Solar drone pushes limits in near-space

BY XINHUA

China will not hold its nerve in near-space this year, the China Academy of Space Technology announced on Tuesday.

With a widespread of more who did much worse than that of a Boeing B737 passenger plane, the Rainbow, series of drones has been the focus of many media during this period. According to the China Central Television (CCTV) drone project.

The Rainbow, the world's largest solar-powered drone and the world's first model by NASA, has been used by the US military and the Chinese government.

In 2015, the Rainbow completed a successful test flight and became the first model to reach more than 120,000 square kilometers, about an area the size of the State of New York. The Rainbow is designed to provide continuous surveillance for the next 5 to 10 years.

The drone has a wingspan of 20 meters and a takeoff weight of 180 kilograms. It can stay in the air for up to 100 hours at a time, covering a distance of 10,000 kilometers, about 10 times the length of the Yangtze River.

The Rainbow is equipped with a high-resolution camera and can transmit images back to the ground station. It can also be used to monitor wildfires, floods, and other natural disasters.

China's chairman of the National Aeronautics and Astronautics Administration, Sun Laiyan, said that the Rainbow will be used for various purposes, including border surveillance, disaster monitoring, and environmental observation.

The Rainbow's successful completion has demonstrated China's capability in the near-space domain, and it will contribute to the country's national security and defense.