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FOCUS

New pattern key direction of blueprint Dual-circulation development seen as vital part of coming 14th Five-Year Plan

China's new "dual-circulation" development pattern marks a major move for development for the coming years and is expected to be enshrined into the framework of the upcoming 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25), said economists and experts.

Zhang Yansheng, chief researcher at the China Center for International Economic Exchanges, said the idea of dual-circulation development will become a pivot of the 14th Five-Year Plan, highlighting China's new solution to coordinating domestic development and further opening-up in the new era.

The new development pattern, which looks at the domestic market as the country's economic mainstay with domestic and foreign markets complementing each other, reflects a major change in China's economic policymaking, Zhang said.

Zhang said the next period marks the first five years on the country's journey toward building a modern socialist country by 2049, and the development pattern

will help China build a complete domestic supply and demand system and meet people's growing need for a better life.

"Domestically, China will focus on meeting people's needs as well as boosting technological innovation to create new engines of growth," Zhang said. "On the external side, China will continue to expand opening-up and build an open economic system at higher levels. Under the new development pattern, China will open its doors wider to the outside world instead of simply seeking self-sufficient domestic development."

More effort will be made to boost domestic demand, spur consumer buying, open more industries — including finance — to foreign investors and gain a key edge in global competition.

Wang Changlin, president of the Academy of Macroeconomic Research of the National Development and Reform Commission, said China's new economic initiative is not intended



In north China's Hebei Province, a worker is busy making pet-product packing boxes in a factory. (Xinhua)

to seek seclusion under the domestic circulation model, as it emphasizes the opening of the economy.

After years of development, China is moving forward from the phase of relying more on international economic networks to a new stage of domestic and international economic networks complementing each other,

Wang said.

Also, China has the conditions to build the new development modes with the support of its extra-large domestic market, strong innovative capability, adequate funding, complete industrial support system and sufficient human resources, Wang added.

"The Chinese economy

has posted a stronger-than-expected rebound despite facing a grim and complicated situation both at home and abroad amid the COVID-19 pandemic, showing its great resilience, strong vitality and large amount of room for maneuver."

China's GDP expanded 0.7 percent year-on-year in the first three quarters,

turning positive after the negative 1.6 percent in the first half, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.

"The Chinese economy is playing a key role in supporting global economic stability," Wang added. "China will continue to build an open economy and share its development opportunities with the world."

Clarke Murphy, CEO of global executive search and assessment firm Russell Reynolds Associates, said the company sees enormous potential for the Chinese market given the considerable progress the country has made in preventing and controlling the coronavirus pandemic.

"The speed and scale with which China can try new technologies and new processes and learn from that scale to adapt how its companies run is rather incredible," he added. "We will continue to develop our teams of people focused on domestic Chinese companies." (China Daily)

China's health literacy rate doubled during 13th FYP period

China's health literacy rate increased from 10.25 percent in 2015 to 19.17 percent in 2019, almost getting doubled by the end of the 13th Five-Year Plan (FYP) period (2016-2020), China's National Health Commission (NHC) told a press briefing on October 18.

Health literacy refers to a person's ability to gain and comprehend health information and acquire relevant services to make appropriate decisions. Speaking at a press briefing on China's health development

during the 13th FYP period, Yu Xuejun, deputy head of the commission, said China's health indicators are generally better than the average levels in medium- and high-income nations.

The average life expectancy of Chinese citizens rose from 76.3 years at the end of 2015 to 77.3 years at the end of 2019. The maternal mortality rate dropped from 20.1 per 100,000 to 17.8 per 100,000 over the same period, Yu added.

(CGTN)

CULTURE

Women of Zhuang ethnic group 'embroiders' new life



Zhuang women are learning how to make Zhuang brocade. (Li Wenjun)

In Wulong, a water town in Shizong, Qijiang of southeast Yunnan province, the local women work as embroiderers at Yu Jingfeng's Zhuang Ethnic Brocade Studio. For these women, the brocades not only depict the fine local scenery but also embody their best wishes for a better life.

Wulong, mainly inhabited by people of the Zhuang ethnic minority, was once a poverty-stricken township. It is embroidery that has changed the life of local women. For those women working as at Yu Jingfeng's Zhuang Ethnic Brocade Studio, the brocades

not only depict the fine local scenery but also embody their best wishes for a better life.

"Our clothes are water-themed. Not just the Zhuang people, the tourists also love our products," said Yu, the studio owner. She went on to explain that the most striking embroidered pieces on the clothes in green and blue represent the local natural landscapes. The studio achieves an annual sale of over 10,000 brocades and clothes and brings in more than 20,000 yuan for each embroiderer.

(By Wang Huan)

VOICE

China's efforts to make sure all countries get access to vaccines

China has signed an agreement with Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, officially joining COVAX, an international initiative for equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, and thus injected positive energy into global governance and strengthened multilateralism.

The novel coronavirus pandemic is still raging in many parts of the world. Worse, the pandemic has had spillover effects, leading to social unrest and governance crisis in some countries, and global recession, creating new challenges for the international community.

International cooperation is the only way to deal with the global health crisis. Yet global coordination has been impeded by the tide of anti-globalization, and the emergence of unilateralism and protectionism in some countries.

Brexit and the United States' withdrawal from

international organizations and global and regional agreements have had a huge impact on multilateralism. While border control measures and protectionism have made global trade and investment difficult, and disrupted industrial and supply chains, some countries have resorted to unilateralism and protectionism, and thus fanning anti-globalization sentiments.

All this has created obstacles for global cooperation in the fight against the pandemic. If developed countries become self-centered and selfish, the pandemic will extract a high cost on less-and least-developed countries, not least because they have comparatively weak medical care systems. Without global coordination and cooperation in the fight against the pandemic, a vicious circle would be created leading to a deeper humanitarian crisis.

China has been

committed to building a global community of health for all since the pandemic broke out and has actively supported international organizations including the WHO and GAVI. It is also contributing to four of the 9 candidate vaccines that have entered phase-III clinical trials across the world. China was also the first country to say that its vaccines will be made global public goods, as President Xi Jinping declared while addressing the 73rd World Health Assembly on May 18. It is driving international cooperation and multilateralism at a time when the world needs more joint actions, not divisive talks and belligerent rhetoric, to contain the pandemic and boost post-pandemic global recovery.

(By Lan Shunzheng; The author is a research fellow at the Charhar Institute and a member of the Chinese Institute of Command and Control.)

OPENING-UP

CIIE to bring hope, confidence to global economy, says scholar

The upcoming China International Import Expo (CIIE) will bring hope and confidence to the global economy, an associate professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy of the National University of Singapore has told Xinhua.

As projected by the International Monetary Fund earlier this month, the global economy is expected to contract by 4.4 percent in 2020.

"The grim situation is largely attributable to the inefficient demand worldwide," Gu said.

The helplessness and hopelessness in achieving economic recovery prevail in many parts of the world, as business owners are unsure of when the

pandemic will be over, and are also trying hard to maintain the operation of their enterprises and keep employees' jobs.

Against such a background, Gu said, the hosting of the third CIIE in Shanghai early next month is of special importance, as it will shed a ray of hope over a gloomy sky, particularly since China is believed to be the only major economy to register positive growth this year.

The CIIE will also help stimulate China's domestic demand, which will result in more business opportunities both for domestic and international enterprises. In other words, the CIIE will be beneficial not only to Chinese enterprises but also to

those overseas, serving as a shot in the arm for the latter during hard times, Gu said.

Moreover, he believes that the CIIE will help promote two-way investment, as it further explores the information and market channels through which goods and capital can transfer.

Ever since 2006, China has been the top driving force behind the growth of the global economy. Thanks to China's success in containing the spread of COVID-19, and its relatively strong momentum in economic recovery, the nation will make a greater contribution to the global economy this year, Gu said. (Xinhua)

GO YUNNAN SEE XIAOKANG



In the Hutian community located in central Yunnan's Yuxi city, the elderly are enjoying a better-off retired life. In order to facilitate old people's life and cope with

the aging problem in general, a number of services, such as health exams, haircutting and housecleaning, have been provided here without charging them any money.

There is also a buffet restaurant not far from the community which prepares three meals a day for people living nearby, particularly old residents. (Li Wenjun)

POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Rural tourism helps Yunnan combat poverty

To turn lucid waters and lush mountains into invaluable assets in poverty-stricken areas, an important way is to develop tourism. In Yunnan, many villages have relied on their beautiful ecosystems, ethnic cultures and characteristic industries to develop rural tourism and increase income for poor households.

Laodabao is a small village tucked away in Lancang county, Pu'er city of southwest China's Yunnan province. The villagers, mainly of the Lahu ethnic group, often jokingly tell the visitors, "We can sing as soon as we can speak and dance as soon as we can walk."

In 2013, the village established Lancang Laodabao Happy Lahu Performing Arts Co Ltd, the first farmers' performing arts company in Pu'er. Ever since then, the villagers have shaken off poverty through folk singing and dancing.

To date, the company has entertained over 100,000 tourists. "The admission to the show is 50 yuan per person, and the proceeds are distributed to the performers on a quarterly basis. We encourage the villagers to participate in the performances. They get more pay for more work," said Peng Na'er, Party branch secretary of the village.

Xianrendong, a village inhabited by the Sani branch of the Yi ethnic group, is immediately next to the core zone of the Puzhehei scenic area in Qiubei county, Wenshan prefecture. In the height of summer every year, the lotus flowers ubiquitous in the village will be in full bloom under the blue sky and white clouds, attracting a large number of tourists from inside and outside Yunnan province. In the past years, the village has developed rural tourism to achieve a per-capita annual income of

over 50,000 yuan.

"My family had a per-capita income of just above 30,000 yuan in 2015. It rose to nearly 50,000 yuan within two years," a villager named Peng Guimei said with a smile.

And in Guangming Village of west Yunnan's Dali, some 6,000 walnut trees are more than 200 years old, and those over 100 years old are common sights. Given its unique resources, Guangming has developed the walnut industry. On the one hand, the village has introduced a specialized company, which produces beverages and creative cultural products with walnuts purchased from the villagers. One the other hand, the village has held several walnut cultural festivals to help boost homestay hotels, farmhouse restaurants, passenger transport and other tourism-related industries. Through these efforts, the once poor and primitive village has taken on a new look.

In the province as a hole, in 2019, more than 1,000 poor villages developed cultural tourism on a certain scale. Rural tourism attracted 360 million visitors to these villages, bringing in 230 billion yuan and lifting 110,000 people out of poverty. (Duan Jianxin)



Villagers of Laodabao receive tourists.

ECOLOGY

Yu Xiaode and his monkey friends

Yu whistled as he walked into the forest, holding a bag in one hand and some usnea in the other. In no time, the monkeys jumped off the branches and surrounded him in the middle. When Yu cast the usnea, they jumped up in the air to catch it. In the viewing area a dozen meters away, the tourists raised their mobile phones and cameras to capture these moments of harmonious coexistence between man and nature.

Yu, a farmer of the Lisu ethnic group, lives in Xiangguqing village of Tacheng town, Weixi county, Diqing prefecture. He works as a ranger, and protecting the monkeys is part of his job. Today Yu is so familiar to the monkeys that they can understand his whistles and directions, and they are totally free of worries when playing and feeding in his presence.

For the tourists to the national park of Yunnan snub-nosed monkeys in Shangri-La of Diqing prefecture, every moment of Yu Xiaode and his fellow-rangers feeding the lovely animals are not to be missed.

On the one hand, Yu knows their temperaments and families so well that he can state clearly the character and personality of each of

them. On the other hand, the monkeys can understand his whistles and words, and they are free of worries when playing and feeding in the presence of him.

"Our work as rangers have made the mountains lush and the number of monkeys bigger. They know we love them and are not afraid of us," said Yu. He is proud that he can protect these spirits of the forests.

The Yunnan snub-nosed monkeys, mainly found in the Baima Snow Mountains, share the same fame with pandas as China's national first-class protected animals. "They have human-like faces. Their big, red lips are very special," Yu said in a manner that would make you feel as if he were talking about his families.

Now the tourists were amazed at how close Yu could be to the monkeys. They were especially impressed by his ability to state clearly the character and personality of each monkey. "We protect nature and treat monkeys like friends, if there is a secret," Yu smiled. "If we carry on hunting and damaging the environment, we and our future generations will ultimately suffer."

(By Zhou Lei)