

CHINA DIGEST

Quotable

“(China’s) GDP grew at 6.9 percent in the first half of 2017. In the next half, it may hopefully reach 7 percent.”



ZHOU XIAOCHUAN, central bank governor, speaking at an international banking seminar in Washington on Oct 15. The International Monetary Fund forecast on Oct 9 that China’s GDP would grow by 6.8 percent in 2017.

ESTEEMING VIRTUES

“ I reflect upon the good deeds done by others and I will learn from them. I will also reflect upon the bad deeds done by others and warn myself against them. People who give me direct and accurate criticisms are my teachers. People who give me their support in a reasonable manner are my friends. People who fawn over me are the ones who will hurt me.”

Scroll 38: Sun Qing Zi

Editor’s note: This is an extract from *The Governing Principles of Ancient China*, based on 360 passages excerpted from the original compilation of *Qunshu Zhiyao*. *Qunshu Zhiyao* or *The Compilation of Books and Writings on the Important Governing Principles*, commissioned by Emperor Tang Taizong of the Tang Dynasty in the seventh century, contains advice, methods and historical notes on the successes and failures of the imperial governments of China. Today it continues to be relevant as a source of inspiration for self-improvement, family management and interpersonal relations.

Trump’s trip to Beijing scheduled for Nov 8

United States President Donald Trump is scheduled to embark on his first state visit to China on Nov 8. It is a trip that both Beijing and Washington expect will bear bountiful fruit and lead to a new impetus in the development of relations between the world’s two largest economies.

Trump’s itinerary was announced by the White House on Oct 16. He will be the second US president to make a state visit to China in the first year of his presidency — Trump took office in January — following the November 2009 visit by then-president Barack Obama.

“On Nov 8, President Trump will arrive in Beijing, China, for a series of bilateral, commercial and cultural events, including meetings with President Xi Jinping,” said a statement released by the White House. It will be their third meeting this year.

Shanghai set to host WorldSkills contest

China was selected on Oct 13 to host the WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai in 2021 — an event it hopes will facilitate the building of a stronger team of skilled workers nationwide and enhance international exchanges in vocational skills.

Members of WorldSkills International voted in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, to award the 46th WorldSkills Competition to the city.

President Xi Jinping sent a video message on Oct 13, 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 to take up new skills and provide an opportunity for China to contribute to development of global skills.

Foreign trade tipped to grow in coming months

China’s foreign trade will continue to grow in the months ahead as overseas demand for domestic products strengthens steadily, according to a spokesman for the



Foreign journalists listen, on Oct 16, to a presentation on progress in building Beijing’s new airport, south of the city. The roof and glass walls are being installed on the main terminal, and trial operations are set to begin in October 2019.

XING YI / CHINA DAILY

country’s biggest trade event.

“More foreign buyers are expected to visit the Canton Fair as they look for innovative, quality products made in China,” fair spokesman Xu Bing said.

The Canton Fair, or China Import and Export Fair, which is widely regarded as a barometer of the country’s foreign trade, opened its autumn session on Oct 15 in Guangzhou, in South China’s Guangdong province.

The number of foreign visitors has increased steadily in the last three sessions, Xu said.

“China’s trade has consolidated its upward trend this year as the country’s efforts to optimize its industrial and trade structure have gradually paid off,” he said.

Chinese submersible sets endurance record

An underwater glider developed by Chinese scientists has set records for the country, working continuously for the longest time and completing the longest journey in a single mission.

Haiyi 1000, developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences’ Shenyang Institute of Automation, was recently lifted out of the South China Sea after completing

its underwater mission to collect ocean data on a journey of 1,884 kilometers that lasted 91 days.

The new endurance mark doubled that achieved by past Chinese gliders and makes China the only country besides the United States with the ability to conduct ocean monitoring and surveillance lasting more than three months in a single mission, according to a report by China Central Television on Oct 15.

Hybrid rice delivers world record yield

A new world record for a single crop of rice was set in North China’s Hebei province this year by a hybrid strain that delivered an annual yield of 17.2 metric tons of rice per hectare of farmland.

The high-yield hybrid rice, called Xiangliangyou 900, was developed by a team led by Yuan Longping, who developed the world’s first hybrid strain in the 1970s.

Under a three-year test, the rice was planted on a 6.8-hectare field in Guangfu town, Handan. This year’s yield was the highest to date, according to Hebei Guigu Fertilizer Co, which cooperates with Yuan’s team in managing the field.

“This is the highest yield in the world, and much higher than the

world average,” Yuan said on Oct 15 when this year’s yield was estimated. The global average is about 10 metric tons per hectare.

Passenger flights more punctual in September

Nearly three-fourths of passenger flights in September landed or departed on time, an official from the Civil Aviation Administration of China said on Oct 17, representing a significant improvement over the previous months.

Airports across the Chinese mainland handled 436,588 flights last month — including a record 15,323 on Sept 29 — with an overall punctuality rate of 73 percent, Zhang Chunzhi, Party chief of the administration’s operation and monitoring center, said at a news conference.

In August, 55 percent of flights were on time, while in July the rate was only 50 percent, figures from the administration showed.

The authority said 53 percent of the delays were caused by weather, and almost 27 percent by airspace congestion. Air-traffic control accounted for 7.8 percent of the delays.

The top three airlines for punctuality were Air Chang’an, Air Jiangxi and Joy Air.



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