

OPINION: UNITED FOR ONE PURPOSE P.20 | FEATURES: IN PURSUIT OF *XIAOKANG* P.36

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CONTENTS

EDITOR'S DESK

02 Roads to Riches

THIS WEEK COVER STORY

12 The Locomotive of Development

Speeding up innovative prosperity for the people

16 Hubs for Humans

Cutting-edge technology offers commuter convenience

OPINION

20 United by Purpose

The advantages of a precision government

21 Setting the Example

An American professor on China's achievements

22 Achievements Made, Experiences Shared

China and Laos, a long-standing collaborative relationship

24 A Year of Extraordinaries

China-Pakistan friendship goes from strength to strength

25 Major-Country Ties and Yin-Yang Philosophy

In bilateral relations, too, dualism makes a whole

26 Breaking Down Stereotypes

Marxian economist discusses China's rise to global prominence

28 Time to Abandon Cultural Chauvinism

How harmony must outweigh hegemony

30 Will B3W Challenge the Belt and Road Initiative?

G7's infrastructure development plan may prove tricky

32 The Objectivity and Authenticity Illusion

Absolutely free or independent media, a castle in the sky

33 China, the FDI Magnet

Foreign investors remain confident

FEATURES

36 Right on Schedule

From poverty elimination to global inspiration

38 Managing Strategic Competition

The world's two leading powers must find new ways to move forward

40 Wiping Out an Infectious Disease

The story behind China's malaria-free certification

44 Letting Off Some E-Steam

Chinese vaping industry headed for a burnout?

CULTURE

46 Reviewing the Past

A Hong Kong exhibition depicts CPC developments

EXPAT'S EYE

48 Sizzling Cultural Heritage

Dipping into the culinary tradition that is hotpot

Cover Design: Wang Yajuan, with
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Roads to Riches

At the ceremony marking the centenary of the Communist Party of China's (CPC's) founding on July 1, Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, President of the People's Republic of China, and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, declared on behalf of the Party and the people that through the continued efforts of the Party and the nation at large, China has realized its first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

This means that the Chinese nation has produced a historic resolution to the problem of absolute poverty in China, and is now marching with confident strides toward the CPC's second centenary goal of turning China into a great modern socialist country.

"If you want wealth, build roads first!" This is a conclusion China has drawn from its ascension from poverty to prosperity, namely the improvement of transport conditions that would facilitate the development of markets and flow of commodities, thus stimulating the vitality of economic and social development. From regular highways in the early

stages to expressways and high-speed railways, China's transportation lines have connected every urban crossroads to all corners of the countryside across the nation, and even linked transportation arteries from the national to the international front.

Among them, high-speed railways, exemplified by the Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway, the country's busiest railway line launched 10 years ago, have created a full-fledged Chinese miracle. China's advanced high-speed railway technologies, as well as a network crisscrossing the entire country via eight north-to-south lines and eight east-to-west lines, guarantee transportation efficiency.

Extensive railway construction will not only directly serve local economic development, but also prove a supporting pillar of the overall setting for progress in their respective regions. In the meantime, an easily accessible and fast-moving transportation system will connect the nation's remote areas with its city clusters, significantly easing the flow of personnel, materials, industries and technologies. **BR**



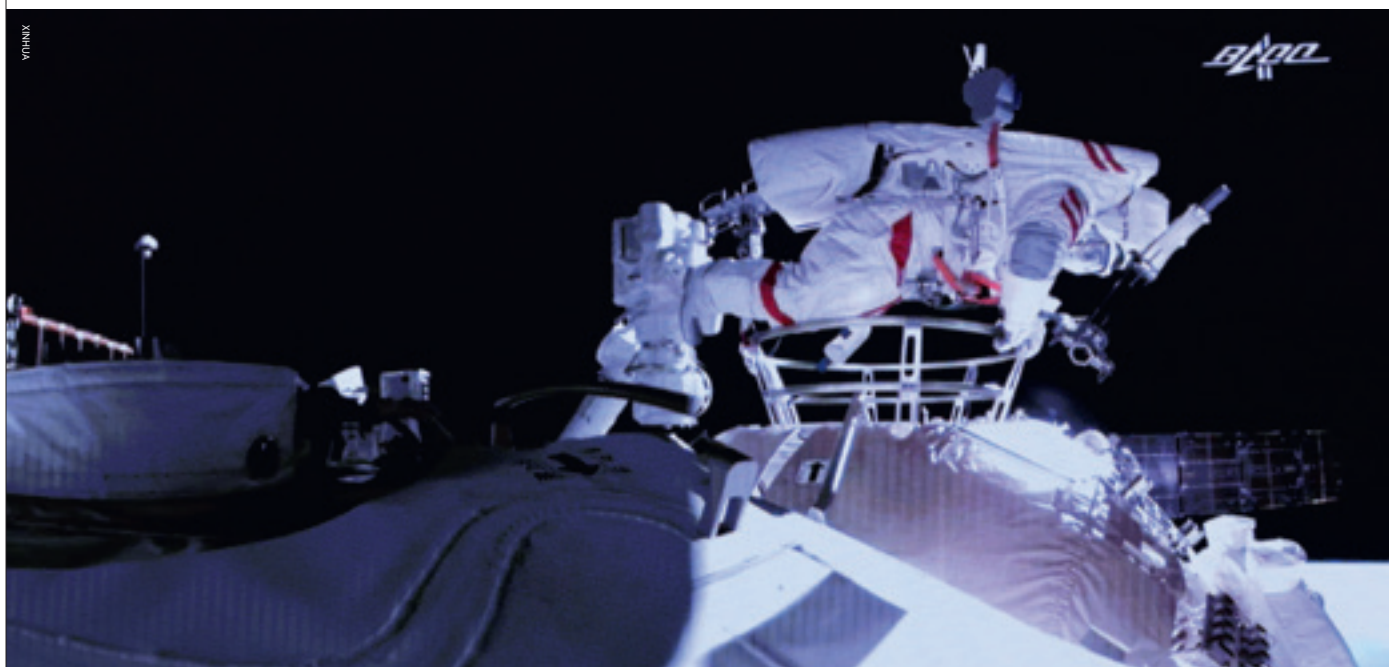
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EXTRAVEHICULAR ACTIVITY

Screen image taken at the Beijing Aerospace Control Center on July 4 shows Chinese astronaut Liu Boming slipping out of the space station core module *Tianhe*.

According to the China Manned Space Agency on July 4, the first extravehicular activities (EVAs) during the construction of the country's space station were a complete success. The *Shenzhou-12* spaceship crew, after approximately seven hours of EVAs, concluded all scheduled tasks.

The EVAs tested the performance and function of the new-generation homemade extravehicular mobility units and the coordination between the astronauts and the mechanical arm, as well as the reliability and safety of related EVA supporting equipment.



Protecting the Environment

Volunteers clean up the river waters in Lin'an in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, on July 6. The district has stepped up its protection of local rivers in recent years by strengthening water quality monitoring and dispatching regular patrols and cleaning missions.

Heritage Conference

The 44th session of the World Heritage Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) will take place between July 16 and July 31 in Fuzhou, capital of Fujian Province, according to a press conference on July 5.

The session will see a total of 45 candidate entries to the UNESCO World Heritage List, Vice Minister of Education Tian Xuejun said.

Tian, also Director of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, added that the session will move online after its opening ceremony.

China currently boasts 14

listed natural heritage sites and four mixed ones, both cultural and natural, said Yan Chenggao, an official with the National Forestry and Grassland Administration at the press conference.

Rare Whale

A whale that has recently appeared in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, has been preliminarily identified as a Bryde's whale, reported Xinhua News Agency on July 3.

Experts came to the conclusion after analyzing photos and videos captured by witnesses since the mammal was first spotted in the Dapeng Bay on June 29.

The Shenzhen municipal fishery department, along with other research institutions in China, has been tracking the whale and recorded the creature feeding on more than 100 occasions, which suggests it is healthy and active, Chen Binyao, a scientist of the whale's tracking team from Nanjing Normal University, said.

Bryde's whales, mainly found in tropical and subtropical waters, are marked by three ridges in front of their blowhole, a dark grey back and a white or pink abdomen.

According to Chen, the whale spotted in Shenzhen is a sub-adult with a length of around 8 meters. It is currently unclear why it appeared in the area.

Whales are under state protection in China. The local government and environmental organizations in Shenzhen have strengthened the management of the local sea area, and a task force was set up on July 2 by the Dapeng New District to monitor and protect whales and dolphins.

New Planetarium

The Shanghai Astronomy Museum, the world's largest planetarium in terms of scale, will open on July 17, the planetarium announced on July 5.

Covering an area of approximately 58,600 square meters, the museum is located in the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone Lingang Special Area. It is a branch of the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum.

Tests were carried out on July 5, while the official website and WeChat account of the museum have already been launched.

The museum features an 8K ultra-high definition dome theater and exhibition areas covering various themes. Collections include some 70 meteorites such as those from Moon, Mars and Vesta, as well as over 120 artifacts. Original works of Isaac Newton, Galileo Galilei and Johannes Kepler will also be on display.

Technologies such as data visualization, augmented reality, virtual reality and biometrics have been introduced to help visitors gain a deeper knowledge of astronomy and science.

Meteorological Satellite

China sent a new meteorological satellite into planned orbit on July 5.

Equipped with 11 remote payloads, the satellite, *Fengyun-*

3E (FY-3E), will be the world's first meteorological satellite in early morning orbit for civil service.

It is designed with a lifespan of eight years and will mainly obtain the atmospheric temperature, humidity, and other meteorological parameters for numerical prediction applications, improving China's weather forecast capacity.

It will also monitor global snow and ice coverage, sea surface temperature, natural disasters, and ecology to better respond to climate change and prevent and mitigate meteorological disasters.

In addition, the satellite will monitor the solar and space environments and their effects, as well as ionospheric data to meet the needs of space weather forecasts and supporting services.

Tougher Sentencing

China's top court and procuratorate have asked judicial agencies to adhere to strict standards when applying lenient penalties to severe crimes such as rape and serious physical violence.

The Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate have jointly issued a document containing their guiding opinions on sentencing for 23 different crime types.

In cases involving severe crimes, including organized crime, serious physical violence, drug-related crime and sexual assault against minors, judicial personnel are asked to adhere to the strictest of standards in their consideration of whether leniency can be granted or to what extent, according to the document released on July 7.

The document also called for the tightened allowance of probation for convicts found guilty of rape, noting that aspects of a crime such as means, consequences and criminal intent, as well as the threat posed to society by a criminal and their demonstration of repentance, must all be taken into consideration.

Social Security

China will steadily improve its social security benefits and other social safety-net programs during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-25), according to a plan released by the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security on June 30.

By 2025, the country's basic old-age insurance coverage will reach 95 percent, the plan said.

In the next five years, China plans to establish a basic pension scheme for enterprise



National Celebration

People take selfies at the Tiananmen Square in Beijing on July 3, against the background of the decorations set up for the ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China. The ceremony was held here on July 1.

employees under unified national management and boost the supplementary pension fund to over 4 trillion yuan (\$619 billion).

Efforts would be made to gradually raise the retirement age, and to increase unemployment insurance and work-related injury insurance coverage to 230 million and 280 million, respectively.

From 2021 to 2025, China

aims to create more than 50 million new urban jobs, and keep its surveyed urban unemployment rate within 5.5 percent.

The country will also move faster to train technicians and skilled workers, improve the income distribution system, create harmonious and stable labor relations, and enhance public services regarding human resources and social security.



Having Fun

Children take an after-school class in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, on July 5. The after-school program was opened to solve the difficulties for many parents in terms of looking after their children during the summer vacation.

Circular Economy

A resource recycling system will see its basic establishment in China by 2025, according to a five-year plan released by the National Development and Reform Commission on July 7.

The plan specified that the country's energy and water consumption per 10,000 yuan (\$1,540) of GDP will be lowered by about 13.5 percent and 16 percent, respectively, by the year from the 2020 levels.

Efficiency of resource utilization will be greatly improved throughout the five-year period, with the circular economy playing a bigger role in ensuring resource security, read the document.

The amount of waste paper and scrap steel utilized is expected to reach 60 million tons and 320 million tons, respectively, by the end of the timeframe, while the industrial output value of the resource recycling industry will stand at 5 trillion yuan (\$771.6 billion).

The plan also outlined major projects in the following five years, including the recycling of traction batteries.

Freight Trains

Alataw Pass, a major rail port in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, handled a record 3,033 China-Europe freight train trips in the first half of this year, up 41.07 percent year on year, local customs said.

The trains transported 2.28 million tons of cargo, up 56.08 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Goods from Central Asia and Europe on inbound trains included automobiles and wood materials, and outbound cargo included liquid crystal displays, laptop computers and auto parts.

Customs authorities have facilitated procedures to allow the trains to pass through 24 hours a day. Trains departing from the Alataw Pass can reach 13 countries.

Culture Businesses

For-profit businesses in the culture industry created jobs for more than 1.6 million people in 2020, statistics from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism showed.

The 208,900 companies engaging in the industry logged annual earnings of 996.7 billion yuan (\$154 billion). Their profits amounted to 170 billion yuan (\$26 billion), the ministry said in a report.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a year-on-year plummet of 52.1 percent in domestic tourist visits and 61.1 percent in revenues from domestic tourism, the report said.

The number of top-level tourist spots increased by 930 from the figure in late 2019 to 13,332 by the end of 2020, it added.

Financial Support

The People's Bank of China (PBC), the central bank, has

called on banking and financial institutions to increase financial services to micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, optimize credit products and services to individual businesses, and expand service coverage in inclusive financing, Xinhua News Agency reported on July 5.

Banking and financial institutions should also develop and continue fine-tuning loan products to facilitate the use of funds and reduce the overall financing costs for those enterprises, read a PBC circular.

The PBC also stressed that all banking and financial institutions should enhance their pricing capabilities by providing differentiated loans.

Courier Market

The postal and courier sector handled over 50 billion parcels in the first half of the year, according to the State Post Bureau.

As of July 4, the sector's business volume had neared

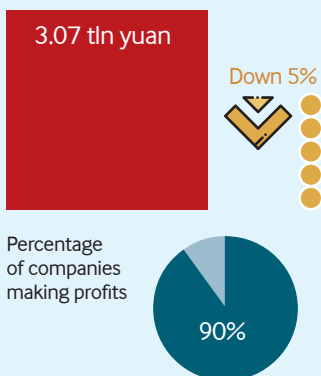
NUMBERS

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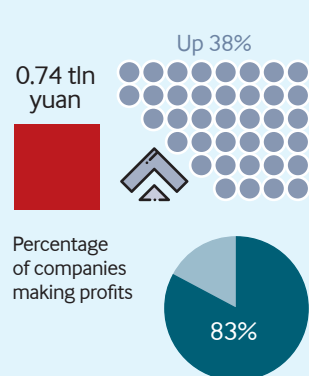
Performance of Chinese Listed Companies (2020)

Net profits

Companies listed on the main board of the Shanghai Stock Exchange

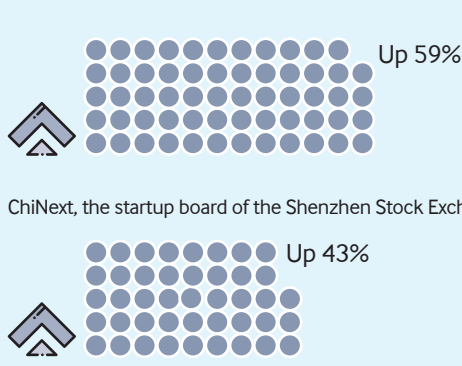


Companies listed on the main board of the Shenzhen Stock Exchange

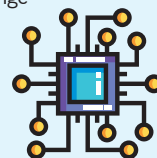
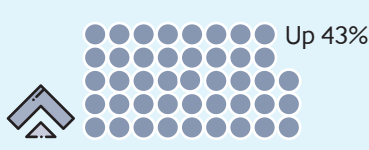


Net profit growth for listed innovative tech startups

The STAR Market, or the Science and Technology Innovation Board, of the Shanghai Stock Exchange



ChiNext, the startup board of the Shenzhen Stock Exchange



the level for the whole of 2018, the bureau said, attributing the fast expansion to the continuous growth of the economy, increased consumption promotion and the improvement of services in the countryside. About 30 percent of the parcels handled this year were sent to rural areas as service accessibility continued to expand at the village level.

In the second quarter, the sector's monthly business volume was around 10 billion parcels, demonstrating the resilience, vitality and growth potential of the express delivery market, according to the bureau.

At present, around 300 million parcels are delivered daily on average, serving around 600 million customers.

Fast Expansion

The added value of electronic information manufacturers with annual operating revenues of at least 20 million yuan (\$3.1 million) jumped 21.5 percent year

on year, with a compound annual growth rate of 12.2 percent over the past two years, according to the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT).

The export delivery value of major enterprises in the sector rose 21.3 percent year on year in the January-May period, while fixed assets investment in the sector went up 27.6 percent from a year earlier.

MIIT data also showed that the operating revenue of major electronic information manufacturers soared 31.2 percent year on year to 4.06 trillion yuan (\$628 billion) in the first four months, while their combined profits in the period totaled 193.5 billion yuan (\$29.9 billion), surging 86.2 percent year on year.

In May alone, China's smartphone output climbed 9.6 percent year on year to 100 million units, while the output of personal computers rose 10.8 percent to 36.14 million units.

New Drivers

The added value of new industries, new business formats and new business models, dubbed the "three new" economy, contributed 17.08 percent of China's GDP last year, up 0.7 percentage point from the previous year, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on July 6.

A new industry emerges on the basis of the application of new scientific and technological achievements and new technologies to forge a certain scale of new economic activities. A new business format involves new links, new chains and new activity forms derived from existing industries and fields. A new business model is created through the integration and reorganization of various elements of enterprise operation to achieve the goal of customer value and sustainable profit, forging an efficient and competitive business operation mode.

Calculated at current prices,

the new drivers climbed 4.5 percent in 2020 from the previous year, outpacing GDP growth by 1.5 percentage points, the NBS said.

Digital Ambition

Zhejiang Province has set a goal of bringing the value added of its digital economy to about 60 percent of its GDP by 2025.

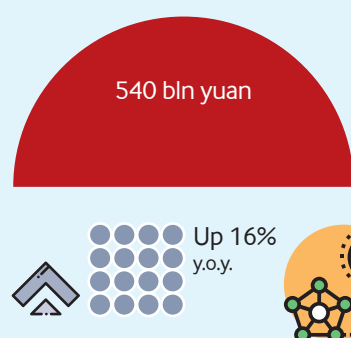
According to its 14th Five-Year Plan on the development of the sector, industrial chains and clusters of digital security, integrated circuits, and high-end software will be constructed by 2025, with the number of patents in the digital economy reaching 80,000.

Zhejiang also aims to increase its total volume of imports and exports in digital trade to 1 trillion yuan (\$154.5 billion).

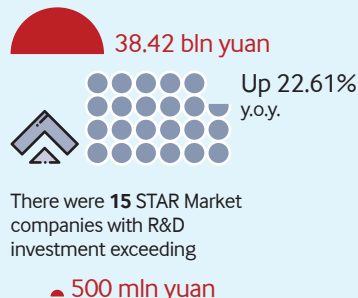
In 2020, the value added of the digital economy of the province reached 3.02 trillion yuan (\$467.2 billion), accounting for 46.8 percent of its GDP.

Listed companies' investment in R&D

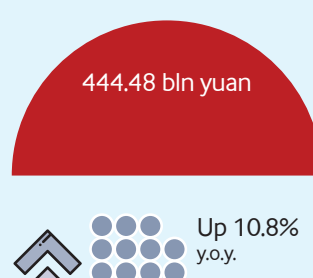
Non-financial companies listed on the main board of the Shanghai Stock Exchange



Companies listed on the STAR Market



Non-financial enterprises listed on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange



There were 66 companies with R&D investment exceeding



(Source: People's Daily)



EGYPT

The *Ever Given* container ship sails on the Suez Canal on July 7. The Suez Canal Authority released the vessel, which blocked the waterway for nearly a week back in March, after signing a settlement contract with its owner



ISRAEL

President Isaac Herzog (left) is sworn in at the Israeli Knesset in Jerusalem on July 7



PHILIPPINES

Rescuers clear the crash site of a military plane in Sulu Province on July 4. Fifty people were killed in the accident



SRI LANKA

A woman receives a COVID-19 vaccine at a walk-in community vaccination center in Colombo on July 5



HAITI

An investigator takes photos near President Jovenel Moise's home in Port-au-Prince on July 7. An armed commando assassinated Moise in his residence earlier that day



AFGHANISTAN

The Bagram Airfield in Parwan Province on July 2. All U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan have evacuated their largest coalition base, handing it over to the Afghan government troops



THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

↓ ASTEROID NAMED AFTER CHINESE PALEONTOLOGIST

An asteroid has been named after Chinese paleontologist **Zhang Miman** (also known as Meemann Chang), with the approval from the Minor Planet Center under the patronage of the International Astronomical Union for her pioneering work in life sciences on July 2.

Zhang, born in 1936, is a Chinese paleontologist at the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP), the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). She became the first woman to become head of IVPP in 1983.

Over the past 50 years, Zhang's research has contributed significantly to the people's understanding of the evolution of species on Earth.

In 1991, she was selected as an academician of the CAS, and was elected to the position of Foreign Member to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in 2011. Zhang was recognized by UNESCO and the L'Oréal Foundation as one of five outstanding female scientists from around the world in 2018.



Rule of Creation

Beijing Youth Daily
July 5

The Rebel, a TV series about part of the history of the Communist Party of China, has wrapped up with a near-perfect ending. Since its release in June, the series has received solid feedback, resulting in yet another hit show. The series aims to promote mainstream culture, enhancing social collective values and encouraging people to create a positive and healthy spiritual life.

In the past, TV dramas focused on serious topics, such as historical events and social development, usually faced difficulties and

low market acceptance. But the storyline today has evolved along with high aesthetic value and product quality. Also, their influence has stretched well beyond traditional viewership, namely the middle-aged and senior clusters, reaching younger audiences.

For instance, *The Awakening Age*, homing in on how Chinese intellectuals and college students fought against imperialism and feudalism from 1915 to 1921, has become a hot hashtag among young people on social platforms. The director of the hit series said today's youth no longer evaluates work according to its subject but based on its script, production and creative sincerity.



A Society With Privacy

Lifeweek
June 21

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, China's top legislature, adopted a law on data security, as it wrapped up a session on June 10. Taking effect on September 1, it hopes to establish a comprehensive legal framework of information and data security in China, jointly with the country's cybersecurity law and an act on personal

“Framing the problem of geopolitical competition with China as an excuse to make us more closed will only shoot ourselves in the foot.”

Mary Gallagher, Director of the Center for Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan, as quoted by the *South China Morning Post* in commenting on the heightened U.S. scrutiny on scientists of Chinese origin, on July 3

“Ultimately, there is no Brexit prosperity without China. For the time being, London recognizes that China remains its largest potential market worldwide for exports and a critical source of foreign investment.”

Tom Fowdy, a British political and international relations analyst, in an article on CGTN, on July 7

information protection in the legislative process.

Since 2006, we have been conducting nationwide surveys on the sense of public safety every year or two, Wang Junxiu from the Institute of Sociology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences said. “Results show that their sense of security about personal information and privacy has been going down,” the expert on social psychology said.

The law on data security also forces the public to think to which extent we can share our personal information as individuals, according to Wang.

The decline in a sense of security among the public goes hand in hand with the frequent network fraud and data leakage that have come along with Internet development. However, a huge amount of data is submitted by Internet users themselves. For example, when netizens browse the Web, their records are sent to enterprises for business analysis. Wang noticed that people’s worries are more concentrated on companies sharing that information with other institutes and authorities.

Fang Xing, a well-known expert on data security, thinks that the majority of private data leaks occurs during business activities. “You must inform users that you are collecting data and what they are used for.”

The Last Lesson

Guancha.gmw.cn

July 2

“Dear students, it is time to say goodbye... Being down-to-earth, you will create value for society at any post.” That is part in the speech delivered by Li Qian, a waitress in the canteen at Huazhong Agricultural University in Wuhan, Hubei Province. She was one of the guests participating in the graduation ceremony.

“No matter how busy you are working or studying, you should remember to eat on time,” she said. Her words moved many students about to leave campus.

Apart from this university, many colleges have forged a tradition that invites staff serving students, such as chefs, security guards and dormitory administrators, to attend graduation and witness one of the soon-to-be alumni’s most significant moments.

A solemn farewell, graduation is the last lesson students learn from their universities. Compared to leading figures in various industries, who can share their experiences, those working on campus can teach young people to accept being ordinary, which is the norm of life. Additionally, it is conducive to help them establish a healthy career outlook—all occupations are equal.

↓ PLA COMMANDER RECEIVES HIGHEST MILITARY RANK

Four senior military officers have been promoted to the rank of general, the highest rank for officers in active service in China. Xi Jinping, Chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), presented certificates of the orders he signed to them at a ceremony held by the CMC in Beijing on July 5.

Liu Zhenli, Commander of the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Ground Force, is one of them. With this promotion, Liu will become the youngest general to serve in the PLA.

Liu, born in 1964, enlisted in the PLA in September 1983.

The other three senior military officers being promoted are Commander of the Southern Theater Command of the PLA Wang Xiubin, Commander of the PLA’s Western Theater Command Xu Qiling and Commander of the PLA Strategic Support Force Ju Qiansheng.



“A truly liberal order would be more inclusive and take into consideration the values and interests of non-Western societies beyond Washington’s circle of like-minded partners.”

Wang Jisi, President of the Institute of International and Strategic Studies at Peking University, in an article featured on *China Daily*, on July 5

“The CPC has proven that the attainment of political power is primarily meant for bringing about a transformation in people’s livelihood and ensuring the people’s principal status as masters of the country.”

Imran Khan, Pakistani Prime Minister, addressing the Communist Party of China (CPC) and World Political Parties Summit, on July 6



LANG 10

COVER STORY

THE LOCOMOTIVE OF DEVELOPMENT

High-speed railways provide more than a means
of transportation By Tao Xing

Three drones circled the Jinan Yellow River Bridge on June 23 in Jinan, capital of Shandong Province, inspecting the segment of the Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway (BSHSR) passing through the city.

“New technologies such as 5G, big data, BeiDou navigation and satellite remote sensing are applied in operation management,” Yang Huaizhi, director of the department for equipment safety at Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway Co. Ltd. (BSHSR Co.), told *Beijing Review*.

The instruments on the drone scanned the bridge’s piers, which are