

Political Bureau of WPK Central Committee meets



KCNA

The 11th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea took place at the

office building of the headquarters of the WPK Central Committee on November 30.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, attended the meeting.

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

The meeting discussed the issue of convening the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK.

Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting.

Jo Yong Won, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary for Organizational Affairs of the WPK Central Committee, made a report.

The report reviewed and analyzed the implementation of the major policies of the Party and the state for this year and advanced major agenda items to be discussed at the sixth plenum.

The internal and external circumstances of the year 2022 that came in the process of advance of our revolution were an unprecedented adversity testing our will and fighting efficiency, but thanks to the correct leadership of the Party Central Committee, a new phase was opened for a remarkable development of the state and the country's prestige and honour were raised to a new level, the General Secretary said.

He said that it is very important for all sectors to find innovative ways for solving problems by tapping our potentiality and to properly confirm the next year's plan on the basis of the correct analysis of the experience and lessons accumulated in the course of a year's struggle in order to expand the affirmative changes made in Party building and the overall work of the state this year and vigorously push forward the huge tasks of the new year.

Noting that the year 2023 is a historic year marking the 75th birthday of the DPRK and the 70th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War and an important year when a decisive guarantee for the fulfilment of the five-year plan should be provided, he indicated the principled issues arising in mapping out a dynamic, progressive, scientific and detailed operation for implementing the major policies of the Party and state in the coming year to be glorified with greater victory and success than this year.

There was an assignment related with the preparations for the plenary meeting.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee adopted a resolution on convening the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in late December with unanimous approval.



Resolution of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee

Juche 111 (2022) November 30

On convening the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea decides to convene the Sixth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK in late December to review the execution of the Party and state policies for 2022 and discuss and decide on work plans for 2023 and a series of important issues arising in the development of the Party and the revolution at present.

Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee

Kim Jong Un meets, congratulates Air Force commanders, pilots



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, invited to the office building of the headquarters of the Party Central Committee 705 pilots of over 20 regiments of five divisions, who participated in the general operation of the air force flying corps with 500 fighters involved for 3 hours and 47 minutes on November 4, on the occasion of the Day of Airmen and warmly congratulated and encouraged them.

The respected General Secretary invited to Pyongyang the commanding officers and pilots of the Air Force who contributed to strikingly demonstrating Juche Korea's transparent spirit against the enemy and its invincible stamina by successfully conducting the large-scale flying operation on the order of the Party Central Committee with the resolute will to counter the enemies'

large-scale combined air drills and the overwhelming fighting spirit on the occasion of the Day of Airmen, and lavished great privilege and favour on them. The commanding officers and pilots were greatly excited to enter the yard of the Party Central Committee with the proud military merits of displaying the indefatigable fighting spirit instilled by the great Party Central Committee and dealing deadly blows at the enemies who made reckless military provocation.

When the General Secretary came out, all the participants paid the greatest respects to the peerlessly illustrious commander who resolutely overpowers the imperialists' tyranny with his gifted military wisdom, outstanding commanding art and iron faith and pluck and opens up the new history of a powerful country in which the absolute prestige of our sacred country and the dignity of its people are defended on the highest level by dint of powerful

strength. Waving back to the enthusiastic cheers, Kim Jong Un sent warm militant salute to the dependable pilots who demonstrated to the world the ideological and mental advantages of our Air Force, its stricter and merciless principle of taking actions against enemies and its remarkable actual war capacity for defeating any formidable enemy at a go, by perfectly and promptly carrying out the Party's combat order in the unprecedented large-scale air operation.

An invincible air legend is created by pilots armed with indomitable spirit, not by any up-to-date fighters, he said, stating that it is the great pride of our Party, country and people to have brave pilots possessed of transparent view on the principal enemies and Juche-based view on war to go through thick and thin and set on fire the entire fortress of aggression on the order of the Party.

He said that the praiseworthy military merits performed by the people's Air

Force that resolutely safeguarded the territorial air of the country will shine long as an eventful victory in the history of the country. He then had a photo taken with them, expressing the conviction that the officers and men of the Air Force would glorify the golden age of the Juche-based Air Force with ardent loyalty, matchless bravery and heroic fighting spirit and reliably guarantee the bolstering of the national defence capabilities, defence of the existence of the country and enhancement of the state prestige in the future, too.

The commanding officers and pilots of the Air Force, who once again enjoyed the warm love and trust of Kim Jong Un, made a solemn pledge to perform greater feats on the road of loyalty of defending the airspace of the country and steadily carry forward the people's Air Force's history of absolute loyalty to the Party and the revolution and the sacred tradition of defending the lineage of Paektu.

Day of Airmen celebrations held Kim Jong Un sends message to combat pilots, officers and men of KPA Air Force

KCNA

The whole country significantly greeted the holiday of the Juche-based Air Force which has performed heroic feats on the air route of devotedly defending the leader and safeguarding the country while glorifying the years of victory and glory with pride along with the long history of the great Workers' Party of Korea in power.

An event took place in Pyongyang on November 28-29 to commemorate the Day of Airmen.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, who has always kept the brave pilots of the DPRK nearest to his heart and bestowed all sorts of love and privilege on them, showed great benevolence for the commanding officers and pilots of the Air Force who creditably carried out the combat order of the Party Central Committee by performing a distinguished military feat in the large-scale air operation unprecedented in history to frustrate the reckless military provocations of the enemy. He made sure that they significantly mark the Day of Airmen in the capital city of Pyongyang.

A meeting was held to convey a congratulatory message from Kim Jong Un and award military ranks and state commendations to commanding officers and combat pilots of the Air Force.

Present there were Pak Jong Chon, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Yong Gil, minister of National Defence, Jong Kyong Thae, director of the General Political Bureau of the Korean People's Army, Ri Thae Sop, chief of the KPA General Staff, commanding officers and pilots of the Air Force.

Courteously conveyed was the congratulatory message from Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the



Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, to the combat pilots, commanding officers and all other officers and men of the people's Air Force on the Day of Airmen.

In the message, Kim Jong Un warmly congratulated all the officers and men of the people's Air Force on the significant Day of Airmen this year when great special events have taken place one after another in increasing the national power of the DPRK and demonstrating its dignity, and paid high tribute to the heroes of the honoured Air Force who devoted their all to the service of loyalty and feats for defending the airspace of the country.

Noting that the year 2022 can be proudly claimed to be a year of our people's Air Force and a year of its victory, he highly appreciated that our pilots, who have cherished the spirit of devoted service for the Party, the revolution and the people as their lifeline and noble duty, resolutely foiled the reckless military attempts of the enemies and fully demonstrated the

capability and will of the Air Force to fight a war by displaying their matchless loyalty, fighting spirit, wisdom and courage. He set forth the militant tasks for the people's Air Force to cultivate in every way the revolutionary traits and mettle as the first death-defying corps of the WPK and perfect its full preparedness for coping with any military crisis immediately and resolutely.

He expressed belief that all the pilots, commanding officers and men of the KPA Air Force would add shine to the history in which they were absolutely faithful to the Party and the revolution, the honour and great heroism of the great victors and the proud tradition of invincibility and achieve greater successes and feats and thus continue to make a tangible contribution to defending the cause of our Party and ushering in a new era of higher glory and prosperity for our great state and people.

All the participants raised enthusiastic cheers with boundless reverence and trust in Kim Jong Un who

ushered in a golden age of development of the Juche-based Air Force with his unique military idea and distinguished commanding art and is greatly encouraging the Air Force of the DPRK to display its might as the matchless and victorious service that only defends the Party and the revolution in the sky.

The order of the Chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission on raising the military ranks of Air Force commanding officers and combat pilots who creditably carried out the flight combat order of the Party Central Committee was conveyed and higher military ranks and general uniforms were awarded.

A decree of the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly on giving commendations to the commanding officers and combat pilots who displayed matchless bravery and indomitable fighting spirit was conveyed. Then the title of DPRK Hero with the Gold Star Medal and the Order of National Flag 1st Class was conferred on Kim Kwang Hyok and

other orders and medals to commanding officers and pilots of the Air Force. The venue was filled with the participants' boundless emotion and joy over the deep trust shown by the great brilliant commander making the feats of the pilots, who fulfilled their duty as the frontline soldiers in charge of defending the territorial air of the country, known to the whole country and putting them on the peak of glory.

Then followed oath-taking speeches. The speakers stressed that the proud victory of the people's Air Force to be brilliantly recorded in the history of heroic Korea's confrontation with imperialism and the US is a great victory brought about by the extraordinary and distinguished leadership of Kim Jong Un, peerlessly illustrious commander who mapped out unprecedented large-scale military operation for counteraction with his outstanding military wisdom, iron courage and pluck and exceptional trust in pilots and commanded them to

victory on the front. They hardened their resolution to prepare themselves more firmly as the phoenix in the sky and the red hawk of the Workers' Party of Korea, regarding the warm love and deep trust shown by Kim Jong Un as their highest honour and lifeline of destiny, and to dash into the stronghold of the enemy at a go like the storm and lightning of Paektu when the moment of decisive battle comes and thus achieve the great victory of the flying corps of Kim Jong Un.

A letter of pledge to Kim Jong Un was adopted at the meeting. There was a joint performance given by the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Ministry of National Defence, the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Navy and the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Air Force to congratulate the participants in the Day of Airmen celebrations.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience as it fully demonstrated the firm faith and will that our pilots living and struggling under the warmest loving care and deepest trust of the great brilliant commander are the happiest in the world and they will always enjoy victory and glory when they fly the air route indicated by the Party Central Committee.

A grand banquet was given for the Air Force commanding officers and combat pilots. The Day of Airmen celebrations served as a significant occasion in further enhancing the invincible fighting efficiency and mettle of the people's Air Force which reliably guarantees the prosperity and development of our dignified state by remaining unfailingly loyal to the idea and leadership of the great Comrade Kim Jong Un and becoming the most brilliant star of national defence and air fortress and shield.

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General Secretary Kim Jong Un has photo session with contributors to successful test-fire of new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17



KCNA

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, had a photo session with contributors to the successful test-fire of new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17.

Present there were Kim Jong Sik and Jang Chang Ha.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un met with the combatants of the Red Flag Company, the officials, scientists and technicians of the defence science research institute and workers of the munitions factory who made a great contribution to the test-fire of Hwasongpho-17 conducted on November 18, and had a photo session of historic significance with them.

The participants were filled with

boundless passion and happiness of receiving undeserved glory and fortune again amid the pleasure and pride over the fact that the rapidly increasing tremendous abilities of the DPRK were strikingly displayed and the strategic and absolute strength of great and dignified Korea was demonstrated to the whole world in the course of the dynamic advance for the Party's far-reaching cause of building a military

power.

When General Secretary Kim Jong Un appeared at the photo session venue together with his beloved daughter, all the participants broke into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!", expressing the highest glory and ardent reverence for him, the outstanding leader of our Party, state and people who personally blazed

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a perfect shortcut to the national defence development of our style with his wisest determination and prominent leadership ability and energetically guided it to reliably defend the brilliant dignity of our Republic with the gigantic event, the completion of the world's strongest strategic weapon.

The General Secretary gave a warm and militant salute of congratulations to the reliable defence soldiers as they proudly launched before the world a gigantic creation made with pure loyalty, extraordinary mental power and outstanding sci-tech force in the struggle for attaining the grand goal true to the Party's line of building up the national defence and thus convinced the world of our daily-growing military supremacy and powerfully demonstrated to the whole world the great might of our nuclear war deterrent.

Saying that he is very grateful to our loyal and patriotic people who have endured all sorts of hardships and rendered absolute support to the cause of the Party whenever its far-reaching great cause of building a powerful army was achieved one by one, he stressed that Hwasongpho-17, an outcome of the people's unconditional support and encouragement, is just a gigantic creation brought by our people with their own efforts, a great entity of strategic strength and the Korean people's Hwasongpho both in name and reality. He extended warm thanks to the people who absolutely sympathized with, upheld, encouraged and supported the revolutionary cause of our Party and believed in and prayed for its endless success as ever. It is the truth taught by history that only when we become the strongest, not the weak, in the present-day world

where the strength in showdown just decides victory, can we defend the present and future of the country and nation, he said, adding that we should consolidate our greatest strength seized firmly with two hands as more absolute and irreversible one, never resting on our laurels, and continue to put spurs to the limitless bolstering of the defence capabilities. He said with confidence that our self-defence capability would be put on the position of the world's strongest as long as our fighting goal and determination are clear and there are a large army of defence scientists and technicians intensely loyal to the Party and the courageous munitions workers and the absolute support of our people. He expressed the expectation and belief that our scientists and technicians in the field of national defence and the workers in the field of munitions industry, who have always been

boundlessly loyal to their cause, would make a do-or-die struggle in the spirit of unconditional implementation, always mindful of their heavy mission in the advance for achieving the cause of building the state nuclear force in the future, too, and thus expand and bolster up the nuclear war deterrent of the country at an exceptionally rapid speed. All the participants, who received the great trust and unimaginable glory of the General Secretary, expressed their deep gratitude to him who repeatedly bestowed on them the privileges envied by the whole country and instilled in them full confidence in the bright future of building the Juche-based national defence. And they hardened their resolve to reliably carry forward our great cause of building the state strategic force for all ages, burning their hearts with a single mind to repay the privileges and trust shown by him at any cost.

Title of DPRK Hero awarded to new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17 launching vehicle

KCNA

The Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea awarded the title of DPRK Hero and Gold Star Medal and Order of National Flag 1st Class to new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17 launching vehicle No. 321, which clearly proved before the world that the DPRK is a full-fledged

nuclear power capable of standing against the nuclear supremacy of the US imperialists and fully demonstrated its might as the most powerful ICBM state. The test-fire of the new-type ICBM Hwasongpho-17 proudly conducted to demonstrate the dignity and sovereignty of our great state is a historic event that solemnly declared the toughest will of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government

to react to the enemy's nuke and full-frontal confrontation in kind and fully demonstrated before the whole world the mettle of socialist Korea with the absolute power to put an end to the imperialist tyranny in the earth, and it is an extra-large event that will remain forever in the nation's history of 5 000 years. The Standing Committee of the SPA of the DPRK issued a relevant decree on November 26.

Chairman of the WPK Central Military Commission issues order for raising military ranks of leading officials and scientists in defence scientific research sector

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea, gave Order No. 0037 on November 26 for raising the military ranks of leading officials and scientists in the defence scientific research sector who powerfully demonstrated to the whole world the great strength of the DPRK's strategic force.

The Central Military Commission of the WPK

highly appreciated on behalf of the WPK and the DPRK government the distinguished contribution of the leading officials and scientists of the sector who flawlessly completed the most powerful Juche-oriented strategic weapon with boundless loyalty and patriotic devotion and on the strength of the unyielding spirit peculiar to them and inexhaustible creativity in full support of the Party's cause of building a strong army and thus more

strikingly displayed the great might of the dignified and strong nuclear power, and issued the order to raise their military ranks.

On the order, a total of more than 100 officers were promoted to higher ranks, including Jang Chang Ha and Kim Jong Sik to generals, Kang Kyong Ho to colonel general, Choe Pyong Wan and Kang Chol Yong to lieutenant generals and Choe Chol Ung and eight others to major generals.

Scientists of missile sector pledge loyalty to General Secretary Kim Jong Un

KCNA

Scientists, technicians, workers and officials in the missile sector of the Academy of Defence Science wrote a letter of pledge of loyalty to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un on November 21.

In the letter, they extended the warmest congratulations and deep gratitude to Kim Jong Un who brought a great historic victory in the final test-fire for the development of new-type

ICBM Hwasongpho-17 to strikingly demonstrate the mightiness of the country all over the world once again.

Five years ago, Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea, led the development of Hwasongpho-15 type weapon system to a great victory and let the armed forces of the DPRK be equipped with the intercontinental ballistic missiles, thus achieving the great historic cause of completing the national

nuclear arms programme, the letter said, adding that he immediately after that he clarified the seed of the Hwasongpho-17 type and the direction of developing it and gave them detailed instruction on a range of issues including the outer shape of missile, selection of motor, self-propelling of launching vehicle, preparation of underground launching pad and coating of missile.

Always busy as he was with all affairs of the WPK

and the state, he gave careful guidance over the preparations for the final test-fire of Hwasongpho-17 every day and, on the launching day, came to the field together with his most beloved daughter, which meant the greatest privilege and confidence in victory given to them, and, as a result, they could achieve a perfect success in the final test-fire of Hwasongpho-17, the world's most powerful missile.

Hwasongpho-17 is a giant

epitome of the untiring journey to the forefront made by him and a massive outcome produced by his absolute trust in the soldiers and therefore it is Hwasongpho of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, his absolute weaponry both in name and reality, it stressed.

In the letter they vowed to succeed in developing in succession new ultra-modern military hardware as clarified by the Party in the same spirit with which they put the entire globe in their

range, thereby defending the absolute prestige of the General Secretary and the Party in every way and perfectly realizing the strategic plan of the Party Central Committee.

They stressed that they would make sure the strategic and tactical missiles associated with his total devotion display their full power so as to further consolidate the arsenal of the Paektusan revolutionary industry in quality and quantity.

Brightly illuminating the road ahead of Juche Korea

By Han Kwi Hun PT

The past decade is the period when the DPRK made a victorious advance along the road indicated by the revolutionary ideas of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea. Those were the days when the country witnessed the recurrence of myriads of difficulties, which the Korean revolution had experienced in its long course, and indescribably enormous and unexpected challenges arose on top of them.

In the face of such unprecedented ordeals, the Workers' Party of Korea could demonstrate its dignity and might as a socialist ruling

party with the longest history in the world and the DPRK was able to achieve the greatest success in boosting its strength. It is completely attributable to General Secretary Kim Jong Un's revolutionary ideas which are consistent with independence and which illuminate the way ahead.

He set forth the line of simultaneously promoting economic construction and the upbuilding of the nuclear forces, the line of concentrating all efforts on socialist economic construction and the idea of increasing in every way the country's own strength, internal motive power, which reflect his noble aspirations to put his country and people forward before the world as

honourable ones. The DPRK accomplished the great historic cause of national nuclear arms programme in a short span of time by following the road indicated by his revolutionary ideas and enhanced the national prestige to the highest level by firmly adhering to the stand of independence in state building and activities.

He defined the people-first principle as the essence of the great Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism, the guiding ideology of the Korean revolution, and formulated the profound idea that the kernel of the Juche-oriented view on the people, philosophy on the people, is to make selfless, devoted efforts for the good of the

people. The anti-epidemic policy and guidelines, the measures to hold fast to the scientific farming-first principle and boldly change the structure of crop distribution and the policy of supplying children throughout the country with dairy products and other nutritious foods at state expense, which the Workers' Party of Korea and the state adopted and pursued in order to safeguard the welfare of the people, are all crystallization of the love for the people of the General Secretary who spares nothing for their well-being.

Important Party meetings put the issue of defending the life and safety of the people on their agendas and take one measure after another

to improve the people's livelihood. The ideas of modelling rural communities on the Juche idea and making them well-off, positively conducting land administration to turn provinces, cities and counties into the people's paradise, forming every street and building every factory as world-class structures that can be boasted of and putting spurs to the building of a sci-tech power and talent power represent the noble will of the General Secretary who intends to build up great national strength so as to hand it down to posterity while visualizing the distant future of the country.

According to his intention, Ryomyong, Mirae Scientists and Songhwa

streets, Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District, the seat and rural villages of the City of Samjiyon, Jungphyong and Ryonpho greenhouse farms, Sci-Tech Complex and the like were completed as monumental structures epitomizing modern civilization, precious achievements were made in the strengthening of the rural in the first year in the efforts to carry out the WPK's programme on the rural revolution and the universal 12-year compulsory education continues to be enforced even in the face of difficulties.

As the General Secretary's revolutionary ideas are translated into reality one after another, the DPRK advances toward a brighter future with confidence.

Premier Kim inspects various economic sectors



Premier Kim Tok Hun inspects the Sungni General Motor Enterprise.

KCNA

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is also member of the

Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-

president of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, made an inspection tour of different sectors of the

Meeting commemorates 70th anniversary of State Academy of Sciences

KCNA

A meeting took place on November 30 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the State Academy of Sciences.

It was attended by Pak Thae Song, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Jon Sung Guk, vice-premier of the Cabinet, and officials, scientists, technicians and employees of the State Academy of Sciences.

Pak Thae Song delivered a congratulatory letter sent by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the scientists, technicians and employees of the academy.

The letter said that the academy has played a pioneer role in strengthening the state's own force and bringing about new innovations and leaps forward in all sectors by dint of self-reliance, true to the intention of the Party Central Committee which put forward science and technology as the lamp which lights up the course ahead of socialist construction and an engine which leads the times.

Officials, researchers and other working people of the academy contributed to boosting the strength and strategic position of the state and ensuring the lasting

prosperity of the country by dedicating their collective wisdom and talents in fulfilling research tasks for building up self-reliant defence capacity in the indomitable revolutionary spirit, the letter said.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of scientists and technicians who fearlessly overcame harsh trials and difficulties to realize the plans and intentions of the Party Central Committee while following the road of painstaking quest, a significant advance has been made in expanding the production capacities of key industrial sectors including metal, chemical and power industries, the pillars of the self-supporting economy, and pushing their modernization, it noted.

The letter pointed out that competent talent forces of the academy have steadily conducted research into basic science with great national pride and scientific grit to achieve distinguished research successes drawing the attention of the world scientific circles and developed and applied lots of cutting-edge facilities and technical secrets, thereby contributing to making the national economy Juche-oriented, modern and informatized.

It extended warm congratulations on the

occasion of the 70th anniversary to the scientists, technicians and employees of the academy who have contributed to firmly defending the Party's policies and adding brilliance to the dignity and prestige of the state.

Kim Sung Jin, president of the State Academy of Sciences, made a commemorative report, followed by speeches.

Speakers referred to the gratitude and excitement they felt as they received the congratulatory letter from the Party Central Committee on the significant anniversary, and expressed their resolution to solve scientific and technological problems for enhancing the independence of the economy and contributing to improving the people's livelihood by displaying the spirit of loyal passion, pure patriotism and stubborn struggle.

They pledged to contribute greatly to thoroughly implementing the decisions of the Eighth Party Congress and turning the country into a developed and civilized power of Juche by bringing about a great turn in the scientific research, remaining faithful to the ideas and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The meeting adopted a resolution.

national economy.

At the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex, a leading power generation base of the country, Kim gave pep talks to the workers of the complex who have achieved innovative successes in increasing power generation with a determination to victoriously conclude this year, a year of key importance in implementing the five-year plan.

Officials should keep in mind that the implementation of the national economic plan is an expression of loyalty to the Party and the people and devoted service for them, organize and command the production more carefully and give top priority to science and technology to attain the power production target specified in the decision of the Fifth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Party Central Committee without

fail, he said.

As he inspected the Sungni General Motor Enterprise, he noted that it should positively introduce latest sci-tech achievements to manufacture more high-performance lorries by holding fast to quality improvement of products as its lifeline and step up the renovation and modernization project dynamically to further consolidate the foundations for the development of the country's motor industry.

Making the rounds of several coal mines in the Sunchon and Tokchon areas, he stressed the need for them to further increase the coal output to properly supply coal urgently needed in every sector of the national economy and for the relevant units to offer positive assistance to coal mines with

consciousness that they are also responsible for the coal production.

Field consultative meetings discussed the matters of encouraging officials, standard-bearers in implementing Party policies, to give full play to the spirit of unconditionally carrying out the Party and state policy tasks, responsibly managing quality control and giving precedence to the supply of raw and other materials.

Earlier, the Premier visited the Songgum Livestock Farm in Pyongyang and pointed to the need to raise good breeds of domestic animals, take proper measures to supply feed for them and rear them scientifically.

He also learned about the reconstruction of the arboretum of the Central Botanical Garden and took appropriate steps.

HOME NEWS

Many trees take root in Arboretum of Kumsusan Palace of the Sun

This year, tens of thousands of trees, which are associated with people's sincerity, have taken root in the Arboretum of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun.

The palace is the sacred place of the sun where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance.

State institutions, social organizations and other units from across the country planted good species of trees and flowering shrubs with great care, including pine and pine-nut trees, and donated flower seeds and roots.

Party members and other working people, youth and students throughout the country planted and tended with great care good species of trees and rare flowering trees at the arboretum with the noble mind to cultivate them more beautifully while donating management tools.

Youths in South Hamgyong volunteer for major fronts of national economy

Scores of young people in South Hamgyong Province volunteered to work at major fronts of the national economy. They decided to work at fruit and other farms with a determination to become standard-bearers and shock forces in implementing the Workers' Party of Korea's programme for rural revolution.

Dozens of them volunteered to work in the sectors of fishery, stockbreeding, forest management, construction and road administration.

A meeting to congratulate the volunteers took place at the Hamhung Grand Theatre on November 30.

At the meeting attended by Ri Jong Nam, chief secretary of the South Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the WPK, youth league officials, young people and students, certificates of volunteering were awarded to the volunteers followed by congratulatory and other speeches.

Residents of Sinhae-dong move into new houses in Rason

A happy event of moving into new houses happened in



Sinhae-dong, Rajin District, Rason City.

A ceremony for moving into new houses took place on the spot on November 27.

The meeting was attended by Sin Yong Chol, chief secretary of the Rason City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials concerned, builders and residents who would move into new houses.

After the congratulatory speech of Sin Chang Il, chairman of the Rason City

People's Committee, was delivered, house licenses were given to the residents amid the warm applause of participants. Then, the residents moved into new houses.

Sports contest of artistes held

The 52nd sports contest of artistes took place at the



Basketball Gymnasium on Chongchun Street in Pyongyang on November 29.

At the sports contest held divided into fields of cinematic and theatrical arts various sports were played such as basketball, volleyball, table tennis, tug of war and ssirum (Korean wrestling) and amusement games as well.

The contest was watched by Jo Kyong Jun, deputy department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Sung Jong Gyu, minister of Culture, Jong Yong Nam, director-general of the National Administration of Motion Picture Industry, officials, creators, artistes, lecturers, researchers and students of the field of art and culture and officials concerned.

The field of theatrical art led the cinematic art field in total standings.

Greatest national power fully demonstrated

Golden age for strengthening whole Party

By Hwang Jong Ryol PT

The Workers' Party of Korea has greeted a new golden age of strengthening the whole Party.

With deep insight into the requirements of a new era when the strengthening of the Party arises as a crucial task, Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, energetically led the efforts to enhance the leadership ability and fighting efficiency of the Party.

Putting forward the strengthening of Party cells and primary Party committees as the main link in a chain of strengthening the whole Party, he convened the Sixth Conference of Cell Secretaries of the WPK last year and the Second Conference of Secretaries of Primary Committees of the WPK this year to make them mark a turning point in strengthening basic Party organizations.

He arranged for the first time in the Party's history the Special Workshop for Officials in the Party Life Guidance Sections of Organizational Departments of Party Committees at All Levels and the First

Workshop of Officials in the Information Field of the WPK to lead the guidance units and departments to innovate the Party work with a correct understanding of their duties, principles of activities and the direction of the struggle.

Particularly in October this year, he gave a historic commemorative lecture during his visit to the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK and indicated the path of Party building in the new era. It serves as a historic event in providing an eternal foundation for carrying out the cause of the Juche revolution to the last by preserving the characters and features of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party forever and constantly enhancing the leadership ability of the Party.

Kim Jong Un defined political, organizational, ideological, disciplinary and style of work buildups as the orientation of Party building in the new era in his commemorative lecture entitled *On the Orientation of the Building of Our Party in the New Era and the Tasks of the Central Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea*.

As matters of principle arising in the revolutionary

party building and activities in the new era were comprehensively clarified, the WPK has been able to be built up as the party of the leader, organizationally integrated body, ideologically pure entity and integral whole in action which has firmly established monolithic ideology and leadership.

The General Secretary visited the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK, the "pedigree" establishment for training Party cadres, on October 17, the 96th anniversary of the formation of the Down-with-Imperialism Union (DIU), which serves as the historical root of the WPK, to specify the theoretical and practical problems arising in training Party cadres and the mission and orientation of development of the school in the new era. This is of great significance in further strengthening and developing the Party into a promising organization with a far-reaching plan.

As it is led by the outstanding leader, the WPK which has been in power for nearly 80 years is opening up a new golden age for strengthening the whole Party with great vitality.

DPRK's single-hearted unity gets firmer in hardships

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

The more the situation gets difficult, the firmer the DPRK's unity becomes.

The single-hearted unity of the country is the source of its tremendous strength and the motive power of all victories and miracles.

In this year's onward march accompanied by the worst hardship, the Korean people developed deeper trust in their leader and powerfully demonstrated their patriotic spirit, collectivism, communist virtues and the might of great army-people unity.

In the war against the malignant epidemic that struck the country last May to cause the greatest turmoil since the founding of the DPRK, they gave the fullest play to the might of its single-hearted unity getting firmer in extreme difficulties.

The Workers' Party of Korea convened important meetings in succession and its Central Military Commission issued a special order in order to safeguard the welfare of the people. As a result, officers and combatants of the army medical sector launched into a campaign

to defend the people and large numbers of civilian medical workers made devoted efforts.

During the highest anti-epidemic emergency period, combatants of the medical sector of the Korean People's Army, who immediately launched into the work of supplying medicines in the capital city, displayed infinite devotion, virtues and other fine traits, regarding the people as their parents, brothers and sisters, more than 71 200 public health workers and over 1 148 000 hygiene activists took part in the screening, testing and treatment of residents across the country every day and thousands of former public health workers voluntarily joined the anti-epidemic campaign.

They knew well that they might be infected with the malignant virus, but devoted self-sacrificing efforts for the people's health.

And lots of officials and working people donated medical supplies, anti-epidemic materials, foods, money and the like to anti-epidemic, curative and preventive institutions, families of war veterans and honoured disabled soldiers and needy families, and such beautiful virtues showcased the harmony and bonds of human feelings in DPRK society, the true value of which can never be measured in terms of money or wealth.

This year also witnessed many young people volunteering for difficult and labour-consuming sectors in order to relieve the burdens on the country even a bit as they thought of it before themselves.

They went to work in island and mountain villages, coal and ore mines, farms and other demanding sectors of socialist construction.

And graduates of hundreds of classes of senior middle schools and middle schools for orphans across the country offered to join the Korean

People's Army, regarding national defence as the highest expression of patriotism.

Everyone was deeply impressed by the young people who were determined to dedicate their youth to the country in difficulties by laying aside all their hopes and ambitions.

The might of army-people unity was also fully demonstrated this year.

The workload for the construction of the Ryonpho Greenhouse Farm, a large-scale vegetable producer with a capacity of tens of thousands of tons, was more than twice that for the Jungphuyong Greenhouse Farm construction and the term of the project was only half the time that took to complete the Jungphuyong project.

But with this in mind that they have no right to fall before fulfilling the Party's long-cherished desire and that the people's happiness gets greater as much as they toil and moil, the soldier-builders waged a fierce campaign in the boiling heat, sand storm and torrential rain to finish the world's largest greenhouse farm in a little over 230 days.

During the construction project, the people of South Hamgyong Province ensured a satisfactory supply of gravels and sand for the project and planted each tree for windbreaks and laid each turf in all sincerity while sharing weal and woe with the soldiers, thereby demonstrating the might of army-people unity to the full.

The might of army-people unity was also fully exhibited at the construction sites of apartment houses for ten thousand families in Pyongyang, the large-scale Orangchon Power Station, the dwelling houses in the Komdok area and many other projects.

These miracles convincingly demonstrated to the world what the single-hearted unity of the DPRK where all the people are united rock-solid around their leader is like.

YOUNG PEOPLE ADD LUSTRE TO THEIR YOUTH WITH PATRIOTISM

"Patriotic youth" is a synonym for the Korean youth.

Even at this very moment, they are creating miracles while unsparingly offering their sweat and passion in different parts of the country in order to bring about a new turn for prosperity.

It is the faith of the Korean young people to advance straight forward following the leadership of the WPK as they unsparingly dedicate their invaluable prime of life to the country.



Young people volunteer to work in difficult and labour-consuming sectors of the national economy.



RODONG SINMUN

First to respond to the call of country

By Ri Sung Ik PT

This year, too, witnessed countless laudable traits of the youth in the DPRK who translate their ideal and hope into reality in difficult and labour-consuming sectors.

According to data available, over 4 600 young people across the country volunteered to work in major fields of socialist construction and at mountain village schools after the Fourth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Over 620 young people in South Hwanghae Province, the biggest agricultural province of the country, volunteered to work on farms with a pledge to implement the programme for socialist rural construction of the WPK, copying the spirit of hero farmers and patriotic farmers.

The zeal for volunteering is rising among youth in different parts of the country, including North and South Phyongan, North Hwanghae and North Hamgyong provinces.

Among them are those who volunteered as workers at the Kim Chaek and Hwanghae iron and steel complexes, in deep coal faces or at forestry stations.

Innumerable are those who volunteered to work in the railway transport sector, the pilot of the national economy and arteries of the country, or at branch schools on islands and schools of remote mountain villages with the determination to dedicate their youth to training future pillars of the country.

It especially impressed all people that young people in the capital city of Pyongyang changed their certificates of Pyongyang citizenship for those of volunteering to go to work

on farms, at coal mines and in fishery and forestry sectors.

The volunteers include youth league officials as well.

Han Chun Gwang, who had worked as an instructor of the youth league committee of the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex, volunteered to join the Kil Yong Jo Youth Shock Brigade of the Chongnam Coal Mine and Choc Chol, who had worked as a Children's Union instructor of Jukkon Senior Middle School in Kosan County, offered to join the Kangwon Provincial Youth Shock Brigade.

The deeds of the volunteers who left their dear hometowns and parents and brothers and sisters to go to work in difficult and demanding sectors are the expression of their noble view on life with which they feel pride of youthful life in working for the prosperity of the country.

Korean youth display admirable traits, virtues

By Ryom Un Gyong PT

As a flower's true beauty is reflected in its fragrance, the genuine beauty of a society is demonstrated by the people's noble and pure spiritual and moral qualities which are manifested in excellent virtues and traits.

Admirable traits and virtuous deeds of helping and leading one another forward are commonplace in the DPRK, many of which are displayed and performed by the youth.

Numerous young people are dedicating themselves to socialist construction and exerting themselves for the society, collective and comrades.

According to Kim Ju Hyok, chairman of the Pyongyang municipal committee of the Socialist Patriotic Youth League, many young people volunteered to work at difficult and labour-

consuming worksites for the prosperity of the socialist country and many others sent the volunteers daily necessities and other goods to encourage them to do their jobs well.

During the top emergency anti-epidemic period when COVID-19 made inroads into the country, many young people shared household medicines and daily necessities with neighbours as well as war veterans and honoured disabled soldiers.

Ri Hyok Chol, chairman of the youth league committee of Ryokpho District, Pyongyang, helped with fraternal affections a family who had been affected by flood damage, and Pae Kwang Hyok, worker of the central heat supply network station, married a special-class disabled soldier, touching the hearts of all.

In all parts of the country, young people are taking

care of war veterans with filial affections, offering their blood and skin for their injured comrades and becoming parents of orphaned children.

In the DPRK where the collectivist slogan "One for all and all for one!" is embodied in everyday life, it is one of the social traits to care for and help each other and everyone finds their happiness and worth of life in working for the society and collective rather than for themselves.

Under the influence of such an excellent social climate which was created by preceding generations and carried on through generations, the young people are contributing greatly to the victorious advance of socialism as they create a beautiful life by dint of virtues and affections and overcome trials and ordeals with the might of unity of the collective.



A mass demonstration displays the spirit of the single-minded unity of the country.

A variety of events held by different sectors

By Chae Hyang Ok PT

Different sectors held various events to share and further develop their sci-tech achievements.

National exhibition of sci-tech achievements in robot sector

A national exhibition of sci-tech achievements of the robot sector-2022 was sponsored by the State Commission of Science and Technology amid the deep interest of many.

Hundreds of successes achieved in the course of making production processes automated, unmanned and multifunctional and positively developing high-tech products with world competitive edge were exhibited at the event held by way of virtual exhibition.

Different kinds of robots, control devices, sensors, control programs and high-tech products were put on show in various forms such as three- and two-dimensional objects and models, multimedia presentations and charts, divided into robot and high-tech products categories. They were already introduced into several sectors to make a substantial contribution to economic development and the improvement of the people's living standards.

National exhibition of sci-tech achievements in forestry sector

A national exhibition and presentation of sci-tech achievements of the forestry sector took place under the sponsorship of the Forestry Association of Korea under the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

In the recent event held on the theme of "Putting forest planting and management on scientific basis", well over a hundred study papers explaining the successes, experience and methodological issues in putting the planting, protection and management of forests on a scientific footing went through deliberation.

Over 40 proposals were highly appreciated, including those concerning anti-root mummy agents using *Hibiscus esculentus* and *Abetimoscususp*, a system of supporting decision making in creating gold mountains and a method of producing timber connectors with tree branches.

Space science and technology symposium

A space science and technology symposium-2022 took place at the Grand People's Study House in Pyongyang under the sponsorship of the Central Committee of the

General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

The event held on the theme of "Space development and enhancement of national prestige" was aimed at hastening space development more energetically by exchanging, sharing and widely generalizing successes achieved in the course of waging a campaign to break through the cutting edge for developing space science and technology.

Divided into panels of artificial earth satellite, satellite observation and communications, space materials and elements, space environment and basic science, and applied technology, the meeting deliberated on and assessed over 180 papers presented by relevant units.

The highly appreciated papers were those that scientifically and theoretically delineated urgent matters arising in the development and operation of artificial earth satellites, including a technology for manufacturing and testing satellite devices, technology for satellite navigation and trajectory and attitude control, technology for developing satellite cameras, satellite communication and observation technology and cosmic environment and basic science and technology.

Other research findings that drew the interest of experts were

those that are able to substantially contribute to developing different economic sectors, including agricultural production, forest conservancy and marine survey, by means of a technology of satellite space information interpretation.

National sci-tech presentation in library sector

A national sci-tech presentation and seminar of the library sector was sponsored by the Korean library association of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea at the Grand People's Study House in Pyongyang. A lecture on the development trend of libraries was given and in-depth discussions were held on the plan for setting up an integrated library system.

The presentation, which was held on the theme of "Library service combining bibliographic and electronic data", brought together over 130 valuable study papers which would contribute to making all the people well versed in science and technology.

A method of assessing service functions of university library website, a method of browsing the national network using the certification service system, a study of the system of analyzing bibliotheca and others attracted

the interest of participants and jury members.

Autumn aesthetic symposium of urban management sector

The 2022 autumn aesthetic symposium of the urban management sector was held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on the theme of "Landscaping is a high level of formative art".

The event analyzed and reviewed the successes, experiences and mistakes gained and made in the work to create spectacular landscapes.

Speakers expounded and demonstrated theoretical and practical issues arising in creating landscapes in the country and referred to the need to bring about fresh innovations in relevant education and practice.

Symposium of economics sector

A symposium of the economics sector took place under the sponsorship of the economics society of the DPRK.

It brought together study papers dealing with the ways to rationally use economic leverage and participants showed special interest in proposals concerning the essence and characters of the e-financial service system and theoretical and practical issues arising in applying it.

Reliable armed forces for ensuring national security, peace

By Choe Yong Nam PT

December 2 was the 66th Day of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba.

Under the leadership of Fidel Castro Ruz, Cuban revolutionaries kindled the beacon fire of an armed struggle by assaulting the Moncada military barracks in July 1953.

The assault failed due to the manoeuvres of the Batista clique, but the will of the Cuban revolutionaries remained unchanged.

After finishing preparations for guerrilla warfare on an alien land, they landed on their country on board the Granma on December 2 1956 and waged an arduous struggle to overthrow the pro-US dictatorial regime and win victory in the revolution.

Afterwards, Cuba has celebrated the day as the Day of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba, the Cuban people set up a socialist system for the first time in the Western Hemisphere and have made brilliant achievements in all domains of social life including politics, the economy and culture.

The Cuban revolutionary armed forces have fulfilled their mission and duty to reliably protect the gains of the revolution from the imperialists' vicious policy hostile to the country.

Today, Cuba is directing a great deal of energies to building up its military capability to safeguard national sovereignty and socialism in the face of the

persistent anti-Cuban moves of the hostile forces to stifle it. It focuses on intensifying the military training of service personnel, completing military tactics and upgrading military equipment.

And it endeavours to turn the whole country into an impregnable fortress and steadily increase its defence capacity. The armed forces are in constant combat-readiness to defend the country and socialism from the invasion of enemies at any moment.

Even at present, the Cuban army serves as the military foundation of socialism and a reliable guarantee for ensuring the country's security and peace.

The relations of DPRK-Cuba friendship were forged and have been consolidated in the course of waging a joint

struggle for decades to oppose the imperialists' aggression and war policy, defend peace and achieve victory of the socialist cause.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un met and had talks with Miguel Mario Diaz-Canel Bermudez, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, who paid an official goodwill visit to the DPRK in November 2018.

It was an event to be etched in the history of friendly relations between the two countries and a historic occasion for further expanding and developing the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation with the Cuban people that have been consolidated through generations as required by the new times.

Many things done for persons with disabilities this year



Yun Chang Il
Chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled

This year the Central Committee of the Korean Federation for the Protection of the Disabled planned and did many things for persons with disabilities despite the worldwide turmoil caused by the rapid spread of COVID-19.

It achieved success in the education of the disabled.

In close cooperation with relevant units, it drew up the educational programme for schools of the disabled according to the programme for the universal 12-year compulsory education by reflecting their characteristics classified by disabilities and their requests and worked hard to enforce integrated education.

It enhanced the practical abilities of teachers to suit the

characteristics of the education and achieved success in improving the quality of practical education and the educational environment.

The Korean economic and cultural exchange company for persons with hearing, speaking and seeing disabilities strived to realize the nationwide standardization of sign language while inspecting several schools of persons with hearing impairment.

It showed much concern for the cultural life of the disabled, thus making it possible for them to conduct artistic and sports activities despite difficult conditions.

The Korean Art Association of the Disabled successively gave an artistic performance of the disabled by making efforts to produce new works while

finding out reserve members of its artistic groups and giving them early art education in an efficient way.

The Korean Sports Association of the Disabled trained reserve athletes for new sports events by ensuring coaching for disabled athletes in training and actively and regularly conducted the work to improve their techniques.

The Central Committee of the KFPD directed efforts to laying the sci-tech basis for the protection of the disabled.

It developed and presented the website "Miso 1.0" for the disabled at the national IT exhibition 2022 and the Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities presented the disability diagnosis and rehabilitation support program "Sonkil

1.0" (for growth of children and diagnosis of autism) at the 35th National Festival of Science and Technology.

The Korean economic and cultural exchange company for persons with hearing, speaking and seeing disabilities newly developed Korean braille letters for such persons and completed over 1 600 Korean sign-language words and over 5 700 conversation sentences based on 3D virtual persons and introduced them in a sign language translator, thus completing the first edition of an educational support program for the persons with hearing disability.

The Korea Rehabilitation Centre for Children with Disabilities treated many children with disabilities, assessed the disabilities of hundreds of children and offered services for restoring the hearing ability of deaf children in the year.

The greater efforts we make, the better the state's policy for the disabled will benefit them.

Juche-orientation projects progress apace

By Kim Il Jin PT

The metallurgical industry sector is speeding up Juche-orientation projects for this year.

The Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, a large-scale metallurgical industry base in the northern part of the country, is simultaneously pushing the construction of energy-saving oxygen blast furnace and the work to raise oxygen production

capacity.

The manufacture and assembly of parts have been pushed at a fast pace, with the result that the oxygen blast furnace has revealed its imposing appearance. The construction of a dozen structures, including gas boosting ground, limestone pulverizing ground and circulation water pumping station, is being pushed at the final stage.

The complex

encourages every unit to positively conduct the mass technical innovation drive by focusing on promptly introducing construction methods and technical innovation plans which are important in stepping up projects.

The repair and pipe-making sectors are pushing the construction of oxygen blast furnace while ensuring the timely manufacture of steel structure and parts and equipment assembly.

Several other workshops are pressing on with the installation of large-sized oxygen plant.

This project involving the construction of air compressor house and cooling tower takes an important share in expanding the production capacity of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex.

The Chollima Steel Complex pushes ahead with a project for setting

up a continuous casting machine.

The technical group, who carry on the project in a three-dimensional way, are stepping up the manufacture of equipment and technical upgrading at a fast rate as they positively introduce bold and innovative technical innovation plans.

The Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex also dynamically carries on a Juche-orientation project.



The manufacture of ordered equipment is speeded up at the Ryongsong Machine Complex.

JU TAE HYOK / RODONG SINMUN

BYWORD

Communist virtues are widely practised in the DPRK.

The commonplace practice of communist virtues in the DPRK is in common parlance to share joy and sorrow with one another. They are given fuller play

in times of trouble.

During the past highest anti-epidemic emergency period, too, large numbers of people unsparingly donated medicines, foods and other necessities they had kept for themselves and their families to their neighbours,

their colleagues and even strangers in need as they devoted themselves to the anti-epidemic work. They unanimously say that they did so, as they were deeply impressed by the policies of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government making

every effort to firmly defend the people's life and safety and take good care of them and therefore they wanted to keep pace with such effort as much as possible.

At present, communist virtues constitute a national trait in the DPRK.

Communist virtues

OPINION

Japanese imperialists plunder bells from Korea

By Song Jong Ho PT

Korean ancestors made graceful and excellent bells a lot by steadily developing metal casting technology.

A typical example is the bell at the Pongdok Temple. The bell has no match in terms of artistic gracefulness as its overall shape is refined and decorations carved on its surface are admirable. And it can be said to be the epitome of the Korean nation's wisdom and talent because of its beautiful sound.

Japan, which had put overseas invasion forward as its major policy, frequently raided Korea from the period of Koryo (918-1392) to plunder many bells from it.

Over a dozen of them have inscriptions carved on their surfaces after being taken away. More than half of the engravings were reportedly those carved between 1367 and 1381. This shows that Japan's plunder of Korean bells was rampant in the closing years of Koryo.

Its gangster-like plunder of Korean bells grew more rampant during the Imjin Patriotic War (1592-1598).

After a large-scale invasion of Korea, the Japanese plundered bells from Buddhist temples at random to hang them in temples of their country while being hell-bent on man-killing and arson at every place they occupied.

In the end there remained only a small number of bells associated with wisdom and talent of the Korean nation.

The Japanese themselves did not conceal the fact that their country had more Korean bells than Korea has.

Sekino Tadashi, a government-patronized historian of Japan, said that as quite many temple bells from the period of Koryo had long been passed on to Japan, they could make a sufficient study of the styles of copper bells from those days, thus revealing that his country had taken away a large number of Korean bells belonging to different eras.

Fujita Ryosaku, who was a part-timer of the historical spot investigation department of the government-general in Korea during the Japanese imperialists' military occupation of it, also described in his article titled "Koryo Culture" that "all those that became national treasures in Japan are temple bells from the period of Koryo and there remain a small number of them in Korea".

The Japanese ruling circles allege that not a few of Korean bells are their own, designating them as "national treasures" of Japan.

All the facts prove how much the Japanese imperialists attempted to stamp out the cultural tradition of the Korean nation and at the same time disclose Japan's deep-rooted history of aggression and plunder against Korea.

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Sports Games of the Disabled and Amateurs 2022

Competition full of enthusiasm and optimism



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A scene from the tennis competition held as part of the Sports Games of the Disabled and Amateurs 2022.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

A tennis competition took place as part of the Sports Games of the Disabled and Amateurs 2022 between November 22 and 25, attracting deep interest of many people.

In it the contestants played doubles, divided into three groups by ages.

They demonstrated the powerful techniques they had mastered in normal times in the round-robin and knockout stages.

Finally, the best two teams of each group entered the final stage.

The first group final match, in which the ages of the two players (each team) total over 106, was the focus of attention of the audience from the beginning.

Ri Tong Rim and Pak Won Chol took the offensive with diagonal stroke while playing a long rally to the utmost to beat Hong Kwang Uk and Ha Chol Jin.

The final of the second group, in which the sum of ages of the players of each team was 85 to 105, showed high skills and noble sportsmanship of the amateurs.

In the match Kim Song Chol and Ri Nam Jin held the initiative,

employing various offensive tactics like those of pounding on high balls and scoring by forward with a perfect combination of forward and back players according to the changed situation of the match and demonstrating their strong physical and high technical abilities.

Their opponents Ryu Song Jin and Kim Chang Hyok applied such a tactic as scoring points with powerful and spin serves and others, but in vain.

“Though it was an amateurs’ game, the players displayed their physical and technical abilities at a very high level. Especially,

their application of various tactics and rapid change of them took me by surprise. They were also very active and enthusiastic,” said Han Yong Chol, coach of the sports club of the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Textile Mill.

As the third group final which was played at the same time with that of the second group was a mixed doubles, it aroused unusual expectations of the audience.

In this match woman player Pak Song Ok left a deep impression on the spectators.

With powerful serve and high scoring rate by returns, Pak went on the offensive from the beginning to score many points in the first and second rounds.

But her opponent woman player, Jon Myong Hae, was a good match for her. She was powerful in volley and very good at light stroke.

Jon effectively employed her special techniques to score points one after another in the third and fourth rounds. And in the last round she kept step with man player Ri Kwang Hyok to finish the match victoriously.

After the match, Pak Song Ok said that though they lost, they did not feel sorry for themselves as they fully showed their abilities. “The opponents’ technical level was very high and I am content with playing against such players. It was very impressive and I want to take part in such competitions more often in the future.”

The competition was also held at the gymnasium of Kim Il Sung University like the table-tennis contest which was held earlier.

Sequoia gigantean in Ongjin

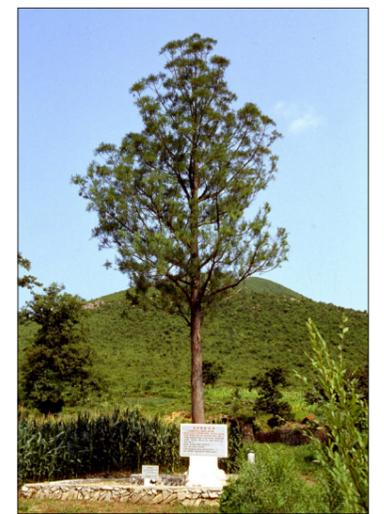
By To Kyong Chol PT

One *Sequoia gigantean* which was planted for the first time in the DPRK in 1959 is now growing in Ongjin County, South Hwanghae Province.

The tree grows in an area 1 500-2 500 metres above the sea and its lifespan is 2 500-4 000 years.

The tree is 29.7 metres tall, 1.2 metres at the height of 1-1.5 metres and 1.79 metres at the root neck and its crown is 4.2 metres wide.

A rare tree species which is distributed at extremely limited areas in the world, it is under good protection as a living monument since it is of great importance in the trial research to adapt it to the climatic condition of the country.



Historical relic—Anguk Temple



The Anguk Temple is one of the oldest temples remaining in Korea.

By Ri Sang Il PT

The Anguk Temple in Ponghak-dong, Phyongsong City, South Phyongan Province, is one of the historical relics showing the long history and brilliant culture of the Korean nation.

It was completed after over 20 years of construction in the period of Koguryo (277 BC-AD 668), and it is one of the oldest temples remaining in Korea.

According to a record, it was a very large temple consisting of dozens of buildings originally.

Now there remain the

Tacung Hall, the main building of the temple, the Thaephyong Pavilion, the Juphil Pavilion, a dormitory for Buddhist monks, a nine-storey pagoda and a monument.

The Tacung Hall is a two-storey building and part of the valuable cultural heritage which is excellent in architecture and significant in terms of science and architectural structure.

The Thaephyong Pavilion standing opposite the Tacung Hall with a yard between them is a one-storey building with a gable roof and double eaves. It is 19.25m long at the façade and 6.8m wide at

the side.

There stands a nine-storey pagoda in front of the pavilion.

The pagoda, which seems to have been built later than the middle period of Koryo(918-1392), testifies to the fact that the temple was managed during the Koryo dynasty and serves as a valuable legacy in the study of stone pagoda-construction techniques and sculptural art in those days.

The Anguksa ginkgo tree, a natural monument, grows near the pagoda.

The tree is one of the oldest trees in Korea.

It adds to the scenic beauty of the temple.

