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Tang Tao, vice-minister of human resources and social security

China wins bid to host 2021 WorldSkills

Event offers chance to build a stronger team of skilled workers nationwide

By HOU LIQIANG

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China was selected on Friday to host the WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai in 2021 — an event it hopes to use for building a stronger team of skilled workers nationwide and to enhance international exchanges in vocational skills.

Members of WorldSkills International voted on Friday in Abu Dhabi, United Arab

Emirates, to award the 46th WorldSkills Competition to the city.

President Xi Jinping sent a video message on Friday, before the vote, in support of China's bid. He said on behalf of the Chinese government and people that he firmly supported Shanghai's bid, and gave his assurance that the city will be ready to host a highly innovative and influential event.

Xi said the competition will promote international exchanges and cooperation in vocational skills, drive the Chinese people — especially nearly 200 million young people — to take up new skills and provide an opportunity for China to contribute to global skills development.

The bid team, which included Yin Weimin, minister of human resources and social security, and Ying Yong, mayor of Shanghai, gave presentations before the vote.

China has been strengthening its international

exchanges and cooperation in vocational skills in recent years. In 2015, Xi announced in a South-South Cooperation roundtable a “six 100s” initiative to help developing countries. It included 100 poverty reduction programs, 100 schools and vocational training centers and the training of 500,000 technical personnel.

Yin, the minister, said: “I believe the 46th WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai will bring China closer to the world and help international exchanges and cooperation in vocational skills to be imple-

mented more effectively.”

He said the ministry will make every effort to help Shanghai prepare for the event.

The Chinese leadership attached great importance to its bid to host the competition, as the event will greatly promote the development of highly skilled talent in China, said Tang Tao, vice-minister of human resources and social security, at a news conference in Abu Dhabi on Saturday.

China has 165 million skilled workers, including 47.9 million who are classed as

highly skilled. Every year, more than 100 million people have access to technical and vocational education and training, he said.

“Hosting the event will help guide the whole society to respect the spirit of craftsmanship and help create a social atmosphere of respecting labor and admiring skill,” Tang said.

Shanghai will use the opportunity to draft preferential policies to encourage the spirit of craftsmanship and improve vocational education to cultivate skilled talent, said Peng Chenlei, the city's vice-mayor.

Briefly

BEIJING People's Daily app now in English

With the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China set to open this week, People's Daily, the official newspaper of the CPC Central Committee, announced on Sunday the launch of its English language news app, marking a key step to advance the integration between traditional media and new media and better “connect China and the world”. People's Daily launched a Chinese news app in 2014; it now has 200 million users.

HUBEI 3 tourists from Taiwan killed

Three tourists from Taiwan were killed by falling rocks at a scenic area in central China's Hubei province on Sunday morning, according to local authorities. The accident happened at 9:45 am in Yichang, when a group of 45 people organized by a Taiwan travel agency were at the tourist attraction of Three Gorges on the middle reaches of the Yangtze River. Two men and one woman tourist died.

CHONGQING Old city walls, gates uncovered

Archaeologists recently excavated 800-year-old city walls and gates at a site in the municipality, Baidi township, located in Fengjie county, was once an important military fortress. An archaeological dig was undertaken at the site in February, by the Cultural Heritage Research Institute of Chongqing and the Cultural Relic Management Office of Fengjie county.

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Goals: Some ‘flies’, ‘tigers’ snared already

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of national defense and the military and carrying forward major country diplomacy.

In the economic sphere, Xi has promised extensive supply-side structural reform, including reducing pollution and phasing out excess capacity. The country is seeking progress while maintaining stability and adapting to the new normal of economic development, by pursuing innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development.

China's rural population living in poverty has decreased from 770 million to 55.75 million between 1978 and 2015. An additional 12.4 million were lifted out of poverty last year, and China is aiming to lift all people out of poverty by 2020.

12.4

million people

were lifted out of poverty in 2016.

In the CPC's fight against corruption, crushing momentum has been made in punishing both low-level “flies” and high-ranking “tigers,” including heavyweights Zhou Yongkang, Bo Xilai, Guo Boxiong, Xu Caihou, Sun Zhengcai and Ling Jihua.

The past few years also marked China's transition from a player in global affairs to a leader of the global agenda. China hosted the BRICS Summit in September, the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in May, the G20 Hangzhou Summit last year and the APEC Summit in 2014, prescribing remedies for global economic governance.

During the 19th CPC National Congress, the Party is expected to further elaborate on how to rule itself, how to lead the world's largest developing

nation to lift more people out of poverty and advance key reforms as well as how to build a community of shared destiny for all humankind, observers said.

Zhu Lijia, a professor of public administration at the Chinese Academy of Governance, said that poverty alleviation, the construction of an ecological environment and development risks are major reform and development tasks in the five years after the 19th CPC National Congress.

Concrete achievements should be made to complete the tasks, which are important to the first centenary goal — building a moderately prosperous society, Zhu said.

“We are looking forward to the new ideas, policies and measures raised by the 19th National Congress,” he said, adding that the congress will have deep influence toward the fulfillment of the second centenary goal.

Li Chengyan, head of Peking University's Center for Anti-Corruption Studies, said that the CPC has established an effective mechanism for self-supervision in the past five years and it is important that such measures be sustained after the 19th National Congress.

The congress will have long-term influence on the country, not only for the next five years, but also for decades to come, as it will make guidelines for the country's second centenary goal, he said.

Yan Jirong, a professor at the Peking University School of Government, said during the 19th National Congress, leaders will appraise the measures taken in the past years to decide which will be enhanced or adjusted.

The 2020 goals set by the CPC — all benchmarks of China becoming a prosperous country — are objectives without any “gray areas involved,” said Shannon Tiezzi, an editor at The Diplomat magazine.

Zhou Jin contributed to this story.

Village: Banquets were too costly, extravagant

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After the flood, experts from the China Academy of Arts were invited to help improve the layout of the village, which now boasts well-designed houses, wide roads and a big square.

Apart from pushing forward economic development, the village cadres have sought to strengthen social cohesion by introducing nine rules to put an end to bad rural customs, such as limiting luxurious banquets.

“The villagers used to host exorbitant banquets for celebrations such as weddings,

which often led to financial hardships for families,” said villager Zhang Changyou, who said he saved nearly 40,000 yuan when organizing a funeral banquet.

In June 2015, President Xi Jinping visited Guizhou province and stressed the need to eliminate poverty. Last year, the population of impoverished people in the province was reduced by 1.2 million, and over the next three years, the government plans to lift another 1 million out of poverty each year.

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A head in a marathon



A runner sporting a giant cartoon giraffe head participates in the 2017 Nanjing Marathon-National Marathon Championships (Nanjing Station) on Sunday. Around 248,000 people, both professional runners and amateurs, took part. Many dressed up in whimsical costumes.

WAN CHENGPENG / FOR CHINA DAILY

Plenary: Party principles must be upheld, document says

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and conducted in-depth discussion on several important issues focusing on the “Four Greats,” making full preparation for the 19th CPC National Congress.

The issues under discussion include “engaging in the great battle with many new historical features; embarking on the new great project in Party building; advancing the great cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics; and realizing the great dream of revival of the Chinese nation under new situations,” read the statement.

The plenum fully affirmed the work of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee since the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee held a year ago.

The meeting reached consensus that the Political Bureau has held high the great banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics and thoroughly implemented the spirits of the 18th CPC National Congress and ensuring plenums of the Central Committee.

The Political Bureau has followed the guidance of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important Thought of Three Represents and the Scientific Outlook on Development, and thoroughly carried out the essence of Xi's series of important remarks and new governance concepts, thoughts and strategies, according to the statement.

The Political Bureau has united and led the entire

nation to continue seeking progress while maintaining stability for its economic work, while keeping in mind both the domestic and international situations, continuing to adopt an overall approach to promote economic, political, cultural, social and ecological progress, as well as advancing coordinated development of the “Four Comprehensives.”

It has been firm in implementing new development concepts, advancing difficult reforms, building a clean CPC and fighting against corruption, effectively dealing with various risks and challenges and innovating and improving macro control.

It has also managed to coordinate work for stabilizing growth, promoting reform, adjusting economic structure, improving people's well-being, and preventing risks.

It has deepened military reform and construction, taken initiative in handling well the work involving the Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions and Taiwan and carried forward a big country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in an all-around way.

It strengthened Party discipline comprehensively, maintained stable and healthy economic development as well as social harmony and stability, according to the statement.

Loyalty to Party

Senior officials should remain loyal to the Party and willingly safeguard the authority of the Party's central

Senior cadres should set an example for all Party members to keep the Party and the people at heart and be keenly aware of what should and should not be done.

leadership and the unity of the Party, the statement said.

The Party's leading position should be ensured in all aspects and its role of overseeing all work and coordinating all parties should be guaranteed.

The Party principles should be upheld and its policies implemented, the document stressed.

All local authorities and departments should carry out the decisions of the CPC Central Committee when told to do so, it said.

Senior cadres should set an example for all Party members to keep the Party and the people at heart and be keenly aware of what should and should not be done.

They should display strong political and moral integrity, obedience to Party disciplines and resistance to corruption, the document said.

Being a Party of more than 89 million members and the ruling Party leading more than 1.3 billion people in the drive for reform and modernization, without the authority and centralized leadership of the CPC Central Committee and without strict political disciplines, rules and a clean political environment, the CPC would compromise its creativity, cohesion and effec-

tiveness, weaken the foundation and ability of its governance and fail its mission, the document said.

The document called on all Party members to firmly safeguard the authority of the Party leadership, follow its lead and stay in accordance with the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at the core.

China has gained and consolidated “crushing momentum” in its fight against corruption, the statement said, adjusting previous judgment made late last year at a Political Bureau meeting, which only stated that the fight “has gained crushing momentum.”

‘Fundamental’ changes

Summarizing progress made by the CPC over the past five years, the statement said China has witnessed profound and fundamental changes during the period, while its achievements are comprehensive and groundbreaking.

These historic changes and achievements indicate that China's development stands at a new historical starting point, which is of great and far-reaching significance for the cause of the Party and the country, according to the

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