delegations and visiting groups and overseas Koreans visited it.



An instructor of the kayagum department gives guidance to a kayagum trio ensemble.



An instructor teaches a student to play bayan. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The university also promotes many-sided exchange and cooperation with music and art educational and scientific research institutions of different countries of the world.

## Kim Jong Im, one of top 10 teachers in 2023

By Ko Kwang Yon PT

Kim Jong Im, a 42-year-old teacher at the Kaeson Kindergarten in Moranbong District which is affiliated with Pyongyang Teachers Training College, was selected as one of the top 10 teachers in 2023.

Kim asserts that teachers should go deep into juvenile mind in order to find out the teaching methods that suit the characteristics of children and to enable them to easily understand what they are taught.

Every day, she writes down in her work diary what she felt from children and her new teaching method.

In that course, she devised a teaching plan using new visual aids suited to children's mind, which was generalized throughout the country.

She always affectionately calls their names and explains them methods of various games and study theoretically, in plain language and in an amusing way.

She attaches importance to the subjects of drawing, abacus and making in developing their intellectual faculty.



Kim Jong Im tells children how to assemble toy robots at Kaeson Kindergarten affiliated to Pyongyang Teachers Training College. PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

In the past 20 years, she raised many kindergartners in her charge to be children with outstanding talents.

Among them there are Kang Kwon Yong who won a prize at the Seventh Asian Children's Painting Exhibition held online in 2021 with a lovely picture of bamboo he drew with the single stroke technique, Choe Ju Yong who also received a prize at the Eighth Asian Children's Painting Exhibition in 2022 with his pencil drawing "Joyful June 1 International Children's Day" and Jo Thae Hung

who got the top prize at the National Contest of Kindergarten Children with Outstanding Talents in November 2021.

Before being selected as one of the top 10 teachers last year, Kim Jong Im took the first place at the National Symposium on Teaching Methods, received several certificates of registration of educational science achievements, introduction of new teaching methods and invention of teaching aids and wrote books on the development of children's intellectual faculty.

## Advanced base for revolution in education in new century

By Han Jong Ho PT

The Academy of Pedagogical Science takes an important position in implementing the decisions of the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea which discussed important matters for the development of the country's education.

The academy was wonderfully built in August last year as an advanced base for the revolution in education in the new century.

It is the central pedagogical research institution, educational policy advisory body and pedagogical science research centre.

Established as the pedagogy institute in December 1959 by Cabinet decision No. 69, the academy was reorganized and expanded several times later.

It played a central role in researching measures to properly resolve urgent theoretical and practical issues arising in the country's

educational realities.

The modernly-built academy now intensifies research into improving the quality of education in keeping with the modern educational development trend and solving pedagogical problems arising in educational practice.

True to the intention of the Workers' Party of Korea to put the country's overall education firmly on a new scientific footing, it has achieved considerable successes in its research to revolutionize the educational structure, contents and methods of the country.

Many research findings presented by its researchers are very significant in developing educational programmes and assessing the students' abilities scientifically and raising the country's education to an advanced level.

It is also examining hundreds of new teaching methods developed by educational institutions to generalize highly appreciated ones to

educational units across the country. At the same time, it steps up research projects to invent and introduce teaching and examination methods which can assess intellectual faculties and creative application abilities of students comprehensively according to school types and subjects.

The new teaching forms its researchers developed and introduced into practice in educational units proved to be advantageous.

The academy directs efforts to the research on and development of educational programs to put education on a scientific and modern basis and improve the quality of education.

The researchers of the academy take the lion's share in properly resolving the problems arising in putting the country's education on a scientific and modern basis and raising the quality of education to the world level by vigorously conducting research to radically improve the educational structure, contents and methods.





Orphaned children grow healthily under the care of the state at the Pyongyang Orphanage. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES



## Homes where children grow up happily

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The Pyongyang Baby Home and Pyongyang Orphanage, located at the best place on the banks of the picturesque Taedong River, are the homes of happiness full of children's joy.

Children are growing cheerfully at the Pyongyang Baby Home designed both internally and externally to the liking of children.

The children are plump and look quite lovely as they are supplied with dairy products and other nutritious foods according to a state measure.

Cold winter wind blows outside but they sleep in warm bedrooms and frolic to their heart's content in playrooms reminiscent of a fairytale world.

"The excellent nursing facilities from dining rooms to the treatment ward are

associated with the loving care of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un," said Pyon Song Ok, a staffer of the baby home.

During his visit to the Pyongyang Baby Home and Pyongyang Orphanage on New Year's Day in 2015, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un affectionately stroked the cheeks of children there and gave them warm blessing, hoping that they would grow up well physically and mentally in the year, too.

He had promised to the children that he would come on New Year's Day during his inspection of the baby home and orphanage completed in October of the previous year, so he came there just after delivering his New Year address in order to keep his promise with the children, he said, and added

that when the laughter of children is loud, the whole country becomes brighter and that the laughter of children and the singing of the song "We Are the Happiest in the World" will resound more and more loudly on this land where we are carrying on the revolution, before he had a photo session with the children there.

The orphanage, which was built like a fairytale world, along with the baby home, under the loving care of the respected fatherly Marshal who intends to enable the orphans to grow up getting the best education in the best conditions, is filled with the clear voices of reading and laughter of its children who are frolicking and learning to their heart's content.

"The orphanage has produced many children with outstanding talents as

its education rooms, indoor wading pool, nature study room, bedrooms, floors, ceilings, stairs and walls are all designed to suit the upbringing and education and edification of children," said Jang Yong Hui, a staffer of the orphanage.

Many of the talented children are good at handwriting by brush, playing musical instruments, singing and writing poems.

Busy as he was with the overall state affairs, the respected fatherly Marshal read the collections of works "We Are the Happiest in the World" and "Our Father" presented by the children of the orphanage.

The children of the orphanage fully display their talents through TV programmes and at national kindergarten children's art festivals.

## Gratitude extended by orphans

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

On February 2, another impressive scene unfolded at Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans.

The respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un, who always pays attention to the rising generations though he is quite busy dealing with all affairs of the country, sent presents to the children of the school.

The children expressed their gratitude to him, shouting, "Thank you, respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un."

"I can say our orphaned children are growing

treat all the children with abnormalities, regarding it as not merely something related to their personality but an important matter in bringing them up well for the country," said Pae Jae Son, head of the orthodontics department.

Thus the children were taken to the hospital.

Operation on abnormally attached lingual frenums is not technically difficult but medical workers of the department deeply studied latest documentary records on the operation with the view that they should give the patients a perfect treatment which would cause no pain and no



Medical workers are engaged in the treatment of an orphaned child from Pyongyang Primary School for Orphans. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

benefiting more from the state than anyone else. They are provided with all conditions from food to clothing, housing and learning and they are benefiting more from the health system than anyone else," said Jong Un Ju, teacher of the school.

Among the children there were those who could not pronounce even their names and birthdays owing to their abnormally attached lingual frenums but all of them have recovered from their dysphasia, dysmimesis and cosmetic disorders to become able to pronounce words properly by the favour of the state, she added.

In December two years ago, medical workers of the orthodontics department of the Ryugyong Dental Hospital, who were at the school to do an early orthodontic examination of its children, found to their surprise that there were those who failed to pronounce words properly due to their abnormally attached lingual frenums.

"In fact, our goal at that time was an early orthodontic examination, so we could think that we fulfilled our responsibility as we selected the objects of teeth correction. We, however, decided to

recurrence. As a result, they introduced a radio knife-based method of operation different from the previous one.

"The previous operation method might impose a heavy burden on children as it needed much anaesthetic and was complicated in manipulation and long in operation time. But the new method caused no bleeding and pain and made the operation take merely five minutes," said Pae.

They also cured over 150 children of dysphasia, dysmimesis and cosmetic disorders by dint of early orthodontic therapies of various kinds. For example, they used a newly invented device to correct in two or three months progenia.

"It vexed me to find the children stiff in pronunciation and unable to pronounce properly in class. But after getting the treatments, all of them began to pronounce in a standard manner," said Ri Son Hyang, teacher of the school.

The children expressed their gratitude to the medical workers who treated them with parental affection, she said, adding that the gratitude reflected that to the socialist system which spares nothing for the happy laughter of children.

## Riding a cart of happiness



# Spokesman for Ministry of National Defence of DPRK issues press statement

KCNA

A spokesman for the Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK released the following press statement on March 4:

The US and the ROK kicked off again the provocative large-scale joint military drills to boost the unpredictability in the situation in the area of the armistice state.

The drills include a plan for outdoor mobile one which doubled in size over that of last year and mobilized in them are even

the armed forces of 11 satellite countries under the so-called "UN Command" without any justification for existence.

The frantic war drills by the ROK puppets and vassal forces led by the US make a clear contrast with the reality of the DPRK mobilizing large-scale military forces for economic construction for the promotion of the people's well-being, enable everyone to ascertain once again the source of regional instability and more clearly show who the arch criminal threatening mankind with

nukes is.

The large-scale war drills staged by the world's biggest nuclear weapons state and more than 10 satellite states against a state on the Korean peninsula, where a nuclear war may be ignited even with a spark, can never be called "defensive".

The Ministry of National Defence of the DPRK strongly denounces the reckless military drills of the US and the ROK for getting more undisguised in their military threat to a sovereign state and attempt at invading it and sternly warns them

against further provocative and instability-causing actions.

The armed forces of the DPRK will continue to watch the adventurist acts of the enemies and conduct responsible military activities to strongly control the unstable security environment on the Korean peninsula.

The US and the ROK will have to pay dearly by directly experiencing the security uneasiness to be caused by their wrong choice at a serious level every moment.

## New regional development policy enforced by correct planning, thorough implementation

The work for successfully implementing the new regional development policy confirmed and specified at the 19th Enlarged Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea is progressing apace in the DPRK.

The enlarged plenary meeting of the Cabinet Committee of the WPK for thoroughly implementing the Regional Development 20x10 Policy of the Party held on February 9 seriously discussed the measures for perfectly carrying out the strategy for the development of regional industries.

The items on the agenda included the issues of the Cabinet, relevant ministries and national agencies setting the production indices properly in keeping with the order of building regional industry factories in cities and counties and the economic potential and population of each region, and drawing up

the designs on the principles of saving manpower, area and energy and increasing technical intensity; giving precedence to producing and supplying materials needed for the construction and organizing the transport in a scrupulous way so as to push the construction projects on schedule; producing and perfecting the equipment and cooperative products in a qualitative way in line with the global trend of food and consumer goods development; creating raw material bases in cities and counties according to yearly plans and supplying raw materials to regional industry factories sufficiently by increasing their output; and rationally allocating management structures and manpower to suit the size and capacity of the factories to be newly built, training technicians and skilled workers in a far-sighted way and settling problems arising in the normal operation of equipment and

**Phyo Jong Gum**  
Department director of the  
Ministry of Regional Industry



the improvement of product quality.

Accordingly, efforts are directed in a far-sighted way towards creating raw material bases.

The provinces are making detailed surveys of the area of land and the distribution of forests in each region, solving problems arising in the work of creating raw material bases and encouraging the residents to turn all mountains into useful "gold mountains".

Kusong City and Unsan, Kujang, Sukchon and Songchon counties set it as their primary task to expand the raw material bases and improve the fertility of fields.

Yonthan, Unpha, Jaeryong and Unchon counties are taking practical measures to build up the bases for producing cultivated and natural raw materials and to

raise the level of intensive production.

Usi, Tongsin, Kosan and Ichon counties rationally adjusted and arranged raw material bases in favour of cultivating conditions.

Kyongsong, Orang, Kumya, Hamju and Kim Hyong Jik counties are concentrating their efforts on turning the areas beside mountains and the sea into sources of raw materials

Onchon and Jangphung counties are also paying close attention to laying material foundations of raw material bases and increasing the cultivation area of industrial crops.

The drive for turning all cities and counties into a paradise of happiness where people enjoy substantial well-being and civilization is continued.

## GIs a stumbling block to regional peace

By Song Jong Ho PT

Middle Eastern countries strongly demand that the US forces withdraw from the region. In particular, voices demanding the US forces' pullout from Iraq is getting louder since the country has suffered misfortune and sufferings for a long time due to their military intervention.

The Iraqi Prime Minister already stressed the need to put an end to the US presence in the country on several occasions. In a press conference on February 20, he said that his country does not need the US-led allied forces.

Iraqi assemblymen submitted a draft bill to the national assembly demanding an end to the presence of foreign forces. It was signed by 88 lawmakers.

The Islamic resistance forces of Iraq are strongly demanding the withdrawal of the US forces. Shortly ago, they issued a statement, which stated that they would continue to attack the US military bases until its forces completely withdraw from their country.

Each political force of Iraq as well as its people is unanimously urging the US to withdraw its troops from the country.

As is known, the US, which had coveted Iraq, a world crude oil producer and military strategic point, invaded the country on the false pretext of the "possession of weapons of mass destruction" and "sponsoring of terrorism" in March 2003 in disregard of international law.

Due to the US' gangster-like murderous war, the socio-political stability of Iraq was completely destroyed.

Later, though the US argument about WMD possession turned out to be a nasty trick, the US forces kept occupying the country for a long period, causing hundreds of thousands of deaths and reducing millions of people to refugees.

As it was compelled to invest large war funds and continued to suffer casualties amid the vicious circle of terrorism and retaliation, the US hurriedly withdrew its forces from Iraq, which fell into ruins and confusion due to the war, in late 2011.

But it did not mean that the US would take its hands off Iraq.

It invaded the country again in 2014 by taking its allied forces under the guise of giving a blow to the "Islamic State" and schemed to prolong its presence in the country in late 2021. It changed the mission of its forces into training, consultation, support and information sharing in the performance of combat mission.

The US forces are not only mercilessly infringing upon the sovereignty of the country but also threatening regional stability after occupying Iraq.

The purpose of the US is not aimed simply at having an influence on the political situation of the country. The US regards its GIs in Iraq as a military stronghold for containing the anti-American forces. It is hell-bent on the establishment of its domination over the Middle East by stationing its forces of aggression in different areas of the Middle East including Iraq.

Such moves of the US are becoming the main factor wrecking regional stability.

Syria set the rejection of illegal military presence of foreign forces as the primary task of the government and expressed its stand to liberate areas occupied by the US and other forces.

Iran also ascribed the instability and tension in the Near East to the US military presence and intervention in the area, announcing that it is time to drive out the US forces.

The reality clearly shows that the GIs are cancerous beings that aggravate the regional situation.

### BYWORD

## Chollima spirit in new era

The Chollima spirit in the new era encourages the Korean people in their struggle for the DPRK's rejuvenation and development.

Last year, workers of the Ryongsong Machine Complex, a leading machine-building base, performed a miracle, which they could not even think

of in ordinary times, in the production of large compressors upholding the decisions set forth at a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The WPK named their fighting spirit the Chollima spirit in the new era.

Recorded in the DPRK's proud history of development

spanning nearly 80 years is the Chollima era when the Korean people worked the world-startling miracle and feat of having completed socialist industrialization in only 14 years.

The Chollima spirit in the new era is the revolutionary spirit of loyalty, patriotism and self-reliance in the era of overall national rejuvenation,

when the Korean people make continuous innovation and uninterrupted leap in the spirit of Chollima while carrying forward the heroic traditions generation after generation and from one century to the next by regarding the trust and expectations of the Party Central Committee as the greatest honour and the most precious treasure.

### Contact us

Address: Sochon-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang

Tel: 850-2-18111(8456)

Email: fiph@star-co.net.kp

Fax: 850-2-3814598

URL: www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp



# Asia-Pacific Regional Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with Korean People calls enlarged meeting, adopts action programme

KCNA

An enlarged meeting of the Asia-Pacific Regional Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People took place on February 28 via video-conferencing.

Present there were co-chairpersons of the regional committee, the head of the Secretariat, the director of information and other members of the committee and personages of the organizations for friendship and solidarity with the Korean people and the Juche idea study organizations in Russia, Nepal, Myanmar, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Thailand, Pakistan, the Philippines, New Zealand, Australia, Türkiye, Bulgaria,

Germany, the UK, Sweden, Croatia and Peru.

The meeting discussed the organizational structure of the regional committee and the orientation of its activities.

Then followed speeches.

Madav Kumar Nepal, former prime minister of Nepal who is co-chairman of the Asia-Pacific Regional Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Korean People, said that to convey the noble and great personality of the prominent leaders of the DPRK as well as their undying exploits forever and introduce the reality of the great DPRK ushering in a new era of comprehensive development of socialism under the leadership of H.E. Kim Jong Un should be

the primary task of the regional committee.

Raymond Ferguson, secretary general of the Australia-DPRK Association for Friendship and Culture who is head of the Secretariat of the Regional Committee, referred to the fact that the regional committee conducted solidarity activities with the Korean people in various forms and ways in the past.

Javed Ansari, chairman of the Pakistan-Korea Friendship and Solidarity Committee who is executive secretary of the Secretariat of the regional committee, said that the regional committee would stand in the van of the efforts to further develop the friendly relations between the

DPRK people and the progressive peoples in the Asia-Pacific region, expressing belief that the regional committee would further strengthen into a regional organization extending solidarity to the just cause of the DPRK people.

The action programme adopted at the meeting called for further developing the friendly and cooperative relations with the DPRK as required by the times and in keeping with the circumstances and conducting on a higher stage the activities for supporting and encouraging the DPRK people in their struggle to build a thriving nation and defend peace and security in the Korean peninsula and the region and the rest of the world.

## Pitiable lot of minions

By Choe Yong Nam PT

It was recently disclosed that a former US naval officer stationed in Japan who had killed two Japanese was released on parole, incurring the wrath of the Japanese public.

In May 2021, the American naval captain ran down two Japanese to death in a traffic accident in a city of Japan's Shizuoka Prefecture.

He was convicted of involuntary vehicular manslaughter and sentenced to three years in prison to be put in jail in October 2021. In December last year he was transferred to the US and released on parole on January 13 this year, before the end of the three-year imprisonment period according to the unilateral measure taken by the US Parole Board.

On the day of his release, a CNN compere posted on an SNS an article titled "Good newflash". It contained a picture of the smiling criminal, who should have been in prison, posing with his wife and three children, enraging the Japanese. Against this backdrop, a Utah senator who had campaigned for the release of the criminal impudently said after he was paroled that Japan should apologize to his family and the US.

This nasty remark added fuel to the anger of the Japanese as it was as good as a case of a guilty party filing the suit first. A Japanese in a letter to the American senator retorted if the family of the criminal apologized to the family of the Japanese victims at the outset.

Although the people's rage is growing over this incident, the Japanese authorities who should represent the victims' side are groaning inwardly. Now that things have gone so far, the authorities ought to take the case seriously and demand an apology and compensation from the US side. But, as in the past, they are staying mum without taking any measure. The lot of the minions can never be otherwise as they are at the US' beck and call.

The recent incident brought into bold relief once again the unequal relations between the two countries.

As to the reason why the Japanese politicians and major media outlets fail to deal with the case on a large scale, a professor of an American university told BBC that if Japan did so, it would only worsen the damage to Japan-US relations and that it is widely recognized in the country that though the bilateral alliance is unfair to Japan, it is indispensable to its security. It can be said that the remark has intensively reflected the present Japan-US relations.

The US has regarded Japan as its minion, whereas the latter has failed to break itself of the attitude of dependence on and subservience to the former since its defeat in the Pacific war.

In July last year, it was known that the US forces stationed in Okinawa were planning to release polluted water containing organic fluorine compound. Although the matter was still under consultation between the two sides, the Americans impudently discharged the contaminated water into the sewer. But Japan could not utter a word in protest at that time.

This is never surprising as the Japanese authorities are nonplussed over the behaviour of the GIs, who do not hesitate to commit all sorts of crimes on their land, and even let loose convicted killers.

They are paying a hefty sum of money for the upkeep of the US forces in their country with the blood taxes collected from the locals and are enforcing the relocation of the Futenma US air force base despite the vehement opposition by the inhabitants of Okinawa Prefecture.

There is no help for such minions since they sustain their life as they read the face of their master by setting subservience to the US as their policy.

History and reality have clearly proved that dependence on outside forces leads to ruin.

The Japanese authorities are clinging to subservience to the US while talking about national "security" and "interests", but this is an extremely foolish act which can never protect even the lives of their citizens.

## World Youth Festival held in Russia

KCNA

The World Youth Festival opened in Sochi, Russia, on March 2.

An opening ceremony of the festival, which was held at the Bolshoi Ice Rink, was attended by the DPRK's youth delegation and other youth delegates and honorary guests from over 180 countries including Russia, China and Vietnam.

There was a video speech delivered by Russian President Vladimir Putin at the ceremony.

Russia has hundreds of cultures, languages and traditions and friendship between nations has always served as a major pillar, asset and strength of the country, he said, adding that it helped to conquer fresh heights in science, art and education, win victory in the Second World War and defeat Nazism.

Everyone should fight against poverty, terrorism, diseases and drug-related crimes for rising generations and preserve valuable natural resources, cultural relics and all the beauty and diversity of this planet, he said, stressing that racism, dictatorship, double standards and lie cannot exist in such a world.

Meanwhile, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov rejected the West's unjust double standards related to the Paris Olympics in a meeting of the festival.

He disclosed that the West is persistently arguing for Israel's participation in the Paris Olympic Games despite its ceaseless brutal man-killing in the Gaza Strip, while opposing the participation of the Russian athletes in the games.

A variety of events took place on the theme of "Responsibility for the destiny of the world", "Multi-national unity",

"World of possibility for every individual", "Let's defend families for children and peace" and "We will be with Russia".

The World Youth Festival closed in Sochi, Russia, on March 6.

A closing ceremony was also held at the Bolshoi Ice Rink, attended by the DPRK youth delegation and other youth delegates and honorary guests from over 180 countries including Russia, China and Vietnam.

Russian President Vladimir Putin made a speech in the closing ceremony.

He said that a genuine youth city of the world youth has been created in the southern area of Russia, adding that though various differences can be found, including those in appearance, colour and language of participants in the festival, a common point in all of them is that they are all human beings and are equal with each other.

If everyone is equal, there can be no room for anyone's dominant position, arrogance and racial discrimination, but regrettably the world lacks equal conditions for everyone and this is the present unfair international order, he stated.

All the participants in the festival aspire after equality and they have actually turned out in the construction of a just world and, therefore, the world will turn into a safe world which is more transparent, fair, stable and balanced.

His speech was followed by art performances given by art troupes of different countries including Russia, Belarus, India and China.

Prior to the closing ceremony, President Putin looked round achievement exhibition halls and met with the participants in the festival.

## Briefly

### Russia

#### FM rejects G7's hostile moves

Maria Zakharova, a spokeswoman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, in a commentary on February 27 decried the anti-Russian moves of the Group of Seven.

G7 set up with countries hostile to the Russian Federation issued another communique on the lapse of two years since Russia launched the ongoing special military operation, she said.

Russia is not surprised at G7's threat of new sanctions, she said, adding that it would take corresponding counteraction against any unfriendly measures on the principle of reciprocity.

### China

#### Defence Ministry censures US for turning space into battlefield

A spokesman for the Chinese Defence Ministry condemned the US for militarizing outer space and turning it into a battlefield at a press conference on February 29.

Answering a question of a journalist as to the fact that the Secretary of the US Department of the Air Force remarked that China has threatened the "superior position" of the US in the fields of air battle, space intelligence and so on, he disclosed that the US is expanding its military strength on the pretext of "threat" from other country.

China strongly demands that the US abandon the Cold War mentality, discontinue circulation of lies which conflict with the facts and stop military expansion in outer space, he stressed.

### Iran

#### FM rejects US criticism

A spokesman for the Iranian foreign ministry at a press conference on March 4 rejected the US criticism about Iran's cooperation with Russia in space exploration.

Recently Iran launched a home-made satellite atop Russia's carrier rocket. The US picked on it, claiming that it shows the intensification of the two countries' military cooperation and badly affects the Ukrainian crisis, Iran's neighbouring countries and the international community.

### WHO

#### UN special agency expresses concern over measles spread in Western Pacific

The World Health Organization expressed concern over the rapid spread of measles in the Western Pacific on March 1.

Last year, 5 044 patients were registered in the region, and it is said that the number is over two times as much as the number of measles patients in 2021 and 2022 put together.

Attributing this to the failure to give people the vaccine and properly monitor the spread of the epidemic, the organization warned that the number of such patients might grow this year as 3.6 million children failed to receive vaccine between 2020 and 2022.

# Sports contest of agricultural workers held

KCNA

The finals of the Agricultural Workers Sports Games-2024 took place at Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on March 5.

Among the spectators were Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ju Chol Gyu, department director

of the Central Committee of the WPK, Kim Il Guk, minister of Physical Culture and Sports, Han Jong Hyok, chairman of the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea, chairpersons of provincial (cities under the direct control of the government) rural economy committees, exemplary agricultural workers and Pyongyang citizens.

Prior to the finals, Ri Chol Man, vice-premier of the Cabinet and chairman of the Agricultural Commission, made a speech.

He called upon all the

participants to fully display the united might and techniques of the collective in the finals so as to clearly prove the validity and vitality of the Party's policy on mass sports activities and make positive contributions to the implementation of the programme for the rural revolution in the new era.

There were a march-past of teams from all the provinces and a demonstration of gymnasts before the finals in each sports event.

North Hwanghae Province came first in team standings of the contest.



The finals of the Agricultural Workers Sports Games-2024 are held at Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on March 5.



# Civil servants sports games open in Pyongyang

KCNA

The Civil Servants Sports Games-2024 opened with due ceremony at the Taekwon-Do Hall in Pyongyang on March 5.

Divided into four groups, teams will compete in such events as volleyball (men), table tennis, a tug of war, Taekwon-Do and hurdles at the Taekwon-Do Hall, Sosan Football Stadium and the Handball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street.

Choe Song Nam, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, made an opening address.

At the end of the ceremony, there was a men's volleyball game.



The Civil Servants Sports Games-2024 take place at the Taekwon-Do Hall in Pyongyang on March 5.

## Top ten players and coaches of 2023

### Shooting and athletics coaches

By Ri Sung Ik PT

#### Still chasing his dream

Sim Chong Rim, winner of Kim Il Sung Youth Honour Prize and Merited Athlete, is a shooting coach of the Defense Sports Team of the Ministry of National Defence.

He dreamed of becoming a shooter who would bring honour to the country with gold medals in international matches in his childhood.

During the training he keenly realized that it was not easy to possess genuine marksmanship and that he could not fulfil his dream only with desire.

He focused on deeply grasping scientific principles in the shooting training and, on the basis of it, perfectly mastered every movement of shooting.

In only a few years after he started his playing career he began to steal the show in national events and also acquitted himself well in international events.

Even after he became a coach, he continued to work

hard to realize his dream through the players.

Sim coached his player Ri Ji Ye to success in the 14th Asian Shooting Championships held in 2019: one gold and two bronze medals.

Later, he steadily improved the training methods so that his trainees Ri Ji Ye and Pang Myong Hyang could win the women's 10m moving target shooting team event of the 19th Asian Games held last year.

He was selected as one of the top 10 coaches of the DPRK in 2023 after 2019.

#### Redoubling efforts

Choe Hyong Chol, a marathon coach of the Amnokgang Sports Club, was born into an ordinary farmer's family.

From childhood he was very good at running. So he began to learn the rudimentary techniques of track and field sports in his childhood and achieved successes in national and international events thanks to his tireless efforts and enthusiasm.

Later, he became a coach and

worked hard to develop and perfect a new and innovative training method based on the field experience and techniques he had acquired during his playing career.

As a result, his players achieved successes in national and international events.

In particular, Han Il Ryong won the men's marathon in the track and field events of the 2021 DPRK Championships and set a new DPRK record and was placed first in the men's marathon of the 2022 DPRK Championships.

Later, Han won the men's marathon in the track and field events of the 2023 Spring National Sports Festival and finished runner-up in the men's marathon of the 19th Asian Games in 2023, to be selected as one of the top 10 players of the DPRK in 2023.

Choe Hyong Chol, who was selected as one of the top 10 coaches of the country in succession in 2022 and 2023, is now redoubling his efforts with an ambition to train world champions and Olympic gold medallists.

## Chinese egret of Unmu Islet, a living monument

By Choe Song Jun PT

Chinese egret of Unmu Islet is a migratory bird under protection which breeds in spring every year on Unmu Islet 14 kilometres southwest of Aedo-dong in Jongju City, North Phyongan Province, and migrates southward in autumn.

Covering an area of 0.39 square kilometres, the islet is 500 metres wide, 3 990 metres

round and 44 metres above sea level. It has a hillock and is surrounded by several big and small islets in a row. There grow such trees as bush clover, Weigela subsessilis, linden, pine, daimyo oak and looseflower hornbeam and such plants as bracken and scouring rush.

The islet is beautiful as its north consists of slopes where various plants grow and its

south rocky cliffs. Around May, seabirds like Chinese egret, spoonbill, gull and Eurasian oystercatcher nest and breed on shrub branches, under wormwood bushes or on rocks of the islet and others around it.

The area is under full protection as habitat for gregarious seabirds.

Chinese egret of Unmu Islet was registered as a living monument in January 1980.



Chinese egret of Unmu Islet.

