

CHINA DIGEST

Quotable

“We hope to build a network of satellites and ground-based equipment that can share quantum information across the globe and ultimately build a quantum Internet.”

PAN JIANWEI,

quantum scientist, after he was recognized by *Nature* magazine on its list of 10 people who mattered in 2017. Pan, from the University of Science and Technology of China, is chief scientist of the world's first quantum satellite project.



ON THE SUBJECT OF ADMINISTRATION

“A superior person concerns himself with the fundamentals. Once the fundamentals are established, virtues will emerge. Is not being filial to parents and loving toward brothers and sisters fundamental to the enactment of benevolence?”

Scroll 9: Lun Yu

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.

Macao SAR pledges to maintain Party vision

Fernando Chui Sai-on, chief executive of the Macao Special Administrative Region, vowed on Dec 20 that the SAR would forge ahead with the vision presented at October's 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and actively push forward the implementation of the “one country, two systems” policy.

Chui made the remark at a reception celebrating the 18th anniversary of Macao's return to the motherland.

“The report delivered by General Secretary Xi Jinping at the 19th CPC National Congress set the direction for Macao's development,” he said, as the Party has made upholding “one country, two systems” part of the basic policy to carry out Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. It has also given full support to Macao's integration into the nation's overall development.

Chui said the SAR will actively participate in the development of the trade and infrastructure-focused Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

President praises efforts of Hong Kong, Macao

President Xi Jinping fully acknowledged the work of Hong Kong and Macao authorities on Dec 15 and expressed support for the governments of the two special administrative regions to integrate their own development into the overall development of the country.

Xi made the comments while meeting separately with Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's chief executive, and Fernando Chui Sai-on, chief executive of the Macao SAR, at Yingtai, part of the Zhongnanhai leadership compound in Beijing.

Since the Hong Kong SAR's new government took office on July 1, the administrative team, led by Lam, has ruled in line with the laws, focused on economic development and put forward a number of policies and measures, Xi said.

World Bank forecasts 6.8% growth in GDP

China's GDP growth is projected to reach 6.8 percent this year, supported by rising household incomes



A flag-raising ceremony is held in Macao on Dec 20 to celebrate the 18th anniversary of the special administrative region's return to the motherland. ZHANG JINJIA / XINHUA

and improving external demand, the World Bank said in its latest economic update released on Dec 19, raising its forecast from a 6.7 percent growth projection in October.

It is the latest forecast upgrade by a major international organization as the world's second-largest economy is set to achieve its growth target of around 6.5 percent for 2017.

China's year-on-year GDP growth averaged a higher-than-expected 6.9 percent in the first three quarters despite its financial regulatory tightening and economic restructuring measures, the report said.

“China has maintained its growth resilience and gained reform momentum,” John Litwack, World Bank lead economist for China, said in the report.

Lancang-Mekong to strengthen cooperation

China and the other five countries of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) mechanism will widen areas

of collaboration in an upcoming blueprint to further build the economic community along the Mekong River, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Dec 15.

Wang made the remark while attending the 3rd Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Dali, Southwest China's Yunnan province.

The Dec 13-16 meeting was attended by the top diplomats of the six member countries of the LMC mechanism, including Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Thailand and Myanmar.

Speaking at a joint news conference with his Cambodian counterpart Prak Sokhon, Wang said the LMC has progressed effectively since it started in March 2016, with coordination teams set up in all member countries and most financial support put in place.

Most of the 45 “early harvest” projects initiated by Premier Li Keqiang during the first LMC Leaders' Meeting in 2016 have now been completed, Wang said.

ROK gunshots cause for concern: Beijing

China expressed grave concern on Dec 20 over the Republic of Korea (ROK) Coast Guard's warning shots fired toward Chinese fishing boats, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said.

China called on the ROK to protect the legal interests of Chinese fishermen and not engage in dangerous measures in their law enforcement process that could harm the crew members, Hua Chunying said in a news conference.

She was asked to respond to a news report from the Yonhap News Agency. The ROK Coast Guard fired just under 200 rounds and chased off dozens of Chinese fishing boats it claimed were in an ROK exclusive economic zone earlier last week, the report said.

China takes fishery management very seriously and has taken measures to maintain order, she said, while calling on the ROK to properly handle the issue.



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