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Developer of modest masterpieces disrupts real estate sector

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world's emissions of greenhouse gases and tackle climate change, according to a report published on Nov 16.

In 2017, China's carbon intensity — measured in kilograms of carbon emitted to produce \$1 of GDP — was 46 percent lower than in 2005, fulfilling China's goal to cut carbon emissions by 40 to 45 percent by 2020. The goal was set by the State Council in 2009.

The results are from the *2018 Global Ecological Environment Sensing* report published by the National Remote Sensing Center under the Ministry of Science and Technology. China's renewable energy sector had also saved the nation from emitting 425 million metric tons of carbon gas in 2017.

Antitrust officials: All firms treated equally

China's top antitrust authority will continue treating foreign and domestic companies equally, as it is on the way to completing a sweeping institutional reform, senior officials said on Nov 16.

Wu Zhenguo, director of the anti-monopoly bureau of the State Administration for Market Regulation, said all companies are equal in the enforcement of China's anti-monopoly law.

The State Administration for Market Regulation was established earlier this year to unify China's anti-monopoly functions.

Around 41 percent of antitrust cases investigated by the former State Administration for Industry and Commerce involved State-owned enterprises, with foreign-funded ones only accounting for about 10.7 percent.

Wu said the authority will step up the push to perfect regulatory mechanisms as part of China's broader efforts to create a level playing field for all companies.

Private firms to be offered legal advice

Judicial administrations and bar associations across China will set up legal teams to provide free services to private enterprises this year, the Ministry of Justice said on Nov 14.

"The national activity is aimed at meeting the needs of companies, safeguarding their rights and



Artists demonstrate their skills following the inauguration of the "Belt and Road Art and Cultural Exchange Journey to Myanmar" in Shenzhen on Nov 13. The Chinese artists, led by Hong Kong-based artist Chai Bukuk and Zhou Li, editorial board member of China Daily Group and publisher and editor-in-chief of China Daily Asia Pacific, are visiting Myanmar, from Nov 13 to 22, to promote art exchanges and deepen cultural understanding between China and Myanmar.

MIRIAM ZHANG / CHINA DAILY

interests and helping them improve their governance structures," said Zhou Yuansheng, a senior ministry official.

The move will help prevent legal risks, resolve disputes and improve operations, management and decision-making based on rule of law, as well as provide solid legal protection for the development of the private economy.

Zhou said local judicial organs and bar associations will set up teams of lawyers to provide companies with one-on-one services.

For issues that can be solved immediately, lawyers will offer counseling and advice.

CR929 engine set for joint development

China and Russia plan to jointly develop the aero engine for the CR929, a wide-body passenger aircraft that is being codeveloped by the two countries, but this may require at least 10 years, said a Russian senior executive.

United Engine Corp of Russia and Aero Engine Corp of China will together develop the engine for the CR929 at a later stage. At the moment, both countries have yet to master the related skills and

will choose other engine suppliers, according to Rostec Corp, the parent company of United Aircraft Corp in Russia, which is responsible for CR929 project implementation on the Russian side.

Only a few engine makers, including US multinationals General Electric and Pratt & Whitney, and British aero engine maker Rolls-Royce, can manufacture aero engines for long-range, twin-aisle passenger jets like the CR929.

White paper details support for Xinjiang

The State Council Information Office issued a white paper on Nov 15 regarding cultural protection and development in Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

It said China is a unified multi-ethnic country, and in the course of a civilization that dates back more than 5,000 years, the various ethnic groups of China have created a long history and a splendid culture.

Since ancient times, many ethnic groups have made their way to Xinjiang, and it has become their home and a place for cultural integration. Various ethnic cultures in Xinjiang have their roots in the fertile soil

of Chinese civilization, advancing their own cultural development while enriching the overall culture of China, it said.

Since the People's Republic of China was founded in 1949, the government has attached great importance to documenting and protecting the excellent traditional ethnic cultures in Xinjiang, it said.

Customs crack ivory smuggling operation

Customs officers from South China's Guangdong province and Hong Kong seized 10 pieces of African ivory, weighing 323.7 kilograms, after cracking down on a major smuggling operation.

Seventeen suspects, including six Hong Kong residents, were detained for further investigation, according to Ma Dongsheng, a senior customs officer with the anti-smuggling bureau of Shenzhen Customs.

"A major smuggling channel that used to be active in smuggling African ivory to the mainland has been destroyed after a major smuggling gang was busted during the operation," Ma told a news conference.

Led by the General Administration of Customs, a special task force

was set up after customs officers in Zhanjiang, Guangdong, seized smuggled ivory late last year.

A gang of smugglers are suspected of taking African ivory into Guangdong via Hong Kong, Ma said.

Shoddy hygiene at luxury hotels exposed

In response to a viral video exposing shoddy cleaning practices at 14 luxury hotels, health departments in Shanghai and Beijing, where most of the disgraced hotels were located, dispatched inspection teams on Nov 15 to take a closer look.

Health officials in Beijing's Dongcheng, Haidian and Chaoyang districts collected samples from four of the hotels shown in the video. Test results will be made public.

The Beijing Municipal Commission of Tourism Development summoned managers of the four hotels for an inquiry. If the claims are true, the hotels will be ordered to rectify their hygiene procedures.

The 11-minute video titled *The Secrets of Cups* was produced and uploaded to Sina Weibo on Nov 14 by a Chinese blogger. Within 24 hours of its release, the video was viewed more than 14 million times.

Overseas retailers see big Singles Day sales

Overseas retailers racked up big sales on Alibaba's Singles Day shopping festival. The e-commerce giant said 3,700 categories representing 180,000 overseas brands from 75 countries and regions were featured during the shopping extravaganza.

"Double Eleven is a feast for global consumers, and Chinese consumers' demand for overseas goods is increasing rapidly, so global merchants are actively participating," said Wei Chen, deputy general manager of Tmall International, Alibaba's online retailer.

The ongoing trade dispute with China did not deter US merchants from participating, with more than 10,000 of those brands hailing from the United States.

The US ranked second, after Japan, in gross merchandise volume among countries and regions selling to China.

Maternal and children's products and cosmetics and electronics made in Japan were the best-selling imports on Tmall on Singles Day.

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