

OPINION: CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION P.28 | FEATURES: BOAO FORUM HIGHLIGHTS P.40

BEIJING REVIEW

VOL.68 NO.12 MARCH 20, 2025

北方周末 WWW.BJREVIEW.COM



EYES ON CHINA

Global attention on the Two Sessions

RMB9.00
USD1.70
AUD3.00
GBP1.20
CAD2.60
CHF2.60
JPY188

ISSN 1000-9140



9 771000 914253

邮发代号2-922·国内统一连续号: CN11-1576/G2

Follow CICG Americas

And get in on the conversation



BeijingReview



BeijingReview



@BeijingReview



China Hoy



China Hoje



CONTENTS

EDITOR'S DESK

02 Boosting Confidence

THIS WEEK

COVER STORY

12 Two Sessions, Many Opportunities

Key political event sparks global confidence in China's economy

16 Top Diplomat Meets the Press

A briefing at the Two Sessions on cooperation and global affairs

20 A New Journey of Grand Vision and Win-Win Multilateral Collaboration

The international community's expectations for the Two Sessions

Cover Photo: Journalists attend a press conference on the sidelines of this year's Two Sessions in Beijing on March 9 (WEI YAO)

©2025 Beijing Review, all rights reserved.

22 Fostering Greater Confidence in The Growth of the Global Economy

Innovative development is rapidly becoming innovative global leadership

24 The Global Significance of China's Technological Development

Taking stock of over four decades of rapid growth

OPINION

28 Deepening the Dialogue

Ideas on promoting exchange and improving international communication

30 A Tale of Two Speeches

A comparison of two leaders' visions for their respective countries

32 Will Higher Deficit-to-GDP Ratio Increase Fiscal Risks?

Proactive fiscal policy will provide stronger economic impetus

FEATURES

34 Looking Back and Looking Forward

Insights on recent economic achievements and future prospects

36 Legally Bound

Fine-tuning the law can drive the Greater Bay Area forward

38 Lifesaving Bonds

Cross-continental cooperation on cardiovascular care

40 Boao and Beyond

The forum charting Asia's economic future

42 Forging Stronger Ties

Bilateral forum promotes shared future with Mexico

CULTURE

46 Snapshots From the 2025 Two Sessions

A look inside China's peak political gatherings

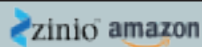
EXPAT'S EYE

48 A Window to Understand, a Door to Engage

The role of the Two Sessions within the international community



www.bjreview.com



Follow us on



YouTube

BREAKING NEWS » SCAN ME » Using a QR code reader





BEIJING REVIEW

A News Weekly Magazine
Published Since 1958

President: Li Yafang
Associate Editor in Chief: Liu Yunyun
Vice Presidents: He Peng, Gao Dingbo, Yu Shujun
Program Supervisor: Zeng Wenhui

Executive Editor: Yan Wei
Production Director: Yao Bin
Editors: Wang Hairong, Zhang Shasha, Lu Yan
Researcher: Lan Xinzheng
Editorial Consultants: Elsbeth van Paridon, G.P. Wilson
Reporters: Ji Jing, Kang Caiqi, Li Qing, Li Wenhui, Li Xiaoyang, Liang Xiao, Ma Miaomiao, Pan Xiaoli, Peng Jiawei, Tao Xing, Tao Zihui, Wang Jun, Wang Ruohan, Yuan Yuan, Zhang Yage
Photographer: Wei Yao
Art: Li Shigong
Design Director: Wang Yajuan
Chief Designer: Cui Xiaodong
Designer: Wang Boyan

Editorial Administrator: Zeng Wenhui
Planning Director: Xu Bei
Deputy Planning Director: Li Nan
World News Director: Ding Ying
World News Deputy Director: Li Fangfang
Director of Digital Media: Yu Shujun
Director of Strategic Research: Zan Jifang
Deputy Director of Strategic Research: Lu Ling

Administration: Zhang Yajie
International Cooperation: Sun Xuan
Legal Counsel: Yue Cheng

North America Bureau (New York City)
Chief: Yu Shujun

Executive Assistant: Zhao Wei
Tel/Fax: 1-201-792-0334
E-mail: yushujun@cicgamericas.com

Latin America Bureau (Mexico City)
Chief: Miao Ye

Tel: 52-55-55127271
Fax: 52-55-55332027
E-mail: chinahoyix@gmail.com

Peru Office (Lima)
Chief: Meng Kexin
Tel: 0051-959212702
E-mail: revistachinaperu@gmail.com

General Editorial Office
Tel: 86-10-68996252

Fax: 86-10-68326628
Editorial Desk

Tel: 86-10-68996250
Partnerships

Tel: 86-10-68995807
E-mail: yecong@cicgamericas.com

Distribution
Tel: 86-10-68310644
E-mail: circulation@cicgamericas.com

Published every Thursday by
CICG Center for Americas, 24 Baiwanzhuang Lu,
Beijing 100037, China

Overseas Distributor: China International Book Trading
Corporation (Guoji Shudian), P.O. BOX 399,
Beijing 100044, China
Tel: 86-10-68413849, 1-416-497-8096 (Canada)
Fax: 86-10-68412166

E-mail: fp@mail.cibtc.com.cn
Website: <http://www.cibtc.com>

General Distributor for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan:
Peace Book Co. Ltd.
17/F, Paramount Bldg, 12 Ka Yip St, Chai Wan, HK
Tel: 852-28046687 **Fax:** 852-28046409

Beijing Review (ISSN 1000-9140 USPS 2812) is published weekly
in the United States for US\$64.00 per year by Cypress Books,
360 Swift Avenue, Suite 48, South San Francisco, CA 94080
News Postage Paid at South San Francisco, CA 94080
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Beijing Review*,
Cypress Books, 360 Swift Avenue, Suite 48,
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Boosting Confidence

The growing global significance of China's economic and social development has placed its annual Two Sessions among the world's most-watched political events. These plenary sessions of the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee not only guide and report on China's domestic development, but also increasingly shape the role it plays around the world.

China contributes around 30 percent of global growth and the meetings have become a stabilizer of global economic confidence. The around 5-percent GDP growth target and policies promoting high-quality development, announced at this year's sessions, will enhance confidence in international markets and provide support for the recovery and sustainable development of the world economy.

The Two Sessions also provide the world with details on new and growing opportunities for commercial cooperation with China. At this year's meetings, China reaffirmed its commitment to the expansion of high-standard opening up, lifting all market access restrictions on foreign investment in the manufacturing sector and increasing market access in the service sector, so as to provide more market opportunities for global capital. China's huge

and continuously upgrading consumer market offers vast opportunities for global goods and services.

The Two Sessions also plan and report on new development approaches, offering experience that may be of value to other developing countries. Issues concerning people's wellbeing, such as healthcare and elderly care, are part of China's people-centered development approach and provide a reference for other countries. Additionally, the Two Sessions are part of China's whole-process people's democracy, illustrating how China realizes sustainable development through evidence-based planning and democratic decision-making.

The Two Sessions are also a platform for China to express its increasingly open and inclusive attitude, with the aim of inviting and facilitating cultural exchange and people-to-people ties between countries. China has adopted a diplomatic vision of peaceful development and calls for resolving international disputes through dialogue and cooperation. This vision has played an important role in global peace and stability.

The Two Sessions not only provide a guide for China's development, but also a window for the world to observe and better understand the country. **BR**



WRITE TO US

Send an e-mail: editorsoffice@cicgamericas.com

Please provide your name and address along with your submissions. Submissions may be edited.

CHINA.....RMB9.00 U.S.A.....USD1.70
AUSTRALIA.....AUD3.00 UK.....GBP1.20
CANADA.....CAD2.60 SWITZERLAND.....CHF2.60
JAPAN.....JPY188 EUROPE.....EUR1.90
TÜRKIYE.....YTL5.00 HK.....HKD9.30 NEPAL.....RS40

主管单位：中国外文出版发行事业局

主办单位：中国外文局美洲传播中心（北京周报社）

出版单位：中国外文局美洲传播中心（北京周报社）

地址：北京市西城区百万庄大街24号 邮编：100037

编委会：李雅芳 贺鹏 王宁 刘云云 高丁博 于淑均 曾文卉

主任：李雅芳

总编室电话：(010) 68996252 发行部电话：(010) 68310644

印刷：北京华联印刷有限公司

北京周报 英文版2025年 第12期 ISSN 1000-9140

国内统一连续出版物号：CN11-1576/G2 邮发代号：2-922

广告许可证0171号 北京市期刊登记证733号

国内零售价：人民币9.00元



SMALL HANDS, BIG IMPACT

A teacher and children water a seedling at a kindergarten in Qingdao, Shandong Province, on March 12, the National Tree Planting Day.

On the same day, the National Afforestation Commission released a communique on China's land greening status in 2024, highlighting the progress made over the past year.

According to the document, China completed the afforestation of 4.446 million hectares (ha), improved 3.224 million ha of land by planting grass, and reclaimed 2.783 million ha of desertified and sandy land in 2024. The forest coverage rate surpassed 25 percent, while the forest stock volume exceeded 20 billion cubic meters, it read.



Snap and Stay!

Tourists take a selfie at a homestay in Qianyuan Village of Sandu Town, Jiande in Zhejiang Province, on March 6. In recent years, the town has helped local residents increase their incomes by promoting seasonal sightseeing tours featuring mountain blossoms, camping sites and homestays.

Higher Life Expectancy

China's average life expectancy reached 79 years in 2024, a senior health official said on March 9, citing the latest data.

The average life expectancy in China increased by 0.4 years from 2023, Lei Haichao, head of the National Health Commission, told the press.

In 2024, China's life expectancy ranked fourth among 53 upper-middle-income countries and 10th among G20 countries, and surpassed the levels of 21 high-income countries, Lei added.

He attributed the rise to a series of strategies that prioritize health, including the Healthy China initiative, as well as Chinese people's healthy lifestyles and the influence of traditional culture.

According to Lei, the average life expectancy in eight well-off municipalities and provinces—Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, Shandong, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Guangdong and

Hainan—has exceeded 80 years.

He also said disparities in health levels among provincial regions are gradually decreasing, indicating that health equity is improving steadily.

The health official said while China still faces challenges from both infectious and chronic non-communicable diseases, there remains significant potential to increase life expectancy.

Nuclear battery

Wuxi Beita Pharmatech Co. Ltd. in Jiangsu Province said it had developed a prototype of ultra-longevity carbon-14 (C-14) nuclear battery, named Zhulong-1, in collaboration with Northwest Normal University in Gansu Province, Xinhua News Agency reported on March 12.

Zhang Guanghui, technology leader of the battery project, told Xinhua that the core innovation of Zhulong-1 lies in the use of C-14, a radioactive isotope. As C-14 decays, it emits beta particles that interact

with a silicon-carbide semiconductor, producing a steady flow of electrons.

The battery can operate steadily within a temperature range of minus 100 degrees Celsius to 200 degrees Celsius, with an energy density 10 times higher than commercial lithium-ion batteries, and a degradation rate of less than 5 percent over a designed lifespan of 50 years, said Cai Dinglong, head of the battery project. The batteries can be used in healthcare, the Internet of Things sector and space exploration.

Oil and Gas Field

The China National Offshore Oil Corp. (CNOOC), one of the country's oil giants, announced on March 6 that it has made a major breakthrough in the exploration of oil and gas in the Beibu Gulf Basin, having identified an oil and gas pay zone in its Weizhou

10-5 field.

In oil and gas exploration, the term "pay zone" refers to the hydrocarbon-producing interval, a geological layer within a reservoir rock where commercially viable amounts of oil or natural gas are found.

The Weizhou 10-5 oil and gas field is located in the Beibu Gulf of the South China Sea, with an average water depth of about 37 meters. An exploration well with a depth of 4,840 meters was drilled, CNOOC said.

The test results indicated the well can produce approximately 370,000 cubic meters of natural gas and 102 tons of crude oil per day, making it the first oil and gas discovery in the granite buried hills in the Beibu Gulf Basin.

The company has discovered large and medium-sized oil and gas fields in recent years in various types of buried hills offshore China, said CNOOC's CEO Zhou Xinhuai, adding that the discovery in the Beibu Gulf Basin will further help ensure the stable supply.

Photosynthesis Efficiency

A Chinese research team has developed a carbon-based nanomaterial from agricultural waste biomass that can enhance plant photosynthesis and potentially boost crop growth.

The researchers from Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Shanghai Jiao Tong University developed the carbon quantum dots, a carbon-based nanomaterial synthesized from agricultural waste biomass such as straw, leaves and weeds, *Science and Technology Daily* reported on March 10.

The new material converts ultraviolet light, which plants

cannot absorb, and green light, which they absorb inefficiently, into red light for more efficient absorption. It also excites electrons from absorbed photons to provide additional electrons for the photosynthetic electron transport chain, thus improving the photosynthesis efficiency.

Experiment results show that the glycerol-producing cyanobacteria have a 2.4-fold increase in carbon dioxide fixation rate and a 2.2-fold growth in glycerol production. Meanwhile, the biomass of Arabidopsis plant is increased by 1.8 times.

The material is highly promising for future agricultural production and solar-powered biomanufacturing.

Preliminary experiments show that the material can promote the growth of plants such as duckweed, peanuts, corn and soybeans.

High-Thrust Engine

A Chinese research team announced on March 10 that a newly developed space thruster has achieved full-power operation.

The 100 kilowatt (kw) high-thrust magnetoplasmadynamic thruster they tested is poised to pave the way for future space

travel, with applications in interstellar journeys, interplanetary cargo transport and deep-space exploration.

The engine is a plasma propulsion system, working by ionizing the propellant to create plasma, which is then accelerated by an electromagnetic field to form a high-speed particle stream, thus generating thrust, according to its designer Xi'an Aerospace Propulsion Institute.

The research team employed 3D-printed new materials and high-temperature superconducting magnet technology, enabling the engine system to achieve an effective input power of over 100 kw. Currently, the power level of such engines is typically in the tens of kilowatts.

This propulsion system can be used to provide a powerful and reliable thrust for China's large and extra-large spacecraft, according to the institute.

Archaeological Discovery

Archaeologists have recently discovered multiple Hongshan culture sites in the city of Lingyuan, Liaoning Province, according to the Liaoning Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, Xinhua reported on March 10.



Flower Power

Students present flowers to teachers during an event celebrating International Women's Day (March 8) at a primary school in Zaozhuang, Shandong Province, on March 7.

Through sample collection and analysis, these findings provide new evidence of the evolutionary process of Hongshan culture.

The recently found sites are located in the Wubaiding site complex, where archaeologists from the institute have conducted a systematic archaeological survey covering approximately 285,000 square meters.

During this survey, archaeologists collected pottery shards and stone artifacts from various periods and found a total of 53

sites, including 38 cultural remnants ranging from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age.

Hongshan culture is an important prehistoric archaeological culture dating back roughly 5,000 to 6,000 years. Its distribution covers three regions located in the west of Liaoning, the north of Hebei Province and the east of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Among these, Liaoning is the core area in terms of Hongshan culture distribution and the focal region for studying this culture.



New Milestone

A Long March-8 Y6 carrier rocket carrying 18 low-Earth orbit satellites blasts off from the Hainan Commercial Spacecraft Launch Site in Wenchang, Hainan Province, on March 12. The satellites, the fifth group for China's commercial Internet constellation Spacesail, have since entered their preset orbit. This achievement signifies China's first commercial spaceport is now fully operational with dual-pad capability.

THIS WEEK ECONOMY

Auto Output and Sales

China's auto industry recorded strong performance in February, with production and sales both recording double-digit growth, driven by strong market vitality and accelerated production activity, industry data showed.

Total auto output reached more than 2.1 million units that month, up 39.6 percent year on year, while sales climbed 34.4 percent year on year to nearly 2.13 million units, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers.

The association attributed the industry's strong momentum to the implementation of an expanded trade-in scheme for automobiles, along with rising demand driven by technological advancements and product upgrades.

The data also highlighted the continued strong performance of new-energy vehicles (NEVs), with sales surging 87.1 percent year on year to 892,000 units in February, accounting for 41.9

percent of total new vehicle sales in February.

NEVs refer to vehicles completely or mainly driven by new energy sources, including battery electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles and fuel-cell vehicles.

Forex Reserves

China's foreign exchange (forex) reserves reached nearly \$3.23 trillion by the end of February, up \$18.2 billion, or 0.57 percent, compared to late January, the State Administration of Foreign Exchange said in a statement.

The U.S. dollar index fell in February and global financial asset prices were mixed, influenced by macroeconomic policies and data from major economies as well as monetary policies and expectations of key central banks, according to the statement.

It attributed the increase in China's forex reserves in February to a combination of factors, including currency translation and changes in asset prices.

The Chinese economy has a solid foundation, enjoys multiple advantages, and exhibits strong resilience and great potential, all of which have contributed to the general stability of forex reserves, the statement added.

Foreign Trade

Despite external challenges, China's foreign trade demonstrated solid performance, structural improvements and resilience in the first two months of 2025, according to data released by the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC).

Total goods trade value reached 6.54 trillion yuan (\$912 billion) during this period, reflecting a moderate decrease of 1.2 percent from a year earlier, the data showed.

Lu Daliang, Director of the GACC's Department of Statistics and Analysis, said China's foreign trade remained "generally stable" in the January-February period, as different regions and departments actively responded to adverse effects resulting from the external environment.

After excluding the impact of incomparable factors, China's total goods imports and exports grew 1.7 percent year on year in the first two months of 2025, fully demonstrating the resilience of China's foreign trade development, Lu noted.

Exports rose 3.4 percent from the same period last year to reach 3.88 trillion yuan (\$537 billion), while imports dropped 7.3 percent to 2.66 trillion yuan (\$368 billion), the data revealed.

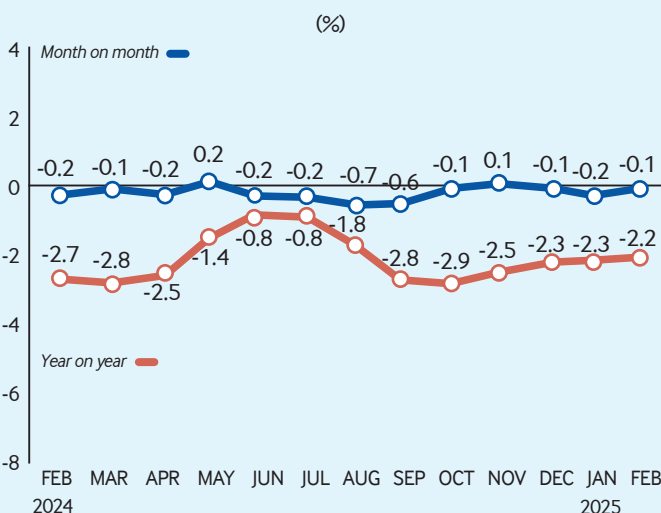
China's exports continued to show structural improvements in the first two months of the year. Exports of mechanical and electrical products rose 5.4 percent to reach 2.33 trillion yuan (\$322 billion), accounting for 60 percent of the total export value during this period.

Improvements in production and demand in the domestic manufacturing sector, meanwhile, spurred growth in imports of related products in the first two months of 2025, the GACC said.

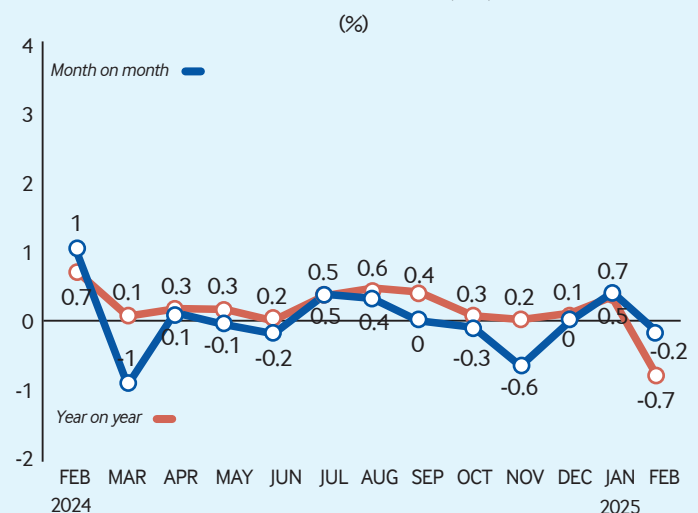
Sectors such as general equipment and electrical

NUMBERS

China's Producer Price Index Growth (%)



China's Consumer Price Index (CPI) Growth (%)



machinery and equipment experienced a notable acceleration in both production and demand, driving an increase in imports of related products, Lu said.

In the first two months, the total goods trade value of private enterprises totaled 3.69 trillion yuan (\$511 billion), a year-on-year increase of 2 percent.

This figure represented 56.4 percent of China's total foreign trade value during the period. Notably, imports and exports of hi-tech products by private enterprises amounted to a combined 624 billion yuan (\$86 billion), accounting for almost half of the total trade value of such products.

ASEAN remained China's largest trading partner in the first two months of 2025. During this period, trade between China and ASEAN countries reached a total of 1.03 trillion yuan (\$142 billion)—or 15.8 percent of China's overall trade value, the GACC said.

Sci-Tech Board

China will launch a sci-tech

board in its bond market to promote the issuance of sci-tech innovation bonds by financial institutions, tech firms and private equity investment institutions, Pan Gongsheng, Governor of the People's Bank of China, the country's central bank, told a press conference on March 6 on the sidelines of the Third Session of the 14th National People's Congress, the country's top legislature.

The sci-tech board will guide bond funds toward sci-tech innovation more effectively and at a lower cost, Pan said.

China will also optimize re-lending policies for sci-tech innovation and technological transformation this year, Pan said.

The country will further expand the scale of such re-lending from the current 500 billion yuan (\$70 billion) to up to 1 trillion yuan (\$138 billion) to better meet the financing needs of enterprises, Pan said.

He added that efforts will be made to maintain the intensity

of fiscal interest subsidies and effectively reduce corporate financing costs.

Pan also said China will develop new structural monetary policy tools, with a focus on supporting investment and financing in the sci-tech innovation sector.

Private Enterprises

The number of private enterprises in China had reached 56.707 million as of late January, data from the State Administration for Market Regulation showed.

This figure is 5.2 times that of 2012, the administration said.

In particular, the number of private hi-tech enterprises in China has soared from 28,000 in 2012 to over 420,000—with their proportion in the country's hi-tech enterprises rising from 62.4 percent to more than 92 percent, according to the data.

Improving Financial Services

The General Office of the State Council, China's highest state

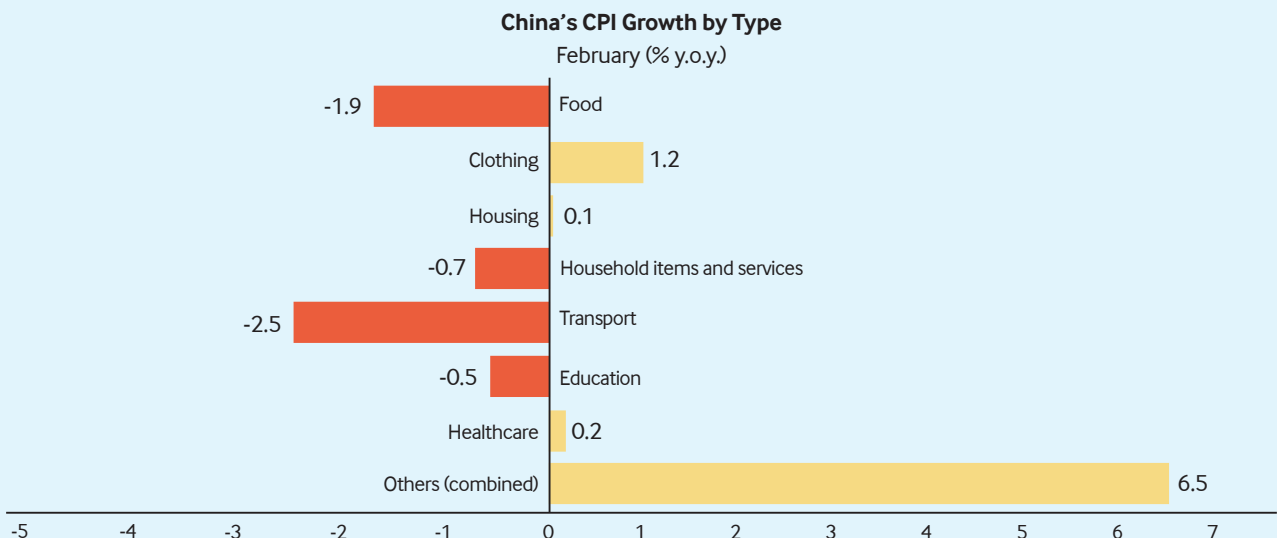
administrative organ, has issued guidelines to accelerate efforts to build China into a country with a strong financial sector and promote development in five major areas, namely, technology finance, green finance, inclusive finance, pension finance and digital finance.

Emphasizing the fundamental role of financial services in supporting the real economy, the guidelines called for strengthening coordination between financial policies and measures related to technology, industry, taxation and fiscal matters.

High-quality financial services will be provided to support major national strategies, key sectors and weaker links in the economy.

Efforts will be enhanced to cultivate new quality productive forces tailored to local conditions, according to the guidelines.

New quality productive forces refer to China's shift toward innovation-driven growth, technological advancement and high-quality development in different sectors of the economy.



(Source: National Bureau of Statistics)



SAUDI ARABIA

U.S. and Ukrainian delegations meet in Jeddah on March 11. Their talks concluded with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky accepting a 30-day ceasefire with Russia and Washington lifting its pause on military aid and intelligence sharing with Kyiv



REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Yoon Suk-yeol waves to supporters after his release from the Seoul Detention Center in Uiwang on March 8. Yoon was released as the prosecution decided not to appeal against the court's release approval



THE NETHERLANDS

A plane carrying former Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte arrives at Rotterdam The Hague Airport in Rotterdam on March 12. The International Criminal Court (ICC) said Duterte had been surrendered to its custody earlier that day





SOUTH AFRICA

A crew cleans the site of a bus accident in Gauteng Province on March 11. At least 12 people were killed and 45 others were injured



YPHINK



YPHINK



ITALY

China's Qi Guangpu attends a practice session before the 2024-25 FIS Freestyle Ski World Cup at the Livigno Aerials & Moguls Park in Livigno on March 11



PALESTINE

People gather to receive food aid at a charity kitchen in Jabalia refugee camp, north Gaza Strip, on March 11



YPHINK

THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

↓ ARCHITECT WINS WOLF PRIZE

On March 10, **Xu Tiantian** won the Wolf Prize in Architecture for her transformative architectural work in rural China. It is the first time a Chinese architect has won the award.

Born in 1975 in Fujian Province, Xu was inspired by the unique layered courtyards and interwoven corridors of traditional buildings in her home region. In 2004, Xu established her firm, DnA (Design and Architecture), dedicated to promoting sustainable rural development. By prioritizing collectivity and communal spaces, and integrating local materials, her work fosters economic, social and cultural transformation in rural areas, paving the way for innovative architectural practices in China.

Established in 1978, the Wolf Prize is an international award presented annually by the Wolf Foundation in Israel. It honors outstanding achievements in various fields, including physics, chemistry, medicine, mathematics and the arts, particularly in architecture, sculpture and music.



Lights, Camera, Attractions!

Guangzhou Daily
March 11

As Chinese films gain increasing popularity in the global market, many international travelers are choosing to visit real filming locations to get a deeper understanding of the country's cultural wonders. Hengdian, China's largest film and television shooting base in Jinhua, Zhejiang Province, saw an almost tenfold year-on-year increase in international tourists in 2024.

According to the 2025 Global Soft Power Index, China has overtaken the United Kingdom and become the second

most influential country in the world in terms of soft power, second only to the United States.

Chinese film studios should learn from top theme park brands such as Universal Studios and Disneyland by exploring how to merge the fictional worlds in their cinematic works with tourist attractions. This could help to unlock new territories with the country's consumer landscape.

As domestic titles venture deeper into international markets, a key challenge for Chinese filmmakers to tackle is how to transform individual box office successes into long-lasting world-class franchises through universal emotional appeal. This will also create new opportunities for cultural exchange.



The Chengdu Charm

Oriental Outlook
March 6

Ne Zha 2, a Chinese animated film based loosely on Chinese mythology, has become the sixth highest-grossing movie in worldwide cinematic history. While it is capturing hearts around the world, the movie's roots trace back to Chengdu, Sichuan Province, which is swiftly rising as a global hub of

“Now is the time for those of us who care about equality for women and girls to stand up and to speak out. Now is the time for the world to accelerate progress and deliver on the promise of Beijing.”

António Guterres, UN Secretary General, at the opening of the Commission on the Status of Women on March 10, calling for accelerating progress in gender equality and delivering on the promise of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted in 1995 that outlines a global agenda for the advancement of women

“The success of animation movie *Ne Zha 2* shows the success of the Chinese movie industry, success in bringing up the content that comes from Chinese mythology as well as partially from Chinese history, in bringing to the audiences that are not only Chinese but also Western audiences.”

Ivica Bakota, a Croatian sinologist and assistant professor at the Capital Normal University in Beijing, in a recent interview with Xinhua News Agency

innovation and consumption.

Chengdu has invested heavily in a wide range of future-oriented industries including artificial intelligence (AI), commercial flying cars, human-computer interfaces and quantum technology. In 2024, five of the city's locally developed AI models were granted national approvals, and it was the location of China's first successful flight of an electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft.

A series of adjustments to China's visa-free policies, along with enhanced mobile payment services, have fueled a surge of international travelers to the city. During the recently concluded Spring Festival holiday, which ran from January 28 to February 4, some 16,000 international travelers visited the city, a 200-percent increase from the previous year.

Behind the influx of international visitors is Chengdu's rise as a major transportation hub. In November 2024, the annual passenger throughput of Chengdu's two airports surpassed 80 million, which made the city China's third-largest aviation hub.

Today, the city stands at a pivotal moment in its transition from a city tucked away in China's west inlands to an international metropolis. To elevate its global standing, it must continue to push boundaries through industrial upgrades and technological advancements.

The Anti-Involution Revolution

People.cn
March 11

In recent years, the word *neijuan*, which literally translates into involution but accurately refers to rat-race irrational competition, has risen as an expression of Chinese youngsters' growing disenchantment because of the discovery that working hard no longer guarantees rewards.

In response, many companies have introduced campaigns aimed at addressing *neijuan* in the workplace. For instance, some

businesses have mandated that their employees leave the office by 9 p.m., while a few even turn the lights out in the entire office during off hours.

The fight against *neijuan* is not just about easing burdens on employees—it is also about helping businesses refine their strategies and avoid being locked in meaningless competition. In many industries, excessive competition has led to wasted resources and declining efficiency.

Now, more and more companies are taking crucial steps to break free from this vicious rat race. The real focus should be placed on fostering a culture of innovation, and not vicious competition.

↓ PRESIDENT OF NEW SCI-TECH UNIVERSITY

Chinese scientist and educator **Wang Shuguo** has assumed presidency of Fuyao University of Science and Technology (FYUST) in Fuzhou, Fujian Province, according to official information. FYUST announced on March 11 that it had received approval from the Ministry of Education for inauguration.

Wang, 67, is a well-respected expert in robotics. He began his career as a lecturer at Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT) and advanced through various positions due to his exceptional research and administrative skills. He served as president of HIT starting in 2002. In 2014, he was transferred to Xi'an Jiaotong University, where he held presidency for 10 years.



The establishment of FYUST, a research-oriented private university, was proposed by Cao Dewang, a Chinese billionaire and founder of Fuyao Glass Industry Group, the world's largest auto glass maker. The university aims to establish itself as a leading institution in science and engineering, with aspirations to rival Stanford University in the United States.

“China was once known as the ‘world’s export champion,’ driven largely by trade surplus. Now, its economy is primarily driven by domestic consumption and investment, demonstrating greater resilience and stronger self-balancing.”

Wolfram Elsner, a professor of economics at the University of Bremen and an expert on China, in a recent interview with Xinhua

“By engaging the entire population and building social consensus, China is providing a ‘Chinese approach’ for chronic disease prevention and control in other countries and regions around the world.”

Zhu Yi, an associate professor at China Agricultural University College of Food Science and Nutritional Engineering, following a recent announcement by China's National Health Commission that it would intensify a three-year campaign, aiming to enhance the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases



COVER STORY

TWO SESSIONS, MANY OPPORTUNITIES

The annual Two Sessions elevate global confidence in China's economic momentum

By Ma Miaomiao