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Kim Jong Un inspects trolleybus factory, catfish farm and fish pickling factory

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, viewed new types of trolleybus and tramcar made by the Pyongyang Trolleybus Factory and the Bus Repair Shop.

He visited the Pyongyang Trolleybus Factory to acquaint himself with the production of the new trolleybus.

The bus has really been well made flawlessly, he said as he viewed it at the assembly workshop. Its quality has remarkably been improved as compared to what it was half a year ago, with all fittings updated considerably in qualitative and modern terms and the quality of the rubber items and decorative plastic board enhanced, he noted. And he added that he was more pleased, all the more thankful and so happy that all this has been domestically made.

When it completes the second-stage modernization project, the factory is most likely to develop into a world-level vehicle maker, he noted. He referred to the issues arising in the second-stage modernization project and production growth, stressing the need to modernize, automate and put on assembly line the overall production processes and to ensure the units in charge of the supply of parts produce necessary equipment and materials in a responsible manner.

The second leg of his inspection tour was the Songsan Tramcar Station.

He viewed a tramcar newly made by the employees of the Bus Repair Shop.

He was satisfactorily told that



an AC motor has been installed at the new car and a motor control converter and program have been applied to improve its mobility, speed and braking properties and that most of its mechanical and electric parts and fittings have domestically been made.

He gave his thanks to all the workers, scientists and technicians who have played their part in the production of the trolley and tram.

At night he oversaw the test run of the new vehicles.

Kim Jong Un visited the Samchon Catfish Farm with his

wife Ri Sol Ju.

He made the rounds of the halls dedicated to education with revolutionary relics and the history of the farm, sci-tech learning space, general control room, outdoor pond, breed catfish block, reserve breed catfish rearing block and other places to familiarize himself with the production of the farm.

He highly praised the officials and employees of the farm for having spruced it up and overfulfilled the annual production plan of 3 000 tons set by the Party.

The farm should be the engine that

leads the country's fish culture and frontrunner, educator and pedigree farm in the diffusion of advanced fish farming techniques, he said, and specified tasks and ways to this end.

At the cold storage he saw the frozen fishes and said it looks as if they are stacks of gold ingots, repeatedly praising the farm as a real treasure farm. He encouraged the entire farm to turn out for increased production and greet the 70th anniversary of the DPRK with proud achievements in production.

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Kim Jong Un provided field guidance to the Kumsanpho Fish Pickling Factory with his wife Ri Sol Ju.

Being briefed on the factory in front of a large map showing its panoramic view, he got familiar with the implementation of the tasks he gave during his last year's inspection and production of pickled fish at the factory.

He praised the factory for having done many jobs after being reported that it completed over 30 kinds of trial products of pickled fish and produced several hundred tons of pickled fish in seven kinds by solving scientific and technological problems arising in pickling fish and introducing them in close collaboration with relevant institutions, and finished the final construction of some buildings including the houses of its employees and installation of equipment.

After looking round the showroom and storehouse, he said that at first he was worried about whether it would be productive as it was the first fish pickling factory, but now he was confident at the sight of the pickled products in heaps.



He highly appreciated the officials and employees of the factory who added glory to the 70th anniversary of the DPRK with proud achievements in production

and gave encouragement to the motherly Party, and offered thanks to them.

The Supreme Leader was accompanied by Choe Ryong Hae,

O Su Yong, Kim Su Gil, Hwang Pyong So and Jo Yong Won during his inspection tours.

By PT staff reporter

STATEMENT

FM spokesman slams the move to put pressure on DPRK

A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry issued the following statement on August 9:

At the first historic DPRK-US summit meeting and talks, the top leaders committed themselves to working together to put an end to the extremely hostile relations through confidence-building and establish new bilateral relations in line with the demands and interests of the peoples of the two countries and to making a positive contribution to peace, security and prosperity on the Korean peninsula and in the world.

Since late last year we have discontinued nuclear test and ICBM test fire, which was followed by such practical denuclearization steps as the dismantling of the nuclear test site, but the US unilaterally insisted on the DPRK's "prior denuclearization" at the first DPRK-US high-level talks held in Pyongyang in early July.

However, we took such generous measures as repatriating POW/MIA remains for the sake of confidence-building between the two countries, the foremost and indispensable process in implementing the joint statement of the DPRK-US summit.

We hoped that these

goodwill measures would contribute to breaking down the high barrier of mistrust existing between the countries and to establishing mutual trust, but the US responded to our expectation with inciting the international community to sanctions and pressure against the DPRK.

The US is trying to invent a pretext for increased sanctions against the DPRK by mobilizing all its servile mouthpieces and intelligence services to make all kinds of concoctions concerning the DPRK's nuclear weapons. It made public a "north Korea sanctions and enforcement actions advisory" and additional sanctions, and clamoured for collaboration in imposing sanctions and pressure on the country even at international meetings.

Worse still, it has committed such despicable acts as to hinder international organizations' cooperation with the DPRK in the sports field and to force other countries not to send high-level delegations to the celebrations of the 70th founding anniversary of the DPRK.

The point is that some high-ranking officials of the US administration are picking on the DPRK groundlessly and desperately trying to intensify international sanctions and pressure as they go against the will of President Trump, who

intends to develop DPRK-US relations while expressing gratitude to the DPRK for its goodwill measures for implementing the DPRK-US joint statement.

It is as good as waiting to see a boiled egg hatch to expect any result while insulting the dialogue partner and throwing cold water over its sincere efforts for confidence-building, a precondition for implementing the joint statement.

The international community is reacting with dismay to the shameless, brazen behaviour of the US, and we also closely follow the US actions with heightened vigilance.

As long as the US administration clings to the time-worn and failed script used by its predecessors while throwing away even the basic decorum towards its dialogue partner, no progress can be expected in the implementation of the joint statement, including denuclearization, and there is no guarantee that the hard-won atmosphere of stability on the Korean peninsula will continue.

We remain unchanged in our will to build confidence and sincerely implement the joint statement step by step true to the intention of the top leaders of two countries. The US should, though belatedly, respond to our sincere efforts in kind.

ASEAN

FM reiterates DPRK stance at ASEAN Regional Forum

The first-ever DPRK-US summit meeting and talks in Singapore were a megaevent which had the most profound and positive influence on the situation in the Asia-Pacific region, DPRK Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho said in Singapore.

The Singapore summit is of great international significance as it showed that even if they had long remained hostile to each other, they could work towards regional or global peace and security through dialogue and negotiations when they build up mutual confidence, he said as he addressed the ministerial meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum on August 4.

He reiterated the DPRK's consistent stand that it would positively develop friendly and cooperative ties with all the regional countries on the principles of respect for sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit and continue to join the efforts of the ASEAN Regional Forum to build trust and pursue protective diplomacy.

Referring to the DPRK's unshakeable commitment to the DPRK-US Joint Statement, he said the key to the complete implementation of the joint statement is to build confidence.

It is an only credible solution to seek a new mode by giving priority to confidence building and ensuring a balanced,

simultaneous and phased implementation of each provision of the joint statement, he said, adding that only when the US makes us get closer to it with ease can we also open our heart to the US and take action in this regard.

He expressed concern over the fact that attempts to go back to the past contrary to what the US leadership intends to do are persistently being made within the US.

He hoped that the participating member nations of the ASEAN Regional Forum would value the current détente on the Korean peninsula, an opportunity of a century, and do something helpful in addressing the Korean peninsula issue at its root.

In another development, Ri Yong Ho met respectively with his counterparts from China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Laos, Thailand, the Philippines, New Zealand and Cambodia, plus the European Union foreign policy chief, on August 3-4 on the sidelines of the forum.

At the meetings they shared views on boosting bilateral relations and strengthening cooperation.

Ri also met the Burmese minister of international cooperation and the Indian minister of State of the Foreign Ministry.

Compiled from KCNA

DPRK 70th anniversary

Glorious years in the DPRK's development

The 1980s are recorded as the annals of fresh miracles and heroic events in the history of socialist construction in the DPRK.

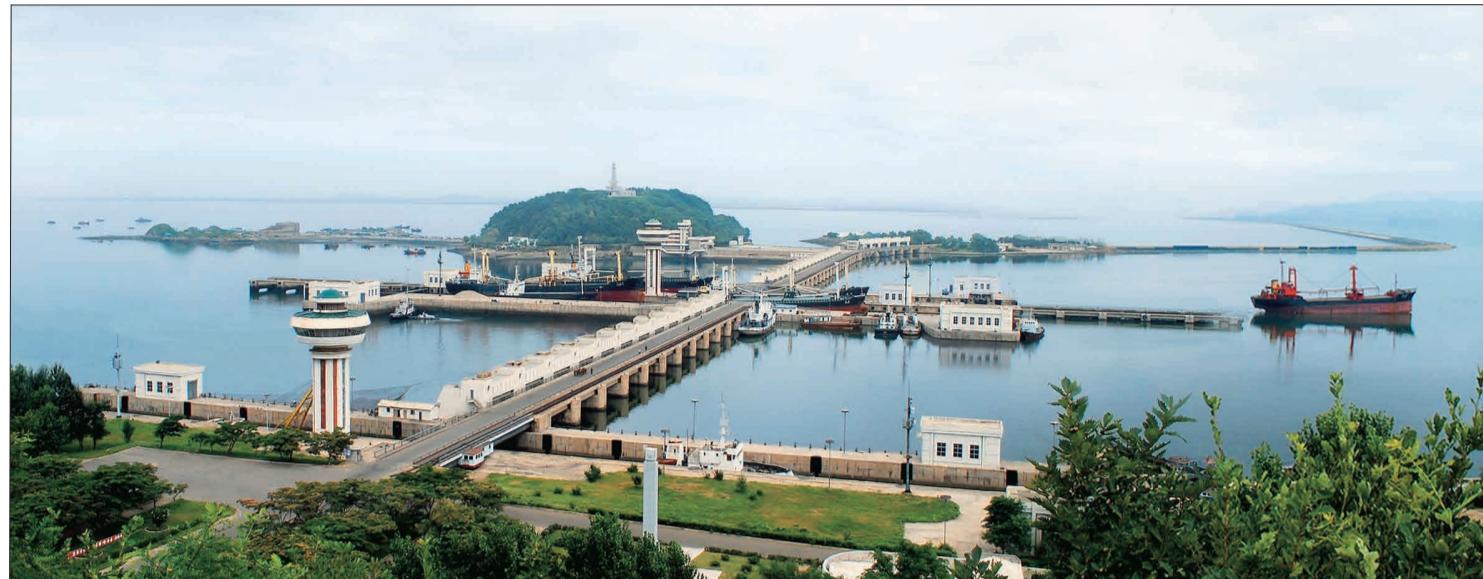
Entering the 1980s, all sectors were required to effect a new revolutionary upswing by further speeding up advance in order to carry out the Second Seven-Year Plan before the set time and attain new prospective goals for socialist economic construction.

The DPRK government aroused all the population to the campaign for creating the speed of the 80s, a new speed of advance, so as to bring about a new upsurge in socialist construction in the spirit and stamina displayed during the great Chollima upsurge.

In response to it, workers of the then Kim Chaek Iron Works appealed to the working people throughout the country to bring about a great upsurge in socialist economic construction, and turned out in a campaign to increase steel production.

As they worked hard to prolong the service life of electric furnaces, smelters reduced the melting time to increase the frequency of tapping three to four times more than previously, overfulfilling the daily plan over 1.2 times, or 1.5 times at the maximum.

With new records exceeding the previous norm created at blast furnaces, electric furnaces and rolling mills, the workers of the Kim Chaek Iron Works produced well over 30 000 tons of pig iron, 40 000 tons of steel and well over 40 000 tons of rolled steel more than the previous year in 1985 while saving 60 000 tons of fuel.



The 8-km-long West Sea Barrage built in a matter of five years was completed in 1986.

The campaign for creating the speed of the 80s spread to all economic sectors.

Komdok, a leading nonferrous mineral producer, performed a great miracle of building large-scale dressing plant No. 3 in a year.

A daring plan for the construction of a large-scale dressing plant with the capacity of 10 million tons was mapped out and activities to push the project in a three-dimensional way were conducted briskly to finish the huge workload which was believed to take five to ten years to do in a year, thus providing a model of the campaign.

In the flames of this fierce struggle, the creativity and revolutionary enthusiasm of the working people were raised remarkably, a great turnaround was made on all fronts and a new period of great revolutionary upsurge started in socialist construction.

The campaign proved its might in the construction of the West Sea Barrage.

The project was a world-class barrage construction to build a dam across 8 kilometres of the sea, several locks and dozens of sluices on the dam.

Astonished by the news about the DPRK's construction of a barrage in the rough sea, the world's people expressed doubt whether such a huge project could really be carried out by the small country.

The doubt, however, gradually turned into admiration.

After finishing such preparations as the construction of railways and roads and the drawing of designs in a matter of half a year since the groundbreaking to rush into the main project all at once, the builders completed the construction of cofferdam in two years and a half.

The barrage construction was

rounded off in a short period of five years thanks to the heroic struggle of service members and other builders. Their heroic efforts demonstrated the inexhaustible creativity of the Korean people and the huge potential of the country's independent economy, and imbued the working people across the country with confidence in victory and immense courage.

Miracles were also created in other sectors.

The then Ragwon Machine Factory succeeded in building a large oxygen plant, the first of its kind in the history of the country's manufacturing industry, and the Ryongsong Machine Complex produced a 10 000-ton press to demonstrate the power of the Juche-oriented industry.

When the workers waged a "do-or-die" struggle while settling every matter with their own efforts, young people built

tunnels through steep mountains in the northern area and railway bridges as well to lay railway tracks.

They built dozens of railway tunnels and bridges, hundreds of structures and over ten railway stations in over a hundred kilometres of railway in a little over three years to make a new history of tremendous changes, while capital construction workers fully displayed the power of the country and created the second Pyongyang speed during some 260 main construction projects including Kwangbok Street and May Day Stadium.

Indeed, the 1980s were the proud annals during which a golden age of construction unprecedented in its scope and scale, content and form, quality and speed was ushered in under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Kim Chang Su

INSPECTION



Premier Pak Pong Ju (middle) inspects a construction site of Samjiyon County.

Premier Pak Pong Ju inspected Samjiyon County and the construction site of the Tanchon Power Station.

He made the rounds of the Paektusan Museum, the management station of revolutionary battle sites in the Paektusan Secret Camp, the construction site of the inn of Samjiyon county town, the Junghung Farm and other places in Samjiyon County.

The consultative meeting held on the spot discussed measures to ensure the speed and quality of construction at the top level, the preferential supply of cement and steel materials needed for the construction of Samjiyon County by relevant units and the comprehensive mechanization of agriculture.

RALLY

Workers and farmers vow to launch a new campaign

The Workers' Party of Korea recently initiated a new mass movement to hit within the fixed time the goals of the five-year strategy for national economic development set forth in its Seventh Congress.

Employees of the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine and the Namsa Cooperative Farm in Rangnang District of Pyongyang held meetings to vow to vigorously conduct the drive for increased production to attain the goals of the five-year strategy.

Speakers at the meeting of employees of the coal mine referred to the fact that in the past two years they gave priority to science and technology and organized work carefully to employ advanced tunnelling

and coal-cutting methods, thereby exceeding the coal production target for 2016, the first year of implementing the five-year strategy, by 11.5 percent, carrying out the 2017 plan set higher than before and paving the way for making a leap forward to attain the production goal for this year ahead of schedule.

They called on the coal mine to lead the country in the drive for increased production by improving production management and control to hit the coal production target and carrying out monthly and quarterly plans without fail.

Those at the meeting of

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Meetings vow to conduct drive for increased production

FROM PAGE 3

agricultural workers of the Namsa Cooperative Farm in Rangnang District proudly said the farm fulfilled the agricultural production plan for the past two years of implementing the five-year strategy for national economic development on all indices, expressing their resolve to complete the tasks assigned to the farm without fail by conducting a vigorous drive

for increased production to attain the goals of the five-year strategy.

To this end, they would positively introduce advanced farming methods and techniques that suit the farm's climatic and soil conditions, radically increase per-hectare grain yield by spreading more organic manure, fire the zeal of farmers for production by correctly effecting the field assignment system within the framework of the sub-workteam management

system, decisively raise vegetable yield by manuring and tending vegetable fields properly and improve the dietary life of the people by boosting livestock farming, fruit growing and fish culture, they noted.

Resolutions were adopted at the meetings.

Similar meetings are being held in other industrial establishments and farms across the country.

By Song Yong Sok PT



A worker at the Taean Heavy Machine Complex supervises the machining of a large gear.

FOODSTUFF

Factory diversifies foods for children

The Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory has developed various functional foods.

Typical ones are spirulina powdered soya milk, rice peptide powder, formula for babies and mothers and powdered soybean sprout.

The spirulina powdered soya milk is a functional food for children with original taste and high nutrition. It is made by adding spirulina, a natural functional substance, to soya milk after processing it in an industrial way. Researchers of the factory removed spirulina's green colour and unpleasant taste through freezing and thawing and ferment processing and fixed the rational mixing ratio to raise its digestibility up to 95 percent.

The rice peptide powder is a functional food in which the nutrition value of protein has been improved through the enzymatic decomposition of rice protein. It is specially good for treating children's allergic diarrhoea, and richly contains functional polypeptide and essential micronutrients. A protein supplier for both children and adults, it can be taken together with other foods or singly and used as a raw material for foodstuffs.

The formula for babies

and mothers, which is much favoured by pregnant women and nursing mothers, is also one of the factory's recent developments. The formula, whose main ingredient is cow's milk, contains rich nutrients needed for the growth of embryo and the maternal health, including various minerals and vitamins, high protein source, physiologically active substance and immunity strengthening materials.

The factory also presented the powdered soybean sprout for women by separating the sprout from the skin of soybeans, which had been treated as a by-product. Skin and sprout are

separated during the primary processing of soybeans. The sprout of soybeans contains bean isoflavone which controls estrogen known as female hormone. The product is invigorating and effective for the treatment of menopausal disorder and breast tumour often seen among women. In particular, if women take it for a month, it helps remove pimples, prevent wrinkles and remove pigment deposition, having noticeable skin protection and whitening effects.

Besides, the factory brought out dozens of children's functional foods including sweet potato-apple porridge, fruit flavour soybean yoghurt, powdered apple and rice, combined vegetable and rice powder, and powdered yoghurt and rice.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT



Researchers at the Pyongyang Children's Foodstuff Factory are engaged in a study on functional foods.

PRODUCTION

Paint production sees marked improvement



JONG HWA SUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Quality paints roll off the assembly line at the Songyong Paint Factory.

The Songyong Paint Factory is the producer of quality acrylic paints.

The technology of producing acrylic acid from propylene was developed in the late 1960s, but there are some ways to industrialize it. One of them is the production method based on two-stage oxidation of propylene, which is recognized as an advanced one because it is free from pollution and costs the least. Acrylic acid is used in various fields including paints and adhesives making and water purification. Growing into an acrylic acid industry now, the technology has so far been developed by a few countries.

The Songyong Paint Factory set up an acrylic paint production process by their own efforts a few years ago.

Now it concentrates on technical innovation to satisfy quality indices of paints.

Primary efforts have been channelled into developing various additives. One of them is the substitute for emulsion stabilizer OP-30.

OP-30 is an essential element

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

PRODUCTION

New belt production process set up

The Hamhung Daesong Rubber Processing Factory has set up a new belt production process.

The factory conducted a mass innovation drive to mass-produce various rubber goods including block and belt.

Technicians and workers pooled creative wisdom with an eye to completing the process as a development-oriented and innovative one, not a prototype-copying process.

They revamped the power transmitter of the warping machine into a belt type and set the diameter of the belt pulley rationally to ensure the sufficient

number of revolutions.

They developed a continuous vulcanization method in order to overcome half-vulcanization or rough vulcanization which occurred at joints in the belt vulcanizing process, thereby boosting its performance remarkably.

The new belt fully meets standard technical indexes such as tensile strength, elongation and wear rates and impact strength and costs less and its quality is high, so it is popular with users.

Compiled from KCNA

FINE ARTS

Museum showcases development of nation's fine arts

The Korean National Art Museum on the banks of the Taedong River is dedicated to the art heritage of the Korean nation and present-day masterpieces of socialist Korea.

The majestic building supported by light grey stone pillars is an artistic combination of modern and classical beauty.

The museum was inaugurated on August 11 1948.

The reality in liberated Korea urgently required the art field to set up a cultural education base, which would find out, collect and preserve priceless art heritage of the nation and inspire the people to the building of a new democratic Korea, while creating new works truthfully representing the mentality of the locals.

President Kim Il Sung gave instructions on important issues arising in developing the national fine art which suffered an eclipse due to the Japanese policy of obliterating Korean culture, and on establishing an art museum in order to preserve intact the art works showcasing the brilliant culture and long tradition of the nation.

At his initiative, the Korean National Art Museum was inaugurated, which made it

possible to put lots of national art legacies under state protection and let all the people enjoy them.

Over the past seven decades the museum has made constant efforts to increase the country's art treasures, preserve them in original state and give wide publicity to them.

With a total floor space of some 10 000 square metres, it consists of over 20 display halls housing at least 17 000 pieces of art works of national treasure value in chronological order.

Halls Nos. 1 to 15 are devoted to art works which were created by resourceful and civilized Korean ancestors, who made the Oriental culture thrive, from the period of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC and AD 668) to modern ages.

In the halls that are antique-looking yet modernly-built, visitors can see tomb murals from Koguryo that are found in different parts of the country including Anak, Kangso and Tokhung-ri.

The murals give a vivid representation of the aspects of the history, culture, customs, religion, science and technology of Koguryo which thrived as an



PHOTOS BY PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

The front view of the Korean National Art Museum.

Eastern power in the middle ages.

They shine as national treasures and part of world cultural heritage for the vivid and beautiful colours that have not gone off even after well over a thousand years, powerful brushstrokes, rich content and elegant styles.

Art pieces from Koryo, the first unified state of Korea which achieved worldwide fame for Koryo celadon, add exquisiteness and splendour to the exhibits as a whole for the diversity of kind and form.

There are also art pieces from the period of the feudal Joson dynasty and modern ages, which preserved national features and developed the tendency of realism.

Lots of paintings of those days fully feature the vivid and concise brushwork and beautiful style peculiar to Korean painting. Typical works are "Cowboy", "Kuryong Falls", "Cowherd", "Nobleman and peasant" and "Leopard skin", works of contemporary master

artists Kim Sik, Jong Son, Kim Tu Ryang, Kim Tuk Sin and Kim Hong Do.

The halls of modern art works intensively show the aspects of development of fine arts of socialist Korea with the help of masterpieces of Korean painting, oil painting, sculpture, graphic painting and posokhwa, or Korean jewel painting, pottery and embroidery. Many of them give vivid artistic portrayals of the peerlessly great persons of Mt Paektu and their revolutionary careers.

In particular, Korean paintings "The evening glow over Kangson" and "Jipson Peak in summer", oil painting "Torch held up in Pochonbo", "On an onward march" and posokhwa "Snow falls" are masterpieces that embody the spirit of the times and aspirations of the Korean people and therefore elicit unstinting praise and admiration of viewers including overseas Koreans and foreigners.

The museum, which is staffed with competent academic and creative personnel and which has solid material and technical foundations, ensures the eternal preservation of exhibits based

on the systems of safekeeping and management of original works, scientific restoration and facsimile of exhibits.

It conducts information activities in various forms and methods. It arranges different kinds of lectures, publishes books and picture albums and makes picture postcards and water-paint prints.

Since its inauguration, it has hosted more than 200 art exhibitions at national and other levels and mobile art shows on different occasions including national holidays.

Particularly, it gave wide publicity to the fine qualities of Korean fine art at overseas exhibitions including art show "Flower dedicated to President Kim Il Sung" which was held in Austria's Vienna in May 2010 and the Korean contemporary art show in China's Beijing in November 2016.

The treasure trove of fine art is enriched with excellent art works and serves as a source of inspiration for art experts and enthusiasts and a base of research into fine art and culture.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



The interior of the museum.

Vocational education law instituted

The Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly recently adopted the law on vocational education.

The law consisting of five chapters and 46 articles stipulates the main principles to develop vocational education and the legal demands which should be met in vocational education in such educational institutions and at workplaces.

It serves as a legal guarantee for training talents with practical ability, for developing vocational education in line with the requirements of the developing reality and for establishing a strict vocational education system and order.

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EMBROIDERY

New embroidery techniques developed

The Pyongyang Embroidery Institute has developed a variety of embroidery techniques.

Typical of them is a double-side embroidery in different colours and shapes.

This technique is to embroider both sides of a cloth piece with different designs in different colours and therefore it can be claimed to be a synthesis of several embroidery techniques.

To develop the technique researchers applied such major techniques as additional stitching, long and short stitching and repetition and dozens of auxiliary methods.

"Red carp and puppy" created

using this technique is admired by experts and other people for the beautiful and delicate 3-D effects and fantastic, original and refined artistry.

Researchers also completed a three-dimensional embroidery technique which makes it possible to see three different designs at long, medium and close distances on a plane.

Embroidery pieces created by this method produce an effect that is very similar to natural environment.

There are also a technique of preserving the fragrance of embroidery pieces for a long time to maximize the visual effects and a technique of preventing



A woman at the Pyongyang Embroidery Institute gives final touches to an embroidery by applying a new technique.

decoloration of embroidery pieces based on nano powder treatment which increases the duration of the art work 2.5 times more than previously and resistance to sunlight much.

By Jong Tang Song PT

EXHIBITION

Show highlights local consumer goods

A national August 3 consumer goods exhibition took place at Pyongyang Department Store No. 1.

The August 3 consumer goods are daily necessities the consumer goods production

units turn out by tapping latent reserves and potentiality. Therefore, each product reflects the specific character of relevant localities.

Put on display at the exhibition were more than 287



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Visitors are interested in locally-made consumer goods at the national August 3 consumer goods exhibition.

PRODUCTION

Small factory renowned for producing nano vinyl sheet

The Nampho Fuel Oil Factory is not far from Nampho Port.

The small factory recycles a variety of waste oils including diesel, lubricating and basic oils by processing waste oils which were dumped as useless in the past. Now it is called an enterprise producing treasure from rubbish.

While travelling to Nampho Port and dockyards on business, manager Han Yun Thaek came to know that there was a considerable amount of waste oil from vessels. Considering that recycling waste oil would save much oil and help prevent sea pollution, he decided to recycle waste oil by his factory's own efforts.

The waste oil recycling technology is an advanced one even developed countries took a long time to complete.

The problem was to make waste oil recycling facilities including refining machine.

"I've been to every scientific research institution and renowned unit in this field to seek technical assistance," recalled Han.

After repeated failures, the technical staff of the factory conducted detailed examinations of the recycling process and held in-depth discussions with each other again and again. In the course of it, they provided a

technological guarantee for recycling oil.

They confirmed the rational mixing ratio of additives for production and at the same time pushed ahead with a research project to increase the recovery percentage of oil.

As it won praises from the consumers for the good quality of its recycled oils and they are in great demand, they set themselves a new goal again.

It was the production of nano functional plastic sheet for agricultural use.

Originally, the factory produced ordinary plastic sheets by itself to make containers needed for carrying waste oil.

But it introduced the advanced nanomaterial production technology newly developed by the Academy of Agricultural Science into the ordinary plastic sheet production process to set up a technical one for producing nano functional vinyl sheet.

The nano functional vinyl sheet is not easily torn as it is 1.2 times higher in tensile strength and 2 times higher in extension rate than the ordinary one.

And it also performs multiple functions and has a wide range of applications including high absorption of ultraviolet rays and sterilizing effect, so it is now widely used

300 products from different production units across the country.

Typical exhibits included seasonal clothes, bags, shoes, notebooks, craftworks, toys, wood carving products and flowerpots, all of which were diverse in kind.

Shoes, bags and garments the workteams in Pyongyang made by making effective use of idle materials were almost on a par with manufactured products in terms of quality.

South Hamgyong Province's large earthenware jars and gem vessels were the focus of attention of many visitors for their unusually specific character. According to the opinion of producers

and consumers, soy and bean paste and foods preserved in them do not easily go bad for a long time.

The workteam of the direct sales shop in Wonsan, Kangwon Province, presented laundry soaps made from locally abundant castor and Evodia daniellii Hemsl oil as well as non-baked tiles made of cement and sand. They were popular with consumers for their high quality and low cost.

Visitors unanimously said that they felt there is nothing to throw away including a rubble stone as they looked round the exhibition.

"The people's understanding of the August 3 consumer goods was not so good in the past. But it completely changed in a few years. We are developing new products with locally available raw materials, free from an old style of copying others. In the future, we will produce famous commodities which are just as good as manufactured products," said Pak Yong Ok, department director of the Ministry of Local Industry which hosted the exhibition.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

ordinary ones, and it increases per-hectare grain yield by 500 kg more than that in autumn," said Mun Chol Nam, chief engineer of the cooperative farm management committee of Hanggu District, Nampho.

The factory now produces a variety of nano functional vinyl sheets including those for seedbed, greenhouse and foodstuff packaging. It also plans to fully satisfy the domestic demand in the future.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



KIM CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Nano functional vinyl sheet is produced at the Nampho Fuel Oil Factory.

R&D

Institute makes a variety of products

The commercial science institute has developed a variety of commercial service products.

Typical examples are ultraviolet sterilizer, biomass fuel compression moulding machine, far infrared cooking oven and instant mustard powder.

An ultraviolet sterilizer is a modern sterilizing instrument whose performance is much better than the previous ones. Developers made an ultraviolet disinfecting lamp with a long lifetime and installed ventilator, time-setting and other measuring devices to monitor the result of air disinfection on the sterilizer. In particular, they designed the structure of sterilizer in the form of double cylinders so that it can produce maximum sterilizing effect by increasing the speed of air current between disinfecting lamp. Large-, medium- and small-sized mobile and fixed sterilizers were introduced into many public catering and service units as well as child-care, public health and hygienic institutions.

The biomass fuel compression moulder is an equipment to produce energy-saving fuel which is very popular in not only commercial networks, but also wood processing and agricultural sectors. Developers applied a guided resistance compound heating method with electromagnetic wave to the compression of highly dispersive and bulky wood and grain byproducts into fuel lumps of a certain size. The method makes it possible to ensure both standard mass and hardness of products in the moulding process by heating from the surface of biomass fuel to the depth evenly. The moulder can mass-produce biomass fuel with high calorific value based on abundant raw material resources. Especially, the guided resistance compound heating technology with electromagnetic wave can be introduced into other fields.

The far infrared cooking oven is an energy-saving food processing device which is introduced into roast chestnut and sweet potato stalls in Pyongyang. Researchers saw that chestnuts and sweet potato were roasted without blackening while reducing fuel consumption to a third by changing the structure of the previous equipment just a little. Equipped with far infrared generating natural materials and time measuring device, the oven is over two times more productive than the previous one.

They also developed an instant mustard powder which can be used as a seasoning at any time without processing. In general, mustard needs to be ground and matured to be used as a seasoning. But the new product can be used just by pouring water into powdered mustard and kneading. It is very fine as it passed through the new grinding process. It can be stored for a long time and, in particular, it tastes hotter and spicier than ordinary mustards.

The institute is now pushing the research into updating commercial activities on the basis of an order system, while developing various products for commercial service.

By Choe Kwang Jin PT

White paper reveals the motive behind the extension of atomic energy agreement

The US-Japan atomic energy agreement which was to be expired by July 16 with a 30-year term has automatically been extended due to the silence of both sides.

Then, why did Japan, the only nuclear victim in the world, conclude the atomic energy agreement with the US, its assaulter, and why does such a strange thing in which the latter allows the former obsessed with a nuclear ambition to possess plutonium keep going?

Already during the Second World War, the Japanese drew up plans for the development of nuclear weapons, namely "plan No. 2" and "F research", and buckled down to the development of atomic bomb with the technical cooperation of Nazi Germany.

In 1956, they adopted a policy of re-processing spent nuclear fuel for the potential possession of nuclear capabilities and began to produce plutonium from 1977. In the 1980s they built a fast breeder reactor called Monju for the mass-procurement of plutonium.

After the conclusion of the atomic energy agreement with the US in 1988, Japan was set on plutonium extraction even by importing spent nuclear fuel from other countries and re-

processing it.

Though it had fallen victim to A-bombs, Japan gave an active support to the US while conniving at and patronizing its nuclear attack on other countries, rather than opposing it.

When the US again clamoured for the use of nukes to make up for its repeated defeats in the Korean war, Japan showed no response to it despite a strong opposition of the international community.

It is evidenced by the sophism that "Japan's nuclear possession is acceptable constitutionally and strategically desirable" the right-wing conservative politicians and senior officials have unhesitatingly spat out whenever the opportunity arose.

In May 1957, then Japanese prime minister Kishi asserted that "the possession of nuclear weapons for defensive purposes is not against the constitution", and Japan's first defence white paper issued in 1970 contains such a passage "we politically deny the possession of nukes, but the possession of small-scale tactical nuclear weapons for defensive purposes is not contrary to the pacifist constitution".

Former defence minister Inada Tomomi, in a press conference

on August 5 2016, said that Japan's nuclear possession is not basically forbidden, and the Abe clan are openly revealing their intention of nuclear armament as they clamour for a military power.

Japan is the only country that is allowed to produce plutonium through nuclear re-processing in the world, in addition to the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

After it was given the right to re-process spent nuclear fuel by the US through the 1988 US-Japan atomic energy agreement, Japan put spurs to the stockpiling of plutonium for nuclear armament for the past 30 years.

Far back in the middle of the 1950s, the US transferred uranium enrichment and other core technologies necessary for the development of nuclear weapons to Japan under the "Atomic Energy Marshall Plan" and, in the late 1960s, offered Japan weapons-grade plutonium weighing 365 kg on the pretext of test.

It was the Ford administration of the US that agreed on the construction of a re-processing plant in Japan in 1976 and it was the Carter administration that gave a hint to Japan in 1977

that nuclear weapons could be made from atomic reactor-grade plutonium.

In September last year, the US Department of State clarified its stand that it "has no intention to abrogate the agreement and examine its re-negotiation" in connection with the expiration of the atomic energy agreement with Japan by July 2018, preventing public opinion against it from coming up before six months of its expiration.

Japan which has made a headlong rush towards nuclear armament under the active patronage of the US is now capable of making nuclear weapons any time when it is determined to do so.

Some foreign media predicted that Japan might have developed atomic bombs as it has key nuclear bomb manufacturing components and technology, to say nothing of plutonium.

In 2002, a Japanese high-ranking official said that "it is not difficult for Japan to produce nuclear warheads", adding Japan's nuclear power plants keep enough plutonium to produce thousands of nuclear warheads.

The amount of plutonium stockpiled in the world so far is 518 tons, out of which 47 tons are held by Japan.

It is said that 47 tons of plutonium are enough to make over 7 800 nuclear bombs, each of which is as powerful as that dropped on Nagasaki.

What a dangerous force has now Japan, which was punished at the international court as a defeated nation, a war criminal state, in the past century, emerged under the protection of the US?

It, needless to say, is a product of conspiracy between the islanders keen on turning their country into a military power without fail to realize the old dream of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" under the active patronage and with the connivance of their master, and the US thinking of holding control of its henchmen with "unexceptional favour" and using them as a shock brigade for realizing its strategy for dominating Asia.

If the US is willing to denuclearize the Korean peninsula, it has to duly take issue with Japan's moves towards nuclear armament and judge the situation from a fair stand.

This is the abridgement from a white paper issued on August 4 by the Korea Asia-Pacific Peace Committee.

COMMENT

Pressure diplomacy never produces desired results

The June Singapore DPRK-US summit called an "epoch-making meeting" and the resultant joint statement brought to the international community great expectation and hope for rapprochement between the two long-time foes—and global peace.

Nearly two months after that, however, everyone is now sceptical about the progress of DPRK-US relations.

US State Department officials in charge of the negotiations with the DPRK recently argued that they would not mitigate sanctions until the denuclearization comes true and that tougher sanctions lead to enhanced bargaining power.

Not to be outdone, the Treasury Department announced that it has no plan to ease the sanctions on the DPRK and it rather intends to ratchet them up.

As if to prove it, US Congressmen are competitively submitting bills to increase sanctions against the DPRK. And American media and

experts are building up opinion for sanctions, contending that the Trump administration has reaffirmed "denuclearization first, lifting of sanctions later" as the keynote of its approach towards the DPRK, and it is likely to turn to "maximum pressure" when north Korea fails to take action for denuclearization.

Such moves are beyond common sense and so outrageous towards the dialogue partner.

How could such strange acts of holding dialogue outwardly but slapping sanctions inwardly be explained?

We have so far showed sincere goodwill and generosity to improve relations with the US by shutting down the northern nuclear test site and repatriating remains of US troops, an effort that has earned international appreciation.

We would like to ask US politicians whether they do not feel ashamed at international criticism that "the DPRK is broad-minded and the US is narrow-minded" and "the US is

acting like a child who tends to like taking, not giving".

Even coming from south Korea are such claims that "it is doubtful what the impatient US has done to ensure north Korea's system", "the north is a step ahead of the US in the implementation of the June 12 north-US joint statement" and "it is irrational that the US is resorting to pressure and sanctions against the other party, regardless of the past".

The US needs to realize why its sanctions racket comes under fire.

The reason is that it is outdated as it is based on the prescribed sanctions resolutions, illegal and unlawful.

UN Security Council resolutions 2356, 2371 and 2375 and other documents were all worked out to question the nuclear tests and rocket launches we had to undertake in the course of completing our national nuclear arms programme.

We have completely suspended all sorts of nuclear test and rocket

launch and shut down test sites as part of practical measures, so it is natural that the anti-DPRK sanctions resolutions which have lost justification should have been dismissed in kind.

Worse still, the US administration is coming out with a preposterous formula that tougher sanctions lead to increased bargaining power.

As a stark expression of hostility, sanctions are a club held up towards us. How can this promote rapprochement between the two countries?

There is a Korean saying "Sow the wind and reap the whirlwind". As sanctions escalate, it will trigger off our people's pent-up grudge and in turn spoil the hard-won opportunity for improvement of relations.

The US State Department and other bureaucratic groups hardly free from the stereotype and steeped in the established outrageous logic should ponder and learn from the setbacks suffered by the previous administrations.

They will never get what they want if they are not free from the monarchical way of thinking that they can enforce their demands while not doing what they have to do and reneging on their promises and

the conception that sanctions can work on everything.

The point at present is to build up confidence in each other.

Those who are all for imposing sanctions and pressure on the DPRK are either politicians who are ignorant of diplomacy and obsessed with stupid mentality that everything can be settled by dint of club or those political rivals who hanker after the DPRK-US dialogue ending in stalemate and the current administration's DPRK policy falling flat.

It is a great pity that influenced by these forces DPRK-US relations which took a step towards a dramatic turnaround have reached an impasse with negotiations in deadlock.

Not that we did not expect any sorts of things to happen in the journey of accomplishing the cause of a century, improvement of the DPRK-US relationship. So we see the stalemate as a temporary challenge facing us in the process of working towards the common goal.

Everything will be determined in the future by how much the US will pay heed to trust and respect, discarding the Paleolithic stone instrument of "sanctions and pressure".

SOCCER

Hwaepul Cup premier league starts

The Hwaepul Cup men's football tournament which kicked off on August 1 is running on.

Divided into two groups, 12 first-division clubs will compete in group league matches, before top two teams from each group advance to the semi-finals to decide final rankings through diagonal and direct matches.

Though the competition is

no more than a beginning, the energies of coaches and players devoted to the victory of matches are bearing good fruit, exciting enthusiasts with unexpected results.

The match between Rimyongsu and the Ministry of Light Industry on August 2 was very impressive.

The two clubs have a wide margin in terms of record and

ability. Rimyongsu advanced to the final at the men's premier league soccer tournament of the Mangyongdae Prize Games held in celebration of the Day of the Sun, whereas the Ministry of Light Industry took the last place at the tournament. The former beat the latter 2-1 and 4-0 respectively at the ongoing 2017-2018 DPRK premier league soccer tournament.

Sportscasters estimated that the match on August 2 would be rounded off 3-0 or beyond in favour of Rimyongsu, but the game ended in a draw.

"We can't see such amazing results in recent soccer matches as an accident. The rapid development of sports science, ever-developing players' individual skills, and the application and introduction of different modes and tactics by coaches will produce unpredictable results in the future," a soccer fan said.

By Jong Tang Song PT



A scene from the men's soccer match between Sobaeksu and Pyongyang.

Sports roundup

National farmers' folk games

The 11th national folk games contest of farmers took place between August 2 and 6 at the Moranbong Youth Park, Pyongyang.

Over 300 players selected from each province competed in such folk sports as ssirum, Taekwon-Do, swinging and seesawing.

The farmers demonstrated their skills of folk games, team spirit, sportsmanship and fair play.

North Phyongan Province topped the total rankings, with North and South Hwanghae provinces coming second and third respectively.

Sports contest of workers

A national sports contest of workers (in the field of post and telecommunications) has opened.

Contestants will compete in volleyball, table tennis and other events.

An opening ceremony took place on August 7 at the Basketball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang.

The contest will run in various places of Pyongyang until August 14.

Compiled from KCNA

UNESCO

Mt Kumgang area chosen as world biosphere reserve

The DPRK's Mt Kumgang area has been added to the list of world biosphere reserves.

The 30th meeting of UNESCO International Coordinating Council of the Man and Biosphere Programme, which was held in Indonesia between July 23 and 28, decided to register the Mt Kumgang area as a world biosphere reserve.

The scientific explanation about the diverse, magnificent, beautiful and mysterious natural sights of Mt Kumgang in all its myriad forms and the listing of this area as a world biosphere reserve have provided a more favourable environment for the country's efforts for the protection of biodiversity.

Mt Kumgang is widely known to the world for its beautiful scenery, with all its superb views—sky-high peaks, rocks in various shapes and forms, steep cliffs and deep valleys, innumerable pools and ponds, crystal clear water flowing through cliffs and rocks and various waterfalls over which rainbows arch gracefully—blending in so well to form a beautiful picture.

Located in the middle of the

Great Paektu Mountains and embracing wide areas of Kosong, Kumgang and Thongchon counties of Kangwon Province, the Mt Kumgang area has central, buffer and transitional zones in a sufficient acreage, which can

NATIONAL ICH

Tales of storyteller put on national ICH list

Sondal Kim the Phoenix is known to every Korean. The famous story-teller was actually existed in the 19th century. Sondal means a person who passed the civil service examination but did not take any government post in Korean feudal society.

He earned his alias "Phoenix" thanks to the story about exacting the exorbitant price of phoenix from a greedy chicken seller, and the episodes of him are folk tales which were widely transferred centring around the Pyongyang area in the concluding years of the feudal Joson dynasty.

All his episodes are satires on kings, noblemen and wealthy persons.

Typical of them include the stories about selling off the water of the Taedong River and the swamp of Lake Kwangpho and about mung bean gruel, which disclose the avarice of landlords and other greedy persons. In a story he gives a landlord, who only seeks windfalls, an egg "generously" and exacts a calf from him later. And there are also episodes about duping a king and getting a local

magistrate to be beheaded as they persecuted the people, and another one about making fun of a monk.

The witty tales were popular among the people as they satirize the hypocrisy, avarice and arrogance of noblemen, bureaucrats and rich persons.

They are characterized by richness of local colour and witticism, free use of humour and sallies and originality in handling events.

Sondal Kim was discontented with feudal society, ignored feudal ethics and used to harass the wealthy to make fun of them. His episodes got enriched as they were transferred orally and in the course of this lots of their varieties and sayings came into being such as "Like Sondal Kim annoying the firewood peddler", "Like Sondal Kim selling off paddies" and "Like Sondal Kim selling off the water of the Taedong River".

His episodes are now widely diffused adapted as literary works, films and TV programmes.

By Pang Un Ju PT

sites and remains, national living monuments and natural resources, it is provided with favourable conditions for the sustainable use of biodiversity and diversified growth of regional economy.

The registration of this area as a world biosphere reserve is an obvious manifestation of the validity of the DPRK government's policy on nature protection.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



Samson Rocks on Mt Kumgang.

