Tourism market expected to rebound during holiday

Longer stays over seven-day break favored by travelers, agencies say

BY CHENGYI XIE

China's tourism market is expected to rebound during the Spring Festival holiday, with travelers eager to take long-distance trips after the nation optimized its COVID-19 control measures.

Travel agency bookings and then show travelers are also made for longer stays during the seven-day break that will start on Jan. 21, with journeys to other nations in the country and overseas.

During previous Spring Festival holidays, mainlanders preferred short-distance trips to destinations near their homes or workplaces due to virus control measures and health concerns.

Travel portal Tuniu said that 73 percent of bookings for the upcoming holiday period were for cross-regional trips, destinations with a coastal location or inland climate, such as Hainan Island in southern China, are favored as well.

The group said that hotel rooms are in short supply on online platforms for signs. Yunnan's Lijiang, with its rich historical and cultural heritage, is also popular.

According to a report by Trip.com, bookings for overseas travel have tripled compared to the previous period. The report said that the demand for travel has surged since the end of November.

Shang Xia, a member of the tour team, said that the tourism market will see growth in the number of tourists and the amount they spend. However, the strong travel demand is also driving a rise in the prices of air tickets and hotels.

Travel portal Trip.com Group said that the demand for travel in the past holiday period has surged nearly tenfold, compared to the previous year. A one-way air ticket to Sanya, Hainan, has jumped 50 percent from just one, 000 yuan.

China's COVID-19 pandemic, which has been under control for the past two years, has contributed to the rebound in the tourism market.

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Ports: Travelers reunited with loved ones

Travelers from China and neighboring countries at land ports nationwide were overjoyed to be reunited with their loved ones. Local officials and businesses also welcomed the return of travelers and goods, along with the traffic and bustle at border cities.

Yan said: “I am very excited. For the past three years, I have been looking forward to the border reopening, as I really wanted to return home. I have been so sad not to have been with my parents and children.”

Meanwhile, the largest land-border port in China, processes more than 50 percent of cross-Russia trade via land transportation. In 2020, the port handled 23.5 million metric tons of cargo and 1.9 million trips by travelers, according to figures from the facility.

At the port of Hunchun in Hunchun, Gaoyang Shengtian autonomous region, which borders Vietnam, customs authorities used cameras, flowers, and pot plants to welcome travelers.

Some 1,460 passengers and 1,500 trucks passed through the ports on Sunday, according to local authorities.

In 2020, the local government introduced a special customs clearance system for cross-border drivers. All Chinese freight vehicles entering and leaving the port were driven by designated cross-border drivers who were under strict closed-loop management. Now, these drivers no longer need to wear protective clothing, and regular truck drivers are once again allowed to transport goods across the border.

In Qiqihar, a truck driver for an international logistics company in Qiqihar, arrived at the port early on Sunday to transport goods to Vietnam for the first time in three years.

“The customs service is just as efficient as it was before the epidemic, and I am now ready to drive my truck across China and Vietnam,” he said.

Lan Dunhua, who manages a local supply chain company, said the end of closed-loop management is expected to increase customs clearance efficiency by 60 percent and reduce costs for his company by the same level.

“Before you leave, our company’s business will return to the pre-epidemic level,” he said.

Main channel

Yanji is an important exit and entry point for travelers, and a main land channel from China to the United Nations, according to sources from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, with frequent exchanges of cross-border personnel and goods taking place on the port.

In 2020, the port’s foreign trade continued to grow, and it handled a total of 402,400 (thousand) and über

board freight trucks and some 4.4 million tons of cargo imports and exports.

Li Shuxia, deputy director of the Qiqihar Customs and Port Administration, said publicity has been stepped up for exit and entry procedures to help enterprising truck drivers have been told that they need to obtain the necessary exit-and-entry licenses.

The port has also increased staffing levels, shifted management, and made efforts to shorten customs clearance times and improve efficiency, according to Zhou Xian, deputy director of Qingdao, the biggest of a joint management body on the port.

On further strengthening and improving cross-border transportation and logistic-cooperative partnerships and regulating customs services, the port offers new opportunities for the city to boost its economic development.

He said that by using its strength in logistics, manufacturing, transportation, Qingdao will quickly become a land hub and an important area for China’s “One Belt, One Road” development goals – in which the domestic and international transport systems complement each other, with the domestic market as the focal point.

John Doe, a local entrepreneur, said the city of Dongying, Guangdong, which also borders Vietnam, received hundreds of inbound Chinese travelers when it reopened on Sunday.

Among them, 97,800 were in the port, which stands on the China-Vietnam border, also reopened on Sunday. It is one of the largest land ports on this border.

The port has increased services for the city’s Vietnam-funded border gate, which is expected to reach 600 million yuan.

Guo Zhang, an official at the Shandong port, said the port reopened on the day the port reopened, and we believe this is the right decision in line with China’s opening-up policy, and we are confident in our future and our country,” he said.

Helen Port, the largest in Vietnam, on the Vietnam-China border, resumed services on Sunday, with ports in 30 ports across the two countries reopening the border to facilitate cross-border trade.

The port has reconnected channels for pedestrians and vehicles, which are connected to the Vietnam-China border gate and land gate. For years, goods transported by cross-border citizens in the area have been transported through cross-border public transportation have had a positive impact. In 2020, some 6.1 million inbound and outbound trips were made through Helen Port.

Helen Port Secretary Yu Fang said a Spring Festival gala will be set up to strengthen bonds between people on both sides of the border. During the Spring Festival gala this year, visitors will be entertained by local and government figures, with a series of events to promote the cross-border tourism sector also being considered.

In Tibet autonomous region, Qinghai Port has reopened, six national roads loaded with products from Nepal were inspected at the port on Dec 29 as two-way trade resumed.

Located in the Himalayas, the port is 600 kilometers from the regional capital Lhasa and about 136 km from Khammou, capital of Nepal.

One of the largest land ports between China and Nepal, it handles more than 60 percent of the two countries’ trade.

The port went into full operation in 2018. Plans to expand the facility received national approval in 2017, with the port opening for business to third-generation countries in August that year.

Trade at the port was resumed in 2019 and 2020 due to the epidemic, but one-way freight services technical means to complete the tasks.

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US schools step up security measures

By YANG YUNHE in New York

The establishment of public schools in Newport News, Virginia, said the district will increase in one location where a 14-year-old boy shot a teacher in her classroom. The district has Denise, but they have not been used daily.

On Thursday, the local school board passed a resolution to increase security at its schools, with daily use at over 50 percent. The board voted unanimously to adopt the new security measures, which include additional security personnel, increased access controls, and regular safety drills.

The shooting was the latest in a string of violent incidents in schools nationwide in recent weeks. According to the National School Safety and Security Services, there have been at least six school shootings in the United States since the beginning of the school year.

Counsel: AG cites ‘circumstances’

From page 1

Today, everyone has some loan understanding that the continuation of a strong and safe public schools in the world will be to ensure every child has an opportunity to succeed and reach their full potential. The current and continuous threat of school shootings affects not just the students and their families, but the entire community. The United States has seen an alarming increase in school shootings in recent years, with over 80 incidents reported in 2022 alone.

Philosophy: Nation to play bigger int'l role in future

The international community believes that the current issues facing humanity require a collective approach that involves all stakeholders, including governments, civil society, and the private sector. The UN and its agencies, such as the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), play a crucial role in addressing global challenges and promoting peace and prosperity.

Foreign minister dismisses false ‘debt trap’ claims

Accusations about Chinese loans to Africa groundless, ignore development assistance

By HANSEN KAI, director of the FOCUS International Institute for Strategic Economic Analysis, said in an interview that the government of China has made significant contributions to the economic development of African countries, and that such accusations are groundless.

The global economy in recent years has faced challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of climate change, and the Ukrainian crisis, which have had a significant impact on the African continent. Despite these challenges, China has continued to support African countries in various areas, including infrastructure development, agricultural assistance, and health care.

According to data from the商务部 (MOFCOM), China has provided more than $50 billion in new loans to Africa in recent years, and has invested in various sectors such as energy, transportation, and telecommunications.

The Chinese government has also implemented projects such as the Belt and Road Initiative, which aims to promote economic and trade cooperation between China and Africa. These efforts have contributed to Africa's economic development and poverty reduction.

The Chinese embassy in Africa has emphasized that China's economic cooperation with African countries is based on the principle of non-interference and mutual benefit. China has been committed to promoting win-win cooperation, and the Chinese government has always been transparent in its economic cooperation with African countries.

The Chinese government has also been actively engaged in the global governance system, participating in international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Trade Organization, and advocating for multilateralism and the establishment of a more fair and just international order.

China has been committed to promoting sustainable development, and has made significant contributions to global issues such as climate change and poverty reduction.

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HK, mainland to restart high-speed rail on Sunday

By ST TIANQI and WILEM podcast
In Hong Kong
A total of 10,000 daily tickets for high-speed trains between the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong went on sale as soon as Thursday, with tickets for days in the run-up to the Chinese New Year snapped up hours after they hit the market.
High-speed rail tickets will resume their high-speed train services with the Hong Kong high-speed rail network.
China Railway Guangzhou Group said Thursday that trains from Guangzhou to Shenzhen, Zhuhai and Hong Kong, and between Shenzhen North and Guangzhou South Station will operate.
In a news briefing on Thursday, the company’s Deputy Transport and Logistics Liu Shihuang said that since the resumption of the high-speed rail service is attractive to travelers, many tickets have been booked for the first three days, with March 5 being the most balanced among nearby areas near Shenzhen North Station and the Hong Kong High-speed Rail Station.
Tickets for Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday will be required for passengers traveling between the main cities of Hong Kong and Shenzhen, with the travel time between the two cities expected to be cut to under 10 minutes.

Climate change envoy for China, US hold talks

By HOU LIANGQIANG Special for China Daily
Zhao Xiyue, China’s special envoy for climate change, spoke with US Climate Change Envoy John Kerry via video on Wednesday, according to a media release from the Ministry of Ecology and Environment.
Kerry and Xiyue exchanged ideas about the implementation of a consensus reached in Fiji, Indonesia, and discussed cooperation on promoting a global multilateral effort to address climate change, the release said.
The two agreed to hold further talks as both China and the US go forward in steps to the problem, it added.
Kerry held a virtual talk with US President Joe Biden via video on Monday prior to his arrival in Beijing.
On the sidelines of the talks, the two sides discussed China’s commitment to the Paris Agreement, the climate crisis, and the sustainable and green recovery of the global economy.

Relaxed controls to unleash potential in culture, tourism

By CHENG SHI
The Ministry of Culture and Tourism scrapped eight guidelines related to COVID-19 on Wednesday, requiring local authorities to focus on two aspects of cultural and touristic activities and travel services to maintain the momentum of China’s COVID-19 policies.
The guidelines listed the latest control policies to ensure tourism safety and tourism venues, and as well as for the travel agencies were not allowed to organize tourism activities with high infection risks. Phased group tours will be organized with high infection risks, non-essential

Tibet releases work plan for COVID-19 downgrade

By DASHO FOR CHINA DAILY
The leading group office for COVID-19 in the Tibet autonomous region released the scheme for the COVID-19 downgrade from Class A to Class B on Tuesday.
The plan outlines 11 measures, including the adjustment of the class of the disease, outpatient management of COVID-19 patients, and the emergency rescue.
People at high risk of infection, those with chronic diseases, elderly and those with inflammatory and infectious diseases will be instructed and encouraged to stay at home.

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More service sector programs announced

Six cities selected for opening-up as country eyes economic recovery

By ZHANG YUE
zhangyue@worldbank.org.cn

China has recently established six cities as test cases to boost opening-up and accelerate its economic recovery, officials and experts said.

On Dec 20, the State Council, China’s Cabinet, approved three-year pilot programs in Shenyang, Liaoning province; Nanjing, Jiangsu province; Hangzhou, Zhejiang province; Wuhan, Hubei province; Guangzhou, Guangdong province; and Chengdu, Sichuan province, bringing the total number of cities with similar programs to 11.

It was the third time that the list has been expanded since the first list came out in 2013.

According to the guideline, the six cities will encourage opening-up by implementing industrial regulations, national standards, and management while focusing on development. In addition, local governments will advance reform and develop modern services that exploit their unique resources, making them more competitive globally and helping contribute to overall national growth.

The pilot program is Beijing led to specific encouraging measures, including advancing reform in administrative services and innovation, boosting the development of the digital economy and trade, strengthening reform and innovation in financial services, and fostering greater global co-operation through international services.

One of the main reasons these programs are important is because they help increase foreign investment, which is at the heart of opening-up efforts, according to a statement from the Ministry of Commerce. For example, a spike in foreign investment has driven the optimization and upgrading of China’s industrial structure, which has helped improve the country’s ability to meet demands.

With seven years’ experience of piloting opening-up programs in the country, experts believe that the addition of the six new cities means that China’s ongoing opening-up efforts will significantly increase economic activities, promoting high-quality economic recovery and creating even more impressive outcomes that can contribute to China’s overall development.

Te Xuqiang, a professor at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economics in Beijing, said that the package of the programs in the capital, the government’s home region, will help improve economic activities and stimulate cross-boundary economic exchanges. In turn, opening-up of the service industry in Beijing is playing a similar role to Shanghai’s FTA.

He added that overall, the level of opening-up in the service industry is low. To that end, over the past seven years, the pilot programs in Beijing and four other provincial-level regions – Tianjin, Shanghai, Chongqing, and Hainan – have been successful, he says that the six newly added cities will gain valuable knowledge from their own examples.

For years, the service industry has been the primary arena of attracting foreign investment and driving growth. During the 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015) period, the average annual growth rate of foreign investment in the industry was 6.4 percent, accounting for more than 70 percent of the actual flow of foreign capital.

From January to November last year, China’s actual use of foreign capital in total stood at roughly 130 trillion yuan (20.7 billion), marking a 9.4 percent increase year-on-year. Of this figure, the actual use of foreign capital in the service industry was 84.2 trillion yuan, accounting for 70 percent of the total.

Zha Jun, director of the Institute of International Trade and Services at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation in Beijing, said that the expansion of pilot programs in these cities was well-timed as the country is optimizing national investment, economic cooperation, and trade。（end）

POLICY DIGEST

Plan aims to increase planting of tea oil trees

Authorities have set a target of more than 6 million hectares of tea oil trees planned by 2025 to achieve a three-year action plan developed by the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, the National Development and Reform Commission, and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The tea oil-camellia is a woody shrub rich in oil that has a long history in China. Given its environmental and medicinal importance, the document stated that China will expand plantation by 1.2 million hectares between 2023 and 2025 to produce more than 2 million tons of tea oil.

In addition, the country will support the planting of 500,000 hectares of low-branching tea oil trees over the next three years, it said.

According to the plan, more than 150,000 hectares will be planted in 2023 to recover eight provinces and autonomous regions, including the provinces of Hunan and Jiangxi and the Hunan autonomous area.

Meanwhile, nearly 300 counties have been approved to plant tea oil trees, with China having cultivated some 500,000 hectares of tea oil trees since 2011, according to the document.

The central government has also released a list of 31 counties that are known as tea oil tree plantations across the country.

The plan aims to regulate the planning of tea oil tree plantations, in particular the areas that are rich in natural resources, and improve the quality and diversity of production. The plan also aims to encourage innovative technology and management in the tea oil tree industry.

China Daily

Local governments should play vital role in opening-up effort

By ZHANG YUE
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With China advancing reform and opening-up, a key role local governments play in promoting the opening-up of the service industry is particularly important, experts in the industry said.

The cities were recently added to a list of those in which pilot programs started, according to the opening-up measures have been established. Their efforts will target the service industry and should aim to boost local service industries while also increasing investment opportunities, experts said.

Ye Xumian, a professor at the Chinese Academy of World Trade Organization Studies at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, said all six cities are important in their regions, have a solid foundation in the service industry and are strong manufacturing bases. “I think China should establish a comprehensive development strategy of service industries that are closely related to production and manufacturing,” he said.

For example, Hangzhou in Zhejiang province, which has a strong digital economy, should focus on combining digital services with its manufacturing industries, he explained.

He stressed that the pilot programs more effective, the role of local governments is crucial. “I think the government should establish incentives for service industries that are closely linked to production and manufacturing,” he said.

Thirteen pilots in international trade and modern service industries are important for the development of the service industry in the six cities, he said.

The six cities are located in areas with strong economic activities, according to Ye, which is crucial to the development of local service industries.

Ye said that in addition to the six cities, local governments should consider the impact of opening-up on local industries and the region’s economic development.

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The Tokyo-London military pact raises tensions

Experts say deal exacerbates mistrust between Asia-Pacific nations.

BY ZHAO RUIMAN
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The Tokyo-London defense agreement announced at a recent conference in London is seen as a bilateral version of "WTO" that would undermine regional peace and development, experts warn.

The Reciprocal Access Agreements (RAA) between the United States and Japan, and between the United States and the United Kingdom, is designed to strengthen each country’s military presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

"If possible, other NATO countries would want to follow suit, and the treaty could become a wonderful "WTO" for the military," the professor said.

The United States has also been working with India, Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Australia, and other countries to set up a regional military alliance.

The United States is a clear leader in the region, and both the United States and the United Kingdom have already made their intentions clear.

It is important to note that the United States and the United Kingdom are both members of the NATO, and that this deal could undermine the credibility of the United Nations and the International Criminal Court.

The military alliance could also lead to increased tensions and conflicts in the region.

"We need to be cautious about how we respond to this," the professor said. "We need to work together to prevent the military alliance from becoming a cause of conflict."
Nurses’ 3-day strike in New York City ends

By MINU JIANG in New York

A three-day strike by more than 5,000 nurses at two major New York City hospital ended Thursday after tentative deals that include wage increases and the creation of full-time permanent positions. The deals at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan and Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx are expected to return to auto staffing nurses, nurses began returning to work at both hospitals Thursday morning after the deals were reached.

The New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA), New York labor union, which represents more than 125,000 members, said in a statement Thursday that for nurses at Montefiore, the tentative deal would include a 10% percent increase over three years; the creation of more than 750 new nursing positions and healthcare coverage for eligible nurses, according to The New York Times.

The tentative agreement at Mount Sinai also includes the same wage increases and establishes staffing ratios for the first time for all inpatient units with an enforcement mechanism, the union said, according to The Times. Nurses will vote next week to approve the deal.

Union President Nancy Hasson said Thursday in a statement that the tentative deal “is a historic victory for New York City nurses and for nurses across the state.”

“Today, we can return to work with our heads held high, knowing that our bravery and sacrifice serve our patients and their families and our profession. We’re grateful for the opportunity to work with nurses who are prepared to stand up for their rights and principles,” he said.

The nurses’ strike began last week when the union, which represents more than 100,000 nurses across the state, reached an impasse in negotiations for better pay and benefits.

Rabbit stamp's issuance special

By CHANG JUN in San Francisco

San Francisco's Lunar New Year festivities kicked off on Thursday with the release of a special stamp dedicated to the Year of the Rabbit, according to the Chinese Lunar New Year.

The United States Postal Service (USPS) announced the launch of a special stamp to highlight the Year of the Rabbit, which is according to the Chinese lunar calendar that falls on Feb 22 and ends on Feb 9, 2024.

One of the most celebrated Chinese traditional holidays, approximately 1.5 billion people around the world observe the Lunar New Year or Spring Festival.

USPS Art Director Antonio Alcalá worked on the rabbit stamp design with artist Castillo Chou to create imagery inspired by traditional motifs used in dragon and lion dances. The self-taught Stamp Group is available to order.

A group of several hundred people gathered in front of the Asian Art Museum on Thursday morning for a ceremony that marked the release of the first stamp of the year. The event was held to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit, a symbol of good fortune and prosperity in Chinese culture.

‘China Daily’ Global Edition

People wait outside the Asian Art Museum in New York on Thursday. The museum and the Chinese New Year festivities kicked off with a special stamp dedication ceremony, according to the Chinese Daily.

The Stamp Group is available to order.

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**RMB use in foreign trade may increase**

By Lu Jiming
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China will see a pickup in exports in 2023 due to weaker US consumer demand and expected depreciation of the greenback, according to analysts.

Analysts think China can enjoy a pickup in exports in 2023 even if US consumer demand resumes.

**Auto sales seen up 3% nationwide this year; NEV exports also on ascent**

By Li Fengying

dingzhengli@chinadaily.com.cn

China’s NEV market achieved record sales in 2022, with around 878,000 vehicles sold, according to the China Automobile Manufacturers Association.

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**Overseas trips key to winning clients**

By Zhang Nan
zhangan@chinadaily.com.cn

A representative for the China National Travel Service Co. Ltd., Ni Jun, said China’s NEV market is expected to grow significantly in 2023, with a focus on overseas travel and investment.

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**Restaurant opening announced in Hong Kong**

By Zhou Weikang
zhouweikang@chinadaily.com.cn

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**Government, FBOC in joint drive to cut trade risks, capital costs of enterprises**

By Li Jiming

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**Restaurants, ready-to-eat meals get holiday boost**

By Liu Jieyuan

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AVIC plans backdoor listing for unit

By ZHU WANGJIAN
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AVIC Zhongheng Electronic Measuring Instruments, a subsidiary of Aviation Industry Corp of China Ltd, missed the listing window on Wednesday evening as it plans to purchase about 100% of its equipment from Aircraft, an aerospace giant, by buying shares to ASX.

The range of Zhongheng Electronic Measuring Instruments has surpassed marking on Shanghai Stock Exchange since Thursday. The company has missed the deadline detailed transaction within 10 trading days, or before 9, according to its statement.

Based on the current trend, the company’s potential for being a part of 10% of the index weight, and the military sector is likely to emphasize a leading stock in the A-share market, TF index price prediction.

The market value of AVIC Chengdu Aircraft could reach much 108 billion yuan in 2023 and 2024, said a stock analyst from a domestic securities firm on Wednesday. The year, the net profit and revenue of AVIC Chengdu Aircraft are estimated to increase to a record high.

"Backdoor listings can help provide additional cash flow for related financing and create an opportunity for the company to restructure and improve its balance sheet," said the China Industry

An employee of AVIC Chengdu Aircraft Industrial Group Co Ltd works at a production facility in Chengdu, Sichuan province.

In the first three quarters of 2022, revenue of AVIC Chengdu Aircraft reached 108.6 billion yuan, up 9.1% year-on-year. The company earned a net profit of 108.6 billion yuan, up 1.4%, according to the company’s quarterly report.

For 2022, sales of the company’s commercial aircraft has exceeded 100 billion yuan, up 39% year-on-year, according to the company’s annual report. It will aim to expand its annual operating income to above 100 billion yuan in 2023.

AVIC Chengdu Aircraft has announced a dozen aircraft-related projects, including new technology. For the company’s commercial aircraft, it aims to maintain an annual output of 100 aircraft.

The company plans to focus on the development and production of China’s commercial aircraft. It will also be a key manufacturer of aircraft engines.

For military aircraft, the company said development and production隆，所有类型和标准尺寸三甲振荡机 were launched in January, according to the company’s departmental reports.

For military aircraft, the company plans to focus on the development and production of China’s commercial aircraft. It will also be a key manufacturer of aircraft engines.

By WANG YIN
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After more than four decades of development, the country will set a scale of more than 800 billion yuan in 2023 and a growth rate of 20%. In 2023, the company will have a revenue of 108 billion yuan, up 20% year-on-year, said Wang Chuan, founder of the country’s top consulting firm, Shanghai Strategy Consulting.

We forecast the Chinese stock market to grow by 20% in 2023, in the following 10 years the country will become the world’s largest economy. In 2023, the country’s debt-to-GDP ratio will fall below 50%.

"Currently, innovation is the key to surviving fierce competition and succeeding. It is important to grasp the market trend, which is readily available and Wang. The country’s technology can be made into a gold card and is an important driving force of the country’s market.

"Chinese companies are finding new ways to enter the US market, which is highly attractive," said Wang.

According to Deloitte, China is the second-largest net-purchased food market worldwide after the US, with a market value of more than 40 billion euros ($43 billion).

The country’s major food companies like Nestle have entered the country. Nestle has invested 100 million dollars in China, which is less than half of its net sales (95 billion US dollars), or 1.5% of the total, the European Union said one week after the US market.

In the autumn of 2022, more than 400 million euros were invested in China, which is less than half of its net sales (95 billion US dollars), or 1.5% of the total, the European Union said on Tuesday.

As Chinese consumers pursue healthy lifestyles, Nestle’s brands are launching low-fat or low-sugar products that are favored by consumers.

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As Chinese consumers pursue healthy lifestyles, Nestle’s brands are launching low-fat or low-sugar products that are favored by consumers.
Consumption seen boosting economic vigor

FMCs, entertainment, catering, tourism, aviation and more may shine in 2023

By ZHU WENQIAN
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In 2023, China will continue to expand domestic consumption, and sectors such as tourism, catering, entertainment and aviation will experience benefits from the relaxation of COVID-19 prevention and control measures, government officials and industry experts said.

According to the latest projection by financial services provider Goldman Sachs, consumption will become a main driver of economic vitality, and the annual growth of consumption is expected to be 3.3 percent this year, while China’s GDP growth is expected to reach 4.7 percent.

The unemployment rate is expected to decline and average incomes are likely to improve in 2023. UBS predicts China’s GDP growth will reach 5.1 percent this year. If investment in infrastructure is strong, and new consumption and consumption-related sectors show resilience, the views are echoed by Zhu Gang, former chief economist at Nomura Research Institute. “The views are echoed by Zhu Gang, former chief economist at Nomura Research Institute.

“We view consumption as a key component of domestic demand growth,” said Sheng Songqiao, director of the International Trade Ministry of Industry and Commerce. “We view consumption as a key component of domestic demand growth.”

Cultural and tourism, elder care and children’s medical care education, sports, leisure and other services-based consumption sectors have become hot spots for growth in China and rural consumption patterns, and the growth rate of service consumption has continued to be higher than that of commodity consumption, said Wang Wei, head of the market research division at the Development Research Center of the State Council’s think tank.

“With an increase in the growth of domestic consumption-led policies, the government has become the biggest driver of domestic consumption,” said Wang. “There is room for the government to bring down both the parts of goods and services that are not affected.”

In addition, the outline made clear that for enterprises, the government will help increase urban and rural household incomes through multiple channels and support the improvement of housing conditions. The government will also continue to support purchases of new energy vehicles.

The meeting said government investments and policy incentives should be applied to effectively drive investments in all sectors. It also called for speeding up the implementation of major projects during the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) period, and strengthen the infrastructure connectivity between different regions.

“People enjoy a meal at a night market in Shuyuan, Hubei province, in December. QIN HONGSHENG / FOR CHINA DAILY

People enjoy a meal at a night market in Shuyuan, Hubei province, in December. QIN HONGSHENG / FOR CHINA DAILY

Cherish Food and Reduce Waste

Over 1/3 of all food produced globally goes to waste. About 1/4 of the world’s fresh food supply is wasted in growing food that never sees a table.}

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/01/2023 11:54:28 AM
Opening Japan's Pandora's box will sabotage regional peace

S ydney (Kyodo) - announced last year that it would increase defense spending to 2 percent of its GDP by 2027, if it has been aggressively building a self-defence force.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's ongoing visit to Beijing is currently expected to put the finishing touches on one of the most significant developments in the region in recent years.

It was the day when Kishida and his Chinese counterpart Li Keqiang signed the so-called Japan-China Joint Declaration, in light of the developments on Wednesday, which was a day after the visit.

Under the so-called Kischida-Li Declaration, the two countries will be able to deploy troops on each other's soil. While the Joint Declaration is expected to be a turning point in relations, it will also involve an agreement to increase defense spending to 2 percent of GDP by 2027.

China Daily

Opening Japan’s Pandora’s box will sabotage regional peace

The speech delivered on Wednesday highlights the importance of Japan's defense strategy.

On Tuesday, the US House of Representatives voted to pass a resolution calling for an end to the war in Ukraine and to support the UK's demands for the return of Crimea to Russia.

The resolution was introduced by Republican Representative Vicky Hartzler and was approved with a vote of 317-0.

It is important to note that the resolution does not propose any direct military intervention.

The resolution states that the US House of Representatives "condemns the Russian invasion of Ukraine and calls for the United Nations Security Council to take immediate action to halt the violence and ensure the safety and security of all people in Ukraine."

The resolution also notes that the US House of Representatives "respects the rights of the people of Crimea to self-determination and the right to choose their own future."

The resolution further states that the US House of Representatives "conveys its condolences to the victims of the Russian aggression in Ukraine and the people of Crimea."

The resolution also states that the US House of Representatives "calls on the United Nations Security Council to impose sanctions against the Russian Federation and its leader, Vladimir Putin, for the annexation of Crimea."

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ROK must lift entry curbs for own good

For its own good and to promote the interests of both peoples, the ROK should realize that the damage its move could cause to bilateral ties and its economy, and adjust its policy in order to help put both sides on the right track.

Chen Weihsia

US China play contrasting roles in Latin America

The US-China relationship is a crucial pillar of the global economy and security.

Chen Weihsia

Europe's strategic autonomy in peril under sway of Washington

The term "strategic autonomy" has taken center stage in European foreign policy discussions in recent years.

Chen Weihsia

China, as the second-largest economy and home to one-fifth of the world's population, wants to improve the global order and governance.

Chen Weihsia
Meaningful convergence

China and Germany should work together to promote an early end to the hostilities in Europe on the basis of the principles upheld by both countries:

The intergovernmental cooperation due to be held by China and Germany in early 2023 are an appropriate forum to further coordinate both countries’ policies. They should join forces to make China-Germany relations an anchor of stability and prosperity for the Eurasian continent.

For China and Germany, the year 2023 will mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, and it will also mark the 55th anniversary of the Federal Republic of Germany’s foundation. China is already Germany’s most important trade partner. China and Germany, and many other countries for many years have been the largest trade partner. In 2022, China’s trade surplus with Germany was $82 billion, accounting for more than 17% of the country’s total trade surplus.

Moreover, China and Germany have been a symbol of the stability and prosperity of the Eurasian continent. In the past few years, the two countries have maintained close cooperation on a wide range of issues, including economic and trade relations, energy cooperation, and defense and security.

China and Germany have always been committed to promoting a fair and just world order. They are both members of the United Nations and play an important role in maintaining world peace and stability.

The two countries have made significant contributions to the global economy and development. China is the world’s second-largest economy, while Germany is the world’s third-largest economy. They are both major contributors to global trade and investment.

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Arab viewers tune into TV series

High-quality dubbing and translation give Middle East audience intriguing glimpse into poverty alleviation, Deng Zhanyou reports.

When Ma Ning introduced the Chinese mini-series "Drama Town: a natural disaster, a village effort, poverty alleviation" to Arab nations, it was a hit. Arab viewers who tune into Arabic TV channels in the Arab nations have been captivated by the program. They say it's a story that brings them closer to understanding China. This program was aired in Arabic and English. It has captured the hearts of Arab viewers and has gained popularity in the Arab world. The series is a hit for both the original Mandarin version and the Arabic translation.

Ma Ning, an expert in film translation and dubbing, says that Arabic audiences appreciate the realistic depiction of rural life in China, which resonates with their own experiences. The series depicts the challenges faced by villagers in a remote town in China, and how they overcome them through collective effort. The story is relatable and inspiring, and it has captured the attention of Arab viewers.

The series has been well-received in Arab countries, and it has become a hit in Arabic television. It has been broadcast on several Arabic TV channels, and it has been praised for its realistic depiction of rural life in China. The series has been translated into Arabic and has gained a large following among Arab viewers.

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LIFESHANGHAI

STAGING A CLASSIC TALE

The Phantom of the Opera, one of the most successful musicals in the world, will have its first Chinese production this year.

The live-entertainment branch of Shanghai Media Group announced that the production will premiere at the Shanghai Grand Theater on May 3. The touring productions in Mandarin will be the 25th language the musical will be performed in. After 25 performances in Shanghai, the production will embark on an unprecedented national tour, with the first stop at 300 shows taking place until the beginning of 2024.

The three Chinese actors, who will play the title character of the musical, are Ajaying, Li Lingying, and He Lingjia. Created by British composer Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on the book by French author Gaston Leroux, the musical is a phenomenon of the world stage and has been performed in over 40,000 shows in 385 cities around the world and watched by 165 million people.

The box-office revenues of the show add up to about US$4 billion. Since it debuted in 1986 in London, it has been the longest-running show on Broadway. In September, the show announced that it would be ending in February, but the plan was later changed because of the high box-office demand. Its Broadway run has since been extended another eight weeks until July.

The original production was first presented in China in 2004, when it opened at the Shanghai Grand Theater. The reception was overwhelming, with the average attendance reaching a 168 percent over the previous year.

From 2003 to 2015, the production toured Shanghai, Guangzhou, Kunming, and Beijing and generated record box office sales. For many people in China, it marked their earliest experiences of musical theater. In 2019, SMG Live and Webber's Real D Group jointly announced the Phantom China project, which would include a "grand tour" of the country. In 2020, a mini show to identify musical theater talents was held on the musical in China. Although the plan was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the border restrictions, it has been confirmed that Nicholas Dent, who directed the 2016 Phantom of London version, as it says China's musical theater industry is ready.

"We now feel we have the capability and confidence to create a top-notch show in China," says Mr. Chenhong, president of SMG Live.

"Over the just two decades, the musical has had three China tours. During that period, SMG Live took three big steps — first, the introduction of original productions in China; second, the production of Chinese editions of established shows; and now, we are preparing original Chinese productions."

Chinese productions of Broadway musicals such as Cats and Aladdin have helped to create the first generation of professional musical performers, creators, and production teams, and more importantly, the booming musical culture in China.

The Phantom of the Opera is an overwhelming, bold, and fascinating opera that requires a large team, including singers, dancers, stage designers, and technicians, to work together. It is a complex and challenging experience that can have a profound impact on the audience.

The show will be produced by Shanghai People's Artists Theatre, with director Richard Meek, Spanish composer Fernando de la Riva, and Yu Xiang, who was the first to create the legendary Phantom in China, sharing his experience of working with Webber and staging the show in China. He will serve as the show's executive producer and creative consultant.

The musical is a story of love, loss, and redemption, and it has been adapted in various languages and countries around the world. It is a story of a man who is struggling to find his place in the world, and it has become a symbol of hope and inspiration for many people.

"The musical is an entirely challenging and exciting piece," says Mr. Tadros, who has directed several productions of the musical around the world. "It is a story of love, loss, and redemption, and it has been adapted in various languages and countries around the world. It is a story of a man who is struggling to find his place in the world, and it has become a symbol of hope and inspiration for many people."

The musical is performed by a cast of talented actors, who bring to life the characters of the Phantom and his love interest, Christine, as well as other iconic characters from the story.

The cast includes stars such as Li Lingying, who plays Christine, and He Lingjia, who plays the Phantom. The show also features a strong ensemble cast, including singers, dancers, and stage technicians.

The production will be presented in Shanghai in May and then embark on a national tour, with performances set to take place in cities across the country until the beginning of 2024.

Toulouse-Lautrec paints an intriguing picture

By ZHANG KUN in Shanghai

The largest exhibition in China about the life and work of French artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864-1901) is displayed at the Shanghai Museum.

Titled Eternal Life in Paris: A World Tour Exhibition, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, the exhibition features the most comprehensive collection of artifacts related to the artist, including nearly 300 sets of artworks and more than 300 pieces, from Lautrec's pre-drawings to sketches and drawings. Through the exhibition, which opened on April 29, the visitor can see the first major exhibition of his works in China.

Lautrec created about 791 paintings, 2,500 drawings, 56 prints and posters, and 55,000 sketch manuscripts. "Art was the career he devoted himself to and an important source of the meaning and value of his life. This art gathering, which was shaped by a depthened and dynamic adoration for the colorful, offbeat and ever-verve of a young man, who is always the focus of the writer, is the main reason for the Shanghai Museum to hold such an exhibition," says Wang Si, an art historian and head curator of the Shanghai Museum.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Shanghai Museum and the French Embassy in China, and it provides academic support for the exhibition.

The exhibition is divided into six sections: the first section is "Art of Lautrec," the second is "Art of Toulouse-Lautrec," and the third is "Art of Lautrec." The exhibition also includes a "Toulouse-Lautrec Art of France" section, which features paintings from the National Museum of France.

If you go

Eternal Life in Paris: A World Tour Exhibition with Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864-1901) is on show at the Shanghai Museum. The exhibition runs until June 17, 2023. The entrance is free.

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Old newsreel footage reveals a familiar face

I recently saw my grandfather, despite the fact that he passed away more than two decades ago, and who was even more incredible than I thought. He was a conductor who was very successful.

The meeting in question was in Glasgow and was addressed by Harry Pollock, the longtime general secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain. My grandfather had been born in小微企业 and had been involved in the anti-imperialist movement.

He was the first to arrive at the meeting, sitting on a chair next to the entrance of the hall. He was wearing a black suit and a white shirt.

I never met my grandfather when he was young, but I have heard stories about him. He was a conductor and had a strong connection with the Communist Party.

The footage is a珍贵 record that allows us to see the past and learn from it. Stories and experiences of the past can help us understand and appreciate our present.