



Back Page

Dubai-based businessman credits his success to love of cricket

Innovation, youth top HK policy plan

Innovation and youth development were central pillars of Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor's first Policy Address on Oct 11 as she laid out her ambitions for the special administrative region.

Lam said she envisioned Hong Kong becoming an "international innovation and technology hub" and creating high-end jobs.

In pursuit of economic diversity, Lam encouraged the people of Hong Kong to join in the national-level Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development plan and take advantage of opportunities they present.

In the 33,000-word address, the words "innovation", "technology" and "technologies" appeared a total of at least 150 times, topping the list of policy-related words.

"To sustain these favorable trends for our economy, diversifying is the only solution," Lam said, adding that she believed it will not only bolster economic growth but also create quality employment opportunities for Hong Kong's young people.

Beijing urges US to stop 'wrong behavior'

Beijing urged the United States to stop its "wrong behavior" after a US naval vessel was warned away from China's territorial waters off the Xisha Islands in the South China Sea on Oct 10.

The *USS Chafee*, a guided-missile destroyer, made an unauthorized entry into the nation's territorial waters, the defense and foreign ministries said on Oct 11.

China dispatched a guided-missile frigate, two fighter jets and a helicopter "in an emergency response" and warned the US ship to leave, the Defense Ministry said in a statement.

China is "resolutely opposed" to the unauthorized entry, and has lodged "solemn representations" to the US, according to Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying.

The Chinese government announced the baseline of the territorial sea off the islands in 1996 under the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone.

Science vessel returns from Arctic expedition

The Chinese icebreaker *Xuelong*, or Snow Dragon, docked in Shanghai on Oct 10 after completing its eighth Arctic expedition, the Polar Research Institute of China announced.

The vessel traveled through the central and northwest shipping lanes along the Arctic rim for the



Passengers ride a subway train themed on the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in Xiamen, Fujian province, on Oct 9. The city's new Line 1 started test operations on Oct 6. LI LINRONG / FOR CHINA DAILY

first time, completing China's first circumnavigation of the top of the world.

The vessel departed from the exploration base in Shanghai on June 20 with 96 crew members. It traveled 20,000 nautical miles in 83 days, including 1,995 nautical miles through ice formations, according to the institute.

"The reason we tried the central line was that we could do research in the open ocean area," said He Jianfeng, vice-captain of the team and chief scientist of the expedition.

He added that China had traversed the northeastern shipping lane along Russia's northern coast in 2012, from the Bering Strait to northern Europe.

Deployment of new light tank confirmed

China has confirmed the deployment of a new light tank, which observers say will suit combat operations on plateaus.

A photo of the tank on snowy ground is on display at an exposition in the Beijing Exhibition Center, as part of a display showing achievements made by China over the past five years.

A number of pictures taken by military enthusiasts and circulated on Chinese defense websites show a row of the new tanks being transported by rail. Those tanks had been painted with a tactical code on the turret — an indication of delivery to the People's Liberation Army Ground Force.

Developed by China North Industries Group Corp, the light tank is equipped with a hydro-

pneumatic suspension system that ensures good maneuverability and survivability in mountainous regions.

China again launches satellite for Venezuela

China launched Venezuela's second remote-sensing satellite, VRSS-2, into space on Oct 9.

A Long March 2D carrier rocket blasted off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Northwest China's Gansu province at 12:13 pm to place the satellite into orbit, according to the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp, the major contractor for China's space programs. It was the 252nd mission for the Long March rocket family.

Also known as Antonio Jose de Sucre, named after a Venezuelan independence leader, the satellite is the Latin American nation's third. The previous two were also developed and launched by China.

The satellite will be used for land resources inspection, environmental protection, disaster monitoring and relief, crop yield estimation and urban planning.

Xi, Putin congratulate friendship association

President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin sent congratulatory messages on Oct 9 to the Russia-China Friendship Association on the 60th anniversary of its founding.

Xi said in his message that over the past six decades, the association has adhered to the principle of friendship in managing relations with China, actively carried out

people-to-people exchanges, and contributed to promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples.

Calling the association an important force in cementing and developing China-Russia ties, Xi stressed that the key to sound relations between states lies in amity between the peoples.

China-Russia relations have reached a new historical starting point, Xi said, expressing his hope that the association will open a new chapter in promoting exchanges between peoples of the two nations.

Forex reserves reach year-high of \$3.11t

China's foreign exchange reserves in September rose to their highest level so far this year to reach \$3.11

trillion, marking growth for the eighth straight month as capital outflows eased due to the stronger yuan, central bank data showed on Oct 9.

The reserves were up by \$17 billion last month, slightly higher than the market expectation of around \$16 billion, while the increase in August was \$10.5 billion, according to the People's Bank of China.

It was the first time that the country's foreign exchange reserves had grown for eight consecutive months since June 2014.

A statement from the State Administration of Foreign Exchange said on Oct 9 that stabilized and more balanced cross-border capital flows, together with the increased value of foreign exchange reserve investment, had boosted the growth.

Real estate curbs begin to hit home

Property sales in the country's major cities dropped to a three-year low during the National Day holiday this month, as the intensive launch of restrictive measures began to bite. Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou in South China's Guangdong province, all saw plummeting property sales during the weeklong holiday.

According to data from the real estate section of 163.com, an online information portal, only 134 new homes were sold during the first eight days of October this year in Beijing, a decrease of 70 percent year-on-year.

In Shanghai, 178 properties were sold from Oct 1-8, down 82 percent year-on-year. In Guangzhou, 541 properties were transacted in the first eight days of October, a decline of 89 percent year-on-year.

"It is expected that such a situation will continue for the rest of the year," said Zhang Dawei, a Beijing-based researcher at Centaline Property.



Visitors take photographs surrounded by beautiful autumn colors at Harbin Engineering University in Northeast China's Heilongjiang province on Oct 10. ZHANG SHU / FOR CHINA DAILY