

Science and Technology Daily

VOL.5-NO.213

OCTOBER 25-26, 2025

CPC Plenum Adopts Recommendations for China's 15th Five-Year Plan

The 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) convened its fourth plenary session in Beijing from October 20 to 23, 2025.

Participants at the session listened to and discussed a report on the work of the Political Bureau, presented on its behalf by General Secretary of the Central Committee Xi Jinping. They also deliberated over and adopted the Recommendations of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China for Formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development. Xi Jinping made explanatory remarks on the draft recommendations.

At the session, the Central Committee fully affirmed the work of the Political Bureau since the third plenary session of the 20th Central Committee.

Participants at the session gave a positive assessment of China's major development achievements during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025), which has marked a momentous and extraordinary period in our country's development.

At the session, the Central Committee established the following guiding principles for economic and social development during the 15th Five-Year Plan period: upholding the Party's overall leadership; putting the people first; pursuing high-quality development; comprehensively deepening reform; promoting interplay between an efficient market and a well-functioning government; and ensuring both development and security.

The Central Committee also set the following major objectives for the 15th Five-Year Plan period: significant achievements in high-quality development; substantial improvements in scientific and technological self-reliance and strength; fresh breakthroughs in further deepening reform comprehensively; notable cultural and ethical progress across society; further improvements in quality of life; major new strides in advancing the Beautiful China Initiative; and further advances in strengthening the national security shield. Building on this, we will work hard for a further five years to see that by the year 2035 China's economic strength, scientific and technological capabilities, national defense capabilities, composite national strength, and international influence will all be markedly stronger, that its per capita GDP will be on a par with that of a mid-level developed country, that its people will live better and happier lives, and that socialist modernization will be basically realized.

It was noted that we should build a modernized industrial system and reinforce the foundations of the real economy. To this end, we should keep our focus on the real economy, continue to pursue smart, green, and integrated development, and work faster to boost China's strength in manufacturing, product quality, aerospace, transportation, and cyberspace. The share of manufacturing in the national economy should be kept at an appropriate level, and a modernized industrial system should be developed with advanced manufacturing as the backbone. We should upgrade traditional industries, foster emerging industries and industries of the future, promote high-quality, efficient development in the service sector, and develop a modernized infrastructure system. *See page 2*

Major Objectives for the 15th Five-Year Plan Period

◎ Significant achievements in high-quality development

◎ Substantial improvements in scientific and technological self-reliance and strength

◎ Fresh breakthroughs in further deepening reform comprehensively

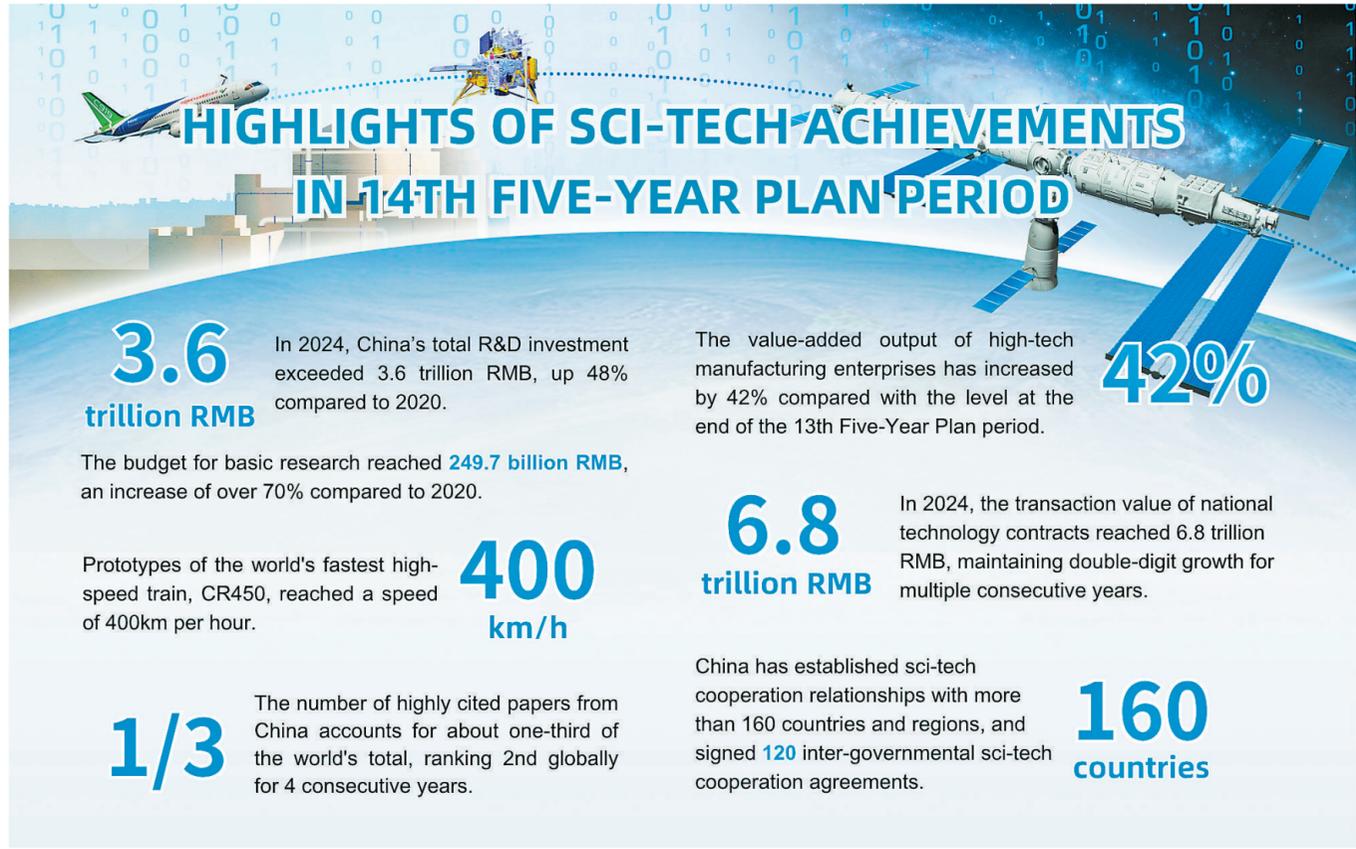
◎ Notable cultural and ethical progress across society

◎ Further improvements in quality of life

◎ Major new strides in advancing the Beautiful China Initiative

◎ Further advances in strengthening the national security shield

Building on this, we will work hard for a further five years to see that by the year 2035 China's economic strength, scientific and technological capabilities, national defense capabilities, composite national strength, and international influence will all be markedly stronger, that its per capita GDP will be on a par with that of a mid-level developed country, that its people will live better and happier lives, and that socialist modernization will be basically realized.



STI Frontier

15th FYP to Advance Innovation-driven Development

By Staff Reporters

A press conference held by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in Beijing on Friday on the recently concluded fourth plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee highlighted the need to raise innovation capacity to lead the development of new quality productive forces.

Yin Hejun, minister of science and technology, emphasized the crucial role of scientific and technological modernization in advancing China's progress during the 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030).

He said the ministry will deeply implement the innovation-driven development strategy, prioritize national strategic needs by deploying a range of major national scientific and technological tasks, and promote deeper integration between sci-tech innovation and industrial innovation.

The focus will be on ensuring total-factor productivity increases, injecting momentum into its efforts to

develop new quality productive forces and realize high-quality development.

Yin proposed four key areas of focus:

• **Continuously strengthening high-quality supply of science and technology**

National strategic needs and socioeconomic development demands will be coordinated, with efforts stepped up to implement major national science and technology programs. Strategic-oriented basic research will be advanced in a coordinated manner.

Innovation in key generic technologies, cutting-edge frontier technologies, modern engineering technologies, and disruptive technologies will be prioritized.

Self-reliant capabilities in scientific and technological infrastructure will be enhanced and coordination and interplay between strengths in strategic science and technology will be promoted. The delivery of major, landmark, and original scientific and technological achievements will be accelerated.

• **Supporting the construction of a modernized industrial system**

Sci-tech innovation and industrial development will be integrated to foster seamless alignment between innovation chains and industrial chains. Emerging industries in fields such as next-generation information technology and AI will be nurtured and expanded. Quantum technology, biotechnology, and other forward-looking sectors will be proactively planned and developed to stay ahead of the curve in future science, technology, and industry. Digital and intelligent technologies will be utilized to make industries intelligent, more eco-friendly, and integrated.

• **Comprehensively deepening reform of the science and technology management system**

Policy coordination will be strengthened to promote efficient synergy between science and technology with fiscal and taxation, finance, industry, education and talent development.

See page 4

Global Experts Applaud Sci-tech Achievements

By Staff Reporters

When Professor Enrico Zio, an Italian engineering system expert, first visited China in the early 2000s, he encountered a nation stepping up efforts to promote sci-tech development. Over the years, as he returned for academic collaborations regularly, he witnessed a profound transformation not in one field, but across the entire innovation ecosystem.

From smart cities and high-speed rail to breakthroughs in AI and clean energy, the scale and coherence of China's scientific advancement left a deep impression. "China's development in the sci-tech field is amazing, stimulating and frankly, reassuring," Zio said.

His observation reflects a growing consensus among international scientists. China's scientific and technological progress during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) has transcended national advancement to become a driving force for global innovation,

contributing to global sustainability, equity and shared progress.

Strategic, systematic, pioneering progress

International experts consistently describe China's scientific development in terms of long-term strategy and systemic coherence.

Professor Henry H. Radamson, a Swedish scientist at the Institute of Microelectronics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), said China now leads in many fields such as AI, space exploration, battery technology, biotechnology and renewable energy. The nation's ability to scale innovations rapidly and efficiently stands out.

Dr. Marie Luce Chevalier, a French-Belgian geoscientist at the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, underscored the ambition and integration driving this progress.

"In recent years, China's scientific innovation has been truly ambitious, especially in Earth sciences and

high-tech industries," she said. "The scale of national projects, from large geological surveys to major infrastructure developments like high-speed rail networks, shows how research and engineering are closely linked to solving real-world challenges. It has also been transformative both in terms of technology and in the way research is conducted."

Chevalier also pointed to the digital transformation of daily life. "At the same time, breakthroughs in digital technologies, including mobile payment platforms and advanced delivery logistics, have transformed everyday life and commerce, demonstrating China's ability to scale innovations rapidly and efficiently," she said.

Broader social implication

China's scientific achievements are not confined to laboratories. They are driving tangible improvements in health, energy, environment and culture.

See page 3