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MESSAGE

Chairman Kim Jong Un sends message to Chinese President Xi Jinping

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, sent a verbal message to Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and president of the People's Republic of China, as regards the successes made by China in its effort to prevent COVID-19 infection.

The Supreme Leader, in his message, extended warm greetings to Xi Jinping and

congratulated him, highly appreciating that he is strategically and tactically controlling the overall situation by seizing a chance of victory in the war against the unprecedented pandemic as he leads the Chinese Party and people.

He was pleased with the successes made in China like his own, he said, wishing Xi Jinping good health, after expressing the belief that the Chinese Party and people would cement the successes already made and steadily

expand them and thus win a final victory under the wise leadership of General Secretary Xi Jinping.

He said that the relationship between the two Parties of the DPRK and China which was firmly consolidated while overcoming all manner of trials and challenges of history is getting closer day after day and developing on good terms, and sent militant greetings to all the CPC members.

KCNA

HONOUR

Putin awards commemorative medal to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un

Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin presented Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea, chairman of the DPRK State Affairs Commission and supreme commander of the armed forces of the DPRK, with a commemorative medal to mark the 75th anniversary of Russia's victory in the Great

Patriotic War.

A ceremony took place at the Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on May 5 to convey the commemorative medal "The 75th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945" to the Supreme Leader.

It was attended by Foreign Minister Ri Son Gwon, officials

concerned, Russian ambassador to the DPRK Alexander Matsegora and his embassy officials.

Upon authorization, Alexander Matsegora courteously handed the commemorative medal and a certificate over to the DPRK foreign minister.

KCNA



The commemorative medal "The 75th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945" and its certificate presented to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Russian medals conferred on Korean anti-Japanese war veterans

Anti-Japanese war veterans in the DPRK received commemorative medals on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Russia's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

Upon authorization of the Russian President, the Russian ambassador to the DPRK handed commemorative medals "The 75th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945"

and their certificates for anti-Japanese war veterans Ri Yong Suk and Pak Kyong Suk over to an official concerned on Wednesday.

KCNA

STATEMENT

S. Korean military risks renewing confrontation

"Such reckless moves made by the warmongers of the south Korean military are the height of military confrontation which would leave tongue-tied even their master, who repeatedly talked about 'suspension' of and 'deep regret' over the military drill staged by us like an answering machine, saying it is not helpful to the efforts to defuse tension in the Korean peninsula," said a spokesman for the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces of the DPRK on Thursday.

The south Korean military asserted that the joint drill was aimed at improving its capability to cope with the DPRK's firepower and surprise "provocation", striking the source of "enemy provocation" and repelling the supporting forces, the spokesman said.

He denounced the reckless military provocation by the south Korean military as a total retrogression and an open perfidy to the north-south agreement in the military field in which both sides promised the whole Korean nation to stop all hostile acts against the other party on the ground and in the sea and air and to turn the West Sea areas into peace waters, in particular.

We have come to realize once again that we should not forget the fact that they are our enemy, he said. We will never remain a passive onlooker when the enemy tries to attack us, he warned.

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MINING

Major mines overfulfil April plan

According to information available, the coal industry sector has overfulfilled the April economic plan.

The Sunchon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex mined 20 000 tons of more coal than the plan.

The February 8 Jiktong and Chonsong youth coal mines channelled sustained efforts into tunnelling to secure reserve coal fields with rich deposits while increasing the proportion of coal-mining work done by machines so as to carry out their daily production assignments.

The Tukjang Area Coal-mining Complex produced thousands of tons of more coal than the same period of last year.

The Tukjang youth, Myonghak and Ryongsan coal mines exceeded their monthly quotas by ensuring the full

operation of all equipment including compressor and winch while preparing props and coal wagons by their own efforts.

The Chonae, Hamnam and Anju area coal-mining complexes introduced advanced tunnelling methods as they exploited existing production potentials and enhanced cooperation between shifts, thus providing enough new coal fields.

The Tokchon, Toksong and Hyongbong coal mines and Namdkok and Inpho youth coal mines under the Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex and Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex overfulfilled their monthly plans while continuing to expand tunnelling successes with the help of continuous drilling and blasting.

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LEAD

Turning WPK into people-oriented party

Kim Jong Un was elected chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea at the Seventh Congress of the Party in May 2016.

As he led the WPK true to the intention of Chairman Kim Jong Il, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un defined the people-first principle as the essence of Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, the guiding ideology of the Party, and specified that it is the mode of existence of the WPK to serve the people.

With burning love for the people, he set it as the top priority of the WPK to resolve the matters relating to their lives, safety and wellbeing and has devoted his all to this end.

Under his energetic and detailed guidance, the flood-stricken northern areas of North Hamgyong Province were rehabilitated in a short span of time and other miracles were worked and many modern structures and cultural facilities

for the people were built on this land in the recent few years, including Ryomyong Street, Mirae Scientists Street, the Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital and the Ryugyong Dental Hospital.

And to ensure the people's safety, the DPRK has taken thoroughgoing measures to prevent the worldwide epidemic.

The Supreme Leader immediately ensured that preemptive and decisive measures were taken in anticipation of the serious consequences of COVID-19 that broke out in December last year.

He saw to it that the hygienic and anti-epidemic system was switched over to a national emergency anti-epidemic system in January this year and that the enlarged meeting of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee in February underlined the importance of strictly implementing the super-

class anti-epidemic measures against the world-sweeping pandemic.

And the meeting of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, which was held on April 11 under his guidance, discussed as the first item on the agenda "On taking more thorough state measures to protect the lives and safety of our people from the worldwide epidemic".

As a result, not a single infected case has fortunately been found in the country, although the novel coronavirus infection is sweeping through more than 210 countries and regions to infect over nearly four million people and kill nearly 300 000.

Witnessing all these events, the Korean people keep deep reverence for and absolute trust in the Supreme Leader and the WPK headed by him and faithfully follow the leadership of the Party.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Nationwide

New consumer products unveiled



Light industry factories across the country have developed well over a thousand kinds of new products this year.

The Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill produced various kinds of new cloths including Tetron rayon suit material, printed cotton and cellular fabric, and the Hamhung woollen textile mill produces overcoat fabric on a normal footing by completing the production process based on wool fibre. The Songyo Knitwear Factory brought out blankets, quilts and vests for children with soft and warm artificial fur cloth, while the Pyongyang Hosiery Factory developed functional socks that are durable and have sterilizing and thrombus-preventing effects.

This year, over 280 kinds of shoes have been developed by footwear factories.

The Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory introduced a laser cutter-based band decoration method and upgraded the pliability and elasticity of sole to improve the shape and quality of leather shoes. The

Pothonggang and Ryuwon footwear factories turn out dozens of kinds of spring and autumn trainers by making a pneumatic foaming device and applying various working methods.

Roads renovated in spring land administration season

Hundreds of kilometres of roads have technically been renovated across the DPRK during the spring general mobilization period for land administration.

Especially, in Jagang Province, dozens of kilometres of roads were broadened, straightened and levelled and several bridges were rebuilt with concrete.

South Hwanghae Province planted over 100 000 trees of good species along the roads.

Anti-epidemic work stepped up to check inflow of pandemic

The DPRK organizes work more scrupulously to ensure a full sense of organization, unity and compulsion in the anti-epidemic campaign so as to cope with the worldwide spread of COVID-19.

Emergency anti-epidemic headquarters at all levels are tightening the blockade and disinfection of every space and factor through which the epidemic might infiltrate.

Those in the areas along borders, coasts and demarcation lines make exact demand on residents to voluntarily observe anti-epidemic rules and orders in

conducting economic activities and travelling, especially the delivery of goods and fishing, while further completing the anti-epidemic system.

In particular, they demand all the residents inform relevant institutions of abnormal phenomena so that they can timely deal with them.

Officials in the public health and hygienic and anti-epidemic sectors in all parts of the country make sure that universities, colleges, schools for orphans and senior middle schools step up medical examination and check-up for the teaching staff and students and disinfect means of transport and public places on a regular basis.

Tree nursery built in Nampho



A new tree nursery covering nearly 200 000 square metres has been built in Nampho. The tree nursery has four round-shaped cutting grounds, a greenhouse, outdoor cultivation ground, light substrate production site and tree sapling exhibition ground. All the processes are automatically controlled and carried out in a production line.

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ANECDOTE

Priority given for the benefit of people

Mindful of the needs of consumers

In November 2015 Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un inspected the Wonsan Leather Shoes Factory.

Feasting his eyes on the packaged Maebongsan-brand leather shoes rolling off the production line, he said the factory really "reaps a bumper harvest" of leather shoes. And he noted that the factory has put production of leather shoes on a normal footing and it does not simply mean producing incessantly, but producing leather shoes to the people's liking and to meet their needs.

If they are accumulated at the shops without being sold, it is meaningless to put production on normal track, he said, adding the products of the factory should never be like the exhibits on show at light industry and footwear exhibitions.

First visitor to ski resort

In late December 2013 the Supreme Leader visited the newly completed Masikryong Ski Resort.

The ski resort adds to the special features in the area of Masik Pass and it is flawless, he said with great satisfaction, and took a seat on the ski lift.

The accompanying officials tried to dissuade him from riding it at the time, saying it was on a trial run and so it was dangerous to get on it. But he sat down on the cold ski lift, saying he wanted to see all the ski slopes to be used by the people, and headed for the summit of Taehwa Peak.

One day in early February 2018, he also got on a new-type trolley bus which was given a

test run late at night.

He would feel relieved if he took the new trolley bus, he said, and got on it as the first passenger to see if there was any flaw in the bus to be used by the people and checked its technical specifications one after another.

On a visit to eye hospital

The Ryugyong General Ophthalmic Hospital in the hospital village in the Munsu area of Pyongyang is largely divided into the four-storey outpatient ward and eight-storey inpatient ward, along with an optician's in which visitors can have their eyes tested and which corrects and sells glasses.

The Supreme Leader visited the hospital construction site in May 2016 and solved all problems arising in its construction, saying he had long planned and desired to build a modern general ophthalmic hospital and present it to the people.

In October that year he visited the hospital again after its construction was completed. As he made the rounds of the wards equipped with advanced ophthalmic facilities, furniture and fittings and the optician's full of glasses of all kinds, accessories and optical instruments, he said with delight that it was worthy of a hospital, a world-class hospital and a people's hospital all of which were satisfactory and which was praiseworthy, and that another one of his desires for the good of the people had been realized.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

INSPECTION

Premier surveys North Hamgyong Province

Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and member of the DPRK State Affairs Commission, inspected different sectors in North Hamgyong Province.

At the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex he acquainted himself with the project of installing an oxygen plant and the construction of a floating preheating-style oxygen blast furnace, before discussing problems arising in them and taking appropriate measures.

As he inspected the Musan Mining Complex, the Chongjin Thermal Power Station, the Kyongsong Insulator Factory, the Kyongsong Ceramic Factory and the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm, he referred to the need to

increase the production of iron and ferroalloy by taking strict measures to supply raw materials.

And he made the rounds of the construction site of Orangchon Power Station Unit 3 to give a pep talk to the builders who are stepping up the construction of the power station after successfully building the Phalhyang Dam.

He also visited the Myongan Chemical Factory, the Chongjin Thermal Power Station, the Kyongsong Insulator Factory, the Kyongsong Ceramic Factory and the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm.

RENEWABLES

Various sources tapped to meet power needs

Nation turns to renewables to increase power output

A brisk activity is underway across the country to produce electricity from various energy sources.

Kangwon Province is building several power stations at the same time.

Jagang Province, blessed with abundant hydroelectric power resources, is pushing ahead with the construction of over ten hydropower stations.

Many institutions, factories, enterprises and cooperative farms in the province have built a total of over 190 miniature and super miniature power stations so as to provide themselves with the electricity needed for their production and management.

Hamhung Youth Power Station Unit 1 with a capacity of thousands of kilowatts has been built in South Hamgyong Province.

Kumya and Hamju counties

have constructed Kumyagang Power Station Unit 2 and Hamju Chusang Power Station Unit 2 at physiographically favourable places.

Rason City has built Rason Youth Power Station units 4 and 5 in the Sonbong area by taking advantage of its geographical characteristics.

Meanwhile, many medium and small hydroelectric power stations started operation.

The whole country is directing much effort to the work for making effective use of various energy sources like solar and wind energies.

In Pyongyang, system-parallel solar power generation systems have been introduced into dozens of units such as the Taesongsan Spring Water Factory, Ryuwon Footwear Factory and Pyongyang Municipal Foodstuff Complex.

The Jungsan County Post Office in South Phyongan Province has successfully set up a power generation system relying on methane gas after a solar power generation system.

Following the experience of the Sunchon City Drink Factory, local industrial factories in the city has equipped themselves with similar processes.

The North Phyongan Provincial Power Distribution Station has installed dozens of wind-driven generators and thousands of solar panels.

South Hwanghae Province erected many wind turbines in Unchon and Unnyul counties with substantial wind power resources and built power plants using biomass in Sinchon, Yonan, Paechon and other counties.

By Yun Kyong II PT



Energy sources including hydropower, wind power and solar energy are widely exploited in different parts of the DPRK.

Farm machine station dams stream to generate electricity

The Singye Stream, a tributary of the Ryesong River, flows past the Singye County Farm Machine Station in North Hwanghae Province.

The stream is slow in current and small in water volume in the dry season.

Therefore, the station installed a small generator with a capacity of 120kW by the stream and has operated it for 24 hours a day.

"We had fixed a generator with a capacity of 60kW there to produce electricity," said

Ri Yong Chol, director of the station.

But it was not enough to meet the growing power needs.

So the station launched a project to boost the power-generating capacity.

After measuring the water volume of the stream in a scientific manner, it carried out a comparative analysis of power outputs according to heads.

On the basis of this, it built a 1.5m-high dam across the stream to get enough water

and a 1.8m-wide and 2km-long pressure waterway along the stream bank. As a result, a larger quantity of water flowed into the turbine pit and the head became 4-5m high.

And it replaced the generator with a 120 kW one.

"We refashioned the curved surfaces of the blades of the water wheel to increase its rotational speed and introduced several techniques so as to produce more electricity with the same amount of water," said

Family builds mini hydropower plant

outfall to secure a high head.

They also built a 1-m diameter hydraulic turbine.

They installed dozens of blades on the turbine to enhance the rotating force and minimize the load on the turbine during operation.

In order to further increase the number of revolutions of the generator, an accelerating device was installed between the hydraulic turbine and the generator.

The power station fully provides electricity for lighting and entertainment to not only U Kwang Chon's family but also six neighbouring families.

A belt attached to the shaft of the hydraulic turbine is used to power a corn processing machine and a grinding machine so that the farmers can process grains and repair small farm implements without using electricity.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Micro-generator introduced to harness hydroelectric power

2 to 3 rounds per second.

He set a V-belt motor between the transmission wheel linked to the wheel axle and that linked to the generator axle to increase the efficiency of the generator.

According to him, the domestically manufactured generator is highly efficient and very convenient to use.

It generates 150W of instantaneous electric power.

The electricity is used for powering TVs, lighting lamps and charging batteries and supplied to several households in the village.

"At present, our county is pushing a project to increase the hydroelectric power generating capacity step by step by drawing on the experience of this family," said a county official.

By Kim Il Jin PT

timely repair and maintenance of various farm machines according to different farming seasons and recycled plastic sheets.

At the 43rd national exhibition of farm machines and meeting of contrivers held at the station some years ago, participants marvelled at the small power plant backing up the revitalization of production at the station.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

E-BUSINESS



Digital business expected to promote technical trade

Jagangryok website, a technical trade service system, has recently been thrust into limelight in the DPRK.

"An e-business system of Korean style which was developed to meet the developing trend of the world and actual domestic condition, the Jagangryok website helps promote exchange and cooperation by sharing the information about all technical products in the country," said Kim Hong Yong, director of the Moranbong Tech Trading Company under the State Commission of Science and Technology.

The system largely consists of achievement data exhibition service, technical product exhibition service, technical product deliberation service, technical development information service, study room service, tender exhibition service, financial settlement service and transport service.

"The achievement data exhibition page is a favourite haunt of R&D units. When they post technical products or achievement data on the webpage, consumers choose what they need," said developer Jang Son Nam.

The technical product exhibition webpage is devoted to sales units. The units engaging in the serial production of goods with national recognition can directly sell products through the webpage.

The tender exhibition webpage provides an

opportunity for enterprises to entrust other institutions or experts with difficult problems they find them hard to solve by themselves, while the transport service webpage makes sure that the units with means of transportation register their vehicles and render delivery services according to order.

"All the trade dealings on the Jagangryok website presupposes financial settlement," said staffer Ju Ryon Mi.

According to her, when buyers pay money, it is temporally kept in the system rather than directly being paid to sellers. The seller or developer confirms the fund before sending a product. The buyer presses an accepting button after checking the perfection of the product including its technical specifications, and only then will the money in the system be transferred to the seller.

Many businesses and individuals have so far acceded to the system since the start of its operation last October.

"The website is very helpful for scientific research as it offers information about world exhibitions and shows in detail along with video clips," said Ri Myong Son, director of the Natural Energy Institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

"As the website keeps the past records of products purchased by consumers from our factory, we can easily get access to the merits and demerits of our products and upgrade technologies by making their cause analyses and discussing measures," said a marketing staffer of the Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory.

Every subscriber says that the website serves not only as a highway of science and technology but also as a profitable technical trade space that help save lots of time and manpower in the development of new products and order service.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



Employees at the Moranbong Tech Trading Company work on the e-business system Jagangryok.

BUILDING MATERIAL

Slate factory makes the best use of expansion perlite

The Chongjin Slate Factory in North Hamgyong Province has recently set up a process for

producing a variety of goods with perlite.

"Perlite expands 10 to 35



Technicians of the Chongjin Slate Factory have a discussion on a newly developed panel to be used for finishing decoration.

times more than its original volume at the temperature of over 1 000°C, and then lots of vesicles form in it and it comes to possess outstanding heat and sound insulation and filtering characteristics," said Kim Yun Chol, chief of the technical preparation section.

Expansion perlite has so far been produced by a few countries worldwide.

It is effectively used as finishing materials in construction and filter medium and lagging for refrigeration equipment in the food industry. As it has a great moisture storage capacity, it is also used in raising the rate of rooting of trees in the forestry sector and preventing damage from drought on field crops in the agricultural sector.

The factory solved difficult

PROFILE

Girl bulldozer driver finds pleasure in creating happiness

A bulldozer operator in general reminds people of a man of muscular build.

But bulldozer driver Ri Hyang (pictured) of the Capital City Construction Commission is a 25-year-old unmarried, quiet-looking woman.

The attractive woman with moderate height, graceful figure and double-edged eyelids is good at piano, guitar, singing, table tennis and volleyball.

"I became a bulldozer operator at the request of my mother," said Ri Hyang.

She lost her father in February eight years ago, or a few months before she finished her middle school course. He died while at work in the construction site of Changjon Street in Pyongyang.

At the time her father was awarded a certificate of socialist patriotic death and Ri Hyang was admitted to Kang Pan Sok Revolutionary School that brings up bereaved children of martyrs at state expense.

"Thanks to such favour, I could brace myself up and harden my resolve to follow in the footsteps of my husband along with my daughter," recalled Ri Hyang's mother Hwang Myong Hui.

Later, the mother and daughter spent most of their time at the construction site until the Changjon Street project was completed. On hearing that there was a bulldozer that had successively been operated by women in the construction sector, Hwang asked her daughter to become its operator.

The vehicle was associated with the activities of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il. In the mid-1950s when postwar reconstruction was at its height, the great leaders went to a construction site in the capital and met a 21-year-old woman driver of the vehicle on several occasions, showed her warm affection and led her to work hard and become an innovator.

With a determination to work as hard as her forerunners, Ri Hyang took over the bulldozer

technical problems including the determination of rational degree of grinding, burning temperature and expandable pressure and succeeded in the medium-scale trial.

It also built a lignite gas generator and maximized the combustion efficiency of fuel, thereby providing a scientific guarantee for producing expansion perlite.

The factory with an annual capacity of tens of thousands of cubic metres of expansion perlite is now pressing on with



and became its fourth operator at the age of 18.

The old bulldozer was too heavy to handle with her slender hands.

"The task was so tough that I often cried like a child. But what I found the most hard to bear was to see the girls of my age passing by giving off the scent of perfume, while I was doing repairs under the vehicle with my clothing and all stained with grease," said Ri.

Whenever she wavered, her mother, seniors and fellows were always there to give her courage and assistance. With the help of the collective she acquired the methods of driving and repair one after another, and she finally drove her bulldozer out in the construction site of the Wisong Scientists Residential District.

Everyone's eyes widened in admiration when the youngest bulldozer operator removed mountains of earth with remarkable skills.

After the project was over, she proceeded to work at the construction sites of the Sci-Tech Complex and Ryomyong Street.

She also rendered material assistance to major construction projects together with her mother.

And she had the honour of participating in the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue in 2015.

"I want to be a creator of happiness, rather than an enjoyer of it. And my dearest wish is to meet Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un with this bulldozer which keeps the footprints of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il," said Ri.

By Ri Myong Jun PT

the remainder of the project including the pipe-making, welding and assembly of equipment and parts in other production processes such as pulverizing, sorting, cooling, separation and collection.

"When the project is completed, we will be able to solve lots of problems in different sectors such as construction, foodstuff, forestry and agriculture," said manager Rim Yong Jun.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

MIDWIFERY

Woman jots down job experiences as midwife

The Pyongyang Maternity Hospital is the largest and most modern maternity hospital in the DPRK.

Therefore, midwives of the hospital feel unusual pride, and everyone keeps a log.

Han Pok Sil, chief midwife of obstetrical department No. 6 of the hospital, has worked as midwife for 24 years since her maidenhood, and she also keeps logbooks now numbering over 20 thick volumes.

The neatly written accounts clearly describe what happened to her in the past.

Every record is short, but clearly reflects her thoughts and feelings. On one occasion, she ensured an easy delivery for a terrified woman by telling her in detail the accurate methods of breathing and bearing down and giving her a pep talk during delivery. She also stayed at the department for hours after her shift until the patient in her charge returned to normal conditions; felt guilty about being too strict to a fussy patient; improved her injection skill as she stuck a needle



Han Pok Sil (middle), a head midwife at the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, walks out of a delivery room flanked by her colleagues.

into her arm to reduce pain on patients; showed patients sisterly affection as she washed their wet socks and set right their blankets when they were asleep; and felt immense pride and happiness whenever she received heartfelt thanks from new mothers.

"Our chief is a taciturn person, but among patients she is always cheerful and cracks jokes pretty

often. And she is the most skilled midwife in our department. Unexpected emergencies often arise during delivery and she deals with them quite deftly. She is an exemplar for all of us," said midwife Hong Ryon Hwa.

"When I started work as a midwife, my seniors worked hard as they regarded it as their noble duty and worth of life to sacrifice themselves for patients. As I saw them, I developed a sense of duty as a medical worker under the socialist healthcare system that holds the people's health dearest," said Han Pok Sil.

Sometimes she experiences nervous tension as she works and spends her Sundays and other holidays in the delivery room, but she feels great pride and joy as a midwife basking in the encouragement, respect and affection of all including her caring husband who is also a health worker, her daughter who is proud of her, the collective and patients.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

VIRTUE

Family do good things for the community

People call the family of Kim Sol Ok living in neighbourhood unit No. 50 of Sangmae-dong, Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province, a group of patriots that regard self-devotion to others as a family tradition.

"Kim Sol Ok's family has got over 100 certificates of support to major construction projects of the country for

the past 10 years. Her family members find the worth of their living in dedicating themselves to society," said Ri Mi Son, head of her neighbourhood unit.

"Though it experienced hardships due to severe sanctions and blockade by hostile forces and consecutive natural disasters, the country has steadily granted such benefits as

free education and free medical care while giving top priority to the people's livelihood. Under the state benefits, our couple and four children have lived happily without any inconvenience. So, we began to do good things for the country and society," said Kim Sol Ok.

Kim Sol Ok and her husband Pak Song Chol often visited major construction sites with aid materials they had prepared with sincerity to encourage builders and devoted themselves to construction.

Their devotion was also shown to the construction of the then Samjiyon County, Paektusan Hero Youth Power Station, Fatherland Liberation War Martyrs Cemetery and many other projects.

The couple led their children to follow in their footsteps.

"My parents often tell us as the saying goes, 'The whole ocean is made up of single drops', and if every family pools effort, it will reduce the burden on the country even a bit. Our



Kim Sol Ok's family recall the days when they visited major construction sites to encourage builders.

EDUCATION

Secret behind improved scholarly performance

June 9 Ryongbuk Technical Senior Middle School in Taesong District, Pyongyang, has been on a winning streak in the national Olympic competition and academic contests at all levels.

As to the key to success, headmistress Choe Yong Sun said it is important to closely combine the students' study with life.

According to her, every space of the school is furnished in such a way as to help students with their study.

As they walk the corridors, go up and down the stairs or sit at school desks, they come into constant contact with the explanatory diagrams of history and geography, math, physics and chemical formulae and foreign words that are put up on the walls.

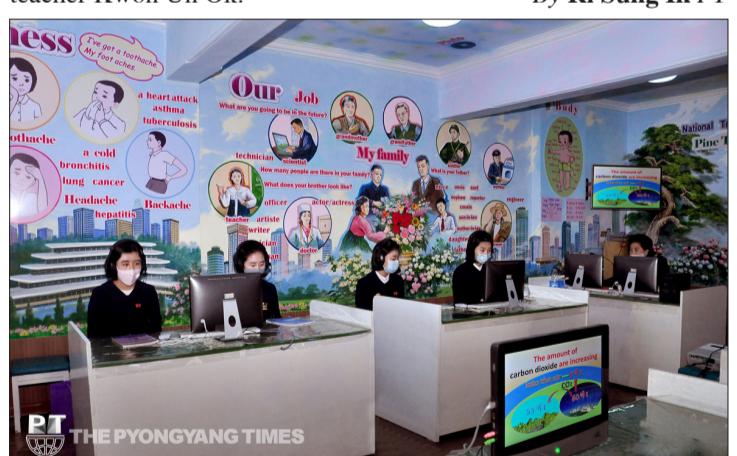
"I thought them trivial at first sight, but later I found them interesting and they come into my head like photos whenever they are necessary," said Pack Song Yon, student at class 2-3.

Students still have vague notions of lots of matters and phenomena and so they find it difficult to understand many problems with only verbal explanations.

Therefore, the school widely uses multimedia presentations in lectures as well as diagrams.

"Although some of students were interested in history, most of them had no taste for it. But they saw videos and other multimedia with interest and remember them well," said teacher Kwon Un Ok.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



Students work at the language lab at June 9 Ryongbuk Technical Senior Middle School in Taesong District, Pyongyang.

brothers and sisters have visited construction sites and army units together with our parents," said Pak Yon Hwa, the eldest daughter of the couple.

They provided educational equipment for the orphanage, baby home and schools in the city and unsparingly offered consumer goods to those who suffered a sudden disaster.

In the past ten years, the family offered 20 000 pieces of aid materials in some 100 kinds.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un gave thanks to Pak Song Chol who did many good things for society, read the literary works of his children and highly appreciated the deeds of his youngest son, Il Jong, who rendered active support to the construction of Samjiyon.

The couple developed a highly-efficacious anticancer medicine and obtained a patent and certificate.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

BIODIVERSITY

Endangered, rare species under good protection

"Our institute has conducted concrete surveys and data analysis of the diversity of plant species in the country and diffused information about their protection as part of the national programme to protect and sustainably use natural resources," said Ju Il Yop, deputy director of the Botany Institute of the State Academy of Sciences.

According to him, nearly 10 percent of plant species so far known are threatened and 60 000 species of plants are expected to be extinct by 2050 and, therefore, international programmes are now under way to cope with the problem.

The DPRK government has long paid great attention to the conservation of biodiversity.

In February 1959 the decree of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly "On the protection and propagation of useful animals and plants" was issued and in October 1976 six nature reserves, 14 plant reserves and other animal, sea fowl and maritime resources reserves were additionally established according to the decision of the Administration Council.

The institute published a book entitled "Inventory of Korean Rare Plants (Redlist)", which evaluated some 160 species of plants in 1994 on the basis of the survey of Korean endangered and rare plant species. And on this basis it brought out the "Red Data Book of DPRK (plant)", which generally reflected the situation of endangered and rare plants in the country, in cooperation with UNESCO in 2004.

Later, "Rare Plants in Korea",

a book detailing the protection of 377 species of vascular plants, was published in 2016, which contributed to raising public awareness of the protection of diversity of plant species and determining conservation priorities.

At present, five international biosphere reserves have been set under the UNESCO Man & Biosphere (MAB) Programme including Mt Packtu to protect many endangered species of plants, and *Rhododendron chrysanthum*, *Taxus cuspidata* and many other plants designated as living plant monuments to be placed under government protection.

Strict measures have also been taken to scientifically survey and protect plant resources including forest resources.

In the course of working out the country's biodiversity strategy goals until 2020, 23 reserve networks have been designed including Mt Packtu, Mt Myohyang and Mt Kuwol biosphere reserve networks

and *Pentactina rupicola*, *Abeliophyllum distichum*, *Echinosophora koreensis* and other one-species-in-one-genus indigenous plants have been placed under government protection," said section chief Choe Su Chol.

He said education and public awareness-raising activities are now brisk in the country for the protection of diversity of plant species and lots of books have been published including "Illustrated Book of Korean Living Monuments", "Protection and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity" and "Reference Book for Nature Conservation Workers" to be widely used for the conservation of plant species diversity.

Protection of endangered plants outside the natural habitats is also ensured in various forms and methods. At the Central Botanical Garden alone over 100 species of endangered plants are now preserved.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



Researchers at the Botany Institute conduct a survey of endangered and rare plant species cultivated ex situ.

Science.

According to him, the rice institute has completed researches into rice seeds of new varieties. Among them are the one which can yield 15 tons per hectare, one which is highly resistant to salt and can yield 8 tons per hectare in tideland-turned paddy fields with high salinity, one with high resistance to cold and those which ensure high and safe yields in the organic fertilizer-based cultivating condition with less reliance on chemical fertilizer.

The corn institute developed an extremely early variety which has a growing period of less than 130 days and is resistant to diseases, moisture damage and drought, and another variety which yields a high per-hectare yield in the intermediate areas along the western coast of the country and is highly resistant to low temperature and moisture damage.

The pomology institute registered as state species nine varieties of peach, two of pear

vegetables and fruits," said Kim Sang Hyok, vice-president of the Academy of Agricultural



Researchers examine a culture plate containing a new variety of rice at the rice institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science.

BOTANICAL GARDEN

Garden bedecked with exotic flowers



PT THE PYONGYANG TIMES

SONG TAE HYOK

Flowers are in full bloom at the Central Botanical Garden.

The Central Botanical Garden at the foot of Mt Taesong is home to over 2 950 species of plants.

With the coming of spring after a long winter, the garden with an area of about 160 hectares presents the scene of a sea of flowers.

According to Choe Jun Sik, an official at the garden, azaleas and golden-bells started to bear flower buds in early April and burst into flowers to decorate the garden in pink and yellow. From Apr 15, the magnolia section of the gift plant district and many flowering plants started to blossom.

Especially, *Chaenomeles lagenaria*, also called common flowering quince, produces two to six flowers in each branch. They bear red, white or pink flowers according to species to form a colourful quince field.

Over 20 districts of the garden including the gift plant greenhouse, gift plant district, arboretum, herbarium and rosarium are full of flowers of thousands of species and rare flowering plants from different countries of the world, said department chief Jon Kwang Il.

According to him, the Central Botanical Garden preserves pure breeds of Kimilsungia and Kimjongilia, over 1 800 species of plants presented to President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il by heads of state, prominent personages of political, social and academic circles of different countries and overseas compatriots, and also

and apple and four of grape and date, including a plum peach which has an average weight of 135.7g, sugar content of 15 percent, acid content of 0.45 percent and average per-hectare yield of over 10 tons.

Meantime, the agricultural sector developed and introduced seed disinfectant, nano-ear fruiting agent and natural organic nutrient fertilizer into production and the animal husbandry and veterinary sector an equine infectious anaemia diagnosis and prevention

well over a thousand indigenous plant species of Korea, and the number is constantly growing.

When the blooming season comes, gardeners, artists, photographers and students on nature study trips visit the botanical garden nonstop, said horticulturist Kim In Ok, adding among the visitors are brides and grooms.

While flowering bushes and plants unfold a splendid sight with beautiful blossoms, armful-thick trees turning green with young shoots sprouting out add to the balmy spring mood of the garden.

Also eye-catching are such precious flowers as *Rhododendron indicum*, royal azalea and lilac clematis which are associated with the patriotic mind of officials of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and other Japan-based Koreans, white flower buds on orange trees from the tropics and purple flowers that are drooping like millet ears on *Callistemon viminalis* which were presented by the Zimbabwean people.

Jasmine trees from tropical islands began to put forth blossoms on their evergreen leaves and pretty desert flowers are also in full bloom.

Meantime, such decorative plants as sago palm, pittosporum and sandalwood have put out exotic leaves to give the gift plant greenhouse a charming view.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

technology and an African swine fever diagnosing method.

Especially, the veterinary institute has developed a cattle FMD inactivation vaccine and, on the basis of this, established a production process relying on local materials and equipment.

"Only a few countries can produce such vaccines on their own and this technology is closely guarded as a secret," said Chae Myong Ho, section chief of the institute.

By Jong Chol PT

INTERVIEW

Big clap for health workers, devoted volunteers



May 8 is World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day. On the occasion of the day, *The Pyongyang Times* reporter Song Jong Ho interviewed Mohamed Babiker (pictured), head of the IFRC country office in the DPRK.

Would you mind telling me about the theme of this year's World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day?

IFRC set the theme of this year's day as "Keep clapping".

What is the motive behind the theme?

At present, many Red Cross volunteers, members of national Red Cross societies and other health workers around the world are making selfless efforts to prevent COVID-19 spreading the world at the risk of their lives at the forefront of the anti-epidemic work.

Therefore, the federation set the theme with a view to appreciating and giving warm

thanks to those who have been dedicating themselves to the anti-epidemic work to mark this year's World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

I want to know about the IFRC's international activities concerning the prevention of COVID-19 and its cooperation with the Red Cross Society of DPRK.

The IFRC, in close collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, issued an emergency cooperation appeal with regard to the epidemic. Accordingly, 550 million

Swiss francs will be invested to support 159 national RC societies including the DPRK RCS in their efforts to combat the pandemic.

In close cooperation with the DPRK RCS, it has managed to supply essential medicines helpful for the work of volunteers, RC members and officials engaged in the anti-epidemic work, especially household doctors who are active in the lowest residential quarters, as well as blankets, family hygiene kits, kitchen sets and water purification tablets for the living of those under quarantine.

What do you think of the activities of the DPRK RCS?

Since its foundation, the DPRK RCS has so far played the part to meet its mission and duty in the field of humanitarian activities, I think.

It has conducted anti-epidemic work in a responsible manner in alliance with the

Ministry of Public Health and the Central Emergency Anti-epidemic Headquarters. According to information available, more than 11 000 RC volunteers conducted different forms of hygienic information activities throughout the country between last February and April.

While working in the DPRK, I was deeply moved by the fact that no infected case was reported in the country thanks to the successful anti-epidemic campaign under the unified command of the government.

I think that the DPRK RCS is one of the humanitarian organizations that are making proactive efforts to fight the pandemic.

The federation will continue to closely work together with the DPRK RCS. In conclusion, my sincere thanks go to all the frontline public health workers and volunteers engaged in the combat against COVID-19.

VIEW

International community needs to guard against revival of Nazism

Nazi Germany which plunged Europe into a vortex of war was defeated on May 9 1945.

The whole European continent was under its jackboot. Lots of people were slaughtered brutally everywhere the Nazi flag fluttered. In Poland alone, the invaders killed over six million people accounting for 17.2 percent of its population. And over four million including Jews who were taken away from across Europe were massacred in the concentration camp in Auschwitz, a small southern city of the country.

During the war, the then Soviet

Union sustained the destruction of hundreds of cities, more than 7 000 workers' districts and farm villages and over 30 000 industrial enterprises and the loss of at least 20 million lives.

The Russian people's victory in the Great Patriotic War liberated many European countries from the Nazi occupation and gave positive encouragement and spur to the anti-fascist liberation struggle of the world's democratic forces.

However, the tendency towards the Right ballyhooing Nazism has become pronounced and voices describing the Soviet

Union as occupationist have got louder in some European countries in recent years. Extremists even desecrate Soviet soldiers' tombs and pull down monuments. Anti-fascist veterans during the Second World War are subjected to persecution and insult, whereas renegades are lauded as "champions of freedom" and "national heroes".

Russia clarified its stand that it is duty-bound as ever for younger generations to oppose the hero-worshipping of Nazism and defend the truth of history.

To mark the 75th anniversary of the victory in the Great

Patriotic War, the government has set it as its primary task to make the anniversary an important occasion for rejecting the moves to resuscitate Nazism and properly inheriting the tradition of patriotism.

Nazism is the offspring of the idea seeking domination and hegemony, but humankind aspires to building a happy and civilized world by dint of peace, friendship, unity and cooperation.

All the countries of the world have to take precautions against the attempt to revive Nazism.

Kim Kwang Chol

COMMENT

Consequences to be entailed by tenacious sanctions policy

Sanctions are the sole tool of the US foreign policy. The US does not want to come to a compromise-based agreement with anyone, but is trying to force its own ideas on others.

The object and scope of its sanctions are boundless, from the sanctions against the DPRK to those against Russia which have continued under the pretext of its intervention in the US presidential elections, the world-stirring trade war

with China and the imposition of tariffs on the EU, Canada, Mexico and Turkey.

The US' sanctions incur worldwide denunciation as they deter the international community from fighting against the spread of COVID-19 which is called a great disaster of the world.

Russia warned that it would assess every detailed case of the US illegal sanctions and cope with them according to circumstances, expressing

its stand not to tolerate the unilateral restrictive measures of the US.

Condemning the US' new sanctions moves, Cuba announced that the US would be unable to bring Cuba to its knees. The US' sanctions run counter to international laws and the UN Charter and abuse the human rights of the world people, it said, adding they are thwarting the efforts of different countries engaged in combat against the novel coronavirus

infection.

Iran said that the US is malignantly intensifying unlawful sanctions against the country in order to drain it even of its resources needed for the prevention of damage from COVID-19, appealing the international community to keep mum no longer as to the fact that the US' economic terrorism is leading to medical terrorism.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Briefly

Russia

Putin stresses prevention of natural disasters

Russian President Vladimir Putin in a consultative meeting on Apr 27 referred to the need to keep a lookout for floods and forest fires and pay special attention to predicting natural disasters so that the citizens could avoid damage from them in accordance with the self-isolation system which was imposed in order to cope with the spread of COVID-19.

He ordered a relevant sector to firmly ensure the safety of the members of the ministry of emergency management and other national agencies and volunteers, and to prepare enough self-protective gears to be supplied to them.

Cuba

Priority given to boosting agricultural production

Agricultural production should be decisively increased to meet the demand of the people, promote agricultural growth and build closer productive ties, said Cuban President Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez on Apr 27 at a meeting on easing the food shortage.

Iran

US military adventurism derided

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani recently denounced the US' adventurous military moves in the Persian Gulf.

The US should be well aware of the Iranian people who have safeguarded the security of the Gulf region for thousands of years, he said, urging it to stop the anti-Iranian conspiracies which are being organized nearly every day.

Palestine

Israel's annexation scheme likely to incur consequences

The Palestinian government will relinquish all the obligations stated in commitments and agreements in case Israel puts into action the territorial annexation scheme in the West Bank, said Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas on May 4 in a summit videoconference of Non-Aligned Movement member nations.

UN

US threat to Venezuela rejected

The UN Security Council rejected the US attempt to use armed forces against Venezuela in a recent meeting.

UNSC member nations reportedly said no to the US' indictment against Venezuela, its scheme to use arms and threat of aggression.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

DISCOVERY

Primitive cave site unearthed in Kangdong County of Pyongyang

A primitive cave site showing the cultural layers in the Paleolithic, Neolithic and Bronze ages has recently been discovered in Hyangmok-ri, Kangdong County, Pyongyang.

Unearthed in the cultural layer (fourth and fifth layers) of the Paleolithic age were some 1 650 mammal fossils (animal bone fossils) in nine kinds, 16 stone tools in eight sorts and over 280 spore and pollen fossils, five teeth of an ancient-type Korean and 40 pieces of earthenware in the cultural layer (sixth layer) of the Neolithic era, and more than ten earthenware pieces in the cultural layer (seventh layer) of the Bronze Age.

Researchers of the History Faculty at Kim Il Sung University have confirmed through ESR and TL date measurements that the formation of the relics dates back 36 000-34 000 years in the later

period of the Paleolithic era.

They also clarified through research into the kind, material and making style of the stone tools that the tools had widely been used in the later period of the Paleolithic era.

In addition, they explained that the teeth of an ancient Korean dug up in the layer of the Neolithic era were those of a woman in her 50s in the Neolithic era. The earthenware pieces from the cultural layers of the Neolithic and Bronze ages were also verified to be the relics in periods of aforementioned ages through research and analysis of their types, colours and patterns.

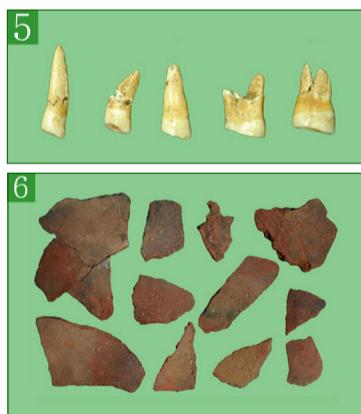
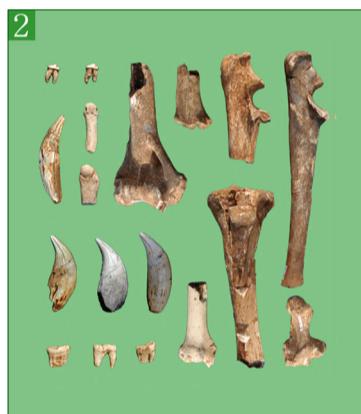
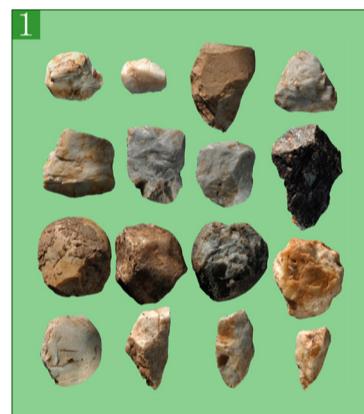
The Archaeology Society of the DPRK and the non-permanent material heritage deliberation and assessment committee deliberated on the discovery of and research into

the relics before registering the cave site as one of national treasures.

In the past many relics in the Neolithic era confirming that socio-historical premises were fully created for state formation were discovered in the Kangdong area, but it is the first time to find out such relics and remains of the Paleolithic era corresponding to the dawn of human history.

The new discovery of the cave site scientifically proves that the area of Kangdong County in which Tangun, the founding father of the Korean nation, is buried is a place where the Koreans had lived since the Paleolithic era and one of the places where the historical roots of modern Koreans had taken.

KCNA



1. Stone implements dating back to Paleolithic age (36 000-34 000 years ago).
2. Fossil remains of mammals dating back to Paleolithic age (36 000-34 000 years ago).
3. Fossil remains of mammals dating back to Paleolithic age (36 000-34 000 years ago).
4. Fossil remains of mammals dating back to Paleolithic age (36 000-34 000 years ago).
5. Teeth of an ancient-type Korean in Neolithic age.
6. Pieces of top-shaped vessels in the period of Bronze Age.
7. Pieces of earthenware in Neolithic age.

MONUMENT

Monumental rock serves as record of geological history

A curious-looking rock stands in Namap-ri, Yomju County, North Phyongan Province in the northwestern part of the DPRK.

Called Maktae Rock, it is considered to be a good natural object for geologists to study

the action of weather and the relationship between the sea and the land.

Located between a small mountain in the east and an extensive paddy field in the west, it is some three kilometres

away from the West Sea of Korea.

As it was washed and worn by rain and wind for a long time through many geological ages, its peripheral bedrocks disappeared and the dyke of red felsite which had been inside the rock is now exposed due to the erosion by the sea and weathering.

Its surroundings go well with the scenery of the seaside, unfolding a very beautiful sight.

Maktae Rock has a height of

SANCTUARY

Wetlands prove to conform with international standards

Major migratory bird reserves in the DPRK are wetlands which fully conform with the standard of the Ramsar Convention.

The fact has been proved through the surveys of water birds in wetlands conducted last year and in January this year under the plan of the Asian Water-bird Census (AWC).

According to Ri Chung Song, section chief of the Biodiversity Institute under the State Academy of Sciences, whereas more than 100 000 water birds were observed in 22 survey areas last year, this year over 144 800 water birds of nearly 50 kinds have been identified in 31 areas.

Such globally endangered species as black-faced spoonbills, hooded cranes, swan geese, pochards and long tailed ducks were newly observed not only in the Mundok migrant bird sanctuary, which has been registered on the list of wetlands

KCNA

BOOK

New light shed on Koguryo's cultural influence on Japan

Koguryo-Wae (Japan) Relations, a history book recently published in the DPRK, throws fresh light on the strong political and cultural influence of Koguryo Kingdom (277 BC-AD 668) on Japan.

According to the book, Koguryo had a very powerful influence on the Izumo area on the coast of the East Sea of Korea and the state of Yamato Asuka in Japan in the 6th-7th century.

Written by Prof Jo Hui Sung, candidate academician and PhD at the History Institute of the Academy of Social Sciences who is chairman of the History Society of the DPRK, the book outlines the advance of the Koguryo people into the Japanese archipelago and their settlement and distribution in it with names of places, documents and archaeological information. It also details

10 metres, the bottom and waist perimeters of 16 and 20 metres respectively and a volume of about 100 cubic metres. Though it seems likely to fall down at any moment, the rock is safe in a proper balance.

Azaleas and sedums grow at the upper section of the rock.

It was inscribed as a natural monument in January 1980.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

of international importance (Ramsar List) and acceded to the Ramsar Convention, but also in the Kangnyong, Kumya, Kwangpho and Tongjongho migrant bird sanctuaries and Kumsanpho tideland, Ongjin Bay and estuary of the Rimjin River, which proved that the kinds of water birds and their numbers have increased radically.

In particular, 21 kinds of water birds and more than 45 400 water birds were observed in the Phanmun Plain and the waters off the West Sea Barrage respectively. It proved that the country's ecological environment and biodiversity are very fit for water birds' inhabitation.

The DPRK has set 30-odd migrant bird sanctuaries along the east and west coasts and taken thorough measures for their protection.

KCNA

