



DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

KOREA

2025 **5**





Pictorial Korea
founded in April 1956

CONTENTS

Special Report

- 2 Another Spectacular Appearance Symbolic of New Heyday of Pyongyang Construction and Efflorescence of Pyongyang Culture
Inauguration Ceremony of 10 000 Flats at Third Stage in Hwasong Area Takes Place with Splendour
- 14 Special Event Representing Significant Breakthrough in Modernization of Navy in New Era
Ceremony of Launching Destroyer of KPA Navy Takes Place with Splendour
- 26 Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Has Photo Taken with Workers of Nampho Shipyard and Scientists and Technicians in Field of Warship-building Industry, Who Made Contribution to Building New-type Destroyer
- 28 Combat Application Test of Weapon Systems of Multi-mission Destroyer *Choe Hyon* Begins

News

- 32 113th Birth Anniversary of President Kim Il Sung Celebrated Significantly
- 44 93rd Anniversary of KPRA Celebrated
- 46 Respected Fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un Sends Musical Instruments to Newly-built Schools in Areas Previously Hit by Flooding
- 48 Citizens Move into New Flats in Hwasong Area
- 50 Show of Products of Regional-industry Factories Newly Built in 20 Cities and Counties
- 52 135th Anniversary of May Day Marked Significantly
- 54 Groundbreaking Ceremony Held for Building DPRK-Russia Border Road Bridge
- 56 Mt Paektu Area Registered as World Geopark

Korea Today

- 62 Natural Stone Dressing Base in Mt Suyang Area
- 66 Pyongyang Metro

Sports

- 72 Twice World Champion Pang Chol Mi

Nature

- 74 Wetland in Rason

COVER: 10 000 flats inaugurated at the third stage in the Hwasong area

Editors: Pyon Il Jin, Kim Kyu Song, Sung Ryong, Ri Kum Ju



2



14



56



66



74

Another Spectacular Appearance Symbolic of New Heyday of Pyongyang

Construction and Efflorescence of Pyongyang Culture

Inauguration Ceremony of 10 000 Flats at Third Stage
in Hwasong Area Takes Place with Splendour



Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Cuts Inauguration Tape at Inauguration Ceremony



Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, is turning into a world-class ideal city and a paradise of happiness for the people where they enjoy a new life and civilization of socialism, fully demonstrating its unique majesty and reputation with the spirit of the country racing against time and the pulse of the times vibrant with great changes.

The inauguration ceremony of 10 000 flats at the third stage in the Hwasong area took place with splendour on April 15.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un attended the ceremony.

When he appeared at the venue of the ceremony, fireworks were set off and thunderous cheers of "Hurrah!" resounded far and wide.

Also present at the ceremony were Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, and other senior Party and government officials, officials of the Cabinet, armed forces organs, ministries and national agencies, builders and working people in Pyongyang.

Kim Tok Hun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made an inaugural address.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un cut the inauguration tape.

Beautifully decorating the Hwasong area, fireworks were set off and balloons flew at the venue of the inauguration ceremony, which witnessed another historic scene to be etched in the history of struggle of the great WPK continuously and vigorously making a sacred journey for the promotion of well-being of the beloved people by erecting monumental edifices symbolic of the era of great change one after another.

Songs in praise of the times filled with strong stamina and ardent desire of all the Korean people to devote their all to the building of an ideal society where socialist civilization is in full bloom, exalting the dignity and mightiness of their state with their steadfast pioneering spirit and patriotic will, resounded throughout the venue of the ceremony filling the participants with deep emotion and joy.

The national anthem of the great DPRK, our socialist country where the people's dreams and ideals are being translated into reality and which upholds the greatest man as its leader and father, was solemnly played and fireworks were set off decorating the nocturnal sky over Pyongyang, the city of boundless happiness and glory.



All the participants raise enthusiastic cheers, looking up to the outstanding revolutionary, great artist of creation and construction and benevolent father who has opened up a new history of eye-opening changes in the capital city of Pyongyang through a great drive for creation, the first of its kind after the founding of the state, and ushered in a golden age of rejuvenation and prosperity, when the people will enjoy an affluent and civilized life full of happiness.

The venue of the ceremony was filled with excitement as cheers of "Hurrah!" burst out for Kim Jong Un again.

Kim Jong Un met the working people and the elderly who would move into new flats.

Families of a teacher and a worker presented bouquets of flowers to him, who put forward the ordinary working people as masters of the wonderful, ideal socialist street, in reflection of the unanimous feeling of gratitude of the citizens of the capital city and other people

across the country.

Kim Jong Un said that he was sorry to provide the modern apartment houses only now and that he was firmly determined to take upon himself more tasks for the people while seeing the citizens

full of emotion and joy today. And he wished them happy life in good health in the new houses.

He met and encouraged military and civilian labour innovators who are making a great contribution to the construction of 50 000





flats in Pyongyang, true to the Party's policy on the capital city construction.

He said with affection and trust that thanks to the patriotic and elite ranks of builders like them who carry out the Party's plan unconditionally, the gun report of victory in the implementation of the decisions of the Eighth Congress of the WPK will resound first in the Hwasong area and a new era of prosperity of Pyongyang will

continue steadily.

Warmly waving his hand for a long time to the citizens of the capital city expressing boundless gratitude in tears of emotion, he wished all blessings to all families that would settle in the new splendid street.

All the participants broke into enthusiastic cheers with their firm pledge to invariably go along the road of loyalty and patriotism for



the great Comrade Kim Jong Un, for the eternal prosperity of their great state and for the rosy future of its great capital city.

The completion of the 10 000 flats at the third stage in the Hwasong area is a great demonstration of the true picture unique to our prosperous and powerful state, which has been created by the outstanding leadership of the great Party Central Committee guiding

socialist Korea to the peak of prosperity and the patriotic strength of its people closely rallied around the Party with a single mind, and a great encouraging event that has further enlivened the spirit of all the people who are advancing towards the 80th founding anniversary of the WPK and the Ninth Party Congress with redoubled fighting spirit and confidence.





**Special Event Representing Significant
Breakthrough in Modernization of
Navy in New Era**

**Ceremony of Launching Destroyer of KPA
Navy Takes Place with Splendour**



A ceremony of launching a newly-built destroyer was held with splendour at the Nampho Shipyard on April 25, the significant founding anniversary of the first armed forces of the Korean revolution, in the presence of 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.

The venue of the ceremony was full of the ardent reverence for the great Party Central Committee which has firmly consolidated the absolute might and irreversible superiority of the DPRK's armed

forces by dynamically leading the rapid development of the revolution in national defence industry for the prosperity of the country and its long-term development and fully realized the centuries-old desire of the Korean people to have the strongest naval forces.

The guard of honour of the KPA Navy solemnly lined up waiting for the moment of glory.

When the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un arrived at the venue of the ceremony, all the participants broke into enthusiastic cheers looking up to the great revolutionary and ever-victorious iron-willed

brilliant commander who is vigorously ushering in a new era of building a rich country with a strong army, bringing the dignity and prestige of our state and people onto the highest peak of the century with his outstanding revolutionary ideas, matchless pluck and round-the-clock devotion.

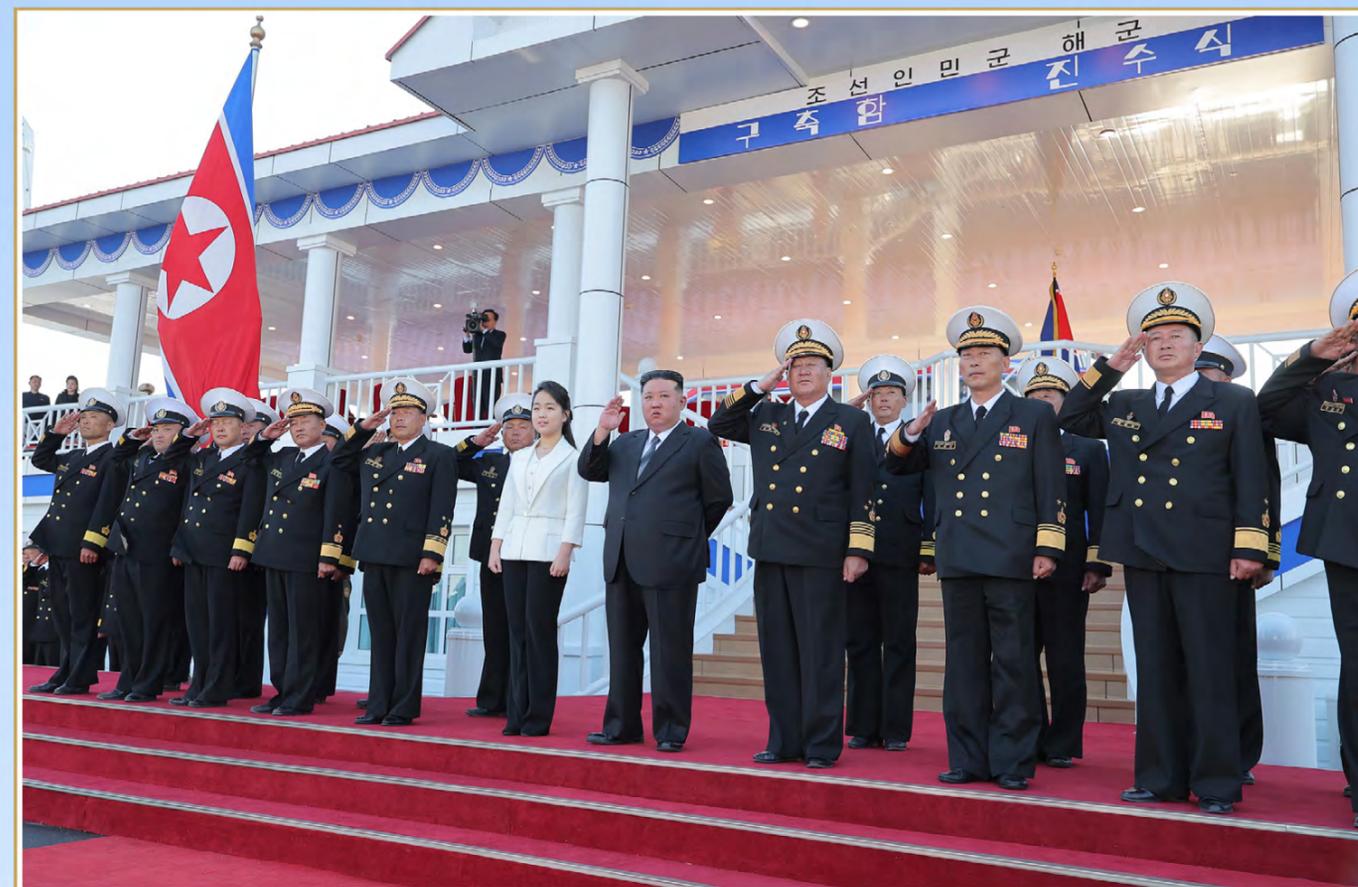
There was a ceremony of greeting the head of state.

Kim Jong Un reviewed the colours of honour of the KPA Navy and its guard of honour.

He was courteously greeted by Senior Admiral Kim Myong Sik, commander of the KPA Navy, other major commanding officers of the Navy and commanding officers of the East Sea and West Sea fleets of the Navy and their affiliated underwater and surface warship squadrons with boundless reverence for him.

There was a march-past of the guard of honour of the KPA Navy. Kim Jong Un took the platform followed by senior officials of the Party, government and military, the commander of the Navy,





commanders of the East Sea and West Sea fleets of the Navy, the manager of the Nampho Shipyard and others.

Officials of the Party Central Committee, chief secretaries of provincial committees of the WPK, officials, persons of merit and labour innovators who had contributed to the building of the warship and commanding officers of the services and corps of the KPA took the seats for invited guests.

The national anthem of the DPRK was solemnly played.

Jo Chun Ryong, secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, delivered a launching address.

He said: The 5 000-tonnage destroyer, which is equipped with the most powerful weapons and which has been built by the workers in the field of our warship-building industry, is to record a sacred new name of the defender in the blue sea of the country. It is a very encouraging reality and an event marking decisive progress in the course of strengthening the war capability of the Navy that we have perfectly built the modern destroyer in a little over 400 days with our own strength and technology.

Yun Chi Gol, manager of the Nampho Shipyard, made a speech in reply.

He proudly reported that the workers of the Nampho Shipyard are prepared for presenting the first new-generation destroyer of the DPRK to the Ninth Congress of the WPK as a gift of patriotic loyalty by honourably implementing the decision of the Eleventh Plenary Meeting of the Eighth Central Committee of the WPK on building a

modern destroyer.

Pak Jong Chon announced a written order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK on the grading regulations, name and number of the new-type multi-mission destroyer and conveyed it to the commander of the East Sea Fleet of the KPA Navy.

On the order of the Central Military Commission of the WPK signed by Kim Jong Un, the newly-built new-type 5 000-tonnage multi-mission destroyer was graded and classified as the Choe Hyon class and named after the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter Choe Hyon, a model military activist who had made boundless loyalty to the leader part of his mental qualities, an elder of the armed forces of the DPRK and a veteran general.

Kim Jong Un conferred the ensign of destroyer *Choe Hyon* on the commanding officers of the East Sea Fleet of the KPA Navy.

Vice Admiral Pak Kwang Sop, commander of the East Sea Fleet, made a speech of pledge.

No Kwang Chol, minister of National Defence of the DPRK, cut the rope as a token of the ceremony of launching the destroyer.

Amid the sound of the warship whistle at the naval port, a powerful entity revealed its magnificent appearance in the sea of the country signalling the advent of a new era of modernization of the Navy. And confetti and coloured tapes were poured out, fireworks were set off and balloons flew up, reflecting the excitement and joy of this historic moment.

Kim Jong Un mounted the destroyer.





The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un places a flower before the relief image of Choe Hyon and pays high tribute to him.



The warship had the honour of undergoing the first inspection by the head of state.

After receiving the salute of the captain, Kim Jong Un met with seamen and gave them warm militant encouragement, going round the stem and quarter deck of the warship.

The memorial relief image of anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter Choe Hyon was unveiled on the destroyer.

Kim Jong Un placed a flower before the relief image of Choe Hyon and paid high tribute to him.

He said that the absolute loyalty to the leader and the spirit of unconditionally implementing the orders and instructions of the leader constitute the core of the revolutionary traits and military temperament of Choe Hyon, adding that the seas of the country will remain unperturbed and the ever-victorious tradition will continuously be carried forward when the reputation and noble soul of the veteran general whose mere name used to strike horror into the hearts of the two imperialist powers become the symbol of invincibility and militant banner of our Navy.

Kim Jong Un got off the warship and met the meritorious

persons of the Nampho Shipyard who had contributed to the building of the destroyer.

He highly appreciated that the historic event which can be called a new birth of the Juche-oriented Navy could be brought about thanks to the patriotic and inexhaustible efforts and enthusiasm of the workers, scientists and technicians of the Nampho Shipyard who are supporting with absolute loyalty and devoted efforts the strategic line and policies on building up the national defence clarified by the WPK.

He awarded commemorative copper coins to the commanders and other officers of the destroyer, wishing the destroyer *Choe Hyon* would perform distinguished feats and enjoy boundless glory.

Kim Jong Un made a historic speech on the occasion of the ceremony of launching the destroyer.

Expressing the historic significance and deep emotion of declaring the launching of the new-generation multi-mission attack destroyer No. 1, which is indispensable in building up our capability for stoutly defending the maritime sovereignty of the DPRK and which will represent an important starting point of the



Kim Jong Un makes a historic speech on the occasion of the ceremony of launching the destroyer.

journey towards building an advanced maritime power, on April 25, the birthday of the first revolutionary armed forces of Korea, Kim Jong Un extended militant encouragement to the workers, technicians and officials of the Nampho Shipyard who had successfully built the new-type destroyer true to the Party's line of strengthening the naval forces, and to the scientists, technicians and workers in the field of the shipbuilding industry who are struggling

as the main force of the revolution in the warship-building industry in the new era.

After making a stern analysis of the situation in the vicinity which poses a very serious threat to the security environment of the DPRK, he said that the strength to launch aggression is directly proportional to the strength to prevent it, and set forth the plan of the WPK to radically bolster up the war capability of the Navy in line





with the justness and necessity of the possession of pelagic fleet, the prerequisite for national security and the world trend of developing the naval forces and the detailed ways for implementing the plan.

His speech is an immortal great programme which is of great theoretical and practical significance in leading the revolution in the warship-building industry in the new era to a steady upsurge and remarkably strengthening the DPRK Navy into a core service for national defence and a component of nuclear war deterrent.

Kim Jong Un had a significant photo session with the commanding officers and seamen of the destroyer *Choe Hyon* against



the background of the warship.

He expressed great expectation and conviction that all the seamen of the destroyer would steadfastly carry forward the indomitable faith and tradition of victory cherished by the pioneering generation of the Korean revolution and thus become the brave warriors of the sea fully guaranteeing the prosperity of the country and the peace and happiness of the people by force of arms and create a new legendary tale of heroes of the Juche-oriented Navy.

Kim Jong Un had a photo session also with officials and persons of merit of the shipyard and institute who had made contributions to



building the destroyer.

On the day, there were a banquet given by the KPA Navy with sincerity and a congratulatory performance by national-level art troupes in celebration of the ceremony of launching the new-type multi-mission destroyer.

After the performance, Kim Jong Un met the discharged navy generals.

Highly appreciating the feats performed by the generals of the past days who had long served at the Navy's important posts and recorded immortal exploits in the history of the Navy with boundless self-sacrificing spirit and indomitable mettle, he said that their great spirit should be invariably carried forward as the eternal soul of

defence.

Kim Jong Un who is making an uninterrupted journey of devoted efforts for the accelerated growth of the national defence capability and the people's peace, was courteously seen off by the leading officials of the Nampho Shipyard and discharged navy generals.

The ceremony of launching the new-type multi-mission destroyer held in the presence of Kim Jong Un will shine for ever in history as an auspicious event heralding the new birth of the DPRK Navy and a great event that powerfully demonstrated before the whole world the spirit of advance and sure victory of our state and people dynamically advancing towards the grand goal of building an advanced maritime power.

Respected Comrade Kim Jong Un Has Photo Taken with Workers of Nampho Shipyard and Scientists and Technicians in Field of Warship-building Industry, Who Made Contribution to Building New-type Destroyer



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 April 29 met and encouraged the workers of the Nampho Shipyard and scientists and technicians in the field of the warship-building industry who had made an important breakthrough in the modernization of the Navy in the new era.

He extended warm congratulations and encouragement to the workers, scientists and technicians in the field of the warship-building industry, who had proved in practice the validity of the revolution in the warship-building industry determined by the Party and the inevitability of victory in it, true to the strategic plan of the Party Central Committee.

He said that very great is the Party Central Committee's expectation of the Nampho Shipyard, which occupies a key position in building a maritime power in the 21st century with the radical growth of the warship-building industry and the making of the naval forces high-tech as its core.

Expressing his conviction that the workers of the Nampho

Shipyard would make more vigorous efforts as befits the proud creator in building the future of our Navy and the honourable pioneer in modernizing the shipbuilding industry in the future, too, he had a photo taken with them against the background of the destroyer *Choe Hyon*.

Combat Application Test of Weapon Systems of Multi-mission Destroyer *Choe Hyon* Begins



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, sees the first test-fire together with leading officials of the Missile Administration, the Academy of Defence Sciences, the Detection and Electronic Warfare Administration and the Nampho Shipyard.

The combat application test of the weapon systems of the multi-mission destroyer *Choe Hyon* began.

The DPRK Missile Administration, the Academy of Defence Sciences and the Detection and Electronic Warfare Administration launched a performance and combat application test of the weapon systems mounted on the destroyer *Choe Hyon*.

The first round of the test of the weapon systems of the destroyer was conducted on April 28 and 29.

The test-fire of supersonic cruise missile, strategic cruise missile, anti-aircraft missile and 127mm shipboard automatic gun took place

on April 28.

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, saw the first test-fire together with leading officials of the Missile Administration, the Academy of Defence Sciences, the Detection and Electronic Warfare Administration and the Nampho Shipyard.

He got on the destroyer that would undergo the scheduled weapon systems test, and acquainted himself in detail with the phased schedule and contents of the test from members of the weapon system

examination group, before watching the first test-fire.

The power of the 127mm shipboard automatic gun attracted close attention of the leading officials.

Highly appreciating that the combat application test of shipboard weapon systems had been prepared with foresight and started promptly, Kim Jong Un underscored the need to perfect the warship's weapon systems for integrated operation in a short span of time by strictly conducting the test as planned.

He highly appreciated the shipboard firepower system once again, saying that it is a very wonderful system of the Korean style, which

effectively combined the most powerful strike means including supersonic cruise missile, strategic cruise missile and tactical ballistic missile with the conventional defensive means of the warship.

Noting that a destroyer discharging the conventional mission of merely repulsing the enemy invading the territorial waters cannot be called a reliable means of maritime defence, Kim Jong Un said that it is important to establish a proactive and aggressive defence system on the premise of powerful attack capability and that it is a major task facing the field of the warship-building industry of the DPRK to steadily raise the level of equipment of offensive and defensive



complex system, into which high-tech means of a new generation are introduced, and thus put the multi-mission and multi-purpose performance of warship on a higher level.

Saying that it is high time to make a responsible option for accelerating the nuclearization of the Navy in order to defend the state and its maritime sovereignty from the existing and prospective threats, he set forth tasks to this end.

On April 29, the test-fire of anti-ship tactical guided weapon, various kinds of shipboard automatic guns and smoke and electronic jamming guns took place.

113th Birth Anniversary of President Kim Il Sung Celebrated Significantly



Officials, working people, service personnel, and youth and students visit the statues of President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill.



Senior Party and government officials, officials of the Party Central Committee and leading officials of ministries, national agencies and armed forces organs visit the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun and pay high tribute to the statues of the great leaders.

All the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, cherishing the great pride in and honour of ushering in a new era of comprehensive national rejuvenation, an era of miracles and transformation, noteworthy in their 5 000-year-long history, under the seasoned leadership of the great Party Central Committee, celebrated the 113th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung significantly.

The people visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred

temple of Juche, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance.

Officials, working people, service personnel of the Korean People's Army and youth and students visited the statues of Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il on Mansu Hill and in different parts of the country, and laid flower baskets, bouquets and flowers in front of them.

On the occasion of the April holiday, all the children including orphans and primary school pupils across the country received gifts.

Looking round the photo exhibitions held in Pyongyang and provinces (municipalities), the visitors were convinced that as they hold in high esteem the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un who prioritizes the people's interests in adopting state policies and continues his field guidance for the betterment of their livelihood, the

glory of their country will shine for ever.

The Flower Festival-2025 was held at the April 15 Children's Flower Garden on the occasion of the meaningful April holiday.

Performances were given in Pyongyang and other parts of the country in celebration of the Day of the Sun, and a feeling of delight and joy overflowed at dance parties of youth and students and working people across the country.





National photo exhibition



Joint national meeting of the Korean Children's Union organizations



Flower Festival-2025



28th National Cooking Festival



Photo exhibition showing the eye-opening transformations in Pyongyang in the new era



Fine arts exhibition of veteran painters



Fifth Sweet and Biscuit Sculpture Show



National calligraphy festival



Evening Gala of Youth and Students and Fireworks Display in Pyongyang

백두의 혁명정신



An evening gala of youth and students took place at Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to celebrate the auspicious April holiday.

Paying the greatest respect to President Kim Il Sung who gives a blessing to the everlasting dignity and bright future of the country with his beaming smile, the participants performed dances to the tune of such songs as *We Sing of Our Country Holding the Leader in High Esteem* and *My Country Is Always the Leader's*.

Fireworks were displayed in the nocturnal sky to rev up the atmosphere.

The evening gala and fireworks display demonstrated the revolutionary spirit of the younger generation who are glorifying the era of great creation and transformation with patriotic strength and enthusiasm under the leadership of the respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un.



Ninth April Spring People's Art Festival Held with Splendour

The 9th April Spring People's Art Festival took place with splendour in Pyongyang, the capital city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from April 10 to 17 to celebrate the 113th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung.

Over 1 500 participants from 24 units such as the Kangdong Combined Greenhouse Farm and Jungphyong Greenhouse Farm, which make a tangible contribution to improving people's living standards, and the Sinpho City Offshore Farm which was erected by benevolent affection of the Workers' Party of Korea were present.

Performances, given at such places as the People's Palace of

Culture, Pyongyang Grand Theatre, East Pyongyang Grand Theatre and Central Youth Hall, divided into city, county (complex) art groups, art groups of institutions, art groups of industrial establishments and art groups of farms.

The performances represented the loyalty and patriotic enthusiasm of all the people across the country to perform ceaseless miracles and feats in the general advance for achieving the comprehensive development of the state, true to the ideology and leadership of the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, holding President Kim Il Sung in high esteem for all ages.





31st

Pyongyang International Marathon

The 31st Pyongyang International Marathon took place on the occasion of the birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung.

The contest, divided into marathon, half marathon, 10km and 5km races, brought together marathoners from the DPRK, China, Romania, Morocco and Ethiopia and amateurs from different countries and regions.

The opening ceremony took place at Kim Il Sung Stadium on April 6.

The flag symbolizing the Pyongyang International Marathon was hoisted amid the playing of the song *We Love Our Country*.

Then the contest started.

Working people, youth and students and other Pyongyang citizens gave big hands to encourage the marathoners on Kaeson, Sungni, Chongchun and other streets.

Marathoners of the DPRK took the first place in the men's and women's events.

DPRK runners also won gold, silver and bronze medals in men's and women's half-marathon.

Polish runners took the first, second and third places in men's amateur marathon and a contender from Chinese Hong Kong came first in the women's amateur marathon.

There took place the closing ceremony.

Trophies, medals and diplomas were awarded to the winners.

The international marathon served as a significant occasion in adding much to the April holiday atmosphere and strengthening friendly bonds between the Koreans and other peoples of the world.



Senior Party, government and military officials visit the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong to lay flowers.



93rd Anniversary of KPRF Celebrated

All the Korean people and service personnel of the Korean People's Army significantly celebrated the 93rd anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

People visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the supreme temple of Juche where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance.

People and service personnel visited the statues of the President and the Chairman on Mansu Hill and the mosaics all over the country, portraying the images of the peerlessly great men, who developed the

Korean People's Army into the revolutionary armed forces that have inherited the revolutionary traditions of the anti-Japanese struggle and are boundlessly faithful to the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea, laid flower baskets and bouquets and made a bow to the peerlessly great sages.

A number of people visited the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, which teaches the stout revolutionary faith and indomitable will of the revolutionary forerunners who held Kim Il Sung in high esteem as the centre of unity and leadership in



The Song and Dance Ensemble of the Ministry of National Defence puts on a music and dance performance *Eternal Echo of the Paektu Campus*.

the initial days of the Korean revolution and waged bloody battles in Mt Paektu.

A march of the successors to carry forward the soul of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners took place in Pyongyang.

Officials, working people, youth and students across the country visited the People's Army soldiers, who are reliably safeguarding the defence posts of the country, the families of war veterans and honoured disabled ex-soldiers, sharing the joy of the holiday with them.

Colourful artistic performances were given at theatres in Pyongyang and provinces.

In celebration of the anniversary, the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Ministry of National Defence put on a music and dance

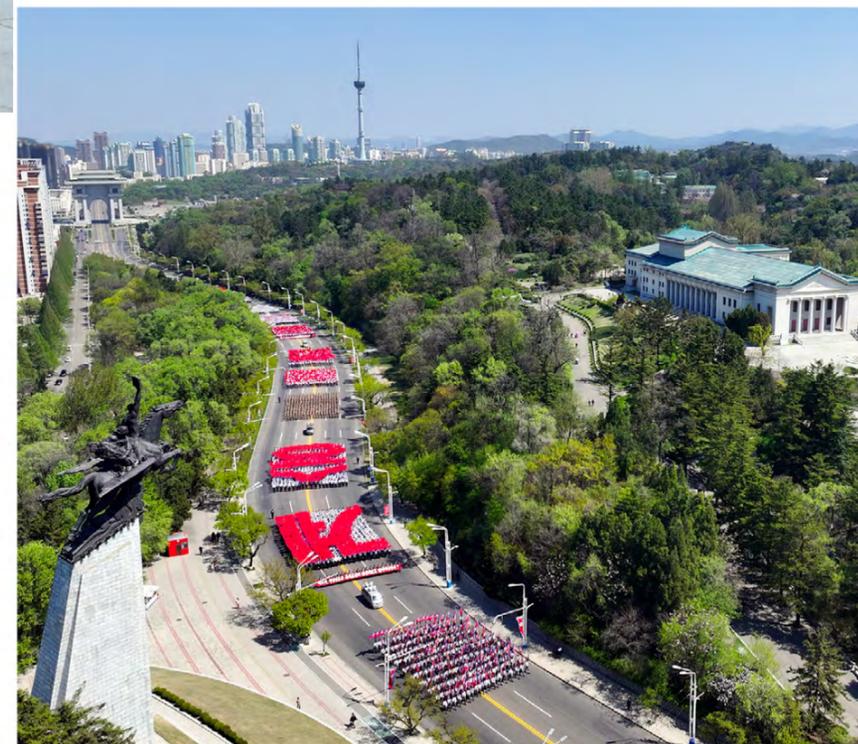


performance *Eternal Echo of the Paektu Campus* at the April 25 House of Culture, and the National Symphony Orchestra a concert at the Moranbong Theatre.

The one-act play *Laughter* was given at the National Theatre and a combined acrobatic performance at the Pyongyang Acrobatic Theatre.

Similar events were held in South Phyongan, South Hwanghae, Kangwon and South Hamgyong provinces and Nampho Municipality, adding to people's pride in and joy of greeting the significant holiday.

That day, the happy laughter of working people spending a good time of enjoyment could also be heard at the Central Zoo, the Natural History Museum, the Amusement Park of the Kaeson Youth Park and other bases of cultural and leisure activities.



A march of the successors in Pyongyang is held as a token of their resolve to carry forward the soul of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners.



Respected Fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un Sends Musical Instruments to Newly-built Schools in Areas Previously Hit by Flooding

The ardent love and affection of the benevolent father who spares nothing for the younger generation and glorifies the bright laughter of the children as the image of Korean-style socialism are overflowing in the schools wonderfully built in the northwestern parts of the DPRK, where the

aftereffects of flood damage were removed. The respected fatherly Marshal Kim Jong Un sent pianos, accordions, guitars, *oungum*, *kayagum*, harmonicas and other musical instruments as gifts to the schools newly built in the flood-hit areas in North Phyongan, Jagang and Ryanggang

provinces. Last year he took special measures for the education of schoolchildren from the flood-hit areas and personally visited the April 25 Hostel to warmly bless the future of the children. He saw to it that the wonderful schools were built adding pride

to their native villages whose looks had undergone radical changes, and that they were supplied with modern teaching aids and furnishings, educational equipment and sports apparatuses to them. This time he showed great benevolence of sending many musical instruments to them.

The cheerful laughter of the children and their song *We Are the Happiest in the World* will resound for ever in the clear and blue sky over the country, conveying to the whole world the great benevolence of Kim Jong Un who is cultivating the socialist motherland more brightly and beautifully with his ardent love and boundless affection for the rising generations.



day with the people moving into their new houses.

Enveloped by an unusual emotion were those who greeted the most glorious moment in their life on the day of inauguration of the street—meeting the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un.

The vast Hwasong area reverberated with the cheers and excited voices of the people enjoying at their windows the beautiful view of Pyongyang, where a new era of prosperity and cultural efflorescence is being ushered in.

The people's laughter is growing louder day by day in the balmy spring season when all kinds of flowers are in full bloom. This laughter has turned into all the people's cheer for the Workers' Party and socialism.

The house-moving event unfolded in the Hwasong area thanks to the wise leadership of Kim Jong Un, the great father of

the people, who shoulders willingly all the burdens for the people's well-being and brings everything brilliant earlier, is beautiful scenery giving a picture of the

people enjoying all kinds of happiness generation after generation in an advanced civilized country.



Citizens Move into New Flats in Hwasong Area

Pyongyang, a city full of happiness and glory, which is getting more prosperous and civilized year by year in the new era of transformation ushered in by the great Party Central Committee, has greeted another

“season of moving into new flats” in April spring this year.

The new super-high-rise and high-rise apartment houses and various neighbourhood-serving amenities

boasting their majestic appearances in the splendid urban quarter as they reflect the spirit of the times vibrant with gigantic transformation, form a good harmony. This large architectural group is seething every





Show of Products of Regional-industry Factories Newly Built in 20 Cities and Counties

A show of products of regional-industry factories newly built in 20 cities and counties took place in Pyongyang from April 22 to 26.

It was aimed at steadily improving the quality of products with the people's demands and assessments as an absolute criterion and creating a climate of development-oriented competition in all the regions while sharing and generalizing advanced technologies and experience, so as to dynamically promote the qualitative development of the regional industry.

Senior Party and government officials, officials of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, chief secretaries of the provincial Party committees and officials of Party and power organs of 20 cities and counties acquainted themselves in detail with the quality of the products and made a detailed analysis of the level of improved quality of products of those regional factories while comparing the tastes of the foodstuffs.

Decided at the show were rankings of cities and counties which distinguished

themselves in implementing the Party's policy on setting it as the first task to improve the quality in the light industry sector and putting efforts into improving the quality of the condiments and essential consumer goods.

During the show, there took place a short course on the policy-oriented tasks for actively developing and utilizing the natural and economic resources of the regions and putting the production and management activities at regional-industry factories on a scientific basis.



135th Anniversary of May Day Marked Significantly



A national meeting held on the occasion of May Day



Party and government officials celebrate the international holiday together with the working people across the country.

The Korean working people significantly marked the 135th anniversary of May Day, the international holiday of working people all over the world.

The people visited the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, the sacred temple of Juche, where President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il are preserved in their lifetime appearance.

Officials and working people visited the statues of the President and the Chairman on Mansu Hill and the mosaics portraying the images of the peerlessly great men in different parts of the country to lay flower baskets, bouquets and flowers and make a deep bow in front of them.

A national meeting was held at the People's Palace of Culture on

the occasion of the anniversary.

Party and government officials celebrated the international holiday together with the working people across the country.

Colourful artistic performances were given at theatres and open-air stages in Pyongyang and provinces like North Hwanghae, Jagang, Kangwon and South Hamgyong to rev up the atmosphere of the

holiday.

People, enjoying the day, could also be seen at the Central Zoo, the Natural History Museum, the Munsu Water Park, the riding service facility in Hamhung and other bases of cultural and leisure activities.



Groundbreaking Ceremony Held for Building DPRK-Russia Border Road Bridge



The groundbreaking ceremony for building a DPRK-Russia border road bridge took place simultaneously in Rason Municipality, a border city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Khasan, a border city of the Russian Federation, on April 30 amid deep interest and expectations of the governments and peoples of the two countries.

The national flags of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation were fluttering at the flagpoles in the DPRK-Russia Friendship House, the

venue of the DPRK side.

Pak Thae Song, premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Mikhail Mishustin, prime minister of the Russian Federation, attended the ceremony in Pyongyang and Moscow via video-conferencing.

The national anthems of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation were played.

Mikhail Mishustin and Pak Thae Song made congratulatory speeches.

Construction equipment went into

work at the construction sites of both sides according to the instructions given by heads of government of the two countries.

Then a commemorative monument to the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the bridge was unveiled.

Inscribed on the monument are the national emblems of the two countries and the letters, reading *In Commemoration of Starting the Construction of DPRK-Russia Border Road Bridge, April 30, 2025*, in Korean and Russian.

That day the DPRK leading officials

who took part in the ceremony had a talk with leading officials of the Russian government, who visited the DPRK-Russia Friendship House.

Discussed at the talk in detail were the practical issues for completing within schedule the construction of the bridge which is of substantial and important significance in dynamically promoting many-sided exchanges and development of economic ties between the two countries.





Mt Paektu Area

Registered as World Geopark

The Mt Paektu Geopark is a geological research and dissemination base and a tourist attraction with geosites, distributed on a certain scale, of special volcanic-geological significance and touristic value.

It is of special ecological, historical and cultural values in combination with the humanistic landscape of the park area created by volcanic actions, thus drawing a global attention.





Jong Il Peak

Jong Il Peak is a hornito formed in the course of highly viscous magma being cooled and solidified while ascending at a slow speed about two million years ago. It is a geosite of great significance in giving a scientific understanding of the formation and denudation processes of the hornito.



Geological section at Kat Peak and some animals and plants

The geopark has scores of geosites of scientific research, educational and touristic values.

Among them, the geological section at Kat Peak is a geosite of great significance in volcanology as it shows on a section the volcanic products of different styles.

In the Mt Paektu area can be seen rich biodiversity formed by the ceaselessly-changed flora and fauna during several volcanic eruptions and their evolutions.



Bear swimming in Lake Chon



Rhododendron blooming in snow



Charrs in Lake Chon

Lake Samji

A non-drainage lake formed by volcanic actions in the Mt Paektu area, Lake Samji is of great significance in studying the process of the volcanic eruptions.



Rimyongsu Falls

Rimyongsu Falls was formed by erosion of basalt spouted in Mt Paektu.

It has nine main streams between countless streamlets running down like beads.

An underground waterfall which never dries all the year round, it gushes out with the volume of 0.8 cubic metres per second.

As underground water gushes out between cliffs, the falls is an uncommon geological heritage of great international significance.



Partial view of Samjiyon



Samjiyon, where the Mt Paektu Geopark is situated, has turned into a model mountain city in the northern part of the country.

Various events held in the city's cultural and sports facilities make the visitors have a deeper understanding of the geopark and the region's culture.



Samjiyon Potato Farina Factory



Samjiyon Bog Bilberry Drinks Factory

The geopark, with the organic combination of natural scenery and humanistic landscape, presents a peculiar and excellent spatial ensemble.

The Mt Paektu area in the DPRK was registered as a world geopark at the 221st meeting of the Executive Board of UNESCO held in Paris in April 2025.



Natural Stone Dressing Base in Mt Suyang Area

- Visit to the Haeju Aeguk Stone Dressing Factory -



Mt Suyang in the city of Haeju, South Hwanghae Province, is well known for the rich deposit of granite. The Haeju Aeguk Stone Dressing Factory is situated by the mountain.

The factory has greatly contributed to the construction of monumental buildings by supplying a lot of high-class stone products.

In recent years the management and workers have renovated their factory.

They have greatly reduced the production cost while putting

production on a stable basis by installing a rail track for transporting the stone materials from the quarry to the processing site, built a base for producing saws, and secured parts and devices for stone processing by their own efforts. Its technical staff has developed programs for controlling the production equipment, thus establishing labour- and energy-saving production lines.

This has made it possible for the workers to finely process even huge stone blocks.



Rough stones produced at the quarry are processed into different kinds of stone works of various sizes, including slabs, railings and kerbs.



The entire production line, from processing to delivery, is controlled by the integrated production system.

Under the banner of self-reliance based on science and technology, the management and workers of the factory are giving a spur to their

effort to increase production of stone products necessary for major construction projects.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin
Text: Pak Kyong Chol



Pyongyang Metro

The Pyongyang Metro is one of the public means of transport for the citizens.

After its inauguration in September 1973, it has become a monumental structure in the era of the Workers' Party through several stages of construction.

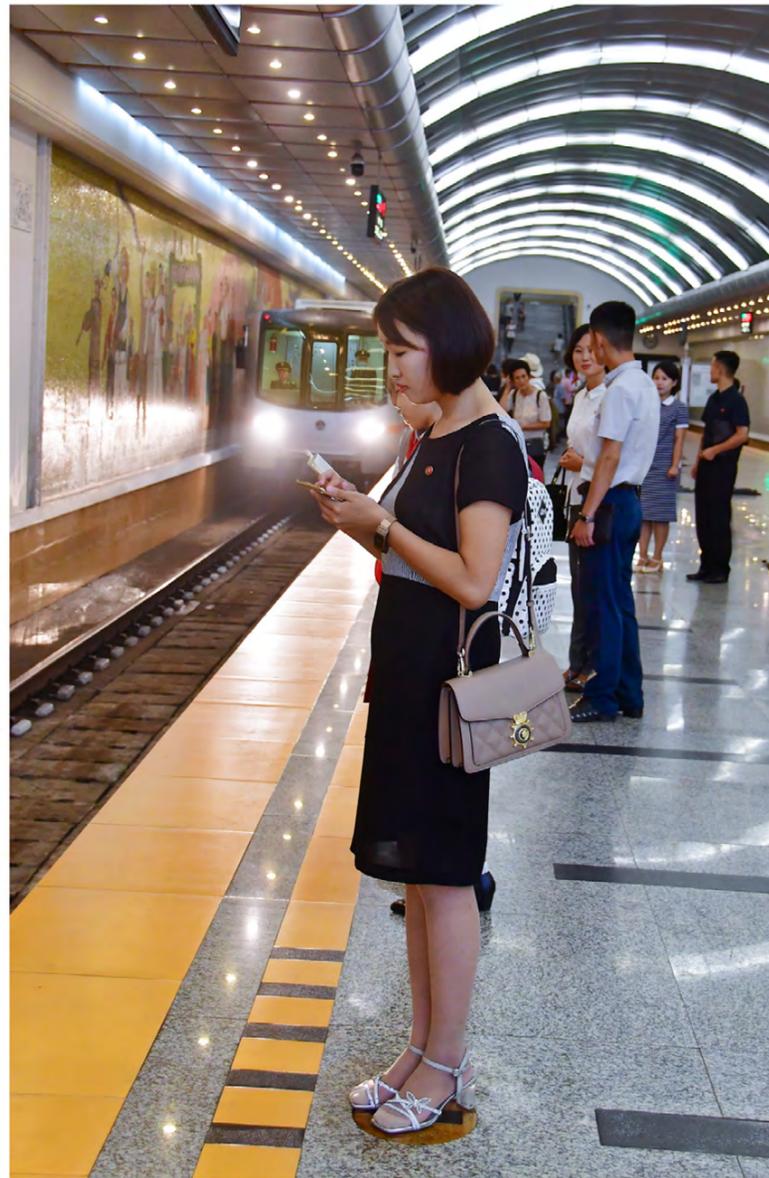
The metro has been loved by the people as an “underground palace” and “underground Pyongyang” as it eases the strain on passenger traffic and its stations are decorated with large mosaics and embossed carvings depicting the course of development of the country and the happy

life of the people.

It underwent facelift from the 2010s.

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un went over a large number of designs of the stations for the reconstruction project.

As a result the metro is renewing its appearance in the 2020s while new streets



and structures are being built above the ground for the improvement of the cultural and leisure activities of the people in Pyongyang.

The reconstruction project went on with Kaeson, Moranbong, Jonsung, Jonu, Pulgunbyol and Hyoksin stations. This year the Yonggwang and Puksong stations have been reconstructed.

As the stations' ceilings and illuminations were renovated to be more modern and elegant, their artistic and formative beauty was raised to a higher level.

Platforms, corridors and walls along



the escalators are decorated with pictures depicting the architectural structures newly built in different parts of the country and the civilized life the people are enjoying.

Facilities that offer convenience to passengers have newly been installed.

With the scenery of Pyongyang changing every year on and under the ground, people's

delight in taking the metro is getting greater.

Photo: Ri Chol Jin, U Jong Guk
Text: Kim Son Gyong

TWICE

World Champion

Pang Chol Mi



Last March, Pang Chol Mi came first and bagged the gold medal in the 52kg category at the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships 2025 by defeating all her rivals.

In 2018, she got the gold medal in the 51kg category at the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships. Thus she became a twice champion.

She was born in the city of Jongju, North Phyongan Province. Her childhood dream was to become a famous athlete who would demonstrate the honour of the country like Kye Sun Hui, a famous

woman judoist.

She started boxing after she had been advised by a teacher at the Jongju City Extracurricular Sports School to learn boxing. Some years later she began to draw attention of experts by winning domestic tournaments.

After starting her boxing career at the Kumgangsan Sports Team, she set a high goal of winning world supremacy with her iron fists, and made strenuous efforts, thus becoming one of the famous women boxers in the country.



Pang still sheds sweats of patriotism on the training ground with a passion to glorify her motherland with more gold medals.

She also acquitted herself well in international games.

In December 2018, she was awarded the title of People's Athlete and selected as one of the top 10 sportspersons of the DPRK several times.

Photo: Son Hui Yon
Text: Kim Son Gyong



Wetland in Rason

The wetland in Rason is a treasury of nature with diverse and abundant ecosystems in the areas of the estuary of the Tuman River in the northern tip of the DPRK and waters off Josan Bay in the East Sea of Korea.

The water area encompassing Manpho, Tongbonpho and Sobonpho in Kulphodong, Sonbong District, Rason, is an ideal habitat for migratory birds.

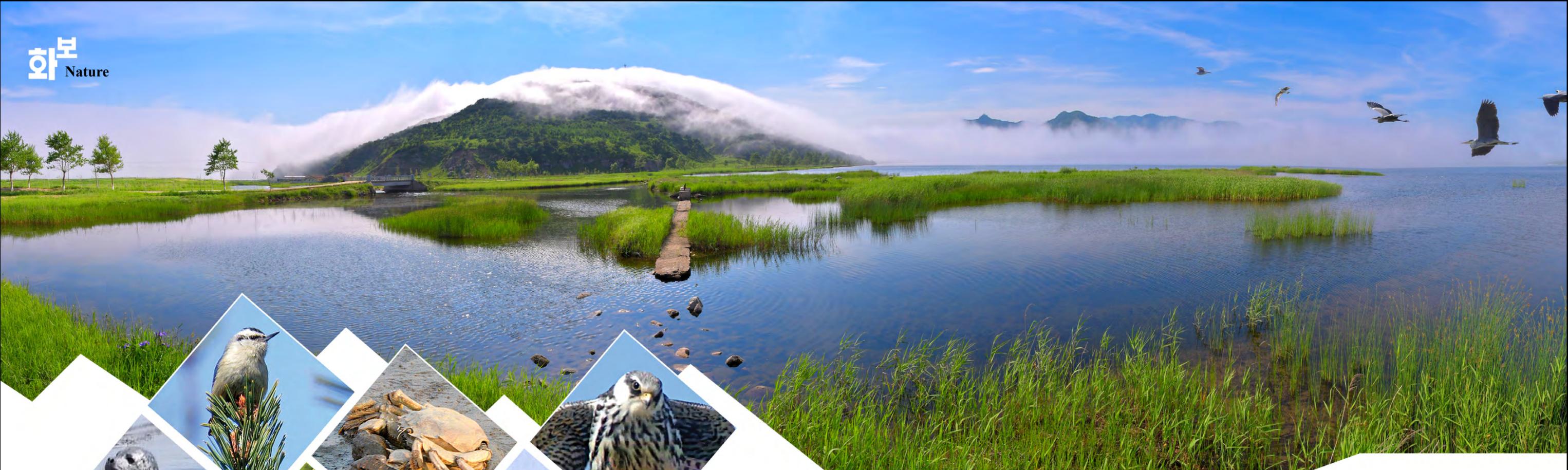
There are a lot of lakes and swamps in the locality, so it consists in a biome with a wide area of flooded grasslands which are home to aquatic plants, gramineous plants, *Cyperus amuricus Maxim* family plants and

many other kinds of plants, and with a thick forest of pine trees, overcup oaks, sweet briars and *Weigela florida* at the seaside.

The birds recorded in this area are of more than 300 species.

The Rason Migratory Bird Reserve has more species of birds than other major migratory bird reserves in the country, which means that it plays the most important role





In the biome covering forests, clear lakes, swamps and coastal waters in the Rason region can be seen diverse plants and animals including such mammals as roe deer, squirrel, *Tamias sibiricus* and wildcat, dozens of kinds of insects, such aquatic animals as fish, shellfish, sea urchin and shrimp, and such sea animals as seal and eared seal.

in protecting the bird species in the country.

In this biome covering forests, clear lakes, swamps and coastal waters in the Rason region can be seen diverse plants and animals including such mammals as roe deer, squirrel, *Tamias sibiricus* and wildcat, dozens of kinds of insects, such aquatic

animals as fish, shellfish, sea urchin and shrimp, and such sea animals as seal and eared seal.

As it is in a geographical position with favourable feeding and hiding conditions, it has been an important habitat of migratory birds and their stop-over place.

The wetland was registered in 1995 as a national migratory bird reserve and in 2018 as Ramsar site.

The wetland ecosystem in Rason is getting more diverse and enriched thanks to the state's positive protection policy.

Text: Pak Pyong Hun





© 2025 Korea Pictorial
Pictorial Korea is available in English, Korean, Chinese,
Russian and French on www.korean-books.com.kp.
Add: Sochon-dong, Sosong District, Pyongyang
E-mail: flph@star-co.net.kp



T-250880313104