

# Strong Support for Prosperity of NEV Industry

## Policy

By CHEN Chunyou

Developing new energy vehicles (NEVs) is one of China's commitments to combat climate change and promote sustainable development. After years of development, NEVs have become a new calling card for China, with ongoing government support providing a solid foundation for the prosperity of the NEV industry.

At a State Council executive meeting held on June 2, Premier Li Qiang stressed the importance of NEVs, as they represent the primary focus of the automobile industry's transformation and upgrading, offering significant development potential.

However, there are some urgent challenges to be addressed, which hinder NEVs' further development nationwide, such as the power battery's insufficient adaptability in low-temperature conditions.

According to a news briefing held on June 21 by the State Council Information Office, China will strengthen the support on the R&D of power batteries that could adapt to all-weather conditions, so as to meet the needs of consumers in high-altitude and cold regions, while developing cutting-edge materials to protect



China's 20 millionth new energy vehicle rolls off the assembly line in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong province on July 3, 2023, marking a new milestone for the country's NEV sector. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

against thermal runaway, to improve the safety of NEVs, said Xin Guobin, vice minister of industry and information technology.

Moreover, the recycling of electric vehicle batteries was also stressed, where industries and academic institutions can deepen technological cooperation to expand the value

of battery materials.

In addition, the country would also promote the applications of NEVs in key areas. In cities, the proportion of electric vehicles is to be improved in such fields as public transport, logistics, and sanitation. Meanwhile, to expand the rural market of NEVs, automobile enterprises are encouraged to develop more car

models applicable in rural regions, such as heavy trucks, to activate rural consumption potential.

To cater to the rapid development of the NEV industry and meet increasing charging needs, a guideline, released on June 19 by the General Office of the State Council, proposed to build a well-structured charging network before 2030.

The guideline specifically vowed to improve coverage of charging piles in old and new residential communities, parking lots, gas stations, tourist attractions and expressway service areas, while phasing in charging infrastructure in rural areas.

Of particular note, to further boost domestic sales in this sector, China has extended its tax exemption policy for NEV purchases until 2027, which was initially set to expire in 2023, according to a plan jointly released by the Ministry of Finance, State Taxation Administration, and Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.

Vice Minister of Finance, Xu Hongcai, said a tax deduction for purchasing eco-friendly vehicles is expected to amount to 520 billion RMB (72.3 billion USD) from 2024 to 2027. This will create a more stable environment for consumers and manufacturers, and allows them to invest in and embrace the transition toward green transformation.

# Lhasa Forum to Boost Xizang's Digital Economy

By LIANG Yilian

Lhasa, the capital of Southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region, aims to revitalize its digital economy with a project that includes constructing national computing centers and intelligent computing platforms, *The Beijing News* reported.

To boost the digitalization drive, Beijing hosts the Global Digital Economy Conference (GDEC) 2023 from July 4 to 7. Themed "Data Driven Development, Intelligence Leading the Future," the event will have six summit forums.

The GDEC 2023 Lhasa Summit Forum, focusing on "Digital Bridges Cross-

ing the Himalayas", is held in Lhasa during the conference. The forum is bound to come up with more innovations and plans to stimulate Xizang's economic development.

As the development of China's eastern and western areas remains unbalanced, the central government has been working to address the issue. To promote the coordinated development of all regions and achieve common prosperity, the east-data-west-computing project was launched in 2022, which aims to channel more computing resources from the developed eastern regions to the less-developed yet resource-rich western regions.

"Most of China's computing infra-

structure is distributed in the eastern regions at present, while the western regions have the potential to foster the development of data centers and meet the needs of data computing in the eastern regions," Yu Xiaohui, head of the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, told *China Daily*.

Xizang has considerable advantages in developing a digital economy. The annual average temperature in Xizang is lower than in other regions comparatively, which will facilitate dissipation of heat generated by big data centers, an official of the Economic and Information Department of Xizang told China Tibet Online. Besides, the dry and clean pla-

teau air has low sulfur dioxide content, which will help extend the service life of the servers.

Abundant clean energy is another important factor. Xizang has a technically exploitable quantity of hydropower resources of 174 million kW, ranking first in China in this respect, according to a white paper on ecological progress on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. The region is also rich in solar energy, geothermal energy and other forms of green energy.

A series of digital economy projects have already been implemented. According to published information, Xizang's industrial and digital output accounted for 19 percent of its GDP in 2022.

# Social Organizations in Sci-tech Sector Thriving in China

By LI Linxu

China has more than 40,000 social organizations in the field of science and

technology, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs (MCA).

Among them, there are 236 national-level organizations, and 17 interna-

tional sci-tech organizations.

Social organizations have become an important force in building a sci-tech powerhouse, said an official from MCA.

The ministry has always attached great importance to the high-quality development of social organizations in the field of science and technology, rolling out a series of preferential policies, financial support measures, and talent incentive mechanisms, according to MCA.

With the country's rapid development of science and technology, all forms of sci-tech organizations are thriving in China. This is demonstrated not only by the number of such organizations, but also by the number of their activities and the internationalized level of such activities.

Last year, national-level sci-tech organizations held more than 7,000 academic seminars and took part in more than 1,000 international exchange activities, effectively facilitating disciplinary research, academic exchanges, science popularization and talent cultivation.

Meanwhile, more and more Chinese scientists and researchers have participated in the activities of or been involved in setting up international sci-tech organizations.

Of particular note is that Beijing is pooling resources to build a cluster for the headquarters of international sci-tech organizations, taking measures catering to the needs of these organizations for infrastructure, finance, personnel exchanges and services.

It has already attracted a number of international sci-tech organizations to settle in Beijing, such as the International Hydrogen Fuel Cell Association, the World Robot Cooperation Organization, and the International Coalition of Intelligent Manufacturing.

China vowed to expand science and technology exchanges and cooperation with other countries, cultivate an internationalized environment for research, and create an open and globally-competitive innovation ecosystem, as per the 20th CPC National Congress report.

consensus and ultimately reach rules that reflect the will of all countries and respect the interests of all parties, said Shenjian, deputy director-general of the department of arms control of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## Traditional Culture Nurtures Digital Civilization

From page 1  
Open and inclusive

"Harmony in diversity" is also the essence of traditional Chinese culture,

which is conducive to promoting mutual learning, exchanges and collaboration in resolving global problems.

Following the principles of open-

ness, inclusiveness, cooperation and mutual learning, China will continue to participate in discussions under the UN framework to promote more

## Case Study

# Innovative Qingdao Attracts Foreign Experts

By ZHONG Jianli

"The living and working environment here is very comfortable and flexible, with friendly people and great food," said John Blain, a Canadian supply chain management expert working for Hexagon, a leading supplier of measurement systems in Qingdao, the Chinese port city in east China's Shandong province.

Nishizawa Norihisa, a Japanese air conditioner expert with Hisense-Hitachi, a Sino-Japanese joint venture, echoed him, saying Qingdao has a fascinating environment and convenient transportation.

Qingdao boasts a strategic geographic position with a well-developed transportation infrastructure, which includes an airport, port, expressway and subway. The pleasant weather is a bonus.

Over the years, the city has been making efforts to attract foreigners to live, work or start their businesses here.

The International Talents Community in the China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone Qingdao Area is one of the many measures.

"We provide extensive services for international talents working in Qingdao, including work permit and residence permit application, international relocation, legal and financial consulting services," said Liu Dechao, chairman of Qingdao Talent and Enterprise Service Group, the operator of the community. "Our aim is to create a convenient and supportive environment so that international talents feel assured living and working in Qingdao."

Kerstin Kaehler, a German who has been working in China for over 20 years and is now the general manager of the German Enterprise Center at the Sino-German Ecopark in the free trade zone, said her company has grown with the Eco-



Part of the master plan of the China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone Qingdao Area. (PHOTO: ZHONG Jianli/S&T Daily)

## Background Station Aids Global Pollution Control

From page 1

Staff go outside three times a day for observation work; each time they must follow strict time requirements, said Huang Jianqing, an observation staff member of the Waliguan Station, who notes that certain factors related to the climate may have already changed even if they arrive one minute late.

Another staff member, Zhao Yucheng, said that in the early years of the station, every time they went up the mountain for their shift, they purchased food in advance that could sustain them for at least 20 days. He said they would need to make over 20 turns along a 7-kilometer-long mountain road in order to get to the mountaintop where the station lies.

Within duty time, they must pay meticulous attention to each section of work, including monitoring the weather, inspecting devices and collecting atmospheric samples. Any subtle mistakes in these processes could lead to incorrect observation results.

Green dividends

Some disagreed at the early stages with the decision of building a background station in such harsh conditions, worrying about the effect on the

park over the past decade. She witnessed more and more foreign enterprises chose to run their businesses from here.

The Ecopark is a demonstrative cooperation project for sustainable development jointly developed by the Chinese and German governments.

Apart from favorable policies, the city's strength in innovation also plays an important role in attracting global talents.

According to the annual Global Innovation Index released by the World Intellectual Property Organization in 2022, Qingdao improved its ranking by 12 places as a science and technology cluster. It was also described as the fastest growing cluster with its sci-tech output increasing by over 25 percent.

Qingdao has 54 national-level innovation platforms in such areas as high-speed train, intelligent home appliances and virtual reality.

Li Chuanying, director for technical cooperation at CRRC Qingdao Sifang Company, said due to the company's expertise in developing high-speed trains, they have many international cooperation projects with foreign experts' participation.

"Young Chinese engineers are energetic and eager to learn. I like to work with them and tap their potentials for innovation," said Toshinori Noda, a Japanese senior technology strategy expert working in Haier, a renowned home appliances manufacturer.

Talking about their future in Qingdao, some foreign experts said they want to learn the Chinese language and know more about the Chinese culture through training sessions or activities so that they can better adapt to life in China. Some wished when going to hospital or handling some procedures, more communication or manuals could be in English as well.



Experts from a sci-tech social organization guide farmers on scientific breeding of Hu sheep, Changhua town, Hangzhou city. (PHOTO: XINHUA)