

Highest institute for training Party cadres in new era ensuring steady continuity and development of revolutionary cause of Juche Inauguration ceremony of newly-built Central Cadres Training School of WPK held with splendour Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un makes speech and cuts inauguration tape

KCNA

Directly initiated and wisely guided by the Central Committee of the great Workers' Party of Korea, the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK, the highest institute for training Party cadres, was built in the historic Kumsusan area as a symbol of the absolute prestige of our Party and the invincibility of our cause, and greeted the day of its inauguration.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un unfolded a far-reaching plan to renovate the "pedigree farm" for

training the backbone of the Party, related with its future for the next 100 years, as required by the developing times, and personally designated the site for its construction. And he provided energetic guidance to make sure that its design comprehensively reflected its appearance and dignity as befits a research centre that would support the organizational and ideological strengthening of the Party and its leadership activities in an educational and academic way.

Thanks to the vigorous efforts of the builders who upheld with matchless fighting efficiency and creative abilities Kim Jong Un's noble intention to

add glory to the cause of building the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party by building the political institution, which had made a great contribution to the long and glorious history of Party building, into a prestigious educational base in the world both in name and reality, the school was successfully built as a model of the Juche-oriented architecture and education sector in a little more than one year after groundbreaking.

The school, which has a total floor space of over 133 000 square metres and was built on an ideal site in terms of its political character as a "pedigree farm" for training the backbone of the

WPK and educational environment, has administration section, cultural and sports section, living section and others laid out in a modern and practical way to suit their missions, functions and purposes, and they are equipped with an advanced educational system and a high level of educational conditions and environment.

The inauguration ceremony of the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK took place with splendour on May 21.

Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK and president of the State Affairs of the DPRK, attended the inauguration ceremony.

The campus of the school, where the inauguration ceremony would be held adding a special page to the history of the development of the WPK, was full of excitement and joy of the participants who were to greet a historic moment with him.

When Kim Jong Un arrived, all the participants broke into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!"

They cheered enthusiastically, looking up to Kim Jong Un, the prominent leader of the ever-victorious WPK, steadfast Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist and greatest successor.

Kim Jong Un extended warm congratulations and greetings of encouragement to all the participants in the historic ceremony, which would be greatly significant for the future destiny of the Party and the revolution.

Present at the inauguration ceremony were Kim Tok Hun, Jo Yong Won and Choe Ryong Hae, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, Ri Il Hwan, Kim Jae Ryong and Pak Thae Song, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, and other officials of the WPK Central Committee,





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chief secretaries of provincial, city and county Party committees, officials of the Cabinet, ministries, national agencies and provincial Party committees, teaching staff of the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK, officials of the Party cadres training institutions at all levels and leading Party officials of major units in Pyongyang and provinces.

The national anthem of the DPRK was played.

Kim Jong Un made a speech, titled, "Train Cadres of the Party in the New Era Who Are Faithful to the Ideal and Spirit of Its Founding" in celebration of the inauguration ceremony.

Kim Jong Un in his speech expressed his excitement of greeting the moment of etching in history the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK, which has a glorious history and tradition, with its newer appearance as suited to its position and weight. And he expressed his satisfaction at the fact that with the successful completion of the project prepared with much care for years to add eternal glory and honour to the WPK, a prestigious school in the world has taken on its majestic appearance as the

"pedigree farm" for training the backbone of the Party and as a research centre for ideologically and theoretically supporting the Party in its building and activities.

Saying that the "pedigree farm" for succession to our Party's cause has been built at a place adjacent to the sacred temple, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il lie in state, and near the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Jujak Peak, where the great leaders can hear even the whispering by the students in the campus and the martyrs can always look at them, Kim Jong Un noted that this fact is a manifestation of the determination of all the members of the WPK to remain eternally loyal to the revolutionary cause of the President and the Chairman invariably holding aloft the banner of the immortal Juche idea and their steel-strong will to carry on to the end and accomplish without fail the revolutionary cause of Juche so as not to feel ashamed for themselves before the martyrs.

Availing himself of the auspicious inauguration ceremony, he expressed thanks to the commanders and soldiers of the heroic guard construction unit and officials in the designing sector who had fully displayed matchless fighting

capacity, creative ability and unusual sense of duty during the construction in order to build the school as a crystallization of patriotism and loyalty that embodies the plan and intention of the Party Central Committee most correctly and as a masterpiece of the era that is perfectly true to the Juche-oriented architectural idea of the Party.

He also extended heartfelt congratulations and encouraging greetings to the teachers and researchers of the Central Cadres Training School and education workers of other Party cadres training institutes who are working devotedly to fulfil their heavy yet honourable duty they assume in the important position, which nobody else could tackle, for the steadfast continuity and development of the Party's ideology and cause, and to students who are the first to enroll at the excellent political school.

He referred to the profound significance of the new birth of the highest institute for training revolutionaries, which is directly related to the long-term development of the Party and succession of the revolutionary cause.

Stressing that the party-building cause of the working class is a long-term

undertaking which continues generation after generation and the success in the matter of preserving the party's fighting programme and character and maintaining and intensifying its inherent character and climate would never come of its own accord simply because the party has a long history as government party and excellent traditions, he referred to the importance of the strong party cadres training base for the working-class party to pave the victorious path of the revolution by carrying forward its glorious history since the great founding and maintaining and strengthening its ruling capacity and leadership. And he appreciated the sacred course and honourable title of the Central Party Cadres Training School of the WPK which has fulfilled its mission since its founding as a reliable base for firmly preserving the integrity of the ranks of the Party cadres.

The history of the WPK's Central Cadres Training School spanning nearly 80 years, when it has supported the glorious ruling history of the WPK, teaches the truth that the historic cause of succession begins and comes to accomplishment at the "pedigree farm"

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for educating and training reserve Party cadres and that the top priority in aspiring to and designing the bright future of the Party and the revolution should be given to the effort to build up an excellent base for training Party cadres, he said, adding that this is just the Party's strategic view of value.

He said that to turn the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK into a world-class school is not merely an undertaking of sprucing up the appearance of an educational institution but the most important task for ensuring the continuity of the lifeline of the Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party and its invincible leadership for all ages. Anyone who visits here can find clear answers to the questions of how the lifeline of the Party

and the revolution is carried forward and how its absolute ruling power and leadership ability are put on a permanent basis and can read the steadfast will of the WPK to defend the eternal continuity and invincibility of the Juche revolution by giving definite precedence to training Party cadres over all other affairs in the future, too, he noted.

Now, for our Party, as it faces another turning point in its course of development, the circumstances and conditions have changed radically, compared with the past, in the light of its own development and implementation of its revolutionary tasks, he said, adding that hence the WPK adopted the line of Party building in the new era and set forth the task of bringing about a radical improvement in the five major fields of Party building at the Sixth Plenary Meeting of its Eighth Central

Committee and has pushed ahead with its implementation in every way.

He said that the most pressing and critical task at the present stage, for the long-term development of the Party building and in implementing the Party's programme of struggle is to make the cadres possess and improve loyalty to the Party, the revolution and the people as three essential qualities. Proceeding from the requirement of the reality when the Party has now entered a crucial point of its qualitative consolidation, he set forth the slogan "Let Us Usher in a Great Heyday of Building Up the Party in the New Era by Carrying Forward the Ideals and Spirit of Its Founding!" and defined it as the primary revolutionary task for the cadres to equip themselves with the ideals, faith and spirit of the revolutionaries of the first generation who accomplished the cause

of the Party founding.

Affirming that to do so is the best option for transforming the ranks of the Party cadres on a revolutionary and working-class pattern as soon as possible and a shortcut to ushering in a practical heyday of Party building, he said that it is a guarantee for the invincibility of the revolutionary Party and the law of its ruling to set great store by the sacred first page of the Party's history and invariably carry it forward as new pages and exploits are added to it.

Noting that the inauguration ceremony reminded us once again of the school's mission and duty, which we can never entrust to anyone else, along with the law-governed nature of the Party building and succession to the revolutionary

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cause which we should never forget, he set forth in detail all the tasks arising in the important course of strengthening the school into the “pedigree farm” for training communists in the new era.

To turn the “pedigree farm” for training the backbone of the Party into the best university and a model of the educational sector is itself a main factor and extension of the Party work, he said, adding that the WPK came to have the foundation for successfully training its excellent successors by securing a powerful strategic base.

He clarified the important principles to be held fast to by the school in its educational work, analyzed some deviations being manifested in the educational work of the Party cadres training institutions at various levels, and advanced strategic tasks for improving educational work as required by the times and the developing revolution.

To guarantee the lasting prosperity of the WPK by carrying forward the ideals and spirit of the Party founding pure and clean is the core of the idea of our Party building, he said, adding that the WPK will grow stronger with today as a new starting point and write a proud chapter of history of making another great turn in the destiny of the country and people.

He paid high tribute to the invincible WPK which organizes and guides all victories of the Korean people, affirming that the undying dignity and glory of the WPK, which is most faithful to the desire of the masses of the working people

and to the socialist ideology, is most thoroughgoing in the orthodox nature as a revolutionary party of the working class and is outstanding and seasoned in its fighting efficiency and leadership, will shine more brilliantly in the ceaseless struggle of all the Party members united single-heartedly around its Central Committee.

All the participants raised enthusiastic cheers as a token of their highest glory to the great leader of the Juche revolution, who is developing the WPK into an ever-victorious guiding force, which firmly guarantees the eternal future of the powerful nation, with his far-sighted wisdom, profound ideology and theory and energetic guidance, and demonstrating its invincibility and heroic spirit to the whole world.

A letter of pledge of the teaching staff of the school to Kim Jong Un and the WPK was read out.

Kim Jong Un cut the inauguration tape. Amid cheers, fireworks were set off and balloons floated over the venue of the inauguration ceremony which witnessed the historic event to be markedly recorded in the course of strengthening the Party guided by the five-point building line in the new era.

The ceremony ended with the playing of the song “Internationale.”

Kim Jong Un looked round the revolutionary museum.

He looked back with deep emotion on the history of the school, which, over the past eight decades since its establishment on June 1, Juche 35 (1946) as the country’s first permanent Party cadres training institution thanks to the

far-sighted initiative and leadership of President Kim Il Sung, has always been a source of power and pride for the WPK in the course of the struggle to steadily train competent cadres needed for building and strengthening the Party as a whole.

He underlined the need to bear in mind that the development of the WPK hinges on the role of the school and that all the undertakings for strengthening the Party and the eternal future of Party building depend on every step it takes forward, adding that it was important in ensuring the durable existence and successful development of the WPK to carry forward, purely, thoroughly and perfectly, the ideals and spirit handed down by the generation that pioneered the cause of Party building.

Guided by leading officials of the school, he looked around the education and science exhibition hall, room for studying Party-building, lecture hall No. 3, etc.

He learned about how the school stepped up its efforts to scientifically systematize, enrich and introduce in its academic courses the important ideas and theories and practical experience being explored, formulated and applied by the Party in the course of the historic struggle in the new century of the Juche era, on the principle of combining inheritance with progressiveness.

Noting that it is the basic mission of the school, which is responsible for nurturing the future of the Party, for all the teaching staff to fully equip themselves with the red flag idea of the WPK and make the spirit of the students red, he stressed that as it plays a leading role in improving educational work in the Party cadres training institutions at all levels, the school should make proactive efforts to bring about a radical turn in education as demanded by the Party Central Committee and thus fulfill the strategic and historic tasks entrusted to it by the times and the revolution.

He had a photo taken with the teaching staff of the school, a sacred educational institution devoted to steadily carrying forward and developing the WPK’s ideas and cause.

All the teaching staff expressed their heartfelt thanks to Kim Jong Un for having taken steps to build a revolutionary school without parallel in the world in the sacred place associated with the great history and traditions of the Korean revolution, and for putting

them forward as the first masters of this school on a par with the most prestigious universities in the world.

An artistic performance was given to mark the inauguration of the school.

The songs sung by the performers aroused ennobling reverence among the audiences for the WPK noted for its outstanding revolutionary ideology and seasoned leadership, a great party which was founded on the basis of the ideal “The people are God” under the banner of the Juche revolution and, for long years since its founding, has brought up the Korean people to be heroes and heroines with an invincible spirit of single-hearted unity and cleared a path for building a powerful country, independent in politics, self-supporting in the economy and self-reliant in defence.

The venue for the performance was overflowing with great emotion as the numbers went ahead reflecting the Korean people’s pledge to remain faithful to the WPK, as well as the immutable truth that the WPK represents the eternal prestige and bright future of the country and people, a party propelling the Korean revolution on the strength of justice and with great influence to usher in a new era of comprehensive rejuvenation of the state which will shine bright in the nation’s 5 000-year history.

The performance ended with a firework display, the audiences raising loud cheers again.

Kim Jong Un waved back to the cheering participants, who were fully determined to share will and purpose with the Party Central Committee and act as one in response to its call, while making redoubled efforts for the development of the great Kimilsungist-Kimjongilist party and the victorious advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche.

The participants made the rounds of the school, appreciating its distinctive features as befits the most prestigious political school of the WPK and a masterpiece of the present era perfectly embodying the Juche-oriented idea on architecture.

A dinner was given to congratulate the teaching staff of the school.

Present there were senior cadres of the Party and the government.

The inauguration of the school will be recorded in history as a new step forward towards eternal prosperity of the WPK, and as the birth of a powerful strategic base guaranteeing the brilliant inheritance and victory of the noble ideals and sacred cause of Party building.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un has photo session with soldier-builders, designers and artistes



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, on May 22 had a photo session with the soldier-builders, designers and artistes who contributed to the building of the Central Cadres Training School of the Workers' Party of Korea and its grand inauguration ceremony.

The participants were overflowing with great excitement and joy as they were to have the honour of having a photograph taken with the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

On his arrival, they raised stormy cheers of "Hurrah!" in reverence for him, the outstanding teacher and great architect of creation and construction.

They paid their highest tribute and heartfelt thanks to him for giving them the highest honour they desired so much, looking up to the prominent leader who demonstrated to the whole world the prestige and dignity of the WPK by initiating the construction of the highest institution for training cadres of the WPK, energetically leading the whole course of its historic construction and giving detailed instructions to make sure that its inauguration ceremony was held with splendour.

He waved back to the enthusiastically cheering participants as a token of his warm greetings to them.

He warmly congratulated the service personnel, the experienced group of designers and artistes for having built a world-class political and ideological school with perfect features as a "pedigree farm" for training the hard core of the WPK, the most authoritative revolutionary school of a socialist ruling party, which embodies the dignity and revolutionary will of the WPK at the highest level, thus performing feats of eternal significance in the history of the development of the WPK, and praised them for their great efforts.

He highly appreciated the ardent patriotism, loyalty and devotion of the officers and men of Unit 267 of the Korean People's Army who fully demonstrated once again their matchlessly great abilities and spirit of death-defyingly implementing the Party's policy in the school construction, a project of the WPK's top priority. Saying that the heroic Guards unit is really excellent, he noted that it has built many world-startling monumental edifices in the recent ten-odd years, single-heartedly and loyally upholding the grand construction plan of the Party and that it is a source of pride of the Party and the country to have such a capable unit without parallel.

Looking back with deep emotion on the efforts of the designers who built an iconic entity of Juche-oriented architecture and education in a little more than a year by displaying the enterprising and innovative spirit of creation and strenuous fighting spirit, he highly praised them for their brilliant feats enshrined in each precious structure symbolic of an era of change built in every part of the country.

Only when a powerful design force is organized can we shape a rosy future according to our ideals, he said, calling on the designers in the sector to become excellent artists and gardeners who paint and cultivate a brilliant future paradise and thus ensure the everlasting prosperity of the country.

Describing the renowned army unit and design group as his Guards unit and a group under his personal command, he urged them to continue to build every structure to be a viable monument fully representing the Juche- and people-oriented characters and national traits peculiar to our state, the aspirations and sentiments of the people and the dignity and spirit of a great powerful nation so as to take the lead in upholding the cause of building a prosperous, powerful and civilized socialist state.

Appreciating the high artistic skills and devoted efforts the authoritative creative

workers and artistes displayed at the recent national events, he gave thanks to all the performers for supporting with their wonderful musical works the sacred struggle of the WPK for a new victory of the revolution in the performance given the day before in celebration of the inauguration ceremony of the Central Cadres Training School of the WPK in particular.

Expressing firm belief and expectation that the soldier-builders and designers would continue to display the reputation of a meritorious unit and experienced design group which have upheld the Party's construction policy with heroic creative activities and achieve signal successes in the vanguard of the construction revolution for ushering in a heyday of socialist civilization, and wishing for more inspiring successes in the art field in the future, he had photos taken with them.

When the photo session was over, all the participants raised enthusiastic cheers again.

All the participants who were honoured to receive the highest glory and trust from Kim Jong Un as pabulum for life and struggle, made a firm determination to always remain loyal to the Party Central Committee by continuing to fulfill in the vanguard of the times the honourable missions and duties they have assumed before the Party and the revolution.

Politburo of WPK Central Committee meets



Also present there were Jo Yong Won and Choe Ryong Hae, members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

of the Eighth WPK Central Committee, which will conduct an interim review of the work in the first half of this year and discuss and decide a series of important issues, in order to successfully implement this year's orientation of state affairs and all tasks decided at the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee.

He outlined the major agenda items to be discussed at the plenary meeting, and proposed a draft decision of the Political Bureau.

The Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee adopted with unanimous approval a decision on convening the Tenth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth WPK Central Committee late in June.

The Political Bureau also discussed other important issues arising in the work of the Party and state, and heard a general report of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army on the recent military situation.

The meeting advanced the immediate tasks for military activities by the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to creditably defend the national sovereignty, security and interests, and underlined the need to responsibly carry them out.

KCNA
The 20th Meeting of the Political Bureau of the Eighth Central Committee

of the Workers' Party of Korea took place on May 24. Kim Jong Un, general secretary of the WPK, attended the meeting.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un presided over the meeting. Kim Jong Un referred to the necessity to convene the Tenth Plenary Meeting

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un visits Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri

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, visited the

Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery in Sinmi-ri on the afternoon of May 19 on the occasion of the second anniversary of the demise of Hyon Chol Hae, his most respected revolutionary comrade-in-arms. Recollecting the career of the

revolutionary soldier who was infinitely loyal to the Party and the country all his life with a genuine communist outlook on life, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un laid a flower before the grave of Hyon Chol Hae.

Kim Jong Un paid high tribute to Hyon Chol Hae in reflection of his reverence, praying that he, an outstanding revolutionary and competent military and political activist produced by the Juche revolution, will always live at the height of glory looked up at by everyone with deepest respect, along with the high prestige of the country, the great name of Chairman Kim Jong Il and the shining honour of the ever-victorious Korean People's Army.

He said that the outstanding feats performed by Hyon Chol Hae for firmly consolidating the cornerstone of the spiritual pillar of the KPA, the armed forces of the revolutionary Party, and building a politically and ideologically strong army will be immortal in history, and his soul and dear image will remain forever in the hearts of all the service personnel of the KPA.

Before the memorial monument at the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery, he paid high tribute to the martyrs, praying that their noble careers etched in the history of the country would shed the most beautiful rays forever like the shining star of the national flag.



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sends message of condolence to first vice-president of Iran

KCNA

Kim Jong Un, president of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of condolence to Mohammad Mokhber, first vice-president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on May 20.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un in

the message expressed deep condolences, on behalf of the DPRK government and people and on his own, to the first vice-president of Iran and, through him, to the Iranian government and people and the bereaved families, upon receiving the shocking news of President Seyyed Ebrahim Raesi's sudden demise by an accident.

The message said that the demise of the

president is a great loss to the fraternal Iranian people and the world people aspiring after independence and justice.

The Iranian president was an outstanding statesman and a close friend of the DPRK people, who made a great contribution to the cause of the Iranian people for safeguarding the sovereignty, development and interests of their country and

the gains of the Islamic revolution, the message said.

Convinced that the Iranian government and people would overcome the pain of the great loss and advance undauntedly and vigorously to build a strong and prosperous country, the message prayed that the bereaved families would recover stability as soon as possible.

Ceremonies for moving into new houses take place in succession

KCNA

Working people moved into new modern houses in Muchang-dong and Yuhyon-dong of Rajin District, Rason City.

Ceremonies for moving into those houses took place on the spot on May 16.

Present there were Sin Yong Chol, chief secretary of the Rason City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials of the Party and power organs in the city and district and working people of the Muchang agro-stock production substation under the Rajin water supply and sewage management station and the Yuhyon agro-stock production substation under the Rajin public catering service management station in Rajin District.

Ri Kwang Nam, vice-chairman of the Rason City People's Committee, made a congratulatory address at the ceremonies.

Licenses for the use of houses were handed over and speeches were made there.

Officials shared joy with the owners of those new

houses amid cheerful dancing parties.

Modern houses for several hundred families have been built in Hongui-dong and Hahoe-dong of Sonbong District, Rason City of the DPRK.

Ceremonies for moving into new houses held on the spot respectively were attended by Choe Un Chol, secretary of the Rason City Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Kwang Nam, vice-chairman of the city people's committee, officials concerned, employees of the Jokji agro-stock production branch station under the Rason City Road Construction Group, the Hongui agro-stock production branch station under the Rason Food Administration Station and the Rason Rabbit Farm.

At the ceremonies the speakers extended the deepest gratitude to the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who is ushering in a new era of rural development on this land with his tireless leadership.

People moved into new houses in the villages amid the lively peasant dances.

In the new era of rural development, modern houses for hundreds of families have appeared in the seat village of the Juksang Farm in Pukchong County, South Hamgyong Province.

Builders and working people built low- and single-storied and terraced houses and shared stalls and planted apple, apricot, persimmon and other trees around the houses to add beauty to the village.

A ceremony for moving into the houses took place in the village on May 19.

Present there were Choe Hung Jo, secretary of the South Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials and builders in Pukchong County and the working people who would move into those houses.

Kim Yong Sik, chairman of the South Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee, made a congratulatory address.

Then licenses for the use of houses were handed over and speeches made.

Amid a lively dancing

party, officials visited the new houses to present their owners with daily necessities and congratulate them.

New houses have been built at the Unbong Farm in Phyongwon County, South Phyongan Province, as fair-land villages spring up in different parts of the country one after another.

Present at the ceremony for moving into new houses were Ri Kyong Chol, chief secretary of the South Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Song Bom, chairman of the provincial people's committee, officials of the Party and power organs in Phyongwon County, builders and working people of the Unbong Farm.

Speeches were made at the meeting.

Agricultural workers began to move into new houses amid cheerful dances.

Officials visited the owners of new houses to congratulate them, sharing joy with them.

New dwelling houses have been built in Taegi-ri and Suda-ri of Ongjin County, South Hwanghae Province.

The new villages of Taegi-ri and Suda-ri, with modern low-storeyed dwelling houses in the sunny places on the west coastal areas, are another reality showing the future and development of highly-civilized rural areas.

Each dwelling house has several living rooms, a kitchen, washroom and other conditions for the convenience of the inhabitants. And fruit trees, trees of good species and flowering shrubs in the courtyards and the villages add beauty to the villages.

Ceremonies for moving into new houses took place on the spot on May 21.

Present there were Pak Thae Dok, chief secretary of the South Hwanghae Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, officials of the Party and power organs in Ongjin County, builders and agricultural workers who would move into new houses.

So Hak Song, vice-chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial People's Committee, made a congratulatory address.

Licences for the use of new houses were handed over and

speeches were made there.

Officials visited the farmers' houses to congratulate them.

A new village has been built at the Soljae Farm in Sonchon County of North Phyongan Province.

The fine village is the cradle of happiness built under the energetic leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who is determined to provide the agricultural workers with the most affluent and civilized life in the world as early as possible.

A ceremony of moving into new houses took place in the village on May 21.

Speeches were made at the ceremony attended by Pak Song Chol, chief secretary of the North Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Ri Yong Chol, chairman of the provincial people's committee, and officials of the Party and power organs, builders and agricultural workers in Sonchon County.

The farmers began to move into new houses with great pleasure.

DPRK team lifts AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup 2024



DPRK footballers celebrate their win at the AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup 2024. RODONG SINMUN

KCNA

The DPRK team took first place at the AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup 2024.

In the final with the Japanese team on May 19, the Korean eleven put pressure upon the opponent by dint of strong attacks in the first half. No. 7 Jon Il Chong scored a goal by kicking a pass from player No. 15 one minute after the start of the second half.

The Korean winners were awarded the trophy

and gold medals and Jon Il Chong and Pak Ju Gyong the top scorer prize and the best goalkeeper prize respectively.

DPRK players, who won the AFC U-17 Women's Asian Cup 2024, returned home on May 21.

They scored 24 goals in total, without conceding even a goal, in the tournament held in Indonesia from May 6 to 19.

They qualified for the 2024 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.

They were warmly greeted by Kim Il Guk, minister of Physical Culture and Sports, officials in the sports sector, officials concerned, sportspersons and families at Pyongyang International Airport.

Sportspersons congratulated the players and coaches on their results, putting garlands around their necks and presenting bouquets to them.

Pyongyang citizens warmly congratulated them along the streets.

Rural communities busy with rice-transplanting

By Kwon Hyo Song PT

Rice-transplanting is in full swing on farms across the DPRK.

Different cities and counties of South Hwanghae Province, the Migok Farm of Sariwon City and the Kangan Farm of Unpha County in North Hwanghae Province and Jungsan County of South Phyongan Province were the first to start rice-transplanting on May 1 before all other farms across the country buckled down to the farming process in succession.

The Agricultural Commission arranged a technical workshop on rice-transplanting for agricultural officials across the country and organized and commanded the work to make the farms push ahead with the farming process in conformity with the specific conditions of their areas.

South Hwanghae Province, the largest agricultural province of the country, conducted a provincial demonstra-

tion and technical workshop with a view to finishing rice-transplanting qualitatively in the right season. And it has concentrated all efforts on rice-transplanting, thus transplanting rice seedlings on thousands of hectares of paddy fields every day.

Other provinces are also achieving good results in rice-transplanting every day.

Rural communities in North Phyongan Province are pushing ahead with rice-transplanting according to the schedule while ensuring the proper number of bunches per phyong (a unit of area) and the number of plants per bunch.

In Taedong County of South Phyongan Province they grew highly profitable nutrient cold-bed rice seedlings and are planting 70 percent of paddy fields with the seedlings.

The Chongsan Farm in Kangso District, Nampho City, raised the operation rate of rice-seedling transplanters with emphasis put

on increasing the rooting rate of the seedlings and thus carried out daily plans without fail to qualitatively finish the work in the main areas by May 15.

The Jangchon Vegetable Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, also finished rice-transplanting in the main areas by May 14.



All farms seethe with rice-transplanting in the DPRK. RODONG SINMUN

Charming companion for rich harvest

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

There is an IT product which is widely used among agricultural workers now.

It is "Hwanggumyolmae (golden fruit)", an agricultural sci-tech service app.

Jointly developed and introduced by the Agricultural Informatization Institute under the Academy of Agricultural Science and North Hwanghae Provincial Posts and Telecommunications Management Bureau, the program helps users browse agricultural sci-tech data and receive question-and-answer service through the mobile communications network.

The developers continue to update its functions by synthesizing opinions of the agricultural workers they get while travelling around farms throughout the country.

This year, they have further perfected the computer program by adding and updating several functions.

The functions of the program are largely classified into those of browsing crop growth forecast data and data on preparations for farming according to seasons, providing question-and-answer service and exchanging information about farming materials.

Users can have access to data on crop growth forecast, latest farming technologies and experience in the field on smart phones in which the program is installed and take measures instantly to solve the problems arising in the manuring and cultivating of



Researchers from the Academy of Agricultural Science survey the field to update their agricultural sci-tech service app. RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

crops with the help of related experts.

In particular, they can browse regional forecast data on the basis of regional information they registered for as well as central forecast data on crop growth and ask questions by directly choosing experts in any fields.

The farming materials information exchange function includes not only that of browsing information about registered farming materials but also products registering function which enables users to newly register farming materials they want to introduce.

Users can also measure the temperatures of water and soil and the amount of water flowing through waterways and calculate the rice grains for measuring the weight of 1 000 grains by connecting different kinds of measuring devices to their smart phones.

The Academy of Agricultural Science effectively organizes the activities of the question-and-answer service team

comprising eminent scientists of all institutes under it to provide every convenience for the app users.

At first, the team consisted of only a handful of scientists. But now their number has increased to several dozen as questions asked by the agricultural workers increase day by day and their contents and forms are diversified.

The members of the question-and-answer service team work hard to give scientific answers to farmers in plain language and as quickly as possible so that they can take proper scientific and technical measures in each farming process rapidly and correctly.

Agricultural workers now affectionately call the program a "guide to rich harvest" and "close companion for overcoming the sudden whims of the weather".

Its developers are working to update the app to make it a powerful means of laying the foundations of informatization of agricultural production.

Greenhouse ensures effective growing of rice seedlings

By Han Jong Ho PT

Farms in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, have introduced a method of cultivating rice seedlings in greenhouses by which they can grow safe and healthy rice seedlings, unaffected by natural conditions.

True to the decisions of the Ninth Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the district set a goal to put agricultural production on a higher scientific, IT and intensive basis and built greenhouses equipped with facilities that can automatically measure and display the temperature, humidity, sunshine percentage, carbon dioxide concentration and soil of indoor greenhouses.

"The greenhouses have mechanized processes of spreading soil mixed with fertilizer on the nursery and sowing and covering

up seeds with soil, thus reducing nursery area to 1/10, labour force to 1/15 and farming materials to 1/4 as compared to outdoor rice seedlings," said Ri Yong Sik, a staffer of the Kumchon Vegetable Farm in Mangyongdae District.

According to him, the method makes it possible to shorten the period between sowing and transplantation by half. As there is no need to pluck young rice plants from seedbeds, it enables them to transplant rice in the right time.

And it brings more profits since it helps them cultivate rice seedlings safely and healthily, unaffected by natural conditions and do vegetable farming after cultivating rice seedlings, he said.

Cold-bed rice seedling cultivation outdoors requires 100-120 phyong of seedbed per hectare, 50-55 days for growing young rice plants, 400-480 square metres of vinyl sheets,

about 120-130 man-days of labour and various many other materials for seedbed. And the cultivation of nutrient cold seedlings demands 25-30 phyong of seedbed per hectare, 30-40 days for raising seedlings, 120-140 square metres of vinyl sheets and 40-50 man-days of labour.

But the method requires less manpower and farming materials and provides favourable conditions for mechanization as the nutrient cold seedling cultivation at greenhouses needs less seedbed area per hectare and shorter raising period.

Such success is not confined to Mangyongdae District. South Hwanghae Province built certain sizes of vinyl sheet greenhouses in cities and counties this year and is bringing about good results by transplanting rice seedlings grown there.

Rice seedlings grown at greenhouses are forming green carpets on paddies.



Agricultural workers grow rice seedlings in a greenhouse in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang. WON TONG CHOL / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Picturesque rural villages provide enchanting view

By Ri Sung Ik PT

Beautiful landscapes have also been created in the new rural villages in North and South Hwanghae provinces and Kaesong City.

Workteam No. 2 of the Phyongmu Farm in Kangnyong County of South Hwanghae Province is a beautiful village on the lowland with the cosily built single-storeyed and terraced houses covered with flowers blending in so well with the plain which has begun to sprout crops.

Spring has come and the first green leaves that sprouted from pine, zelkova, ginkgo, Metasequoia glyptostroboides and other

It was originally called a "village with scorching heat" in midsummer as it is a plain area with no shade at all, said Jong Myong Su, a farmer of the workteam. "But now trees have been planted along the village path and fruit trees grow around every house, bringing about a great change in the life of the farmers."

The scenery of the Sinsaeng Farm in Chongdan County of South Hwanghae Province has also been given a facelift.

Zelkova trees line the village path of workteam No. 6 of the farm to offer cool shade and plant sculptures of various shapes made with thuja around the newly-built low-storey houses look so lifelike.

And the park in the middle

The Chongun Farm in Songnim City of North Hwanghae Province has also a pride of the new farm village.

The most striking features of the farm are the beach volleyball court surrounded by large trees and flowering shrubs of good species and bluish green village road.

Eye-catching are the highly ornamental trees and lawns arranged in a concentrated way around the beach volleyball court and a park beside it. More attractive is the bluish green substance that looks like sand covering the surroundings.

According to its farmers, it is granulated slag which is produced during the manufacture of pig iron at

They include pensioners, school teachers, members of the Children's Union and farmers.

They say in unison that it is natural for all the villagers to become masters and build their native places beautifully as mountains and rivers change thanks to the warm care of the Workers' Party.

Now it is May at the height of the flowering season.

Mountains and fields are decorated with green, all kinds of flowers are in full bloom and the chirps of birds sound like a spring song.

It will be right to refer to the new rural villages in Kangwon and North and South Hamgyong provinces in the season as fairylands.

Among such villages is the

dear to them. The houses were standing side by side against the horizon where the earth and the sky seemed to meet. So the owners of the new village began to plant flowering shrubs and trees with a mind to further beautify it.

Now, over 1 070 trees in 19 kinds grow in the village. Among them are zelkova and fir trees which, in summer, shade the farmers who always have to work on fields all day long in the season.

More than 10 fruit trees, including peach, plum and cherry trees, grow in the garden of each of the smart new houses.

Kwanphung-dong in Munchon City, one of the new villages built in Kangwon

and zelkova trees around it, and spindle-trees and *Zoysia tenuifolia* and other ground-cover plants were planted around the fences of houses. What is distinctive is that the balconies of terraced houses are decorated with large-sized spindle-tree pots so that all the upper and lower parts of the houses are covered with flowering trees.

The village's resting place is like a small wood.

As there grow various kinds of trees along with thick tara vines, you will feel as if you are in a thick forest or a mountain.

North Hamgyong Province, too, boasts the spring scenery of new rural villages.

The seat of Yombun-ri in Kyongsong County has



Partial and bird's-eye views of socialist rural villages. RODONG SINMUN

trees planted in the village sway in the light breeze. Various species of trees including bamboo and ground covering plants have also been planted in the park divided into green and plant sections in the middle of the village to create a beautiful landscape as a whole.

The landscape of the village is beautiful, with each house offering their special features.

Apple, cherry, peach and other fruit trees rooted in the gardens of the farmhouses, adding to the beautiful scenery.

Farmers, who moved into modern farmhouses built by the country last year and this year along with the new era of rural development, tend fruit trees with great care in their spare time though it is a busy farming season.

of the village reminds viewers of a botanical garden.

White birch, pine and tall trees of coloration hydrops were planted at major scenic points to highlight their specific features and alfalfa, "golden" turf and other ground covering plants grow in the green area and tall trees like persimmon and bamboo-willow trees along the side walk.

Standing in front of the nursery of workteam No. 7 of the farm are a plant sculpture in the shape of piano made with thuja, a golden-bell tree in the shape of a wave and black chokeberry and juniper trees planted separately, in group, in a mixed and other ways to form a distinctive feature.

People say that the landscape created in the village court all kinds of birds, adding to its natural beauty.

the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex. It is useful for environmental protection as it is not dusty even when the wind blows and keeps water when it rains.

It is also a characteristic feature of the Chongun Farm that the terraced green area takes a large proportion.

Lawns, afforestation areas and paths covered with street trees have appeared in the vacant lots around the houses, making it possible for the people living on the lower floors of the low-storey apartment houses to see the landscape and providing residents with a favourable environment to take a walk in hot summer days.

Many residents have volunteered as "park gardeners" to tend the new landscapes created in the new rural vil-

lage at the seat of Myonggo-ri in Thongchon County.

Against extensively stretching mountains there stand side by side modern, single- and low-storey houses among flowers of various colours in bloom decorating the whole village along with a variety of trees with thick green foliage growing in gardens and resting places and along the village path. All are struck with admiration at the sight of the village.

Conspicuous in the village are bamboos.

The villagers planted hundreds of bamboos in the form of bundles to add to the elegance of the village.

According to the farmers, on their way home after a day's work, they found their new modern houses built thanks to the benevolent measure of the country really

Province, is landscaped so well that its residents would feel sorry to have it regarded as a second best place in scenery.

In the village where wind blows from the sea, you can smell the fragrance of junipers and dwarf pines, not a fishy smell, because such plants grow densely around the houses.

The villagers say they are happy to live in houses like those they only dreamed of and that they seem to have been ten years younger as they always smell the scents of junipers and dwarf pines when they are outside the houses.

The village of the Ryongwon Farm is also as beautiful as a picture.

As the village is situated on a plain, the villagers planted trifoliate pine, fir

a 10-odd-year-old pine and ginkgo adding beauty to the new village along with common flowering quince, clove and other shrubs showing off their own beauty. The locality famous for the sight of sunrise on the East Sea of Korea has become more well-known for the new rural houses and flowers and trees.

The farm villages across the country, which have turned into fairylands, are different in appearance but have one thing in common.

It is that all the agricultural workers are eager to add lustre to their native places.

They say that flowers and trees are the fruit of nature, but the landscape of the new rural villages is that of their owners' efforts to repay the benevolence of the country and of their boundless love for their native places.

DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman issues press statement

KCNA

A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea released the following press statement on May 20:

The US Nuclear Security Agency recently announced that the US conducted a sub-critical nuclear test, the third of its kind under the present US administration.

This is a very dangerous act of further upsetting the extremely worsening global security environment and exerting a seriously negative impact on the strategic balance among major nuclear powers.

By doing so, the US has revealed that its strategic goal is to militarily control other countries with an unchallenged nuclear edge and that the present administration's commitment

to lessening the danger of strategic misjudgement and easing military tension by reducing its dependence on nuclear weapons is nothing but rhetoric.

The US is not qualified to talk about a nuclear war threat from other country as it is the world's biggest nuclear weapons state and only user of nuclear weapons which conducted nuclear tests more than any other countries in the world.

Last year, the US deployed a strategic nuclear submarine on the Korean peninsula for the first time in several decades. It has frequently put into operation the "Nuclear Consultative Group" plotting to use nuclear weapons against the DPRK and is planning to stage actual nuclear operation exercises with the ROK in August.

What should never be overlooked is

the US recent sub-critical nuclear test's impact on the military security situation of the Korean peninsula as it adds new tension to the military showdown among nuclear weapons states and foments the international nuclear arms race.

To cope with the strategic instability in the region and the rest of the world being caused by the US unilateral action, the DPRK cannot but reconsider the measures necessary for the improvement of the overall nuclear deterrence posture within the range of its vested sovereign right and possible options.

It will not tolerate the creation of strategic imbalance and security vacuum on the Korean peninsula, but firmly defend its security, rights and interests through powerful deterrent action against the evolving nuclear threat from the US.

Builders construct new Korean-style streets



Sim Yong Hak

Chairman of the Central Committee of the Architects Union of Korea

Harmony and unity of structures have been ensured on a higher level on the streets which have recently been built in the capital city of Pyongyang.

Among them are new streets built in the Hwasong area under the guidance of the respected General Secretary Kim Jong Un who planned to turn the area of the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun into the people's earthly paradise.

At present, Hwasong and Rimhung streets have been inaugurated as the first and second stages, and the groundbreaking ceremony for the third stage took place and construction is in progress this year.

The construction of dwelling houses in the area is characterized by the fact that though all of them are in the same Hwasong area, there is no repetition in style according to stages and they are built in such a way as to preserve regional characteristics.

The General Secretary

saw to it that structures in the Hwasong area were formed in a graceful and weighty way and stressed the need to arrange in a distinctive way the iconic skyscraping buildings which would serve as a symbol of the new street in the direction toward the Ryongsong road when the first-stage construction of the street was underway.

Saying that it is the core of urban construction to prioritize the convenience of the people, he gave detailed guidance over the layout, bird's-eye view and mock-up of dwelling houses in the Hwasong area. And he also made sure that sections were arranged and architectural styles were created for the convenience of the people's life and the new street was formed with depth and in a weighty way.

That's why the structures in the Hwasong area are being completed into perfect masterpieces in ideological and artistic quality and functional aspect of structure, from idea to design, execution and final

process.

Orange, brown and light grey-coloured tiles have been used to preserve the graceful and classical beauty.

Each structure has been completed in such a way that its spatial composition is diverse and its characteristics are preserved in conformity with its mission, character, functional requirements and surroundings.

It is also conspicuous that beautiful landscape is combined with architectural space of the new street by keeping alive the characteristics of the river basin in keeping with the topographical conditions.

A new and unique architectural decoration method has been introduced into the construction of roof structure of buildings.

Architects have formed roof decoration in a quite big way so that it blends in well with the whole building.

As a result, there were formed the roofs in the shape of huge

petals and observatories to further enhance the appearance of the new street.

The new and original architectural style is not seen on the ground alone in the Hwasong area.

When you enter the underground crossing with a domed roof, the facility looks more dignified for the distinctive mural paintings reminding viewers of an underground palace and the indirect lighting effect.

The Juche-oriented architecture of the DPRK has made another leap forward with the completion of new streets in the Hwasong area as an occasion.

Goals and standards of creation of Korean-style architecture have been raised further and stereotypes and fixed patterns have broken in creative methods and thereby a sure guarantee has been provided for building new world-class streets of our style in larger numbers and at a faster rate.

Thanks to the wise leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea and its devotion to the people, our Juche-oriented architecture will make steady progress and leap forward.

Let's conserve biodiversity

May 22 is International Day for Biological Diversity.

Biodiversity is of great significance in the sustainable development of the economy and environmental protection in each country, and performs an important function in the protection of global ecological environment.

However, there has recently been a big change in biodiversity as biological species dwindle at a fast rate due to extreme climate change, various consequent natural disasters, sudden population growth and excessive use of natural resources.

According to data available, biodiversity has been severely damaged in the regions where more than 70% of the world population lives.

In the last half a century, there was environmental change in 75% of land and 66% of sea, and the global wetland area has decreased by 35% since 1970.

More than 900 biological species have become extinct on the earth due to the destruction of their habitats.

The number of wild animals has decreased by two-thirds, and more than 33% of marine mammals are on the verge of extinction.

Scientists of different countries warned long ago that climate change might have a negative impact on the current biodiversity.

The reduction in biological resources is a great loss of resource and poses a threat to human existence. The reality urgently demands that active efforts should be made to protect biodiversity for the sustainable development of humankind.

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework was adopted at the CBD's 15th Conference of the Parties in December 2022. The framework includes four outcome-oriented goals to be achieved by 2050 and 23 action-oriented targets to be reached by 2030.

The theme of International Day of Biodiversity of this year is "Be Part of the Plan" which calls on everyone to play their role in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The DPRK conducts positive activities to conserve biodiversity.

It pushes ahead with the protection of land and environment, which can be called the foundation of biodiversity, according to the national mid- and long-term green growth plan.

Beautiful landscapes are being created in streets and villages, and parks and pleasure grounds are being built splendidly to improve urban ecological environment.

Overall reserves, such as biosphere, migratory bird (wetlands), wildlife, plant and marine resources reserves, are being surveyed and evaluated and the area of them has been increased stage by stage.

According to a field survey of the waterfowl wintering in the DPRK in January this year, different globally endangered species were observed in 70 wetland areas on the east and west coasts and inland areas.

In March thousands of birds belonging to globally endangered species including swan geese and white-naped and hooded cranes were seen at the Mundok migratory bird reserve on the west coast of Korea and blackfaced spoonbills and *Numenius madagascariensis* were noticed at more than 1 percent level of their global populations at the September 18 reservoir migratory bird reserve.

It was estimated that about 30 species of water birds numbering more than 90 000 temporarily stay in the Kumya migratory bird reserve and other major migratory bird sanctuaries on the east coast of Korea.

The conservation of biodiversity and sustainable economic development of the country are firmly guaranteed by different laws and enforcement regulations.

Ri Chung Song, PhD, associate professor and director of the Biodiversity Institute of the State Academy of Sciences

BYWORD

Great golden age of construction

A great golden age of construction is being ushered in in the DPRK.

During his inspection of the Mirim Riding Club nearing inauguration 11 years ago, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un said that he planned to usher in a great

golden age of construction the following year, adding that his mind was always on what he would do more for the simple, diligent and revolutionary Korean people and that the construction for them should continue.

A few days later, a grand

short course of officials in the construction sector was organized.

In the important letter he sent to the participants in the short course, Kim Jong Un said that it was the steadfast determination of the Workers' Party

of Korea to usher in a new age of national prosperity by developing the then heyday in construction into a great golden age of construction.

Monumental structures for the people have since mushroomed in not only Pyongyang but also provinces.

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US' incitement of arms race threatens global peace

The US' military budget for the 2024 fiscal year is larger than the war funds of nine countries leading other nations in military expenditure put together, and accounts for about 40 percent of global military expenditure.

KCNA

Buoyed by ambition for world domination, the US is spurring arms race to pose a serious threat to global peace and stability.

The country that unilaterally quit in 2019 the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty concluded with Russia announced that it would deploy ground-based intermediate-range missiles in the Indo-Pacific region this year.

Actually, it recently deployed the missiles in the northern part of Luzon of the Philippines for the first time after quitting the treaty.

As intermediate- and shorter-range missiles can strike strategic targets by evading radar, it is very difficult to detect them and there is a great possibility of preemptive strike.

Saying that the Chinese military facilities deployed along the South China Sea, the southern part of mainland China and the Taiwan Strait may fall in the striking range of the missiles, military experts expressed concern that the deploy-

ment of them might cause arms race of a new stage whose consequences are unpredictable.

The ceaseless expansion of aggressive military alliances and powder-recking war games are another root cause of arms race.

This year, too, the US scaled up NATO, and NATO launched its largest-scale military exercise ever since the end of the Cold War near the border with Russia to practise a method of joint action targeting Russia.

The US, which rigged up "Quad" (the US, Japan, Australia and India) and "AUKUS" (US, UK and Australia) in the Asia-Pacific region, formed another bloc involving the US, Australia, Japan and the Philippines in early May this year.

It is a well-known fact that these are military blocs under the command of the US like NATO and are bringing a danger of new war to Asia-Pacific.

Such US moves are a product of the reactionary foreign policy of its ruling circles who try to dominate the world by dint of unilateral military upper hand and arms buildup.

The successive reactionary ruling circles of the US have set it as the general target of their foreign policy to realize the wild ambition for world domination and disbursed a colossal sum of money to that end.

As was already reported, its military budget for the 2024 fiscal year is larger than the war funds of nine countries leading other nations in military expenditure put together, and accounts for about 40 percent of global military expenditure. Its military expenditure for the 2025 fiscal year has increased by US\$9 billion as compared to the 2024 fiscal year, breaking the previous record.

The US is squandering a large amount of money to boosting its nuclear attack capability as it develops and manufactures such military hardware as the Colombia-class strategic nuclear submarine, strategic bomber B-21 Raider and ground-based new-generation ICBM.

In particular, its plan to update the B61-12 tactical nuclear bomb and deploy it in Europe until 2026 and the deployment of intermediate-range missiles in Asia-Pacific are

getting on the nerves of Russia and China.

Russia, China and other relevant regional countries are taking military countermeasures to cope with the US' aggressive arms buildup and expansion of military alliances.

Lambasting the US for inciting military confrontation in the Asia-Pacific region, the Chinese government stated it would resolutely react to the US' missile deployment that threatens the security of the regional countries and undermines regional peace and stability.

The Russian government in a statement noted that it would complete similar missile systems and start manufacturing them to cope with the moves of the US which began to deploy intermediate- and shorter-range missile systems in Europe and Asia-Pacific on the pretext of military exercises with its allies.

Facts clearly show that the US spurring dangerous arms race and being hell-bent on aggressive war drills is the master criminal which threatens and wrecks global peace and security.

African nations achieve regional development, prosperity by dint of united efforts

By Choe Song Jun PT

May 25 is the Day of Africa.

The Organization of African Unity was founded in a summit of 30-odd African countries on May 25 1963, which put an end to the colonial rule of foreign forces and achieved independence. The organization played an important role in strengthening the unity and solidarity of continental countries, defending sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence, and developing cooperative relations in all fields including politics, the economy and culture.

In the early 21st century, it changed its name into the African Union.

The AU, which involves more than 50 African countries as its member nations, has now developed into the most comprehensive and authoritative organization representing the African continent and set it as its strategic goal to achieve the development and peace of the continent.

The 37th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU was recently held in the capital of Ethiopia.

The meeting discussed ways for boosting education in Africa to a higher level in keeping with the 21st century. And it also discussed issues of ensuring the peace and security of the continent and improving the working system of the union.

The Mauritanian president, who was elected chairman of the AU this time, said that it is important to produce a good result, rather than setting a target and making a plan, asserting that the African people can bring about eye-opening development if they strive without losing

confidence. He also stressed that the only way to overcome the crisis and challenges facing Africa is to strengthen the joint action in the framework of the union.

It is the unanimous desire of African countries to strengthen unity and cooperation.

It is reported that this year the central banks of all African countries will join the continental payment and clearance system and 30 countries will launch into implementing the free trade zone agreement as the work to set up an FTZ is being pushed. It is the opinion of experts that such a movement of African countries will inject greater vitality into the establishment of continental FTZ.

The African countries, which account for more than a quarter of the UN membership, are also channelling efforts into expanding their influence in the international arena. They are demonstrating their united efforts while joining voices and taking joint steps in solving important international issues.

The BRICS summit was successfully held in South Africa in August last year amid the worldwide interest and the AU became a full member of the G-20 in September. The NAM Summit and the South Summit in Uganda in January this year served as an important occasion in corroborating the aspirations and enthusiasm of African countries to make an active contribution to strengthening the Non-Aligned Movement, cooperation between developing countries and the establishment of a new international order.

The African countries will continue to achieve regional development and prosperity on the strength of united efforts.

Nepal concentrates efforts on economic development

By Song Jong Ho PT

Nepal is an inland country which is located in the southern slope of the Himalayas in the south of Asia.

It has over 20 mountains which are over 7 000 metres above sea level including 8 848-metre-high Everest and more than 1 000 mountains that are over 6 000 metres.

As there are many steep mountains, there was a big hindrance to the development of transport in the past. In mountainous areas, the Nepalese people used such animals as cattle and camels as a means of transport.

But in recent years, they have renovated their roads to actively develop the country's traffic.

At present, Nepal is directing big efforts to economic development with an eye to building a more stabilized and developed country.

Tourism serves as the major source of state revenue. The country is widely known as a mountain-climbing destination since it has the world's highest peak of Everest.

Agriculture and animal husbandry take an important share in the economy.

Main crops include rice,

wheat, maize, barley, buckwheat, cotton, jute, etc.

In order to boost agricultural production, the Nepalese government has taken a measure to enable all agricultural producers to have access to sci-tech services, and carried on a plan for modernizing the agricultural sector.

Nepal's industry focuses on cement production, leather tanning and power production as well as carpet production.

The government has channelled great efforts into the development of IT and air transport and environment protection.

It aims to ensure the production of most of the electric power of the country by means of renewable energy sources like water and sunlight by 2030.

Nepal promotes friendly and cooperative ties with all the countries, especially neighbouring countries, on the principle of equality, sovereignty and non-alignment and strives to ensure regional peace and stability.

May 15 this year is the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Nepal.

Briefly

Russia

FM discloses West's confrontational policy

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov exposed the West's policy pursuing a confrontational line at the general meeting of the foreign and defence policy council on May 18.

An acute military and political confrontation goes on and is in a heated phase between Russia and the West, he said, adding that the West is attempting to split the country in every way while improving the scenario for inflicting losses on Russia.

China

US' buck passing rejected

Wang Wenbin, a spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, at a recent press conference decried the US' attempt to pass the buck to China over the worsening Ukrainian situation.

Referring to the fact that a spokesman for the US Department of State insisted that China should not keep exacerbating the biggest "threat" facing Europe, he said that the US' paradox is based on the logic that if it is not black, it is white, and it is a continuation of the Cold War way of thinking as they seek any rival instead of peace.

The US has responsibility that it cannot shirk for triggering and aggravating the Ukrainian crisis, he asserted, adding that a knot should be undone by the one who tied it.

Venezuela

US' sanctions against Nicaragua criticized

The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry made public a statement on May 16 to censure the US for its sanctions against Nicaragua.

The US Treasury Department imposed sanctions against businesses and entities in Nicaragua on unreasonable pretexts, and the statement branded and condemned it as an attempt to destroy the country's anti-imperialist and independent stand.

The international community should not tolerate interventionist acts trampling on countries' rights to self-determination and independent economic development, it stressed.

Japan

Fukushima nuclear power station keeps discharging nuclear wastewater

Japan continuously discharges nuclear contaminated water from the Fukushima nuclear power station into the ocean.

On May 17, the Tokyo electric power company said that the sixth round of dumping of nuclear wastewater into the sea started and its amount would reach about 7 800 tons by June 4.

Japan has reportedly dumped about 39 000 tons of nuclear wastewater into the Pacific Ocean since August last year.

Its dumping is provoking denunciation and criticism from its neighbouring countries and the international community.



Jonwi (vanguard) Street springs up at the northern gateway to Pyongyang.

KOREAN SPORTS FUND

By Kim Hak Chol PT

Established in April 2006, the Korean Sports Fund conducts funding activities for supplying sportswear, footwear and equipment and materials to sportspeople.

Donation is made on the voluntary principle and its scale is up to the will of supporters.

Overseas compatriots, foreign charity organizations, individuals and sports fans

can take part in donation. A certificate of support is issued for organizations and individuals in the name of the fund. The fund organizes visits to the office building of the fund and tour of scenic spots by inviting them to the DPRK.

Since its establishment, many overseas compatriots and charity organizations and individuals from China, Russia and other countries have rendered support.

Ri Hak Jae, director of the Osaka sports association

of the Korean Sportsmen's Federation in Japan of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon), contributed to winning the victory of Korean players in the Thai King Cup international boxing games by providing large funds and equipment and materials to the Korean Boxing Association on several occasions.

The funding has actively been conducted at home.

Nearly 7 000 donors have so far participated in the funding programme since last year.

Yun Un Jong, a 37-year-old woman who has made donation on several occasions, expressed her determination to make larger contributions in the future, saying that she was eager to extend her thanks to the athletes who added glory to the country whenever she saw the flag of the DPRK fly high in the sky of the world.

Natural monument, Ongjin *Chionanthus retusa*

6.5 metres tall
2.4 metres round at the root neck
46 metres round at the crown

By Kim Jin Hyang PT

crown.

Ongjin *Chionanthus retusa* grows on a roadside in the seat village of Mansok-ri, Ongjin County.

The tree, which was planted in around 1880, is 6.5 metres tall, 2.4 metres round at the root neck and 46 metres round at the

A deciduous broad-leaved tree, it is really beautiful when it blooms.

The old tree unique in shape is a natural monument which is of great

significance in studying the ecological features of the plant and adds natural beauty to the surrounding landscape.

Farm music

By Choe Yong Nam PT

Farm music is a style of folk art which combines music, dance, play and others created by Korean ancestors in the course of their agricultural life.

The music, which is closely connected with the Korean people's agricultural life, is a mass-based and collective national art which was enjoyed by peasants most widely in the past, and it is very rich in national characteristics.

It originated in the closing years of the primitive society to keep developing before greeting a heyday between the 17th century and the 19th century.

It was much played in the beginning of preparations for the new year's farming, at the time of difficult farming processes such as rice transplanting and weeding or at the time when harvesting was finished and during peasants' joint work.

It was also used for major folk games of the year.

It was played by a band of several members, not by a person.

The depictive features of the music are displayed intensively through the ever-changing rhythmic tunes of different percussion instruments including *kkwaeng-gwari* (a kind of small gong) and *jing* (a kind of gong) and the melodic tunes of accompanying *saenap* (a Korean brass wind instrument).

In particular, tunes take a leading position in the

representation system of farm music.

The music is divided into peasant dance which is danced to the tune of the music under the guidance of *sangsoe* (leading gong player) and dramatic peasant play by a motley crew.

It reflects the artistic talents, optimism, stamina and collectivist spirit of Korean ancestors. It has been carried on with great emotional influence as it is strong in appeal and motivation.

