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Reform and Opening-up Provides More Opportunities

By Staff Reporters

China watchers keenly observed the third plenary session of the 20th Communist Party of China Central Committee held in Beijing from July 15 to 18 to gain insights into Chinese leader Xi Jinping's perspective on deepening reforms. Many felt that under Xi's leadership, China will reaffirm its commitment to reform and opening-up.

According to Finland's *Helsinki Times*, Global South countries are looking to China for major reform measures that could create new opportunities amidst rising geo-economic tensions.

The European media platform Modern Policy commented on China's ability to address the challenges in real estate, employment and domestic consumption through reform. It said China continues to expand high-level external opening-up, promote high-quality joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and work together with others to implement the Global Development Initiative. Its practical cooperation in the fields of trade, economy, energy, infrastructure, agriculture and advanced technology leads to common progress and development, with tangible benefits for the Southern countries in particular.

Singapore's Channel News Asia said Chinese policymakers are banking on the development of new and cutting-edge technologies to drive growth. This includes biotechnology, green energy, AI and the aerospace industry.

Pakistan Post reported politician Ahsan Iqbal as saying that the world is in the stage of the fourth industrial revolution, and new technologies are changing the basic mode of development. China's economy is changing from labor-intensive to technology-driven, making remarkable progress. This is not only a good thing for the Chinese but also for friends of China.

Xinhua reported Nigerian scholars as saying that China's reform has not only contributed to global prosperity, but also provided valuable experiences for other developing countries striving for progress.

Charles Onunaju, director of the Centre for China Studies in Nigeria, said, "We've seen that China is already making a significant impact in advancing reform." China is engaging the rest of the world and sharing its prosperity with them.

Sheriff Ghali Ibrahim, director of Contemporary China-Africa Research, University of Abuja, said Nigeria has been benefiting from Chinese reforms and the outcomes of the BRI. "We are seeing more job opportunities for Nigerian people. We're getting more infrastructure built up in Nigeria. We are seeing distance reduced. We are having the speed train technology," he said.



The Paris Olympic Village, a 54-hectare site located by the Seine River in France. The 2024 Paris Olympic Games take place from July 26 to August 11. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

Editor's Pick

Chinese Sports Products Shine at Paris Olympics

By LI Linxu

As athletes from around the world are ready to shine at Paris Olympics, Chinese suppliers are also making a splash at the quadrennial event.

From balls to bicycles, and from weightlifting equipment to court flooring, an increasing number of Chinese suppliers are visible at the Olympics.

The highly-anticipated table tennis events are scheduled to take place from July 27 to August 10. While Chinese players are a major force to win the titles, Chinese suppliers are also ubiquitous in the arena.

The balls are being supplied by a Chinese sports equipment manufacturer from south China's Guangdong province. They underwent 15 quality checks before being shipped to Paris, ensuring that they more than meet the standards

set by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

The table tennis tables are provided by a sports equipment maker from Shanghai. The dazzling tables retain the essence of a classic rainbow design, with a black base, a vibrant pink outline, and a cutting-edge lighting system. The blend of tradition and innovation has received high praise from the Paris Olympic Committee and special approval from the ITTF.

The table tennis flooring is manufactured by an innovative enterprise based in north China's Hebei province. Using recyclable rubber materials, the tech-heavy flooring was engineered for optimal traction and shock absorption.

The growing presence of Chinese suppliers can be seen in other arenas as well.

As the International Weightlifting

Federation's sole official supplier for the Paris Olympics, a sports equipment manufacturer from Hebei is a heavy-weight player in the weightlifting arena.

During the Games, it will provide competition weightlifting platforms, competition barbells, warm-up weightlifting platforms and other weightlifting equipment for the training venue. Using technological innovation, the company has significantly reduced various deviations in barbells, garnering praise from athletes.

In the football matches, Chinese-manufactured football bladders with embedded chips can do 500 identifications per second, assisting referees in determining handballs and offsides.

As the Games start, Chinese suppliers are also gearing up to showcase their best and make the Paris Olympics a platform for their going-global push.

AI Powers Athletes' Training

By GONG Qian

Shanghai University of Sport (SUS), in collaboration with Shanghai University and Chinese tech giant Baidu, has recently launched an AI model for the sports industry, the first of its kind in China.

The model comprises three vertical large models. The first one gleans information from sports literature worldwide to answer sports-related questions.

The second one specializes in motion recognition and tactical analysis. It can automatically analyze videos and images from sports training and produce detailed analyses of human postures in 2D and 3D. It can also provide quantifiable indicators es-

essential for further bio-mechanical assessments, such as distance, speed, height, and angular velocity.

Currently, this model is used by Chinese national teams in different sports including diving, swimming, track and field, gymnastics and rock climbing. It is also being used to assist athletes in their daily training and preparations for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

The third one is a large multimodal model, which integrates text, audio, video, 3D, and analysis by the other two models to answer sports-related questions, analyze technical movements, generate AI commentary and offer personalized courses.

In an interview with a local media, Professor Li Yongming of SUS explained how the AI models can im-

prove the performance of athletes. In sports such as diving or swimming, coaches traditionally rely on post-session video analysis. But now AI provides real-time analytical data as soon as an athlete dives into the water or emerges from it, significantly increasing training efficacy.

Similarly, China's national basketball team has partnered with AI software company SenseTime. The latter can construct 3D court models and use 3D motion capture algorithms to analyze the real-time motion status of all players in the court and the trajectory of the ball.

Additionally, the AI model is used for data statistics and game video processing, supporting training strategies and competitive tactics.

A University's Blooming Success with Azalea

By Staff Reporters

Azaleas, known as the "Yingshanhong" flower after a hit song in 1970s, bloom in the Jinggangshan region in eastern Jiangxi province in early spring, between February and March. The flowering period originally lasted for just over a month. But today you can see the red flowers in full bloom even during scorching July, thanks to Jinggangshan University (JGSU) researchers who spent 13 years developing a technology that makes azaleas bloom throughout the year.

Breaking the sleeping spell

In 2011, Hu Xuehua, a senior experimentalist at the JGSU, began to work on "making azaleas bloom in winter and summer." The first challenge was to identify the factors affecting the flowering season. Azaleas prefer a cool environment and become dormant when temperatures rise above 30°C. Under natural conditions, they break dormancy during low winter temperatures.

The team initially tried using cold storage facilities to simulate winter conditions. However, they could advance the flowering period by only about a month.

"It was still too short," Hu told *Science and Technology Daily*. After extensive exploration, the team discovered that azaleas are very light-sensitive. Excessive sunlight can wither and kill them. This led Hu to propose a new idea: changing the time the flowers bloom by controlling their exposure to light.

Finding the best formula

The JGSU's biological park flower control room has rows of hanging lights. "By adjusting the number of lights, changing the height of the light source and other methods, we make the light intensity change at different times of the day," Hu said.

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WEEKLY REVIEW

Molecular Water Found in Lunar Soil

Chinese scientists have discovered molecular water in the lunar soil samples collected by the Chang'e 5 mission, for the first time. An unidentified mineral crystal from the moon, called ULM-1, was found to be rich in water and ammonia molecules. The discovery offers new light on how the moon evolved and its resource potential.

Moon Landing Engine Clears Test

A new type of engine designed to propel the third stage of China's future manned lunar landing rockets, which runs on liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen, completed its long-duration test in a mock high-altitude environment, the Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation Sixth Academy said on July 23. The success will facilitate smooth development of China's manned lunar exploration project.

New Record for Deep Lake Drilling

A China-led international scientific research team drilled seven holes in the bottom of Namtso Lake in Xizang autonomous region as part of the Namtso International Continental Scientific Drilling Program. Completed on July 17, it drilled 510.2 meters deep at the last hole, setting a new record for the deepest lake drilling in China.

7th Person Likely Cured of HIV

A 60-year-old German man is likely the seventh person to be cured of HIV after receiving a stem cell transplant, doctors announced on July 18. The treatment method brings hope for finding an HIV cure for all patients.

Method to 'Speak' Using Thought Power

An international research team has developed an AI method that enables paralyzed and silent patients to "speak" using the power of thought. Depth electrodes implanted in a participant's brain transmitted electrical signals to a computer, which then vocalized the syllables.

Biggest Ancient Ice Facility to Go Green

The world's largest repository for ice cores is set to get an upgrade. Its refrigeration system is switching from banned coolants that can harm the ozone layer to a more environmentally friendly technology.

New Graphic



WECHAT ACCOUNT

E-PAPER

