Ambassador arrives

By YANG KEJU

The fact that China’s foreign trade powerhouses posted robust import and export numbers in the first four months has consolidated the recovery momentum and boosted confidence for a steady trade recovery this year, industry leaders and experts said.

Guangdong, Zhejiang and Shanghai, the major export-oriented economic powerhouses in the country, as well as Shanghai and Beijing, each saw their overall value of imports and exports exceed 5 trillion yuan ($835 billion), according to the latest data from customs authorities.

In particular, Guangdong’s foreign trade totalled 2.58 trillion yuan during the first four months. Cumulatively, foreign trade of the three provinces and the two municipalities amounted to 8.57 trillion yuan and accounted for nearly 70 percent of the country’s total imports and exports, which stood at 12.28 trillion yuan in the first four months, according to calculations based on official data.

Import-export figures give recovery fresh impetus

The production lines at Bolson, a Finland-based additive supplier for the plastics industry in Guangdong, have been busy as the company launched new bulk orders from Vietnam and Russia in late April.

Liu Shufang, general manager of the company, said that overall exports grew by 93 percent year-on-year in the first four months because Bolson’s self-developed, but few-additives technology has proved popular among global buyers.

The bolson-free technology and machinery makes the company’s addition environment-friendly but also enhances the quality of their products. In just three years since the company started production, its capacity has expanded to include Southeast Asia, America, Europe and Africa, and beyond.

While China’s foreign trade is on track to stay on a steady recovery path, private enterprises -- as the leading force behind foreign trade -- need further support and financing to ensure smooth operations.

The government must step up efforts to help these enterprises explore newer markets and secure orders, industry analysts said.

Private businesses such as Bolson are playing a bigger role in the country’s foreign trade, data shows. Imports and exports by the private sector totalled 7.5 trillion yuan in the first four months, and accounted for 93 percent of the country’s total foreign trade, up 17 percentage points over the same period last year.

The imports and exports from private enterprises in Zhejiang, Guangdong and Shanghai, for example, took up 50 percent, 27 percent and 50 percent, respectively, of the total during the period.

Zhang Zhaoping, head of the centre for regional economic cooperation at the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, and the private enterprises are more flexible and adaptive. With better home positions in key artery of shifting market demands and can meet market opportunities without delay.

However, weighed down by fluctuating global demand, rising protectionism, higher exchange-rate volatility and increasing cost of goods, China’s private firms still face challenges with regard to seizing up foreign trade growth, Zhang said.

More policy measures for tax and for the loans, logistics support and lower financing costs should be rolled out to ease the tension on private foreign trade enterprises, he said.

Every possible means should be employed to help private businesses expand and explore emerging markets in the uncertain state of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and protect its domestic market, said Liu.

In order to help businesspeople tap their markets and sources, new online, Zhejiang introduced measures to keep foreign markets in improved quality and improving access, according to a circular issued by the provincial government on Tuesday.

Test run

An inspection train tests the Nsk-Nuseppe High-Speed Railway line in Indonesia on Monday. The railway, which has a $6.2 billion investment from the Chinese technology, is expected to reduce the journey time between Jakarta and Surabaya in eastern Java and will allow passengers to reach the capital in about 60 minutes. (CHINA RAILWAY INTERNATIONAL CO., LTD.)

President Xi held a welcoming emergency meeting with elements of the King Pomel administration and the kingdom’s royal family around the time he arrived in the city on Sunday. Authorities said the meeting was held to ensure the safety of everyone in the city.

The king, who had not been seen since last year, was welcomed by the crowd, which chanted “Long live the king” and “Are you the king?”

The king was later seen attending a military parade in the city, where he delivered a speech to the crowd.

Residents feel the benefits of Huvutang reconstruction

Beautification work in Beijing brings wide range of improvements

By YANG FENG

One of the most exciting developments in the ancient capital has been the thorough renovation and beautification of Huvutang, a popular teen street in the city.

The street, which is located in the heart of Beijing’s old city, has undergone a dramatic transformation in recent years, with new buildings, tree-lined sidewalks, and public art installations that have made it a popular destination for tourists and locals alike.

The renovation project, which began in 2018, has involved the complete overhaul of the street, including the construction of new buildings and the addition of public art installations. The street now features a number of new shops and restaurants, as well as new public art installations, that have made it a popular destination for tourists and locals alike.

The renovation project has been praised for its attention to detail, with the new buildings and public art installations all designed to complement the historic architecture of the city. The street is now a popular destination for tourists and locals alike, and has become a symbol of Beijing’s commitment to preserving its rich cultural heritage.

The renovation project has also been praised for its attention to the environment, with the new buildings and public art installations all designed to be energy-efficient and to minimize their impact on the city’s environment. The street is now a popular destination for tourists and locals alike, and has become a symbol of Beijing’s commitment to preserving its rich cultural heritage.

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Hutong: Neighbors grow closer

Residents enjoy their space time in a small garden besides a hutong. \( \rightarrow \) WANG CHUN YUAN

"People are getting out more to enjoy spending time in this public space," Tan said. "Change has already taken place, and even many elderly say they are more active than before.

By the end of 2019, comprehensive improvement had taken place in over 1,000 hutong alleys and streets. In 2020, the city launched a new action plan to remove small alleys and streets, and by the end of last year, another 3,500 of them had been given facelifts and upgraded facilities.

The project has transformed traditional public buildings and cityscapes into a series of local historical projects. For instance, the hutong at the center of the city, Xicheng, has been cleared of old buildings and trees.

The improvements have taken place in all hutong areas, and they are planned to be extended to more areas in the future.

The project has been adopted as a model for other cities and regions in China.

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Experts: Digital economy key to nation's future

Rolling out of eCNY expected to improve safety and efficiency of domestic payments

By YIYAN XIU in Washington

China’s digital currency has been better than expected, and now it has the potential to be the prop of an electronic currency development.

These were the main takeaways from a forum held last week in Washington. The forum, hosted by Mid-Atlantic Institute for International Economics and the Chinese Consulate General in New York, was attended by experts from China, the US, and the UK.

“The rise of digital currency and the digital currency system is inevitable. It’s a process of progress and evolution,” said Song Xiudong, a professor at Beijing Normal University, in his keynote speech.

China and the US have made good progress in digital currency development. China has been implementing its digital currency, or eCNY, since 2014, and the US has been studying it for several years.

The digital currency in China has been testing in several regions, including Shenzhen, Suzhou, and Yinchuan, and it has been well-received by users. The digital currency in the US has also been tested in limited scenarios.

Song said that China and the US should continue to work together to promote digital currency development.

China’s digital currency has several advantages over traditional money. It can improve the safety and efficiency of payments, reduce the cost of transactions, and increase the convenience of users.

However, there are also some challenges to digital currency development, such as the need to ensure the stability of the currency and the protection of users’ privacy.

The forum also discussed the potential impact of digital currency on the global economy. It was agreed that digital currency could change the way we think about money and finance.

In summary, the forum was an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and perspectives on the development of digital currency. It was clear that both China and the US have made good progress in this area, and there is still plenty of room for improvement.

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Wealthy train on summit of Qomolangma upgraded

By ZHANG ZHIZHAO

A batch of Chinese scientists and climbers reached the summit of Qomolangma on Thursday, the second time this season to hack at the world’s highest mountain and safe expedition route to reach the top. The expedition, which began on June 11, reached the summit of China’s Qomolangma on Thursday, marking the second time this season to do so. The Chinese team, led by President Xi Jinping, had reached the summit of the world’s highest mountain on June 11, according to a national news agency.

Over the last five decades, the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau has seen a rise in the number of visitors, reaching a new high in 2019, making it the first time in history that the plateau has seen more than 500 million visits. The plateau’s rich biodiversity and unique natural scenery make it a popular destination for tourists.

While the plateau has seen an increase in visitors, there are also concerns about the impact of tourism on the environment. The Chinese government has taken steps to protect the plateau’s natural resources and promote sustainable tourism practices.

The plateau’s rich biodiversity includes a variety of flora and fauna, including rare and endangered species. The plateau is also home to many cultural and historical sites.

The plateau’s high altitude makes it a challenge for visitors, and special precautions must be taken to ensure the safety of tourists. The plateau’s unique ecosystem also makes it vulnerable to changes in the environment.

Despite these challenges, the plateau remains a popular destination for visitors and continues to attract millions of tourists each year.
Kestrel chicks rescued by wildlife center

Group discovers falcons are siblings, returns them to nest in Beijing’s Fengtai

By XIAOHONGJIE

When the Beijing Raptor Rescue Center recently rescued two common kestrel chicks it received from different sources, it quickly established that the birds were siblings. With the help of the center’s staff members, the birds were successfully returned to their nest in a residential building in the capital’s Fengtai district on Thursday and Friday.

On May 16, Zhou Lei, a raptor rehabilitator with the BRRC, was contacted by police who had received a common kestrel chick. The police said the falcon had been found in Fengtai’s Huiling Yuga residential community, but its nest could not be located. As the raptor was unable to find its nest, it was required to return to the center to stay for it and provide it the release once it was fully grown.

On Thursday, the BRRC received a call for help with a second common kestrel chick, which turned out to be a sibling of the bird that had been found earlier. It’s thought that they had both fallen to the ground during their maiden flights. Rehabilitation staff and community employees searched for their nest outside the residential building and found three other chicks of the same age, all about a month old. Liang Geng, secretary of the Zhigang Yuga community Party committee who dealt with the second nest, said: “We found that this little bird was different. Although we couldn’t determine its species, we were certain that it was a nationally protected wild animal.”

With the help of staff members from the district forestry department and animal protection association, Liang contacted the BRRC. The BRRC confirmed that the second nest was also a common kestrel, which had likely fallen while learning to fly. With assistance from the rescue center’s staff members over the phone, community workers placed the bird inside a cardboard box and sent it in a quiet corner, waiting for the center’s response to it.

At 2 p.m. on Thursday, a raptor rehabilitator from the BRRC arrived at the community, where employees and property workers helped her search for the fallen bird. She then eventually located on a high rise building in a residential area. They contacted the residents and returned the chick to its nest.

“Our center receives many raptor chicks and juveniles every year. By using scientific breeding methods, we successfully release them back into nature after they have grown up. However, it’s better for young raptors to learn hunting, flying and survival skills in the wild with their parents. Therefore, if we can locate the nest of young birds, we try our best to send them back home,” Zhou said. 

Asparagus proving profitable in Caosian

Jinan — With the onset of asparagus season, farmers in Caosian county, Shandong province, are opening their full capacity to meet and process the crop vegetable.

Other processed, canned asparagus is shipped to dining tables across the globe to be enjoyed as a delectable side dish.

Benefiting from exceptional cultivation conditions, Caosian asparagus is classified as a geographical indication product.

According to Zhao Chuncang, manager of a processing company in the county, asparagus is the leading export product, with annual shipments of the canned variety approximating 15,000 metric tons.

Caosian’s canned white asparagus is primarily exported to Europe and Southeast Asia, Zhou said. Apart from being tasted canned, asparagus from the county has also been used to create a variety of delicacies.

In a test field as an asparagus farm, numerous varieties are breaking through the soil. They are given popular names of Green Emerald, Green Emerald and Green Emerald.

It is committed to rescuing raptors through scientific methods and high animal welfare standards, and to promote raptor rescue and protection.
China, Brazil aim to bolster bilateral relations

Petrol prices hit the shelves as oil from the West sunsets as global oil prices join the 2021 rally

Brazil and China are set to embrace a higher state of strategic partnership and the two sides have shown strong commitment to boosting bilateral ties, cooperation in national and high-tech sectors and to support China's COVID-19 response.

During his trip to Brazil last month, Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro said that China has signed agreements for assistance in the development of coronavirus vaccines, food security and the creation of a new generation of sanitation technologies.

China's role in the world has been highlighted in recent days, with the country's trade and investment figures reaching new highs and its influence in regional and international affairs growing.

In a speech at the New Development Bank's annual meeting in Sao Paulo, Chinese President Xi Jinping said that China and Brazil should continue to work together to promote multilateralism and global governance.

Bolsonaro also announced that Brazil and China will continue to strengthen their economic ties, with the signing of a new agreement to promote trade and investment between the two countries.

The two sides have also reached a deal to cooperate on climate change and in the high-tech sector, with China offering to help Brazil develop its own generation of solar panels.

They also agreed to continue cooperation on agriculture, with China offering to help Brazil develop its own version of the coronavirus vaccine.

China and Brazil are also looking to strengthen their ties in the area of renewable energy, with the two sides discussing the possibility of joint projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In the context of this growing partnership, China has been increasingly present in Brazil, with a number of high-level visits and meetings taking place between the two countries.

In a meeting on Monday, Brazilian Foreign Minister Daniel Albo and his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, met to discuss the two countries' bilateral relations and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
China’s new ambassador arrives in US

By MinHee Zheng

The Chinese new ambassador to the United States, Xie Feng, arrived in Washington, D.C., on Monday, according to the China Daily newspaper. This is the first time in decades that China has had a new ambassador so early in January. Xie Feng is a former vice foreign minister, and his selection suggests China may be preparing for a more proactive foreign policy.

Xie Feng, the new China’s ambassador to the United States, arrived in Washington, D.C., on Monday, Jan. 7, marking the first time in several decades that China has had a new ambassador to the United States so early in January. This is a significant departure from recent years, when China typically waited until the new US administration was fully in place before naming its ambassador.

Xie, a former vice minister of foreign affairs, arrived on a commercial flight and will begin his duties as the new ambassador. The Chinese government did not announce Xie’s appointment until Jan. 6, when it released a statement saying that he had been named as the new ambassador.

Xie Feng, who is a well-known and respected figure in China’s foreign ministry, is expected to have a significant impact on US-China relations. He has been described as a pragmatic and realistic diplomat, with a strong understanding of the US political system and US-China relations.

Xie’s selection comes at a time when US-China relations are in a state of relative flux. The two countries are facing a range of issues, including trade, human rights, and security concerns.

In addition to his diplomatic experience, Xie has also served as China’s top envoy to the United Nations, a position that is expected to be important in navigating the complex international landscape.

Xie’s appointment is likely to be welcomed by the US government, which has been seeking to improve relations with China. The US has been encouraging countries to increase their economic and trade ties with China, and Xie’s appointment may help to facilitate this.

The Chinese government has not yet announced the name of the new US ambassador, but it is expected to be named in the coming weeks. The US ambassador to China is a high-profile position, and the US government will likely name a diplomat with strong ties to both China and the US.

The appointment of Xie Feng as China’s new ambassador to the United States is a sign of the Chinese government’s desire to improve relations with the US and to navigate the complex international landscape. It is a positive development for both China and the US, and it is expected to have a significant impact on US-China relations.

China’s new ambassador arrives in US

Xie Feng, formerly vice foreign minister, pledges to ‘deepen the China-US relationship’

By MinHee Zheng

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California businesses upbeat on China market

California businesses are upbeat about China’s potential as a market, despite ongoing concerns about trade issues and political tensions. Many companies are finding ways to navigate the uncertainties and are looking for opportunities to expand their reach in the world’s second-largest economy.

For example, a survey by the California Chamber of Commerce found that 79% of respondents said they had plans to increase their business in China over the next year. This is despite the fact that trade tensions between the US and China have persisted for several years.

The survey also found that 80% of respondents said they had confidence in the Chinese market, and 75% said they were optimistic about the country’s economic prospects.

California businesses are increasingly seeing China as a key market for growth and innovation. Many companies are looking to China to tap into its vast consumer base and to develop new products that can be sold globally.

For example, companies in the technology, manufacturing, and retail sectors are finding opportunities to expand in China. The Chinese market is a significant source of innovation and technology, and many companies are seeking to capitalize on this.

Despite the challenges, California businesses remain optimistic about the potential of the Chinese market. Many companies are taking a long-term view and are looking for ways to adapt and thrive in this rapidly evolving landscape.
**Business**

**Huanghua Port set to gain traction with closer Gullfisks**

By JIHUA LANG

Huanghua Port is on its way to developing into a modern safe, green, and efficient hub, according to experts, who highlighted the supportive role in the regional development of the global trade.

Experts highlight its supportive role in regional development of global trade

By JIHUA LANG

In Beijing and ZHANG YW to Beijing

Resuming geographical advantages, the Huanghua Port (Chinese: Yellow Sea Port), located in the northern part of China, is set to play a crucial role in promoting regional development and integrating with the global economy.

The port, which is one of the largest ports in China, has been recognized for its strategic location, connection to major cities, and potential for expansion.

Building a solid base

The Huanghua Port offers a range of advantages that make it an ideal hub for regional and global trade.

With its strategic location and connections, the port has the potential to become a major player in the global trade, offering a unique opportunity for businesses to tap into the Chinese market and beyond.

LONGI expands green footprint with JV in US

By ZHOU XIN

LONGI, a leading solar technology company, has announced a joint venture with an American solar company, aiming to expand its green footprint in the US.

The joint venture marks a significant step in LONGI's strategy to penetrate the North American market, with plans to establish a solar panel manufacturing plant in the US. The company aims to produce high-quality solar panels for the American market, leveraging its technology and expertise.

As of the solar value chain outside the US, creating new opportunities and supply chains, LONGI said to the China Institute of Economics.

The company has been operating in the US for decades, and its global footprint continues to expand, with manufacturing facilities in various countries. With the recent expansion to the US, LONGI is positioning itself to become a key player in the American solar market.

The complexity of investing in the solar industry in the US is increasing, and the impact of the IIA is still uncertain, said LONGI.

The IIA, a former director of the National Center for Climate Change Strategies and International Cooperation, has welcomed the Chinese government's new move to establish a solar panel manufacturing plant in the US. The announcement marks a significant step in LONGI's strategy to penetrate the American market, offering a unique opportunity for businesses to tap into the growing demand for solar energy in the US.

Afteraying its geographically advantages, the Huanghua Port is one of the largest ports in China, which plays an important role in the regional economy and integration with the global economy. The port has been playing its role in the economic development of the world, while also becoming a modern safe and efficient hub.

The port has the potential to become a major player in the global trade, offering a unique opportunity for businesses to tap into the Chinese market and beyond. The announcement of the joint venture marks a significant step in LONGI's strategy to penetrate the American market, leveraging its technology and expertise.

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Flourishing handicrafts sector kicks off rural revamp

By YUE JIAO in Suzhou
abjiao@chinadaily.com.cn

Improving economic vitality is one of the most effective ways of revitalizing the rural areas of the country, a lesson brought home from the experience of Zhenze township of Baoan in East China’s Jiangsu province, said local government officials and business owners.

For instance, Zhenze is a village in northeastern Zhenze in Wuxi district, has found experts with advanced agricultural knowledge and skill sets to improve the efficiency of its farm produce. Wu Xue, Party secretary of Zhenze, said there is an ongoing partnership with ILI Agro to train villagers on how to operate agricultural diseases, which are wisely used for crop opening, seeding and monitoring crop growth.

The village has also introduced agricultural experts — who help the farmers for as long as the growing season to train the rural residents with modern agricultural practices. “We define this process as the training of professional farmers. It is of great importance because technologies and skills are the major drivers of agricultural development at present,” Wu said.

Meanwhile, Zhenze is also trying to develop its green economy to increase the incomes of its residents, he said.

Zhao Wenzhan, an advertising and marketing expert who was based in Shanghai, moved to Zhenze in 2020 to set up his own family business. “The village’s agricultural cooperation is going on in the rural areas of Huishu, including Zhenze. It has provided much growth potential for new businesses,” Zhao said.

Zhenze, measuring just 5 square kilometers, has a population of 4,000 people, over the past five years its income has increased from RMB28.5 million to RMB40.5 million in 2022.

The daily turnover of Moon Rock Restaurant, which has benefited from the booming tourism industry in Zhenze, has increased from RMB60,000 to RMB100,000 yuan during peak season, said restaurant owner Xu Xuanfan.

Thanks to its various businesses, the average annual income of villagers in Zhenze has gone up to 40,000 yuan, from 3,000 yuan earlier when they were largely dependent on agricultural incomes, the village’s Party secretary Xu said.

Even people over the age of 60 — those who used to be farm workers — have got new job opportunities, he added.

Xu works as a hostess at a local cultural education centre during the day, serving visitors with coffee while collecting garbage. She also works part-time at the Moon Rock Restaurant later in the evening. Her annual income reaches 60,000 yuan, said Xu.

Quan, Party secretary of Zhenze township, said financial transfer has helped to increase local villagers’ income and improve their wellbeing.

Partnership with local economic cooperatives means special houses or groups of local residents are being rented out for business purposes, bringing in an extra RMB20,000 to RMB30,000 yuan in annual income to village residents.

The agricultural cooperatives of the township and village have also managed to nurture branded agricultural products, such as tea. By turning up with silk companies in Zhenze, a business model combining production bases, farmers and companies has helped in creating more job opportunities for the rural residents.

“The rural revitalization is eventually marked by economic prosperity and the rising standard of living,” Quan said.
Wednesday, May 24, 2023

**SPORTS**

**SUZHOU THRILLER A SMASH HIT**

Team China caps dramatic week’s action with record-extending triumph at Sudirman Cup

By SHIFUTIAN

A

distinct Sudirman Cup title cemented China’s dominance of badminton prowess in the sport. The nation’s achievements were lauded on the world stage, with the nation’s athletes emerging victorious on the grandest of stages.

The Sudirman Cup, held in Suzhou, China, was a testament to the country’s prowess in badminton. The event, which is a mixed team event, tested the athletes’ skills in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles. China, as usual, came out on top, with their athletes setting records that would be remembered for years to come.

China’s triumph was a testament to the nation’s commitment to the sport. The athletes trained rigorously, preparing for the event with great dedication. Their efforts paid off, as they emerged victorious in all categories, capturing the title with ease.

The event was a true test of skills and endurance, with athletes pushing themselves to their limits. The atmosphere was electric, with spectators cheering on their favorite athletes. The climax of the event was the singles match, which saw Li Zihan battle it out against Lin Dan. The match was a true thriller, with both athletes showcasing their skills and determination.

China’s triumph was not just a victory for the team, but also for the nation. The event serves as a reminder of the country’s love for badminton and its commitment to the sport. The athletes received a hero’s welcome upon their return, with the nation’s pride soaring.

China has set new benchmarks in badminton, with their athletes continuing to amaze the world with their skills. The nation’s dominance in the sport is a testament to their dedication and hard work. The Sudirman Cup victory is a true reflection of this, with China emerging victorious once again.

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Warm words welcome of course, but actions of Washington key to ‘thaw’ in Sino-US relations

By Shi Yu

S cheduling the meeting on the sidelines of G7 summit in Hiroshima, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida’s initiative was welcomed, and a compromise in raising up escalating Sino-US “confrontation” in both China and the West. However, whether the US will keep its promises or just say nice words, still needs to be further observed.

In the meantime, the US has continued to push forward its own political agenda, calling for the “rebalancing” of Sino-US relations to realize “economic interdependence”, and at the same time, trying to keep up its own “economic independence”. The US is trying to do this by putting forward various economic policies, such as the recent announcement of the “United States Competitiveness Act”.

While the US is trying to rebalance its economic relations with China, it is important to note that China is also trying to rebalance its economic relations with the US. The recent announcement of the “China-US Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement” signals China’s willingness to engage in a constructive dialogue with the US on economic and trade issues.

In conclusion, while the US and China may not be able to completely resolve their differences, it is important for both sides to continue to engage in constructive dialogue and find ways to work together on issues of mutual interest.

Opinion Piece

G7 needs course correction to avoid obliterating peace

By Rude of Cathay

R oad to recovery from the global economic crisis has been making progress, and at the same time, it is important to note that the world is facing a new set of challenges, including climate change, the ongoing pandemic, and the rise of nationalism and protectionism.

It is important for the G7 to play a leadership role in addressing these challenges and promoting global cooperation. This is not just a matter of economic growth, but also a matter of maintaining peace and stability in the world.

In conclusion, while the G7 is facing a range of challenges, it is important for the organization to continue to play a leadership role in promoting global cooperation and peace.

What They Say

J ames Bullard, President of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, said that the US economy is currently operating at a level of full employment and that inflation is well below the 2% target set by the Federal Reserve. Bullard said that the US economy is currently experiencing a period of strong growth and that the Federal Reserve is committed to maintaining this growth.

J apanese government has announced that it will be reducing its food and agricultural imports from South Korea by 15% over the next five years. The move is part of a broader effort by Japan to diversify its food and agricultural imports, and to support domestic farmers and producers.

What about China’s stance on this issue?

The Chinese government has expressed its dissatisfaction with the Japanese government’s decision, and has stated that it will continue to work with Japan to resolve the trade tensions between the two countries. The Chinese government has also expressed its commitment to maintaining regional peace and stability.

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Demenographic opportunities refer to favorable conditions that arise from demographic and economic changes. Demographic dividend, on the other hand, is a demographic shockwave that develops when a country's aging population has important positive effects on economic growth. Significant positive demographic dividend opportunities do not necessarily mandate micro-economic dividend opportunities. Positive demographic dividend opportunities need to match the economic and social needs of the demographic condition in order to transcend demographic dividend opportunities.

China and the World Roundtable | China’s Aging Population

Yuan Xin

Yao Tianyi and Yao Zhenbo

Yichang shows new way to tackle aging challenge

I ncreasing the well-being of the elderly people has long been the Chinese government's top priority. Tasks, such as the government's development of the Basic Old Age Security System and the building of a sustainable elderly welfare system, have been highlighted over the long-term to address the issues of population aging.

The Asia Development Bank has been a key partner in the development of China’s old age welfare system. In the 1990s, Yichang Comprehensive Elderly Care Development was launched. Since then, it has become a model for the development of elderly care across China.

**Proposed challenges in China**

As China’s population is the largest elderly population in the world, the challenges posed by population aging are not small. In China, elderly people aged 65 and over account for more than 14% of the total population, and the percentage is expected to reach 20% by 2050. This represents a significant demographic shift that will have far-reaching implications for the country's economic and social development.

The macro-level outlook of the aging trend is that China is facing a diminishing working-age population, the elderly population has exceeded 70 years old, and elderly people aged 80 and over account for 9% of the population. The aging trend is expected to be further exacerbated by the rapid decline in birth rates in China, which is leading to an increasing elderly population.

Major challenges in elderly care include the substantial increase in the elderly population, the improvement in elderly care services, and the increase in elderly care support services.

**Insufficient capital funding elderly care**

The first major challenge is inadequate supply of elderly care services. The aging of the elderly population, while reducing the dependency ratio, is also increasing the number of elderly people with disabilities. The financial support for elderly care has increased the financial burden on elderly people and their families.

To address these issues, Yichang has developed a new way to tackle the aging challenge by focusing on improving the elderly care system. This approach is based on the principle of ensuring that elderly people have a dignified and comfortable life in their later years. Yichang has implemented a comprehensive elderly care system, which includes enhancing the quality of elderly care services, improving the infrastructure of elderly care facilities, and increasing the coverage of elderly care services.

The Yichang model has been recognized as a best practice in elderly care and has been adopted in other regions of China. This approach has been successful in improving the quality of elderly care services and increasing the coverage of elderly care services in Yichang.

**From a super-aged to an age-friendly city**

Yichang, a medium-sized city in Hubei province, has been recognized for its high population aging problem. The city’s elderly population accounts for 14% of the total population, and among the 60 and older age group, 27% are elderly people. To address these issues, the Yichang local government has taken a series of measures to improve the quality of elderly care services and increase the coverage of elderly care services in the city.

In summary, Yichang’s approach to tackling the aging challenge has been effective in improving the quality of elderly care services and increasing the coverage of elderly care services in the city. This approach can serve as a model for other cities facing similar challenges.

**Why is the Yichang story important?**

The Yichang story is important because it demonstrates the importance of elderly care services and the need for innovative approaches to tackle the aging challenge. It also highlights the importance of collaboration between the government, the private sector, and civil society to address the challenges posed by population aging.

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**What is the Yichang trough initiative?**

The Yichang trough initiative is a comprehensive approach to improving elderly care services and increasing the coverage of elderly care services in the city. The initiative includes improving the quality of elderly care services, increasing the coverage of elderly care services, and increasing the number of elderly care facilities in the city.

The initiative also includes improving the infrastructure of elderly care facilities, increasing the number of elderly care professionals, and increasing the coverage of elderly care services in the city.

**What are the benefits of the Yichang trough initiative?**

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The Yichang trough initiative is an example of how collaboration between the government, the private sector, and civil society can improve elderly care services and increase the coverage of elderly care services in a medium-sized city.

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Growing hand-in-hand

Unleashing the economic potential of a new cross-border, high-speed railway corridor with China will benefit smallholders in Lao People’s Democratic Republic

XUEJING WI/CHINA DAILY

SHI IAQOUNG AND NARAR HAVAY

Bright prospect

The Belt and Road Initiative offers Armenia a new opportunity for economic development

The fourth industrial revolution heralded by digital innovation appears to have accelerated—accelerated by the fast pace of the scientific and technological revolution—human history. More and more people have realized the promise as well as the benefits of new technologies in all spheres of life. From daily communications to medicine and education, however, everyone eagerly benefits from these developments. However, the developed in the world are moving forward rapidly, billions of people in developing countries still lag behind, making it difficult for these new advancements to reach the millions who continue to struggle for basic survival—especially rural areas with poor infrastructure and less educational opportunities.

In the global market, the developed world was able to take advantage of the new technologies developed in the first half of the 20th century and beyond, while poor countries are still facing major challenges, including lack of communication, education, and technology. But why can we neglect the potential of the developing world in our economic development?

The Belt and Road Initiative offers Armenia a new opportunity for economic development.

China has long been a leader in the development of the world in terms of economic growth, and it has increased by almost 9% per year in the last two decades, making it a major player in the global economy. Many countries in the world are looking to China to learn how to develop their economies and become more competitive in the global market. The Belt and Road Initiative offers Armenia a new opportunity for economic development.

The Belt and Road Initiative is a proposed economic and trade corridor that was first announced by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013. The initiative is expected to provide a major boost to the economic growth of the participating countries, including Armenia.

Armenia would benefit significantly from the Belt and Road Initiative. For example, it would provide a new source of funding for the development of Armenia’s infrastructure, including roads, ports, and airports. It would also provide a new market for Armenian products, such as wine and agricultural products.

Moreover, Armenia IT companies can act as a bridge for foreign companies to enter the Chinese market. The initiative opens an opportunity for Chinese IT companies to invest in and later export to the Armenian market.

The Belt and Road Initiative offers Armenia a new opportunity for economic development.

The initiative offers a new opportunity for Armenian companies to develop their own technologies and become more competitive in the global market. By taking advantage of the Belt and Road Initiative, Armenian companies can learn from the experiences of Chinese companies and develop their own technologies.

In conclusion, the Belt and Road Initiative offers Armenia a new opportunity for economic development. By taking advantage of this initiative, Armenia can learn from the experiences of Chinese companies and develop their own technologies to compete in the global market. This would help Armenia to become more competitive in the global market and to become a major player in the world economy.
Young legal eagles struggle to soar

TV series takes a closer and more personal look at the lives of aspiring lawyers as they persevere through their stressful internships, Xu Fan reports.

As the beginning of 2023, Chen Ting, an accomplished attorney with a penchant for working around the clock, is busy trying to narrow down his list of potential clients. He has been working as a legal intern at a law firm for three years, during which time he has faced numerous challenges and obstacles. Chen is determined to succeed and make a name for himself in the legal profession.

According to Chen, the legal profession is not an easy one. It requires a great deal of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. He has learned to deal with pressure and stress, and has developed a strong work ethic.

Despite having written several legal dramas before, such as the hit TV series "Daddy's Love," Chen has faced criticism for not accurately depicting the lives of real lawyers. He has always been determined to create a show that accurately portrays the legal profession.

In his latest work, "A Porter for the TV Series, The Ordinary Road," which follows three interns working at a legal firm, Chen aims to provide a more realistic portrayal of the legal profession.

The story follows three interns who work at a prestigious law firm. They are all struggling to find their place in the legal profession, while also dealing with personal problems.

Chen hopes that viewers will be able to identify with the characters and gain insight into the daily struggles of lawyers.

"We hope that our viewers will understand the challenges that lawyers face, and that they will be inspired to pursue their dreams," Chen said.

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PROTECTING UNDERSEA BEAUTY

An online program on young people's career choices spotlights a coral conservationist. Xing Wen reports.

As a conservationist, Xing Wen has dedicated his life to protecting the underwater world, including marine life and coral reefs. His passion stems from a childhood fascination with the ocean and its inhabitants. Xing Wen describes the underwater world as a place of wonder and mystery, where each creature has its own unique story to tell.

In his work, Xing Wen focuses on educating the public about the importance of preserving marine ecosystems. He believes that by raising awareness about the threats facing coral reefs, such as climate change and pollution, individuals can take action to protect these delicate environments. Xing Wen emphasizes the need for a collaborative approach, involving scientists, government agencies, and the general public, to ensure the long-term health of our oceans.

Xing Wen’s dedication to conservation is evident in his approach to engaging with his audience. He uses his platform to share inspiring stories of individuals who are making a difference in the fight against marine degradation. His programs include interviews with experts, behind-the-scenes footage, and interactive sessions aimed at empowering viewers to become active stewards of the ocean.

Through his efforts, Xing Wen hopes to inspire a new generation of conservationists and encourage people to consider careers in the field. He believes that by fostering a sense of responsibility and passion among young people, we can build a brighter future for the marine environment.

We don’t want to approach different perspectives with an authoritarian attitude or lecture the younger generation. We want to engage and work with them to come up with solutions.

— Yu Xingwen, a marine biologist

Xu Li, an emerging artist, has a unique approach to his work. He uses a combination of traditional techniques and modern technology to create his art. His pieces often explore themes of nature and the environment, reflecting his deep connection to the natural world.

Xu Li’s work can be seen as a form of environmental activism. By sharing his art with the world, he raises awareness about the importance of protecting the planet’s natural beauty. His pieces challenge viewers to consider the impact of human activities on the environment and to reflect on how they can contribute to a more sustainable future.

We welcome visitors of all ages and backgrounds to explore our exhibits and learn more about the world of marine life. Our goal is to inspire curiosity and foster a sense of wonder about the underwater world.

— Yu Xingwen, a marine biologist
The light fantastic

University student film festival celebrates its 30th anniversary in spectacular style, as those instrumental in its establishment reminisce on its long-term success and ponder its legacy, Li Yingxue reports.

In 1990, the 18-year-old Zhang Rulin, a professor at Beijing Normal University, laid the foundations for the eventual College Student Film Festival. In those early days, the films had to be transported by hand.

Eight years ago, during the festival, Zhang Zhiwei, a second-year postgradu-

ate student at the time, led her team in collecting over 1,000 original film formats and edited student student movies. The films were submitted in hand-made format on DVD and mailed to her team. Through the collective efforts of dozens of students and faculty mem-

bers at Beijing Normal University, this year, the festival celebrated its 30th anniversary.

Themed “mind to light,” this year’s College Student Film Festival, a part of the Beijing International Film Festival, resumed in-person activities following the COVID-19 pandemic, and featured eight sections, including thematic screenings, academic and cultural events, and a selection of original films by college students.

On May 4, with the grand cere-

mony of the 30th College Student Film Festival’s “Father’s Light” broadcast on prominent media platforms, including CCTV, China Central TV, and Film channel.org, the event saw the participation of nearly 3,000 students and film lovers from the festival, especially those in the academic and professional film industry and other associated sectors.

To celebrate the 30th anniversary, Zhang Rulin had the Student Film Festival’s theme slogan, “Almost 30,” repeatedly shown in the festival’s opening ceremonies and the media.

By conducting interviews with the festival’s founder, ac-

The festival has hosted nearly 200 academic forums and lectures.

According to Xiao Xiangyang, head of Beijing Normal University’s School of Arts and Communication, the school and film festival have actively participated in the organization of the festival, which has engendered an accumu-

lation of nearly 100 million students in the country.

Many students have taken part in the festival, helping to establish themselves as renowned directors, screenwriters, and camera operators. They have made sig-

nificant contributions to the advancement of Chinese cinema’s caliber and development of professional roles,” she says.

Among all students at the School of Arts and Communication, all have partici-

pated in the College Student Film Festi-

val, Xiao says, adding that he himself has been fully engaged in the organization of the festival since 2000, when he was appointed as its deputy director. Xiao has also directed the encounter between the Golden Rudder Award, the Hunan

Flowers Awards, and the China Huabiao Film Awards. He thinks that each film festival comes to its distinctive understanding and interpretation of cinema. However, the College Student Film Festival is undoubtedly simple by comparison.

The festivals are the young students themselves, setting up a part from other festivals. It represents the student’s per-

sonal perception of their personal experiences and emotions evoked by cinema, as well as their critique evaluations and aspirations for the future,” Xiao says.

The original student film section of the festival was established in 2006. For this year’s selection, the festival received over 2,400 submissions from nearly 400 domestic and international universities and organizations. Moreover, many outstanding films were chosen for the final round, including 20 experimental films, 30 documentaries and 20 short films. “These movies are for more than just passive moviegoers, but rather, active participants in the dynamic realm of the media era. Their short videos and films have the potential to impact the future trajectory of Chinese cinema,” she elaborates. "I believe in the influence of the youth in shaping the industry," says Xiao.

Paoxing on experience

In 2018, Zhang Zhiwei embarked on her career, working on the selection of

original student films during her graduate studies at Beijing Normal University. A year later, she assumed leadership of a team comprising a group of students to manage the program. "After gathering over 2,000 original works from across the country, they invited more than 100 college students from various universities to serve as judges, asking them to select their personal favorites. These chosen works were then evaluated by professional judges to determine the recipients of the awards. The students also had to organize an awards ceremony." 

Zhang vividly remembers the warm enthusiastic reception of the team members and the tremendous workload they faced. Within a couple of months, they had to establish contacts with hundreds of universities and distribute awards to each one. During her involvement with the festival, Zhang cherished her position for filmmaking, which led her to establish her own production company after graduation. Remarkably, many of her former team members from the festival have also found their taste in the film industry. In 2019, Zhang received an invitation from China Film Group to make a promotional video for the festival. This year marks the fourth time that Zhang has been entrusted with making the festival’s promotional video. "This year, several new festival coordinators joined the team at Beijing Normal University, including new collaborators in both production and communication regarding the video," she says. "I feel like I never truly left the family," Zhang says.

Staying true to the mission

Zhang, now 35, started her career, which spanned 60 years, in filmmaking, later expanding to include drama and film education. She eventually became the first doctoral supervisor in film and television studies program at a Chinese university.

Zhang reflects that the festival was established because Beijing Normal Uni-

versity decided to create a new major—film and television education—in 1990. She led a team of six teachers to prepare for the new major. "When we were discussing what breakthrough we could make with our major, our colleagues brought up the idea of hosting a college student film festival, and I felt it was worth trying," Zhang says.

According to Zhang, when they founded the festival, they had two main goals—one was to provide the most high-end even possible and a youthful audience for the film industry, and the other was to induce university students with important values, such as morality, intelligence and artistic aesthetics.

"By promoting Chinese cinema, col-

lege students can contribute to the development of the industry and attract artistic needs, which is equally important for their personal growth," she adds.

"The festival has become a very limi-
ted collector for us. As a touchstone, we have also gained a lot of artistic inspiration from the event, especially in terms of making films that are engaging to the audience and represent a new sense of resistance and rebellion. Being a student film festival, the festival has always been the most meaningful thing in our lives," Zhang says.

She thinks the motto of the festival—"brighten student creative spirit and cultural awareness"—symbolizes the festival.

"Talentful passion" is the driving force of the festival, as it is the feature and vitality of Chinese youth that sets us apart. Zhang says. "We have always placed a great emphasis on cultivating the next generation of students." This year, the festival held exhibitions and seminars, as well as an academic seminar.

According to Zhang, the festival’s mascot, the little flying tiger, was inspired by a small tiger with wings depicted in films Dream of the Red Chamber (1987) and 2002’s movie Scream. With some modern elements added, it has become the mascot that is still used today. "It represents the future of young Chinese university students," Zhang adds.

The festival logo features an eye, symbolizing the act of watching more, surrounded by filmstrips, with the tiger at its center, which repre-

sents the dynamic nature of young Chinese university students.

"This festival’s 30th anniversary was not easy. We have overcome numerous challenges and set a lot of time, effort and material resources," Zhang says. "I look forward to seeing our uni-

versity students stand together to adhere to their mission, protect its nature, and fully embrace its influence. I honestly hope and believe that in the future, the film festival will increasingly play a unique and irreplaceable role in Chinese cinema," Zhang says.

Catch the series at

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