



# Science and Technology Daily

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## Spring Festival Address

## Forging Ahead in the Year of Dragon

As we celebrate the Chinese New Year, it is an apt time to reflect on the bygone year.

In 2023, as part of its innovation-driven development strategy, China has seen major achievements in science and technology. They include the domestically-developed C919 large passenger airline entering into commercial service, the first domestically-built large cruise ship Adora Magic City completing its maiden voyage, and the two spacecrafts Shenzhou 16 and 17 successfully sending taikonauts to the Chinese space station, where the space mission baton was passed to them by the crew of Shenzhou 15.

We are delighted to have reported the feats of a more open, inclusive, dynamic and innovative China to a much wider readership at home and abroad.

The past year yielded notable results for Science and Technology Daily too. We celebrated a milestone with our 100th issue and we thank our loyal readers for their congratulatory notes.

We also produced a new in-depth interview video series, Youth on Tech, where young scientists from around world discussed the trending sci-tech topics. In this way, we are trying to build closer connections among Gen Zers, those born in the 1990s and early 2010s, of different nationalities and cultural backgrounds. We believe frank and candid talk among young people will enhance mutual understanding and trust in bilateral relations, contributing to building a community with a shared future.

In order to present a true, multidimensional and panoramic image of China, our journalists have fanned across the country to cover how the Chinese government is serving the people and how the people are creating a better life for themselves with their diligence.

To bridge the East and the West, we have dedicatedly reported about foreign experts working and living in China, and provided information on how to visit and reside in China.

The dragon symbolizes luck and success. At the beginning of the Year of the Dragon, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to you. Your unwavering support and engagement gave us vivid and inspiring stories.

We would also like to send you lots of positive vibes and hope they bring you plenty of good luck and success.

The Editorial Office



Tourists attend the Universal's Chinese New Year event at Universal Beijing Resort. (PHOTO: VCG)

## China Open for Foreign Talents Around the World

China's development is open, and the country welcomes talents from all over the world, Chinese Premier Li Qiang said in Beijing on February 4.

Li made the remarks when meeting with the 2023 Chinese Government Friendship Award winners and the representatives of foreign experts that work in China ahead of China's Lunar New Year.

Li extended New Year wishes and sincere greetings to the foreign experts and their relatives, and thanked them for their long-term care and support for China's development.

He also listened carefully to the experts' opinions and suggestions on China's development and government work.

Experts from Switzerland, Germany, Brazil, the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Russia and other countries made speeches on scientific and technological innova-

tion cooperation, green development and personnel training.

Li commended the important role of foreign experts in promoting China's economic and social development and people-to-people exchanges.

Noting that China is advancing its modernization drive with high-quality development in an all-round way, Li said China is a vibrant land of development full of opportunities, which will provide broad space for foreign experts and other talents for their own development.

He expressed the hope that foreign experts would continue to participate deeply in China's development, give full play to their talents on the big stage of Chinese-style modernization, and continue to serve as a bridge of communication between China and the rest of the world.

The Chinese government will con-

tinue to improve relevant policies, further facilitate personnel exchanges, strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights and other rights and interests, and create a better environment for foreign talents to work and live in China, Li said.

Prior to the meeting, Chinese State Councilor Shen Yiqin presented the Friendship Award to the honorees and delivered a speech at the awarding ceremony, which was held at the Great Hall of the People.

The Friendship Award is an award to commend foreign experts who have made outstanding contributions to China's reform and development. Fifty foreign experts received the 2023 Chinese Government Friendship Award.

Source: XINHUA

## China-Brazil Ties in 50 'Golden Years'

### International Cooperation

By LIANG Yilian

On January 23, the Chinese Embassy in Brazil released a logo jointly designed by China and Brazil to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations this year.

For 50 years, the two countries have worked together in various areas and made substantial achievements.

#### Agricultural cooperation

China has been Brazil's largest trading partner, export market and source of trade surplus for 15 consecutive years. Brazil is China's largest trading partner in Latin America.

Agricultural products like soybean and beef comprise a major part of the China-Brazil trade. According to the Brazilian Embassy in China, over 20 percent of the agricultural products China imported in 2022 were from Brazil.

In 2022, China imported a total of 2.69 million tonnes of beef, of which 1.11 million tonnes were from Brazil, accounting for 41 percent of the total beef imports, which made it China's largest foreign beef source, according to the General Administration of Customs of China.

#### Beyond trade

The China-Brazil partnership goes beyond trade, ranging "from soybean to space."

In December 2019, the China-Brazil Earth Resources Satellite-04A, jointly developed by the two countries, was successfully launched.

In August 2021, the space agencies of the five BRICS nations - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - signed an agreement for cooperation on BRICS remote sensing satellite constellation for economic and social development.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's state visit to Beijing in April 2023 resulted in 15 agreements and over 10 billion USD of Chinese investment. The cooperation between the two countries has expanded from trade to space collaboration, research and innovation, digital economy, information technology, automotive industry and renewable energy.

#### Next golden 50 years

China and Brazil will take the 50th anniversary of their diplomatic relations as an opportunity to forge the next "golden 50 years" of bilateral relations, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on January 19.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remarks during a joint press conference.

He called on both sides to jointly lift the China-Brazil comprehensive strategic partnership to a new level and make it a model of unity, cooperation, mutual benefits and win-win results among major developing countries.

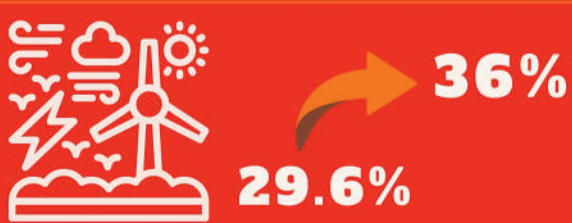
"Our relationship with China is extraordinary, and it has become more mature and stronger over time," President Lula said when he visited China in April 2023. "Nobody can stop Brazil from continuing to develop its relationship with China."



Brazilians check out agricultural machinery made in China in Brazil on February 2. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

## New Graphic

### Progress in Clean Energy (2022-2023)



The proportion of wind and solar power in China's total installed capacity



The proportion of coal power in China's total installed capacity fell below 40 percent

Source: China Electricity Council  
Designed by YAO Yilu / Science and Technology Daily

## Editor's Pick

## Bringing Mangrove Forests Back to Life

By LIN Yuchen

Mangrove forest trees with their characteristic red bark serve as vital "marine green lungs." They mitigate coastal erosion, purify seawater, and provide habitats for diverse marine life. Yet despite their importance, global mangrove ecosystems are facing a decline in area and functionality.

A report by the United Nations Environment Programme in April 2023 revealed a 3.4 percent decrease in global mangrove coverage since 1996, with a net loss of 5,245 square kilometers. However, China has emerged as one of the few countries to witness a net increase in mangrove areas in recent years.

#### Restoring mangrove ecosystems

Professor Lu Changyi at Xiamen University, Fujian, has been at the forefront of mangrove research since the

1980s. His pioneering work, alongside his mentor, Professor Lin Peng, laid the foundation for mangrove conservation and restoration in China.

"In the early years, we found that the mangrove plant species surviving in the Xiamen and Zhangzhou areas were very limited. The coastline soil types were diverse, and the living environment was complex. Only by increasing biodiversity could mangrove communities become more stable," said Lu.

In 1987, Lin Peng's team began introducing mangrove varieties from Hainan province to the Jiulong River estuary in Fujian.

"We spent six years overcoming the technical difficulties of mangrove introduction through artificial domestication and natural selection, allowing cold-resistant varieties such as *Avicennia marina* and *Bruguiera gymnorrhiza* to successful-

ly cross five dimensions and ultimately survive in Fujian," said Lu. Based on this practice, the research team was the first to propose using physiological and biochemical indicators as the basic principles for mangrove northward migration and afforestation site selection in China.

They established a technical system based on indicators such as tree species, tidal levels, tidal flow, salinity and soil for selecting suitable afforestation sites. This system, like a manual for mangrove northward migration, provided theoretical foundations and technical support for mangrove afforestation and ecological restoration in China.

#### Harmonious conservation and livelihoods

However, the journey towards mangrove conservation hasn't been devoid of challenges.

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WECHAT ACCOUNT



E-PAPER

