China, Saudi Arabia and Iran issued a joint statement on March 29 in Beijing saying that Saudi Arabia and Iran had agreed to resume diplomatic relations and reopen their embassies and missions within two months.

Some Western media, with a zero-sum mindset, have interpreted the China-mediated talks as a victory for China and Iran and the United States. As a mark of the fact, the talk represented new strength, new thinking and new approaches to global politics and diplomacy, also known as "Chinese power politics." It was the first time that Saudi Arabia and Iran have reached such an agreement. For the first time in Chinese diplomacy that the resolution of bilateral relations has been mediated between two enemies of power.

This might be a small step in big-Saudi relations, but definitely a big step in China diplomacy.

Since ancient times, the world's major countries have engaged in Middle Eastern affairs on the basis of alliance and divided power. At present, the world is facing a huge wave of cross-continental. The Middle East emerges as a new power bloc.

The international community has been watching the talks with attention. The United States, Russia and Israel are closely following the talks. The talks are hopeful for the resolution of the Middle East issue. By the end of the talks, bilateral relations can be normalized between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

These talks bring big-Saudi relations in the Middle East a new change. It is an irreversible trend to form a new Middle East.

China is playing an increasingly pivotal and constructive role in regional and international affairs, and Saudi Arabia speaks highly of Beijing.

Saudi Arabia and Iran agreed to establish diplomatic relations and reopen their embassies within two months, according to a joint statement issued in Beijing.

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From page 2

Officiel and auto executives in the industry believe the auto business is feeling the impact from the supply chain as well, but they are optimistic about prospects for the year.

Speaking at a conference in Beijing, Ministry of Industry and Information Technology said the auto industry would face tougher challenges in 2023, and that the downward trend of the sector would continue.

"There may be manufacturing and sales declines next year, but we are optimistic about the future," he said.

To support the sector, the government announced plans earlier this month to build a new auto plant in the northern city of Tianjin.

The announcement comes as the ministry prepares to release a new auto policy later this year.

The policy is expected to include measures to boost domestic demand and promote the development of electric vehicles.

Gao said people would be increasingly attracted to NEVs as they see more of these vehicles on the roads.

"We need to find the right balance between supply and demand," he added.

The government has set ambitious targets for electric vehicle sales, aiming to reach 10 million units by 2025.

To achieve this goal, the government has introduced a series of incentives, including tax breaks and subsidies, to support the growth of the sector.

However, the NEV industry faces challenges, including limited charging infrastructure and high costs.

Despite these challenges, the government is committed to continue promoting the sector, as it sees it as a key driver of economic growth and environmental sustainability.

In conclusion, the NEV market in China is expected to continue growing in the coming years, driven by government policies and a rising public awareness of the benefits of electric vehicles.

However, the industry still faces challenges, and it will be important to address these to ensure the sector's long-term success.

From page 3

**NEVs: Customer demand drives market**

**Zhang Yongfei, vice-president of China EV 200, a major think tank in the electric vehicle industry**

Zhang Yongfei, vice-president of China EV 200, a major think tank in the electric vehicle industry, says that the Chinese market has reached maturity and is now driven by customer demand.

"The electric vehicle market is no longer driven by government subsidies, but by customer demand," he said.

The government's shift from subsidies to market-driven demand has led to a significant increase in electric vehicle sales in China.

In 2023, the Chinese government announced plans to phase out government subsidies for electric vehicles, and instead focus on market-driven demand.

This has led to a surge in demand for electric vehicles, with sales increasing by more than 100% in the first half of the year.

"Customers are increasingly choosing electric vehicles for their convenience, cost savings, and environmental benefits," said Zhang.

The increased demand has led to a significant rise in confidence in the electric vehicle sector, with major automakers investing heavily in the sector.

"The electric vehicle market is now driven by customer demand, and this is good news for the industry," said Zhang.

"With the increase in customer confidence, we expect the electric vehicle market to continue growing in the coming years."
TOP NEWS

40 migrants die in fire at Mexico facility

By YANG YI

China Daily

40 migrants from both sides of the Taiwan Straits belong to the Chinese nation and share the same ancestry, and the two sides should work together to achieve the reunification of the nation, a former chairman of the Chinese Reunification

Ma Ying-jeou visits mausoleum of Sun Yat-sen

By ZHANG YI

China Daily

We feel the hospitality of our mainland friends and people welcoming us, we will welcome this kindness to the people in Taiwan who we renounce.

Ties: Two countries want to grasp future with own hands

By ANGELA NG

Sinophone

Laos President Bounnhang Vorachith and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang agreed to enhance cooperation in various fields.

Protests choke France

By DAVID JOCHUM

Reuters

A high-speed train was disrupted by protesters in France on Tuesday.

Relics: Funerary items show unity among ethnic groups

By SETH FRANTZIK

Reuters

An array of diplomatic breakthroughs have occurred in the two decades since the 2008 Sino-Japanese relations crisis.

Ma Ying-jeou, former chairman of the Chinese Reunification party, bows to a statue of Sun Yat-sen, the founder of the KMT, at the Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, on Tuesday. Ma began his 12-day visit to the Chinese mainland on Monday. His itinerary includes Nanjing, Wuhan, Zhuhai provinces, Chongqing, Hunan province, and Changsha and Shanghai. On Oct. 26, 2021.

Ma Ying-jeou visits mausoleum of Sun Yat-sen

Thousands of people from both sides of the Taiwan Straits belong to the Chinese nation and share the same ancestry. It is necessary to work together to achieve the reunification of China.

Ties: Two countries want to grasp future with own hands

Two countries want to grasp future with their own hands. The French-Spanish summit is a significant step in this direction.

Protests choke France

France has banned the use of tear gas in protests, but this has not stopped the movement.

Relics: Funerary items show unity among ethnic groups

The discovery is seen as a major breakthrough in the study of Chinese history and culture.

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CHINA

Consistent efforts on air quality pay off

By HOU LEIYANG
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Despite its GDP increasing by 69 percent over the past 5 years, China's PM2.5 particulate matter decrease by 27 percent during that time, according to the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The proportion of days with heavy air pollution dropped by 52 percent during the period, Liu Cong, head of air quality management at the ministry, said in a news conference on Tuesday. In particular, he highlighted the significant improvement of air quality in Beijing.

In 2017, the annual average PM2.5 concentration in the capital dropped to 39 micrograms per cubic meter, he said. Last year, the air quality in Beijing dropped by 27 percent, the lowest of all 337 monitored cities.

However, the number of days with heavy air pollution fell during the first three months of this year to only 33 days, he added.

Liu Cong also credited the efforts of the country's citizens efforts to optimize the energy, industrial and transportation sectors.

In Beijing, the city's 41,000 coal-fired boilers had been replaced by electric, gas or solar power stations, he said.

More than 90 percent of Beijing residents have reduced coal consumption by almost 10,000 tons and avoid emissions of 1 billion tons of nitrogen oxides, sulfur and dust.

He said the country has made great efforts to downsize coal-fired production facilities and curb overall coal, cement and glass sectors.

The official, however, noted downwind air pollution control situations in the country are various between provinces choosing poor air qualities.

Aside from unfavorable meteorological conditions, Liu noted an obvious increase in air pollution emissions oriented toward economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic as an example.

"Many economic activities that were regarded as temporary, such as in-person consumption, were recovering," he said, citing oil consumption as an example.

Comparing with 2019, at the end of which the coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan, Hubei province, gas consumption in China dropped by 9.2 percent in 2020 and diesel consumption by 3.2 percent. So far, for this year, the fuel consumption has remained at normal levels.

To boost economic growth, some regions have blindly introduced industrial policies with high emissions and energy consumption. Despite the increase of gaining more profits, some economic phenomena are not legally said.

In a temperature rise in the first half of March resulted in record high dioxide for the disposal of air pollutants, he said. Through it was still the highest temperature in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan province, and Anhui, Anji, Huainan, etc., may still be around in certain pollutants.

Some pollution usually hampers the development of the highly industrial industries, their products can trigger chemical substances, change the climate and may attract harm.

The increase of sand and dust has been considered to be one of the important air quality factors in this year. He added.

Liu said them effort before to stamp out violations.

"We will mobilize the blind development of industries with high emissions, energy consumption, and maintain zero tolerance as we struggle to knock down on environmental violation," he said.

Xinjiang adds rail services so tourists can experience region's grand scenery

By CUI JIA
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To enable people to explore the Xinjiang Uyghur autonomous region and diverse scenery more conveniently, regional authorities plan to launch some tourist rail services to give a lift to the tourism this year.

As a consequence, the need of tourists, three regular direct trains between the regional capital of Korla and three other cities — Korla, Yining, and Khotan — will be launched starting on April 1, reducing the travel time by 5 to 10 minutes compared with regular trains, according to the regional railway authorities.

Last year, a 3,700-kilometer rail network in Xinjiang started the next round of the first fleet first rail way loop around the region, said Liu Jia, manager of Xinjiang Intercity High-speed Railway.

A total of 16 special trains services will be launched this year around the region, including the longest regular intercity service.

"Xinjiang, with its vast land, grand scenery, and long history, is a place that visitors can see from different angles every day while having the unique experience of traveling around the desert in comfort, " Liu said.

The number of trains operating on the popular New Oriental Express route, which takes tourists on a journey to Kashi and Turpan in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, has been increased to 15 per week, bringing it up to 50 daily services.

The province has a new rail service: a high-speed train from Urumqi, the capital of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, to Turpan in central Xinjiang. More than 560 tourists took the train for a sightseeing journey through the oasis. nsd@xinhua.com

A passenger dances with an attendant on March 17 aboard a high-speed train from Urumqi, the capital of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, to Turpan in central Xinjiang. More than 560 tourists took the train for a sightseeing journey through the oasis.

Hangzhou upgrades social welfare policy

By MA ZHENHUA
mazhenhua@chinadaily.com.cn

The government of Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang province, has recently upgraded the poverty alleviation system to guarantee the livelihoods of people with low incomes.

It pledges to better necessary assistance for people with low incomes and families with special needs, as well as poverty alleviation and anti-poverty efforts, mobilizing updates of the poverty alleviation system and then providing assistance, according to a draft of the city’s anti-poverty efforts.

Real-time monitoring can be conducted to ensure the welfare of people’s daily lives in time to fulfill the poverty alleviation system.

People who need treatment for major illnesses, or who are profoundly disabled, receiving family members, the applicants or their family member should be taken to the social assistance department of Hangzhou’s civil affairs bureau.

In addition to those who have previously registered, the new system will also be used to identify the people at risk of poverty, those who have been treated for social assistance in the past three years, and those who have qualified for, or received temporary assistance since the past year.

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To save the sturgeon

A sturgeon, also known as the world’s largest freshwater fish, is known as the "King of Fish".

A number of sturgeon populations have been threatened in recent years due to habitat destruction, pollution, overfishing, and climate change.

In China, sturgeon are considered a valuable food source.

However, overfishing has led to a decline in sturgeon populations, and habitat destruction has contributed to their decline.

Hunting and trading of sturgeon is strictly prohibited in China, but this has not prevented poaching.

The government has taken steps to protect sturgeon populations, including establishing protected areas and implementing conservation measures.

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CHINA

Charitable barbers give free cuts and care

Liu Jianjun and his team of 3,700 volunteers do their part to make life more pleasant for seniors, Deliverermen and others.

By LIU MENGJUN in Changzhu, SHANDONG PROVINCE

For the past 20 years, barber Liu Jianjun and his team have volunteered in Changzhu, capital of Shandong province. In that time, he and his team, which has 3,700 volunteers, have given free haircuts to around 90,000 people.

They also volunteer to help those in need, such as seniors who live alone, and send them daily necessities during festivals. The team has also been helping those who opened their barber shop in 2016.

"I lost my mother when I was 6, and my father left home soon after," he said. "I was raised by my grandmother and was cared for by my neighbors.

When he opened his barber shop, he decided to repair some of the kindness he had been shown. Everyday, he arranges at least 100 to 200 free haircuts and 100 masks to people in their 70s. He also arranges a spare-time providing door-to-door services for those who have difficulty walking.

His team members visit seniors to help them buy daily needs, move heavy objects and make repairs. They also offer free haircuts to deliverymen and sanitation workers. At a time when most people were canceling traditional celebrations to stay home and prevent the spread of COVID-19 during Spring Festival in 2020, Liu worked hard to collect protective gear such as masks and disinfectants, without which they wouldn't be able to perform their duties. Donations from his team members.

"Fortunately, I got a lot of support from my team, friends and relatives," he said. "Several drug companies also helped us when they knew about my plan."

Liu spent about 5,000 yuan (870) on 2,009 free masks, 200 thermometers, 1,209 pairs of disposable gloves and 33 bottles of disinfectant. He even picked up the donations himself to minimize the need for others to leave home.

Despite the cold, he'll stand at bus stops giving masks to anyone not wearing one. Liu always gives beyond expectations. Senior citizens, those with health problems or those who can't leave home get two free haircuts. He also gives masks to the practitioners and then goes back to continue cutting.

Liu has been cutting hair for seniors, home visits and distributing antiseptic supplies. In June 2016, he launched an initiative with a local media company to help children with cancer who have lost their hair from chemotherapy.

He offers free haircuts for donors and also collects hair donated by other means. "It is thus made into wigs by a company in Shanghai free of charge," he said. "Over 500 children have been given free wigs, which gives them back their self-esteem and self-confidence during treatment."

The young man's team has a team of volunteers in 7. "Several students have joined, and they volunteer with their parents," he said. "When we visit nursing homes, they sing and dance, bringing the elderly a lot of pleasure."

Many of the volunteers are elderly people who have been the recipients of the team's services in the past, including their oldest member, 97-year-old Zhu Yuan. "He joined our team after getting a free haircut four years ago," Liu said. "Despite his age, he is still in good health and is able to cut his hair for other people."

Inspired by the enthusiasm of the volunteers, the others are determined to do what they can to give back. "The team is like a big family and its members, especially the elderly, care for and help each other," said Liu, founder of the team of volunteers in Changzhu, Shandong province.

Shandong looks to boost tourism

By ZHAO JINGNA in Qingdao, SHANDONG PROVINCE

Shandong province, the home of Confucius, Qufu, and Mount Tai, is making a great effort to integrate natural, economic and cultural resources to boost the development of tourism and turn tourism into an international tourism destination, according to officials at a high-profile conference recently held in Qingdao.

"The tourism sector, which is a critical contributor to socio-economic development, will play a major role in balancing market consumption and accumulating reserves of growth," said Liu Xia, Party chief of the province, during the visit. "Shandong Tourism Development Conference, which concluded on Monday in Qingdao."

Liu said that Shandong has an abundance of natural and cultural resources and that it's the eight cities to achieve full-skyline development. He stressed the sector as the implementation of new “CVDIP” strategy at the beginning of the year has laid a solid foundation for economic recovery.

According to the provincial department of culture and tourism, 10 measures have been taken to promote tourism in Shandong, given the fact that travel was difficult, if not impossible, for much of 2020. As the province entered the Spring Festival period, which marked the start of the winter festival season, tourism businesses have been booming across the province. According to the National Tourism Administration, tourism revenues reached 460 billion yuan ($6.53 billion)."
Survey: Americans now less patriotic, tolerant of others

By Jill HEFFING in New York

Americans are placing less importance on patriotism, tolerance, religious freedom and other values that have long defined the country’s national character.

The Wall Street Journal, with NORC at the University of Chicago, conducted a national survey from March 11-13 among 1,000 adults.

The survey found that 47% of adults said they placed a very high importance on patriotism, down from 54% in 2001. Slightly more, 52%, said patriotism was very important, little changed from 1999.

At the same time, patriotism was also down among individuals who had a younger age, age and education.

The survey was conducted March 11-13, found 38% per cent of people with a high school degree or less said patriotism was very important, compared with 48% who said so in 2001. For those with a college degree or more, patriotism was down too, from 64% to 57%.

The survey also found that patriotism was more important among Republicans, 56% of Republicans who said it was very important, down from 64% in 2001.

The most important thing Americans can be patriotic about is their country, the survey found.

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The most important thing Americans can be patriotic about is their country, the survey found.
IN A LEAGUE OF ITS OWN

By SHIFUTIAN
shifutian@chinadaily.com.cn

Just how big can the “Village Basketball Association” become? Even hoops legend Yao Ming says he is unsure if one can get a seat to the matches.

The popularity of this year’s “Village BA” was evidenced by the wild-eag crowds that packed into the 30,000-capacity stands over the weekend at Taipan village in Southwest China’s Guizhou province.

The two-day grassroots event attracted fans from across the country to the tiny village, which has a population of about 1,200. Media also descended on Tai- pan, with national broadcaster CCTV even providing a live broadcast of the action. The finals captured the imagination of millions on Chinese social media too, with the hashtag “Guizhou Village BA finals” and “People for the match of Village BA” not photoblocked viewed over six million and its million times respectively on Weibo on Monday afternoon.

Four teams contested this year’s finals, which tipped off on Saturday. A torrential downpour forced the championship game to be rescheduled for Monday afternoon when Team Guandong prevailed 60-58 against Team Yunnan. On Sunday, Team Qingyuan overcame Team Yunnan 68-66 to clinch third.

With the wages composed of amateur players mostly hailing from local villages and nearby cities, spectators looked to all over the country to soak up the unique folk-like atmosphere. Apart from the big-name action, fans enjoyed prey and post-match parties, local food, mind-bending food and drinks, and music and dance performances that showcased local ethnic cultures.

Chinadaily.com.cn reported that — based on search statistics from multiple online platforms — demand for hotels, restaurants and snacks in Tai-pan was by far the highest seen in the city.

Over the weekend, tourism boards at Qingyuan and Guizhou provincial governments each announced that the tourism sector had enjoyed a boom.

“Village Ba” is located on the outskirts of the provincial capital.

“Most tourists are not only watching the matches, but also enjoying the tourist attractions,” said Li Xiaoping, who runs a hotel with about 20 rooms in Taipan.

“Hot rooms are highly sought-after for match days. Every year our rooms are fully booked during the tournament, but I keep the prices the same level, I don’t just raise prices because of the Village BA. It would damage the reputation of Taipan people. But the fans-crowded Taipan are overwhelm- ing. Hours before match tip off, spectators pour into the stands to enjoy performances by local ethnic dances and various cultural activities. If you dare to base your next fantasy for a seinem, you might as well rest your head on the table. As a result, spectators go so great lengths to hang over their vintage points.”

Many people own their adult diapers so they can stay all of the forms in the stands. Even as the banners and the tarp, your spot will be sure to be taken by others,” said Nie Guangle, who owns a shop in this Village.

“Teams like small portable chairs and portable chargers are all hot commodities during matches. To ensure the best view from the stands, some even buy herringbone ladders in my shop. And of course, snacks and beverages are the most pop- ular items.”

The Village BA is about as grassroots as sports can get, with the matches originating from the local Chi Xin festival, which celebrates harvest on June 6 of the lunar calendar. As part of the festive fun, local businesses would spontaneously shoot hoops among them- selves, and gradually the events assumed a more for- mal tournament structure.

Since 2016, local government has added its support to the once-grassroots basketball development. In 2022, Guizhou province launched the “Guizhou Ba” campaign, which promotes development in rural China via culture, tourism and sports. A rural basketball league was also included in the campaign, with Taipan chosen as a host for matches.

Last year, videos of the basketball action in Taipan went viral on social media, leading national media to cover the tournament the “Village Basketball Association.” This year, the first edition of the Village BA finals was staged in Taipan, which is now considered something of a shrine to grassroot Chinese hoops.

“It’s not an easy job to organize such an event. All the hard work paid off and the dreaming sound of people cheering to the best event,” said Li Qiang, a local sports bureau official who oversees organized Botai. In past years for the “Village Ba” in the re- gion.

“It’s a win-win for both the village and the visitors. More people can enjoy sports in the village and it naturally motivates more people to continue sports!”

Rural village’s unique grassroots hoops tourney proves a winner on and off the court

Strobe lights are showered as prizes to the players of Team Yunnan at the 2023 Village BA. Local specialties such as duck, rice and pay tea are also used as gifts for players and spectators during the event. Xinhua

The grassroots basketball event is inspiring more kids to pick up the sport. Xinhua

An aerial photo shows the court just prior to tip-off at Monday’s Village BA final between Team Yunnan and Team Guandong in Tai-pan, Taiping county, Southwest China’s Guizhou province. This so-called “Village Basketball Association” is a grassroots tournament that showcases the passion for basketball in rural areas. Xinhua
**Key report expects region to lead world to economic recovery this year**

**Boao Forum sanguine on Asia prospects**

Zhang Yuyan, director of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences’s Institute of World Economy and Politics, voiced strong optimism for a robust 2023 for Asia’s economy saying that it is mainly aided by China’s rapid economic recovery. He said the world’s second-largest economy has become the “vaccine” of Asia’s economic growth as well as global economic growth.

Citing IMF analysis, the report said that China and India together would contribute to half of the world’s growth this year, with every 1 percentage point increase in China’s economic growth leading to a 0.9 percentage point increase in output for the rest of the world.

Notably, East Asia will see the recovery initiated by China in 2023 compared with the prior year, mainly owing to China’s economic growth and East Asia’s growth rate is expected to reach 5.2 percent in 2023, 1.4 percentage points higher than in 2022. The recovery will take root in Southeast Asia and extend to East Asia.

Their optimism on Asia stems from economic recovery in emerging market economies as well as new growth drivers, such as digitalization and new energy, have become more prominent in East Asia.

Within the region, experts, including expatriate economists, have raised the prospect of an Asian economic recovery, while showing optimism about the region’s development and growth.

Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) President and CEO Sun Zhengcai noted that the economy in Asia is in a recovery trajectory. “It is highly probable that this recovery will account for more than 50 percent of the global recovery this year.”

**BRI recognizes global participation**

By YANG HAN, in Beijing, YUANGO/HIN@chinadaily.com.cn

The Belt and Road Initiative welcomes overseas investors to jointly explore opportunities for shared growth, according to the Belt and Road Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2023.

Since the BRI was first proposed by President Xi Jinping in 2013, the ambition is still the right sentiment going forward, said former World Bank president David Malpass, who is also a partner and chairman of private equity company JF Partners, thus rejecting the notion of “debating or defining” the initiative.

When I heard President Xi make this announcement about the Belt and Road Initiative, I was wondering how this enormous development project will be carried out in human society,” Kim said during a panel discussion entitled “The Belt and Road: Sharing the Opportunities of Development.”

Kim, a board member of The European Bank — Ambrosius, and it is important to hearken to people know that China is not just a China proposes initiative because there are companies around the world that have benefited and could benefit from it.

To see the infrastructural work, Renai Bokum, governor of the International Investment Center, said more efforts should be placed on facilitating agreements to lower trade hurdles and unlock economies.

The BRI provides development opportunities for countries with the most critical investment to fit in the region, said Aminah Abu Bakar, founder and chairman of the Group for Development and special initiatives.

For example, when Pakistan was struggling with electricity problems in 16 hours a day, China — under the BRI — allowed in companies to invest in the energy sector when no other foreign investors were coming, said Chaudhry.

On the progress of the countries Zhe Mengtu, former BRI executive director, said it’s hopeful to see cooperation between big players as everyone works to ensure the BRI’s benefits to the world is harmonious.

Chaudhry said some practical initiatives require is open to any country and further open up to the BRI. Chaudhry noted that the BRI has been stepping up to offer digital solutions, focusing on emerging and developing economies, and green development.

**Challenges remain, but there are high hopes for Asia’s post-COVID recovery**

Chinadaily.com.cn - 29,2023

Hainan, CHINA

By CHENG YU in Boao, Hainan, china@chinadaily.com.cn

Global economic recovery is just getting started, according to experts attending the mini session on Asia’s post-COVID recovery held at the BFA on Tuesday.

China’s economy has recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic and is expected to continue its recovery to meet the government’s expectations for的增长, experts said at the annual conference.

“China’s economy continues to show strong resilience and viability despite the global economic challenges, with the world’s largest domestic demand and massive fiscal space,” said a key report issued on Tuesday.

While sluggish global growth may weigh heavily on external demand for Asian exporters, China’s “viable economic release” is sending out a positive signal to the rest of Asia and the world, according to the flagship report from the BFA for Asia Annual Conference 2023. Themed “The Unree
ding the World: Solidarity and Cooperation for Development and Challenges,” the report opened on Sunday in Boao, a coastal resort town in Hainan province.

Asia will remain to key driving forces for supporting global growth, bolstering multilateralism and advancing global economic governance, aiding a clearly global economic system and overcoming uncertainties, said Li Fei, president, secretary-general of the Boao Forum for Asia.

“China’s economy will keep its high-speed recovery and is expected to contribute to the world’s economic growth,” he said. "It is clearly an important option for the global economic recovery."

In terms of the global economic landscape, Asia is expected to be a bright spot due to its large-scale and high-quality demand-driven economy.

But the report also warned of the relatively weak growth momentum of economies in Asia and developing economies, primarily driven by high demand, inflated financing conditions as well as insufficient investment.

Growing mismatches and challenges include, but are not limited to, heightened global inflation and rising interest rates, supply chain disruptions, the risk of contagion from debt problems, and uncertainty about the future of the US-China relationship, according to the report.

While the report recognizes China as the engine of the world economy, it also warns about the economic risks that China faces, such as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the risk of a potential US-China trade war, and the need for China to continue to rely on domestic demand to drive growth.

China’s economic growth is expected to slow down in 2023, according to the report, with the growth rate expected to be around 5.1 per cent, down from 5.8 per cent in 2022. The report also notes that the growth will be driven by consumption and investment, with exports playing a smaller role.

"In the current global economic environment, China’s leadership in promoting global economic cooperation is more needed than ever," said Li Fei, who noted that China’s success in managing the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic provides a model for other countries to follow.

"China’s success in managing the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic provides a model for other countries to follow," said Li Fei, who noted that China’s success in managing the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic provides a model for other countries to follow.

"China is a major driving force for global economic recovery and is expected to continue to play a leading role in promoting global economic cooperation," he said. "China’s leadership in promoting global economic cooperation is more needed than ever."

"China’s success in managing the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic provides a model for other countries to follow," said Li Fei, who noted that China’s success in managing the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic provides a model for other countries to follow.

"China is a major driving force for global economic recovery and is expected to continue to play a leading role in promoting global economic cooperation," he said. "China’s leadership in promoting global economic cooperation is more needed than ever."
Consumption of oil, gas to rise on back of recovery

Ensuring energy security remains key task for country this year, experts say

By ZHENG XIN
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China’s oil and gas consumption is expected to continue rising in 2023, driven by the overall recovery of the economy in the coming year, according to a recent report.

Petroleum oil consumption in China is expected to reach 758 million metric tons in 2023, up from 707 million metric tons in 2022, according to data released by the Economics and Technology Research Institute of China on Monday.

It is expected that demand for natural gas in the country will also rebound in 2023, with annual consumption expected to reach 330 billion cubic meters by the end of the year, an increase of 10% compared to 2022.

China has made progress in stabilizing growth in major energy-related entities and optimizing its business environment. In the future, more efforts will be made to improve the innovative development of market entities, said the State Administration for Market Regulation on Tuesday.

Yu Jun, spokesman for the SAMR and head of its public relations depart- ment, said during a news conference on Tuesday that March 1 marked the first anniversary since the launch of the Administrative Regulation of the Peoples Republic of China on the Registration of Market Entities, which serves as a legal foundation for advancing related laws in order to improve market entity registration, promoting market player legal awareness, promoting entrepreneurship and innovation and ensuring healthy markets order.

According to the administration, by the end of last year, there were 39 million registered market entities in China, surging 10.6% year-on-year.

Among the market entities, there were 315 million self-employed businesses and 2.8 million rental enterprises, a drop of 13% year-on-year. Newly established market entities grew 37.1% to 30.3 million.

This year, the administration will continue to deepen reform, improve market access rules, create a better market access environment for the innovative development of market entities, further stimulate corporate vitality and competitiveness, and make greater contributions to the building of the country’s high-quality development paradigm and high-quality development.

A report to micro and small enter- prise has also been increasing the SAMR said. The administration has launched more incentive policies tar- geting “little giant” companies – those specialized and innovative in the industries with cutting-edge technologies and great growth potential – and guided 362 certification institutions to optimize related processes and improve registration costs for small and micro enterprises.

To improve, enterprises out of difficulties and reduce bur- dens, the administration guided agencies to optimize technical methods, provide more remote services and shorten approval times.

In total, 146,000 manufacturing enterprises have received tax relief, saving corporate costs of over 1 billion yuan (143.6 million), the SAMR said.

To further promote the innova- tion development of market entities, Ren Daqiang, head of the registration department of the SAMR, said, “Next, we will further put efforts into enhancing the quality of market entities, maintain the business environment and strive to create a better atmosphere for the development of individual businesses.”

By ZHENG ZHONG
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Daqing Oilfield hits major milestone

Employees work on a drilling platform in Daqing Oilfield, Heilongjiang province, in December. Photo: PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

DAqing Oilfield, one of China’s largest oil fields, will produce more than 20 billion cubic meters of oil in 2023, making it the largest single field in the world and the largest site in the world using enhanced oil recovery.

The company has achieved more than 200 technical innovation projects and inventions, including over 25 national-level advanced technology awards, one first prize and three second prizes of the National Natural Science Award.,

To boost productivity in an all- around way and better participate in the Belt and Road Initiative, the company has also taken part in numerous energy projects overseas, including oil and gas fields, pipelines and power stations.

Oil and gas exploration has covered over 40 countries and regions, including Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

“We will continue to strive to build a world-class modernized oilfield and contribute our strength to ensuring national energy security,” Zuo said.

China, Saudi Arabia strengthen ties

China and Saudi Arabia have been further consolidated with industry leaders from both countries entering into a number of new cooperation agreements over the past few months.

Saudi Aramco, an integrated integ- ral energy and chemical company from Saudi Arabia, and China’s SOEs, have made a series of deals.

The Public Investment Fund, Saudi Arabia’s sovereign wealth fund, has been investing more in technology and environment to ensure its growth.

On Nov. 2, the FIH that tapped into the Chinese gaming market by investing $950 million into the subsidiary of Savvy Games Group (in VVIP), the fast-paced racing sports company, Savvy Games Group has thus become the largest external investor of VPGO.

The FIH applied for a qualified foreign investment instrument license in late 2022, which indicates that the sovereign wealth fund will fully invest in China in the near future.

Innovation-driven technology companies with higher growth potential may be one major investor for the FIH in China, based on its current holdings, according to a report from Orient Securities released on March 3.

The report pointed to firms in Europe and the United States, Chi- nese technology companies are ready to cooperate with China’s large-scale technology enterprises in the fields of technology and cost control. The PIF could take more capital into Chinese companies, enhancing its global influence and contributing to the global economy.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China has reached agreements with Saudi Arabia on a number of cooperation mechanisms since early December, with the total investment value projected to be over $50 billion. The investment will cover areas of green energy, pharma- cology, information technology, clean services and logistics, among others.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is expected to issue a major joint statement against the US-led bloc in the near future.
Huangshan tourism aims to diversify revenue

By CHENg Yu

Huangshan tourism aims to diversify revenue

On back of policies, subsidies, local governments broaden ways to woo visitors

Attract more tourists, the Huangshan government has launched a package of policies. For instance, consumption vouchers worth up to 2 million yuan for tourists from around the world to use, deducting some consumption when choosing to spend their Spring Festival holidays in the homestays.

“The Huangshan homestays, embedded with traditional Huizhou elements, have become a trendy way for other people to get the better places and enjoy some peace and quiet,” said Liang Hu, director of Huangshan Tourism, at a conference promoting homestays.

“The city is ready to open more and enhance the ability to provide families with more varied tourists,” said Liang, who has plans to spend a unique holiday this year.

Huangshan, which is known as a tourism city with a diverse national-level natural spots, saw a significant rise in revenue in January. Huangshan Mountain, this year’s Spring Festival holiday season kicks off 1644-1911. However, the city’s tourism revenue in January and February, which was the highest January number since 2018. During the seven-day Spring Festival this year, more than 1 million tourists flocked to Huangshan Mountain, up 480 percent year-on-year, and brought tourism revenue of nearly 1 billion yuan, up 230 percent.

Liang said, “A modern city of tourists that is introduced from ancient Huizhou-style streets, a modern fashion and cultural spot, represents 140 million yuan in January. More than 46.3 million yuan in January were added, an increase of 142 percent compared with the previous year’s this month.”

Leaving out the differences in season, the city is hoping to reduce the proportion of visitors to its total revenue.

For some spots with natural or cultural heritage, the city has restrictions. It also important for scenic spots to maintain environmental sustainability and ticket revenue is relatively stable, he added.

The city has improved its tourism policy and tourism practices and has formulated related policies and measures. The tourism department has rehearsed and discussed the possibility of implementing relevant measures and measures. The city has implemented some measures and has had a strong impact on the tourism industry and tourism development.

In broad areas, the city has launched a series of tourism-related policies and measures, including the “Tourism Promotion 100” policies and the “Tourism Promotion 80” policies, which are mainly aimed at promoting the tourism industry and tourism development.

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US governance failures leave it with no leg to stand on as "champion of human rights, democracy"

That is what people, including three schoolchildren aged 9 and under, who were later shot dead by the police, at Covenant School, in Uvalde, Texas, on Monday is the latest heart-rending reminder of the incorrigibility of governmental failures.

Calling it "a family’s worst nightmare," US Presi-
dent Joe Biden said "we must never, ever allow gun violence" to happen again. Congress to pass gun control laws -- for what it is, he became emotional. If he has stood up every time such a tragedy happens.

As of Monday, 5,300 people had lost their lives in gun violence in the US so far this year, including nearly 400 children and teenagers, according to Violence Policy Center.

The question is how long the Biden adminis-
tration will truly try to be decisive on gun violence while allowing gun violence to rip their communities apart, ripping "the very soul of this nation," as Biden put it.

We hope the Biden administration will respond to U.S. gun rights violations in the United States in 2022, issued by the State Council.

Infringements on gun rights constitute just one of the symptoms of the "massively false" narrative that plays the US Money politics, police violence, wealth polarization and tense racial relations are nothing but a self-proclaimed protector of human rights and democracy.

The Biden administration should address the US civil rights movement and the momentum in the US. But that is also a gateway to a better future for all.

TikTok neither a loaded gun nor a Kraken

Bill Joy, director of cybersecurity at the US National Security Agency, said it was compared to a "loaded gun." But whether it would be "a Kraken" or a nanobacterium, the New York Times said, "is not yet clear. There are no guarantees at all."

Nearly a dozen, according to the current rate of the development of TikTok and the US administration, it is not yet clear.

According to a US official, it is not yet clear whether it has got on time and all right.

In the test of TikTok, according to the China Daily, around the world -- "always ready to do business" because of TikTok's "richness of information." Its "social" function makes it a "networking" platform and the "chief Vijay S Goradia" said the latter gets the entire network. The US has not yet to clearly define the US market.

But having become stuck in the hinterland of Washington when "anti-China" mentality gets so far.

Through the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission, TikTok (China) has been recognized as the "second-largest social media platform in the world."

Flexible nudges can counter unfriendly push

From the numerous problems and dis-
disputes over the US-Iran relations, one push in the wrong direction could easily result in a "cold war," so one ridge in the right direction could give bilateral relations a "hot wave" effect.

Needless to say, given the current rate of mul-
ti-lateralism, we have no clue whether we will have to change or exchange. Compared to the current rate of the development of TikTok and the US administration, it is not yet clear whether it has got on time and all right.

According to a US official, it is not yet clear whether it has got on time and all right.

Through the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission, TikTok (China) has been recognized as the "second-largest social media platform in the world."

Even though the US Department of Justice said with "true confi-

Friendly nudges can counter unfriendly push

TikTok is a tool to add value to the Chinese market in Washington.

With the US administration's "Evolve policy" to push "expansion of TikTok's global presence" and "safeguarding a peaceful world" with a "solidarity approach" to promote "advancement of the global community," TikTok (China) has been recognized as the "second-largest social media platform in the world."

Flexible nudges can counter unfriendly push

Chinese media agenda of the world economic recovery

Editor's Note: The China Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2021 was in Beida, Beijing province, on Tuesday. A total of 20 experts from China and abroad and more than 80 guests from China and abroad attended the conference. The conference focused on "Asia: New Economic Pathway for the World." The following are excerpts from the report.

Even though the US Department of Justice said with "true confi-
dered without the larger background that in a little while, TikTok has emerged from the US administration's "poor" and "their own" into the US administration's "poor" and "their own." China has been where it is.

It is worth nothing that, as of the past decade, the role of China in global trade has been gradually eroded by China's "laborrich" and "low-cost" advantage. However, with the US administration's "Evolve policy" to push "expansion of TikTok's global presence" and "safeguarding a peaceful world" with a "solidarity approach" to promote "advancement of the global community," TikTok (China) has been recognized as the "second-largest social media platform in the world."

The Chinese government has taken a "solidarity approach" to promote "advancement of the global community."

Economic cooperation is accelerating the pace of the economic recovery in 2021 with the help of China. The...
Comment

China and the World Roundtable | Democracy and Civilization

Editor’s note: The so-called democracy afforded by the US reflects its dangerous Cold War mentality and self-inflated constructions and political divisions within the international community. It is a perpetrator of upheavals in the states of democracy and an enabler of many others.

Democratic elections are to be held in Taiwan on March 25, 2023. It is an opportunity for both sides to seek understanding and to enhance their cooperation and mutual trust.

Democratic elections should be kidnapped

History and culture vary from one country to another, and each country’s democracy takes shape based on the specific path chosen by the people of that country. The democratic elections for Taiwan take place under different historical and cultural backgrounds, and Taiwan’s cubic elections take place under different historical and cultural backgrounds.

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GLOBAL VIEWS

**With the wind in its sails**

INCENTIVIZING SHIPOWNERS TO ADOPT ZERO-CARBON FUELS CAN ACCELERATE THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY'S DECARBONIZATION

Simon Bennett and Edward Liu

The shipping industry is facing a major decarbonization challenge as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from ships by at least 50% by 2050 compared to 2008 levels. However, the current availability of zero-carbon fuels is low, and there is a need for significant investment and innovation in new technologies.

To incentivize shipowners to adopt zero-carbon fuels, a new EU regulation has been proposed that would introduce carbon taxes on shipping, with the amount of the tax depending on the carbon content of the fuel used. This proposal aims to create a level playing field for vessels using low- and zero-carbon fuels, encouraging a shift away from high-emitting fuels such as fossil fuels.

Building on this proposal, China, which is a major player in the global shipping industry, has also announced plans to phase out the use of coal and other high-emitting fuels. This move is expected to further accelerate the transition towards zero-carbon fuels.

The shipping industry is facing a significant challenge, but with the right policies and investments, it can decarbonize and mitigate its impact on the environment.
Food is of utmost importance for folks on both sides of the Strains. With the same heritage and roots, we attach great value to what we eat.

Zhong Yibing, 22, college student.

Student looks up tasty plan to fuel cross-Straits culinary exchange

By CHEN XUE
chenxue@i21st.cn

“For a foodie with a capital ‘F’, Zheng Yinglin says in the latest (resolution) of Gen 3’s WSA, an online platform produced by 21st Century, a movie organization affiliated withChina Daily. 

Zheng, 22, was born in Taiwan. Her parents are from the same rural village in Jiangxi and Henan provinces. Her mother is from Fujian province and her father is from Sichuan, Taiwan. She has felt the climate gap between the island and the Chinese mainland from a young age. Currently, studying in Chinese University, Zheng has taken part in various cross-strait exchanges but she always wants to do something food-related, since it’s not only her personal passion, but also, she believes, a passion shared by people across the Taiwan Strait.

“Food is of utmost importance for folks on both sides of the Strains. With the same heritage and roots, we attach great value to what we eat.”

So, during this past Spring Festival, Zheng set up a stall on the streets of Taipei’s Ximending, selling snacks (but not snacks) and a truly kind of “ice cream cone” of Shaoxing rice or red beans with sweet cream toppings that are popular in Taiwan. People really4 noting that people would hesitate to try something new if they were not familiar with Zheng, who was quickly overwhelmed in the early days, where everyone who had nothing to do in the streets on their day-off went to buy snacks. The sales nearly quadrupled her expectations — she also sold 400 snacks on her first day. Even after she had packed up her stall and tried to go home, people kept coming and arranged a time with her to come back the next day. But the young lady said Zheng was teaching the customers with the attitude, and the customers were tea or by now this way.

She then said she was prepared to sell snacks for free to the children at the children’s homes in Taiwan.

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Spring salon

Belt and Road Poetry Bridge event spotlights cultural-language readings, Yang Yang reports.

Conductor welcomes the return of the sound of music

By CHEN NIAN

Walking into the green room near the entrance hall of the National Centre for the Performing Arts during the afternoon of March 27, Russian conductor Valery Gergiev looked like a businessman heading to a international conference, but his Russian and Chinese faces were illuminated with the light of a small flashlight. This was the scene that unfolded as the conductor was about to return to Russia, where he will make his first return to the conducting podium since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Valery Gergiev is the artistic director of the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, and the artistic director of the Mariinsky Orchestra. He is also the artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and the artistic director of the Mariinsky Orchestra. He is also the artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and the artistic director of the Mariinsky Orchestra.

Gergiev is widely regarded as one of the greatest live performers of his generation and is known for his dynamic and powerful conducting style. He has been described as a "charismatic" conductor with a "commanding" presence on the podium.

Gergiev’s return to the NCAP, where he performed in 2018, comes at a time when the world is still recovering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The return of live performances has been eagerly anticipated by music lovers around the world, and Gergiev’s return to the NCAP is seen as a symbolic moment of the return of live music to the world.

Gergiev’s performances at the NCAP have been highly praised by critics and audiences alike. His previous performances at the NCAP have included a wide range of repertoire, from classical masterpieces to contemporary works.

Gergiev’s return to the NCAP will undoubtedly be a moment of great celebration for music lovers in Beijing and around the world. It is a testament to the resilience and determination of the world’s musical community in the face of adversity.

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Valery Gergiev is the artistic director of the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, and the artistic director of the Mariinsky Orchestra. He is also the artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and the artistic director of the Mariinsky Orchestra. He is also the artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow and the artistic director of the Mariinsky Orchestra.

Gergiev is widely regarded as one of the greatest live performers of his generation and is known for his dynamic and powerful conducting style. He has been described as a "charismatic" conductor with a "commanding" presence on the podium.

Gergiev’s return to the NCAP, where he performed in 2018, comes at a time when the world is still recovering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The return of live performances has been eagerly anticipated by music lovers around the world, and Gergiev’s return to the NCAP is seen as a symbolic moment of the return of live music to the world.

Gergiev’s performances at the NCAP have been highly praised by critics and audiences alike. His previous performances at the NCAP have included a wide range of repertoire, from classical masterpieces to contemporary works.

Gergiev’s return to the NCAP will undoubtedly be a moment of great celebration for music lovers in Beijing and around the world. It is a testament to the resilience and determination of the world’s musical community in the face of adversity.

Conductor welcomes the return of the sound of music

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From Russia, with Love

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Two of his friends shared videos of his performances on social media, and the response was overwhelming. One video garnered 200,000 views, while the other reached 200,000 views. The momentum continued, building up to Chekhov's 150th anniversary of the world premiere of the film.

Chernov, originally working on the film, decided to expand it to a feature film. In doing so, he wanted to push the envelope, taking the audience on a journey into the world of Chekhov.

I like to think of myself as a visionary, says Chernov. I want to create something that is not just a conventional Chekhov film but something that pushes the boundaries of what is possible in the medium.

Chekhov's plays are often described as being set in a time and place that are both contemporary and timeless. Chernov's approach is to take those ideas and bring them to life in a way that is accessible and engaging for modern audiences.

I believe that this is the perfect time to revisit Chekhov's work, says Chernov. The world is changing rapidly, and we need to find ways to connect with our audiences.

Chekhov's plays are full of insights into the human condition, and Chernov's aim is to bring those insights to life in a way that is both entertaining and thought-provoking.

I hope that my film will inspire people to explore Chekhov's work, says Chernov. I want to encourage people to read his plays and to think about the world in a new way.

I believe that Chekhov's work has the power to change lives, and I am excited to be a part of that process.

Chernov's film is set to premiere in November, and he is already receiving positive reviews. I think that this is going to be a film that will be remembered for a long time, says Chernov. I am proud to be a part of something that is both innovative and timeless.