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WEEKLY EDITION

International Cooperation

Key Issues Highlighted in BRICS Year of China

By Staff Reporters

Since the beginning of the 2022 BRICS Year of China, China has promoted efficient and pragmatic cooperation focusing on areas of practicing multilateralism, fighting against COVID-19, boosting economic recovery, and accelerating the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Key issues including poverty alleviation, sustainable development and people-to-people exchanges are highlights of China's work during its chairmanship. More than 170 activities are planned throughout the year, and more than 70 have been held so far. Fruitful results have been achieved, and recognized by BRICS countries.

To help achieve the goal of poverty eradication and zero hunger, China has carried out a series of cooperation on poverty reduction and food security to promote the development of agriculture and rural areas within other BRICS countries.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, the Human Development Index (HDI) has declined for the first time in 30 years, and more than 100 million people dropped into poverty and nearly 800 million people have lived in hunger worldwide, while China's program has made concrete contribution to safeguarding global food security.

BRICS countries are important producers and consumers of agricultural products in the world, and through cooperation, their potential of the agricultural sector can be unleashed to help solve the problem of famine, malnutrition and poverty, said Siddharth Chatterjee, UN resident coordinator to China.

Sustainable development is another key issue. China has launched the BRICS Initiative on Trade and Investment for Sustainable Development, and held dialogues and forums on digital economy and green investment, as well as carrying out a number of flagship joint research projects on sci-tech innovation.

Avijit Banerjee, head of the Department of Chinese Language & Culture at Visva - Bharati University, praised the BRICS countries for providing an inclusive platform for discussing global issues and helping to find a win-win solution.

China has also been committed to pushing forward closer people-to-people exchanges among the BRICS countries.

Since the Xiamen Summit in 2017, activities such as cultural festivals, film festivals, and sports events have been held to bring people's hearts and minds closer. Exchanges among parliaments, political parties, women, youth, media, local governments and organizations led to a deeper understanding of each other.

In May, the Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Culture adopted the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Agreement between the Governments of the BRICS States on Cooperation in the Field of Culture (2022-2026). All parties agreed to uphold inclusiveness and deepen cooperation in the field of culture, and contribute to the progress of human civilization.



An unmanned transport plane TP500 successfully completed its maiden flight on June 18. The TP500 was independently designed and manufactured by Aviation Industry Corporation of China. It has a maximum range of 1,800 km, with the capability of transporting a standard 500 kg load of cargo up to 500 km. (PHOTO:VCG)



The digital production line of transmission parts of vehicles in a smart factory in northwest China's Shaanxi province. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

Editor's Pick

A Decade of Glory: China's Industrial Development

By LU Zijian

With an average annual growth rate of 6.3 percent, China's industrial added value soared from 20.9 trillion RMB to 37.3 trillion RMB from 2012 to 2021, said Xin Guobin, vice minister of industry and information technology at a press conference on June 14.

The added value of the country's manufacturing industry also saw a big leap from 16.98 trillion RMB to 31.4 trillion RMB, with its proportion in the world rising from 20 percent to nearly 30 percent.

Meanwhile, apart from these impressive figures, these are great industrial achievements made over the past decade.

Greener industries

Apart from lifting the added value of industries, China has also been committed to green industrial development for the past decade, especially the reduction of energy consumption and carbon emissions.

Central China's Hunan province, for example, has witnessed a drop of 27 percent in the energy consumption per 10,000 RMB of value-added by industrial

enterprises above designated size since 2016. This means there were six million tons more of reduced carbon emissions than that of the previous year, on average during this period of time. The accumulated reduced carbon emissions for the past five years reached around 9,000 tons, equaling the carbon sink capability of 50,000 hectares of forest.

Green manufacturing has been implemented with the construction of a series of green factories, green industrial parks and green supply chain management enterprises.

In a cloth dyeing factory in Changzhou, east China's Jiangsu province, new equipment was adopted to atomize dye liquor by high-pressured air before it touches the cloth. "This new machine greatly reduced energy consumption, which was very high in traditional dyeing. With this new technology, the factory could save 200,000 tons of water and three million kWh of electricity per year," said Wang Cunshan, president of the factory.

Recycling of resources has also played an important role. In 2020, the comprehensive utility rate of general in-

dustrial solid waste reached 55.4 percent and the quantity of recycled and utilized renewable resources was about 380 million tons.

More intelligent

Digitalization has also made industries more intelligent, with industrial Internet and intelligent manufacturing as the most obvious manifestation.

At an intelligent factory in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang province, all 284 facilities operate automatically based on 5G+industrial Internet, said a person in charge of the factory, adding that the operation cost dropped by 15 percent and the yield rate increased to 99 percent.

According to Han Xia, chief engineer of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), industrial Internet has been applied to 45 categories of the national economy. The five national top-level nodes of industrial Internet now operate stably, and secondary nodes basically cover all provinces. More than 150 large industrial Internet platforms have been cultivated, and over 78 million pieces of industrial equipment have been connected within industrial Internet. *See page 3*

Embracing Energy Conservation, Green Lifestyle

By Staff Reporters

A series of activities were held to raise public awareness of energy efficiency and promote green lifestyles, so as to realize more sustainable growth and the goal of carbon neutrality, during the National Energy Efficiency Promotion Week (NEEPW) and National Low-carbon Day celebrated nationwide.

This year's NEEPW was held from June 13 to 19, with online exhibitions on China's energy conservation achievements and energy-saving technologies and practices, according to the National Development and Reform Commission

(NDRC).

In 2021, among nearly 1.58 million public institutions nationwide, the per capita comprehensive energy consumption, energy consumption per unit building area and per capita water consumption had decreased by 21.7 percent, 18.8 percent and 25.3 percent respectively compared with 2012, said NDRC.

Online lectures on energy conservation, video displays of low-carbon lifestyles and animated promotion of energy-saving information were also launched to spread relevant knowledge and encourage the public to participate in energy conservation and carbon reduction.

The 10th National Low-carbon Day on June 15, fell on the third day of the week-long energy-saving campaign.

In recent years, China has made steady progress in addressing climate change. Last year, China's carbon dioxide emissions of per unit GDP decreased by 3.8 percent year-on-year, 50.3 percent lower than that in 2005, said Zhao Yingmin, vice minister at the Ministry of Ecology and Environment during the event.

China will continue to actively respond to climate change, and integrate carbon peaking and carbon neutrality to overall socio-economic development, said Zhao.

World's First Desert Rail Loop to Bridge Regional Growth

By WANG Xiaoxia

With the Hotan-Ruoqiang railway formally put into operation on June 16, the world's first desert rail loop line, encircling the Taklimakan, China's largest desert, was completed, and will assist with the region's coordinated development.

The newly opened line stretches 825km from Hotan city to Ruoqiang county, with a designed speed of 120km per hour, brought an end to the unavailability of train services in five counties and certain towns in southern Xinjiang, and shortens the travel time for locals.

Built along the southern edge of the Taklimakan, the Hotan-Ruoqiang railway encounters sandstorms and shifting sand dunes. Therefore, anti-desertification and afforestation programs were carried out during the construction of the railway.

In the areas that experience severe sandstorms, five bridges, with a total length of nearly 50 kilometers, lift the rail line to prevent damage caused by the invasion of the desert.

The Taklimakan Desert rail loop line was completed with the inauguration of Hotan-Ruoqiang railway.

The 2,712-km loop, linking major cities in Xinjiang, including Aksu, Kashgar, Hotan and Korla, is expected to accelerate the development and rural vitalization in southern part of Xinjiang.

It will facilitate the transportation and transaction of Xinjiang agricultural products and minerals, and boost local tourism by providing tourists with faster access to the region's rich cultural heritage, such as the ancient cities of Niya and Andir.

By the end of 2021, Xinjiang had 8,151 kilometers of railway line in operation, transforming itself into a regional hub, and bringing benefits to the local population.

WEEKLY REVIEW

Asia's Largest Rail Transport Hub Opens

After four years of reconstruction, Beijing Fengtai Railway Station reopened on June 20. Covering 400,000 square meters and harboring 32 rail lines, the station is now Asia's largest rail transport hub. It adopts an overlapping rail design, which allows regular and high-speed trains, and subways to pass through the station at the same time.

Third Aircraft Carrier of China Launched

China launched its third aircraft carrier, the Fujian, in Shanghai on June 17. The carrier, named after Fujian province, was completely designed and built by China. It is the country's first domestically-made carrier that uses catapults.

China to Build 8 New National Atmospheric Background stations

By the end of 2025, China is expected to build eight new national atmospheric background stations, according to the China Meteorological Administration. The stations are established to monitor dozens of elements, including greenhouse gases, reactive gas ozone, aerosols and solar radiation.

Test for Engine of New Manned Carrier Rocket Successful

The long-distance and multiple ignition tests of a three-stage engine, which will be installed in China's new generation manned carrier rocket, have been successfully completed on June 14, indicating that it is ready to enter the next stage of prototype sample development, according to the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation.

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