

Vaccine study

Pfizer may be less effective than first thought against Delta variant

TOP NEWS, PAGE 3



Canada names first indigenous governor-general

WORLD, PAGE 7



Forefront of AI

Cutting-edge tech applications debut at conference in Shanghai

BUSINESS, PAGE 9

CHINA DAILY

GLOBAL EDITION 中国日报 THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021

中国共产党与世界政党领导人峰会 CPC AND WORLD POLITICAL PARTIES SUMMIT



Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Chinese president, delivers a keynote address in Beijing to the CPC and World Political Parties Summit via video link on Tuesday. LI XIANG / XINHUA

PATROL TEAM'S GREEN EFFORTS PAY OFF

Hard work brings improvements to area of Guizhou

By HOU LIQIANG in Beijing and YANG JUN in Guiyang

A group of people patrol the Wuma River, a branch of the Chishui River in Guizhou province, in their spare time — sometimes deep into the night.

They pick up waste and prevent people from fishing in the tributary, which runs for nearly 40 kilometers through the city of Renhuai.

The group's work is not only dirty but also dangerous, as team members sometimes face violence when they confront people fishing illegally in the waterway.



Despite this, the group of volunteers has been doing this work for more than four years as part of the Wuma Environmental Protection Society, the first such civil organization in Renhuai county, Zunyi.

As China steps up environmental conservation in the Yangtze River Basin, the society is just a small part of increased civil participation in joint efforts to restore the Chishui, a major tributary of the Yangtze.

The source of the Chishui, which runs for most of its length in Guizhou, is in Yunnan province, and it joins the Yangtze in Sichuan province. The Chishui flows for more than half its length, or some 236 kilometers, through Zunyi.

See River, page 2

Xi: Parties should promote growth for all

Xddigjkgngnhnrkhrkh

By MO JINGXI and CAO DESHENG

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, called on Tuesday for international cooperation for shared development and opposing technological blockades, scientific divides and development decoupling, saying any political manipulation for the purpose of blocking other countries' development is doomed to fail.

Xi, also Chinese president, made the remarks in his keynote speech at the CPC and World Political Parties Summit, delivered via video link from Beijing.

He called on the world's political parties to shoulder their historic responsibility to promote development with results shared by people of all countries and to improve the fairness, efficiency and coordina-

tion of global development.

Development is the right of all countries, not a privilege of a small minority of countries, Xi said, adding that all countries should enjoy equal developmental opportunities and rights.

He said the CPC will actively promote global governance to make new contributions to mankind in dealing with common challenges.

Xi underscored the need to uphold multilateralism, saying international rules should be recognized by all countries, not formulated by a small number of individuals. International cooperation should serve the whole of mankind, instead of being distorted by group politics in a quest for world hegemony, he added.

Xi called on the world's political parties to strengthen international cooperation to better cope with global risks and challenges.

Facing a COVID-19 pandemic that still surges globally, countries should intensify solidarity and cooperation to narrow the vaccine gap, oppose politicizing the disease and jointly advance the building of a global community of health for all, he said.

Xi underlined the need for countries to improve governance in order to raise their capacity for enhancing people's well-being.

People of all countries have the right to choose their own development path and institutional model, he said, and there are various ways to realize democracy. Whether a country is democratic or not should be judged by its own people, not by a small minority of individuals, he added.

Xi called on the world's political parties to build consensus for upholding the common value of humanity in promoting peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy

and freedom. The parties were also urged to promote international coordination and cooperation and to advance the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

Xi said that the CPC remains true to its founding aspiration and mission for people's happiness and that it has also been striving to promote peace and development.

China has worked to be a promoter of world peace, contributor to global development and champion of international order, he added.

Xi said that the country will firmly pursue the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics to develop itself and at the same time benefit the world. A country's efforts to independently explore a path that suits its national conditions to achieve modernization should be respected, he added.

The CPC will unite and lead the Chinese people to comprehensively

deepen reform and expand opening-up and make new contributions to the common development and prosperity of all countries, Xi said.

The trend of opening-up and cooperation remains unchanged, Xi said, pointing out that the CPC stands ready to strengthen communication with the world's political parties to guide economic globalization to become more open, inclusive, mutually beneficial and balanced toward greater win-win results.

The summit, with the theme "For the People's Well-Being: The Responsibility of Political Parties", is an important multilateral diplomatic event held at a time when the CPC is marking the 100th anniversary of its founding. More than 500 leaders of political parties and organizations from more than 160 countries, as well as over 10,000 party representatives, participated in the event.

See Summit, page 3

Evidence indicates coronavirus evolved in nature, scientists say

By ZHAO HUANXIN in Washington huanxinzhao@chinadailyusa.com

The virus that led to the COVID-19 pandemic evolved in nature, and suggestions of a laboratory-leak source "remain without scientifically validated evidence", a group of international scientists wrote in The Lancet medical journal.

In a letter published on Monday, 24 physicians, veterinarians, epidemiologists, virologists, biologists, ecologists and public health experts from around the world dismissed the lab-leak notion, as recent, peer-

reviewed studies strongly suggest that COVID-19 has a natural origin.

In February last year, the same team of scientists wrote in a letter, also published in The Lancet, saying: "We stand together to strongly condemn conspiracy theories suggesting that COVID-19 does not have a natural origin."

In the new letter, which ran under the headline "Science, not speculation, is essential to determine how SARS-CoV-2 reached humans", the group writes, "Recently, many of us have individually received inquiries asking whether we still support

what we said in early 2020.

"The answer is clear: We reaffirm our expression of solidarity with those in China who confronted the outbreak then, and the many health professionals around the world who have since worked to exhaustion, and at personal risk, in the relentless and continuing battle against this virus. Our respect and gratitude have only grown with time."

The authors said their original letter was also intended to express their working view that SARS-CoV-2 "most likely" originated in nature and not in a laboratory.

This view was based on early genetic analysis of the new virus and "well-established evidence" from previous emerging infectious diseases, including the coronaviruses that cause the common cold as well as the original SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV, they wrote.

SARS-CoV-2 stands for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, the virus that causes COVID-19, while MERS is short for Middle East respiratory syndrome, another viral respiratory illness.

"We believe the strongest clue from new, credible and peer-

viewed evidence in the scientific literature is that the virus evolved in nature, while suggestions of a laboratory-leak source of the pandemic remain without scientifically validated evidence that directly supports it in peer-reviewed scientific journals," the new letter says.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said at a news briefing on Wednesday that the report of the China-WHO joint mission, released in March, made it clear that a lab leak is extremely unlikely as the origin.

Regrettably, some in the United States have blatantly engaged in

political maneuvering on the issue of origin, and their only purpose is to shift to China the responsibility for their own failure, Wang said.

Such political tricks won't change the fact that over 600,000 lives were lost in the US due to politicians who ignored science and politicized the anti-pandemic response, he added.

The authentic conclusion reached by the WHO joint mission will not change, Wang said, adding that origin tracing of the virus will not be limited to a single region and should be carried out in many countries and regions.

In late May, US President Joe Biden called for a US-based probe into the

See Scientists, page 3

Path has been charted for country's rejuvenation

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, looked into both the glorious tradition and the moments of humiliation of the nation's past, elaborated on the complexities of the present and charted the path for the future of Chinese society while addressing the celebration of the CPC's 100th anniversary on July 1.

His speech was filled with praise, introspection, reassurances, commitment and determination, and it highlighted the

WORLD WATCH

By Karori Singh

pathways to a brighter future and made the Chinese position clear on some issues of outside concern.

Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, was very candid and straightforward in his approach to identifying the hurdles and reasons for optimism regarding the

rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. It was the CPC that led the Chinese against the three menaces of "imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism" and established the People's Republic of China, which "made the people masters of the country".

That success in the new democratic revolution also created the social conditions for realizing national rejuvenation that highlights convergence of Marxist-Leninist principles, Mao Zedong Thought and Deng Xiaoping The-

ry, among others, for developing socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Since 1949, China has undergone great transformations, from a poor and backward country to a moderately prosperous society through constant reform and opening-up. It is an expression of the commitment, capability and competence of the people that socialism could save and develop China, thus, in Xi's words,

See Rejuvenation, page 3

NY tackles gun violence



Governor Andrew Cuomo prepares to sign into law in New York on Tuesday legislation making it easier for people to bring lawsuits against gun-makers and dealers. Manufacturers have been largely exempt from liability by federal law, which New York's law addresses. Cuomo has announced a crackdown on a "new epidemic" of shootings in New York. JEENAH MOON / REUTERS See story, page 6



INSIDE 'Icebreakers' key to Sino-UK business ties Comment, page 12

www.chinadailyglobal.com

A member of China Daily Global ©2021 All Rights Reserved Vol.3—No. 627

Newsstand prices: US \$1 Canada C\$1 UK 1.5 EU 1.0 Kenya 50 Kenya Shilling Asia Pacific: Thailand 120 thb; Philippines 120 php; Myanmar 2000 kyat; Japan 210 yen; Dubai 10 dirham; Pakistan 300 rupee