



## Back Page Planner redraws urban landscape with sustainable cities

### Three-phase solution proposed to Myanmar

China proposed a three-phase solution on Nov 19 for Myanmar's Rakhine state, starting with a cease-fire, which is basically in place.

Foreign Minister Wang Yi said China believed the issue can be addressed by finding a solution acceptable to both Myanmar and Bangladesh, where many from Rakhine state have fled, through consultations.

While the key is to prevent flare-ups, the second phase should be bilateral talks between the two countries to find a workable solution, Wang said.

"China is willing to make contributions in this regard and play its due role," Wang said while meeting reporters jointly with Myanmar State Counsellor and Foreign Minister Aung San Suu Kyi in Naypyitaw, the capital of Myanmar.

The Chinese foreign minister, who had just wrapped up a visit to Bangladesh on Nov 18, said the proposal has the support of Bangladesh.

### Top regulatory body to execute fiscal policies

The newly established national financial regulatory body is designed to be the top-level executor and coordinator of the State Council's macroeconomic policies rather than to only safeguard the inflated financial sector, according to experts directly involved in the committee's preparatory work.

The priority task of the Financial Stability and Development Committee, which debuted earlier in November with Vice-Premier Ma Kai as the head, is to effectively implement and coordinate economic and financial policy decisions made by the State Council, Chen Daofu, deputy director of the Research Institute of Finance under the State Council's Development Research Center, told *China Daily* in an exclusive interview.

Chen's institute has submitted a report to the State Council suggesting a feasible plan for the committee's specific responsibilities and organizational structure.

### Pension fund to get State assets boost

China will transfer a chunk of State financial assets to its social security funds, a program experts



Women of the Miao ethnic group celebrate a local festival on Nov 18 at a park in the Rongshui Miao autonomous county, in South China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region. Visitors from 11 countries and regions came to experience the 17th Rongshui Lusheng Horse Fighting Festival, where people play the *lusheng*, a woodwind instrument blown through a reed, and watch horse fights. ZHANG AILIN / XINHUA

believe will ease the pressure of pension payments as the aging population continues to grow.

Ten percent of State-owned equity, including shares of State-owned enterprises (SOEs) and financial institutions, will be transferred to the National Council for Social Security Fund and smaller, local State-owned companies, the State Council, China's cabinet, announced in a document on Nov 18.

The pilot program will begin with three to five SOEs and two central financial institutions in several provinces this year. The program aims to make up for possible shortfalls in the nation's pension provisions and will be expanded in 2018 to involve more State-owned companies, the document said.

### Transgenders lacking medical services: Survey

A survey released on Nov 20 found that transgender people are in high need of medical services, with 62 percent having a demand for hormone therapies, and 51 percent having a demand for gender reassignment treatment.

Both demands are not fully satisfied, the report said. Only 6 percent of respondents expressed satisfaction with the current domestic situation for provision of and access to hormone therapy, and just 2 percent thought there were enough medical resources for sex reassignment surgeries.

The *Chinese Transgender Population General Survey Report* was compiled by the Beijing LGBT Center and Peking University's Sociology Department, with help from the UN Development Programme and the Dutch embassy.

"The medical resources are now far from adequate," said Kelly Kiseki, the transgender program manager at Beijing LGBT Center.

### Record bridge project set for year-end finish

The world's longest bridge-tunnel complex, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, is "95 percent complete", according to the chief engineer for the bridge's island and tunnel project.

Lin Ming, also the project's general manager, said the bridge will be fin-

ished by year's end. It is a key infrastructure project in the blueprint for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

With the bridge project nearing completion, delegations from different countries have visited and expressed their interest in inviting Lin's team to build similar infrastructure.

A group from Spain, among the most recent visitors, approached Lin about the possibility of applying Chinese technology to a potential bridge-tunnel link across one of the world's most famous channels, the Strait of Gibraltar, Lin said.

### Vow to step up property rights protection

China will step up protection of property rights to provide sustained impetus for economic development, according to a decision made at the State Council executive meeting chaired by Premier Li Keqiang on Nov 22.

Businesses will have better protection for operational and property rights, and private businesses will have protection equal to their public

sector counterparts. Protection of residents' property rights will also be enhanced.

In his Government Work Report this year, Li said the government will work faster to improve its protection system and guard the rights of economic entities under all forms of ownership and the property rights of citizens.

China's Property Rights Law was promulgated in 2007. In 2016, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council issued a guideline on improving the protection system and protecting property rights according to law.

### Web giants in alliance to fight wildlife trade

Internet giants Baidu, Alibaba and Tencent have joined forces to combat online trading in wildlife parts, an illicit practice that continues on e-commerce and social media platforms.

The alliance also has eight other members, including websites for trading secondhand items such as Zhuanzhuang and 58.com, and sites for buying and discussing antiques, including auction sites like cang.com and Wenwantiangxia.

A charter was signed by all alliance members on Nov 20. Under the charter, the member companies are committed to detecting and removing illegal wildlife trade advertisements on their sites and sending warnings to users and prohibiting them from releasing such information.

### Law aims to curtail unfair app competition

Legal professionals have welcomed a revision to the law that aims to tackle the growing number of lawsuits related to smartphone apps.

The demand for smart mobile devices has soared in China in the past five years, creating a highly lucrative app market. Yet the rush to profit has resulted in rogue business tactics, such as copying well-known brands or creating apps that block users from downloading rival software.

A report last year from the Supreme People's Court showed that courts nationwide filed 2,181 lawsuits over unfair competition in 2015, up by about 54 percent year-on-year. Those related to the Internet increased sharply, it said.

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