

Photo shows Yangtze 'goddess', previously called extinct CHINA, PAGE 6

profits sign of robust growth BUSINESS, PAGE 13

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Xi calls for breakthrough in technology

Nation can guide its own innovations and development by doing so, he says

By HU YONGQI
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President Xi Jinping called on Monday for concerted endeavors and strategic arrangements in key cutting-edge technologies and in fields subject to other countries' control to achieve innovative breakthroughs.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the statement at the opening of the 19th Meeting of the Academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the 14th Meeting of the Academicians of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

When striving for prosperity and rejuvenation, China should dedicate itself to promoting science and technology, and building a major world center for science and innovation, Xi said.

Academicians and scientists should have firm confidence in independent innovations and the bravery to blaze trails where predecessors did not set foot to grasp key and core technologies, Xi said. By doing so, China can guide its own innovations and development, he said.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China has made historic progress in science and technology with a surge of major innovative achievements, Xi said. Innovation is the leading driving force and high-quality innovations are needed to support a modern economic system, he said.

Entering the 21st century, a new round of technological revolution and industrial transformation are

restructuring global innovation and economy, Xi said.

A series of strategic emerging industries should be developed and the country should promote in-depth integration of the internet, big data and artificial intelligence with the real economy, as well as fundamental transformation of business models of the manufacturing sector, to move China's industries up to the middle and high-end in the global value chain, he said.

Xi emphasized science and technology reforms to boost vitality for innovation. Top-level design for technological innovations should be optimized and strengthened. It should clearly define different roles of enterprises, universities and research institutions in the innovation chain. Meanwhile, the government should transform its functions in science and technology management, he said.

Xi also called for participation in the global governance of science and technology and contribution of Chinese wisdom to build a community of a shared future for mankind. International exchanges should be boosted to cope with global challenges such as energy safety, health and climate change, he said.

Independent innovations should be achieved in an open environment with strength from the rest of the world instead of closing the country's door, he said. China also should actively integrate with the global network for scientific and technological innovation, he said.

More than 1,300 academicians from both academies, including 58 from other countries, attended the biennial event.



President Xi Jinping speaks at the opening of the 19th Meeting of the Academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the 14th Meeting of the Academicians of the Chinese Academy of Engineering on Monday in Beijing. JU PENG / XINHUA



"Innovation decides the nation's future while reform concerns the nation's destiny. The sector of science and technology is in urgent need of consistent reforming."

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Highlights of Xi speech

"As China strives for prosperity and rejuvenation, it needs to devote great energy to promoting science and technology, endeavoring to be a major world center for science and innovation."



"Self-reliance is the foundation for the Chinese nation to stand firmly in the world while independent innovation is the only way for us to climb the peak of the world's science and technology."



"Hard power or soft power, they both rely on a country's 'mathpower.'"

What they say

"I am impressed by such a big focus and attention by the highest leadership in China on science and technology. It is impressive to see Chinese leaders so lit- erate in cutting-edge science fields. And it is very encouraging to see China making significant strides in being a major player in scientific development around the world."

Jerzy Duszynski, president of the Polish Academy of Sciences

"President Xi gave a very informative speech on science, technology and innovation in China. He also elaborated on the leadership role China can have in science. China has engaged in many international scientific collaborations, such as the digital Belt and Road project, which can provide countries taking part in the initiative with valuable geographic and climate data and serve as a powerful tool for development."

Markku Kulmala, professor of atmospheric science at the University of Helsinki, Finland

"The president has definitely targeted the key topic of how to advance science and technology in China and how to use it to help the Chinese economy, the people, the whole country move forward. It's interesting that someone who is president of such a large country can actually find the time to come to a meeting of engineers and scientists. That's very important. It doesn't happen very often in any country, so it's a huge plus point for China."

Ian Cluckie, professor of hydrometeorology at Swansea University, United Kingdom.

AI-boostered tool puts face on benefits vs concerns

By ZHANG ZHIHAO
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Jacky Cheung, famed Hong Kong singer, was recently dubbed the "Nemesis of Fugitives" by Chinese netizens after three wanted criminal suspects were detained at three of his concerts across China

in two months. The fugitives were passing through security checks when cameras equipped with facial-recognition technologies identified them from a database of suspects and alerted the police. One of the suspects, a 31-year-old man identified as Ao, said he felt safe among the

huge crowd and was shocked when police detained him at Cheung's concert in Nanchang, Jiangxi province, on April 7. Cheung's streak of trapping fugitives is so hot that police from Luoyang, Henan province, the venue for Cheung's July concert, declared "we are ready" on its Sina Weibo blog.

These incidents cast a spotlight on facial recognition technology, which continues to amaze and to some extent worry the public with its unmatched effectiveness in supporting detective work.

"Police used to have a hard time watching and selecting surveillance footage. Now the technology can

sort through a mountain of videos and lock down the suspect's position within a few seconds," said Wang Jun, chief program director from IntelLIFusion, a tech company in Shenzhen, Guangdong province.

Since the start of 2017, the company's facial recognition technology has helped solve more than 4,000 police cases across the city, including 500 criminal cases. The

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President lead sun with focus on security

By MO JINGXI
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President Xi Jinping's 18th Shanghai Cooperation Summit in Qidong province, on June 6, will attend the summit and Foreign Affairs Minister Wang Yi said on Monday. Leaders of all SCO observer states, as well as some major international organizations, will attend the summit at a news briefing.

It will be the first summit accepted by India and member states in Asia.

According to Wang, meetings and exchanges between participants on the SCO and future development in various areas in various circumstances and international and regional issues will sign and release a Declaration, and a series of cooperative documents on economy and humanitarian cooperation.

The declaration will be the SCO's experience since its establishment in 2001, continue to uphold the "three evils" of terrorism and extremism.

The summit also will discuss the SCO's role in global governance, consolidation of the Belt and Road Initiative, and a better external environment for the SCO member states.

During the meeting, SCO member states will discuss ways to improve cooperation amid the current international and regional security situation.

Wang said the meeting will formulate new plans to strengthen the interconnection of the Belt and Road Initiative and regional economic cooperation.

"We hope this summit will provide a blueprint for the direction and path for the development of this organization," Wang said.

Kyrgyz President Sooronbek, Kazakh President Nazarbayev and Russian President Vladimir Putin will meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping from June 6 to 8. Ministry spokesman Lu Huoqiang said in Beijing. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani also will pay a working visit to China.

6,000 years

5,000

4,000



Liangzhu Site

Hangzhou, Zhejiang province
Dating from 5,300 to 4,500 years ago. Remains of a huge city containing relics cover over 3 million square meters, indicating

Taosì Site

Xiangfen, Shanxi province
Dating from 4,300 to 4,100 years ago. It is believed to have been the capital of Emperor Yao, a legendary ancient ruler. The earliest palace ruins in China

Erikou Site

Luoyang, Henan province
Dating from 3,750 to 3,550 year ago. Contained the earliest known relics of a capital-level city of a dynasty. An axis in the city's layout can