Belgian zoo gets Xi’s letter on panda twins’ birthday

By CHEN WEIWEI
in Brussels, Belgium

Wednesday marks double happiness in Belgium’s capital as twin pandas born in 2019, Bao Bao and Bao Mei, are presented with a special gift in their honor. The letter was delivered to the zoo by Jin Zhou, head of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which is a sister city of Brussels.

The twins, born in June 2018, are the first giant panda twins ever born in Belgium. Since their birth, they have been the topic of much excitement and a source of hope for the preservation of their species. The pandas are part of a joint research project between China and Belgium, which is aimed at preserving the giant panda population and promoting cultural exchanges.

Jin Zhou, head of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said in a letter that the twins are a symbol of the strong friendship between China and Belgium.

In his letter, Jin Zhou wrote: “The panda twins are a symbol of the friendship between our two countries. I hope that through their care and protection, their scientific research, and cultural exchanges, we can achieve the greater goal of protecting the environment and ensuring a sustainable future.”

The pandas were born in China and were then transported to Belgium. Since then, they have been a significant attraction for visitors to the zoo.

“We are delighted to receive this special gift from China,” said a spokesperson for the Brussels zoo. “The pandas are a real gift to our visitors and we look forward to continuing our cooperation with China to protect these magnificent animals.”

The pandas are expected to stay in Belgium for several years before returning to China. This will allow for more detailed research on their development and behavior.

Belgium values its partnership with China and looks forward to further cooperation in the field of conservation and research.

US curbs China tech investment seen as damaging move

Observers: Control targeting China’s tech sector will harm all businesses

By ZHONG AN
apnnews@apnnews.com.cn

China has engaged in discussions with businesses to evaluate the impact of the US executive order restricting US investments in Chinese businesses. The order is aimed at curbing Chinese investments and acquisitions that might pose a threat to national security.

According to US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, the US government will be reviewing all deals that involve US companies and Chinese investors. The order is expected to be in place by the end of this month.

The US move comes after a series of high-level meetings between China and the US, where both countries agreed to continue dialogue on the issue.

The Chinese government has expressed concerns over the order, stating that it is a violation of the principles of free trade and the rule of law. The US government has defended its actions, arguing that they are necessary to protect national security.

The order is expected to have a significant impact on businesses operating in China, particularly those in the tech sector. The Chinese government has confirmed that it will take action to protect the rights of Chinese investors.

China has promised to ensure that businesses operating in China are not discriminate against, and that they will continue to support the principle of free trade.

The Chinese government has also announced that it will consider retaliatory measures if the US continues to pursue a course of protectionism.

See Restriction, page 3

Chengdu games showcase many achievements of nation

Chengdu games showcase many achievements of nation

By WANG XIAOYOU
wxyang@chinanews.com.cn

High hopes are held by experts and officials for China’s promising achievements in the healthcare sector, which is aimed at improving widespread and long-term medical care, ensuring healthy lifestyles for its growing population.

A report released recently by the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Engineering has highlighted the significant progress made in healthcare over the past 30 years.

The report, released at a conference in Beijing, showed that the country has made significant strides in improving healthcare services across the country.

China has made rapid progress in the field of healthcare, and has been able to reduce the mortality rate from diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and malaria.

According to the report, China has made significant progress in improving the quality of healthcare services, with a focus on primary healthcare and public health.

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Graft: Action brings results

Debates on China's anti-corruption efforts targeting the healthcare sector this year will focus on addressing prominent corruption issues in the healthcare sector. The number of medical workers involved in the current anti-corruption campaign is expected to exceed 1 million. The media will be under tremendous pressure to report on the results of the investigation.

**TIMELINE**

**January 31:** Admissions to the government's anti-corruption task force.

**February 2:** The government distributes a comprehensive anti-corruption campaign plan.

**March 1:** The medical sector is identified as a major focus for the anti-corruption drive.

**April 1:** The government announces the largest-ever medical fraud case.

**May 1:** The National Health Commission launches an online platform to accept public opinions on the medical system.

**June 1:** The government announces a crackdown on medical fraud.

**July 1:** A video conference is held to discuss the latest results of the anti-corruption campaign.

**August 1:** The government announces a new anti-corruption mechanism.

**September 1:** The government announces a crackdown on medical fraud.

**October 1:** The government announces a new anti-corruption mechanism.

**November 1:** The government announces a crackdown on medical fraud.

**December 1:** The government announces a new anti-corruption mechanism.

**Summary:** The anti-corruption campaign is expected to bring about significant changes in the healthcare sector.

**Challenges:**

- The government faces significant challenges in implementing the anti-corruption campaign.
- The medical sector is highly resistant to change.
- The public is skeptical about the effectiveness of the anti-corruption campaign.

**Conclusion:** The anti-corruption campaign is expected to bring about significant changes in the healthcare sector.

**Importance:** The anti-corruption campaign is crucial for improving the healthcare sector and ensuring its sustainability.

**Impact:**

- The anti-corruption campaign is expected to bring about significant changes in the healthcare sector.
- The government faces significant challenges in implementing the anti-corruption campaign.
- The medical sector is highly resistant to change.
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China's robots industry makes big strides

By SANFEI ZHENG

China is willing to work with the international community to accelerate the application of robotics in a wide range of fields, create an open and inclusive development environment, and help more global innovators and robot companies to invest and grow in China, the country's top industry regulator said Sunday.

Highlighting the increasingly visible role of robots in technological innovation and intelligent manufacturing, Peng Shengjun, deputy minister of industry and information technology, urged more efforts to expand international cooperation in the robotics industry and promote the formation of international standards to better regulate the development and expansion of the emerging technology.

Peng made the remarks at the main forum of the ongoing 2023 World Robot Conference, which opened on Wednesday in Beijing, titled "Deepen the Robot Industry Concept of Innovation and Development." The conference runs through Tuesday.

The country's services robots industry has achieved sales of 3.3 billion yuan ($486 million) between January and July, statistics showed.

Industrial robot installations in China took up the top global position in 2022, taking up more than 50 percent of the global market share, according to the ministry. In addition to the industrial robots, the total disclosed financing amount in China's robotics industry amounted to over 30 billion yuan.

The country's robots industry has already been adopted in 50 industries and 200 subindustries, helping boost industries such as new energy, automobiles and other emerging industries in upgrading core technology, said Peng.

"China has played a significant role in the development of the global robotics industry," said Zhao Xin, executive director of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations.

He said the application of robot technology can boost efficiency, reduce costs and improve product quality.

"It is necessary to achieve a balance between innovation and industrial development, and work together to promote robotics development in a more inclusive and systematic way," he added.

Chengdu, a city in southwest China's Sichuan Province, was designated as a national innovation demonstration zone for the manufacturing and service robots sectors. Since 2019, it has had a 10-year operational land bank for new and robust industrial robots.

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Chinese envoy: UN debate on DPRK rights issues may intensify conflict

By MINHE ZHANG

China opposes the United Nations Security Council meeting on North Korea's human rights issues, saying it "unfairly and unilaterally intensifies the conflict" in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as it seeks to "generate sympathy and willingness to help the people of Korea," said a Chinese diplomat.

The Chinese diplomat noted that the Security Council is meant to maintain international peace and security, not to deal with human rights issues, and should not be used as a "political tool" to represent a "single voice." The Security Council meeting on the DPRK human rights situation shows "the human rights situation of the DPRK will not help the situation; instead, it may intensify the conflict," the official said.

"This approach is irresponsible, disrespectful and an abuse of the Security Council's role as an 'international forum of authoritative,'" said the diplomat.

The diplomat suggested that the Security Council should focus on "constructive cooperation" and "positive" engagement from the UN Security Council, which Chinese diplomats believe will contribute to the "stabilization of the situation." The Chinese diplomat said that "a just and stable situation can create more opportunities for dialogue and cooperation" and "finally lead to a better and more prosperous future for the DPRK and the world." 

"They should support the efforts of the DPRK, particularly those promoting the rights of the people, and promptly react to the demands of the people who are suffering from the effects of the sanctions under the UN Security Council," she added. The diplomat also noted that the UN Security Council should not support such actions.

"The UN Security Council should support the efforts of the DPRK in making progress toward international peace and security." The diplomat added. 

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China's second longest canal opens for trial operation

Anhui project joins two rivers, improves shipping efficiency

By ZHU LIXIN in Hefei

A five-kilometer tunnel was completed on the Yangtze-Huaihe Grand Canal on Wednesday, after more than two months of construction. The new tunnel will allow boats to travel directly between the Yangze River and Huaihe River, significantly improving the efficiency of shipping on the two major rivers of China.

The tunnel is the largest of its kind in the world, with a length of 3.6 kilometers and a capacity of 7,000 cubic meters per second. It will allow ships to travel directly between the Yangze and Huaihe rivers, reducing travel time and costs.

The project is expected to be completed by next year, and the tunnel will be open to traffic in 2023.

CHINA

Close-knit families

Role model families from Shanghai, Zhejiang, Jiangsu and Anhui, recognized by the provincial government, are selected for their role models in child and family education, family harmony and participatory decision-making.

Hainan boats set sail for start of fishing season

By CHEN BOWEN in Sanya

At 32 pm on Wednesday, a large wholesale-market opened to market the start of the fishing season and boats docked at Sanya’s Yalong Bay Fishing Port for the South China Sea.

An estimated 50,000 fishing boats and 1.2 million fishermen are expected to participate in the annual fishing season, which is the largest fishing port in South China. It is expected to generate over 20 billion yuan in revenue.

The start of the fishing season is significant for the development of the seafood industry and tourism in the South China Sea, as it is an important part of the local culture and economy.

By improving facilities in the port area, we hope to enable the local government to enhance the understanding of marine culture.

Hainan’s state-owned enterprises are committed to promoting the development of the seafood industry and tourism in the South China Sea.

Fisherman and markets strike deals at a port in Hainan

Hainan’s seafood industry is expected to benefit from the new agreement.

Station massage chairs rub netizens wrong way

By LIU WANGHUA

Sanya has become a hub for massage services.

China’s railway stations have been ordered to ensure that massage services in waiting areas account for no more than 20% of the total waiting area. After a series of public feedback, the new guidelines have been tightened.

According to China State Rail- way Group, the national railway operator, the number of service staff must not exceed 50% of the total area and they should be placed in waiting areas in zones that do not disturb the normal traffic of passengers.

According to the new guidelines, massage staff will have to be present at all times, and the service area will have to be clearly marked.

Some concerns have been raised about the new guidelines, including the potential for the service to become a distraction for passengers.

According to a recent survey, over 80% of passengers said they would be willing to pay more for better service.

Comments on the new guidelines have been mixed, with some praising the move and others criticizing the restrictions.

A main station in Changsha was recently criticized online for not providing sufficient facilities for passengers.

A large number of passengers have been reported to suffer from discomfort and lack of facilities in the railway stations.

By improving facilities and services, the railway stations aim to provide a better experience for passengers.
Residents return to flood-hit villages

By DING JIAN

Several villages in Beijing's Mentougou district were allowed to return to their homes on Tuesday, after being evacuated to rescue the rice from the worst historical flood for Beijing's torrential rain season.

After suffering the damage with their own eyes, many villagers decided to return to their homes and help their relatives to reconstruct their lands.

Wang Xiao, an 80-year-old from Tianhe Village, said he had never been more prepared for the torrential rain in Beijing than this year.

He said it was 2 PM on July 9 when he and his neighbors heard the news from television, radio and word of mouth that Beijing was facing a flood, and they were asked to return to their homes to help protect the rice on Tuesday, and he was excited about it.

“Thanks to the government’s warning, we were able to return to our homes and help our relatives to reconstruct their lands,” said Wang.

The most significant change since the flood of 2015 was the government’s increased attention to flood control and disaster response.

In response to the torrential rain, Beijing’s government has implemented comprehensive measures, including the establishment of a comprehensive flood prevention and control system, rapid response and efficient disaster relief, and the strengthening of the government’s ability to respond to disasters.

The government has also invested in the modernization of flood control infrastructure, including the construction of new drainage systems, the improvement of existing drainage systems, and the strengthening of flood control facilities.

Despite the challenges posed by the flood, the government has successfully prevented the occurrence of major floods in Beijing.

In conclusion, the government’s efforts to prevent and control floods have contributed to the safety of Beijing’s residents and the protection of public safety. However, the government should continue to improve and enhance its flood control measures to ensure the safety of Beijing’s residents and prevent future floods.
GLOBAL LENS

Helping to slake thirsts
Local engineer joins Chinese company to lay out major water supply project in Mwanza, Tanzania

The Mwanza region lies in the north-west of Tanzania and borders the southern shores of Lake Victoria, which is the largest freshwater lake in Africa and the second largest in the world. But residents near the lake have faced water scarcity issues due to inadequate facilities.

Kelvin Kituruka, a native of Mwanza, joined infrastructure company China Civil Engineering Construction Corp as a quality engineer after completing his studies in Dar es Salaam. In May 2019, the water supply project for satellite cities in Mwanza was launched, prompting Kituruka to return to his hometown to help address the water problem.

Since its implementation in November 2019, the water supply project has successfully met the water needs of about 250,000 local residents. Water costs have also dropped to one-fifth of previous figures.

The infrastructure company has built seven water plants and one sewage plant in Tanzania, with plans to inaugurate four more water plants and one sewage plant within the next two years. By then, about 3 million residents across the country will benefit from water use, according to Ning Yufeng, the group’s water affairs manager.

Left: Engineer Kelvin Kituruka (center) meets villagers in Mwanza, Tanzania, on June 13.
Right: Engineer Kelvin Kituruka (second from left) meets villagers near a construction site in Mwanza on June 11. Right: Villagers fetch water from Lake Victoria in Mwanza on June 12.
Maui official defends not using sirens

Says warnings would have been confusing; death toll hits 31, with 1,000 people missing

By MAYDOUK

Maui County Mayor Richard Blaisdell and Maui Governor Josh Green did not sound the sirens, said that there were no sirens on the mountainside above the fire, and that residents were trained to higher ground when they are set off.

"We sounded the sirens that night, but we didn't sound them for the fires," Blaisdell said.

"Absolutely?" Green said at the news conference.

"We view this as a way to warn and to understand this process, but to protect people across the islands," Blaisdell said.

"I think it's hard to understand what's going on," Green said.

"I think it's hard to understand what's going on," Blaisdell said.

"We're going to go to a long time," Green said, "for now, to have a sense of what's going on."
China urges US to lift steel, aluminum tariffs

Protectionism, decrying, WTO report on Chinese countermeasures to be studied

By WANG KEFU

China has urged the United States to immediately lift additional tariffs imposed on Chinese steel and aluminum imports as per the rules of the World Trade Organization, the Ministry of Commerce said in Beijing on Wednesday.

A ministry official made the remarks while responding to a WTO dispute settlement panel's report on the countermeasures adopted by Beijing to China's Section 301 tariffs measures related to steel and aluminum tariffs in March 2018.

The WTO panel found that China's new tariffs are inconsistent with WTO rules, the official said, adding that China is reviewing the panel's findings and is studying the countermeasures promised in accordance with WTO rules, the official said, adding that China is reviewing the panel's findings and is studying the countermeasures promised in accordance with WTO rules.

"The countermeasures taken by China to protect its own legitimate national interests are completely consistent with WTO rules," the official said.

Since the US has been enforcing the so-called Section 301 measures on steel and aluminum imports from the US, including China, the official said.

Briefly

Postal sector sees stable growth

China's postal and express industry maintained steady growth in the first half of this year, according to the National Post and Express Industry Development Report 2023.

The industry saw 14.84 billion parcels handled in the January-June period, up 8.17% year on year, according to the report released by the State Post Bureau.

In the first six months, the average revenue earned by each parcel was 5.38 yuan, up 1.5% year on year.

China's postal and express industry maintained steady growth in the first half of this year, according to the National Post and Express Industry Development Report 2023.
Freight transport steers toward green solutions

Stronger policy support, tech innovation urged to further reduce sector’s emissions

By LIU YUNKUN

In a bid to strike the energy-intensive freight transport sector toward zero-emissions, experts are urging policy support, innovative power charging solutions with higher efficiency and lower cost, and for the launch of pilot projects.

Wang Ping, deputy director of the Energy-saving and clean energy exchange center at the Beijing Transportation Institute, said that although cargo vehicles account for only 10 percent of the country’s total vehicle load, they are responsible for 40 percent of carbon emissions in the transportation sector. Thus, the promotion of clean-energy power charging is essential to achieving energy-efficiency and reducing the carbon footprint in the transportation sector.

Since the pandemic, the Chinese government has called for increased awareness of the importance of health and have consumed more dairy products to solidify the Chinese people’s resistance to COVID-19, forming a stable demand for dairy products. In the first three quarters of 2022, milk production reached 19.4 million tons, which is 10.1 percent higher than the same period last year.

To further tap into the market, many enterprises launched electric vehicles, which are characterized by lower emissions and cost savings. China has set a goal of reaching 50 percent electric-vehicle penetration by 2030.

The rapid development of electric vehicles has also driven the growth of relevant industries. From January to August, China’s sales revenue of electric vehicle production in the country reached 2.258 million and 2.382 million units, respectively, an increase of 111 percent and 115 percent.

China’s per capita annual annual income is less than one-third of the global average, which has reduced the cost of electric vehicles. For example, the battery cost is about 4,000 yuan ($585), while the sales price of an electric vehicle is in the range of 10,000 to 16,000 yuan ($1,472 to $2,352).

In the long term, we are very positive about the future of this industry in China and the growth prospects of the country’s downstream enterprises,” Kang said. In the past three years, the company has invested 500 million yuan ($73.8 million) into research and development to enhance its product and service competitiveness.

The China Academy of Sciences has said the majority of China’s bulk cargo freight transportation sectors via highways, which account for about 50 percent, said the report to response to stronger emissions reduction demands, many regions are promoting electric cargo vehicles.

For instance, while Hebei province has been promoting the development of energy-intensive and carbon-intensive industries, such as steel, the provincial government said over 80 percent of bulk material transportation must use clean transport methods, thereby driving enterprises to promote emissions reduction.

Several provinces and cities are also adopting policy measures to promote the use of electric cargo vehicles. The plan currently in Taishan, Hebei province, said and iron companies are using over 1,000 electric heavy-duty trucks.

“Our research group has also found that in two of these companies in Taishan, both of which have electric heavy-duty truck operations, the cost of transporting ore is reduced to one-third,” he said.

It’s mentioned that technically, new energy heavy-duty trucks are already feasible for daily use and are now receiving certain policy support for further promotion. He said the academy will be considering the implementation of policies to promote the replacement of polluting vehicles with electric vehicles, demonstrating the economic and environmental benefits of emission reduction policies in the next three years.


core value in digital exchange with more efforts in new infrastructure

Shantou eyes key role in digital exchange with more efforts in new infrastructure

By QUAN QUNLAI

The construction of a series of submarine communication cables and intercontinental backbones is in full swing in Shantou, a coastal city in Guangdong Province, which will provide low-cost and efficient link support for the two-way data transmission for domestic and foreign companies,according to a senior local Party official.

The city has accelerated the construction of new infrastructures for the digital economy, promoting the operations of computing power facilities and data center services,” said Wen Zhun, Party secretary of Shantou.

Wen made the remarks during an innovation and development conference on China’s digital economy in Shantou.

The conference held forum conve marks the construction of the core infrastructure of the digital economic information infrastructure and green sustainable network.

Wen said construction of an Asian direct high-speed submarine cable and a second Southeast Asia-Japan submarine cable will be completed in Shantou by the end of 2023 and next year respectively.

Following completion of the two submarine cables, the outbound bandwidth from Shantou will account for nearly half of the country’s total capacity.

An international and domestic high-speed submarine cable and a submarine cable connecting Shantou as an important hub, has been formed. A fiber optic transmission network that can directly connect to 297 major cities across China will soon be built with high bandwidth, Wen said.

“Shantou’s area is very suitable for laying new international submarine cables, which will bring about global digital coverage being further highlighted in the future,” said Sun Jun, one of the three major submarine cable landing stations on the Chinese mainland, which has four international submarine cables directly connected to more than 100 countries and regions in the Asia-Pacific, Southeast Asia, Europe, the Americas and Oceania.

In terms of local computing power, China Mobile, a leading telecom company, has completed the construction of a data center in eastern Shantou, which can accommodate over 20,000 equi

Piles of consumers’ energy demands are being delivered by the digital economy, Shantou has doubled, with leading enterprises such as WeChat, Alibaba and Huawei successively establishing their presence in the city.

A number of cooperative agreements in the digital economy were also signed on Wednesday in Shantou, with an investment of over 35 billion yuan ($5.2 billion).

A communication technology and Innovation laboratory was also established during the conference. The laboratory, jointly founded by the China Academy of Communications and the Communication Technology, a scientific research institute under the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, and Shantou University, focuses on digital network innovation and communication technology.

According to a research report released during the conference, the scale of China’s digital economy increased by 14.0 trillion yuan from 2020 to 2021, with the average annual growth rate of 14.2 percent.

The scale of China’s digital economy grew to 8.2 trillion yuan in 2022.
Energy companies, advised by the authorities, are speeding up to boost reliance on renewable sources, as utilities are calling on more power supplies to play as green cards to offset challenges in 2023.

Government departments and related enterprises are actively promoting the development of new energy sources as significant supplements to coal-fired power. Meanwhile, thermal power generation is operating at full capacity, while grid optimization is trying all out to enable the safe and smooth transmission of electricity.

Officials and experts said China is capable of meeting stable and adequate power supply demands despite the prolonged high temperatures and frequent extreme weather, as well as higher electricity demand due to the country's ongoing economic recovery.

While power supplies have been assured, a gradual increase in the proportion of renewable energy sources in the power system poses challenges to stakeholders, experts said, adding that their investment nature and lack of flexibility need to be addressed.

Regime will need to formulate strategies to achieve self-sufficiency and modernization in the future, and make power demand and generation more predictable and controllable to provide higher power supplies.

This year, high temperatures arrived early and affected a large area. Unusually high and scorching heat waves have been observed in some northern regions of China, leading to a rapid increase in electricity demand.

"Much electricity-related economic rebound in the first half-hardowed worse in the second half. In the entire summer, we have faced a significant challenge to ensure stable power supply," said Wan Yening, a researcher at the National Climate Center.

China’s main seasons for the rapid increase in electricity demand is the high temperature period, officials said. On June 22, deputy secretary general of the National Development and Reform Commission, an affiliate of the National Energy Administration, issued an urgent message.

For every degree increase in temperature above 34 C, the national daily power consumption will increase by about 60 million kilowatts.

The summer heat wave problem accounts for about 34% of the annual peak electricity demand during the peak demand period, and it is expected to continue along the same trend this year, according to the National Climate Center.

A combination of the factors contributed to a sharp rise in the peak of China’s daily dispatch at around 100 GW on June 25, 2023, nearly twice of the peak demand of the last year.

Responding to challenges

Several energy companies and enterprises have proactively pressured power supplies.

Coal companies have ramped up extraction and transport of coal, ensuring sufficient supplying and storage facilities.

At Huadian Power in Dingcheng, Hainan province, coal-laden ships have been making scheduled journeys.

The company has increased its coal extraction rate by 20 million tons, a year-on-year increase of 20.5%, greater than the planned volume under the 12th Five-Year Plan, an increase of 12.3% year on year.

China Coal Energy Company Limited, the country’s largest coal producer, recorded about 300 million tons of coal production and 410 million tons in sales during January to June.

Coal companies are producing more, and power plants scattered across regions are stepping up coal supply.

According to the National Energy Administration, by late July, the country’s coal inventories are up 16 million tons, or 92.4% more year-on-year.

Employees handle an intelligent coal mining system in the Feng County Ningdong Energy Co Ltd.

All lights on despite scorching weather

Energy firms ensure adequate power supplies this summer amid higher average temperatures

New system to chart way to low-carbon future

Installed power generation facilities are critical to enhance the resilience, flexibility, and reliability of the new power system, said Liu Yibing, chairman of the China Energy Engineering Group. The system should involve two entities like solar and wind power sources, energy storage and virtual power plants for stable system operation.

China has successfully accelerated the development of the new power system, said Yang Kun, executive vice-chairman of the China Energy Research Council.

The country has become a global leader in wind and solar installations, its electrification rate into the world and its energy mix value has improved significantly, Yang said.

"Meanwhile, blockchain technology, such as blockchain technology, is being used to track the information of carbon trading market, the carbon market, and coordinate between different carbon trading market and digital applications," Yang said.

According to data from the NCA, China’s installed renewable energy capacity reached 1.3 billion kilowatts as of June, way on-year or 32% more, second only to coal-fired power and accounting for 45% of the national power generation.

Wind and solar power generation have grown incredibly.

In the first half, renewable energy generation reached 82 million gigawatt-hours, of which wind and solar power accounted for 46% and 15% respectively, representing a 20.8% year-on-year growth.

"China is a leader in renewable energy generation and provides a significant amount of global energy security," Zhu Ping, director of the National Energy Administration, said at an energy conference.

"To meet the growing demand for energy, China needs to invest in renewable energy generation and storage systems," Zhu said.

"China’s large-scale renewable energy power plants, such as the World’s Artificial Intelligence Conference in Shanghai in August 2019, are poised to usher in a new era of high-quality renewable energy power generation capacity of 132 billion kWh in the first half of 2023, which is the highest level in the world, according to data from the NCA.

www.chinadaily.com.cn

By LIU YUKIN

Greater efforts are needed to advance the technologies of market entities such as solar and wind energy generation, electricity storage facilities, and virtual power plants to accelerate their transition into a new power system, experts said.

Meanwhile, mechanisms that allow electricity users to take responsibility for their carbon emissions should also be introduced, they said.

Compared to traditional methods, the new system ensures a move away from reliance on fossil fuels to one based on new energy sources to generate electricity.

It involves gradually increasing the proportion of renewable energy, such as solar and wind power, in electricity generation.

At the same time, an upgrade to the transmission grid will ensure that renewable energy facilities can efficiently harness new energy sources and facilitate a smoother integration of various power sources, as well as enhance the reliability of the entire system, the experts said, adding that these are essential components of China’s green goals.

Zhuang Jie, deputy general manager of the National Resources Defense Council, said the current power system is hampered by the large-scale integration of power generated from renewable energy sources and extreme weather.

"The evolving supply-demand dynamics is making power system operations more complex, with issues arising from intermittence of new energy sources, insufficient grid flexibility and balanced shortages at peak demand," he said. "Lower-car- bon transformation of the power system is imperative to combat climate change," Zhuang said.

He said the power sector is a major carbon emitter with a 24% per cent-year growth rate in 2021, despite a slight decrease in carbon emissions.

"The concept of a new power system was first introduced in March 2022."

The concept involves the replacement of conventional power systems with energy storage systems and virtual power plants to enhance the reliability and flexibility of the power system.

"This is an important step in the development of the new power system, promoting a more efficient and sustainable power system," Zhuang said.

Zhuang said that the new system, which is being developed in collaboration with the Chinese Electric Power Research Institute, aims to provide a solution to the challenges of climate change and energy security.

"The new system will enable a more flexible and resilient power system, allowing for faster deployment of renewable energy technologies and facilitating a smoother transition to a low-carbon future," Zhuang said.

The new system is expected to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future, Zhuang said, adding that it will enable the country to achieve its carbon neutrality goals.

"This is a significant step towards achieving China’s commitment to peak carbon emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060," Zhuang said.

"The new system will provide a foundation for the development of a low-carbon and sustainable energy system, enabling the country to meet its climate goals and contribute to the global effort to mitigate climate change," Zhuang said.

The new system is expected to help China achieve its carbon neutrality goals and contribute to the global effort to mitigate climate change, Zhuang said.
Manila should be part of solution not problem

That Manila is this week the site of a historic three-way summit between the government of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. released its nationalpolicy security doctrine.

The document, which is available here, identifies Manila’s security doctrine as a “three-phase policy” that focuses on national sovereignty, regional stability, and global resilience.

In this phase, Manila aims to achieve national sovereignty through the establishment of a robust and capable military force, enhanced diplomatic relations with other countries, and strong partnerships with international organizations.

In phase two, Manila seeks to promote regional stability by engaging in multilateralism, regional integration, and cooperation on pressing issues such as climate change, terrorism, and cyber security.

In the final phase, Manila aims to enhance global resilience by fostering economic and technological cooperation, and contributing to global governance and peacekeeping efforts.

The three-way summit, which is expected to be a landmark event for Manila, is expected to focus on issues such as climate change, security, and economic development.

Camp David meets no bones about intent

Despite the daunting challenges that face Manila, the three-way summit is expected to be a major opportunity for the region to chart a new course for cooperation and dialogue.

The summit is expected to bring together leaders from the United States, China, and the Philippines, with each country expected to bring its own set of priorities and interests to the table.

The United States is expected to push for greater cooperation on security and economic issues, while China is likely to focus on promoting dialogue and multilateralism.

The Philippines, for its part, is expected to emphasize the need for greater regional integration and cooperation.

What They Say

Source of strength for recovery of global economy

The editors of The Economist write:

The recovery of the global economy is likely to be faster than expected, with strong growth expected in most major economies.

The editors suggest that policymakers should focus on measures that will support the recovery, such as fiscal stimulus and monetary easing.

They also highlight the importance of international cooperation, particularly in the context of the ongoing trade dispute between the United States and China.

Investors and businesses should be prepared for a long and challenging recovery, and should focus on measures that will support long-term growth.

In conclusion, the editors argue that the global economy is likely to recover faster than expected, but that policymakers must take steps to ensure that the recovery is sustainable and inclusive.

They also call for greater international cooperation, particularly in the context of the ongoing trade dispute, to support the recovery of the global economy.
US arms sales pushing Taiwan toward abyss

Zhong Houatar

In addition to the past, the three countries tend to maintain a cold war in the midst of multiple millennial meetings such as the 16th Asia-Pacific security dialogue,” the US, Japan, and the ROK all have declared.

Meanwhile, the US has repeatedly used its 100 billion US dollars in arms sales to Taiwan, Taiwan’s own defense, and arms sales’ potential to supplant only defense arms, not only arms sales to Taiwan, nor Chinese arms sales, but also arms sales to Indonesia, which is likely to continue, and further deter China’s development.

And third, in May 1972, a short-term arms sales to Taiwan, bypassing the norm of arms sales, and Taiwan, the US and the UK, and the UK. The three countries tend to maintain a cold war in the midst of multiple millennial meetings such as the 16th Asia-Pacific security dialogue,” the US, Japan, and the ROK all have declared.

However, in recent years, a new “constant arms industry” policy has emerged in US arms sales to Taiwan, bypassing the norm of arms sales, and Taiwan, the US and the UK, and the UK. The three countries tend to maintain a cold war in the midst of multiple millennial meetings such as the 16th Asia-Pacific security dialogue,” the US, Japan, and the ROK all have declared.

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GLOBAL VIEWS

Pseudo-multilateralism a losing bet

US multilateralism in the Middle East is exclusive and only intended to serve its hegemonic interests

In recent years, a widespread perception has emerged that the world will inevitably return to a bipolar world with the US and China as the dominant poles. This narrative is based on the assumption that the US and China are the only powers capable of shaping the global order. However, this narrative fails to consider the complexities of the current multipolar world and the emerging powers such as Russia, India, and Japan that are challenging the dominance of the US and China.

The USmultilateralism in the Middle East is exclusive and only intended to serve its hegemonic interests. The US is seeking to maintain its global influence and security interests by establishing a regional order that aligns with its own interests.

The development of multilateralism in the Middle East is unlikely to be successful as the US wishes. First, the US power and hegemony in the Middle East makes it difficult for the US to achieve sufficient concessions for multilateral mechanisms. At the US, there is no strategy to address the interests of regional countries and is not conducive to economic cooperation.

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DEDICATED TO A NEW AGE OF RESTORATION

The spirit of continuity, which spans the generations who protect the caves, remains evident, report Fang Aiqing, Wang Kaihao in Dunhuang, Gansu province, and Ma Jingna in Lanzhou.

It is a race against time, as generations of cultural heritage conservationists at the Dunhuang Academy endeavor to preserve the glory of the Mogao Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, despite or in fear of being overtaken.

Recently Li Li is a member of the team that is dedicated to protecting the 49,000 square meters of murals and 2,800 painted sculptures of the 735 caves of the site, the construction of which spans a millennium, from the 4th century to the 14th century. Located in the far west of North-west China’s Gansu province, the city of Dunhuang and its neighboring areas — home to the Mogao Caves and other historic monuments — witnessed the ascent of the ancient pediatrician, Ibn Sina — just as she did a sagacious teacher to communicate artistic knowledge across thousands of years.

While characters on the ancient murals refer to Buddhas for the truth of life and the unknown — a favorite theme of the murals — Li’s pilgrimage to enlightenment is reflected in every moment of this existence in front of the walls and evoking the reveries in the murals with melancholic human inscriptions, her life, bit by bit, from dawn to dusk, day by day.

A dedicated and resilient Li Li, who has spent more than 30 years in the tunnel, has only removed an area about the size of a standard living room.

The past three decades have seen her repair around 150,000 square meters of murals and more than 100 sculptures — the so-called ‘ones-only’ about 20 centimeters tall, while the largest might be over 20 meters in height.

The years have also brought her the invaluable joy of building a silent dialogue with the mural characters.

In front of a 13th-century mural representing the Weaving of the Buddha and the Buddha’s Disciple Ananda, dressed in a long gown and carrying a lotus pod in his right hand, Li stands in front of the Mogao Caves, 11 minutes did not only remove a mere impression when they come to his mind, Li says.

The site, which, archaeologists estimate, dates back to the Northern Wei Dynasty (386-534), shares cultural and artistic resonance with the Mogao Caves. The Dunhuang Academy, the inheritor of the Yulin Caves.

As a mural studies postgraduate, some images slightly hedge forward, while others are napless, some look away. Some figures are tube-like, while some draw squat. It was Li’s slow, slow moment during the interview. Li has always been accustomed to the rhythms of the ancient paintings, accurately to portray the mural’s inner life and essence.

For Li, that in knowledge accumulation and understanding toward the artwork deepest, it becomes even more impossible when his hands cannot keep up with his mind, like a doctor who knows what disease a patient has, but fails to treat it.

In March, she was first named among mural and painted sculptures restorers at a national vocational skills competition related to cultural relics, which was held in Shanxi province. Nonetheless, there’s always the ambition to further improve his skills, she says.

**Mural doctors**

Conservation work referred to as ‘doctoring’ affecting the murals include cracking and filling, painting and coloring, and repairing faults caused by changes in temperature and humidity of the caves and the deposition of salts.

To reconstruct a mural requires an all-round: the restorers should know painting, theory, the skills of a mural and have some knowledge about art history, Li says. In order to correctly recognize the problems, artists continue their studies. They must also make original materials and tests, and conduct experiments, before formally carrying out the restoration and reinforcing the effect afterward.

For example, dealing with cracked mural and cracks filled up using resin involves removing the dust, fusing pigments, enhancing the layered pattern, and finally polishing to present the edge.

Ancient mural paintings applied pigments from different ingredients — cinnabar, for example, for results — resulting in damage with different chemicals in varying epochs. The tricks of restoring these murals, therefore, often lie in a different level of adhesive used and timing for the operation, which requires years of learning and practice.

The restoration should respect the original texture and style to maintain the same quality of the murals rather than replication, she says.

Even at the height of a summer, when temperatures work to nearly 100 degrees, Li and her colleagues are always wearing pouches and shorts to keep in contact.

Artists bend in a hood.

They also need to keep their hands raised for hours, sweating sweat, but not disappointed when their muscles tire, a challenge that may be very energy consuming, her colleague Li Li, says.

However, for Li Li, it’s never to stop until she reaches the caves after several intensive hours that he starts to feel the exhaustion.

Li Li says, “I don’t know when the caves will be left without me.”

**The hands of time**

1. **Above**: Li Li (right), a veteran technician of the Dunhuang Academy, talks to a colleague, Li Linghui, in the vast Dunhuang Academy’s site. Li Linghui (left) works with her father Li Yubao, the academy’s first full-time cultural heritage conservator, who has been dedicated to the Dunhuang Academy since 1956. **PHOTO** BY WANG MAJU/CHINA DAILY

2. **Top left**: Li Li at the Mogao Caves. **ABC/UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL/CHINA DAILY**

3. **Middle**: Earlier this month, a tourist takes photos in the western Gansu province’s Dunhuang, where Li Li, 83, works with her father Li Yubao, the academy’s first full-time cultural heritage conservator. **PHOTO** BY WANG MAJU/CHINA DAILY

4. **Right**: Li’s conservation work at Dunhuang is a unique job that requires a lot of experience and theory knowledge that have typically been passed down to the next generation by word of mouth. **PHOTO** BY WANG MAJU/CHINA DAILY

*The hands of time* suspend Li Li’s life and enhance her life, providing a greater number of pursuits in the restoration.

By strong support behind her, including her father Li Yubao, the academy’s first full-time cultural heritage restorer, who has bestowed knowledge to her since 1956; and her fellowconservator Li Linghui, who are closely interwoven, from a confidant in the early stages of the Dunhuang Caves, to an elder mural follower, to a scholar and colleague aside so that scholars and tourists can see each other.

Li Li grew up by watching his father remove the murals and painted sculptures, taking in all the aural and visual. In 1983, she joined the Dunhuang Academy, and was involved in the archaeological mapping of the caves before formally taking up the preservation and restoration of these findings in 1996.

“I feel no way to take care of my father while learning something at the same time, so he is very strict with me,” Li says.

Apart from removing cracked mural and painted sculpture at Dunhuang’s cave temples, the father and son also amitted preservation projects in Guangxi, Shanxi and Dzangxi provinces, as well as Tibet and Xinjiang. They are among regions, among others.

Thanks to rich experiences gained at the Dunhuang Academy in the past decades, conservators have supported preservation projects of cultural heritage sites and murals in West provinces and countries across the country.

They have also contributed solutions to key issues in other countries, like Mongolia and Myanmar, according to Zhao Qing, deputy director of the academy who is in charge of the cultural heritage conservation.

**Refurbished squad**

By her teenage years, Li has often wondered why her grandfather never took days off despite adverse working and living conditions. He had made full use of his time and his knowledge, she says. And he kept up his work remotely and couldn’t even go back to the caves three months before his death.

To her, it is the time when he has witnessed technology has benefited from the academy’s evolution, from mining cultural heritage, to scientific and preventive conserving principles and methods in both research and implementation of preservation measures.

Interdisciplinary achievements, such as ‘fractured’ research findings in materials science, and new digitalization working tools have greatly facilitated their work. And the academy has formed a well-established cooperative mechanism that nurtures the necessary skills for the preservation of paintings and addresses the needs of damage assessment and exchange sessions.

According to Li Li, the conservators and restorers from the academy now work on the front lines of protecting the caves.

“Many of them may not be well-educated, but they stud in after decades of practice learning. Many of them have been well-educated, and their experience is priceless,” Guo says.

“As minor artistic workers in our nation, they deserve people’s utmost admiration.”

At the academy, the conservation team works with millions of visitors, which boosts the academy’s transformation and development. Conservation is not only a job on experience and theory knowledge that have typically been passed down to the next generation by word of mouth, but also a job that requires a lot of experience and theory knowledge that have typically been passed down to the next generation by word of mouth.

“Everything is centered on conservation and preventing collapses as much as we can,” Guo says.

The Mogao Caves have existed for more than 1,000 years. Despite the attention and care given to them, they are still at risk of degradation. “We are trying to bring in the neighboring archaeological areas, to prevent the murals from being erased by time,” she says.

“By 2026, we will achieve the goal of making sure that the murals will be preserved for the next 50 years,” Guo says.

When the conservators finish their parts of the murals, they may take a break, but they will never stop trying to make a name for themselves. “Time is precious,” Guo says.

Cultural relics are like children that need care. The emergence of such ‘childlike’ thinking is the prerequisite of a good, long-term strategy for cultural relics.

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Theater scene roars back to stage

A wide range of productions of all genres are set to leave audiences spoiled for choice in the coming months, Zhang Kun reports in Shanghai.

The upcoming 2022-23 season at the Shanghai Grand Theatre consists of 70 productions, including Van Gogh in the Meiji (Dec 1-8), the Neuberger Chamber Music Festival (Dec 2-5), the Shanghai Orange Art Festival and the Autumn Ballet Theatre’s Giselle (above right). About 70% of the productions will be shown in the first time in Shanghai.

The Shanghai Grand Theatre has been running under the leadership of Yang Wei, a new facility that opened late last year, and with China’s second largest musical theatre, The Last Five Years. The theatre scene has also been bolstered by a number of other venues, such as the Shanghai Art Centre and the Shanghai Culture Square Theatre, which have hosted a number of high-profile productions.

Theatre, as an important cultural form, has been passed down from generation to generation, and has been an important part of the nation’s cultural heritage. Shanghai, as the cultural capital of the country, has a long history of theatre productions. In the past few years, the city has witnessed a resurgence of interest in theatre, with a number of new theatres opening and a growing audience for live performances.

Shanghai is a city that is always on the move, and the theatre scene is no exception. With new productions being staged every week, there is always something to see. Whether you are a seasoned theatre goer or a newcomer to the world of theatre, Shanghai has something for everyone.
Extending his body of work

Entertainer Liu Genghong is adding yet another string to his bow with the release of a new book, and is embarking on a nationwide tour hosting massive fitness parties. Xing Wen reports.

As we dive into our fitness journey, we grab the reins of our lives and weave that unwavering determination to conquer, to push through to every detail. It's not just a drive that fuels our readiness to embrace self-discipline.