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Kim Jong Un chairs enlarged meeting of WPK Central Military Commission

The Third Enlarged Meeting of the Seventh Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea took place.

The meeting was presided over by Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the WPK.

The enlarged meeting was attended by members of the WPK Central Military Commission, commanding officers of the services, corps, General Political Bureau and General

Staff of the Korean People's Army, the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces, the Ministry of People's Security, the Ministry of State Security, the Guard Headquarters and other military organs at all levels and deputy directors of the Organizational Guidance Department of the WPK Central Committee.

At the meeting Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un gave an analysis of and briefing on the complicated internal and external situations and said that the meeting would decide on important organizational and political measures and military steps to bolster

up all the armed forces of the country including the Korean People's Army militarily and politically as required by the changing situation and crucial times of the developing Korean revolution and deal with an organizational matter.

The meeting discussed and decided organizational and structural measures to more thoroughly realize and ensure Party guidance over the whole of the armed forces of the country.

It also discussed important issues for a decisive improvement in overall national defence and core matters

for the sustained and accelerated development of military capability for self-defence.

The meeting gave a comprehensive analysis of work at units and sectors at all levels of the KPA, referred to an issue of rectifying irrational structural and organizational defects and some shortcomings in other military and political activities and reiterated and set forth from a new angle sectional tasks for beefing up the country's defence capability through the full implementation of the Party's military line and policies.

commanders.

Referring to merits and demerits in the recent work of the KPA and matters that require immediate measures, the Supreme Leader specified the direction and ways to be maintained as the main tasks in future army-building and military and political activities.

He expressed the expectation and conviction that all the commanding officers would fully discharge their noble mission and duty for the times and the revolution.

Compiled from KCNA



LEAD

Golden age in the buildup of Juche-oriented armed forces

On December 30, the Korean people will mark the eighth anniversary of Kim Jong Un's assumption of the supreme commandership of the armed forces of the DPRK.

Over the past eight years Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un boosted the military capability of the DPRK to put any formidable enemies off invasion, thereby bringing about an epochal turn in the strengthening of its armed forces.

He acquired the perfect personality traits and qualifications as a brilliant commander as he accompanied Chairman Kim Jong Il on the road of the Songun-based revolution and put his heart and soul into defending, inheriting and developing the army-building ideas and exploits of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il.

Saying that the history of the Korean revolution is that of prioritizing ideology, he developed the Korean revolutionary armed forces into an army strong in ideology which is thoroughly armed with the revolutionary ideas of the great leaders and which emerges ever-victorious on the strength of spirit and morality.

He put forward brilliant ideas and theories on army

building, including the ideas of thoroughly establishing the unified command system of the Workers' Party of Korea in the entire army, making the Korean People's Army invariably sustain its original revolutionary features as the army of the leader and the Party and turning the armed forces into the reliable pathfinder and unyielding fulcrum of the revolution. They served as guidelines in ushering in a new heyday in military buildup.

Whenever he inspected army units, he visited the halls dedicated to education with revolutionary relics and the units' history and education rooms in order to encourage the units to add eternal brilliance to the outstanding military ideas and army-building exploits of the great leaders and all the officers and men to arm themselves thoroughly with the great history and tradition of war victory.

He saw to it that large meetings of the Korean People's Army including the fifth conference of its company commanders and political instructors were held and guided them to serve as a significant milestone in boosting the might of the armed forces.

The Supreme Leader developed them into a powerful

army of a-match-for-a-hundred combatants that is armed with the Juche-oriented strategy, tactics and art of war and equipped with powerful means of strike.

He gave commanding personnel profound insights as he told them that modern warfare is the contest of brainpower of commanding officers and guided strike drills so as to increase their operational and commanding abilities. Under his leadership, a radical turn was effected in the form, content and method of training of the armed forces and they have completed their combat preparedness at the highest level so that they can destroy enemies at a stroke in any type of operations and battles including land, air, sea and underwater operations.

The armed forces of the DPRK will continue to demonstrate their might as the powerful revolutionary army of Mt Paektu that carries forward the tradition of invincibility forever as they are led by Supreme Commander Kim Jong Un who is ushering in a heyday in the building of the Juche-oriented revolutionary armed forces in such a short period that can be said to be a moment in history.

By Pang Un Ju PT

completion of the project would be a demonstration of its might and economic potentials.

His words heartened all the builders and other people across the country.

Though Samjiyon has only a few months favourable for construction due to the severe weather conditions in the northern area of the country, it seethed all the year round with the builders who rose up in hearty response to his call. New construction methods were invented in succession to push ahead with the project uninterruptedly and the work continued all night long at the brightly lit construction site. All the builders found their happiness in completing their tasks even a day or an hour earlier than scheduled and they mustered strength and courage from their yearning for the Supreme Leader in growing adversities.

Construction miracles were performed in succession in the Yangdok hot spring resort project.

The Korean People's Army soldiers who follow the orders of their Supreme Commander without question brought about a sea change in Yangdok County in less than a year by conducting a construction campaign day and night as they

DRIVE

Rising to challenge single-heartedly

The Korean people look back on the year 2019 with great pride and self-confidence.

Though hostile forces persisted in imposing vicious sanctions on the DPRK throughout the year, the Koreans overcame all the difficulties to win a brilliant victory.

Cheers of hurrah for socialism and the people's laughter rang out more loudly across the country as huge construction projects were completed successfully, considerable progress was achieved in making the national economy Juche-oriented, modern, informatized and science-based, consumer goods favoured by the people were produced in large quantities and rich crop harvests and big fish hauls were gathered in farm fields and fishing grounds.

All these triumphs have been brought about by the single-minded unity of the DPRK.

"The buildings we have built are not merely the structures made up of concrete and reinforcement bars but the

embodiment of our ardent yearning for the Supreme Leader and the outcome of the unwavering loyalty of all the shock brigade members who are determined to bring his intentions into fruition," said a leading official of the Construction Division 216 undertaking the Samjiyon City project.

Having said in his New Year Address that huge construction projects for national prosperity and the people's wellbeing should be pushed ahead in a bold manner this year, too, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un continuously inspected major fields of a powerful socialist country building to set higher tasks, indicate the best ways to complete them and encourage working people to further efforts.

On his visit to the construction site of Samjiyon in April, he said its reconstruction was a fierce class and political struggle against hostile forces who were trying to check the advance of the DPRK and the victorious

went into cold mud and icy river in the dead of winter to lay the foundations and gather gravel.

Farmers reaped a good harvest despite unfavourable weather since they cherished the instructions of the Supreme Leader who had told them to meet again after raising better crops.

The Korean people uphold the intentions of their leader with all their heart as it is his will to believe in the people

CONSTITUTION

People's rights guaranteed legally

December 27 is the anniversary of the publication of the Socialist Constitution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Marking the day, the Korean people are full of pride and self-confidence in having the most popular law that guarantees their genuine independent rights and well-being.

The Socialist Constitution fully embodies the requirements for making everything in society serve the people and solving all problems arising in the revolution and construction by relying on them.

Every content in the constitution, including the character and guiding ideology of the DPRK, the supreme principle of the state's activities and the basic rights and duties of citizens, reflects the independent demands of the masses of the people.

Article 66 of the constitution says: "All citizens who have reached the age of 17 have the right to elect and to be elected, irrespective of sex, race, occupation, length of residence, property status, education, party affiliation, political views or religious belief."

In the election of deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly held this year, many of 687 elected persons were workers, farmers and women.

Spinner O Myong Chun who is famous as an innovator at the Sariwon Textile Mill has been

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



Youth and students hold a dance in the plaza of the Monument to Party Founding in Pyongyang in celebration of the 28th anniversary of Chairman Kim Jong Il's assumption of the supreme commandership of the Korean People's Army and the 102nd anniversary of the birth of anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk.

more firmly in the face of manifold challenges and difficulties, exalt the honour of the country together with them and go staunchly along the road for their wellbeing.

The single-hearted unity of the leader and the people sharing the same intention and feeling—it is the source of strength that enabled the DPRK to clinch all these victories in the year 2019.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

CONSTRUCTION

Major projects completed amid construction boom

December this year was full of stirring events.

The inauguration of Samjiyon City, which has been built as a model of mountainous city of culture in the northern alpine area of the country, on December 2 was followed by the completion of the construction of the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm and tree nursery in North Hamgyong Province and Yangdok Hot Spring Resort in South Phyongan Province.

The monumental structures erected across the country demonstrated to the world the high profile of the DPRK which rises up as the most ideal state entity, bravely overcoming the unprecedented trials and ordeals with its own efforts in the spirit of self-reliance.

Written on every page of the chronicle of great construction across the country all the year round are the untiring efforts of patriotic devotion of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un who encouraged its people to win victories and perform world-startling miracles one after another on this land.

He said that construction is a grand patriotic cause to build a powerful socialist country, a people's paradise, and an important undertaking to increase the country's economic strength and level of civilization, as he made continuous field inspection tours all across the country.

He said that to maintain the Juche character and national identity is the life and core of architecture and made exact demands to ensure the principles of giving precedence to convenience, aesthetics and view on younger generation are applied to all buildings.

Masterpieces of the times in construction have been created under the outstanding leadership of the Supreme Leader as he made sure that every building is constructed at a high level surpassing the world standard and at a fast pace and is perfect in the distant future.

Moreover, all these projects were undertaken under the unprecedently harsh sanctions and blockade by the imperialists.

"We built them under the grave circumstances like fighting a war without the sound of gunfire. The country continues the march of construction under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea in the face of the extreme manoeuvrings of the hostile forces. It provides clear evidence of the fact that our socialism advances and our revolution emerges victorious," said an official of the Ministry of Construction and Building-materials Industry.

All these projects were

completed in a year," says everyone in Samjiyon City, on the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm and tree nursery and at the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort.

The Samjiyon City construction project included the construction or reconstruction of several- and many-storey apartment houses for over 4 000 families and over 380 blocks of public and industrial buildings in an area of several hundred hectares. The builders worked hard in the unfavourable alpine weather conditions marked by severe cold and heavy snowfall in the highlands of well over 1 000 metres above sea level. Service personnel and shock brigade members finished the construction of factories, enterprises, schools, kindergartens, hospitals and others in a short time.

In the Jungphyong area of North Hamgyong Province the KPA soldiers filled 1.8 million cubic metres of earth in the building area of 200 hectares and built 320 blocks of modern vegetable greenhouses, dwelling houses for some 590 families and many public and production buildings. They also built a wonderful hot spring resort on a large scale in an area of 1.66 million square metres.

All units in charge of the production and supply of

equipment, materials and finishing building materials staged a fierce increased production drive to hit their targets responsibly.

The workers of the Sangwon Cement Complex worked in a kiln whose temperature was over 120 degrees centigrade when it suddenly stopped running due to an unexpected condition to continue the production of clinker and carry out the plan for increased production. The flames of collective innovation drive flared up in the related units including the Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326, the Taedonggang Electrical Appliances Factory and the Anju Pump Factory. The Hwanghae and Kim Chack iron and steel complexes and the Chollima Steel Complex also ensured the timely production and supply of a large amount of iron and steel products to the projects. Railway workers more than doubled freight transportation on a daily average as compared to the early period of the construction to responsibly carry the planned amount of materials to the construction sites. The whole country, even students and schoolchildren, provided active and sincere support to the construction projects.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



Major projects have been completed (clockwise from top left): A bird's eye view of the Jungphyong Vegetable Greenhouse Farm. The Yangdok Hot Spring Resort. Part of the renovated Samjiyon City, Ryanggang Province, the DPRK.

Spa resort provides sporting and amusement services

The Yangdok Hot Spring Resort is counted as the most suitable place for natural therapy in the country.

The hot spring has high pharmacological and curing effects as it is mildly alkaline and contains simple silica, sulphur and fluorine with a great deal of sulphuric substances and very little radon. It is also recognized as a contamination-free spring as it contains no ammonium, nitrous acid, nitrate ion or pathogenic microorganism.

It has been famous from olden times as it is particularly efficacious against eczema, neurodermatitis and neuralgia, promotes human growth and prevents joint disorders and arteriosclerosis.

Everything in the resort is alluring: sanatorium buildings standing cosily and charmingly amid the fragrant pine forests, ski slopes covered with shiny snow and a horse riding ground favoured by both adults and children.

Spa baths are more stunning.

Indoor spa baths are light and spacious as they are roofed in a way that natural light is provided. Nicely-built walkways lead to a variety of exquisite spa baths including terraced and detached ones and those for children.

There is a place for boiling eggs with the hot spring water, which enables holidaymakers

to evaluate themselves its temperature, pharmacological action and quality as they experience the charm of Yangdok hot spring containing many valuable ingredients.

The Yangdok Hot Spring Resort is also a multifunctional sports and leisure activity centre in which ski slopes, a horse training ground and riding park go well with spa baths.

The Yangdok area consists of two steep slopes and a comparably gentle slope.

Beside the third slope is the one for children's sleigh-riding.

An attendant said that riders can shake off their internal disorders and develop broad-mindedness, bravery and enterprising spirit in the horse training ground.

Those who have got familiar with horses can ride along the cross-country tracks and walkways.

The attendant said that after skiing and riding horses, holidaymakers head toward spa baths and the Yangdok hot spring service centre to relieve stress and strain.

At the centre, there are sand baths, fitness rooms furnished with exercise apparatuses, an indoor golf course, billiard rooms, a folk game hall, restaurants and spa baths as well.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

INNOVATION

Quality of products improved by dint of technical innovation

The Rangnang Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory is effectively running the sci-tech learning space.

It built the learning space with much effort and is conducting the work of improving the technical knowledge and skills of employees every day.

Technicians established at the sci-tech learning space a database containing over 130 000 pieces of technical information related to the production of plastic goods as well as working methods and advanced sci-tech data badly needed for production in collaboration with

the Central Information Agency for Science and Technology and provided more than 3 100 sci-tech books with the help of the Sci-Tech Complex and the State Commission of Science and Technology. At least 60 of its workers are enrolled at the study-while-you-work system to receive online lectures.

"In the course of receiving online lectures, I came to know the global trend of the development of plastic goods," said Cha Chol Nam, an employee of the factory. "I'll bring out new technical innovation plans needed for the production of plastic pipes by relying on the

knowledge I have learned."

The factory transformed the head and ejector of automatic blow moulding machine to produce plastic bottles with low-pressure polyethylene without using high-pressure polyethylene materials and made a new plastic container mould to improve the quality of products.

It improved the surface smoothness of products by refashioning a hydraulic press tool into an injection mould, remoulded the blade jig of cutting machine and developed the PLC program of three-side joining and cutting machine for the foodstuff packing bag production process.

As a result, the factory was awarded the top prize and five national invention certificates at the 30th National Exhibition of Consumer Goods.

"We'll work out the operation plan of the sci-tech learning space efficiently and provide the online lecture room with an environment similar to the examination rooms of the online education faculties of various universities to further improve the study conditions," said chief engineer Kim Tuk Su.

By Kim Il Jin PT

research and education.

North and South Phyongan and North Hwanghae provinces have steadily increased power production range and capacity by harnessing various natural energy resources.

Sariwon University of Technology set up a 50kW-capacity power generating system using methane gas from sewage to provide the electricity needed for lectures and practices.

The North Phyongan Provincial Power Distribution Station re-installed dozens of windmills and thousands of solar panels in the places with more favourable conditions to boost their generating efficiencies.

By Yun Kyong Il PT



Employees study online after work at the Rangnang Disabled Soldiers' Essential Plastic Goods Factory in Pyongyang.

ENERGY

Renewable energy widely harnessed

Nationwide efforts are being made in the DPRK to ease the strain on electricity by utilizing renewable energy resources.

According to rough estimates, over 100 000kW of natural energy-based power generation capacity was created across the country this year as many units directed efforts to making an effective use of various energy resources abundant in their localities.

Pyongyang Municipality has worked hard to increase its power generation capacity using renewables.

Dozens of units including the Pyongyang Municipal Foodstuff Complex, Taesongsan Spring Water Factory and Ryuwon Footwear Factory established system-parallel solar power generation systems and over 2 000 units introduced independent solar power generation systems.

With much attention paid to increasing power production based on windpower and biomass, the Mirim Coloured Roofing Tile Factory and several others installed wind-driven

generators and the Pyongyang Farm Machine Station built a rice-chaff gasification power generator which proved to be highly beneficial.

South Hwanghae Province has constantly increased the share of renewables in the production and use of electricity.

Many units installed solar panels on the windows and roofs of their buildings to provide themselves with enough electricity for production and management activities and



Solar water heaters installed at the Haebangsan Hotel in Pyongyang.

PROFILE

Coal miner on the right track of life

"I was once a troublemaker, so I became increasingly estranged from the parents, brothers and sisters, relatives, friends and other people," said Kim Tong Chol (pictured) at the Songnam Youth Coal Mine in Pukchang County, the DPRK's South Phyongan Province. "However, it was very heartbreaking for me to have made my mom cry for having a bad child. But more unbearable was bitter regret about my own past life."

Kim finally ended up in prison for lawbreaking.

"I was so afraid to meet other people as I brought up my child wrongly that I could not go out to the street in the daytime," said his 76-year-old mother, Ra Chun Dok.

After days' remorse and self-reproach, he made up his mind to go to the Songnam Youth Coal Mine with his delinquent fellows and take charge of the most difficult jobs in the coal mine to expiate their past sins.

The coal mine officials valued and supported their decision to lead a new life on the right track.

So, Tong Chol and over a dozen other young people volunteered to restore a flooded pit which had caved in long ago.

But decision and reality were two different things.

The reality was too tough: there were heaps of muck all over the pit, the flooded water was waist high and the walls were likely to collapse at any moment. Everything seemed to test their decision and will.

"We sometimes advanced one metre, but went back dozens of metres as the ceilings or walls fell and the pit was filled with gas so much that it was difficult for us to breathe. Some of the group left the rank without a word.

"We were disappointed at that time, but the coal mine officials encouraged and supported us.

"They sent us young labour innovators to teach us how to do mining work in the pit and highly praised us for what we had done successfully, though small," said O Chol Ryong, a member of the group.

Their strenuous efforts bore fruit: the inundated pit was restored to its original state in two months and they began tunnelling.

While securing new coal-cutting faces, Kim and his colleagues overfulfilled their tunnelling plan and volunteered to undertake hard



and labour-consuming jobs in the coal mine.

Months later their temporary working group was officially named after the anti-Japanese guerrilla hero to be Kim Jin Youth Shock Brigade.

Chairman Kim Jong Il was reported on the deeds of Tong Chol on March 9 2011, two years after the formation of the shock brigade, and granted an amnesty in the name of the chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission to nullify his past crimes and make him start with a clean slate.

Kim has since redoubled his efforts with a decision to repay even a little the warm favour shown by the government. His shock brigade has worked hard to double or treble the national economic plans assigned to it every year since 2012 and involved more young people on the wrong track to lead a worthwhile life for the country and people.

As a result, the shock brigade which started with 14 members increased to over 150 and some 120 of them won state decorations. And many of them finished online education courses of several universities and became inventors.

Twenty-one pairs of the members of the shock brigade got married and they are now living happily at homes built at the coal mine.

Kim was selected as delegates to a series of national conferences and received high state decorations.

In 2015 he was honoured to meet and present a bouquet to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un at the Second National Conference of Exemplary Young People of Virtue.

"I am nothing compared to those who have performed feats, leading a worthwhile life in their youth. I am determined to work as a coal miner forever on the right track in my life," said Kim.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

MEDICAL INDUSTRY

Medical appliances domestically produced

Dynamic efforts have been made to strengthen the material and technical foundations of the public health sector this year.

Scientists and technicians of the State Academy of Sciences, Kim Chaek University of Technology and other institutions produced over 20 kinds of medical equipment and appliances in Korean style by developing new machines and programs in line with the country's specific conditions.

The medical appliances institute brought out a TV X-ray device for operation room and a bio-resonance diagnosis and treatment device based on iris imaging which is of great value in clinical practice as it combines two kinds of diagnostic functions to ensure accurate diagnoses at any place without specialist diagnostic facilities.

The Koryo Medicine General Hospital developed a multipurpose oxidant generator for home and office use which would help protect water resources and prevent water pollution.

Pyongyang University of Medical Sciences developed an oxygen-carrying blood substitute and an eye electrophysiological testing system and made a great deal of technical achievements for improving health service.

The Kim Man Yu Hospital succeeded in making a trial product of valvuloplasty ring after securing the research equipment for making

previously imported valves with local materials.

The General Dental Hospital of the Ministry of Public Health made prosthetic materials, a 3D printer for rebuilding the lower jawbone and a CCD camera for dental diagnosis, while the Okryu Children's Hospital produced over 30 kinds of medical appliances.

The general electronic ophthalmic diagnostic device contrived in an original way by the Waudo District People's Hospital in Nampho is easy to handle as it is designed to be packed in a knapsack.

The research institutes under the Academy of Medical Sciences, the Jongsong General Pharmaceutical Factory and Mannyon Pharmaceutical Factory found out and introduced

methods of synthesizing medicinal materials and intermediates.

According to Ryu Yong Chol, department director of the Ministry of Public Health, the national exhibition of sci-tech achievements in the public health sector-2019, which was held on the theme of "domestic production of medicines and medical appliances" at Pyongyang's Sci-Tech Complex last November, served as an important occasion for making a stride in public health service as participants shared achievements made and experience acquired in the course of ensuring domestic production of medicines and medical appliances.

By Kim Rye Yong PT



The national exhibition of scientific and technological hits in the public health sector-2019 is held at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang.

WELFARE

Complex provides a boon for employees

The Munmyong Health Complex of the Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326 is now on everyone's lips.

It is a comprehensive service base for employees.

It has dining halls, a barber's, beauty parlour, physical training hall and other amenities for cultural and emotional life.

It has become a routine for the employees to go to the health complex after a day's work.

There they play table tennis, do swimming and other exercises and refresh themselves having a sauna.

"After my shift I come here for leisure activities. I learned table tennis and swimming here and I have become a player of my workshop," said Kim In Chol, worker at the insulation workshop.

Han Hye Song, keeper of the table-tennis hall, won the table tennis singles at the national

inter-provincial games in 2016.

This may be partly the reason why the hall is the most frequented place in the service centre.

"On my first visit to the table-tennis hall, I feared I would fail to learn it properly, but it proved to be a useless fear. In the hall amateurs form groups to have a contest once a month and everyone has improved their skills remarkably," said Han.

On the occasion of the factory's anniversary after the health complex was inaugurated, it arranged a swimming contest at the swimming pool of the complex.

Kim Sang Hi, manager of the wire workshop, recalled that the contest that was held by choosing employees of each workshop at random unfolded hilarious scenes as some of the players were clumsy in swimming and prompted all

employees to learn to swim.

However, everyone is good at swimming as "regulars" at the complex, he said.

"We call those regulars 'players of the 326 sports club'. They are very enthusiastic both in sports and work, so they are praised at their workplaces," said attendant Jang Song Ok.

The health complex is also the rendezvous of many married couples of the factory.

They come together there after work to conduct various leisure activities.

"Wedding ceremonies are also held at the complex," said attendant Ri Jong Sim. "The factory throws large wedding spreads for the employees who get married. Such ceremonies have been held for several couples this year, too."

According to Kim Ji Song, manager of the health complex, the service base was built by the

EDUCATION

With resolve to fulfil duties as career revolutionaries

The 14th National Conference of Teachers was held in the DPRK last September to improve the general educational level of the country and further accelerate the building of a socialist educational power and a talent power.

In the work sent to the conference, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said that teachers have to fulfil their responsibilities and duties as career revolutionaries in order to successfully build a power of education and talents.

Through the conference all the educators throughout the country have realized once again the urgency and significance of a revolutionary turn in education.

They launched a campaign of improving their qualifications and an intense competition to improve their credentials as teachers.

They studied hard to have a better understanding of modern science and technology and education science and acquire extensive and many-sided knowledge, thereby widening their horizons and enhancing teaching and instruction abilities.

In the course of this, many teachers at institutions of primary, secondary and tertiary education were awarded the certificates of registration of new teaching method and the October 8 model teacher and academic degrees and titles.

A nationwide major ability assessment of university lecturers and students of graduating class in the teachers training sector made last September and October served as an important occasion in taking practical measures, generalizing the experiences of advanced universities, improving the qualifications of

employees of the factory.

To build it, the factory secured hundreds of pieces of tools, equipment, building parts, fittings, fixtures and supplies in dozens of kinds, he said. "People have special

attachments to and pride in their own things. Perhaps, that is the reason why the health complex has become the favourite haunt of the employees."

By Ri Sung Ik PT



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
The health complex in the compound of the Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326.

ZEAL

Sci-tech learning craze sweeps nationwide

The zeal for the study of science and technology is sweeping the industrial establishments across the country.

The Sangwon Cement Complex is ensuring the normal operation of sci-tech learning space in the wake of storing hundreds of thousands of pieces of data conducive to online education of employees and production revitalization and positively introduces inventions, original ideas and new technologies into production.

The advanced sci-tech data at the sci-tech learning space in the Ryuwon Footwear Factory prove effective in promoting the factory's technical development and fulfilling its economic plan.

Sci-tech study takes an important position at the Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory and the Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory. They reduce the costs of equipment and raw and other materials and improve the quality of products by constantly improving the technical knowledge and skills of officials and employees.

The Sosong Unha Garment Factory, which applied 20-odd technical innovation plans and designs to production this year by effectively running the sci-tech learning space, is working to set up a local network so that its employees can undertake technical study at production sites.

The Mangyongdae Aeguk Aluminum Sash Factory, the Munsu Ponghwa Garment Factory and many other units press on with study through the sci-tech learning space in

an efficient and planned way to prepare employees as intelligent workers and developers of sci-tech.

The Pyongyang General Electric Cable Factory 326 has more than 170 workers who are enrolled at online course of various universities and numerous inventors.

This year alone, the workers of the factory presented a lot of inventions and original ideas which contribute to the improvement of the quality of cables and production growth, especially the establishment of fluoroplastic pressing process, making of medium-frequency induction furnace, development of high-frequency high-tension cable and air insulation earth box.

Hwang Jong Ryol, repairman at the cable workshop who remodelled a communications cable binding winder, and Paek Won Gil, repairman at the drawing workshop who introduced PLC into high-speed drawing machines, owed their successes to the sci-tech learning space.

According to Jo Song Uk, chief of the technical development room of the sci-tech development section, the factory doubled the capacity of the sci-tech learning space this year to meet the demand of employees.

He added that the factory planned to form a network connecting the production site and the sci-tech learning space so that employees could get access to necessary data at any time.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

SCI FILM

Science films help tackle bottlenecks

This year the Korean Documentary and Science

Film Studio produced dozens of science films conducive to



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
A newly produced science film is previewed at the Korean Documentary and Science Film Studio.

SUCCESS STORY

Candidate academician leads the way in nonferrous metallurgy

The title of candidate academician was awarded to Ryuk Chong Ryong, Prof, PhD and a section chief of Kim Chaek University of Technology, who made a great contribution to the development of the country's nonferrous metallurgy, at the ceremony to confer state academic degrees and titles held in October. Ryuk became the first candidate academician in nonferrous metallurgy.

"Everyone admires the devotion and enthusiasm of Professor Ryuk. He has devoted his life to scientific research and education of students over the past 30-odd years," said Kim Chung Song, who has been working with him for years.

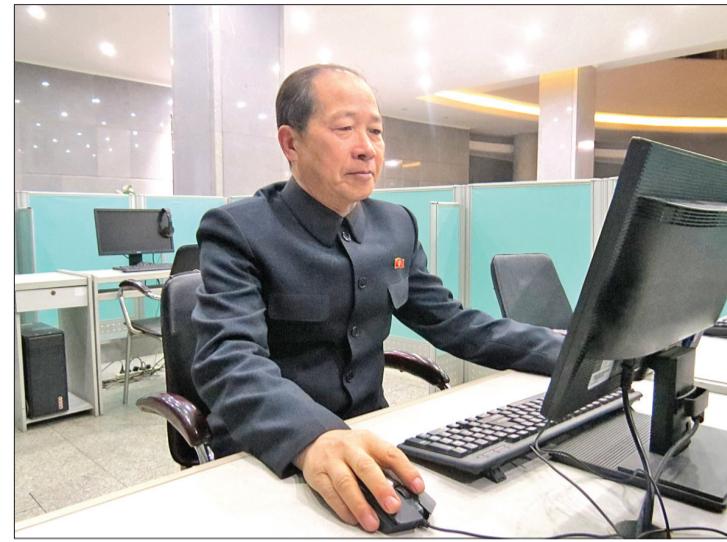
Ryuk focused on discovering a Korean-style metallurgical process as he solved scientific and technological problems he had faced in his research.

To do it he had to know more about the whole metallurgical process than workers and always lived in workplaces.

He often stayed at the workplaces without leaving for hours when the equipment like furnaces operated to catch even the slight happenings. When the test production failed, he rushed into the hot furnace which had not yet cooled and dust cleaner full of waste gas without hesitation to identify the causes.

He continued literature search every day during his months- or years-long research at workplaces, while delving into adjacent disciplines.

"He has maintained his posture for scientific research even after his hair turned grey. One winter day he came back to his lodging after working at



KIM RYE YONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES
Ryuk Chong Ryong, candidate academician and section chief of Kim Chaek University of Technology, works on a project.

the workplace till late at night when everyone fell asleep. He put his feet in a wash-basin filled with cold water and began to study scientific data. It impressed me greatly," Kim recalled.

His burning zeal and passionate devotion finally gave birth to a Korean-style metallurgical method which costs less than the world-recognized nonferrous metallurgical method, reduces process and has a high extraction rate. He also authored Gold Production Technology Encyclopedia, Secondary Nonferrous Metallurgy and other valuable books.

"Don't declare that the wheel of engine is rubber or steel without touching it by yourself. What is checked is correct"—this is his pet expression, which reflects his creed as a scientist.

His lecture is much sought-after by all students majoring in nonferrous metallurgy as it

is fully supported by scientific data gained through his self-sacrificing efforts and rich practical experience.

His over-a-dozen-year-long career as the chairman of the academic degree theses deliberation subcommittee in nonferrous metallurgy shows his outstanding ability as the authority on the subject.

"All the achievements I have so far made as a scientist and a lecturer, though little, are the product of the strenuous effort to do something for the good of the country. That they were helpful to the country pleases me more than any academic degrees or titles and it encourages me to make further efforts," says Professor Ryuk.

The 64-year-old scholar now works as chief of the scientific and technological information office of the university.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

developing the self-supporting economy and improving the people's livelihood.

"In the production of science films we selected scientific and technological achievements of great economic significance and worked to reflect them in the films in a logical sequence and plain way so that everyone can easily understand the scientific contents and technical requirements," said staffer Ju Sang Hak.

Science film Dry-field Rice No. 24 Highly Resistant to Drought has been hailed in the agricultural sector as the rice produces high yields even in the areas with poor irrigation.

"Dry-field rice No. 24 bred by a research institute drew our attention as every farm demands

crops that are highly resistant to drought. This variety can produce about 78 percent of more yield than others in areas with poor irrigation, low grain output and severe drought. We put in effort to make the film in a short period," said director Kim Chol Su.

This year high temperature persisted due to abnormal climatic conditions. But according to the farms that introduced the rice variety, they could reap a good harvest as they did farming scientifically.

"After watching the science film we introduced the rice into our fields and brought in a good crop. This variety takes root as deep as 40cm and therefore it is highly resistant to drought. We cultivated the rice by sowing its seeds, which means that it saves us the work of laying out rice-seedling beds. We applied it to areas with poor grain yield and fields prone to severe drought," said Ju Hwang Hyop, chairman of

the Management Board of the Ryongsin Cooperative Farm in Hungdong District, Hamhung.

Other science films High-temperature Air Combustion Technology Based on Coal Gasification and Combustion Modelling Casting Technology proved to be edifying as they contain sci-tech solutions that are badly needed for strengthening the independence and Juche character of the national economy. Double Cultivation of Tree Saplings in Greenhouse, Effective Method of Creating Pine Nut Tree Forests and Method of Planting Forests of Chestnut of Good Breed gave strong impetus to the ongoing forest restoration campaign in the country as they explain in detail the principles and methods of optimizing sapling production and improving the chestnut of local breed into a high-yielding strain.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

ROW

US-Turkey friction flares up as both stay firm

The conflict between Turkey and the US which looked precarious from the beginning of the year is escalating as it comes nearer to the end of the year.

Turkey completed the purchase of C-400 anti-aircraft rocket system from Russia and conducted a performance test in Ankara on Nov 25-26. The test checked the identification of the friend and foe by setting US-made F-16 fighter jets and various kinds of other aircraft as imaginary targets and operating the radar of the anti-aircraft rocket system.

Turkey is a member state of the US-led NATO. Bordering Georgia and Iran in the east, Iraq and Syria in the southeast, Bulgaria and Greece in the northwest, the Black Sea in the north and the Mediterranean in the southwest, Turkey is situated in a place of key importance in implementing the US strategy against Russia and that for dominating the Middle East. Therefore, it takes an important position among the US allies and is mostly armed with US-made weapons.

Why then has Turkey switched over to Russia in disregard of its close ally, the US?

In 2016 there was a coup attempt in Turkey plotted by

some forces of the military. The Turkish government viewed Gulen, a leader of the anti-government forces who has been living in the US from 1999, as the mastermind behind the plan and asked the US to hand him over. But its request was declined by the US administration. Experts comment that it was the beginning of the breakup of US-Turkey relations.

Later, Turkey tried to buy the Patriot anti-missile system from the US in vain due to the US objection. The Turkish dream of joining the European Union also failed to be realized due to the strong opposition of several EU member states.

Cold-shouldered by the US and European countries, Turkey was compelled to opt for a new path. Eventually, it turned to Russia and decided to purchase Russia-made C-400 anti-aircraft rocket system.

Turkey is also strongly opposed to the US-led "anti-terror war". With 99 percent of its population being Muslims, Turkey saw the Iraqi war, Syrian dispute and others that happened in its surroundings, feeling the misfortunes and sufferings of Muslims more sensitively than others. And many of its people express discontent with the US-led war on terror.

It imposed a \$281 000 fine on Facebook of the US for leaking personal information about its citizens in October again after May.

The US plans to apply strict sanctions against Turkey, arguing the latter "betrayed" it.

The US administration made it clear that it would not sell F-35 fighter jets to Turkey and officially withdrew the offer it made to Turkey for the sale of the Patriot anti-missile system.

Now the US Congress works to impose sanctions on Turkey.

After attending an international aerospace exhibition recently held in Russia, Turkish President Erdogan said at the talks with Russian President Putin that his country wants to maintain solidarity with Russia in many domains of the defence industry. It may include passenger plane or fighter jet, he said, adding most important is the spirit of solidarity. He welcomed the offer of the Russian space organization to send a Turkish cosmonaut to the international space station.

Experts say that if NATO punishes Turkey on charges of violating its "regulations", the latter would leave it and promote closer ties with Russia.

By Min Chol PT

ISRAEL

Netanyahu caught in dilemma

With the political standing of Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu having been heavily shaken, an indictment on his corruption charges was recently submitted to the court.

According to the 77-page indictment charging him in detail with bribery, fraud and breach of trust, Netanyahu received bribes worth hundreds of thousands of dollars from an American film-maker and did backdoor deals with the chief editor of a newspaper to decrease the circulation of its rival in return for writing an article about him.

The Israeli media reported that if he is found guilty of the crimes, Netanyahu will be sentenced to a maximum of 10 years' imprisonment on the charge of receiving bribes and three years' imprisonment on charges of fraud and perfidy.

It was reportedly the first time that a sitting prime minister has been accused in Israel.

The crisis Netanyahu is experiencing can be said to be the result of the extreme territorial ambition he has harboured.

He has asserted that he would annex Jewish settlements in the West Bank and the Jordan valley to the territory in which Israeli sovereignty is exercised since he came to power.

He also openly revealed an intention to militarily attack neighbouring countries by ordering drone attacks on Syria and Lebanon. The more Israel pursues the policy of territorial expansion, the stronger the protest and denunciation grow from Arab countries and the international community.

Arab Israelis making up about 20 percent of the Israeli population are dissatisfied with the constant discrimination against them by Jews. Distrust and hostility between Jews and Arabs have been fuelled now in Israel, giving rise to a national split.

The formal submission of the indictment on Netanyahu's corruption charges has exacerbated his political crisis.

The Blue and White Party and other parties and factions strongly demand Netanyahu step down, saying the current prime minister has no rights to make decisions.

According to an opinion poll conducted in October, 65 percent of Israelis responded that in case Netanyahu is prosecuted, he should leave the chairmanship of the Likud Party.

It seems difficult for him who has long exerted influence over Israeli politics to get out of the current crisis.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

COMMENT

Striking contrast

Most recently, German Chancellor Angela Merkel visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau, or Auschwitz concentration camp, built in Auschwitz, Poland, by Nazi Germany during World War II.

Visiting the camp and its museum, she met a former prisoner and heard the story about the struggle for survival in it. And she laid a bouquet at the "wall of death" against which prisoners were executed and offered a silent tribute in memory of them.

She said that she felt a deep sense of shame for the brutal crimes German soldiers had committed from the bottom of her heart and that no word can relieve the great sorrow of the many people who had been bestially treated, tortured and killed here.

It is the eternal responsibility of the Germans to remember the criminals and they owe the victims and themselves, she said.

She notified the decision of the federal government and provinces of Germany to

donate 60 million euros for preservation and management of the concentration camp in order to fulfil their historical responsibilities, saying if the past is forgotten, such atrocities as the holocaust would be committed again.

It was reportedly the fourth visit of the sitting German chancellor to this concentration camp after those in 1977, 1989 and 1995.

But contrary to the sincere efforts for the redemption of the past sins of Germany, Japan continues to deny and beautify its past crimes.

Kyodo News recently said that a total of 23 official documents related to the issue of "comfort women" for the Japanese army, which were collected by the Japanese Cabinet Secretariat in 2017 and 2018, were made public.

Among them is a report made by the Japanese consulate in China at the time, which says that "the army intends to demand a waitress for 70 soldiers" and "special women went south on board military trucks". In another report "waitress" or

"special women" were referred to as "being the same as geishas" and "being subjected to wanton violation".

As they apparently meant "comfort women" for the Japanese army, experts said they clearly show the military and the ministry of foreign affairs supplied the "comfort women" from the state's viewpoint.

The present Japanese government, however, turns black into white, describing its crime-ridden past history of invasion of Asia as the "advance of civilization" and the issue of "comfort women" for the Japanese army as "voluntary service".

Japan defiantly refuses to admit, apologize and make reparations for the past crimes of overseas aggression and is still specified as an enemy state in the UN Charter.

The striking contrast in appearance between the two countries reminds the world public of the vast disparities in moral civilization and conscience.

By Om Ryong PT

TRAFFICKING

Human trafficking gets more organized

Tragic stories about brutal violation of human dignity and maltreatment are still woven on the earth.

Last September, a woman was detained at an airport in the Philippines as she tried to get aboard a plane with a new-born baby hidden in her luggage.

Japan's *Tokyo Shimbun* said scores of flesh trafficking cases related to prostitution and forcible labour for moneymaking were exposed last year.

Shortly ago, a "baby factory" was found in a Western country. Two criminals who were confining several pregnant women and children were arrested there. The detainees were women, aged between 15 and 28, from other places.

They were reportedly taken to the place, allured by the criminals' promise to help them find employment, before being raped and becoming pregnant.

The organization of human trafficking crimes is the cause

of social troubles in capitalist countries.

According to information issued by a British government agency, more than 4 500 organized criminal groups are active in the country, committing all kinds of crimes including flesh traffic. In recent two years, the number of victims, who were subjected to modern-version slavery and fell prey to human trafficking by gangsters, has increased by 36 percent.

Last July, a Greek news agency reported that 140 human trafficking crimes have been committed all across the country in recent five years. Most of the victims were women and children.

The UN Secretary-General expressed serious concern, saying human trafficking is conducted in various forms and in disregard of borders and human traffickers are left unpunished.

By Song Jong Ho PT

GEOPARK

Unusual geological features of Mt Paektu

Mt Paektu, the highest ancestral mountain of Korea, and its vicinity are attracting the attention of tourists for their unique geological features and mysterious natural scenery.

Mt Paektu is a composite volcano formed through several rounds of eruption of magma in various compositions, and its volcanic activity is going on even today.

For this reason, the first place is taken by geological properties left by the volcanic eruption happened in different historical periods among the unique natural landscapes of the Mt Paektu area.

These properties are of great educational, scientific and tourist value.

The volcanic body of Mt Paektu is a dome-shaped one formed by several eruptions of trachyte, trachyte-dacite and rhyolite on the Paektu lava plateau created by the extrusion of quasi-alkali basaltic lava.

On top of the Mt Paektu volcanic body, there is a crater which came into being by the collapse of a mountain body after the eruption of a large amount of pumice at the time of the great millennial eruption, and the crater was filled with water to form Lake Chon of Mt Paektu.

In the crater there are hornitos, lava spine, fumaroles and hot springs.

Besides, there are fossil wood, which is of importance in research into the age of the great millennial eruption, fantastic rocks and volcanic bombs made by volcanic eruption and singular rock valleys formed by an external geological action after volcanic eruption.

Lake Chon is surrounded by sommas consisting of Janggun, Hyangdo, Haepal, Paegam and Chonmun peaks and they are located in the places where radial fault and annular fault intersect centring on Lake Chon.

The volcanoes in the mountain range consist of groups of independent volcano and parasite volcano with Mt Paektu in the northern area as the centre.

Eruptive sections which was formed by volcanic ejecta are preserved in the sommas.

Among them, the highest peak is Janggun which rises 2750 metres.

Its laccolith has several hornitos. They have cylinder- or needle-shaped volcanic bodies formed.

The rock mass of Jongil Peak is composed of hornitos formed by the rise of viscous lava of trachyte about two million years ago.

There is Chairman Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Packusan Secret Camp in front of Jongil Peak.

Pak Song Chol,
Prof, PhD and section
chief of the State Academy of
Sciences



Lake Chon on Mt Paektu in Ryanggang Province, the DPRK.

HONOUR

Footballers and coaches of year nominated

The Football Federation of the DPRK has chosen top ten football players and coaches of the year 2019.

The first place of top ten footballers went to Kim Yun Mi of the April 25 Sports Club.

She won the top scorer prize at the 2019 Cyprus Women's Cup and contributed to the DPRK team's victories in three international events including the Seventh Military World Games and to April 25's triumph at the 2018-2019 DPRK Women's Premier League.

The second placer was Kim Nam Hui at the same sports club.

She rendered great services to the national women's football team's three international wins including the Seventh Military World Games and April 25's assumption of national crown during the 2018-2019 season.

The Amnokgang Sports Club's Ri Hyang Sim took the third place.

She played her part in the DPRK's three wins at international games and Amnokgang's triumph in the women's football tournament which was held in celebration of the DPRK's founding anniversary.

The fourth and fifth places were taken by Kalmagie's Wi

Jong Sim and April 25's An Tae Song.

Wi was instrumental in making the DPRK women's football team win three victories at international events, while An played an excellent role as a goalkeeper, contributing to the national team's victories at the 2019 Hero Intercontinental Cup and other international matches and to April 25's triumph in the 2018-2019 DPRK Men's Premier League, and received the best goalkeeper prize of the year.

April 25's Ri Hyong Jin was placed sixth as he was pivotal in the national team's victory at the 2019 Hero Intercontinental Cup and helping April 25 men's team win the second place at the 2019 AFC Cup and victory in the DPRK Premier League.

The seventh place was occupied by Jong Il Gwan from the Rimyongsu Sports Club.

Jong contributed to the

ROUND-UP

Athletes win intl competitions

Ri Kwang Ok won a gold medal in the women's marathon at the 17th Asian Marathon Championships in China.

The championships brought together athletes from many countries and regions including the DPRK, Uzbekistan, Hong Kong of China and Japan.

Meanwhile, Ri Kang Bom obtained a silver medal in the men's marathon and Kim Ji Hyang a bronze in the women's event.

Choe Hyo Sim bagged two gold medals at the 6th Qatar International Cup in Qatar.

The competition was attended by weightlifters from dozens of countries and regions including the DPRK, Uzbekistan, India, Italy and Germany.

On Dec 21, Choe won a gold medal by jerking 130kg and



Ri Kwang Ok, a gold medallist at the 17th Asian Marathon Championships.

another in total in the women's 64kg category.

She took the second place in snatch.

Compiled from KCNA

the list of top ten coaches as he coached the under-22 national men's football team to win the qualification matches for the 2020 AFC U23 championship.

The next place was seized by Ri Won Il, coach of the Amnokgang Sports Club. As head coach of the women's football team, he led his team to the victory at the women's football tournament in celebration of the Day of the Sun.

The last three places were provided to Sung Hyang Sim of the Pyongyang Sports Club who made tangible contributions to the national women's football team's victory at the 30th Summer Universiad and Pyongyang's third place at the women's football tournament in celebration of the DPRK's founding anniversary, and Hwaepul's Jang Kuk Chol and Ministry of Light Industry's Ri Yong Ha who performed a significant role in notching up the DPRK's victory at the 2019 Hero Intercontinental Cup as defenders.

Kim Kwang Min, football coach of the April 25 Sports Club, was honoured to take the first place among the top ten football coaches of the year.

He led the national women's football team as head coach to victories in three international events including the Seventh Military World Games.

The second place was taken by O Yun Son, coach at the April 25 Sports Club.

As head coach of the April 25 men's football team, he contributed to making his team take the second place at the 2019 AFC Cup and winning the 2018-2019 DPRK Premier League.

Ri Yu Il, teacher at Pyongyang International Football School, was offered the third place in

The sixth and seventh places were offered to Kim Yong Jun, coach of the Pyongyang Sports Club, and Kim Chol Jin, coach of the Ryomyong Sports Club.

The former coached the national men's football team to win the 2019 Hero Intercontinental Cup and the latter led the U15 national men's football team to take the first-place qualifications for the 2020 AFC U16 championship.

The other three coaches included Sin Yong Nam of the Ryomyong men's football team which won the Hwaepul Cup, Ji Yun Nam of the April 25 women's football team which claimed the title at the Mangyongdae Prize Games in celebration of the Day of the Sun and Ju Song Il of the Rimyongsu men's football team which finished runner-up at the tournament for the qualification of the Mangyongdae Prize Games.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

