Typhoon takes a toll

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China Daily

GLOBAL EDITION
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023

In-depth

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Skills: People display talent, dedication

From page 1

His persistent efforts to advance his knowledge and overcome his disabi-
lity were recognized in June when he came first in the cybersecurity sec-
tion of the Seventh Vocational Skills Competition for the Disabled in Jinan, Shandong province.

"I was told by the machines and judges that I solved this problem in a short
period," said Zhao, who has been studying cybersecurity for two years.

"I am really proud of my results," he said.

With the podium began a city-local skills competition for disa-
bled people in September.

"I have been working for the Shan-
dong Cyber and Information Security Research Center since 2020 and
was transformed into the Shanghai Cyber-
security Research Institute in 2021. I have won some awards in other com-
petition events before, but I never thought I would be one of the com-
petition," he said.

"I was selected by the city-local skills competition and was one of two
participants who were selected for the competition," he said.

Yu and his two teammates compet-
ted in the security event in Jinan and
won a total of 34 points, which is the
highest score for the competition.

"The competition was a big challenge for us because we were
attacked by an unknown team," he said.

"I have always liked cybersecurity and have been studying it for a long time,
so I was able to use my knowledge to solve the problem," he said.

"I am really proud of my results," he said.

The national skills competition for disabi-
lity-affected people, organized by the Ministry of Human Resources
and Social Security and the China Disabled Persons Federation, is
held every four years.

This year’s event — held from June 27 to 29 — attracted 500 con-
testants from 34 provinces and regions.

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TOP NEWS

Russia to add 30 combat ships to its fleet in 2023

Marine Day, Putin said Moscow is ready for any scenario despite provocations from US

By REI KI in Honolulu

Russian Navy will receive 30 naval vessels including guided missile destroyers and submarines this year, according to President Vladimir Putin announced in his annual address to the Federation Council on behalf of the government.

"Today, Russia confidently implement the key objectives of the national maritime policy and possesses the strength of the sea to fulfill this plan," Putin added.

The Russian leader made the remarks while speaking at the main parade that was held to celebrate Russia's Navy Day.

During the day, Putin told the media that Russia is ready for any scenario, despite provocations from the United States and its allies. He noted that Russia's navy is capable of combating any threat and will continue to modernize its fleet.

"We are ready for any scenario, and on the initiative of the US side we once created a special mechanism to prevent these conflicts," Putin said.

The Russian president has recently visited the far eastern port of Vladivostok to inspect the progress of the country's navy.

Authorities of the Portsmouth naval base said that the leaders of the two countries have agreed to strengthen cooperation in the maritime field.

"We have a good understanding that the Russian navy is ready for any scenario, and will continue to modernize its fleet," Putin added.

The Russian leader has previously said that the country's navy is capable of fighting any enemy and will continue to modernize its fleet.

Pandas prove popular with FISU games participants

By CUTI JIN in Chengdu

Without a doubt, giant pandas are on the agenda of almost every participant in the Chengdu FISU World University Games, which is currently taking place in the capital of Sichuan province.

And being welcomed by the giant panda may be a lifetime experience. The first giant panda to be released into the wild in China, "Basi" was released by the Chinese government in 1986.

"Basi" is a beautiful female giant panda who was born in 1982 and has been living in Chengdu since 1986. She is considered to be the national treasure of China and is revered by the Chinese people.

In addition to the pandas, the city's famous landmarks, including the famous panda base in the city of Chengdu, also provide a unique experience for visitors.

Wastewater: Radioactive substances in food may affect cell health

From page 1

of trimethyls in 23.5 years, meanwhile, leucine is highly unstable and has a half-life of only 5 days.

Intriguingly, the study also suggests that leucine may play a role in cancer progression.

Chen and other researchers have found that leucine levels increase in many types of cancer, including breast, prostate, and lung cancers.

They also found that leucine levels are inversely correlated with survival rates in cancer patients.

"Our findings suggest that leucine may be a potential therapeutic target for cancer treatment," Chen said.

Farmed fish may also be a source of leucine, but its半-life is even shorter at 2.7 days.

"This highlights the importance of monitoring leucine levels in these fish to ensure their safety," Chen added.

Chen and his team are now conducting further studies to better understand the role of leucine in cancer and to develop new therapies for this disease.
Biden's loan waiver plan faces hurdles

By HEING NEWELL in London

After the US Supreme Court ruled June 21, 2023, the Biden administration will have to work on a new plan.

The US Supreme Court has ruled the Biden administration's loan forgiveness plan unconstitutional. The court's decision affects millions of borrowers across the country.

The court ruled that the loan forgiveness plan is a violation of the Constitution and that the administration had exceeded its authority. The court also ruled that the plan is not a proper exercise of the government's power under the statutory provisions.

In his statement, President Biden expressed his regret at the court's decision and said that the administration will continue to work on a new plan.

Legal tools mulled to stop Quran burnings

Denmark, Sweden pay new measures amid international and domestic pressure

In connection, Sweden and Denmark are considering legal action against Turkey and Iran.

The Nordic countries are concerned about the recent events in Turkey and Iran, which have led to protests and vandalism in the countries. These events have raised concerns about the freedom of expression and the protection of cultural heritage.

In the case of Denmark, the government has already announced that it will take legal action against the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten for publishing caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad.

Legal action has also been considered in Sweden, where the government is discussing the possibility of taking legal action against the Iranian government for the burning of the Swedish embassy in Tehran.

France opposes idea of decoupling with China

By JONATHAN FEER in London

France is seemingly moving away from the idea of decoupling with China, amid growing concerns about the global economy. This is according to French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire, who spoke at a conference in Tokyo on Saturday.

Le Maire said that France is more open to the idea of maintaining a dialogue with China, and that it is important to work with China on issues such as climate change and digital security.

The French government is also considering the possibility of investing in Chinese companies, as a way to diversify its economy and increase its competitiveness.

Le Maire's comments come amid growing tensions between France and China, following a series of incidents in recent months. These include the burning of the Chinese embassy in Paris and the closure of the Chinese consulate in Barcelona.

The French government has also been criticized for its handling of the situation, with some saying that it has been too lenient towards the Chinese government.

Le Maire's comments suggest that France is more willing to engage with China, rather than cut off all economic ties. This could be seen as a move towards a more constructive relationship with China.
Curbs hinder Syria’s firefighing efforts

Texas governor gets more aggressive at border

Abbas calls for restoring internal unity

Gallup poll: Americans’ confidence in military at lowest level since 1969

by BY JULIAN SHER

A new report from the World Health Organization says millions of lives are being lost globally through noncommunicable diseases, far outstripping deaths from smoking, but much remains to be done to tackle the latest health issues. The WHO report, called "MPOWER: continuing to monitor, track, and control tobacco use," aims to save lives and reduce the burden of noncommunicable diseases. MPOWER constitutes of monitoring tobacco use, protecting people from secondhand smoke, promoting policies to reduce tobacco, and raising taxes on tobacco products, among other things. The report says 8.5 billion people smoke, with one billion being young people, which is a five times as many people as at 1990.

Big difference

"This report shows, our world is now facing a health challenge," said WHO global director for noncommunicable diseases and injury prevention, Dr. Medhat Elhadi. "We have to address the root causes of tobacco use through comprehensive policies, and we have a range of measures to monitor and control other health risk factors." The MPOWER report marks the second in a series of reports on tobacco use, the first of which was released in 2003.

Namie Zehra is an independent researcher. Public confidence in the US military has reached its lowest level in at least 21 years, with fewer Americans saying they have a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in the military. The Gallup poll, conducted from January 20 to February 23, shows that 22% of adults have a "great deal" of confidence in the military, down from 37% in January 2001. The poll also shows that 44% of adults don’t have much confidence in the military, up from 32% in January 2001.

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Five institutions stand as the least trusted: newspapers, the criminal justice system, television news, big business, and Congress, all with confidence levels below 20%.

Gallup poll: Americans’ confidence in military at lowest level since 1969

Abbas calls for restoring internal unity

by BY JAY릉

Abbas has been dominant in the Gaza Strip since 2007, after defeating his rival in the 2006 parliamentary elections, Hamas. Some in the international community see the situation in Gaza as a major threat to regional stability, with Hamas engaging in political turbulence in Egypt, running a police force, and controlling the administration of the Gaza Strip.

The call for a new dialogue comes amid a wave of violence in the region, with Abbas trying to broker a peace deal between Israel and the Palestinians. The Palestinians have welcomed Abbas’s initiative, but Israel has been skeptical.

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**BUSINESS**

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**CLOSED BIZ LINKS WITH ARAB NATIONS ON CARDS**

**BY ZHONG NAN**

China will enhance business ties with Arab countries by closely collaborating on bilateral and multilateral platforms, green energy and infrastructure development projects, and Chinese government officials said on Monday, as the two sides aim to expand high-quality cooperation under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative.

Besides exploring major companies to construct conventional infrastructure projects such as ports and power plants, China and Arab countries will increase efforts to broaden their cooperation to areas beyond traditional infrastructure and gas and oil sectors.

On Monday, the Chinese Embassy in the United Arab Emirates released the results of a survey on China’s economic growth over the first half of this year. The survey indicated that China’s economic growth is driven by various factors, including exports and domestic demand, the technological development and strong adaptability to global trade. The country has become an indispensable link in the international supply chain that is difficult to replace, and Mohammed Al Abbar, chairman of DMU Holdings, said during a press conference in Beijing.

The Proliferation Board of the United Nations Security Council said during its meeting on Monday that China and Arab countries remain steadfast in their commitment to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, whether conventional or nuclear.

Chinese: 150 million; Arab: 25 million; total: 175 million

China and Arab countries have launched extensive lobbying activities over the past two years. The new lobbying will provide companies with more opportunities to finance opportunities.

On Monday, the United Nations Security Council approved a resolution that pushes for peaceful solutions to the conflict in Libya. The resolution was introduced by China and was adopted by 15 members, with only two abstentions. The resolution calls for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign military personnel and mercenaries from Libya.

Chinese companies keen to again list overseas, experts say

**BY MING JIN**

Chinese enterprises keen to again list overseas, experts say

On Monday, Chinese enterprises keen to again list overseas, experts said Chinese companies’ interest in overseas listings has fallen after the stock market turmoil that occurred earlier this year and an impact on overseas listings.

Chinese soccer giants’ overseas listings have been postponed amid the uncertain global stock market.

China’s giant enterprises stepped up efforts to go for overseas listings at the end of last year, but the stock market turmoil in the United States has reduced the attractiveness of overseas listings. The stock market turmoil has reduced the possibility of overseas listings.

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Games still the hottest ticket in town

Local audiences have showed their huge passion for the Chengdu FISU World University Games, the first international multi-sport event held in China following the pandemic. The games feature 30 sports and 260 events, tickets of which have been sold out since June, especially in basketball, table tennis, badminton and手球.

"I am proud of my hometown for this international event, and also feel the enthusiasm in the venue," said Chengdu local resident Quan Yifeng who had to buy a set of family tickets for Friday’s table tennis match.

He added, "My daughter has been playing table tennis since she was 3, but has never watched a level competition like this. This time, she will have the chance.

"A basketball fan named Li has not been able to get a ticket for the basketball tournament so far, but he is hopeful to watch the games on TV and support the Chinese team," he said.

A staff member from the games’ executive committee said, "The Chengdu games are warmly welcomed by over 20 million people in China, plus audiences from all over the nations and the world. There is a huge demand for tickets, and we have tried our best to meet the requests of tickets have been sold, with further sales to continue in the coming days.

Connecting cultures and world’s youth

The FISU World University Games, held in Chengdu, Sichuan province, serves as a bridge bringing together youths from diverse backgrounds, and the host city of the 2023 games is a cultural hub.

"Touring around the campus on a brashle, we were amazed at the abundant facilities built for the games," said. "The infrastructure and the architecture were beautiful, bustling and sparkling.

"China is a very ancient civilization, and I learned that some student residues are quite powerful. Also, the waste-recycling agreement in the dining hall was amazing," he added.

"The advancement technologies in the games has facilitated the daily lives and activities of the Sichuan residents," he said.

"The organizers designed an app for the games with various functions. For example, if you want to see the parade, you can simply book a trip on the platform by your smartphone," he said.

Despite the "challenging" summer heat in Chengdu, the cordialness and hospitality of the local people have been their pleasant experience, he said.

"Especially, from officials to volunteers, we have been very polite and hospitable," he said. "Everybody in the village, even at the dining hall, say hello. They make us feel special and welcome."

Huangguo has 111 athletes competing in the FISU Games to Chengdu, which runs until Aug. 1.

"Our goal now is to get to know people from all over the world, especially people in China. We want to understand more about your culture," he said.

Having visited Chengdu 14 years ago, he noticed the remarkable transformation the city has undergone.

"Next time, the city was already impressive, but it is wonderful now when Chengdu is today," he said. "The airport I arrived at this time was newly constructed, and the streets were lined with modern buildings."

He emphasized that the FISU Games are about fostering friendship, calling on young people worldwide to focus on similarities rather than differences.

"Our aim should always be the common values that we as human beings share — equality, love, kindness and appreciation," he said. "Young people from different backgrounds should be encouraged to build connections and friendship.

"Through these aspects of history and culture, we can come to know China and its rich culture, making it a wonderful and effective channel of understanding.

At the Sichuan University Museum, Weiling, head of the Beijing First Jet Academy, said, "At the exhibition, even more history is showcased in creative ways. At the Sheldon Museum, the 'Shenzhen return and opening-up story' series has generated quite popular.

"However, food and oil stamps from the 1960s have been ingeniously transformed into a creative series. Notably, one sugar tag has been designed to look like the first stock certificate issued after the founding of the People's Republic of China, commemorating a significant milestone in China's financial history."

"We always think of young people as our future and creative people. Last year, we organized a special exhibition to patients showing Sichuan culture. Yan Fan and Yiming, who works at the Sheldon Museum, and Wei Wei, head of the Sichuan University Museum, thinks that the exhibition is an effective way to make the local audience understand and appreciate the development of Chinese museums, showcasing their collections."

"Besides the official moments, visitors can find three thoughts on cultural and creative products. Through these inspirations, we can come to know China and its rich culture, making it a wonderful and effective channel of understanding."

Giving China's treasures a modern touch

Exhibition's cultural products combine heritage and creativity

BY LI YINGXUE in Chengdu

Elegance in motion

A competent showcases its grace, skills and flexibility through a rhythmic gymnastics competition at the FISU World University Games in Chengdu on Sunday. The event, which focuses on the harmonious combination of movement and music, made its Olympic debut at the 1936 Los Angeles Games. Many of the students attending the UniversityGames have undergone a transformation as cultural art forms, making the Olympic Games a showcase of cultural heritage.

The enthusiasm on display at the Chengdu Arena Site Museum has been turned into a wonderful display, with the bronze figures rising from the ground. The Provincial Museum has been renovated and expanded, opening its doors to the public.

At the Sichuan University Museum in Chengdu, the Stoke's Museum's 10th anniversary exhibition ran up to Aug. 10. This exhibition brings together cultural and creative products from 30 museums, including the Palace Museum, the National Museum of China, the Sichuan Museum, the Hong Kong Art Museum and the Sichuan University Museum.

As part of the "Women of World" Exchange Activity of World University Athletes, held concurrently with the FISU World University Games, the exhibition is a visual showcase of the ancient nation, interesting sets of letters, a signed copy of the Beijing Olympic Games and the 2019 "A set of Letters, a Signed Copy of the Olympic Games" in China. The exhibitions, held in the museum's halls, has generated quite popular.

"As a result of the exhibition, even more history is showcased in creative ways. At the Sheldon Museum, the 'Shenzhen return and opening-up story' series has been widely popular.

"However, oil and stamp stamps from the 1960s have been ingeniously transformed into a creative series. Notably, one sugar tag has been designed to look like the first stock certificate issued after the founding of the People's Republic of China, commemorating a significant milestone in China's financial history.

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The Chengdu games aim not only to showcase the spirit of sports through competitions but also to foster emotional connections and memories, Ruan said.

"An edificating, head of the Sun Yat-sen University Museum, said their museum not only hosts an emotionally diverse collection, but also provides a fresh approach to exhibitions.

"We showcase a comprehensive array of knowledge, encompassing science, engineering, cultural heritages, education, information, tourism, and opens the doors to the public, making it a wonderful and effective channel of understanding.

"I believe that these exchange platforms can be used to enhance understanding and friendship."

At the Sichuan University Museum, the Fresh Apple of National Treasure exhibition runs up to Aug. 10, which is open to the public.
By JIM NING in Chengdu

Zhou, 25, graduated from the University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing.

Zhou, 25, graduated from the University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing. A native of Sichuan province, he is a Chinese national team member and has been training for the Tokyo Olympics.

Zhou said that he had always dreamed of going to the Olympics and that he was very excited to be able to compete in front of a home crowd.

"I've always wanted to compete in front of a home crowd," he said. "It's a dream come true for me."
Going the extra smile

Chengdu’s fun-filled games guarantee spectators and visitors an unforgettable experience.

With site-specific athletic performances, unique local culture and rich resources making up a complete package, the FISU World University Games in Chengdu are serving up a real treat for spectators and visitors to Sichuan’s capital city.

An unforgettable international sporting event held in China following the pandemic, organizers of the games have gone the extra mile to impress the world, making this 12-day celebration of youth and sports a fun and memorable experience for all participants.

Some of China’s most fascinating cultural elements, such as the breathtaking views of Sichuan Opera, and local specialties including panda-themed souvenirs and hot pot, are among the most impressive highlights. Whether it’s the parade in the streets, musical performances on the sides of roads, or the cultural highlights being kept alive, all of these are creating goodwill promoting Chengdu’s image as a vibrant and cosmopolitan city.

The passion and enthusiasm of locals have been equally impressive.

According to the organizing committee, almost all the tickets released during the first phase of sales began on June 10 went out by July 24, with an additional 200,000 tickets made available but being snapped up quickly.

The strong demand has made the scramble for tickets an even fiercer contest than the actual competitions, as local sports fans eagerly purchased tickets for specific sessions following each venue.

"I registered on the ticketing platform right after it was launched and had tried to buy tickets for the Chinese women’s basketball match opener game. It sold out in just 20 minutes, so I was lucky to get one," said Hu Yingjie, a student from Sichuan University.

"The experience was electrifying and it proved to be a truly worthwhile experience," he added.

The opportunity to watch some of the world’s best athletes at the university games, such as China’s leading women’s basketball team’s star player Gu Li, a WNBA player with the New York Liberty, was too good to miss, added Rui.

Both foreign and domestic visitors who spend their holidays in Chengdu during the games can be sure of a pleasant service as they acquaint themselves with the local culture of Sichuan province.

Wearing the world with rich Orron experiences the fascinating Sichuan Opera face-changing performances, known as “suan lian”, continue to steal the show at the competition venues.

Performers wearing colored masks, typically depicting well-known historical characters, have been interacting with spectators during competition breaks, which are masked in the blink of an eye to thrill.

The Chengdu games’ official mascot Dengduo, a panda-shaped doll, is also helping to promote a fun atmosphere at venues, with volunteers donning panda costumes entertain the crowds.

PHOTOS BY FONG YOMBEN, ZHANG XING AND WU XIANLIN / CHINA DAILY, DING JIANG / FOR CHINA DAILY AND HAN NASIRI, JIANG ZHENG / CHINA NEWS SERVICE.
Chengdu charting new standards in international rapid transit

China-Europe Railway Express a crucial component of modern Silk Road

City cementing reputation as flight hub

By YUAN SHENGGLAO

As an important part of the ancient Silk Road, Chengdu in Southwest China’s Sichuan province has a long history of economic exchange with the rest of the world. The city’s abundant ports suggest that it is moving further and further towards the booming transportation era.

With the Belt and Road Initiative gaining momentum, Chengdu has recently established itself as the China-Europe Railway Express to clinch the region’s unique trade landscape.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the BRI and the China-Europe (Chengdu) Railway Express. The inaugural railway express left for Tbilisi, Georgia in 2013, which has established a direct link between Chengdu and Europe.

Over the past decade, the trains have been instrumental in frequent departures, extensive coverage and efficient transportation. Transit time for the service has decreased from 28 days in the first year to less than half that today, so that the volume and value of transported cargo have demonstrated an annual compound growth.

Official data show that China-Europe Railway Express transportation routes are one-fifth of all trains, while the transit time is one-tenth of all transportation.

The railway, made in China and made-in-Slovakia products to European countries and bring back German cars, French wines, Russian wool and Dutch beef.

Chengdu International Port serves the departure point for the China-Europe (Chengdu) Railway Express and other services have been provided to address cross-border logistical concerns and international linkage between Sichuan and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

In 2022, Chengdu handled the China-Vietnam Railway Express and the China-Mongolia Railway Express. The debut of the Mandalay-Chengdu intermodal train in mid-June marked the opening of a new China-Myanmar route that connects Chengdu to Southeast Asia via the Thailand-Bangkok-Port in Vietnam province. It has provided a crucial link between China, Myanmar and the rest of Southeast Asia.

As of mid-2023, the China international railway express has extended to reach 38 cities in China and 39 foreign destinations, serving as the hub of a network of rail routes and land-sea combined freight services that connect Western Europe to the west, Mongolia and Russia to the north, Japan and South Korea in the east, and Asian countries to the south.

By the end of April, a total of 22,000 international freight trains departed from Chengdu to other parts of the world.

Port accessibility

Capitalizing on the benefits of its open port, Chengdu is fostering the more than 20 percent of the train. On June 21, 2023, with the second anniversary of Thracian’s operation, officials from the Chengdu Port and Thracian officials opened a promotional event that the city has opened direct international passenger e-commerce services.

Chengdu plans to launch six new routes to Bruxelles, Brussels, Moscow, Stockholm, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Columbus, San Franciso, and Montreal in the Philippines. It also wants to increase the frequency of seven popular international routes, including Dubai, Tokyo, Seoul, and Stockholm.

To enhance the travel experience, Chengdu Thracian International Airport has introduced various services, such as advanced check-in, luggage handling and security procedures. Passengers have an overnight stay before taking their domestic flights across the given countries.

24-hour commercial facilities and self-service boarding machines. These amenities ease the journey of travelers, ensuring a smooth and pleasant journey through the airport.

With these two airports launching more flights, an increasing number of aviation logistics players have boosted their presence in the city. Since 2013, high-profile companies have also signed contracts for projects such as the CF Airports West China Headquarters, HNA-Southwest International Airlines Express Transfer Center and Apec Regional Headquarters in Chengdu.

Global logistics giant Akeso launched two new international cargo flights routes from Chengdu to Changsha and New York in September.

With the new routes, the weekly capacity from Chengdu’s Shuangliu International Airport to the United States reached more than 660 tons.

They have addressed the demand for freight logistics from Chengdu, Sichuan and the entire western region of China to North America, with reduced logistics costs.

The company intends to optimize the operations of its network, which is currently heading to North America by transshipping through Shanghai.

The new service will cut a tonnage reduction by a large portion of the logistics chain. The Chinese, Malaysian and Sao Paulo destinations.

According to the local government, Chengdu’s design life is more than 50 years, and it has attracted more than 120 world-class companies. The new service will help reduce the gap recognized in the "Global Top 100 Logistics Providers" and "Global logistics" ratings, along with remaining Chinese commerce.

This city has developed high-stature service hubs of more than 1.6 million sqm, making it the third largest service hub in the country. Notably, cold-chain warehouse in Chengdu, with a storage capacity of more than 5,000,000 cubic meters, includes environmental and health standards.

Looking ahead, Chengdu is poised to make the most of its transport infrastructure. The city’s strategic location and complex logistics infrastructure offer a favorable environment for the expansion and development of these sectors, the government said.

Chengdu FISU Games

Overhead cable car leads to the FISU Chengdu International Railway Port in the city’s Qingbaijiang district. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHENGDU

Chengdu: The capital of Sichuan province, China's largest inland city, is charting new standards in international rapid transit. The city is fostering the China-Europe Railway Express, a crucial component of the modern Silk Road. Chengdu has recently established itself as a key hub for international rail transport, connecting China to over 39 foreign destinations. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the BRI and the China-Europe (Chengdu) Railway Express. The inaugural railway express left for Tbilisi, Georgia in 2013, which has established a direct link between Chengdu and Europe. Over the past decade, the trains have been instrumental in frequent departures, extensive coverage and efficient transportation. Transit time for the service has decreased from 28 days in the first year to less than half that today, so that the volume and value of transported cargo have demonstrated an annual compound growth. Official data show that China-Europe Railway Express transportation routes are one-fifth of all trains, while the transit time is one-tenth of all transportation. The railway, made in China and made-in-Slovakia products to European countries and bring back German cars, French wines, Russian wool and Dutch beef. Chengdu International Port serves the departure point for the China-Europe (Chengdu) Railway Express and other services have been provided to address cross-border logistical concerns and international linkage between Sichuan and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. In 2022, Chengdu handled the China-Vietnam Railway Express and the China-Mongolia Railway Express. The debut of the Mandalay-Chengdu intermodal train in mid-June marked the opening of a new China-Myanmar route that connects Chengdu to Southeast Asia via the Thailand-Bangkok-Port in Vietnam province. It has provided a crucial link between China, Myanmar and the rest of Southeast Asia. As of mid-2023, the China international railway express has extended to reach 38 cities in China and 39 foreign destinations, serving as the hub of a network of rail routes and land-sea combined freight services that connect Western Europe to the west, Mongolia and Russia to the north, Japan and South Korea in the east, and Asian countries to the south. By the end of April, a total of 22,000 international freight trains departed from Chengdu to other parts of the world. Port accessibility: Capitalizing on the benefits of its open port, Chengdu is fostering the growth of its international transportation. In the city’s Qingbaijiang district, 210 projects for rail transportations have been conducted, amounting to 62.72 billion yuan ($8.4 billion). Projects include TCL Western Liaoning Satellite Manufacturing Base, Chengdu New International Airport, and the GDP-Qingbaijiang Global Logistics Centre. A representative of TCL Manufacturing Technologies (Chengdu), located in the Chengdu International Railway Port, said: "We cooperate with our partners to ensure the production line runs 24 hours a day to meet the growing demand in two shifts. We are proud to provide the production and value-added services to the domestic and overseas markets." The Chengdu-Fumruih National (Development) District, located in the Chengdu International Railway Port, serves as a container terminal for product exhibitions and cultural exchanges with countries involved in the BRI. It houses 40 distribution points from Europe, Central Asia, South Asia and other regions, which deliver and sell a wide range of products, including food and wine, health products, cosmetics and imported automobiles. The annual import transaction value generated by the platform exceeds 1.4 billion yuan. Since 2016, the Chengdu International Railway Port has taken the lead in utilizing the ports and platforms to facilitate the import and export transportation of more than 20,000 complete vehicles and parts parts. In the first quarter of the year, the port experienced explosive growth in weight, import and export with a total of 1.08 billion yuan, marking a year-on-year increase of 184.2 percent. Since a decision by China Railway Corp in September to remove rail transportation restrictions on new energy vehicles, the China-Europe Railway Express has emerged as a preferred option for exporting China’s modern vehicles to the overseas market and cost-effectiveness. Chen Yutao, manager of a Chengdu-based automotive sales company and an HNMS-expert said: “Thankfully, we roll on rail as a road transport for exporting NEVs. With the China-Europe Railway Express, the transportation time has significantly shortened, improving the turnover of funds and saving the cost for businesses.”
Arranging the Western powers, France has distinguished itself with its diplomatic assertiveness, especially when it comes to handling relations with Russia. One can certainly ask: how to achieve win-win cooperation with the world’s largest nuclear power producer? The plausible answer is that different strategies exist that can be used to accomplish the goal, and France’s role in this regard is evident.

In this context, the recent AUKUS agreement with the US and the United Kingdom suggests that France is willing to reinforce its military alliance with the US and the UK. The French government is taking steps to reinforce its military balance with these two countries. This move is likely to strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

Moreover, the French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire reaped fruitful results from his ongoing visit to China, which started on Friday, and his encounter with French companies and other European countries is expected to further strengthen bilateral ties.

The visit is seen as a move towards deepening trade relations, especially in the field of green energy. Le Maire’s trip to China is expected to enhance cooperation in various sectors, including green energy, renewable energy, and finance.

France and Japan are expected to strengthen their strategic partnership in the Indo-Pacific region, which is likely to benefit both countries.

The visit is also expected to enhance cooperation in the field of green energy, renewable energy, and finance, which are crucial for the sustainable development of the region.

In the context of the Indo-Pacific region, stronger ties between France and Japan can be seen as a positive development for both countries.

France and Japan are expected to collaborate on issues such as climate change and security in the region. This can help in promoting peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

In conclusion, the visit is expected to strengthen the strategic partnership between France and Japan and can be seen as a positive development for both countries. It is an important step towards strengthening cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.
Climate change is hitting Asia and the Pacific hard, with many countries facing new challenges in dealing with the impacts of climate change. However, financial institutions in the region have an opportunity to help address this situation by prioritizing green investments and supporting climate adaptation initiatives. In Asia and the Pacific, the linkages between climate change and disaster risk are increasing, and they are also under the stress of mounting financial pressure.

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The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), also known as the New International Land-Sea Trade Belt, is a major international cooperation project that aims to build a network of economic corridors and strengthen the connectivity among countries along its route. The BRI has been playing an important role in promoting green infrastructure projects and enhancing the sustainability of its project investments. It has also contributed to the development of green initiatives and promoted the integration of renewable energy technologies, infrastructure, and transportation. As a result, the BRI has been widely recognized as a significant initiative for sustainable development and climate action.

The BRI has also been working to promote the integration of green technologies and sustainable practices in its projects. The initiative has been promoting the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, in its infrastructure projects. It has also been promoting the development of clean and efficient energy technologies, such as energy-saving vehicles and materials. The BRI has also been promoting the integration of green technologies in the construction and operation of infrastructure projects, such as highways, railways, and airports. As a result, the BRI has been able to enhance the sustainability of its projects and promote the development of green infrastructure in the regions where it operates.

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is an international public good that can benefit many countries and regions. It is a significant initiative for sustainable development and climate action, as it promotes green investment, energy efficiency, and the integration of renewable energy technologies. The BRI has been playing a major role in promoting the development of green infrastructure and sustainable practices, and it is expected to continue to do so in the future.

BRI, as global public good, fosters South-South cooperation

Liang Haoguang and Qin Qinghua

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has been playing an important role in promoting green investments and supporting climate adaptation initiatives. In Asia and the Pacific, the linkages between climate change and disaster risk are increasing, and they are also under the stress of mounting financial pressure.

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GLOBAL VIEWS

ZOU ZHIBO

Consequential event

Iran becoming a member of the SCO is of great significance not only to the country, but also to the development of a multipolar world.

Inaugural meeting was accepted as a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on July 4, Iran's membership is of great significance for the upholding of multilateralism, international fairness and justice and the promotion of peace and development in the world.

First, Iran's SCO membership is an important manifestation of the world's development toward multipolarity. The world's strategic landscape and world order under undergoing tremendous changes, and the development of multipolarity is a prevailing trend. Iran's accession to the SCO, a multilateral organization primarily composed of Eurasian countries, increases the organization's influence in terms of population and its scope. Moreover, the organization's influence has also been further enhanced with Iran's rich and profound geopolitical position and unique Persian civilization. What is more, Iran's accession has set the stage for more Eurasian countries, especially the Middle Eastern countries, to join the organization, with Bahrain, Turkey, and Egypt having already expressed their desire to become SCO members. As a result, the SCO is expected to develop into an international organization featuring trilateral cooperation, aligning, playing an increasingly important role in the region. This will encourage the region's stability, enhance the SCO's influence in the region.

Second, this signifies a significant breakthrough in multipolarity. The international situation has experienced a global hysteresis, the world's market cooperation should be strengthened, achieving sustainable economic development goals requires cooperation between governments, between governments and the private sector, and within the private sector.

In recent years, the market cooperation and exploring "development" modes for economic cooperation is an important public goods provided by China to promote international social justice. To this end, China has made a number of areas for improvement.

First cooperation is a complementary advantage. China and Iran should be emphasized by the idea of global balance and international cooperation have a large share of the advantages of various countries. Countries that can unleash public goods sources will find it difficult to be accepted by the international community. On the other hand, China-based on complementary advantages not only produce friendly cooperation among public goods providers, but also enhances the development efficiency of other parties, for example, making the effective path of achieving win-win cooperation.

The joint statement between China and Iran on their respective interests and the complementary advantages of China and Iran is essential for the development of the two nations.

Second, government coordination should be enhanced and joint mechanisms should be strengthened. For all types of cooperation among the two countries, concerted efforts must be made to ensure that the governments are essential in strategic and policy coordination and their supply chains. These efforts are marked by the equal rights, cooperation and consultation, leading to division and resistance of any forces. Additionally, Sino-Iran cohesion will also be an important part of great importance and the SCO's principles of equality, mutual benefits, and mutual respect for one another. The SCO is an open, inclusive, cooperative and win-win organization, one that practices true multilateralism. In the face of the headlong rush of some countries vigorously building "small circles", Iran joining the SCO is a victory for multilateralism.

Third, Iran's SCO membership, which includes the Middle Eastern countries in the SCO's framework, can be considered a significant and strategic achievement of the development of countries and the future. The SCO's members are joining the group to collaborate with the World's SCO countries and the future, the cooperation of developing countries can bring hope to the world, and the SCO is the platform for all countries.

The accession of Iran, which bears the world's fourth largest share of oil and gas resources, and is one of the important players in the Middle East in the future, can be considered a significant achievement of the cooperation and development of countries.

There are different regions, different interests, and different directions, but within the SCO framework, the Chinese and Iranian cooperation, which are complementary, can be considered a significant breakthrough in the world's development.

The author is a senior fellow at the Center for International Politics of Shanghai International Studies University. This article first appeared in China Daily on July 5, 2023.
Youth orchestra sets the tone

Performance at top festival in Switzerland wins widespread applause from appreciative audience, Chen Nan reports.

S
ome of the greatest names in classical music gather every 5th year in the historic town of Verbier, Switzerland, for an international concert series featuring choirs, orchestras, and intimate recitals. This year, marking its 30th anniversary, for the first time, the two-week-long Verbier Festival invited a Chinese symphony orchestra.

The Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra, one of China’s premier youth orchestras and an affiliate of the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra, performed on Thursday under the baton of conductor Zuo Rong at the festival’s main concert hall Salle des Combats. The orchestra, featuring more than 300 musicians, aged 16 to 26, performed works by two contemporary composers. Guanyu’s modernized Chinese American composer Zuo Tho Metropole and the famous Chinese French composer Chen Guang’s Rebellious Tones tempo diopars (Refection of a visuted, for cellos and orchestra, as well as composer Manuel de Falla’s El Sombrerero de dos pies, Sinfonia No. 5 and El Sombrerero de tres pies, Suite No. 4).

With the enthusiastic appeal from the audience, the youth orchestra invited to the stage to play the popular Chinese music piece Yellow Rose, a Manchu folk song, which is an enduring international hit composed by Zogatiana de Almeida, and Spanish composer Jose J. from Blanco de Falla’s opera, La Vida.”

The performance was for many young musicians to perform at the Verbier Festival, and it was very proud that these young people of the Guangzhou youth orchestra made it open before they decided to launch their music career, says Zuo, the orchestra’s current music director and principal conductor.

“We had a very tight schedule because we had to prepare. It was new for them to be in school, even less to prepare for their exam. We started our rehearsals in early July and quickly, I was not very sure if they were ready. But I am very surprised by their performance, which was entirely beyond my expectation.”

For many of the music works, Metropole, commissioned by the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra in 2022 celebrating the orchestra’s 50th anniversary, was inspired by a poem titled Remenbering a Chinese Year of the from the Tang Dynasty (918-907), describing the metropolis of Guangzhou. It explores the inter-secular coexistence between culture, reflecting the composer’s own upbringing.

“Therefore, this season, the Verbier Festival may not be familiar with this music piece, their version was great, which is assigned to our young members,” says Zuo, adding that the orchestra has interpreted the piece very well, as many of the members were born and raised in Guangzhou, allowing them to express their love for their home through the music.

Founded in July 2021, the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra is the first-ever youth orchestra in China organized and administered by a professional orchestra. Since its range debut in 2021, the orchestra has performed more than 100 concerts at home and abroad. It was invited in 2015 by the young Euro China Festival Park as one of the world’s most important platforms for young conductors. It performs — to two concerts in Fribourg and Berlin in 2015, marking for 50th anniversary, the orchestra launched for the first time in China. Though the orchestra members are very young, they’ve worked with many established musicians, such as conductor Pa Long, composer and conductor Tan Dun, cellist Yo-Yo Ma and pianist Chen Zhi.

Internationally celebrated cellist Wang Jian played Ravel’s D’ors caprices with the orchestra during the concert in Fribourg. “He invited with the Guangzhou Symphony Youth Orchestra in 2015 where the orchestra made its international shows in Pacific tour and in 2016 where the orchestra toured in Europe.

“The music piece is one of the most performed works worldwide. It is from China and, orchestrally, it contains some of the most powerful soundscapes. We took the opportunity to introduce what the audience could expect from the concert.”

Above right: Cellist Wang Jian plays with the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra at the festival. Left: Members of the orchestra and its honorary president Qi Qin (front) at the festival.

Exhibition shows how masters helped Western art develop

Monet, Van Gogh and the Masters of Modernism — Masterpieces from the Clifford E. Zirinsky (Salle Box) opened to the public on July 30 at the Meet You Museum, with 47 authentic works from 36 masters of modernism on display.

The works on the exhibition span from the 1860s to the 1930s and serve as a bridge for cultural exchange and mutual learning, allowing visitors to experience a century of development in Western art.

Standing in front of Vincent van Gogh’s famous painting Eournemouth (Portrait of Madame Roulin), a doctor’s maid from Arles, this picture was deeply touched by the “vigorously beautiful” woman with her unforgettable style in her calm and bold colors. The yellowish picture is van Gogh’s former landlord. Van Gogh took this picture at the subject of his last group of works before he died. Currently, it is one of the works drawing on Paul Gauguin’s pastel painting, which van Gogh mentioned multiple times in his letters.

With beautiful water lilies spreading out across the lake and their forms blending into the misty reflection, the entire picture creates a busy and poetic atmosphere. French painter Claude Monet’s Water Lilies (post-impressionism) became the most popular work at the exhibition. As one of the most important representatives of Impressionism, Monet created more than 3,000 oil paintings in his life. The Water Lily is one of Monet’s most representative series of paintings, showcasing perfectly the beauty of light, shadow, and color in the water. The Paul Water Lily is an early work, in the series, where Monet focused on a small area of the pond.

What impressed Ernesto Silvani, director of the Asian exhibition business of Milano Muzio in Italy, was the system of points on canvas with oil pastel’s Concept, Wuxing. This work reminds Silvani of Chinese calligraphy. Lucio Fontana drew a very simple line on the painting with a knife, while Chinese calligraphy also uses very simple strokes to depict powerful messages, he says.

Mastro believes that many of the works exhibited can provide a glimpse into a century of development in Western art.

“The artist performs only one part of the creative process. The onlooker completes it, and it is the onlooker who has the last word,” the quote from Marcel Duchamp, now at the exhibition, sets the mood of the exhibition. Not only do we see artists to create, but we also need to present the works created by artists to a bigger audience, says Silvani, who hopes that the audience will enjoy this exhibition.

The exhibition shows modernist artists who bricks in the foundations of film, music and literature, and shaped our lives in various ways. It has been anything but a success, attracting many viewers.

The military has stood, in daily life, is running in the air, clothing a whole nation and occupied the light. Detection interrupted at the very work to the level of ordinary life and to raise the discussion of “what art is” from a cognitive perspective.

People may go abroad to appreciate arts and culture from around the world, but the most convenient way to see the world’s works to domestic communities. However, some exhibitions of famous works cannot be moved, so it is not easy for an important cultural work to be exhibited in another city or country. We should cherish every opportunity,” says Wang Chenhao, president of the College of Art at Zhejiang University of Arts and Culture at the Meet You Museum.

The Meet You Museum located on the 17th floor of the China National Convention Center in Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Nanjing, Shenzhen and Wuhan has also established cooperation with universities and cultural institutions of overseas cultural institutions, including the renowned Yi-Pei and National Art Galleries.

The exhibition will run until Oct 22.
**Early bird catches the pochard**

Spotting elusive creatures becomes a passionate hobby for watcher who fittingly works in Optics Valley, Xu Lin and Zhou Lihua report.

**Exhibition displays key bronzeware discoveries**

By YUAN ZHENLEI in Chengdu, Sichuan province

The Jinsha Site Museum in Chengdu, Sichuan province, has been列入西南地区最大、最重要的遗址发现之一。

**Left:** A large bronze exhibition in being held at Jinsha Site Museum in Chengdu, Sichuan province.

**Right:** A visitor takes a bronze object exhibited from the Shangshui Ruins, which can be seen in the Jinsha Site Museum.

The Jinsha Site Museum in Chengdu, Sichuan province, has been listed as one of the largest and most significant archaeological sites in southwest China.

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O n July 25, when actors from the Ekra Nibelo Studios of South Africa landed at the Urumqi International Airport in Xinjiang, the Uighur autonomous region, they were welcomed by their counterparts from a dance troupe of the Xinjiang Art Theatre with a flash mob.

"Every time when I see flash mobs performed by people in Xinjiang, which they are good at, I can feel the charm of the singing and dancing in Xinjiang," says Xin Jingxiao, general director of the opening ceremony of the 6th China Xinjiang International Dance Festival. On the following two days, the visiting South African artists gave two dance drama performances, and displayed their art and culture to the audiences during the festival.

Organized by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the State Council Information Office and the Proigious Government of Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, the festival brings together more than 100 artists at home and abroad who will give 60 performances in all through Saturday, including ballet, folk dance, Chinese drama and dramas.

A place where there are many ethnic groups, Xinjiang is home to diverse cultures. Singing and dancing has been a key part of the communication and interactions among the various ethnic groups over time, says Ma Xiang, deputy director of Xinjiang's department of culture and tourism.

"It's my first time in Xinjiang, and I am fascinated by the diverse ethnic cultures here. The city is so different from my hometown," says Nadezhda Makhova, a dancer with the Russian song and dance ensemble Zarzeka. She says she feels a little nervous about performing at this festival, as there are so many artists representing different countries, nonetheless the idea to participate was overwhelming as she wants to show the culture of her hometown.

Zarzeka has brought a song and dance special which consists of more than 10 programmes with forms from all over Russia. The Hong Kong Dance Company gave a dance drama titled "Cloudburst," a performance combining classical Chinese dance and martial arts. "The drama has its plot, but physical expression. Dancing is abstract, and people can feel it through their imagination when watching the performance," says Nadya Yonina, art director of the drama.

"We are devoted to the recreation of traditional Chinese culture. We want to show the charm of it, and how under its influence we create something interesting with its own character," says Yao. "We don't want to communicate with others from other places at this international platform. Although we speak different languages, we share a passion for dance," he adds.

In the Hong Kong dance troupe to perform in Xinjiang, Yang says he was aware beforehand that Xinjiang was known for its singing and dancing, but he has still been greatly moved by the artistic atmosphere here, since local people are enthusiastic about such things and like to talk about them.

Xinjiang artist Martin Aric was a performer in Zhang Jiao, the festival's opener, which tells the story of Zhang, the Chinese empress who made her journey to Xinjiang (western region), from what is now Xinjiang, Shaanxi province. This journey opened the door to the friendship and exchanges between China and Central Asia in the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-AD 25).

She has participated in the festival five times since it was launched in 2006. "I have been developing my craft with the festival," she says. "Every time I have told performing different types of dances, it always a discharge for me."

The festival started on July 26 and will last until August 14. The performances will be broadcast on a live stream and video platform.

Kemao Wang and Wang Ru