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WPK Central Committee convenes Politburo enlarged meeting

The 20th enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place at the office building of the Party Central Committee on November 15.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the WPK, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, attended the meeting.

Present at the meeting were members of the Presidium and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

Officials of relevant departments of the Party Central Committee, chairpersons of provincial Party committees, the minister of Public Security, the director of the Central Public Prosecutors Office and staff members of the state emergency infectious disease prevention sector observed the meeting online.

Upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting.

It had an in-depth discussion of the matter of further strengthening the national emergency infectious disease prevention system to provide against

the ever-worsening worldwide health crisis.

The Supreme Leader made a detailed analysis and assessment of the seriousness of the world-sweeping COVID-19 and the country's infectious disease prevention situation and indicated Party, military and economic

tasks and ways to further bolster up the emergency anti-epidemic front, the major thrust of the 80-day campaign. And he stressed the need to be on full alert, build a tight blocking wall and intensify the infectious disease prevention efforts with awareness of the heavy responsibility the participants assume for national security and the people's well-being.

The participants were notified of an analysis of the non-socialist practices being revealed at educational institutions and in society as a whole, and seriously discussed the matter of decisively

rooting them out.

The Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee made an in-depth study and discussion of agenda items, set forth important tasks and adopted relevant decisions with unanimous approval.

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ECONOMY

Industries register steady boost in output

Innovations are being made every day in different economic sectors.

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex is pushing the construction of a large-sized oxygen plant in real earnest while carrying on its current production. The construction project has been wound up in the main and the assembly of equipment is being stepped up at the final stage. In particular, the steel workshop hit the target for the ongoing 80-day campaign by over 50 percent as of November 16. They ensured the full operation of a UHP electric arc furnace and set a new record in some 30 days after the start of the campaign by making

collective innovations.

The Chollima Steel Complex has completed most of the construction project of a refractory production base. Its production process, to which the high-temperature air-combustion technology based on anthracite gasification has been applied, can annually turn out large quantities of quality high-alumina refractory. The project is of great importance in lowering the production costs of steel by prolonging the serviceable life of electric and heating furnaces.

The Chongjin Structural Steel Factory has overfulfilled its daily task since the start of the 80-day campaign after attaining the goal of the five-year strategy for

national economic development till late September. As they introduce rational steel production methods and manufacture efficient equipment in their efforts to increase productivity, its employees are tapping latent reserves, exploring possibilities and enlisting potentials to the full. They adopted a rational working method for speeding up heating while saving coal by using waste heat, improved the actual extraction rate by making a small-sized rolling mill and increased the output of iron wire of all sizes by manufacturing several drawing machines.

The Songchongang Electrical Appliances Factory carried out its annual economic plan ahead of schedule until late September and has overfulfilled its assignments for producing custom-built equipment since the start of the 80-day campaign.

The Chonnaeri Cement Factory has exceeded its daily

quotas this month in the spirit of having overfulfilled the October production plan. The December 5 Youth Mine and the Huichon Mine Prop Production Station carried out their annual plans ahead of schedule.

The Pyongyang Municipal Garment Industry Management

Bureau overfulfilled the yearly economic plan and five-year strategy goals for national economic development on all indices until early October and is hitting its daily target for the 80-day campaign without fail.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



Houses newly built in the mountainous city of Samjiyon.

SEE HOUSING PAGE 2

LEAD

Keeping alive tradition of greeting Party congress with feats

The 80-day campaign is going full steam ahead in the DPRK to greet the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with remarkable successes.

The whole population is striving to make innovations in all workplaces.

It is a proud tradition of the Korean people to add lustre to Party congresses with great achievements.

The seven rounds of the WPK congresses since its foundation are shining in the history of the DPRK along with faithful and patriotic struggles of the people across the country.

The Second Congress of the WPK was celebrated with the victorious completion of the national economic plan for 1947, the first of its kind in the country's history.

The Third Congress held in April 1956, three years after the Fatherland Liberation War, was greeted with the brilliant successes in the post-war rehabilitation which demonstrated the might of heroic Korea.

The Korean people unanimously supported the basic line of economic construction in the post-war period set forth

by President Kim Il Sung and performed miracles in all sectors of the national economy, achieving a 31 percent growth in the industrial output of state-run and cooperative enterprises in the first quarter of 1956 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

Their enthusiasm for greeting Party congresses with high political zeal and labour feats bubbled up in the run-up to the Fourth Congress of the WPK.

With the completion of the first five-year economic plan in just two and half years amid the flames of great Chollima advance, the DPRK became a socialist industrial-agricultural state with firm foundations of the independent national economy and entered the period of overall socialist construction with the accomplishment of the task of laying the foundations of socialism.

On the occasion of the Fifth WPK Congress, the Kangson speed was created for attaining the goals of the first seven-year plan, which was carried out to accomplish the historic cause of socialist industrialization.

Following in the tradition, they waged a 100-day campaign

ahead of the Sixth Congress.

They vigorously conducted the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural, and fulfilled the economic plan for 1980 before October when the Party Congress was held.

As they waged the unprecedented struggle for defending socialism and went through the Arduous March and forced march which were without example in history after the Sixth Congress, the people strengthened their complete trust in the Party and confidence in the victory of socialism.

They conducted a 70-day campaign before the Seventh Congress of the Party in May 2016 to present to the congress gifts of great feats in the fields of different industries, agriculture, construction, scientific research and sports.

Carrying on the venerable tradition of heroic struggle established by the past generations, the Koreans are full of determination to greet the Eighth Congress of the WPK with flying colours by devoting their patriotic minds in the ongoing 80-day campaign.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

HOUSING

Thousands of dwelling houses built in Samjiyon

Another happy event has taken place in the City of Samjiyon in the Paektu area.

New modern dwelling houses for thousands of families were built in more than 10 dong and ri in the city of Samjiyon by shock brigade members of Division 216 and soldier builders.

Meetings for moving into new houses were held between November 11 and 13 in Paektusanmilyong-dong, Simmusong-dong, Rimyongsu-dong, Phothae-dong, Ohomuldong-dong, Junghungi, Hunggyesu-ri, Sobaeksan-ri, Paksam-ri, Poso-ri and Thongsin-ri.

Present there were Tong

Jong Ho, vice-premier of the Cabinet, Pak Hun, minister of Construction and Building-materials Industry, Pak Song Chol, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and working people in the city, commanding officers and shock brigade members of Division 216 and soldier-builders.

There were congratulatory speeches at the meetings.

The speakers said that socialist fairyland villages have appeared in the Paektu area under the warm care of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

They extended their heartfelt

gratitude by reflecting the unanimous mind of the people in the city and all over the country to the Supreme Leader.

They called on all the working people of the city to further spruce up and take good care of the sacred land of the revolution as the utopian land of socialism and remain loyal to the Party with pure conscience and obligation.

At the meetings, house licenses were conveyed, which was followed by speeches and moving into new houses.

Officials visited new houses to congratulate their owners.

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Part of the houses built for thousands of families in the city of Samjiyon.

INSPECTION

Premier visits machine, notebook producers

Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, inspected the Taezan Heavy Machine Complex and the Mindulle Notebook Factory.

Making the rounds of generating equipment processing workshop No. 1, generator coil workshop, large machine workshop and others at the Taezan Heavy Machine Complex, he stressed the need to positively introduce efficient jigs and equipment and new technical innovation plans so as to process and assemble

products in a responsible way.

After referring to the importance of ensuring normal production at the Mindulle Notebook Factory, he discussed the ways to find and use idle materials by directing primary efforts to recycling.

The field consultative meetings took measures to finish the production of custom-built equipment as early as possible with a proper business and management strategy, and fully supply raw materials needed for the production of quality notebooks.

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Premier Kim Tok Hun (middle) inspects the Taezan Heavy Machine Complex.

Nationwide

Touring art show inspires 80-day campaigners



A touring exhibition of artworks has been launched in different parts of the DPRK on the theme of "We will climb Mt Paektu at all times and in all places", featuring excellent works of artists from renowned art studios.

It will tour several factories and enterprises in Pyongyang.

It also goes on in all provinces.

Facilities network building pushed



The building of networks of facilities is being pressed on in the reclaimed Honggondo, Ryongmaedo and Chongsudo tideland.

The reclaimers of tideland are making a breakthrough in attaining the goal of their projects ahead of schedule.

Lamp-posts set up

Lamp-posts have been erected at the newly-built residential district in Saodong area, Tanchon, South Hamgyong Province.

Lamp-posts stand along both sides of the concrete pavement and each street lamp is installed with a solar panel.

Reservoir enlarged in Pyongyang



A reservoir expansion project was completed in Pyongyang in a little over ten days.

The completion of the project has made it possible to ensure a more satisfactory supply of quality water to residents.

Thousands of trees rooted in rehabilitation area

Thousands of trees have been planted at the reconstruction site in the Komdok area of South Hamgyong Province.

Good species of trees have been rooted in different places of Tanchon City to add beauty to new residential quarters.

FORESTRY

Research institute instrumental in pushing afforestation

The Forests of Economic Value Institute under the Academy of Forest Science is one of the leading scientific research units contributing greatly to the forest restoration campaign now underway across the DPRK.

Established in the 1960s, it has more than 10 labs including those of oil-bearing trees and medicinal plants, a large greenhouse and several-hectare tree sapling fields. And it has over ten scientific research forests in different parts of the country.

Tasty wild-fruit tree varieties bred

The institute has mainly been engaged in the development of wild-fruit tree varieties with good taste and high quality and productivity that are suitable for the climatic and soil conditions of the country, the preservation of their characteristics and the spread of them.

In the course of this, its researchers succeeded in growing saplings of high-yielding trees and perfecting the methods of producing saplings of major tree species of economic value including grafting like seed sprout grafting and cleft grafting for pine-nut trees and the planting of cuttings of seabuckthorn trees, thus creating a large area of forests of chestnut, pine-nut, Korean evodia and seabuckthorn trees in different parts of the country.

"We have bred 15 national forest plant varieties such as high-yielding chestnut, seabuckthorn, walnut and white pine-nut trees in the period of the fifth five-year plan for scientific and technological development that started in 2016. Several of them were awarded certificates of registration of sci-tech achievements and introduction of state sci-tech hits," said director Ri Hyon Song.

He added that a technology of tissue culture for saplings was completed in the period.

Since the country has been bustling with afforestation, the demand for tree saplings of high economic value is on a steady rise.

Such ordinary vegetative propagation methods as grafting and cutting planting are insufficient to meet the needs.

Therefore, the institute laid foundations for annually producing one million saplings through tissue culture this year.

At present the tissue culture lab is conducting inoculation for multiplication of such trees as *Actinidia arguta*, *Zizythus jujuba*, *Crataegus pinnatifida*, *Corylus heterophylla* and *Cerasus humilis* (Bge) Sok.

Progress in study of native trees

Chestnut and pine-nut trees are indigenous species of Korea.

Chestnut is very familiar with the Koreans as it always reminds them of the mouthwatering roast fruit and makes them hum the tune of *Roast Chestnut Ballad*.

The scientists developed a method of boosting the production of high-yielding chestnut trees to open up a prospect of covering all the chestnut forests of the country with them in the near future.

"Two to three years were required for producing high-yielding chestnut saplings in the past. But the development of the method of doing a graft directly to seed sprouts has made it possible to reduce the sapling production cycle to a year and increase the land utilization rate and sapling output 2.5 and 4 times respectively," said deputy director Kil Myong Chol.

The method has been introduced into forests in such areas as Unjon County of North

Phyongan Province to replace native chestnut trees with the high-yielding variety, and it saves much labour and will bring benefits in the near future, Kil added.

"In general, a pine-nut tree bears fruits 15 years after it is planted. That's why people say the tree is planted for the coming generations, I think. But this new variety begins to produce fruit five years after," said researcher Ri Myong Chol.

The institute established a technology of producing pine-nut saplings based on a new grafting method to ensure they bear fruits five years after planting and increase output two to three times.

New tray planting lab

A bonsai lab was set up in the institute this year.

"Tray planting is an art. You can succeed in this study only when you love trees and develop the ability to interact with them," said the lab chief Kim In Sop.

According to him, the

Koreans have a long history of tray planting.

He added that pot trees and shrubs and tray landscapes on different themes that are cultivated and created by applying plastic arts have been presented to national flower exhibitions in recent years.

The lab is now busy with securing the seeds of trees and shrubs fit for tray planting including the pine tree naturally growing in alpine regions. It is also engaged in developing a grafting method for giving shapes to trees, a method of making flowers open and bear fruits at desired time by controlling growing points and growth, a method of determining the size, shape and colour suitable for pots.

The researchers are striving to present new products in the period of the sixth five-year plan for sci-tech development.

Valuable findings

Over 100 hectares of seabuckthorn forests were planted in the Unhung area of

Ryanggang Province.

The trees laden with yellow, yellowish brown and other colour fruits add beauty to the scenery of the area and serve as an asset for its economic development.

The forests are also associated with the painstaking efforts of the scientists of the institute.

As all parts of the tree, from the leaf to root, are rich in various medicinal and nutritional components, seabuckthorn is called the king of wild fruits.

The researchers completed a method of mass-producing the saplings of the tree of good breed which grows well even in the alpine regions with a considerable variation in temperature between day and night. They also expounded its biological features and fruit productivity according to soil composition in northern areas, and several varieties of it have been inscribed on the list of national forest plants.

"Active support of overseas compatriots was a great help to our success," said Kim Un Ho, PhD.

Overseas compatriots donated saplings of high-yielding seabuckthorn variety and essential materials for its study, he noted.

The institute is working to achieve the target of planting some 1 000-hectare forests of seabuckthorn trees in northern highlands including Ryanggang Province during the second stage of the forest restoration campaign.

In addition, it established a technology of breeding and cultivating aronia, walnut, Korean evodia and other trees of good breed and an agroforestry technology for major tree species of economic value.

It also developed a technology of double and triple cultivation of tree saplings in containers to increase sapling production over five to seven times more than previously and root protective agents, growth stimulants and nutrient solutions for trees as well.

The pyrolignous acid it developed with forest by-products is regarded as a promising soil disinfectant and vegetable nutrient.

The institute is making preparations for setting up raw materials bases for bioindustry from next year in order to build more forests of economic value as early as possible.

"We will strive on to achieve better results so that the coming generations can enjoy the benefits in the distant future, even though we may not get them in our lifetime," said the director.



PHOTOS BY RYU KWANG HYOK AND KIM HYOK CHOL

The Forests of Economic Value Institute under the Academy of Forest Science works on breeding of wild fruit trees of good species, preservation of their characteristics and spread of them. The institute has already bred lots of high-grade varieties including the indigenous ones to register them as national species.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Meat and dairy production picks up in Sepho area

Meat production has increased 4.5 times over that in the early period of its operation at the livestock farming base in the Sepho area of Kangwon Province and milk production has risen to several thousand tons.

It raised the fattening rate of domestic animals by securing good strains of domestic animals and improving suitable grazing and rearing methods and anti-epizootic work according to seasons.

Embryo transplantation and artificial insemination technologies were introduced to drastically increase the number

of domestic animals of good breeds.

The farm improved the soil fertility of the grassland by applying large quantities of homemade manure to it and planted Aeguk grass, alfalfa and other nutritious feed grasses to raise the per-hectare grass yield over 2.7 times.

This year it has secured more than 250 000 tons of feed grasses for domestic animals in winter even under the unfavourable weather conditions. It also installed crusher, pulverizer and other machines to lay a solid foundation for the production of processed animal feed.

It made a new kind of feed additive, trained well over a hundred technicians and skilled workers every year to build up its own scientific and technical capacity and regularly held technical classes and demonstrations to improve the scientific level of animal husbandry.

Technicians and stock keepers improved the breeding stock and employed advanced breeding and feed grass cultivation methods.

They also produced dozens of kinds of veterinary medicines.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



Flocks of cattle graze on a grassland at the livestock farming base in Sepho, Kangwon Province.

DEVICE

Power-saving electric boiler introduced

A new type of active electric boiler, product of the Intelligent Products Company of North Hwanghae Province, is now widely introduced throughout the country.

The electricity-saving boiler is equipped with a system of continuously and automatically producing and supplying steam and hot water.

"Discontinuous generation and supply of heat energy may have negative impact on the quality of products and business management. So we have established an automatic control system with which to

grasp the amount of heat needed for consumer units in real time and ensure continuous supply of the needed amount of heat," said Pong Mun Chol, director of the company.

The developers minimized the boiler size by compacting the electric heating structure to shorten the time required for turning the water added to the boiler into steam or hot water as much as possible in order to reduce its power consumption.

And they installed it as closely as possible to the consuming places and ensured efficient pipe assembly to reduce the loss

of energy in transmission.

The results of its introduction confirmed that power consumption was 30-40 percent less on average than before.

"After the introduction of the boiler, power consumption fell drastically and we can save much electricity. It has led to a reduction in per-unit production cost, which is very helpful to business activities of the factory," said Ri Sol Gyong, a section chief of the Kyonghung Unhasu Foodstuff Factory.

The active boiler is also said to be useful in ensuring quality of products as it generates and supplies the needed amount of steam continuously.

It is very convenient to use. Press buttons and the amount of steam you need is generated and supplied in less than a minute.

By Jong Chol PT

PROFILE

Parentless girl becomes lawmaker



O Myong Chun (left) tells a newcomer how to deal with the spinning machine at the Sariwon Textile Mill.

year and carried out production plans for two years in the year after that.

She was not content with that

and so she set herself the goal of attaining three or four years' quotas and strived to this end.

"O Myong Chun has untiring perseverance and a quick eye for learning," said her colleague Kim Sun Hyang. "She took charge of four or five looms to achieve her goal."

After four years of painstaking work, she received high state commendations every year and was elected deputy to the 13th SPA in 2014.

The SPA deputy continues to run her looms.

She has also trained many labour innovators and skilled spinners.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

FARM

Terrapin farm added to catfish farm

A terrapin breeding base has been established at the Sunchon Catfish Farm.

"Each province now works to build a terrapin breeding base with an annual capacity of dozens of tons," said an official of the Ministry of Fisheries.

According to him, the output of terrapins was small in quantity and low in quality in the past as they were bred in outdoor ponds only in summer.

South Phyongan Province paid much heed to the construction of breeding base that ensures terrapin production all the year round by putting its farming on a scientific, industrial and intensive basis.

The newly-built terrapin breeding base has main production buildings including blocks for hatching eggs, young terrapins, fattening terrapins and adult ones and such auxiliary buildings as a heating ground and compressor room.

In breeding terrapins, it uses

hot water from power generation at the Sunchon Thermal Power Station.

Each block is equipped with a system of ensuring proper temperature, which measures and automatically controls air, water and room temperatures in real time, a water quantity supply system and a water quality control system.

All conditions are provided to meet the biological features of terrapin which likes silence, but hates vibration and noise.

Outdoor ponds are located between terrapin blocks with a view to providing terrapins with natural environment.

The survival rate of terrapins will be reduced when they are bred only indoors.

At present, the Sunchon Catfish Farm is buckling down to adapting terrapins to the new base.

By Kim Il Jin PT

POTHONG

Riverside spruced up to the delight of citizens

The Pothong River which flows across the capital city of Pyongyang has been spruced up, with the completion of the promenade rebuilding project which kicked off along with the start of the 80-day campaign.

During the reconstruction project, masonry and promenade on the banks of the river which had been crumbled or destroyed by such natural disasters as flood and typhoon have newly been rebuilt and the embankment has been raised 0.5-1 metre higher than before.

"The banks of the Pothong River needed to be raised as it rained unprecedently in the city in recent years due to

abnormal climatic conditions," said Jo Chang Ryol, an official of the Pothonggang recreation ground management station.

During the project, a total of 22 000 metres of masonry have been built along the river banks and 52 000 square metres of promenade paved.

Resting sections have been built in 26 places, over 300 garden lamps installed, and turf and trees planted on over 52 000 square metres of green area.

The promenade reconstruction has been carried out on six islets including Taeponghwa and Kumnan.

The Pothong River improvement project, a grand

nature-harnessing project which was undertaken for the first time in the country in 1946, was completed in 55 days to create a 10km-long canal and the Pothonggang Pleasure Ground covering an area of over 300 hectares.

The reconstruction project will make a tangible contribution to the people's cultural and leisure activities, said Kim Hak Chol, a staff member of the Pothong River promenade reconstruction headquarters. "The project was finished in a matter of 20 days thanks to the high enthusiasm of builders."

By Ri Sung Ik PT



Some parts of the refashioned promenades along the Pothong River.

SAMARITAN

College student helps war veteran grandma

"Pak Un Ha (pictured) gave me family affection and joy of life. She is as intimate as my granddaughter," said Mun Chung Sim, war veteran and honoured disabled soldier living in Wonjondong, Chollima District, Nampho.

The woman in her 90s who was born in south Korea has no child due to the injury she got during the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953).

Pak Un Ha, student of Kangson College of Engineering, is taking care of her.

When Pak heard about Mun, she thought that the latter would be more pleased if she became a granddaughter though district



officials took special care of war veterans and honoured disabled soldiers.

So, she visits Mun's home every day to be a companion to chat with her and help her with house chores.

While listening to a variety of her granddaughter's stories about college life, the grandmother was delighted as if she returned to the maidenhood in her 20s and, sometimes, would teach the valuable truth of life as a revolutionary forerunner, recalled Un Ha.

Now, all her family members have become so close to the veteran they seem to have formed a harmonious family

with her.

"Today's life of us exists as revolutionary forerunners like my grandmother fought and worked self-sacrificingly in the past," said Un Ha whenever her laudable deeds were appreciated in village and college. "It is the filial duty and obligation of our new generation to respect and take good care of them."

By Han Kwi Hun PT

PROFILE

Blind man works his way through college to be doctor

There is a doctor who has special skills in treating the diseases in the nervous and digestive systems at the massage treatment department of the Nampho City Koryo Medicine Hospital.

His name is Choe Song Hyok, and he is blind.

"It will be probably hard to believe that a man with visual impairment has mastered the world of medical sciences. But Choe did it," said Jin Yong Chol, director of the hospital.

Choe Song Hyok suffered from high myopia since his childhood and it got worse a year before he graduated from the middle school to nearly loss of his eyesight.

It was a despairing attack to him as he cherished a dream of becoming an artist.

But his teacher and classmates of the school gave him hope for the future.

His name was still on the list of roll book though he lost his eyesight and he could go on with his study with the help of them.

As he learned braille points at a factory for persons with visual impairment after graduating from the middle school, he came to have a firm conviction about his future.

Later, he attended a school under the Ministry of Public Health. The teaching staff and students paid special attention to him as it was the first time for the visually-impaired man to enter the school.

He came to know that he could give simple massage treatment with the help of finger sense and auditory sense. So he studied hard to graduate the course with top honour.

With fervour for learning, he went on with his study at Nampho College of Medical Sciences.

At the college he acquired the traditional therapy of his own style that can diagnose the patients' disease symptoms by consultation, tapping and sense of finger and give rational



PAK KWANG HUN

Choe Song Hyok, a visually-impaired doctor at the Nampho City Koryo Medicine Hospital, applies acupuncture to a patient.

treatment. He also learned acupuncture, moxibustion and massage.

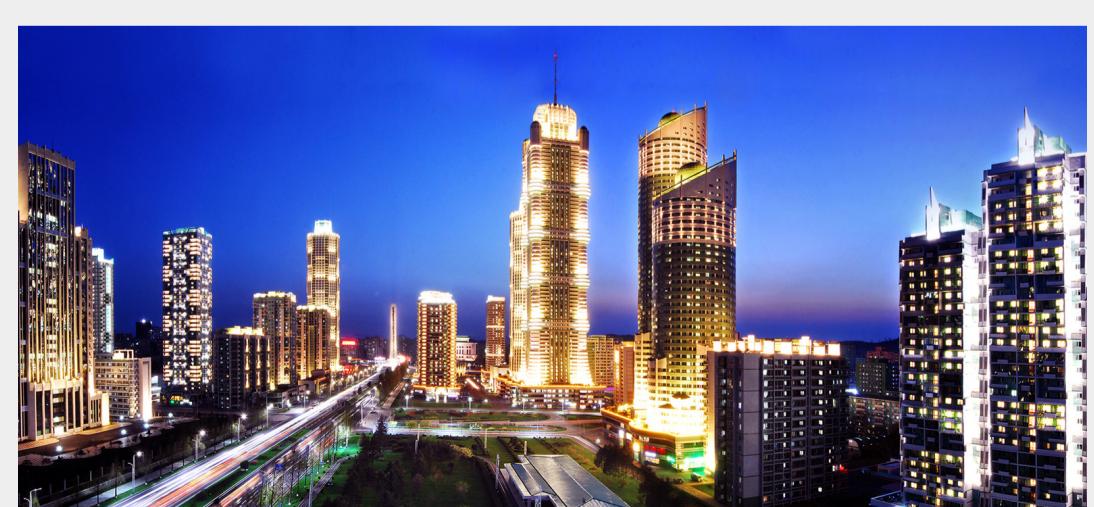
"The most irritating thing was that I only had to listen to the explanations of lecturers without looking during lessons. Classmates explained the words written on the blackboard and lecturers held my hand and put my finger on the positions of muscles, the disposition of the human skeleton and acupoints one by one," said Song Hyok.

He recalled that during his college days many lecturers and classmates served as his eyes.

Choe Song Hyok presented an essay titled "Clinical study for the treatment of haemorrhoidal bleeding by massaging" to the fourth national symposium on massage medical science and won high appreciation.

"Thanks to the benevolent social system, such a man with impairment like me could graduate from college and become a doctor. I will repay the favour with my treatment achievement," Choe Song Hyok said.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



Brightly-illuminated apartment buildings in Pyongyong's Ryomyong Street.

PICTORIAL KOREA / HONG KWANG NAM

FOOTWEAR FACTORY

Can-do attitude encourages innovation

"I can do it, too," says every employee of the Ryuwon Footwear Factory.

With the firm confidence that they can carry on technical innovation, its employees think deeply to raise the rate of domestic production of raw and other materials and improve the quality of products.

In the course of this, they conceived an idea to remodel a manual ring-inserting machine into an automatic one and succeeded in its making through

repeated tests. They also brightened the local illumination of each machine to further reduce electricity consumption and improve production conditions.

A worker at the laboratory of the factory found out a method of substituting a locally-abundant material for an imported reagent capable of promoting resistance of vinyl chloride to cold, thereby completing the production method of winter shoes based on waste vinyl chloride and making

a contribution to the domestic production of materials and recycling.

It is said that the sci-tech classes hosted by the factory were very helpful to making such successes though they did not receive university education.

They said that they could acquire special knowledge related to the production of footwear and make technical innovations in the course of studying hard as they competed with and taught each other.

"We have regarded technical innovation or invention can only be made by technicians in the past. However, nothing would be impossible for our workers as everybody is provided with all conditions to study and making all the people well versed in science and technology is a requirement of the times. Everybody buckled down to it and carried it out with such a can-do attitude," said worker Han Kyu Chol.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



Two researchers work on developing an automatic screen printer at the Ryuwon Footwear Factory.

DESIGN

Prolific industrial designer of ingenuity

The logo of the Mirim Riding Club shows the flowing mane of a horse and the feeling of its motion done by the single-stroke method of Korean painting in a dynamic way. Its design came first at the national industrial design exhibition held in 2014.

Its designer is Chon Yong Il (pictured), a creator at the Korean Industrial Design Studio who has worked as industrial designer for over four decades.

Born into a railway designer's family, Chon was fond of drawing in his childhood.

After graduating from the industrial art faculty of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts in a study-while-you-work system, he started out on his career as a trademark designer, but his early works were a failure.

He drew the lessons that a trademark designer could never be successful without having a correct understanding of the goods and he should be an economist and social



psychologist and have an ability to come up with noble ideas and original plans.

He set it as his principle of creation to develop every design in a novel and distinctive way.

Chon cultivated an acute sense of design and considerable ingenuity with great creative zeal and relentless quest, which gave birth to the designs of labels of the well-liked Taedonggang beer and tara vine fruit liquor, logo of the Central Zoo and many other excellent designs.

"When we were working on the logo of the Central Zoo, many insisted on the portrayal of a tiger in a dignified

appearance. But Chon Yong Il thought that as the zoo is a favourite haunt of our people, especially kids, its logo should be done in a cheerful mood. So he depicted a cute smiling cub," said creator Jo Si Gyong.

Chon demonstrated his remarkable expertise also with the ad design for the Pyongyang Taedonggang beer festival held on the banks of the Taedong River in 2017. He portrayed a mugful of bubbling, mouth-watering beer against the background of the blue waves of the Taedong and inscribed the title in unique calligraphy to contribute to adding more to the conspicuously of the festival.

The veteran industrial designer has created more than 1 000 designs during his career, and he often tells young creators that a good design can be produced when they combine extensive knowledge, innovative thought and rich imagination.

By Pang Un Ju PT

EDUCATION

CDIO method adopted for medical education

"The CDIO education method, which is applied to the teaching of engineering, also proves effective in medical education," said Kim Song Hui (pictured), lecturer at Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences.

An education method consisting of conception, design, implementation and operation is being generalized as a very effective education method in engineering education which requires producing practical results based on scientific principle.

Can't the CDIO education method be applied to medical education?

"Medical sciences do not aim to produce new things. But they have something in common with engineering in the aspect that they apply theories to reality," Kim Song Hui said.

She developed such an idea after she discovered the fact that even a student who is well versed in theories might



have a low practical ability. So she paid special attention to the capacity-building of students so that they could take diagnosing and curing measures with confidence after finishing their university course.

She made sure that the CDIO education method was introduced into lecture to present the main point to be dealt with in lecture as the preparation task and to get students to conceive ways to solve problems through literature search and draw an algorithm for the whole course of results.

In the lecture, students were encouraged to present their findings by

groups or individuals and get the most correct and rational method by way of question and answer.

Lecturers guide students during the lesson to find the correct answer.

"The efficiency has been raised thanks to the close combination of lecture and practice", "Lecturers need to spend much time for the preparation of lectures in order to give correct evaluation to different tasks and lead them logically", "Lectures have become the time of us, rather than those of teachers", "We came to have a correct and full understanding of teaching contents and cultivate self-confidence in diagnosis," lecturers and students say as to the new teaching method.

The new teaching method was highly appreciated in the sector of higher education and it is generalized in medical education units across the country.

By Han Kwi Hun PT



It unusually rains in Pyongyang all day long on Wednesday or 11 days after Ri Tong, the 19th of the 24 seasonal divisions according to the lunar calendar that means the beginning of winter.

EATERY

Specialities keep restaurant afloat

The Kyonghung Restaurant in Pothonggang District is a favourite haunt of many Pyongyang citizens.

The restaurant was inaugurated in October 2015.

According to cashier Kim Yun Gyong, the most popular dishes are traditional foods like Pyongyang cold noodles and *sinsollo*, a traditional dish in cooking brazier, and live fish dishes.

Sturgeons, Ryongjong fish and rainbow trout swimming in large aquaria and water tanks

placed in the dining rooms are processed on the spot according to orders.

Chef Rim Jae Ho, who has a special skill in making live fish dishes, said the taste of fish varies according to how and where they were bred.

The live fish sashimi is tender and tasty.

For the distinctive tastes of traditional dishes and live fish, the restaurant could gain a solid footing in five years.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

SYRIA

Keeping to the path towards sovereignty, territorial integrity

There was a corrective movement in Syria on November 16 1970.

The movement was a landmark event in the history of Syria as it reflected the desire of Syrians to achieve the independence of the country and build an independent new society.

Since the movement, the Syrian people have steadily taken the road of building a new society for independence against imperialism for over the past 50 years.

But the road was never smooth. Hostile forces resorted to every possible means and method to check their advance.

However, no force could hinder them from advancing their just cause.

History always stands for justice.

While waging a fierce struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and nation by overcoming all challenges of hostile forces for five decades, the Syrian people could take the road of national prosperity, which constitutes a clear proof of the validity and vitality of the movement.

Even today, the Syrian people are steadily advancing along the road of justice they chose through all challenges and difficulties.

This year alone, the Syrian army has continued to make military achievements in the anti-terror war.

Government troops have seized control over the most part of Idlib province and recaptured all the areas around the Damascus-Aleppo highway of great strategic importance to realize its absolute control over the road and liberated many cities and villages in the northwestern part of Aleppo province this year.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, in a recent televised speech, expressed his firm will not to suspend the anti-terror war as he referred to the

marked achievements made by its army.

The struggle of the Syrian service personnel and people to smash the vicious moves of hostile forces is winning support from the international community.

Extending friendly greetings to the Syrian counterpart on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the movement, the Korean people sincerely hope that they will achieve greater successes in their effort to defend the country's sovereignty and security.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

JAPAN

Forgery aimed at reducing Korea to Japanese colony

On November 17 1905, Japan fabricated the Ulsa five-point treaty by employing all outrageous and illegal methods.

It mobilized troops to encircle the Korean royal palace, interrogated, threatened and blackmailed Korean ministers, seized the seal of the foreign minister to stamp the treaty with it and unilaterally proclaimed the forgery. Through this, Japan deprived the feudal Joseon dynasty of diplomatic and sovereign rights and reduced Korea to its colony.

Since then, the Korean people had suffered huge losses of life and materials over the past 40 years.

The Japanese imperialists abducted over 8.4 million Koreans to battlefields for aggression and slave labour

sites, perpetrated the heinous unethical crime of kidnapping 200 000 Korean women as sexual slaves of their troops and mercilessly killed more than a million innocent people during their colonial rule. They also plundered large quantities of rice, gold, iron, timber and other natural resources.

The Japanese even forced the Koreans to change their names after Japanese fashion and drove iron piles into the ground on every summit of major celebrated mountains in an attempt to obliterate the national soul.

Although over a century has passed since the treaty was cooked up, Japan still claims that its colonial rule over Korea was "legally valid" and the "colonization of Korea

contributed to its modernization" and talks other nonsense to evade the admission of the appalling crimes it committed against the Koreans in the past and the apology and reparations for them.

The Ulsa treaty is evidently a forged document devoid of the affixing of the signature of Korean Emperor Kojong and the state seal, a main procedure for the effectuation of treaties.

At that time, the Emperor stated in his autograph letters to heads of state of different countries, including Tsarist Russia, the US and Germany, that he did neither recognize the treaty, which was concluded between the Japanese envoy and foreign minister Pak Je Sun on November 17 1905, from the beginning nor put the state

seal on it. He also dispatched three emissaries to the Second International Peace Conference, which was held in The Hague, the Netherlands, in June 1907, to disclose its illegality and invalidity, but the attempt failed due to Japan's tricks.

However, the truth of history cannot be concealed nor removed.

The Ulsa treaty was one of the four invalid treaties forged under duress in the world, which were specified in the report that the UN International Law Commission submitted to the UN General Assembly in 1963.

Japan will face harsh punishment if it continues to behave shamelessly turning away from the historical truth.

By Song Jong Ho PT

UNESCO

Committed to international exchange and cooperation

Representatives of different countries over the world gathered in London, the UK, in November 1945 to adopt the UNESCO Charter at the UN educational and cultural meeting. The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) commenced its activity with the charter taking effect on November 4 the following year.

UNESCO, which comprises almost all countries as its member nations, aims to contribute to global peace and security by strengthening

international cooperation in the fields of education, science, culture and information.

In order to promote the development of education based on international measures and the international understanding through education, the UN agency channels big efforts into improving and expanding the education of developing countries, as well as teacher training programme and education courses.

It helps improve the scientific and technical policies and research organizations of different countries and introduce

new sci-tech educational methods and encourages the training of scientists. It also promotes international exchanges and cooperation in wide fields including natural resources development.

As it deals with important problems related to socio-economic development, the equality of human rights and racial discrimination, it collects and analyses relevant statistical data.

It conducts a wide range of activities such as the cooperation in the discovery, restoration and management of

cultural sites by promoting the mutual understanding of culture in each country, the operation of book service system facilitating the purchase of educational and scientific data and the offer of overseas research subsidy for the training of talents.

UNESCO has served as a special agency of the United Nations according to the convention concluded with the UN in December 1946.

The DPRK joined the organization on October 18 1974.

By Om Ryong PT

Briefly

Russia

Espionage of foreign aircraft rebuffed

The Russian defence ministry recently announced that the country's radar stations detected 33 foreign aircraft engaged in espionage near its borders over the past week.

According to information available, 30 reconnaissance planes and three drones conducted aerial reconnaissance near Russia's border areas.

Uzbekistan

Measure to protect ecological environment

The Uzbek government created a national nature park in the western part of the country.

Covering an area of over 1.4 million hectares, the park was built to protect the ecological environment in the region.

The area includes a vast plain inhabited by more than 1 000 species of living things. The number of antelopes living in the plain was reportedly reduced to 10 percent in the past two decades.

Egypt

Mummies discovered

Lots of ancient relics were recently unearthed in the Saqqara remains of Giza, Egypt.

There were a hundred coloured wooden coffins, dozens of sculptures of figures and others in three vertical caves.

They reportedly date back to the time of an Egyptian pharaoh between 305 BC and 30 BC and are in a good state of preservation.

Uganda

Hydropower station under construction

The construction of a hydroelectric power plant is being pushed at the final stage in midwestern Uganda.

With a power-generating capacity of 600 000 kW, it will be the largest power station in the country.

So far about 98 percent of the total workload has reportedly been completed.

Israel

Exansion of Jewish settlements persists

The Israeli authorities on November 15 made public a plan for the construction of hundreds of blocks of dwellings for Jews in the outskirts of East al-Quds.

Such moves of the Zionist regime to expand the Jewish settlements are evoking criticism of Palestine and the international community as an act of laying an obstacle in the way of achieving peace in violation of international law.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

LEGEND

Vaulting horse legend

A sturdy DPRK gymnast with glittering eyes emanated confidence, self-possession and dauntless spirit as he dashed along the track like an agile tiger. It was the impression Ri Se Gwang (pictured) left on the world people.

He was born in Tanchon City, South Hamgyong Province, and started artistic gymnastics at seven.

After cultivating his talent at the artistic gymnastic group of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, he was picked to the April 25 Sports Club as a reserve player at 10. He began to take part in domestic games at 13 and distinguished himself at juvenile, junior and master-player grades.

He bagged his first gold medal at the vaulting horse event of the 15th Asian Games held in December 2006. Unfortunately, he got the third place at the 40th World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in 2007.

"I felt ashamed of myself as I saw foreign players performing more difficult movements than mine. Worse still, I made a mistake in performing a movement named after a foreign player," recalled Ri.

Through the championships he keenly felt the need to develop a movement of his own style with high degrees of difficulty to challenge the world.

Therefore, he buckled down to creating such a movement with the help of his coach.

In general, vaulting horse



Ri Se Gwang salutes after winning the men's vaulting horse in the artistic gymnastics at the 31st Olympic Games in 2016.

is a risky sport, especially because the ankles are subject to a great impact when landing. Ri's was an unimaginably difficult movement which has an incomparably greater impact on the ankles than other movements.

He unveiled this creation at the 5th Asian Artistic Gymnastics Championships in 2012 to win a gold medal.

When the world gymnastics circle was in a tumult of excitement over the new movement, Ri was not flattered. In vaulting horse, the marks of two different movements are added up for the total, and he wanted to execute two new movements.

Finally, the world witnessed the new movements he created at the 45th FIG World Artistic Gymnastics

Championships in 2014. They were named Ri Se Gwang movements afterwards.

As he valued the honour of the country above anything else, he continued to play despite so many injuries and failures."

Ri Man Sop, head coach of April 25 Sports Club

Championships in 2014. They were named Ri Se Gwang movements afterwards.

He won gold medals at the 46th FIG World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in 2015 and the 31st Olympic Games in 2016 in succession.

Gymnasts usually retire in their latter twenties, but he entered the 48th FIG World Artistic Gymnastics Championships at a far older age and won another gold to become a three-time world champion.

"If he had sought only his own interests and fame, he would have retired before. As he valued the honour of the country above anything else, he continued to play despite so many injuries and failures," said head coach Ri Man Sop.

Ri Se Gwang was awarded Kim Jong Il Prize and the titles of Labour Hero and People's Athlete.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

CONDIMENT

Korean traditional condiment—soybean paste and sauce

The essential condiments of the Korean people's diet are soy sauce, bean paste and peppered bean paste.

According to historical book *Samguksagi*, the Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms which was compiled in the period of Koryo Kingdom (918-1392), the soybean malt of Chacksong was a speciality of Palhae (late 7th century-early 10th century) and bean paste and soya were regarded as one of the wedding presents in Silla (early mid-1st century-935).

Korean ancestors used them as main spices for soup, stew and other dishes and added hot pepper and other materials to use it as side dishes.

According to specialists, soybean well known for its high nutritive value contains the highest percentage of proteins,

but its digestibility is only 70 percent when boiled. This will be 90 percent when bean curd is made with it and nearly 100 percent when bean paste and soya are made.

"As they harmoniously contain not only proteins but glucide, minerals, vitamins and various other nutrients, soybean paste and sauce are rated as leading health foods even at present," said Pae Son Yong, lecturer at Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce.

Here is a basic recipe for bean paste and sauce. First boil soya beans thoroughly, pulp them in a mortar and ball the paste for malt before hanging the balls at the upper part of the pillar or under the eaves for natural fermentation. This process is done around Riptong, the 19th of the 24 seasonal divisions or

the beginning of winter which falls in early November.

Three months later, crumble the balls to expose the pieces to the sun, before filling a sterilized earthenware jar with them and salty water.

And two to three months later, pour the black water out of the jar into a pot and boil it to make soy sauce. Leave the remainder in salty water in the jar until it is fermented to become savoury bean paste.

If you add powdered red pepper and various spices to the bean paste and leave it fermenting, you will get hot pepper paste.

Soybean paste and sauce-making was inscribed on the list of national intangible cultural heritage in 2018.

By Pang Un Ju PT

CLASSIC

Ho Im famous for his book on old therapies

Chimgugyonghombang compiled in 1644 is Korea's earliest book on acupuncture and moxibustion.

It was authored by Ho Im (1570-1647), a Koryo medical specialist in the period of the feudal Joson dynasty.

He began to acquire medical knowledge as he worked as an odd-job man in a doctor's home, and took special interest in acupuncture and moxibustion.

While practising the therapies, he broadened his experience and got the knacks of them.

He became widely known both at home and abroad and rose to the status of a court doctor which was a kind of medical officer at the time.

He compiled the book at the closing years of his life by systematizing his long and rich clinical experience and successes.

The single-volume book is classified into 70-odd items and consists of the outline and details.

The outline explains in brief the acupoints physicians may

By Ri Sung Ik PT

NATURAL MONUMENT

Stream with ninety-nine curves

Among the DPRK's natural monuments is the Ninety-Nine Curves of the Chonsang Stream in Sampho-ri, Yonsa County, North Hamgyong Province.

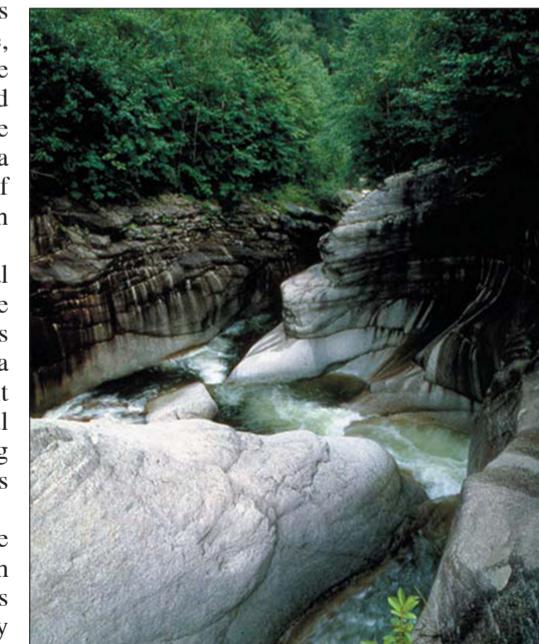
The Ninety-Nine Curves are located in the valley through which the Chonsang Stream flows as a tributary of the Yonmyon River rising from Kwanmo Peak of the Hamgyong Mountains.

The stream flows in a high place, hence the name Chonsang, and the Ninety-Nine Curves point to a large number of rocky curves in the stream.

The unusual valley in the highlands was designated as a natural monument as it is useful in studying crustal movements and topography.

Bedrocks at the bottom and both sides of the curves were formed by the unique texture of granite.

In the rainy



Ninety-nine curves at the Chonsang Stream.



The Pyongyang Times

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

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WPK Central Committee convenes Politburo enlarged meeting

The 20th enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the Seventh Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place at the office building of the Party Central Committee on November 15.

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the WPK, chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, attended the meeting.

Present at the meeting were members of the Presidium and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

Officials of relevant departments of the Party Central Committee, chairpersons of provincial Party committees, the minister of Public Security, the director of the Central Public Prosecutors Office and staff members of the state emergency infectious disease prevention sector observed the meeting online.

Upon authorization of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting.

It had an in-depth discussion of the matter of further strengthening the national emergency infectious disease prevention system to provide against

the ever-worsening worldwide health crisis.

The Supreme Leader made a detailed analysis and assessment of the seriousness of the world-sweeping COVID-19 and the country's infectious disease prevention situation and indicated Party, military and economic

tasks and ways to further bolster up the emergency anti-epidemic front, the major thrust of the 80-day campaign. And he stressed the need to be on full alert, build a tight blocking wall and intensify the infectious disease prevention efforts with awareness of the heavy responsibility the participants assume for national security and the people's well-being.

The participants were notified of an analysis of the non-socialist practices being revealed at educational institutions and in society as a whole, and seriously discussed the matter of decisively

rooting them out.

The Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee made an in-depth study and discussion of agenda items, set forth important tasks and adopted relevant decisions with unanimous approval.

KCNA



ECONOMY

Industries register steady boost in output

Innovations are being made every day in different economic sectors.

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex is pushing the construction of a large-sized oxygen plant in real earnest while carrying on its current production. The construction project has been wound up in the main and the assembly of equipment is being stepped up at the final stage. In particular, the steel workshop hit the target for the ongoing 80-day campaign by over 50 percent as of November 16. They ensured the full operation of a UHP electric arc furnace and set a new record in some 30 days after the start of the campaign by making

collective innovations.

The Chollima Steel Complex has completed most of the construction project of a refractory production base. Its production process, to which the high-temperature air-combustion technology based on anthracite gasification has been applied, can annually turn out large quantities of quality high-alumina refractory. The project is of great importance in lowering the production costs of steel by prolonging the serviceable life of electric and heating furnaces.

The Chongjin Structural Steel Factory has overfulfilled its daily task since the start of the 80-day campaign after attaining the goal of the five-year strategy for

national economic development till late September. As they introduce rational steel production methods and manufacture efficient equipment in their efforts to increase productivity, its employees are tapping latent reserves, exploring possibilities and enlisting potentials to the full. They adopted a rational working method for speeding up heating while saving coal by using waste heat, improved the actual extraction rate by making a small-sized rolling mill and increased the output of iron wire of all sizes by manufacturing several drawing machines.

The Songchongang Electrical Appliances Factory carried out its annual economic plan ahead of schedule until late September and has overfulfilled its assignments for producing custom-built equipment since the start of the 80-day campaign.

The Chonnaeri Cement Factory has exceeded its daily

quotas this month in the spirit of having overfulfilled the October production plan. The December 5 Youth Mine and the Huichon Mine Prop Production Station carried out their annual plans ahead of schedule.

The Pyongyang Municipal Garment Industry Management

Bureau overfulfilled the yearly economic plan and five-year strategy goals for national economic development on all indices until early October and is hitting its daily target for the 80-day campaign without fail.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



Houses newly built in the mountainous city of Samjiyon.

SEE HOUSING PAGE 2

LEAD

Keeping alive tradition of greeting Party congress with feats

The 80-day campaign is going full steam ahead in the DPRK to greet the Eighth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea with remarkable successes.

The whole population is striving to make innovations in all workplaces.

It is a proud tradition of the Korean people to add lustre to Party congresses with great achievements.

The seven rounds of the WPK congresses since its foundation are shining in the history of the DPRK along with faithful and patriotic struggles of the people across the country.

The Second Congress of the WPK was celebrated with the victorious completion of the national economic plan for 1947, the first of its kind in the country's history.

The Third Congress held in April 1956, three years after the Fatherland Liberation War, was greeted with the brilliant successes in the post-war rehabilitation which demonstrated the might of heroic Korea.

The Korean people unanimously supported the basic line of economic construction in the post-war period set forth

by President Kim Il Sung and performed miracles in all sectors of the national economy, achieving a 31 percent growth in the industrial output of state-run and cooperative enterprises in the first quarter of 1956 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

Their enthusiasm for greeting Party congresses with high political zeal and labour feats bubbled up in the run-up to the Fourth Congress of the WPK.

With the completion of the first five-year economic plan in just two and half years amid the flames of great Chollima advance, the DPRK became a socialist industrial-agricultural state with firm foundations of the independent national economy and entered the period of overall socialist construction with the accomplishment of the task of laying the foundations of socialism.

On the occasion of the Fifth WPK Congress, the Kangson speed was created for attaining the goals of the first seven-year plan, which was carried out to accomplish the historic cause of socialist industrialization.

Following in the tradition, they waged a 100-day campaign

ahead of the Sixth Congress.

They vigorously conducted the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural, and fulfilled the economic plan for 1980 before October when the Party Congress was held.

As they waged the unprecedented struggle for defending socialism and went through the Arduous March and forced march which were without example in history after the Sixth Congress, the people strengthened their complete trust in the Party and confidence in the victory of socialism.

They conducted a 70-day campaign before the Seventh Congress of the Party in May 2016 to present to the congress gifts of great feats in the fields of different industries, agriculture, construction, scientific research and sports.

Carrying on the venerable tradition of heroic struggle established by the past generations, the Koreans are full of determination to greet the Eighth Congress of the WPK with flying colours by devoting their patriotic minds in the ongoing 80-day campaign.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

HOUSING

Thousands of dwelling houses built in Samjiyon

Another happy event has taken place in the City of Samjiyon in the Paektu area.

New modern dwelling houses for thousands of families were built in more than 10 dong and ri in the city of Samjiyon by shock brigade members of Division 216 and soldier builders.

Meetings for moving into new houses were held between November 11 and 13 in Paektusanmilyong-dong, Simmusong-dong, Rimyongsu-dong, Phothae-dong, Ohomuldong-dong, Junghungi, Hunggyesu-ri, Sobaeksan-ri, Paksam-ri, Poso-ri and Thongsin-ri.

Present there were Tong

Jong Ho, vice-premier of the Cabinet, Pak Hun, minister of Construction and Building-materials Industry, Pak Song Chol, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and working people in the city, commanding officers and shock brigade members of Division 216 and soldier-builders.

There were congratulatory speeches at the meetings.

The speakers said that socialist fairyland villages have appeared in the Paektu area under the warm care of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

They extended their heartfelt

gratitude by reflecting the unanimous mind of the people in the city and all over the country to the Supreme Leader.

They called on all the working people of the city to further spruce up and take good care of the sacred land of the revolution as the utopian land of socialism and remain loyal to the Party with pure conscience and obligation.

At the meetings, house licenses were conveyed, which was followed by speeches and moving into new houses.

Officials visited new houses to congratulate their owners.

KCNA



Part of the houses built for thousands of families in the city of Samjiyon.

INSPECTION

Premier visits machine, notebook producers

Premier Kim Tok Hun, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, inspected the Taezan Heavy Machine Complex and the Mindulle Notebook Factory.

Making the rounds of generating equipment processing workshop No. 1, generator coil workshop, large machine workshop and others at the Taezan Heavy Machine Complex, he stressed the need to positively introduce efficient jigs and equipment and new technical innovation plans so as to process and assemble

products in a responsible way.

After referring to the importance of ensuring normal production at the Mindulle Notebook Factory, he discussed the ways to find and use idle materials by directing primary efforts to recycling.

The field consultative meetings took measures to finish the production of custom-built equipment as early as possible with a proper business and management strategy, and fully supply raw materials needed for the production of quality notebooks.

KCNA



Premier Kim Tok Hun (middle) inspects the Taezan Heavy Machine Complex.

Nationwide

Touring art show inspires 80-day campaigners



A touring exhibition of artworks has been launched in different parts of the DPRK on the theme of "We will climb Mt Paektu at all times and in all places", featuring excellent works of artists from renowned art studios.

It will tour several factories and enterprises in Pyongyang.

It also goes on in all provinces.

Facilities network building pushed



The building of networks of facilities is being pressed on in the reclaimed Honggondo, Ryongmaedo and Chongsudo tideland.

The reclaimers of tideland are making a breakthrough in attaining the goal of their projects ahead of schedule.

Lamp-posts set up

Lamp-posts have been erected at the newly-built residential district in Saodong area, Tanchon, South Hamgyong Province.

Lamp-posts stand along both sides of the concrete pavement and each street lamp is installed with a solar panel.

Reservoir enlarged in Pyongyang



A reservoir expansion project was completed in Pyongyang in a little over ten days.

The completion of the project has made it possible to ensure a more satisfactory supply of quality water to residents.

Thousands of trees rooted in rehabilitation area

Thousands of trees have been planted at the reconstruction site in the Komdok area of South Hamgyong Province.

Good species of trees have been rooted in different places of Tanchon City to add beauty to new residential quarters.

FORESTRY

Research institute instrumental in pushing afforestation

The Forests of Economic Value Institute under the Academy of Forest Science is one of the leading scientific research units contributing greatly to the forest restoration campaign now underway across the DPRK.

Established in the 1960s, it has more than 10 labs including those of oil-bearing trees and medicinal plants, a large greenhouse and several-hectare tree sapling fields. And it has over ten scientific research forests in different parts of the country.

Tasty wild-fruit tree varieties bred

The institute has mainly been engaged in the development of wild-fruit tree varieties with good taste and high quality and productivity that are suitable for the climatic and soil conditions of the country, the preservation of their characteristics and the spread of them.

In the course of this, its researchers succeeded in growing saplings of high-yielding trees and perfecting the methods of producing saplings of major tree species of economic value including grafting like seed sprout grafting and cleft grafting for pine-nut trees and the planting of cuttings of seabuckthorn trees, thus creating a large area of forests of chestnut, pine-nut, Korean evodia and seabuckthorn trees in different parts of the country.

"We have bred 15 national forest plant varieties such as high-yielding chestnut, seabuckthorn, walnut and white pine-nut trees in the period of the fifth five-year plan for scientific and technological development that started in 2016. Several of them were awarded certificates of registration of sci-tech achievements and introduction of state sci-tech hits," said director Ri Hyon Song.

He added that a technology of tissue culture for saplings was completed in the period.

Since the country has been bustling with afforestation, the demand for tree saplings of high economic value is on a steady rise.

Such ordinary vegetative propagation methods as grafting and cutting planting are insufficient to meet the needs.

Therefore, the institute laid foundations for annually producing one million saplings through tissue culture this year.

At present the tissue culture lab is conducting inoculation for multiplication of such trees as *Actinidia arguta*, *Zizythus jujuba*, *Crataegus pinnatifida*, *Corylus heterophylla* and *Cerasus humilis* (Bge) Sok.

Progress in study of native trees

Chestnut and pine-nut trees are indigenous species of Korea.

Chestnut is very familiar with the Koreans as it always reminds them of the mouthwatering roast fruit and makes them hum the tune of *Roast Chestnut Ballad*.

The scientists developed a method of boosting the production of high-yielding chestnut trees to open up a prospect of covering all the chestnut forests of the country with them in the near future.

"Two to three years were required for producing high-yielding chestnut saplings in the past. But the development of the method of doing a graft directly to seed sprouts has made it possible to reduce the sapling production cycle to a year and increase the land utilization rate and sapling output 2.5 and 4 times respectively," said deputy director Kil Myong Chol.

The method has been introduced into forests in such areas as Unjon County of North

Phyongan Province to replace native chestnut trees with the high-yielding variety, and it saves much labour and will bring benefits in the near future, Kil added.

"In general, a pine-nut tree bears fruits 15 years after it is planted. That's why people say the tree is planted for the coming generations, I think. But this new variety begins to produce fruit five years after," said researcher Ri Myong Chol.

The institute established a technology of producing pine-nut saplings based on a new grafting method to ensure they bear fruits five years after planting and increase output two to three times.

New tray planting lab

A bonsai lab was set up in the institute this year.

"Tray planting is an art. You can succeed in this study only when you love trees and develop the ability to interact with them," said the lab chief Kim In Sop.

According to him, the

Koreans have a long history of tray planting.

He added that pot trees and shrubs and tray landscapes on different themes that are cultivated and created by applying plastic arts have been presented to national flower exhibitions in recent years.

The lab is now busy with securing the seeds of trees and shrubs fit for tray planting including the pine tree naturally growing in alpine regions. It is also engaged in developing a grafting method for giving shapes to trees, a method of making flowers open and bear fruits at desired time by controlling growing points and growth, a method of determining the size, shape and colour suitable for pots.

The researchers are striving to present new products in the period of the sixth five-year plan for sci-tech development.

Valuable findings

Over 100 hectares of seabuckthorn forests were planted in the Unhung area of

Ryanggang Province.

The trees laden with yellow, yellowish brown and other colour fruits add beauty to the scenery of the area and serve as an asset for its economic development.

The forests are also associated with the painstaking efforts of the scientists of the institute.

As all parts of the tree, from the leaf to root, are rich in various medicinal and nutritional components, seabuckthorn is called the king of wild fruits.

The researchers completed a method of mass-producing the saplings of the tree of good breed which grows well even in the alpine regions with a considerable variation in temperature between day and night. They also expounded its biological features and fruit productivity according to soil composition in northern areas, and several varieties of it have been inscribed on the list of national forest plants.

"Active support of overseas compatriots was a great help to our success," said Kim Un Ho, PhD.

Overseas compatriots donated saplings of high-yielding seabuckthorn variety and essential materials for its study, he noted.

The institute is working to achieve the target of planting some 1 000-hectare forests of seabuckthorn trees in northern highlands including Ryanggang Province during the second stage of the forest restoration campaign.

In addition, it established a technology of breeding and cultivating aronia, walnut, Korean evodia and other trees of good breed and an agroforestry technology for major tree species of economic value.

It also developed a technology of double and triple cultivation of tree saplings in containers to increase sapling production over five to seven times more than previously and root protective agents, growth stimulants and nutrient solutions for trees as well.

The pyrolignous acid it developed with forest by-products is regarded as a promising soil disinfectant and vegetable nutrient.

The institute is making preparations for setting up raw materials bases for bioindustry from next year in order to build more forests of economic value as early as possible.

"We will strive on to achieve better results so that the coming generations can enjoy the benefits in the distant future, even though we may not get them in our lifetime," said the director.



PHOTOS BY RYU KWANG HYOK AND KIM HYOK CHOL

The Forests of Economic Value Institute under the Academy of Forest Science works on breeding of wild fruit trees of good species, preservation of their characteristics and spread of them. The institute has already bred lots of high-grade varieties including the indigenous ones to register them as national species.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Meat and dairy production picks up in Sepho area

Meat production has increased 4.5 times over that in the early period of its operation at the livestock farming base in the Sepho area of Kangwon Province and milk production has risen to several thousand tons.

It raised the fattening rate of domestic animals by securing good strains of domestic animals and improving suitable grazing and rearing methods and anti-epizootic work according to seasons.

Embryo transplantation and artificial insemination technologies were introduced to drastically increase the number

of domestic animals of good breeds.

The farm improved the soil fertility of the grassland by applying large quantities of homemade manure to it and planted Aeguk grass, alfalfa and other nutritious feed grasses to raise the per-hectare grass yield over 2.7 times.

This year it has secured more than 250 000 tons of feed grasses for domestic animals in winter even under the unfavourable weather conditions. It also installed crusher, pulverizer and other machines to lay a solid foundation for the production of processed animal feed.

It made a new kind of feed additive, trained well over a hundred technicians and skilled workers every year to build up its own scientific and technical capacity and regularly held technical classes and demonstrations to improve the scientific level of animal husbandry.

Technicians and stock keepers improved the breeding stock and employed advanced breeding and feed grass cultivation methods.

They also produced dozens of kinds of veterinary medicines.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



Flocks of cattle graze on a grassland at the livestock farming base in Sepho, Kangwon Province.

DEVICE

Power-saving electric boiler introduced

A new type of active electric boiler, product of the Intelligent Products Company of North Hwanghae Province, is now widely introduced throughout the country.

The electricity-saving boiler is equipped with a system of continuously and automatically producing and supplying steam and hot water.

"Discontinuous generation and supply of heat energy may have negative impact on the quality of products and business management. So we have established an automatic control system with which to

grasp the amount of heat needed for consumer units in real time and ensure continuous supply of the needed amount of heat," said Pong Mun Chol, director of the company.

The developers minimized the boiler size by compacting the electric heating structure to shorten the time required for turning the water added to the boiler into steam or hot water as much as possible in order to reduce its power consumption.

And they installed it as closely as possible to the consuming places and ensured efficient pipe assembly to reduce the loss

of energy in transmission.

The results of its introduction confirmed that power consumption was 30-40 percent less on average than before.

"After the introduction of the boiler, power consumption fell drastically and we can save much electricity. It has led to a reduction in per-unit production cost, which is very helpful to business activities of the factory," said Ri Sol Gyong, a section chief of the Kyonghung Unhasu Foodstuff Factory.

The active boiler is also said to be useful in ensuring quality of products as it generates and supplies the needed amount of steam continuously.

It is very convenient to use. Press buttons and the amount of steam you need is generated and supplied in less than a minute.

By Jong Chol PT

PROFILE

Parentless girl becomes lawmaker



O Myong Chun (left) tells a newcomer how to deal with the spinning machine at the Sariwon Textile Mill.

year and carried out production plans for two years in the year after that.

She was not content with that

and so she set herself the goal of attaining three or four years' quotas and strived to this end.

"O Myong Chun has untiring perseverance and a quick eye for learning," said her colleague Kim Sun Hyang. "She took charge of four or five looms to achieve her goal."

After four years of painstaking work, she received high state commendations every year and was elected deputy to the 13th SPA in 2014.

The SPA deputy continues to run her looms.

She has also trained many labour innovators and skilled spinners.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

FARM

Terrapin farm added to catfish farm

A terrapin breeding base has been established at the Sunchon Catfish Farm.

"Each province now works to build a terrapin breeding base with an annual capacity of dozens of tons," said an official of the Ministry of Fisheries.

According to him, the output of terrapins was small in quantity and low in quality in the past as they were bred in outdoor ponds only in summer.

South Phyongan Province paid much heed to the construction of breeding base that ensures terrapin production all the year round by putting its farming on a scientific, industrial and intensive basis.

The newly-built terrapin breeding base has main production buildings including blocks for hatching eggs, young terrapins, fattening terrapins and adult ones and such auxiliary buildings as a heating ground and compressor room.

In breeding terrapins, it uses

hot water from power generation at the Sunchon Thermal Power Station.

Each block is equipped with a system of ensuring proper temperature, which measures and automatically controls air, water and room temperatures in real time, a water quantity supply system and a water quality control system.

All conditions are provided to meet the biological features of terrapin which likes silence, but hates vibration and noise.

Outdoor ponds are located between terrapin blocks with a view to providing terrapins with natural environment.

The survival rate of terrapins will be reduced when they are bred only indoors.

At present, the Sunchon Catfish Farm is buckling down to adapting terrapins to the new base.

By Kim Il Jin PT

POTHONG

Riverside spruced up to the delight of citizens

The Pothong River which flows across the capital city of Pyongyang has been spruced up, with the completion of the promenade rebuilding project which kicked off along with the start of the 80-day campaign.

During the reconstruction project, masonry and promenade on the banks of the river which had been crumbled or destroyed by such natural disasters as flood and typhoon have newly been rebuilt and the embankment has been raised 0.5-1 metre higher than before.

"The banks of the Pothong River needed to be raised as it rained unprecedently in the city in recent years due to

abnormal climatic conditions," said Jo Chang Ryol, an official of the Pothonggang recreation ground management station.

During the project, a total of 22 000 metres of masonry have been built along the river banks and 52 000 square metres of promenade paved.

Resting sections have been built in 26 places, over 300 garden lamps installed, and turf and trees planted on over 52 000 square metres of green area.

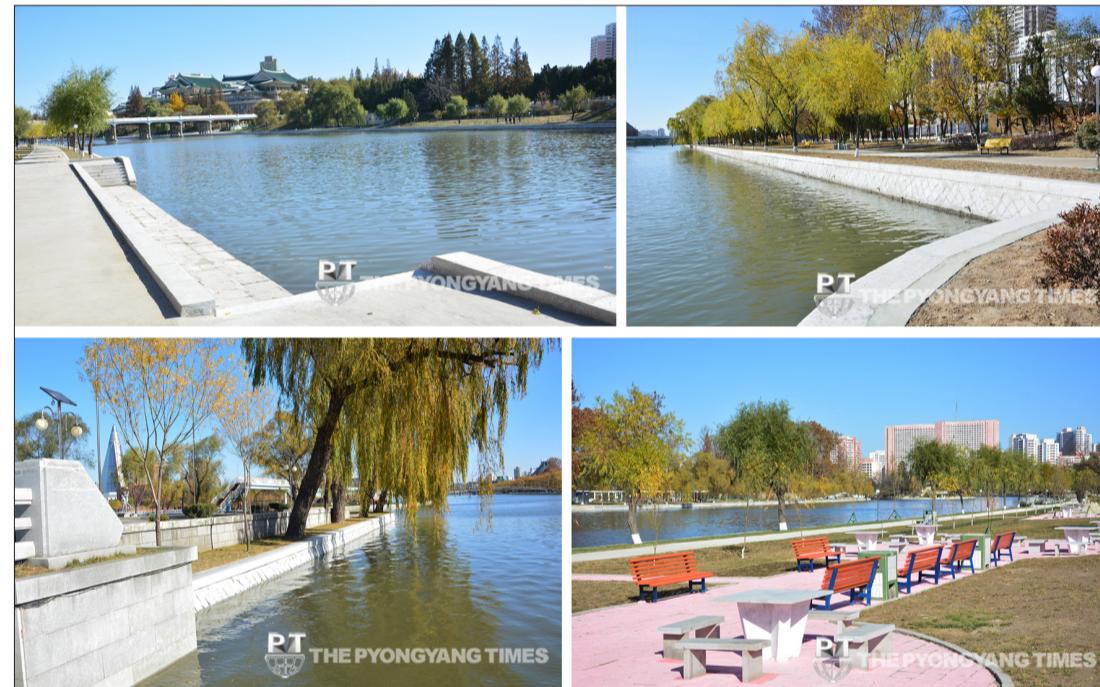
The promenade reconstruction has been carried out on six islets including Taeponghwa and Kumnan.

The Pothong River improvement project, a grand

nature-harnessing project which was undertaken for the first time in the country in 1946, was completed in 55 days to create a 10km-long canal and the Pothonggang Pleasure Ground covering an area of over 300 hectares.

The reconstruction project will make a tangible contribution to the people's cultural and leisure activities, said Kim Hak Chol, a staff member of the Pothong River promenade reconstruction headquarters. "The project was finished in a matter of 20 days thanks to the high enthusiasm of builders."

By Ri Sung Ik PT



Some parts of the refashioned promenades along the Pothong River.

SAMARITAN

College student helps war veteran grandma

"Pak Un Ha (pictured) gave me family affection and joy of life. She is as intimate as my granddaughter," said Mun Chung Sim, war veteran and honoured disabled soldier living in Wonjondong, Chollima District, Nampho.

The woman in her 90s who was born in south Korea has no child due to the injury she got during the Fatherland Liberation War (1950-1953).

Pak Un Ha, student of Kangson College of Engineering, is taking care of her.

When Pak heard about Mun, she thought that the latter would be more pleased if she became a granddaughter though district



officials took special care of war veterans and honoured disabled soldiers.

So, she visits Mun's home every day to be a companion to chat with her and help her with house chores.

While listening to a variety of her granddaughter's stories about college life, the grandmother was delighted as if she returned to the maidenhood in her 20s and, sometimes, would teach the valuable truth of life as a revolutionary forerunner, recalled Un Ha.

Now, all her family members have become so close to the veteran they seem to have formed a harmonious family

with her.

"Today's life of us exists as revolutionary forerunners like my grandmother fought and worked self-sacrificingly in the past," said Un Ha whenever her laudable deeds were appreciated in village and college. "It is the filial duty and obligation of our new generation to respect and take good care of them."

By Han Kwi Hun PT

PROFILE

Blind man works his way through college to be doctor

There is a doctor who has special skills in treating the diseases in the nervous and digestive systems at the massage treatment department of the Nampho City Koryo Medicine Hospital.

His name is Choe Song Hyok, and he is blind.

"It will be probably hard to believe that a man with visual impairment has mastered the world of medical sciences. But Choe did it," said Jin Yong Chol, director of the hospital.

Choe Song Hyok suffered from high myopia since his childhood and it got worse a year before he graduated from the middle school to nearly loss of his eyesight.

It was a despairing attack to him as he cherished a dream of becoming an artist.

But his teacher and classmates of the school gave him hope for the future.

His name was still on the list of roll book though he lost his eyesight and he could go on with his study with the help of them.

As he learned braille points at a factory for persons with visual impairment after graduating from the middle school, he came to have a firm conviction about his future.

Later, he attended a school under the Ministry of Public Health. The teaching staff and students paid special attention to him as it was the first time for the visually-impaired man to enter the school.

He came to know that he could give simple massage treatment with the help of finger sense and auditory sense. So he studied hard to graduate the course with top honour.

With fervour for learning, he went on with his study at Nampho College of Medical Sciences.

At the college he acquired the traditional therapy of his own style that can diagnose the patients' disease symptoms by consultation, tapping and sense of finger and give rational



PAK KWANG HUN

Choe Song Hyok, a visually-impaired doctor at the Nampho City Koryo Medicine Hospital, applies acupuncture to a patient.

treatment. He also learned acupuncture, moxibustion and massage.

"The most irritating thing was that I only had to listen to the explanations of lecturers without looking during lessons. Classmates explained the words written on the blackboard and lecturers held my hand and put my finger on the positions of muscles, the disposition of the human skeleton and acupoints one by one," said Song Hyok.

He recalled that during his college days many lecturers and classmates served as his eyes.

Choe Song Hyok presented an essay titled "Clinical study for the treatment of haemorrhoidal bleeding by massaging" to the fourth national symposium on massage medical science and won high appreciation.

"Thanks to the benevolent social system, such a man with impairment like me could graduate from college and become a doctor. I will repay the favour with my treatment achievement," Choe Song Hyok said.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



Brightly-illuminated apartment buildings in Pyongyong's Ryomyong Street.

PICTORIAL KOREA / HONG KWANG NAM

FOOTWEAR FACTORY

Can-do attitude encourages innovation

"I can do it, too," says every employee of the Ryuwon Footwear Factory.

With the firm confidence that they can carry on technical innovation, its employees think deeply to raise the rate of domestic production of raw and other materials and improve the quality of products.

In the course of this, they conceived an idea to remodel a manual ring-inserting machine into an automatic one and succeeded in its making through

repeated tests. They also brightened the local illumination of each machine to further reduce electricity consumption and improve production conditions.

A worker at the laboratory of the factory found out a method of substituting a locally-abundant material for an imported reagent capable of promoting resistance of vinyl chloride to cold, thereby completing the production method of winter shoes based on waste vinyl chloride and making

a contribution to the domestic production of materials and recycling.

It is said that the sci-tech classes hosted by the factory were very helpful to making such successes though they did not receive university education.

They said that they could acquire special knowledge related to the production of footwear and make technical innovations in the course of studying hard as they competed with and taught each other.

"We have regarded technical innovation or invention can only be made by technicians in the past. However, nothing would be impossible for our workers as everybody is provided with all conditions to study and making all the people well versed in science and technology is a requirement of the times. Everybody buckled down to it and carried it out with such a can-do attitude," said worker Han Kyu Chol.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



Two researchers work on developing an automatic screen printer at the Ryuwon Footwear Factory.

DESIGN

Prolific industrial designer of ingenuity

The logo of the Mirim Riding Club shows the flowing mane of a horse and the feeling of its motion done by the single-stroke method of Korean painting in a dynamic way. Its design came first at the national industrial design exhibition held in 2014.

Its designer is Chon Yong Il (pictured), a creator at the Korean Industrial Design Studio who has worked as industrial designer for over four decades.

Born into a railway designer's family, Chon was fond of drawing in his childhood.

After graduating from the industrial art faculty of Pyongyang University of Fine Arts in a study-while-you-work system, he started out on his career as a trademark designer, but his early works were a failure.

He drew the lessons that a trademark designer could never be successful without having a correct understanding of the goods and he should be an economist and social



psychologist and have an ability to come up with noble ideas and original plans.

He set it as his principle of creation to develop every design in a novel and distinctive way.

Chon cultivated an acute sense of design and considerable ingenuity with great creative zeal and relentless quest, which gave birth to the designs of labels of the well-liked Taedonggang beer and tara vine fruit liquor, logo of the Central Zoo and many other excellent designs.

"When we were working on the logo of the Central Zoo, many insisted on the portrayal of a tiger in a dignified

appearance. But Chon Yong Il thought that as the zoo is a favourite haunt of our people, especially kids, its logo should be done in a cheerful mood. So he depicted a cute smiling cub," said creator Jo Si Gyong.

Chon demonstrated his remarkable expertise also with the ad design for the Pyongyang Taedonggang beer festival held on the banks of the Taedong River in 2017. He portrayed a mugful of bubbling, mouth-watering beer against the background of the blue waves of the Taedong and inscribed the title in unique calligraphy to contribute to adding more to the conspicuously of the festival.

The veteran industrial designer has created more than 1 000 designs during his career, and he often tells young creators that a good design can be produced when they combine extensive knowledge, innovative thought and rich imagination.

By Pang Un Ju PT

EDUCATION

CDIO method adopted for medical education

"The CDIO education method, which is applied to the teaching of engineering, also proves effective in medical education," said Kim Song Hui (pictured), lecturer at Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences.

An education method consisting of conception, design, implementation and operation is being generalized as a very effective education method in engineering education which requires producing practical results based on scientific principle.

Can't the CDIO education method be applied to medical education?

"Medical sciences do not aim to produce new things. But they have something in common with engineering in the aspect that they apply theories to reality," Kim Song Hui said.

She developed such an idea after she discovered the fact that even a student who is well versed in theories might



have a low practical ability. So she paid special attention to the capacity-building of students so that they could take diagnosing and curing measures with confidence after finishing their university course.

She made sure that the CDIO education method was introduced into lecture to present the main point to be dealt with in lecture as the preparation task and to get students to conceive ways to solve problems through literature search and draw an algorithm for the whole course of results.

In the lecture, students were encouraged to present their findings by

groups or individuals and get the most correct and rational method by way of question and answer.

Lecturers guide students during the lesson to find the correct answer.

"The efficiency has been raised thanks to the close combination of lecture and practice", "Lecturers need to spend much time for the preparation of lectures in order to give correct evaluation to different tasks and lead them logically", "Lectures have become the time of us, rather than those of teachers", "We came to have a correct and full understanding of teaching contents and cultivate self-confidence in diagnosis," lecturers and students say as to the new teaching method.

The new teaching method was highly appreciated in the sector of higher education and it is generalized in medical education units across the country.

By Han Kwi Hun PT



It unusually rains in Pyongyang all day long on Wednesday or 11 days after Ri Tong, the 19th of the 24 seasonal divisions according to the lunar calendar that means the beginning of winter.

EATERY

Specialities keep restaurant afloat

The Kyonghung Restaurant in Pothonggang District is a favourite haunt of many Pyongyang citizens.

The restaurant was inaugurated in October 2015.

According to cashier Kim Yun Gyong, the most popular dishes are traditional foods like Pyongyang cold noodles and *sinsollo*, a traditional dish in cooking brazier, and live fish dishes.

Sturgeons, Ryongjong fish and rainbow trout swimming in large aquaria and water tanks

placed in the dining rooms are processed on the spot according to orders.

Chef Rim Jae Ho, who has a special skill in making live fish dishes, said the taste of fish varies according to how and where they were bred.

The live fish sashimi is tender and tasty.

For the distinctive tastes of traditional dishes and live fish, the restaurant could gain a solid footing in five years.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

SYRIA

Keeping to the path towards sovereignty, territorial integrity

There was a corrective movement in Syria on November 16 1970.

The movement was a landmark event in the history of Syria as it reflected the desire of Syrians to achieve the independence of the country and build an independent new society.

Since the movement, the Syrian people have steadily taken the road of building a new society for independence against imperialism for over the past 50 years.

But the road was never smooth. Hostile forces resorted to every possible means and method to check their advance.

However, no force could hinder them from advancing their just cause.

History always stands for justice.

While waging a fierce struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and nation by overcoming all challenges of hostile forces for five decades, the Syrian people could take the road of national prosperity, which constitutes a clear proof of the validity and vitality of the movement.

Even today, the Syrian people are steadily advancing along the road of justice they chose through all challenges and difficulties.

This year alone, the Syrian army has continued to make military achievements in the anti-terror war.

Government troops have seized control over the most part of Idlib province and recaptured all the areas around the Damascus-Aleppo highway of great strategic importance to realize its absolute control over the road and liberated many cities and villages in the northwestern part of Aleppo province this year.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, in a recent televised speech, expressed his firm will not to suspend the anti-terror war as he referred to the

marked achievements made by its army.

The struggle of the Syrian service personnel and people to smash the vicious moves of hostile forces is winning support from the international community.

Extending friendly greetings to the Syrian counterpart on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the movement, the Korean people sincerely hope that they will achieve greater successes in their effort to defend the country's sovereignty and security.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

JAPAN

Forgery aimed at reducing Korea to Japanese colony

On November 17 1905, Japan fabricated the Ulsa five-point treaty by employing all outrageous and illegal methods.

It mobilized troops to encircle the Korean royal palace, interrogated, threatened and blackmailed Korean ministers, seized the seal of the foreign minister to stamp the treaty with it and unilaterally proclaimed the forgery. Through this, Japan deprived the feudal Joseon dynasty of diplomatic and sovereign rights and reduced Korea to its colony.

Since then, the Korean people had suffered huge losses of life and materials over the past 40 years.

The Japanese imperialists abducted over 8.4 million Koreans to battlefields for aggression and slave labour

sites, perpetrated the heinous unethical crime of kidnapping 200 000 Korean women as sexual slaves of their troops and mercilessly killed more than a million innocent people during their colonial rule. They also plundered large quantities of rice, gold, iron, timber and other natural resources.

The Japanese even forced the Koreans to change their names after Japanese fashion and drove iron piles into the ground on every summit of major celebrated mountains in an attempt to obliterate the national soul.

Although over a century has passed since the treaty was cooked up, Japan still claims that its colonial rule over Korea was "legally valid" and the "colonization of Korea

contributed to its modernization" and talks other nonsense to evade the admission of the appalling crimes it committed against the Koreans in the past and the apology and reparations for them.

The Ulsa treaty is evidently a forged document devoid of the affixing of the signature of Korean Emperor Kojong and the state seal, a main procedure for the effectuation of treaties.

At that time, the Emperor stated in his autograph letters to heads of state of different countries, including Tsarist Russia, the US and Germany, that he did neither recognize the treaty, which was concluded between the Japanese envoy and foreign minister Pak Je Sun on November 17 1905, from the beginning nor put the state

seal on it. He also dispatched three emissaries to the Second International Peace Conference, which was held in The Hague, the Netherlands, in June 1907, to disclose its illegality and invalidity, but the attempt failed due to Japan's tricks.

However, the truth of history cannot be concealed nor removed.

The Ulsa treaty was one of the four invalid treaties forged under duress in the world, which were specified in the report that the UN International Law Commission submitted to the UN General Assembly in 1963.

Japan will face harsh punishment if it continues to behave shamelessly turning away from the historical truth.

By Song Jong Ho PT

UNESCO

Committed to international exchange and cooperation

Representatives of different countries over the world gathered in London, the UK, in November 1945 to adopt the UNESCO Charter at the UN educational and cultural meeting. The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) commenced its activity with the charter taking effect on November 4 the following year.

UNESCO, which comprises almost all countries as its member nations, aims to contribute to global peace and security by strengthening

international cooperation in the fields of education, science, culture and information.

In order to promote the development of education based on international measures and the international understanding through education, the UN agency channels big efforts into improving and expanding the education of developing countries, as well as teacher training programme and education courses.

It helps improve the scientific and technical policies and research organizations of different countries and introduce

new sci-tech educational methods and encourages the training of scientists. It also promotes international exchanges and cooperation in wide fields including natural resources development.

As it deals with important problems related to socio-economic development, the equality of human rights and racial discrimination, it collects and analyses relevant statistical data.

It conducts a wide range of activities such as the cooperation in the discovery, restoration and management of

cultural sites by promoting the mutual understanding of culture in each country, the operation of book service system facilitating the purchase of educational and scientific data and the offer of overseas research subsidy for the training of talents.

UNESCO has served as a special agency of the United Nations according to the convention concluded with the UN in December 1946.

The DPRK joined the organization on October 18 1974.

By Om Ryong PT

Briefly

Russia

Espionage of foreign aircraft rebuffed

The Russian defence ministry recently announced that the country's radar stations detected 33 foreign aircraft engaged in espionage near its borders over the past week.

According to information available, 30 reconnaissance planes and three drones conducted aerial reconnaissance near Russia's border areas.

Uzbekistan

Measure to protect ecological environment

The Uzbek government created a national nature park in the western part of the country.

Covering an area of over 1.4 million hectares, the park was built to protect the ecological environment in the region.

The area includes a vast plain inhabited by more than 1 000 species of living things. The number of antelopes living in the plain was reportedly reduced to 10 percent in the past two decades.

Egypt

Mummies discovered

Lots of ancient relics were recently unearthed in the Saqqara remains of Giza, Egypt.

There were a hundred coloured wooden coffins, dozens of sculptures of figures and others in three vertical caves.

They reportedly date back to the time of an Egyptian pharaoh between 305 BC and 30 BC and are in a good state of preservation.

Uganda

Hydropower station under construction

The construction of a hydroelectric power plant is being pushed at the final stage in midwestern Uganda.

With a power-generating capacity of 600 000 kW, it will be the largest power station in the country.

So far about 98 percent of the total workload has reportedly been completed.

Israel

Exansion of Jewish settlements persists

The Israeli authorities on November 15 made public a plan for the construction of hundreds of blocks of dwellings for Jews in the outskirts of East al-Quds.

Such moves of the Zionist regime to expand the Jewish settlements are evoking criticism of Palestine and the international community as an act of laying an obstacle in the way of achieving peace in violation of international law.

LEGEND

Vaulting horse legend

A sturdy DPRK gymnast with glittering eyes emanated confidence, self-possession and dauntless spirit as he dashed along the track like an agile tiger. It was the impression Ri Se Gwang (pictured) left on the world people.

He was born in Tanchon City, South Hamgyong Province, and started artistic gymnastics at seven.

After cultivating his talent at the artistic gymnastic group of the Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace, he was picked to the April 25 Sports Club as a reserve player at 10. He began to take part in domestic games at 13 and distinguished himself at juvenile, junior and master-player grades.

He bagged his first gold medal at the vaulting horse event of the 15th Asian Games held in December 2006. Unfortunately, he got the third place at the 40th World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in 2007.

"I felt ashamed of myself as I saw foreign players performing more difficult movements than mine. Worse still, I made a mistake in performing a movement named after a foreign player," recalled Ri.

Through the championships he keenly felt the need to develop a movement of his own style with high degrees of difficulty to challenge the world.

Therefore, he buckled down to creating such a movement with the help of his coach.

In general, vaulting horse



Ri Se Gwang salutes after winning the men's vaulting horse in the artistic gymnastics at the 31st Olympic Games in 2016.

is a risky sport, especially because the ankles are subject to a great impact when landing. Ri's was an unimaginably difficult movement which has an incomparably greater impact on the ankles than other movements.

He unveiled this creation at the 5th Asian Artistic Gymnastics Championships in 2012 to win a gold medal.

When the world gymnastics circle was in a tumult of excitement over the new movement, Ri was not flattered. In vaulting horse, the marks of two different movements are added up for the total, and he wanted to execute two new movements.

Finally, the world witnessed the new movements he created at the 45th FIG World Artistic Gymnastics

Championships in 2014. They were named Ri Se Gwang movements afterwards.

As he valued the honour of the country above anything else, he continued to play despite so many injuries and failures."

Ri Man Sop, head coach of April 25 Sports Club

Championships in 2014. They were named Ri Se Gwang movements afterwards.

He won gold medals at the 46th FIG World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in 2015 and the 31st Olympic Games in 2016 in succession.

Gymnasts usually retire in their latter twenties, but he entered the 48th FIG World Artistic Gymnastics Championships at a far older age and won another gold to become a three-time world champion.

"If he had sought only his own interests and fame, he would have retired before. As he valued the honour of the country above anything else, he continued to play despite so many injuries and failures," said head coach Ri Man Sop.

Ri Se Gwang was awarded Kim Jong Il Prize and the titles of Labour Hero and People's Athlete.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

CONDIMENT

Korean traditional condiment—soybean paste and sauce

The essential condiments of the Korean people's diet are soy sauce, bean paste and peppered bean paste.

According to historical book *Samguksagi*, the Chronicles of the Three Kingdoms which was compiled in the period of Koryo Kingdom (918-1392), the soybean malt of Chacksong was a speciality of Palhae (late 7th century-early 10th century) and bean paste and soya were regarded as one of the wedding presents in Silla (early mid-1st century-935).

Korean ancestors used them as main spices for soup, stew and other dishes and added hot pepper and other materials to use it as side dishes.

According to specialists, soybean well known for its high nutritive value contains the highest percentage of proteins,

but its digestibility is only 70 percent when boiled. This will be 90 percent when bean curd is made with it and nearly 100 percent when bean paste and soya are made.

"As they harmoniously contain not only proteins but glucide, minerals, vitamins and various other nutrients, soybean paste and sauce are rated as leading health foods even at present," said Pae Son Yong, lecturer at Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce.

Here is a basic recipe for bean paste and sauce. First boil soya beans thoroughly, pulp them in a mortar and ball the paste for malt before hanging the balls at the upper part of the pillar or under the eaves for natural fermentation. This process is done around Riptong, the 19th of the 24 seasonal divisions or

the beginning of winter which falls in early November.

Three months later, crumble the balls to expose the pieces to the sun, before filling a sterilized earthenware jar with them and salty water.

And two to three months later, pour the black water out of the jar into a pot and boil it to make soy sauce. Leave the remainder in salty water in the jar until it is fermented to become savoury bean paste.

If you add powdered red pepper and various spices to the bean paste and leave it fermenting, you will get hot pepper paste.

Soybean paste and sauce-making was inscribed on the list of national intangible cultural heritage in 2018.

By Pang Un Ju PT

CLASSIC

Ho Im famous for his book on old therapies

Chimgugyonghombang compiled in 1644 is Korea's earliest book on acupuncture and moxibustion.

It was authored by Ho Im (1570-1647), a Koryo medical specialist in the period of the feudal Joson dynasty.

He began to acquire medical knowledge as he worked as an odd-job man in a doctor's home, and took special interest in acupuncture and moxibustion.

While practising the therapies, he broadened his experience and got the knacks of them.

He became widely known both at home and abroad and rose to the status of a court doctor which was a kind of medical officer at the time.

He compiled the book at the closing years of his life by systematizing his long and rich clinical experience and successes.

The single-volume book is classified into 70-odd items and consists of the outline and details.

The outline explains in brief the acupoints physicians may

By Ri Sung Ik PT

NATURAL MONUMENT

Stream with ninety-nine curves

Among the DPRK's natural monuments is the Ninety-Nine Curves of the Chonsang Stream in Sampho-ri, Yonsa County, North Hamgyong Province.

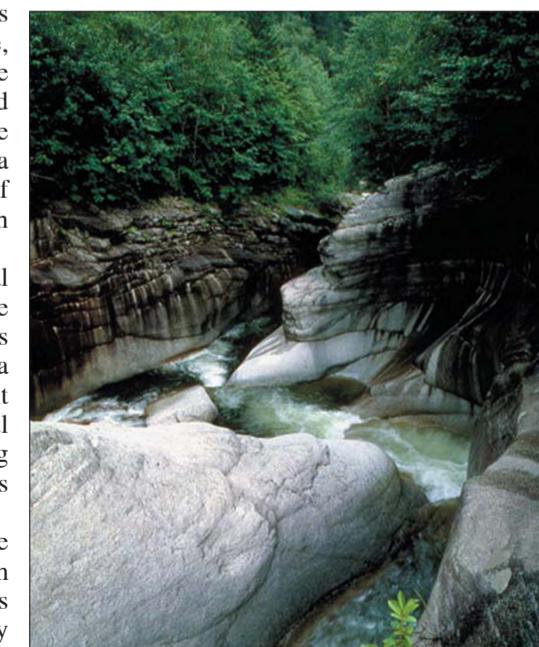
The Ninety-Nine Curves are located in the valley through which the Chonsang Stream flows as a tributary of the Yonmyon River rising from Kwanmo Peak of the Hamgyong Mountains.

The stream flows in a high place, hence the name Chonsang, and the Ninety-Nine Curves point to a large number of rocky curves in the stream.

The unusual valley in the highlands was designated as a natural monument as it is useful in studying crustal movements and topography.

Bedrocks at the bottom and both sides of the curves were formed by the unique texture of granite.

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Ninety-nine curves at the Chonsang Stream.

