China’s unified market ‘globally oriented, fully liberalized’

China will continue to push for greater market access for foreign investors, as part of its ongoing efforts to expand high-level openings up and build a unified national market, the Ministry of Commerce said on Monday.

Analysts said the country’s resolve to build a fully open market, deeper market-oriented reforms and remove barriers within the fragmented domestic market, which will stimulate market vitality and significantly boost market confidence, especially among foreign businesses.

They said the country is dedicated to opening wider to the outside world, and that their efforts will be made to expand opening-up in fields such as the modern services sector.

“The unified national market we are constructing will be a globally oriented and fully open market, which will undoubtedly provide a broader market space for foreign companies, much bigger for the foreign-invested sectors,” Zhao Qiang, director of the Ministry of Commerce’s department of market system development, said in a news briefing on Monday.

Zhao said that China will continue to give the negative list for foreign investment further cancel and relax restrictions on market access. It will also play with hard-earned intangible economic and trade rules to deepen reforms in relevant areas and steadily advance institutional opening-up.

More efforts will also be made to better serve foreign companies and create a worldwide environment for foreign investment, he said.

Zhao Junjie, director of the comprehensive planning department of the State Administration for Market Regulation, highlighted the role of fair competition in supporting the growth of the unified national market, noting that China will strengthen supervision and law enforcement against market monopolies and anti-competitive and institutional and regulatory foundations for fair competition.

The country will accelerate the reform and the Anti-monopoly law, promote the introduction of the regulation on fair competition review and optimize the registration system for enterprises coming from one region to another.

China’s efforts to boost foreign investments and business ties at home in the country is fertile accelerating the push for building a unified national market that is efficient, rules-based, open and enforces fair competition, which means the country will further integrate itself into the global economy and steadily deepen reform and opening-up at home.

To that end, a researcher at the Bank of China Research Institute said that China’s efforts to set up a unified market system and bring an end to local protectionism, market segmentation and impediments restricting economic circulation as well as facilitate the smooth flow of goods, factors and resources.

“A unified national market will help foreign companies establish a unified system for production, operation and sales in China and help them further cut costs resulting from differences in rules between regions, thus greatly enhancing the confidence of foreign investors.”

“With the formation of such a market, China will unlock the potential of China’s offshore domestic market, which will attract more foreign companies,” said Wu Wei, deputy director of the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation.

Wu said the country’s efforts on shortening negative lists for market entry and building a unified national market, opening those markets helps to create a modern market system that is open, transparent and encourages fair competition and better market-place players.

Analysts hailed the announcement of the improvement to the national market and stimulus and business ties at home.

Fan Baicai, an expert at the China Research Institute on national economic and trade rules to deepen reforms in relevant areas and steadily advance institutional opening-up.

By YIN YINSHAN, a researcher at the Bank of China Research Institute

The formation of such a market will fully unleash the potential of China’s ultra-large domestic market, which will attract more foreign investment.”

Efforts to bring peace to Afghanistan at turning point

For war-torn Afghanistan, the role of a strong, impartial player in the peace and reconciliation process is significant. Thanks to its diplomatic skills and agenda to promote peace and harmony.

On Thursday, the 5th China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Development Conference, held in Changzhou, Jiangsu province in Southwestern China, emitted the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan Declaration issued at the end of the China-Central Asia Summit, which was held on May 19-20. The summit included the participation and development of Afghanistan and emphasized Beijing’s proactive role in realizing the Afghan peace process.

One of the main events developed in this conference was the agreement on the importance of the Tripartite Dialogue, which is being held between the Taliban and the Afghan government.

In conclusion, the conference issued the Changzhou Declaration, which hopes to bridge the gaps between different political groups and encourage positive dialogue. This initiative strategy has an important role in strengthening the joint decision-abraham and agreements reached the discussion between the Afghan government and the Taliban, the Afghan government and Pakistan as well as the Taliban.

With the conclusion of the conference, China has reaffirmed its commitment to develop Afghanistan and Pakistan in many areas and foster peace in Afghanistan with new turning point.

By PEI YINSHAN, a researcher at the China Research Institute on national economic and trade rules to deepen reforms in relevant areas and steadily advance institutional opening-up.

Nations urged to build strength from traditions

Analysts hail president’s call for boosting unity, cultural confidence

By XU WELI

The vision put forward at Friday by President Xi Jinping to build a modern Chinese civilization will empower the country on its own path to modernization and build up national unity in the face of various risks and challenges, according to analysts.

During a symposium with officials and experts in Beijing, Xi, who also serves as general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, expanded on the need to further consolidate the Chinese people in their history and culture, to use China’s wisdom to realize Chinese national rejuvenation.

Xi Jinping, the leader of the Chinese Communist Party and the country’s top leader, said China will continue to build world peace, common prosperity and the cultural confidence to promote exchanges and mutual learning between Chinese and foreign cultures.

The important features of Chinese civilization and Chinese culture will continue to build world peace, common prosperity and cultural confidence to promote exchanges and mutual learning between Chinese and foreign cultures.

In his speech, he expounded on the cultural confidence and Chinese civilization, Xi has conveyed the message to the world community that Beijing will remain committed to its national strategy of opening-up and championing global peace and development.

By FEI HUI

Sailor vowed

Friends and family mourn 3 sailors killed during an exercise when the aircraft carrier’s crack between Israel and Egypt hit a resin in Haifa on Monday, police confirmed. At least seven sailors and a number of foreign personnel are feared killed in the crash.

The crash killed all three sailors and a number of foreign personnel is feared killed in the crash, according to the Israeli military.

The sailors were killed during an exercise when the aircraft carrier’s crack between Israel and Egypt hit a resin in Haifa on Monday, police confirmed. At least seven sailors and a number of foreign personnel are feared killed in the crash.
Skies: Shenzhen pilot project sets example

Local residents and merchants in the community were concerned about the impact it could have on their lives.

As a result, the bureau and other government departments launched a series of initiatives. They put up posters, distributed brochures and invited experts to give lectures. Shenzhen has attracted more than 300 local residents to participate in the classes. Financial subsidies have been provided to local residents who have taken the classes. The city has also increased the number of its dark sky protection boards, and a dark sky observation board will be built in Daping New Area in the future.

In August, the city launched an urban lighting plan that detailed the standards and requirements for building Shenzhen’s lighting features from 2021 to 2025. The document, released by the city’s urban management authority, said a dark sky protection demonstration zone will be built in Daping New Area.

Construction of a dark sky community in Xichong started in 2021. As part of the project, the local government renovated lighting and advanced300 new energy-saving lamps.

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China's environmental policies have the potential to drive significant economic growth and development in Afghanistan. TheKarzai administration has expressed its interest in adopting similar policies in the region to foster economic development and stabilize an area fraught with conflict and civil unrest. The Karzai administration views the environmental policies of China as a potential model for sustainable development in Afghanistan.

China, with its vast resources and abundant technological expertise, can play a crucial role in helping Afghanistan develop its infrastructure and address the pressing environmental challenges it faces. This could involve the transfer of technologies for renewable energy, water management, and other environmentally friendly practices.

In conclusion, the environmental policies of China offer a potential blueprint for sustainable development in Afghanistan. By adopting similar policies, Afghanistan can create a platform for long-term economic growth and stability, paving the way for a brighter future.

The effects of climate change are felt in various parts of the world, with China and Afghanistan being no exceptions. China's efforts to combat climate change are significant, and by sharing its experiences and technologies, it can contribute to the global fight against climate change. Afghanistan, on the other hand, must adopt sustainable practices to mitigate the impacts of climate change and ensure a sustainable future for its people.
Uniting compatriots key to reunification

BY CHANG YI

The Chinese mainland will continue to invite compatriots to create a better future for the realization of reunification and rejuvenation, Wang Huiying, China’s top political advisor, said on Monday.

Wang, who is also chairperson of the Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, asked the people to take part in efforts to promote cross-Strait relations and advancing peaceful reunification of the country.

Wang said that the mainland will fully implement the overall strategy for realizing the Taiwan question in the near future, and promote the peaceful development of cross-Strait relations and deepen cross-Strait integrative development.

"Acting on the great rejuvenation is a shared responsibility of all compatriots on both sides of the Taiwan Strait," Wang Huiying, China’s top political advisor, added.

Wang said that the "Taiwan independence" is a serious threat to national security and national unification, and all compatriots should put work and daily life into the task of achieving national reunification.

New university to foster emergency professionals

BY LIU JING


Announcement posted on the ministry’s website said the new institution will be established by merging the North China Institute of Emergency Management, the North China University of Civil Affairs, and the Institute of Disaster Prevention.

Located in Langfang, Hebei province, the university will offer courses to encourage with only a wall dividing the two sides of the border.

Information shows that the university will start its full-scale operation starting at early 2023.

The ministry and the Hebei provincial government signed an agreement in November to work together to offer more support to the North China Institute of Science and Technology so that it can develop into a school of emergency management as soon as possible.

Competitive carpentry

BY ZHOU HUIYING

Hefei International University of Technology (HIT) in Hefei, Anhui province, on Friday released new evidence of trace elements during the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1931-45).

The evidence was contained in a document, including files of registration forms for the Imperial Japanese Army Unit 731 in Hefei, Hefei, and a map of the "war on industrial chemicals in Hefei".

A distinguished professor at the university, Japanese historian Katsuyuki Yasumoto, who visited the site, said that the university was the first to name the units of Japanese colonial military in Hefei and brought a copy to China, said that it was made in 1940 by the Japanese Kempeigun Army, which entered southwestern China in the first half of the 20th century.

It has a detailed report on the existence of the unit, which was treated as a weapon against the Japanese Army on Sept. 9, 2007, "China Central Television". It was designated as top secret by the Japanese Army at that time.

According to the document, the Imperial Japanese Army’s Gendarmerie Department was renamed as the Imperial Japanese Army Unit 731 before Aug. 22, 1944, with some additional personnel.

The headquarters was divided into the General Affairs Department, the first, the fourth department, the Meiroku Department, the Education Department and the Medical Department.

The study found that the highest level of urea was detected in Unit 731, which is a significant finding in its own right. The new findings provide further evidence of the extensive use of industrial chemicals in the war, noted the university.

As the nerve center of Japanese bio-chemical and chemical warfare research and production, Unit 731 was the largest industrial chemical complex in East Asia during the war.

The findings will benefit researchers working on human beings to better understand the effects of harmful pathogens.
Hainan offers fertile ground for fruit farmers from Taiwan

By ZHANG YI

Ling Ji-chun, a native of Taiwan, is enjoying her entrepreneurial heyday in the southern province of Hainan, China. She has been cultivating mangoes and dragon fruit for more than 10 years and has accumulated a large number of loyal customers from Taiwan and other regions.

The mangoes grown by Ling Ji-chun are organically produced and have high quality and safety standards. She also offers agricultural tourism services, allowing visitors to experience the processes of fruit cultivation and harvesting.

Ling Ji-chun's business has experienced significant growth in recent years, thanks to her hard work and dedication. She plans to expand her business further and diversify her product line to meet the ever-increasing demand from her customers.
Israel attacks Egypt's border in helpingidente new style lies

PARIS - Not to be outdone by US-style spelling bee extravaganzas, Paris' latest literary event was transformed into an open-air 2014 "dictionary" competition on Sunday, organized by literary television and radio show two at a time, this year's in-person event was held at the popular newspaper and political magazine of the month. The event was organized by the French government to raise public awareness on the importance of spelling in daily life, especially among children. The competition had two rounds: a written round and a public round. In the written round, the participants had to write a complete sentence using words that had been randomly selected from a list of 2000 words. In the public round, teams of four students competed against each other by writing a sentence in front of a crowd of spectators. The winning team was announced at the end of the competition.

Paris' boulevard hosts mass 'dictation'

A 6-year-old Virginia student shot his science teacher on Monday, according to the Alexandria, Virginia, public school system. The incident occurred at about 8:30 a.m. at Woodbridge High School, located on the city's east side. The victim was taken to a hospital and is in critical condition. The shooter, a student at Woodbridge High School, also attended the school. The student was arrested and taken into custody. The motive of the shooting is unknown. The school was put on lockdown and later reopened.

A 6-year-old student at a school in Alexandria was shot by a classmate and later died of his injuries. The shooting occurred on Monday afternoon. The victim was riding a bike when he was approached by the shooter, who then fired several shots. The victim was rushed to a hospital where he later died of his injuries. The shooter, another student, was also taken into custody.

Japan's national-estate agency issues world's 'first' commercial

A group of students from the University of Tokyo has won a national estate agency's contest for the design of a commercial for the agency's upcoming commercial. The students were tasked with creating a commercial that would promote the agency's mission and goals. The winning commercial was selected from a total of 20 entries. The commercial features scenes of the agency's operations, such as the buying and selling of properties, as well as interviews with agency staff. The commercial was produced by the agency's in-house production team and aired on a local television station.

Asian-Pacific opposes military alliances

A group of Asian-Pacific nations has rejected the idea of forming a new military alliance. The group, which includes Japan, South Korea, and Australia, has been discussing the possibility of creating a new military alliance to counter the growing influence of China in the region. However, the group has decided not to form an alliance due to concerns about the potential for conflict and tension in the region. The group has instead decided to continue to work on improving military ties and cooperation through existing mechanisms.

Israel demands Egypt's help in border incident

In East Jerusalem on Sunday, a Palestinian boy was shot dead by Israeli soldiers while attending a protest against the Israeli military's operations in the area. The boy, identified as Tariq Al-Saray, was among a group of protesters who were demonstrating against the Israeli military's operation in the area. According to witnesses, the boy was hit by a bullet fired by Israeli soldiers during the protest. The boy later died of his injuries at a hospital.

A 65-year-old Palestinian man was shot dead by Israeli soldiers in the West Bank on Monday, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry. The man, identified as Mohammad Al-Saray, was shot dead by Israeli soldiers while riding a bicycle in the village of Al-Saray. The Israeli military said that the man was shot after he was involved in an incident with Israeli soldiers. The Israel-Palestinian Authority has been in a state of conflict since 1967, and the current round of violence began last month. The conflict has resulted in the deaths of dozens of people, including civilians and children.
China highlights willingness to work with Africa as UNSA assembly opens

China is willing to improve cooperation with African countries to achieve sustainable development and urban and rural development, Chinese diplomat and expert in the field said on Monday.

"We will intensify bilateral cooperation in housing and urban development and make contributions to promoting a better human community and a better future," said an official from the Belt and Road Initiative and African Development."
China's economic rebound to stimulate gas demand

By ZHANG XIN

China will head into natural gas demand to return to modest growth of around 20%, according to the highest among all regions worldwide, thus releasing a released gas market report by the independent Morgan Stanley.

Thanks to the sustainable and moderate policies and social economic recovery in China, natural gas demand is expected to continue to increase. On the one hand, the country’s consumption has reached a new high. In the next one to two years, the country’s consumption is expected to increase from 150 million tonnes to 160 million tonnes.

Experts expect China's natural gas demand to grow at around 7% per year for the first time in two decades, due to the single-digit economic growth, sluggish industrial production and higher commodity prices. The country is becoming more energy-efficient, demand for natural gas is expected to continue to grow, while the country's natural gas reserves were assessed at 200 million tonnes in 2002, and the remaining reserves were assessed at 260.8 billion cubic meters.

Transport investment up 13.4% in Jan-Feb

Fixed asset investment in China's transport sector grew 13.4% year-on-year in the January-April period, official data showed. The growth rate was at 1% in the first quarter, 5.8% in the first two months, 8.5% in the first three months, and 13.4% in the first four months.

China’s National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said in late April that China's transport sector will supply over 110 thousand million cubic meters of the country's transportation in 2018, which has further increased China's transport capacity while facilitating the country's transport system.

Backed by a design capacity of 6 million tons per year, Addax Point was built through a Chinese-Panamanian government and private investment joint venture. With an annual output of 200,000 tons of fuel oil, the project will improve the country’s oil and gas industry.

Domestic companies, including CNPC, has been strengthening the oil technology research and development of the industry over the past year, further promoting China's energy structure transformation, said Lin Ruihong, head of the China National Petroleum Corporation's (CNPC) research and development department.

China’s State-owned Enterprise Asset Management Co, Ltd, (CMAM) has formalized several projects, including as an example the project in northern China to build four gas power plants, and the project in southern China to build two gas power plants, with an annual capacity of 3 million cubic meters in the region, he said. As a result, China has come up with a capable LNG engineer.

The survey showed that thanks to supply improvements and demand growth in the services sector, businesses in the industry are showing relatively strong confidence. Surveyed businesses thought that the consumer confidence index can remain stable or even rise, which is a positive sign.

The survey also showed that demand from government has increased in recent months, which reflected the country's strong economic activity.

"The services sector recovery has been driven by growing consumer demand for services, especially in the transportation and financial sectors," said a Morgan Stanley analyst.

"As the services sector starts to recover, the economy will likely see some positive signs," he added.

China’s National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) has signed a contract last year with the local government of Beijing to import 200 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the Shanghai government in January, with the local government of Shanghai to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the Beijing government in February.

China Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CGAC) has also signed a contract with the local government of Tianjin to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Tianjin in March.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Shandong to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Shandong in April.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Jiangsu to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Jiangsu in May.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Zhejiang to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Zhejiang in June.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Fujian to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Fujian in July.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Anhui to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Anhui in August.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Hubei to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Hubei in September.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Guangdong to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Guangdong in October.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Sichuan to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Sichuan in November.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Yunnan to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Yunnan in December.

China Natural Gas Appliances Co., Ltd, (CNGA) has also signed a contract with the local government of Guizhou to import 100 million tonnes of LNG. The contract was signed with the local government of Guizhou in January.
Anhui support a boon for rural vitalization

Local governments open more channels to boost agriculture, farmers' incomes

By MA CHENGXUN in Hefei and ZHANG QIAO in Beijing

Qiao Chuanling, 11, relocated from Shunling in northern Anhui province 16 years ago. To improve the quality of life for her son, Qiao has turned to the corner of Chuanling Planting and Calibration Farm to combat his asthma.

With his wife, their daughter and son-in-law, another of his relatives and himself, Qiao recently formed a family of six into a new home in the town in June. "This is the first time my son has been free of asthma attacks," Qiao said, pointing to his son's increased energy on the lawn behind him.

"I must manage the two types of agriculture properly," Qiao said, adding that since starting his career in 2015, he has opened 50 new plots for rearing the local peach variety. "This season, I plan to plant 100,000 peach trees, which will give him a new lease of life."

In Europe and the United States, the peach is the largest and most widely cultivated fruit. However, the local peach variety, which is not cultivated outside Anhui province, is difficult to grow and has limited use. In Anhui, the peach has been a key fruit in some rural households for more than 1,200 years.

Agriculture in Anhui province, which bordering the southeastern Anhui, is noted for its lowlands and fertile soil. With an industrial base and existing technology, the province's agricultural output has increased significantly.

According to the Anhui Provincial Economic and Trade Administration, the province has 2,806 types of traditional Chinese medicine, ranking third in the country and encouraging local farmers to plant over 120,000 mu of such agricultural products to boost rural industries with local cuisines.

Value-added business

Rural counties, with 135 million residents in southern China, is known as "the capital of China's workshops." The local government encourages farmers in its 25 provinces to develop craftwork based on the needs of rural, yellow and minority areas, which is considered a value-added business.

Located in the rural town of Longgang, Hefei, a daughter of an Anhui peasant farmer, who is also a member of the Provincial Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. In the province's Huaping district, there are 30 workshop enterprises. At Huaping's Tanghong village, every house runs a cobbler's workshop business and diversifies into value-added footwear, which is known as "the capital of China's workshops."

The rural workshop industry has been expanded by the local government in recent years. In 2019, the rural workshop industry's output value reached 1.74 trillion yuan, with the number of enterprises exceeding 1 million.

Gen Z tops in consuming dairy products

By ZHU WENQIAN

Generation Z is leading in the consumption of dairy products, and their taste in milk and yogurt has surpassed that of the total market of China, according to a report released by the China Dairy Industry Association and Royal FrieslandCampina, the largest dairy firm in the Netherlands.

The report found that the monthly consumption of Chinese citizens is 4.16 points out of 100. This year, the highest monthly score was achieved by the China Milk Quotient, according to which data released in 2016, is determined through industry research and market trends.

"With the upgrading of consumption structure, Chinese consumers have become increasingly familiar with high-quality food that is healthy and good quality. The strong increase is due to the milk quotient over the past six years, which has seen a robust growth," said Fan Jing, a professor at China Agricultural University.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, Chinese consumers have become more health-conscious and have consumed more dairy products to enhance their immunity.

The dairy consumption market in China has continued to expand. Last year, the national raw milk production volume reached 240 million tons, up 2.6% year-on-year, reaching a new high. In response to the National Bureau of Statistics.

In 2022, China had 672 dairy-producing enterprises above a designated size, and their total sales revenue of the main businesses came in at 61.75 billion yuan (466.5 million), with profit more than 10 percent on a purely basic, the NBS said.

Out of some 4,000 surveyed respondents in 20 cities across the nation, 58% of them said they would like to get the labels of dairy products while making purchases. Such nutrition, high-quality assurance region of milk, low-fat, low-sugar, low-sodium, and organic certification have all become important factors when Chinese consumers choose dairy products, the report found.

In addition, half of the interviewees supplement their protein and energy by drinking milk after eating, and functional dairy products related to energy have received greater public attention, the report said.

"We will continue to integrate the concept of sustainable development in the entire life cycle of product research and development, and make sure Chinese dairy scientific and technical workers for dairy products in China," said Chen Ge, president of FrieslandCampina China. Chinese consumers need the government to enforce 1.44 billion tons of daily consumption, according to the latest China Dairy Industry Guidelines.

However, China's dairy industry still faces a long road to catch up with industrialized countries and animal dairy consumption of the global average, according to China Dairy Industry Association.

Last year, major Chinese dairy production companies have actively increased its milk production and rare milk to meet the needs of the domestic market. A total of 26 milk enterprises are engaged in the production of rare milk, with milk output exceeding 10,000 tons per year.

While the market is expected to grow significantly in the next few years, the industry is facing the harsh reality of low profit margins. The industry is expected to grow at a pace of 4.7% per annum, among which the profit margin in the upstream and downstream business is expected to reach 2.2% in the next few years and 2.5% in the next five years, respectively.
Recovery to propel oil, gas consumption

Pickup in Chinese economic activity, optimized COVID-19 measures to boost off-take after fuel usage contracted last year

By ZHENG XIN

China's oil demand is expected to rebound and a plan to expand financial spending is also likely to support demand, OPEC said in a note.

The Economist Intelligence Unit and China's National Oil and Chemical Products Research Institute said China has stepped up domestic oil and gas production, and while oil and gas exploration and trade to secure adequate energy supply, it said.

OPEC said on its oil and gas output. By June, it had increased by 27 percent, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit and China's National Petrochemical Institute.

Crude oil production rose from 145 million tons last year to 167 million this year, China's National Petrochemical Institute said.

China's oil companies have been stepping up investment in countries and regions involved in the Belt and Road Initiative, with both output and reserves of oil and gas on the rise, according to a Chinese think tank.

A technician convey drillstring equipment in a drilling platform in this South China Sea in January. 1640 / ANSA

Investments in overseas fields add to output, reserves

By ZHENG XIN

China's oil companies have been stepping up investment in countries and regions involved in the Belt and Road Initiative, with both output and reserves of oil and gas on the rise, according to a Chinese think tank.

A technician convey drillstring equipment in a drilling platform in this South China Sea in January. 1640 / ANSA

China takes No 1 spot in refining after growth

By ZHENG XIN

China passed 144 million tons of gasoline output in 2023 and, around 240 GW of renewable capacity, according to China's National Petrochemical and Chemical Industry Association.

China's crude oil refining capacity was 124 million tons last year, the ministry said, up from 120 million tons in 2022. In addition, China's refining capacity was expected to increase to 130 million tons in 2024, the ministry said.

China's oil output and reserves are expected to reach 140 million tons this year, according to China's National Petrochemical Institute.

China's crude oil refining capacity was 124 million tons last year, the ministry said, up from 120 million tons in 2022. In addition, China's refining capacity was expected to increase to 130 million tons in 2024, the ministry said.
Europe should realize that it is not the right way to right peace

The squabble in upended discussion at the Brussels summit in Singapore last Saturday and how it was reported on all the world’s mainstream media. The panel members included six top Chinese ministers, including State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, who is also a member of the Politburo. The panel’s comments echoed China’s stance that the Belt and Road Initiative is moving forward, and that it is a model for regional integration.

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a strategy proposed by China to promote economic cooperation and development in Asia and Oceania, with a focus on infrastructure development and investment. It includes projects such as railways, highways, and ports, and is aimed at improving connectivity and trade between countries along its route.

A simple plan at the European Parliament’s agenda shows that it is filled with the whiff of strategic thinking. Democratic process and foreign interference, and gender equality—every day.

No doubt the exercise is not perfect. But some of the issues are symptomatic of more fundamental cultural and social problems that are being served by seeking ways to impose influence, whether in cyberspace or the real world. If that is the case, it might be time to consider a different approach.

The BRI has now become an obvious target for bilateral and multilateral threats. Within the EU, the most controversial issue is the conflict over Taiwan. In fact, it serves as a useful organizing principle for those who argue against cooperation with China. The EU has launched a series of initiatives to counteract Chinese influence in Europe, including the EU-China Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, which has been in negotiations for several years.

However, China is not just a threat. It is a partner. China and Europe have a long history of cooperation, and their economies are deeply intertwined. China is the EU’s largest trading partner, and the EU is China’s third-largest trading partner.

A reasonable balance must be struck between the interests of both sides. This requires a constructive and pragmatic approach, one that is based on mutual respect and understanding. The EU and China must work together to address the challenges they face, rather than simply seeking to isolate or contain each other.

China and the EU have a lot to gain from cooperation. Both sides have a strong interest in ensuring a peaceful and stable global order, and they can work together to achieve this goal.

China Daily

Railway tragedy shows India’s infrastructure needs upgrading

The tragic death of 15 people on a railway track in India is a stark reminder of the need for improved safety measures. The incident highlights the dangers posed by inadequate infrastructure and poor maintenance.

In recent years, India has made significant progress in improving its railway network. However, the country still faces challenges in ensuring the safety of its railway infrastructure. This incident underscores the need for continued efforts to upgrade and maintain the country’s railway network.

For developments in India and the world, please visit chinadaily.com.cn.

What They Say

Change of growth model key to managing risks

The purchasing managers’ index (PMI) of China’s manufacturing industry was at 50.4 in May, percentage points lower than the same month last year. The manufacturing PMI has declined for three months in a row, below the 50-level that divides expansion from contraction. The survey of 308 companies found that new orders and output dropped, and the number of employees decreased.

However, the data also showed that the country is experiencing a long-term downturn in the manufacturing sector. There is a need for the government to implement structural reforms to boost the economy and create jobs.

The data is a warning to policymakers that the economy is facing significant challenges. The government needs to take action to address these issues and support the growth of the manufacturing sector.

Agriculture

China Daily

Railway safety campaign gathers momentum

The national railway safety campaign, launched by the Ministry of Transport, has gathered momentum in recent months. The campaign aims to improve railway safety and reduce accidents.

As of June 1, the campaign has resulted in the arrest of 15 people involved in railway accidents, and 923 railway safety issues have been resolved. The campaign has also seen the establishment of 155 railway safety training bases.

The Ministry of Transport has emphasized the importance of railway safety and has called on railway workers and the public to cooperate in implementing the campaign. The campaign is crucial for ensuring the safety of the railway network and the well-being of the public.

For more information on railway safety, please visit chinadaily.com.cn.

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For people, planet, plastic pollution must end

By Beate Trummann and Tu Ruihe

If you ask a child what plastic is, it's likely the answer would be, "it's the stuff that goes into our food containers, water bottles, and bags."

Plastics have been around for less than a century, yet they have become an inextricable part of our daily lives. From packaging to clothing, plastics are everywhere. But what happens to all that plastic when we're done with it?

Plastics are made from polymers, which are long chains of molecules. The problem is that these chains are so strong that they don't break down easily. In fact, plastic is one of the most persistent materials on the planet. It can take hundreds of years to degrade, and during this time, it can break down into smaller and smaller pieces, a process called microplasticization.

Microplastics are harmful to human health and the environment. They can enter our food chain through water and air, and they can accumulate in the bodies of animals, including humans. In fact, recent studies have shown that nearly all of us have microplastics in our systems.

That's why it's so important to reduce our plastic use and find sustainable alternatives. We need to think critically about our consumption habits and make changes to our everyday lives. By doing so, we can make a positive impact on our planet and help ensure a healthy and sustainable future for generations to come.

Laurie Chen Daly
GLOBAL VIEWS

Optimizing travel demands, adjusting transportation structure and promoting the use of clean energy are the needs of the hour in a progressing Asia

As a global economic powerhouse, China is poised to lead the region in terms of environmental improvements. The country's ongoing transition to a low-carbon economy is set to drive innovation and adoption of cleaner technologies across the region. This shift towards sustainability has profound implications for transportation, agriculture, energy, and more.

In the context of global climate change, China has taken significant steps to reduce its carbon footprint. For instance, the country is investing heavily in renewable energy sources, with an increasing emphasis on electric vehicles. The Chinese government has set ambitious targets for the deployment of electric vehicles, aiming to reach a 10% market share by 2025.

The transformation towards a low-carbon economy is not confined to China. Other Asian nations, such as India and Japan, are also making strides in reducing their carbon emissions. India, for example, has pledged to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070, while Japan has set a target of carbon neutrality by 2050.

These efforts are part of a broader global trend towards sustainability. The Paris Agreement, signed in 2015, has galvanized action on climate change, with countries around the world committing to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. The increasing adoption of electric vehicles, renewable energy sources, and improved transportation systems is crucial in achieving these goals.

The transition towards a low-carbon economy is not without challenges. There are concerns about the affordability and accessibility of clean technologies. Additionally, the need for international cooperation and coordination becomes more critical as countries strive to meet their climate goals.

Despite these challenges, the global community is moving forward, driven by a shared commitment to sustainability. The adoption of clean technologies, the promotion of renewable energy, and the optimization of transportation systems are key elements in this transition. As countries work together, achieving a sustainable future becomes increasingly feasible.
Framing a new look at womanhood

Exhibition examines identity and experience from a female perspective. Xu Haoyu reports.

As a new art hub, Empathy Space has been established in the Wuding area of Beijing. Its mission is to exhibit works from six female artists, which serve as a powerful reflection of the deep experience and expression underridden by them in their quest for understanding and self-examination.

After six months of planning, the exhibition: "The World of XX" in which "XX" refers to the female sex chromosome, successfully builds a dialogue about artists’ personal experiences, self-observation, inner thoughts, vulnerabilities and courage.

The exploration and expression of the female body and psychological content has been a constant preoccupation for Cai Qiang. The artworks, Polka Dot Drawing and Polka Dot Blank, were created in collaboration with her mother.

In Polka Dot Drawing, she seeded strands of her mother’s hair onto a black cloth in the form of polka dots. Contemporary aesthetics, using Cai’s naturally black hair created an iconic image of the mother-daughter relationship when placed side by side. The simple composition is both elegant and evocative. Style. Although both artworks were created by the same artist, they evoke entirely different feelings when presented.

From a distance, these two pieces may appear as black dots, but upon closer inspection, one can sense the emotional exchanges between two generations.

"At that moment, I was recalled to myself and my mother’s perspective. As an independent woman, I realize how deeply the intuition of how I am reflected in my mother’s mind," says Cai. "Both the mother and the artist are interlinked in the expression of their relationship through different forms of art."-

Emily Rappaport, a Chinese-American artist who grew up in a culturally diverse background, has been grappling with the question of gender from the moment she was born. Through her art, she explores the question of gender, as well as the journey of self-discovery and the representation of her own ontological symbols.

Her series Lost and Found is a series of paintings in which the artist visualizes her relationship with her parents. Guided by subconscious interaction, Rappaport reconstructs her distant, unresolved relationship of self and the hollows into symbolic interpretations. Incomplete body images, such as ears, months and limbs, as well as fragmented depictions of natural elements like clouds, dust and Venus, are reconstructed in her imagination.

"As a female artist, I am inherently different from them and myself, and people always perceive me as different based on my appearance. This is true both in reality and in China. I once went to a tattoo shop to get my name tattooed, but simply written my name," says Rappaport.

Glass serves as both the medium and the motive of the painting, which the artist engages in a dialogue with the people and objects around her. Du Meng, as an artist whose primary medium is glass, creates reflective and embedded glass artworks that have clarity and transparency, as well as the ability to reflect and interact with viewers and the world.

"But the implicit effect of this color is not to show a content of the glass. While a mirror reflects one’s self, in the same way, it is able to reflect the world behind it. It is the instant of time, of light, that connects everything, passing through glass and reflecting back from mirrors. The meaningful glass has no boundaries. We can observe the changes around us, while also being constantly observed by everything around us," she says.

Du Meng creates her works using traditional kilning techniques and modern kilning methods. Her works have been exhibited in prestigious art exhibitions around the world, including the Venice Biennale and the São Paulo Biennale.

The middle display, "In the mirror", showcases several of her works that explore the theme of identity and self-discovery. In "The Mirror", the artist uses glass to represent the self and its relation to the world.

"As I grow older, I find myself constantly looking in the mirror to examine myself. This is a necessary process for self-discovery. In the mirror, I can see how I am changing and growing, and I am able to reflect on my own experiences and emotions through the glass," she says.

The latest installation, "The Mirror", is composed of several mirror panels that reflect the artist’s face, allowing viewers to see both her reflection and her thoughts. The installation opens a dialogue between the artist and the viewer, inviting them to reflect on their own identities and experiences.

The Empty Space was established by six women, who come from diverse backgrounds, including art, fashion, media, and the business world. They prefer to be identified by single names.

"In our own ways, we are all mothers, and we all have given birth to the space. "I found them, and they, in turn, helped me create a unique version of myself," she says.

They all have their own identities and experiences in life, she says. Some are worried about family-life, some are concerned about raising children, and some are overwhelmed by work. However, they are all deeply touched by the presence of encountering the exhibition and the artworks presented.

Left: The four founders of the art space, Lin, Mei, Da, and Xuan bought flowers in honor of the opening ceremony.

"I think all of you opened a new chapter in our lives," she says. "We are all mothers, but we still need to be nurtured, as we always will be. The Empty Space will always be open, just as the child is a mystery waiting for us all to explore."
Exhibition showcases \textit{Yi} craftsmanship

Silver jewelry and embroidery techniques used by the Southwest China ethnic group on display, reports 	extit{Chen Nan}.

\textbf{BY WANG RU/FOXWINTER

When Shi Zhe, who works at the Fujian Museum in Fuzhou, East China's Fujian province, received Armenian guests from the Yerevan History Museum and took them around an exhibition at Xichang in 2021, she was surprised to hear from them that they had a type of musical instrument in their collection very similar to the 	extit{si}, an ancient Chinese bamboo flute.

In this way, the get-to-know-the-dual: a double-range wooden instrument made of African wood originating from Armenia. The two instruments can produce similar sounds, and some scholars believe the 	extit{si} originated from the dual, which came to China through its connection to Central Asia.

The discovery led her to find more similarities between Chinese and Armenian cultures, and a friendship that evolved into an exportation of cultural relics from Armenia to China.

The exhibition, the first of its kind in the Fujian Museum in May 10. Both the Fujian Museum and the National Museum of Armenia have joined together to organise it.

Located at the junction of Asia, Europe and the Middle East, Armenia has a long history of cross-cultural exchange. Its capital Yerevan is an important crossing on the ancient Silk Road and the Tea Road of Ten Thousand Miles, or the Northern Silk Road. That road once ran from Fujian across all the way to Mongolia and Russia from the 12th century to the early 15th century.

With the aim of displaying the history and cultures of Armenia – similar to many Chinese – in a vivid way, the exhibition features an exploration between Chinese and Armenian cultures. It shows artefacts related to the Silk Road of 10,000 Miles, tea culture and other aspects of cultural heritage that are important to both nations, according to Shi, one of the curators.

Many Armenians wear traditional costumes which are similar to those of Chinese. According to Shi, Chinese and Armenian people share a love for natural beauty, including flowers and birds, and often wear similar costumes.

One of the highlights is a unique green plant, which is the symbol of Armenia. People wear it in their daily life, symbolizing the love for nature and the land.

A wool rug on display, with Armenian words written in it, has an exquisite pattern of feathers, scorpions and plants. According to Shi, the烘干 and treatment of the wool of ancient rugs discovered in Armenian ruins back to the 7th century BC.

The exhibition closes the curtain of Armenia's mysterious land and culture, and marks the second time the Fujian Museum has joined forces with the National Museum of Armenia to hold an exhibition of cultural relics.

A brief introduction to Chen Nan:

Chen Nan is a 24-year-old museum research technician at the Yerevan History Museum, who studied at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing.

"We have been working together with Chinese scholars and engineers to promote the cross-cultural exchange. We value the importance of cultural heritage and the importance of the traditional arts and crafts," she said.

The exhibition is being held in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative, the China-FYR of Macedonia and the Asia-Europe Cultural Cooperation, which aims to promote cultural exchange and cooperation between the two countries. The exhibition also aims to highlight the rich cultural diversity of Armenia and its connection to China.
LIFE

Galloping horses and their small-wikiing riders—these are the images that adorn one of the wall paintings in the tomb of Li Xin (298–363), the prince of the Tang Dynasty (618–907). This tomb, discovered in November 1989 in the city of Dunhuang, is still a mystery to many.

The tomb was discovered by a group of archaeologists who were exploring the Silk Road, a network of trade routes that connected China with the West. Dunhuang is located in the Gansu province of China, near the mouth of the Yellow River, and is known for its rich cultural heritage.

The tomb was originally discovered in 1989, but it was not until 2009 that its significance was fully appreciated. The tomb is part of a larger complex of tombs that were discovered in the area, and it is believed that the tombs were used to bury members of the Tang Dynasty aristocracy.

The tomb contains a wealth of artifacts, including paintings, sculptures, and inscriptions. The paintings are particularly impressive, as they depict scenes from everyday life, such as people working in the fields, hunting, and riding horses.

The tomb is significant because it provides a glimpse into the daily lives of members of the Tang Dynasty aristocracy. It is also a valuable source of information about the Silk Road, as it provides insight into the trade routes that connected China with the West.

The tomb is currently open to the public, and visitors can see the paintings and artifacts for themselves. It is a testament to the rich cultural heritage of this region, and it serves as a reminder of the importance of preserving our cultural heritage for future generations.