

Introducing our Global Edition

TO OUR READERS

ZHOU SHUCHUN, publisher and editor-in-chief, China Daily

China Daily on Jan 2 launched a global edition, presenting an incisive, panoramic picture of China. You will find quality journalism including insight, opinion, culture and more.

Accompanying the daily edition is a weekly tabloid, China Daily Global Weekly, which will be published every Friday. It is curated to bring you news and headlines from the previous seven

days to give you a more even and considered perspective on China and international affairs. Enjoy our pick of long reads, analyses, reviews and features addressing vital talking points across nations and issues.

Combining our Chinese mainland edition with overseas dailies and weeklies published in the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa, China Daily Global Edition will have extensive and analytical coverage of what happens in every corner of the world with a Chinese perspective.

The 16-page broadsheet will

offer more news analysis, financial and economic news, in-depth features and opinion pieces.

The front page starts with a news analysis on events of great significance in and outside China. The World Watch column on the page includes opinions of Chinese and foreign movers and shakers in politics, business and academia.

Page 2 has in-depth stories on global hot topics. The News section helps readers catch up with events in China and the world. One of the World News pages is dedicated to analysis of events in the places where the newspaper is published,

such as the US and Europe.

The Business section helps readers understand Chinese and foreign economic policies and know what is happening in big Chinese companies and multinational heavyweights. Exclusive interviews with CEOs of giant transnational companies are one of the section's highlights.

The Comment section includes editorials and comment by staff writers and eminent contributors. Read expert views from insightful and thought-provoking writers on some of the most challenging issues of today.

The Culture section contains the latest news, previews, reviews and in-depth interviews from the world of film, music, art, literature and more.

China Daily Global Edition, with a new, eye-catching format, arresting photos, quality cartoons and easy-to-understand graphics, is published on weekdays.

Our offices in Beijing, Hong Kong, London, New York, Nairobi and other major cities around the world will offer news around the clock. You can also access www.chinadailyglobal.com and the China Daily app for news online.

Construction rebound keeps economy steady

The official purchasing managers' index fell to 49.4 in December, below the 50-point level that separates growth from contraction, according to data released by the National Bureau of Statistics.

It was the first contraction since July 2016 and the weakest PMI reading since February 2016 when it came in at 49. In the meantime, the construction industry's prosperity has rebounded significantly, with the subindex measuring business activity standing at 62.6, up 3.3 percentage points from the previous month.

Xi-Trump call sets positive tone for talks

The telephone conversation between President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump on Dec 29 ahead of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the US on New Year's Day "sets a positive tone" for the coming year's bilateral relationship, experts said.

Xi and Trump said in their phone conversation that they hoped an agreement beneficial to both countries and the world could be reached.

When the two leaders met on Dec 1 on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina,



Visitors celebrate during a flag-raising ceremony held at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing on Jan 1. ZHU XINGXIN / CHINA DAILY

they agreed to continue bilateral trade negotiations, refrain from imposing new tariffs, and exchange visits at an appropriate time.

In the phone call, Xi extended his best wishes to Trump and the US people for the new year.

Building of warship for Pakistan underway

China recently started construction of an export version of one of its advanced warships and will deliver it to Pakistan as part of a major arms deal, according to China State Shipbuilding Corp, a large State-owned defense contractor.

It said the ship is a version of the Chinese Navy's most advanced guided missile frigate, without specifying its type.

The ship will be equipped with modern detection and weapon systems and will be capable of anti-ship, anti-submarine and air-defense operations.

National-level IP court to hear patent disputes

China will improve the protection of intellectual property rights in patent disputes by setting up a national-level IP court. The new court will streamline the appeal

process by allowing litigants to bypass top provincial courts, the Supreme People's Court said on Dec 29.

Preparations for the new IP Court, a division of the SPC, are complete, "and it's to be open and in operation in Beijing soon", said Luo Dongchuan, the top court's vice-president.

The IP Court will handle appeals of civil and administrative cases related to patents. Criminal cases are rare.

Litigants who disagree with rulings made in intermediate people's courts at the city or prefecture levels, or that are made by specialized IP courts, can appeal to the top court directly.

More cities now offer 144-hour transit visa

Five more Chinese cities began offering 144-hour visa-free transit services to foreign travelers from 53 countries on Jan 1, said the National Immigration Administration.

The five cities are Qingdao, Shandong province; Xiamen, Fujian province; Wuhan, Hubei province; Chengdu, Sichuan province; and Kunming, Yunnan province.

Foreign travelers from the designated countries are allowed to stay for up to 144 hours in these cities if they hold valid travel documents and confirmed onward travel tickets.

From early 2016, 144-hour visa-free transit services were only available to foreign visitors in Shanghai and the neighboring provinces of Jiangsu and Zhejiang; the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region in 2017, and Liaoning province since 2018.

Guangzhou, Guangdong province; Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region; and Xi'an, Shaanxi province, launched similar visa policies in 2013.

China allows milled rice imports from US

China has begun to allow imports of milled rice from the United States to meet domestic demand, with experts saying the move will enhance bilateral trade in agricultural products.

Their comments came after the General Administration of Customs on Dec 27 released details for the inspection and quarantine requirements relating to imported US rice, after China agreed to import US rice in July 2017.

China had previously banned US rice imports owing to the absence of agricultural quarantine inspection agreements.

China imported 4 million metric tons of rice from global markets in 2017, up 12.96 percent year-on-year, mainly from Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Myanmar, data from the China National Grain and Oils Information Center show.

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