

# The Pyongyang Times

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

No. 14 (3 102)

weekly

<http://www.pyongyangtimes.com.kp>

e-mail: [flph@star-co.net.kp](mailto:flph@star-co.net.kp)

Sat, April 4, Juche 109(2020)

## LEAD

# Leader winning full support and trust of people

In April 2012, Kim Jong Un was elected first secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and first chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

This was an expression of the Korean people's total support for and trust in him.

They have deeply been fascinated by his total devotion to the people and outstanding leadership ability.

His exceptional leadership ability can be seen through the DPRK's recent anti-epidemic measures against the world-sweeping COVID-19 among others.

As he foresaw the catastrophic consequences of the rapidly spreading epidemic, he made sure that the national hygienic and anti-epidemic system was switched over to an emergency anti-epidemic system and that its degree was ratcheted up gradually.

Although no one was infected with the disease in the DPRK at the time, the people did as instructed by him, with the result that the DPRK still remains a clean land in the worldwide hubbub over the pandemic.

Underlying their unflinching support for and faith in him is the noble view on the people held by the Supreme Leader who loves them the most and spares nothing for them.

He said he would always stand shoulder to shoulder with his comrades, sharing the

same destiny with them, in his speech at the military parade held to mark the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung in April 2012 and swore to become a true servant loyal to the Korean people who faithfully supports them with a pure conscience in his New Year Address in 2017.

And he has always honoured this pledge in practice.

In 2012 alone, he provided guidance to lots of units including Changjon Street and the Ryugyong Health Complex which had been built in line with the requirements of the new century and the Pyongyang Vegetable Science Institute which had been rebuilt on an expansion basis, and whenever a structure sprang up he would ask first if the people liked it.

On his visit to a working people's family, who moved to a new flat on Changjon Street, he asked them about their living and their children's hopes, through which the people saw the image of a benevolent father.

Such heart-warming episodes are not confined to the year 2012.

Over the past eight years, the leader would feel happiest whenever he received the report that the people liked a newly built structure for them and a good thing was done for them, and would fret about their inconveniences most and sort out the problems on a priority

basis.

In 2016 when a northern area of the DPRK was afflicted by the strongest ever storm and heaviest downpour the country's meteorological observation had ever recorded since its liberation in 1945, he shifted the focus of the 200-day campaign towards the rehabilitation and under his guidance the service personnel and people performed a miracle of rebuilding the stricken area wonderfully in a few months.

At present, a Pyongyang General Hospital is under construction in the country.

At its ground-breaking ceremony, the Supreme Leader said that the modern hospital project has been a long-standing aspiration of the Workers' Party of Korea and broke ground first and pressed the button of the blasting device to signal the start of the project.

Only a little more than 200 days are left until the 75th anniversary of the WPK and such a courageous decision to complete such a huge construction project in the set time cannot be made without great love for and trust in the people.

As seen above, as he regards the people as the dearest and does everything if it is at the service of them, the Koreans completely trust their leader and follow his guidance faithfully.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

## CONSTRUCTION

# Nationwide assistance rendered to hospital construction project



The Sangwon Cement Complex supplies large quantities of cement to the construction project of the Pyongyang General Hospital.

The whole nation gives positive assistance to the construction of the Pyongyang General Hospital.

Pyongyang donated nearly 6 000 apparatuses and implements and well over ten thousand pieces of materials, while Nampho City offered hundreds of tons of materials in some 20 kinds.

On Mar 30 alone, lorries loaded with lots of aid materials arrived at the construction site in succession from South Hwanghae, Jagang and North Phyongan provinces.

Jagang and South Hwanghae provinces sent materials and tools for the normal operation of vehicles and construction equipment, as well as supplies. Sinuiju and Jongju cities, Tongnim, Ryongchon, Yomju and other counties, cities and provincial-level institutions in North Phyongan Province provided 9 900 pieces of tools and supplies of different kinds.

Construction materials also came from the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and many ministries and national agencies, especially National

Pricing Commission, Korean Tackwon-Do Committee, Ministry of Chemical Industry and Daesong Bank, contributing to speeding up the project.

The Ministry of Metal Industry, Ministry of Public Health and other units offered waterproof plywood, hammer and other building materials and tools to give builders great encouragement. A variety of supplies were also sent by officials of the State Planning Commission, Education Commission, Central Committee of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist Youth League, Central Committee of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, ministries of Electric Power Industry, Forestry, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Posts and Telecommunications, External Economic Relations and Commerce, Central Bank, Foreign Trade Bank, Academy of Social Sciences and State Hydro-meteorological Administration.

Public enthusiasm for assistance to the project is growing day after day.

KCNA

## STATEMENT

# DPRK will go its own way, senior negotiator says

"The US President sent our leadership his personal letter carrying a 'sincere aid plan' as regards the prevention of novel coronavirus to ask for close communication, whereas the US Secretary of State before the eyes of the world slandered the country, with which the American chief executive intends to establish good relations of cooperation, against his will. This makes us confused about who the real chief executive is in the United States," said the new department director general for negotiations

with the US of the DPRK Foreign Ministry on Monday.

The statement came after US State Secretary Pompeo called for applying sanctions and pressure on the DPRK at a news conference held after the teleconference of G-7 foreign ministers on prevention of the spread of COVID-19 on Mar 25.

Through Pompeo's remarks we have definitely reconfirmed that no matter how excellent and steady the relationship between the top leaders of the two countries is, it cannot

reverse the US policy hostile towards the DPRK, and that the resumption of dialogue much touted by the US is nothing but a decoy to keep us from going our own way, the top negotiator asserted.

What the US should know clearly is that neither threat nor trick could work on us, he said, adding the mere invention of the US top diplomat is the trumpeting about good relationship between the top leaders of the two countries and putting up of the false dialogue signboard that are designed

to make the international community believe that the US is the "advocate of dialogue" and to make us idle the time away with vain expectation.

The reckless remarks made by the American State Secretary seriously impaired the dialogue signboard the US President put up as a decoy to buy time and create an environment favourable for himself, he said.

Hearing Pompeo's reckless remarks, he noted, the DPRK has dropped the interest in dialogue with stronger confidence and become more zealous for its

important projects for filling the US with horror and unrest in return for the sufferings it has long inflicted on the Korean people.

Saying that the US seems to no longer have the power and strategy to stop the second hand that has begun running towards a crash again, he stated the DPRK would go its own way.

Dissuading the US from provoking the DPRK with inappropriate grumbles, he warned that if it provokes the country, it will be hurt.

KCNA



## CONTRIBUTION

# Placing people ahead of others

Shortly ago, declaring the ground-breaking of the Pyongyang General Hospital in an excellent location on the banks of the Taedong River, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un said, "Our Party regards the people-first principle as its inherent nature and sacred political creed. So, protecting and improving the health of the people is a most pressing and honourable revolutionary undertaking, which it should shoulder and fulfil without fail, whatever the situation".

Receiving his words, I remembered one March day six years ago when he visited our hospital.

As already well known, it is a modern dental hospital built on the initiative of the Supreme Leader and under his personal guidance.

He visited the hospital again in order to acquaint himself with its medical practices and management situation.

That day, he went round several places including diagnostic treatment, first-aid, denture service and prosthetic rooms.

At a treatment room, he said it was good to use dental plaque stain while removing the tartar and, looking at the multi-purpose dental radiograph, instructed relevant officials to take measures to ensure a good sanitary condition of the part on which patients put their chins.

In the treatment room of the prosthetic department, he helped an old woman up by holding her arms, asking where she ached to come to the hospital and requested the dentist to treat her well so that she would not feel any pain. In the children's treatment room, he advised a man who came for his daughter's toothache that the responsibility and role of parents were important in guiding children to take good

care of teeth and the parents should always pay attention to teaching their children about dental care, without leaving it to school teachers.

He estimated the dental treatment time per patient in the conservative treatment department and told officials to install LED televisions in treatment rooms so that the patients can watch films and listen to music without feeling bored.

He expressed his great satisfaction after looking round the hospital, saying he was very pleased to realize that medical services were performed in a brisk manner there.

Indeed, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un loves the people the most and spares no effort for them.

**Ri Myong Chol**, first vice-director of the Ryugyong Dental Hospital

## Nationwide

### Weavers fulfil annual quotas

Since a weaver carried out this year's production plan for the first time on Mar 18, the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill produced three more workers who hit annual production targets and 50 others who accomplished half-yearly plans as of Mar 28.

### Bus factory makes new-type trolley bus

The Chongjin Bus Factory in North Hamgyong Province made a trolley bus of a new type and gave it a trial run.

The factory made imported parts by its own effort by introducing 3D design and a new technology and made a heated steel plate attaching machine to ensure smoother surface while saving finishing materials.

It also improved the quality of fittings.



### Over 20m tree saplings grown

According to information available, the Central Tree Nursery under the Ministry of Land and Environment Protection produced over 20 million saplings of dozens of good species of trees including pine-nut and chestnut trees, hawthorn, *Pinus strobus* and cryptomeria in autumn last

year and this spring. The tree saplings were supplied to major construction projects and hundreds of units across the country.

### Local factory turns out building materials



The Wonsan City Pre-fab Factory in Kangwon Province turned out thousands of metres of various kinds of Hume concrete pipes and over a hundred reinforced concrete columns in a little over two months this year to supply them to major construction projects in the province, including the Wonsan greenhouse farm and Wonsan fish farm.

### Distance learning site helps farmers keep up to date

The site for providing distance learning on farming techniques has proved to be effective in recent years.

The online service that is provided every ten days offers information about crop growth predictions and lectures on technological matters arising in farming processes and arranges question and answer sessions with competent scientists, technicians and university lecturers in the capital and the provinces and presentations of excellent techniques and experience obtained in the fields along with images and video materials.

Through the website, users

can ask questions about various practical matters arising in farming at their farms and get answers.

The information service and real-time Q&A service are very popular as answers to questions put by many users like farmers are given promptly.

Officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and scientists of the Academy of Agricultural Science attach importance to programming and data collection to satisfactorily ensure online meetings, online lectures and real-time question and answer sessions.

### Strict measures taken against forest fire in spring

Spring has come and a great deal of energy is being directed to the fight against forest fire throughout the DPRK.

In South Hwanghae Province appropriate measures have been taken to build catchment area near the special nature reserves so that they can be used at any time.

It also completed a forest fire monitoring system based on CCTV camera and prepared itself with full sets of firefighting equipment.

Taegwan County in North Phyongan Province and Kowon County in South Hamgyong Province have established stricter monitoring and alarm systems against forest fire.

### New type of smelting process set up

Recently, the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex has completed a molten iron smelting process of a new type and carried out a successful

## INSPECTION

# Senior officials visit hospital construction site



**Pak Pong Ju (foreground), vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Premier Kim Jae Ryong visit the construction site of the Pyongyang General Hospital.**

Pak Pong Ju, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the WPK, and Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and member of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected the construction site of the Pyongyang General Hospital.

They gave pep talks to the builders who are making unprecedented miracles and innovations day after day through the offensive of loyalty, fierce 24-7 struggle and resolute lightning campaign true to the noble intention of the WPK to successfully build the general hospital and present it to the people.

Looking round various places of the construction site, they instructed officials to fully display the spirit of regarding the Party's policies as absolute and implementing them unconditionally, and to organize the command of the project and construction by focusing on ensuring the quality and speed of the construction at a high level.

On the site they had an indepth discussion of the issues arising in conducting intensive political work for mounting the high public zeal, strictly observing the building standards and methods at each construction process and carrying out the tasks according to schedules.

Practical measures were taken to concentrate heavy machines and vehicles, make an effective use of construction force and equipment and ensure timely production and supply of building materials and equipment at relevant units keeping pace with the construction.

Amid the fierce competition between the construction units involved in the construction of the Pyongyang General Hospital, the excavation for foundations has reached the 63 percent level and concrete laying of the foundations is being pushed ahead simultaneously.

A driver shuttled between the construction site and the dumping place 35 times a day and removed well over a thousand tons of earth in three days, to top the short-term transport competition.

KCNA

no-load trial operation.

The new smelting process has an improved desulphurization effect and ensures smooth ingot casting.

It can also improve steel quality while saving ferroalloy.



### Anti-blight work underway

A brisk activity is underway across the DPRK to protect forests from harmful insects.

In Pyongyang, scrupulous measures are taken to

exterminate noxious insects according to specific situations, such as binding of trees with interception bands so that the insects which spent winter underground cannot climb the trees.

Sukchon and Maengsan counties in South Phyongan Province are stamping out caterpillars as they come out by making an effective use of various disinsectizing tools including insect traps.

North Phyongan and South Hamgyong provinces got rid of contributory factors of blight, while applying various biochemicals and natural enemies into the anti-blight effort.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES



RECYCLING

# Nation adopts recycling with tangible results

## Used plastic bottles turn into textile material

The *Pyongyang Times* reporter Chae Hyang Ok interviewed Pak Yong Jun, director of the Textile Research Institute of the Ministry of Light Industry, and Ju Chol Jun, section chief of the institute, over the technique to use scrap plastic bottles as a textile raw material.

*I heard that the institute has rounded off the technical preparations for producing Tetron fibre by recycling used plastic bottles.*

Pak Yong Jun: That's right. Most of plastic bottles of drinks and cooking oil that are used in everyday life are made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET) resin. This resin is thermoplastic resin obtained in the process of petroleum processing. When the resin is

spun, it turns into polyester fibre (Tetron fibre) and when it undergoes injection moulding, it becomes a plastic bottle.

Therefore, if we process scrap plastic bottles, we can obtain Tetron fibre through several production processes.

*Would you tell me about technological matters arising in its production?*

Ju Chol Jun: What is important here is to gain pure PET resin in the washing and separation processes. Because the used plastic bottles contain substances that are not PET component, like stopper or label. Various methods are adopted to separate such substances. The Tetron fibre production process based on scrap plastic bottle is uncomplicated and the actual yield is 98 percent.

*What about the profitability and future prospect?*

Ju: We can obtain 1 ton of Tetron fibre with 1.02 tons of used plastic bottles. This means that we can make material for a suit with 400 to 800 grams of the bottles.

In our country thousands of tons of used plastic bottles are dumped a year and the recycling of them gives us huge reserve for securing textile raw materials.

Pak: Since we completed the technical preparations for recycling the waste bottles, we are pushing ahead with the establishment of the production process on an industrial scale.

We will be able to produce Tetron fibre using plastic waste in the near future.

## Mill reuses waste to lower costs

Recently, the Pyongyang special spinning and weaving machine branch of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill is directing much effort to recycling, and thus producing raw and other materials needed for boosting production.

Nowadays, many furniture manufacturers are using adhesive plastic sheets and throwing away the non-flammable papers left after using the sticky parts, said engineer Ri Suk Gyong. "We are using these papers which contain many resinous substances and are proof against glues in our production work."

The factory, in collaboration with a relevant unit, carried out research into a new process for making staff belts of elastic staff loom with wastes from furniture production bases instead of expensive imported materials, saving two thirds of the expenses for purchasing patterns.

According to Kim Jong Ho, head of the industrial lab, the factory uses hundreds of

square metres of such papers as patterns a day to double the productivity as compared to imported materials.

It also benefits from substitution of a new material made by mixing an additive to waste lubricant for tailing oil badly needed in the stretching process and has introduced a process for recycling waste reeds collected from other textile mills so as to normalize production without relying on wood materials.

Besides, it produces dozens of kinds of reels for looms with various plastic wastes, and accessories for the maintenance of equipment with idle materials.

The factory is now working to improve reed line processing tools using hard alloy chips in the reed production process and to reduce production cost by setting up a tin oxide recycling process, said chief engineer Hwang Ju Nam.

By Kim Il Jin PT

## Feed extracted from organic household waste

The DPRK has recently researched and developed a technology conducive to turning organic domestic waste into animal or fish feed.

"We separated bacterial strains favourable for the fermentation and dissolution of organic kitchen waste and solved sci-tech problems arising in their mass-cultivation," said So Myong Chol, a department chief at the Life Science Faculty of Kim Il Sung University.

Meanwhile, the Pyongyang meat production and processing

complex manufactured equipment for the fermented processing of organic household waste.

The important thing is to strictly ensure the stability of equipment in line with the requirements that it should treat organic household waste with different compositions and characteristics and to calculate all possibilities conducive to raising waste treating effects in detail.

According to the results of fermented processing of

organic domestic waste by this equipment by using the newly developed spore, it has been confirmed that the waste can effectively be used as fish and animal feed through an analysis of its nutritive and biological safety indexes.

The introduction of the feed into loach farming in a breed fish farm helped markedly raise the survival rate of fish and substitute for dozens of percent of assorted feed.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

## Procurement and recycling encouraged

The DPRK government has taken a series of steps to raise public awareness of the procurement work and encourage the households across the country to collect various life waste articles and by-products like waste paper, waste rubber and plastic bag that can be used as industrial raw materials through recycling.

According to an official concerned, many production units including paper and footwear factories in Jagang Province use purchased waste articles as raw materials. Among them are a factory producing sleeper preservative with waste plastic bag, disposable lunch box and jute bag and a unit producing feed additive for domestic animals with different animal bones.

Belt made from waste rubber and shuttering board made

from plastic waste are in great demand for their utilities.

A great deal of efforts are now being directed to recycling at light industry factories in Pyongyang.

The Pyongyang Bag Factory is making solid and stylish regulating rings and plastic locks of bags by using recycled raw materials and mass-producing fabric pencil cases in various forms with waste pieces from cutting cloth.

The Mangyongdae Disabled Soldiers' Fountain-pen Factory and the Songyo Ceramics Factory produce various kinds of essential goods from waste materials.

The Phyongchon Daily Necessities Factory has set up a plastic waste processing process.

By Jong Chol PT

## Diverse energy resources tapped

According to information available, proactive efforts are being made to exploit a variety of energy resources across the country.

The solar power generation system is positively being

introduced in Pyongyang. The system-parallel solar power generation system has been established in dozens of units in the city including the Ryuwon Footwear Factory, Taesongsan Spring Water Factory and

Ponghak Primary School in Phyongchon District, while the independent solar power generation system has been set up in thousands of units, with the result that more generating capacity based on solar energy has been built there.

In South Hwanghae Province such units as the provincial posts and telecommunications management bureau, the provincial informatization management bureau, the Haeju Chemical Factory and Haeju Jo Ok Hui Teachers Training College installed solar panels at windows and roofs to generate electricity needed for production, business activities, scientific research and education.

Unchon and Unnyul counties also fixed hundreds of wind-driven generators at institutions, industrial establishments and households to produce a great deal of electricity.

South Phyongan Province is channelling big efforts into

generating power based on coal gasification in line with the specific features of the local area which abounds in coal. A dozen locally-run plants in Suncheon City have set up such power generation system to produce consumer goods.

The same is the case with Phyongsong, Phyongwon County and several other cities and counties in the province.

North Hwanghae Province is

pushing projects for increasing electricity output by relying on solar energy and biomass.

North Phyongan Province and Rason and Kaesong cities are pressing on with projects for increasing power production by making a comprehensive use of diverse energy resources to suit their local conditions.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



The North Phyongan Provincial Power Distribution Station harnesses solar energy.



## DENTAL SUPPLY

# Peppermint oil refining process added to dental supplies factory

The Pyongyang Dental Hygiene Supplies Factory has newly established a peppermint oil refining process.

"Perfumes account for 50 percent of the ingredients in toothpaste production, and our factory mainly uses peppermint oil among several other perfumes," said Jon Chol Jin,

chief of the factory's research institute, adding it relied on imported perfumes in the past.

In order to ensure the domestic production of materials, it established the peppermint oil refining process based on vapour distillation last year.

However, it had low productivity yet with high

electricity consumption.

"To overcome such shortcomings we replaced it with a similar process based on vacuum distillation," said technical staffer Pak Hyon Il.

It proved to be superior to the former.

It increased daily output to over three times and reduced power consumption to one fourth, while preserving the clearness, transparency and original scent of peppermint oil.

"Peppermint has been familiar to Koreans from olden times. The establishment of the peppermint oil refining process helps the factory improve the quality of toothpastes such as durability of scent," said Pak.

The factory turns out dozens of kinds of toothpastes including functional and curative ones.

At present, its technicians are engaged in research projects for developing a perfume mixing technology and recycling leftovers from the refining process.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

**A worker monitors the process for refining peppermint oil at the mixing workshop of the Pyongyang Dental Hygiene Supplies Factory.**

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

## OFFSHORE FARMING

# Station improves culture to raise survival rate of shellfish

The Kamapho Fishery Station under the South Phyongan Provincial Fishery Management Bureau is increasing the survival rate of young shellfish by dint of artificial culture.

"At present, we are increasing the survival rate of the fry of such shellfish as corbicula," said manager Kim Song Chol.

To this end, researchers carried out a study of a rational culture process in which young shellfish pass through an indoor artificial culture ground and outdoor intermediate pond before being released to offshore farms.

Accordingly, the station built the indoor artificial culture ground of a closed water circulation style covering an area of over 300 square metres and reclaimed over 10 hectares of reservoir for reed fields to construct several outdoor intermediate ponds each of which is some 1 500 square metres.

Those at the indoor artificial culture ground composed of tanks for culture, hatching and germ filtering fully ensure the accumulated temperature of corbicula growth and carry on artificial culture in a scientific and technological way, which involves artificial egg collection, hatching at growth stage and larva culture.

According to staffer Ho



KIM IL JIN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

**The breeders release young shellfish into the outdoor intermediate pond after raising them in the indoor artificial culture ground.**

Jun Hyok, the survival rate of young shellfish at the early stage was only 10 percent in the past offshore farming, but it increased to 60 percent as the creatures pass through the indoor culture process.

At present, this water-saving process brings big profits as it makes it possible to artificially culture shellfish with a small volume of seawater.

And in the outdoor intermediate pond to which the seawater supply system has been applied, over 10 000 young shellfish grow per cubic metre and the pond is levelled, harrowed and sterilized before

organic fertilizer is spread and feed substrates are supplemented for the multiplication of unicellular algae, the main feed of young shellfish.

As a result, young shellfish that pass through the new artificial culture process can grow to the size of 3-5mm in nine to ten months before being moved to the offshore farm in the right time and their survival rate is six to seven times as compared to the same period of the past.

Besides, the station established a culture management system suitable for littleneck clams and laid the foundations for artificially culturing young

## PROFILE

# Workteam leader honour to his coal mine



SONG TAE HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

**Kim Pong Chol (right), a workteam leader at the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine of the Suncheon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex, talks with a mate.**

Many coal miners are now working hard tens or hundreds of metres underground to ensure power supply across the country. Kim Pong Chol, a workteam leader of the February 8 Jiktong Youth Coal Mine of the Suncheon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex, is one of them.

The situation of the workteam was very poor four years ago when he was appointed as its leader.

It took a considerably large share in the pit which specializes in tunnelling. But the rate of its implementation of the annual coal production plan was not so high.

"In fact, he was very anxious about the situation at first. But he was not enslaved to the given conditions. Rather, he knew what and how to do to overcome them," said an official of the pit.

The well-known tunnelling worker was unrivalled in work. He often held demonstrations for new employees in cooperation with skilled miners to help them acquire good skills. He was exact in demand and enforced a strict discipline to make newcomers handle the rock-drills efficiently and reviewed their daily and monthly work thoroughly.

"Now we eagerly await the last day of every month. In the review held that day we come to know how much we have worked, often feel a pang of conscience and determine to work harder," said Ri Ki Chol, a tunnelling worker.

*Sinonovacula constricta* by themselves, instead of importing them.

"We are going to complete the research into the artificial flatfish egg-collecting technique at the indoor artificial culture ground in a short time in order to stock the sea with young flatfish," said chief engineer Kang Hyon Su.

By Kim Il Jin PT

The look of the workteam leader devoting his heart and soul to the members without a word woke them up.

Gradually, a habit of helping one another forward and studying something to carry out their plan was established. The wind of learning advanced technology and inventing new technical plans blew across the workteam.

In the course of it, new blasting and drilling methods were applied, which enabled the workteam to ensure the blasting efficiency over 90 percent and increase the per-attack progress, while reducing the consumption of explosive to a third of the amount used before.

As the workteam members markedly improved their mining skills, so did the number of blasts increased every day.

A month after he became the workteam leader, his workteam carried out its plan for the first time and has since fulfilled its plans every month and every year. Last year it hit the annual target till August 17 and this year exceeded the first quarterly target till March 25.

"In the past 60-metre excavation a month was so uphill a task, but now it has become easy," said Jang Man Chol, another tunnelling worker.

Now the workteam is well-known to the coal mine as a group of labour innovators, a model technical innovation unit and a harmonious group.

"A commanding officer is not a man who merely gives tasks to others. If he shows a good example, even idlers follow him. Now our workteam members have become a family. I am so glad that they think of me as their true elder brother," said Kim.

The workteam is now working to overfulfil the annual production plan by over 50 percent till October 10, the 75th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



## WHD

# Support nurses and midwives

The theme for this year's World Health Day (April 7) is "Support Nurses and Midwives".

Everyone receives the medical assistance of nurses and midwives.

They help women give birth to babies, fight against a lot of communicable and non-communicable diseases and sometimes sacrifice themselves at the forefront of the campaign for protecting and promoting human health.

That is why many stories have been told around the world to convey the good deeds of nurses and midwives who displayed noble humanity.

Stories touching the hearts of all people are woven in the DPRK, too.

So Hye Suk, general chief nurse of the South Hwanghae Provincial Maternity Hospital, resuscitated many patients during her 36-year-long nursing career at the hospital.

Whenever serious cases were hospitalized, she would sit up all night beside patients and make tonics to improve their health.

Kim Hyon Suk, chief nurse of the Jasong County People's Hospital in Jagang Province, has been devoting herself to inpatients for nearly 30 years.

"Working as nurse for decades, I keenly realized the importance of nurses' role

in timely understanding the psychology and changeable symptoms of patients and giving appropriate medical care for them," she said.

She always set ambitious goals for improving her qualifications and made strenuous efforts to polish up her skills, thereby contributing greatly to the treatment of patients.

Kim Ok Son and Kim Jin Ok, midwives of the Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, helped thousands give birth while working there for a long time.

They actively introduced the painless delivery method based on psychoprophylaxis and miraculously saved patients and babies in grave conditions.

Everyone calls them "our midwives" as they take care of serious cases, devote all efforts to their recovery and attend to pregnant women and nursing mothers.

They say the joy and pride they feel from the first cry of babies after their delivery will not be experienced in other occupations.

The government confers high official commendations in recognition of the beautiful and self-sacrificing deeds of nurses and midwives and calls them to the venues of national meetings.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

## FERTILIZER

# Effective microbial fertilizer developed

The microbial fertilizer which was developed by researchers of the University of Sciences is hailed in the agricultural sector.

According to Maeng Hang Ryol, a section chief of the chemical biology institute, the institute was determined to develop a microbial fertilizer which is highly effective and convenient to use in 2013.

"We found out that some of microbial fertilizers have not been welcomed in reality because of their unsustainable effectiveness," said researcher Pak Yong Su.

Setting a goal to develop a fertilizer that can have a sustainable and notable effect through a single application a year, researchers strived to find out an active bacterial strain that can supply nitrogen, phosphorus and potassic nutrition to crops.

They considered through comparison the data on soil analysis of high-yielding and low-yielding areas and collected thousands of bacterial strains from the soils in all parts of the country, including different species of nitrogen fixing bacteria, diverse decomposition bacteria, bioactivity stimulant generating bacterium and cellulose decomposition bacterium, and conducted several stages of experiments for months, day and night, to select bacterial strains with high activity among them.

On the basis of this, the research team solved different sci-tech problems such as reasonable cultivation conditions and composition ratio of the bacterial strain.

Thanks to their devotion and painstaking quest, they succeeded in developing the microbial fertilizer which is decisively superior to the existing fertilizers in terms of effectiveness and use.

"The delight of our success, however, did not last long. Farmers were displeased with this effective fertilizer as it required hundreds of litres of water and much labour per hectare," said Pak.

So they deepened research again.

In the course of this, they made a microbial fertilizer which is spread once a year by mixing it with earth, rather than spraying several times on leaves by dissolving it in water.

The fertilizer won high appraisal everywhere as it is convenient to use, safe in storage and effective for a long time.

According to its introduction into different units, it helps markedly increase the yield of paddy rice as compared to before and also proves effective in the farming of maize and soybeans.

It was registered as a national sci-tech achievement last year.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



JON KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Chemicrobiologists conduct research to find out highly active bacterial strains at the University of Sciences.

## OPHTHALMOLOGY

# Doctor develops diagnostic device beyond call of duty

The general electronic ophthalmic diagnostic device developed by the Waudo District People's Hospital in Nampho is winning popularity with experts and patients.

"The general electronic

ophthalmic diagnostic device has such functions as funduscopy, sectional magnification retinography, and corneal thermography, slit lamp microscopy and ultrasonography," said So Pyong Guk, director of the hospital, adding it is portable and can be powered by both 220V AC and 12V DC.

According to him, since existing ophthalmic diagnostic tools are suited to individual tests, they caused inconvenience and took much time and electricity. But the newly developed device overcame such shortcomings, while improving the accuracy.

Also, it can be made at a low production cost.

The developer is Ryu Chol Ryong, an ophthalmologist at

the hospital.

He is said to have spent seven years building the device.

"At that time, we were having many troubles in the treatment of patients with eye diseases for the lack of diagnostic tools. Such reality pushed me into developing the new diagnostic device," said Ryu.

Although he had little understanding and no reference information about diagnostic devices, he disassembled several devices dozens of times to learn their structures and principles and devoted all his energy to the development work in collaboration with technicians.

To develop a comprehensive ophthalmic diagnostic device of Korean style—it was his goal.

His wife Choe Un Ju used to complain to him as he treated patients in daytime and worked hard on the device at night, asking why he made his own troubles since a doctor's duty is to do the treatment.

Then he would say that he felt a pang of conscience as a doctor whenever patients suffered due



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Ryu Chol Ryong diagnoses a patient using a general electronic ophthalmic diagnostic device.

# Less is more

The light industrial factories in Pyongyang are pushing the campaign for increased production and economy.

The Sonhung Foodstuff Factory completed the return system of waste water of steam to increase thermal efficiency more than before and remodelled the automatic temperature control system to save a great deal of electricity and fuel.

A dozen kinds of its products won the certificates of the February 2 Products and 40 new products in eight kinds were developed.

The Mangyongdae Kyonghung Foodstuff Factory

to the lack of equipment, she said.

Afterwards, she became her husband's supporter and assistant, and finally they successfully built the diagnostic device.

The general electronic ophthalmic diagnostic device was highly praised at the national sci-tech achievement exhibition in the public health sector held in 2019.

By Pang Un Ju PT

rationally refashioned a boiler to increase production while putting the main focus on reducing the consumption of electricity and coal.

The Kyonghung Unhasu Foodstuff Factory increased steam output by introducing home-made injectors of different kinds while saving electricity.

The Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory, which is gaining benefits from the newly-installed coal cutter that helps decrease coal consumption, set up an automatic grading machine, thus economizing on much labour and improving grading capacity 1.5 times.

The Taesongsan Spring Water Factory transformed several equipment into electricity-saving ones to lower power consumption by 35 percent, and the Pyongyang foodstuff packing materials factory installed automatic expansion film conversion devices into expansive extrusion catapults so as to eliminate handwork and increase the actual extraction rate of film.

KCNA



## SPECIALITY

# Relishing Pyongyang cold noodles on Taedong riverside

With spring setting in, willows droop their branches on the blue water of the Taedong River which flows leisurely while sparkling like jewels, adding a special touch to the scenery of the Okryu Restaurant standing majestically on the riverside.

“Nowadays when the season changes, Pyongyang cold noodles are the best appetizer. I did my best to make delicious noodles as those of the Okryu Restaurant, but in vain, so I often come to this restaurant with my husband,” said Kim Sun Hui, a woman from Pothonggang District, Pyongyang.

Pyongyang cold noodles rank first among the famous national

dishes of Korea. They are widely known throughout the world for their nice taste.

Coils of chewy buckwheat noodles are put into brass vessels and garnished with slices of meat, radish kimchi, pear and thinly-cut fried egg. And meat stock with pine nuts is poured into the vessel before the dish is served. Diners apply vinegar and mustard. The noodles taste good and sweet, are refreshing and savoury, and have sharp tang.

In particular, the distinctive and captivating taste of the noodles is so inimitable that people say that Pyongyang cold noodles are just the Okryu Restaurant and the latter is precisely the former.

According to Kim Sun Sil, who is a good hand at the cooking of Pyongyang cold noodles, the eatery carried on the recipe and other cooking techniques created by the ancestors to put them on a scientific footing and cooking principles should be embodied to promote the taste of the dish.

It is commonplace for the diners to have more than one vessel of noodles in the restaurant, but noodle lovers ask for six or even eight.

“Pyongyang cold noodles of the Okryu Restaurant are really palatable. I generally don’t have much food, but I’m satisfied with six vessels of the cold noodles served at the restaurant. However, I have never suffered from stomach trouble. The noodles are really the speciality of Pyongyang,” said Kim Song Hyok, a regular diner from Moranbong District, Pyongyang.

The Okryu Restaurant is always full of diners who visit it, allured by the delicate flavour of the noodles relished while looking at the Taedong River full of spring fragrance.

It serves some ten thousand vessels of noodles a day.



SONG TAE HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Cooks make Pyongyang cold noodles at the Okryu Restaurant.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

## MINERAL WATER

## Abundant mineral water resources and their use

The DPRK has rich hot spring and mineral water resources.

When it comes to their overall distribution, it has many mineral springs in comparison with the area of the land surface and all kinds of mineral springs are evenly distributed compared to that of other countries.

Mineral springs are divided into simple, bicarbonate, chloride, sulfate and double salt springs according to their chemical composition and subdivided into bioactive ingredient, carbonic acid and radon springs according to the content of special ingredients which are of medical significance.

According to medical workers, it is most effective to drink the mineral water gushing out of the spring before meals.

And according to the purposes of medical treatment, mineral water is drunk after heating or cooling it, but apple or chestnut are taboo after drinking the mineral water because of the tannin in them.

Mineral water inhalation treatment is also interesting.

Patients can inhale steam and gas directly at the mineral spring, or breathe in vapour or gas generated from the falling water at the waterfall, fountain or shower.

Systemic bath is a time-honoured mineral water treatment method.

The treatment method can also be classified into cold, cool, body temperature, tepid, hot and other baths according to the treatment effect of temperature of the mineral water on the body. And sand bath has greater thermal and mechanical effect as patients are exposed to the physical action of sand heated by the mineral water as well as its direct action.

Other mineral water therapies include mineral water poultice, rubdown, mud bath, electropathy and exercise bath and they can be used in almost all mineral springs in the DPRK.

Many sanatoriums using mineral water resources have sprung up in the DPRK as part of the programme to carry out the government health

policy on widely using natural agents including hot spring and medicinal water for medical treatment and prevention efforts.

Last year, the Yangdok Hot Spring Resort, a multifunctional hot spring treatment and composite sports service provider, was built in a fashionable style, breaking fresh ground in hot spring culture.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



Holidaymakers enjoy bath at the iconic Yangdok Hot Spring Resort.

## Mystic dainty of Pyongyang cold noodles

“How do they make cold noodles so delicious in the Okryu Restaurant?”

This has been an insoluble puzzle for many cooks

and housewives for decades since the restaurant started serving Pyongyang cold noodles.

“In my opinion, the secret is the restaurant’s cordon bleu cookery, good meat stock and excellent location,” said Pak Hyang Mi, head of the noodle workshop of the main building of the Okryu Restaurant.

According to her, all the cooks of the restaurant have an ambition to become masters in making cold noodles.

Therefore, they found out the traditional recipe for Pyongyang cold noodles created by ancestors and put it on a scientific basis. They are now trying hard to apply it in keeping with the developing reality.

As they process buckwheat, the main ingredient, they clean it for an appropriate number of times several hours before pressing it to make noodles so as to fully retain its delicate taste.

Every process from kneading and squeezing



buckwheat to boiling meat and making radish kimchi requires a special trick, but there is a particular mystique in making meat stock.

The brass vessel which looks like the full moon also has its part in the well-deserved reputation of the Pyongyang cold noodles of the Okryu Restaurant.

As it is said that the taste of food partly depends on container, it is really impressive to eat the noodles in a brass vessel which is so glistening as to mirror the eater’s face.

The site of the Okryu Restaurant is counted as one of the three excellent locations in Pyongyang.

Facing the calm Taedong River, the restaurant’s Korean-style gabled roofs stand against the backdrop of beautiful Moran, Jangdae and Namsan hills—the picturesque scenery seems to add another flavour to Pyongyang cold noodles.

By Pang Un Ju PT

## Taejong faith-related relics discovered on Mt Paektu

Recently, researchers of Kim Il Sung University unearthed relics related to Taejong faith, a Korean religion, on the ridge of Janggun Peak of Mt Paektu.

They included a slab of marble and a triangular slab of gemstone inscribed with letters.

The marble slab is 31cm

long and 21.5cm wide and the gemstone slab is about 17.5cm on each side.

Inscribed on the upper part on the front of the marble slab are a title reading “Chonbugyong” in Chinese character and 81 other letters down below, whose strokes are clear as they are painted red.

According to an analysis by the research group, the letters on the marble slab were carved in the 1930s and most of them are old letters. And it was academically ascertained that the 81 letters are part of “Chonbugyong”, one of the scriptures of Taejong faith.

The blue gemstone slab was confirmed to have been made to symbolize Tangun, founding father of Korea.

Researchers consider that the relics are of great importance in tracing the long history of the Korean nation’s worshipping of Mt Paektu.



## RELATIONS

# Widespread COVID-19 sours Sino-US relations

The executive director of the WHO emergency health programme told a meeting on Mar 23 that it is time to fight against the pandemic, rather than pitting against each other, and called for working together to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

His remarks referred to the increasing friction between China and the US over the spread of the epidemic.

The Feb 3 issue of American newspaper *The Wall Street Journal* carried an article in which it insulted China, calling it the “real sickly in Asia”.

China immediately responded, strongly demanding

the newspaper make an official apology and punish those responsible for it.

But it did not withdraw its own stand on the pretext of the “public opinion” and “freedom of speech”.

The Chinese government took a measure to cancel the press card of the three resident journalists of the newspaper.

The state secretary and other leading US government officials sided with the newspaper and discussed retaliatory countermeasures.

Why then does the US reveal its anti-Chinese stand so rudely?

The US has put pressure on

China in every field in recent years, pursuing a strategic aim to contain its growth.

The confrontation which has worsened due to the economic and trade war between the two countries is expanding to the fields of China’s core interest going beyond the political and military fields. The US anti-China policy has taken on a considerably offensive aspect as is seen in the US House of Representatives’ passing of a bill on human rights in Tibet, new indictment of the Huawei Technology Company Ltd, examination of a limitation on export of US-made airplane engines to China, flights over

the Taiwan Strait of its strategic bombers and others.

It seems the US regards the deadly disease as its trump card to overpower its strong rival.

As if to prove it, the US high-ranking politicians said they were very disappointed with China’s response to the outbreak of the epidemic and the Communist Party of China is the most dangerous threat in the present time.

China recently imposed retaliatory measures on the resident US media outlets as the US administration has restricted the regular activities of the Chinese media and their employees in the US and steadily increased discrimination against and political repression of them.

Given the current situation, analysts estimate that bilateral relations would grow more complicated and worse.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

## JAPAN

## Redress of past only leads to future

Willem Alexander, king of the Netherlands, recently visited Indonesia.

A remarkable thing is that the king and his wife laid a wreath at a cemetery of heroes.

Buried in the cemetery are the remains of Indonesians who fell due to the extreme outrage the Netherlands committed in the period of 1945-1949 Indonesian war of independence.

The king, in a press conference held at the Indonesian presidential palace, made an apology for the wrongdoings his country had perpetrated in Indonesia in the past, saying he came to take such an option with a mind of feeling guilty of the sufferings and pains the bereaved families of victims have been experiencing until today.

Though the queen mother of the Netherlands admitted the painful past on her visit to Indonesia in 1995, it is said that this is the first time for the country to make an official

apology.

Germany, for example, officially admitted and apologized on several occasions for having inflicted a tremendous catastrophe on mankind. It enacted the federal compensation law and paid indemnities to victimized countries and individuals in a systemic manner, concluding it by 2010.

And it has carried on different undertakings on the principle of taking full responsibility for the past war crimes.

Italy also took measures to apologize and indemnify for the war crimes, followed by Austria and Hungary that toed the line of Nazi Germany.

Last year, the UK brought back the historical remains it

had plundered in Ethiopia in the 19th century.

This notwithstanding, Japan is behaving quite contrary to them, although it inflicted untold misfortune and sufferings on the Korean and other Asian peoples in the past.

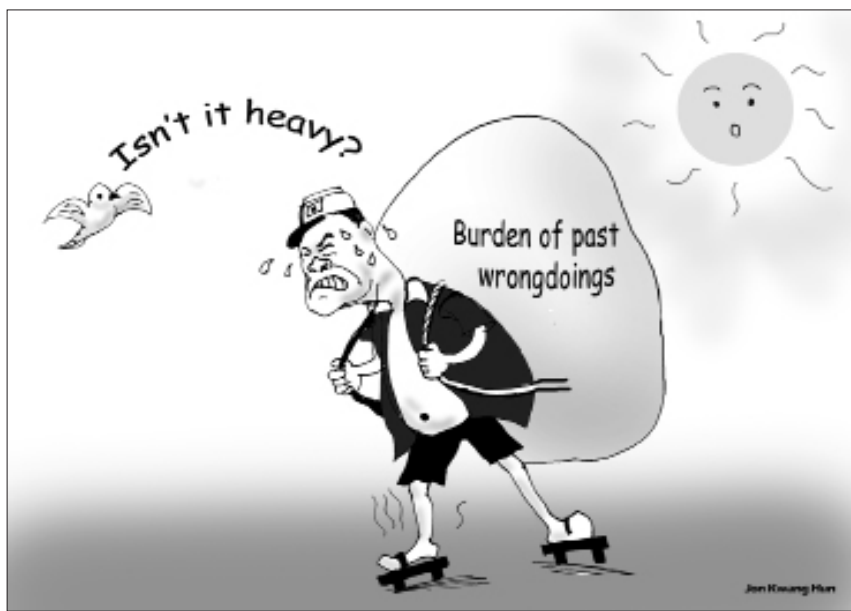
Brazen-facedly, however, it is praising the war criminals as

“patriots” and “heroes” while describing its past history of aggression as a “liberation war”. And it is stubbornly trying to evade the redressing of past by depicting itself as a “victim”.

Japan will never be able to get rid of the stigma as a defeated nation and war criminal state if it evades the settlement of its past crimes while denying the past.

The redress of the past is the only way to the future.

By Song Jong Ho PT



## S. KOREA

## Hwang’s nomination coup aimed at establishing autocracy

There is a mad scramble for power among the south Korean conservative forces surrounding the nomination of candidates for the election of national assemblymen, or MPs.

Hwang Kyo An, representative of the United Future Party, replaced the high echelon of the Future Korea Party, a junior partner of the UFP, and all members of the nomination management committee with his close associates and nominated

candidates for proportional representation again, contending that the FKP put the “talents” posted by him in the positions with no possibility of getting elected in the list of candidates for proportional representation.

Such an “unprecedented nomination coup” as was commented by various circles of south Korea and the public fully reveals again the fascist nature of Hwang and his extreme greed for power as well.

The inveterate nature of the

vicious fascist maniac can never change.

The disposition of the fascist who hunted democratic and patriotic figures and dissolved progressive organizations is fully demonstrated in satisfying his wild greed for power.

His wild behaviour of rigging up a bogus political party overnight, breaking the high echelon of the party if he is displeased with it and indiscriminately harming everyone irrespective of those belonging to his group or others

is really shocking.

He is now resorting to every possible means to fulfil his wild ambition to expel his rivals in the party and build a one-party system after the parliamentary election and then to usurp the National Assembly and lay the foundations for his assumption of power with his close associates so as to revive the conservative dictatorial regime.

Hwang is rubbish who has been driven out of the times, being forsaken by the people long ago, and the prime target for the campaign to do away with evil legacies.

The south Korean people insist that Hwang should be ostracized along with the UFP.

By Om Ryong PT

## Briefly

## Cuba

### Bermudez censures US’ attack on Venezuela

Cuban President Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez said on his Twitter account on Mar 27 that the US’ attack on Venezuela and President Nicolas Maduro Moros targeted the region, adding that the US move is none other than an attempt to pass through internal affairs in the year of election.

## Iran

### US’ offer branded as bluff

The commander-in-chief of the Iranian Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in an interview on Mar 26 said that the US’ “offer of assistance” was no more than a fraud and trick, adding Iran does not need any assistance of the US.

## WHO

### Directing efforts to essential medical supply called for

The director-general of the World Health Organization in a daily briefing on Mar 30 referred to the serious public health crisis caused by the spread of worldwide epidemic, before pointing to the need to cope with the spread and go on with offering indispensable medical services including routine vaccination, health protection of pregnant women and nursing mothers and treatment of various diseases.

## US

### Hypersonic missile test-fired, accelerating arms race

Shortly ago, the US announced that it test-fired a hypersonic missile with no warhead.

France’s AFP reported that the missile is a weapon carrying nuclear warhead which will speed up arms race, adding that the US army and navy made the first flight test of the weapon in October 2017 and the recent test fire was made at the launch site on Kauai Island of Hawaii.

## China

### Xinhua criticizes US for failing to pay WHO membership fee

China’s Xinhua news agency reported that the US has neither paid over half of its WHO membership fee for 2019 while dragging on its payment as of Feb 29 nor even a penny for 2020 as it quoted the website data of the UN organization.

Such behaviour displayed by the US side at the time when COVID-19 is spreading throughout the world is detrimental to the joint anti-epidemic effort against the epidemic as subversive activities and sabotage against the WHO.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES



## TREE PLANTING

# RC volunteers turn out for tree planting

On the occasion of the spring land administration period, Red Cross volunteers have launched a tree planting activity in the DPRK.

Especially, those in South Phyongan Province are the most energetic in the activity.

The Red Cross volunteers in Phyongwon County,

South Phyongan Province, in collaboration with experts and local residents, planted trees of good species in the basins of rivers and mountain slopes in order to reduce the risk of natural disasters and planted such fruit trees as chestnut, black chokeberry and seabuckthorn trees in sloping lands to help

improve living conditions of locals.

Kim Sun Ae, secretary of the South Phyongan provincial branch of the DPRK Red Cross Society, said that over 17 000 volunteers are involved in tree planting in over 20 cities and counties in the province.

The RC volunteers of the province also take an active part in the anti-COVID-19 efforts including the production and supply of masks and antiseptic water as well as hygienic information activities.

"I think what we are doing is really helpful to the country and people," said Yu Myong Chol, an RC volunteer and farmer at the Sambong Cooperative Farm in Phyongwon County, South Phyongan Province, adding he would take an active part in all RC activities in future.

The tree-planting activity will go on until April.



OM RYONG / THE PYONGYANG TIMES  
Red Cross volunteers plant trees on a hillside as part of afforestation efforts.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

## HISTORY

# World's first time bomb Pigyokjinchonnoe

*Pigyokjinchonnoe* had a large share in defeating the Japanese aggressors during the 1592-1598 Imjin Patriotic War for its explosive power and terrific explosion.

It can be said to be the prototype of time bomb with fuse in the world.

At the time, cannon technician Ri Jang Son adapted a previously-used bomb called *Jinchonnoe*, meaning a "thunderbolt that rocks heaven", to be fired with such guns as *Taewangu*, a kind

of howitzer.

When fired with a cannon, *Pigyokjinchonnoe* flew 750 to 900 metres away and exploded after a certain time elapsed.

The round bomb was classified into large, medium and small sizes and caltrops in it played the role of shrapnel when the bomb exploded.

The exploding time was fixed with the fuse in a bamboo tube.

*Pigyokjinchonnoe* was largely divided into the specially large-sized one 33cm in external

diameter and 71.62kg in weight and the medium-sized one 19cm in external diameter and 17kg in weight.

In August 1592, Korean troops used this time bomb in the battle for recapturing the Kyongju fort which was temporarily occupied by the Japanese invaders. The aggressors who suffered heavy casualties fled crying out that it was a "work of demon".

By Min Chol PT

## FOOD

# Kimchi dishes favoured by Koreans in spring

The Korean people have prepared kimchi with wild edible greens and fresh vegetables in spring to widely use it in their dietary life since olden times.

There are various kinds of spring kimchi including young bok choy, anise, bean sprouts and giant garlic kimchis.

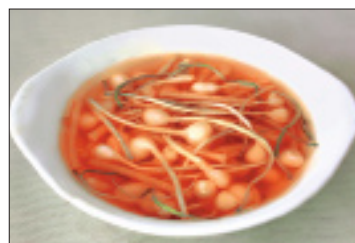
Among them, young bok choy kimchi made by adding red spring radish and parsley stem, and kimchi made of giant garlic which gives off unique smell with the combination of sweet

and hot tastes are the favourite dishes of Koreans.

Spring kimchi made of wild edible greens and vegetables growing in early spring contains a great deal of essential nutritive substances including vitamin C, Na, K and Ca, and has a refreshing yet plain taste.

Its preparation method is simple, and it is very effective in relieving inappetence and fatigue that are often experienced in the period of seasonal change.

According to culinary experts, giant garlic kimchi, in particular, is very good for invigoration and improving health as it contains abundant protein, fat, glucide,



mineral matters (Ca, P, Fe, Co) and vitamins (B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>, C, PP) and stimulates human appetite.

At present, various kinds of spring kimchi made by



housewives and kimchi factories constitute one of the main side dishes in families of the DPRK.

By Song Jong Ho PT



From left to right: Giant garlic kimchi, aralia shoot kimchi and young bok choy kimchi.

## TAEKWON-DO

# Kindergarten teachers practise orthodox martial art



SONG YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Teachers practise Taekwon-Do pattern movements at Mirae Kindergarten.

Kim Jin OK is a teacher of Mirae Kindergarten on Mirae Scientists Street in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang. She obtained the first *dan* of Taekwon-Do last year.

What is surprising is that not only she but all the other teachers, including headmistress, are *gup* and *dan* holders.

Kim started to learn Taekwon-Do since 2018 when the state took a measure to teach the national martial art from the stage of kindergarten.

"We came to keenly realize that we should learn Taekwon-Do from ourselves in order to teach children the orthodox martial art of the Korean nation," said Kim Myong Sil, a section chief of the kindergarten.

The kindergarten teachers began to learn the martial art from the instructors of the Korean Taekwon-Do Committee at leisure.

In the course of this, they realized that Taekwon-Do is helpful for not only building up physical constitution but also improving moral culture and stability and intellectual power.

With their skills increasing gradually, the kindergarten saw the increasing number of *gup* holders. The teachers completed "Taekwon-Do for children" which can be performed to the tune of music. It was represented into multimedia presentation and distributed to the kindergartens

across the country.

According to the teachers, the children at Mirae Kindergarten have witnessed improvement in their growth and development as well as the cultivation of concentration ability and collective power since they buckled down to training.

"My son was so cold in his nursery days that he liked to play alone, but he became active and sociable as he learned Taekwon-Do at the kindergarten," said Kim Sun Jong, mother of a boy attending at Mirae Kindergarten.

"Taekwon-Do is an event that can be practised at any time, irrespective of any special apparatuses or place. I perform pattern movements alone at leisure, which makes me invigorating and refreshing," said Kim Jin Ok.

Her son, who entered a primary school last year, also joined the Taekwon-Do group, she added.

All the teachers of the kindergarten are now training hard while making the effective use of their leisure time with an eye to holding over the first *dan* by following the example of Kim. And their enthusiasm for Taekwon-Do is spreading the kindergartens across the country beyond the boundaries of its district and city.

By Om Ryong PT

