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Liu Shirong, executive member of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations

## Briefly

### BEIJING War-themed exhibition opens

An exhibition about China's role in the latter stages of the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1931-45) opened on Saturday in Beijing to mark the 81st anniversary of the start of China's comprehensive defense against the invaders. More than 120 photos and 281 objects are on show at the Museum of the War of Chinese Peoples' Resistance Against Japanese Aggression. An audiovisual presentation explains items in the exhibition. Songs about China's defense against the Japanese can be played, and letters written by 32 heroes to loved ones at home can be read by scanning a WeChat QR code. The exhibition will run until March.

### Booster tested for latest rocket

China has successfully finished the first joint hot-fire test of a new solid-fuel rocket booster engine and its servomechanism, the manufacturer said on Saturday. With a diameter of 2 meters, the booster engine is expected to be used on China's next generation of medium-sized carrier rockets, according to a China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp statement. A segmented design was used in the engine to make it China's most powerful solid-fuel engine, the statement said.

### Survey focuses on infant allergies

A joint survey was launched on Saturday to raise awareness of infant allergies in China. World Allergy Day fell on Sunday. The two-month survey will be conducted using Ivybaby — a child healthcare information app and consulting platform. The survey is expected to cover 50,000 parents. An earlier survey in 2014 showed that 40.9 percent of Chinese infants under 1 year old suffered from allergies.

### HUBEI Heritage park to be built

A large heritage park will be built at a neolithic site in Hubei province, local authorities said on Sunday. With an investment of more than 1 billion yuan (\$150 million), the heritage park will include the neolithic Shijiahe site and more than 40 other sites. A museum, an exhibition hall and a science and education museum will also be built in the park, which will cover an area of 8 square kilometers. It's scheduled to be completed and open to the public by the end of next year.

XINHUA

## Gathering of minds



Students from more than 90 universities from both sides of the Taiwan Straits assemble at the launch of a camp at Peking University related to making innovative products in Beijing on Saturday. About 200 students are participating in the annual event, which was initiated in 2015. It runs through July 18. ZOU HONG / CHINA DAILY

## Clean: Good ecology brings fortune

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Xi's letter has drawn wide and positive responses from conference participants and the public.

Olafur Grimsson, former president of Iceland, said at the forum he is impressed with China's recent commitment to green development. "In the past, we were not used to looking at China as a leading country in sustainable development, green development and clean energy. But all of those are becoming a reality right now," he told the forum.

Xiao Yongxian, a plum farm operator from Shi'erpan village in the Yanhe Tujia autonomous county in Guizhou,

said the environment is the most equitable public goods and the most universal benefit for people.

Li Gelin, director of the poverty alleviation office from Leishan county in Guizhou, said concepts like "clear waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets" and "ecological environment should be protected like our own eyes" have been widely accepted by both the local government and residents.

"Our county's 'all-for-one tourism' has witnessed healthy and proud development thanks to our good ecological environment," Li said.

Over the past years, Guizhou has become a good example of combining ecological civiliza-

tion construction with economic development, experts agreed at a sub-forum about ecological civilization and poverty elimination on Saturday.

Guizhou, which began with its ecological civilization construction efforts in 2007, has seen its GDP rise to 1.35 trillion yuan from 280 billion yuan (\$203.35 billion from \$42.17 billion) in 10 years. Its green economy accounted for 37 percent of its total GDP last year.

Guizhou province, along with Fujian and Jiangxi provinces, was approved by the central government to build an "ecological civilization pioneer zone" in 2016, and has since become a comprehensive experimental field for

reforms relevant to ecological civilization.

At the beginning of this month, Fanjing Mountain in Guizhou was added to the list of UNESCO World Natural Heritage sites. So far, the province has four UNESCO World Natural Heritage sites, the most of any Chinese province.

Gao Peiyong, vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said some underdeveloped and remote areas like Guizhou usually have rich ecological resources, and they should take full advantage of their potentials to help reduce poverty.

Contact the writers at liuziangrui@chinadaily.com.cn

## China to have 300 forest cities by 2025

By YANG JUN in Guiyang and YANG WANLI in Beijing

Adding more greenery to cities is a major component of China's future urban construction planning, with 300 State-level "forest cities" to be part of the country's ecosystem by 2025, the forestry authority said on Friday.

Two-hundred State-level forest cities and six city clusters will be developed in the next two years, according to a national development plan released by the State Forestry and Grassland Administration. China has promoted the development of forest cities in recent years to improve the environmental condition of urban areas through greater green coverage.

The cities are expected to help reduce average air temperatures, improve air quality, create noise barriers, generate new wildlife habitats and improve local biodiversity.

Under the plan, areas

including the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei province cluster, cities along the Yangtze River and border regions connecting countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative will be top priorities.

The development of forest cities will expand vegetation and strengthen the protection of ecological resources through increasing investment and international cooperation.

"People will see more benefits from the added greenery and an improved living environment," said Peng Youdong, deputy head of the administration at the Eco Forum Global Guiyang Annual Conference on Friday in Guiyang, Guizhou province.

"The development of forest cities will contribute to our national plan of building a beautiful China by 2035. We need to further improve public awareness on ecological protection and gain more public support," he said.

China is one of the most

“People will see more benefits from the added greenery and an improved living environment.”

Peng Youdong, deputy head of the State Forestry and Grassland Administration

rapidly urbanizing countries in the world. Its urban population stands at more than 800 million. That number is expected to soar to 1 billion by 2030, the administration said.

More than 200 cities in 18 provinces and municipalities have been involved in the forest city development plan since 2004. A total of 138 cities

have attained State-level forest city status, with an average annual increase of 13,333 hectares in forested area in each city over the past five years.

"China has designated ecosystem construction as a national strategy, and it now plays an important global role in the campaign. China's successful experience should be shared with more countries to benefit people worldwide," said Liu Shirong, executive member of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations.

Liu also said scientific solutions China has found to overcome challenges in building forest cities should also be studied by other countries to help improve ecology-related services around the world.

Zhao Yandi contributed to this story.

Contact the writers at yangwanli@chinadaily.com.cn

## New AI wave coming for medical field

Large number of applications for devices expected to hit next year

By CHINA DAILY

A large number of applications to get market approval for medical devices that employ deep learning, a subset of artificial intelligence, are expected to be filed next year, but full commercialization of the products is not necessarily within easy reach, China's top medical device regulator said at a news conference last week.

Based on communications with AI companies and conventional medical companies that are charging into the AI field, it is predicted that applications for such devices will soar next year, said Sun Lei, head of the Center for Medical Device Evaluation.

"2018 is very likely to be the year for AI medical devices," he said.

Sun cited the example of the booming medical 3D printing industry last year.

"We project a similar trajectory for AI — the number of applications will increase a year after a fledgling technology becomes a hot spot for investment and news headlines," he said.

However, there's still a long way to go for AI systems to be legitimately used in the country's healthcare system.

According to Sun, it usually takes a year to get market approval for a new medical device in China.

"The law stipulates that we must issue an initial report within 90 working days after the application is received, but it's common that companies are required to provide more supporting materials or clinical data after their first-round trial," he said.

To better evaluate novel devices, the center recently formed a team to create a regulatory framework for AI medical devices, said He Weigang, a division director.

The team is working on issues such as how to evaluate the success of clinical results, he said.

Regarding the AI medical devices featuring deep learning that have been spotted in hospitals, he said they are all at the experimental or innovation stage.

"We have been staying in touch with the developers to keep track of their methodology, data collection and trial results, so when an application eventually arrives, it's easier and quicker to assess," he said.

The center set up a team of experts in 2017, using researchers and professionals from hospitals to help cope with rapidly developing technologies, including AI. Frontline researchers know best, "so it's quite helpful to have them on board", Sun said.

After a device is approved, the State Drug Administration is charged with monitoring its stability and quality.

"The administration encourages a full cycle of regulations for medical devices, and though our primary concern is market approval, we also work on monitoring over the long run," he said.

The domestic market for AI medical devices reached 13 billion yuan (\$1.95 billion) in 2017, a year-on-year increase of 40.7 percent, according to a report recently released by the Beijing Commission of Economy and Information Technology.

It's expected that the market value will exceed 20 billion yuan by the end of this year, accounting for roughly one-fifth of the AI industry.

He said that efforts to incorporate AI into medical devices seem to concentrate on medical imaging diagnostics, including for eyes, lungs and chest.

Wang Xiaoyu contributed to this story.

## Cliffside cuisine



Tourists enjoy a meal on a cliffside path more than 2,000 meters above the ground on Laojun Mountain in Luoyang, Henan province, on Sunday. The event was part of a two-month tourism festival, which runs through Aug 31. WANG ZHONGJU / CHINA NEWS SERVICE

## Trade: US tariffs will hit non-Chinese supply chains even harder, study shows

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"You can see these two perspectives not only in the tariffs imposed on Chinese goods, but also in tariffs imposed on products from US friends and allies," he said.

Economists and trade experts have disagreed with Trump's interpretation of the cause and benefit of the trade imbalance. They believe that

the US trade deficit is caused primarily by its fiscal policy, the low saving rate and the role of the US dollar as a global reserve currency.

"Trump is ignoring the pleas of the business community. He seems to be betting that his get-tough approach against China will make his political base happy, even though these policies will hurt many of them in the long run,"

Morrison said.

"A trade war would be very costly to both economies and the global economy as a whole," he added.

A study led by Mary Lovely at the Peterson Institute showed Trump's latest tariffs on China will hit non-Chinese supply chains even harder. Many of Chinese exports to the US come from foreign companies operating in China.

Edward Alden, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, said the only way for the Trump administration to change course is as a result of domestic political pressure.

"My hope is that then there will be a period of reflection in which all the countries involved will find a way to come back to the negotiating table," he said.

"I still believe there is time to prevent this trade war from further escalation, but we are in a dangerous period," Alden said.

On Friday, the Office of the US Trade Representative announced guidance for companies on how to apply for exclusion from the newly imposed tariffs on products made in China. Companies will have 90 days to file the

requests.

"The real intention of the Trump administration is to deter China while minimizing the negative impact on its electorate," said Mei Xinyu, a researcher with the International Trade and Economic Cooperation Institute of the Ministry of Commerce.

"In fact, even if a certain number of US companies obtained exclusions from the

additional tariffs, it would not relieve the pressure on its overall economy. High costs imposed on Chinese goods would eventually be passed on to US consumers," said Li Yong, deputy director of China Association of International Trade Expert Committee.

Contact the writers at chenweihua@chinadaily.com.cn