

Scenic magnet

Guilin attracts more inbound visitors with service upgrades

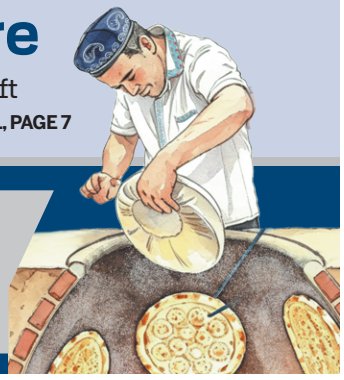
LIFE, PAGE 16

Exams rolled out for elderly care workers

CHINA, PAGE 4

Crust of culture

Xinjiang's naan turns tandoor craft into a household daily ritual VISUAL, PAGE 7



CHINA DAILY

中国日报

FRIDAY, November 6, 2026 chinadaily.com.cn RMB **¥2**

XI'S VISION | PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY

Democracy sprouts from local elections

Multiple-tier people's congress system puts power in hands of China's citizens

By CAO YIN
caoyin@chinadaily.com.cn

When President Xi Jinping cast his vote to elect deputies for Beijing's Xicheng district people's congress on Nov 5, 2021, he highlighted that the process was an embodiment of how the nation is run by the people.

On that day, Xi, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, said that the election of deputies is fundamental to China's people's congress system.

He emphasized that whole-process people's democracy relies on the integration of democratic elections with democratic consultations, decision-making, management and oversight.

As democracy is a shared value of humanity, Xi stressed during a central conference on work related to people's congresses in 2021 that the key to a country's democracy lies in whether the people run the country, depending on if the people have the right to vote and, more important, if the people have the right to broad participation. There are many ways to achieve democracy, he said, calling for efforts to improve the system of people's congresses to ensure the realization of whole-process democracy in the country.

China's people's congress system serves as the country's fundamental political system, based on the principle that all power belongs to the people.

It is structured in multiple tiers, from the National People's Congress, the country's top legislature, down to congresses at the provincial, city, county and township levels. Deputies are elected at each level every five years. Between the elections, the consultative democracy continuously engages with the people through the congress system via means such as feedback loops, public opinion hotlines and community consultations.

This year, a new round of elections for county and township deputies is underway nationwide.

See ***Elections,*** *page 3*

FOR CLEAN WINDOWS, JUST PRESS A BUTTON

Smart robots turn a heavy chore into a simple task

By XU LIN in Beijing
and **ZHU XINGXIN** in Taiyuan

There is good news for those who dread cleaning windows. There are robots out there to take on the tedious and sometimes dangerous task, and do a good job of it.

China Vibes 潮生中国 — GIFTS —

Ask Liang Yu. The 55-year-old resident of Guangzhou, Guangdong province, bought a window-cleaning robot for her 11th-floor apartment. Its performance was so impressive that she bought another one for her mother-in-law.

It was a welcome alternative to a chore she once tackled or paid someone to do. To get started, Liang fills the robot's water inlet with solution, plugs in the power cord and secures the robot's safety tether beside the window. Then she presses a button.

The device, fitted with two discs covered in cleaning pads, clings to the outside of the window and works its way across the glass.

"It's a wonderful invention and checks all my boxes. I can clean the windows whenever I want," said Liang, a businesswoman.

Initially, Liang was hesitant to buy the robot due to safety concerns. However, after watching livestream demonstrations, she paid about 1,200 yuan ($180) in a promotional sale last year and got one for herself.

According to AVC, a home appliances market consultancy, China's window-cleaning robot market expanded from 480 million yuan in 2020 to 1.7 billion yuan in 2025.

See ***Robots,*** *page 3*

Online
See more by scanning the code.



Overseas students use a window-cleaning robot under the guidance of an e-commerce livestreamer at Shanxi Jiashida Robot Technology in Taiyuan, Shanxi province, on Oct 31. ZHU XINGXIN / CHINA DAILY



Visitors explore the Sri Lanka Pavilion at the 9th China International Import Expo in Shanghai on Thursday. The expo opened on Thursday at the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai). Sri Lanka is serving as a guest country of honor at the CIIE for the first time. ZHANG WEI / CHINA DAILY

9th China International Import Expo opens in Shanghai

By SHI JING and **ZHONG NAN**
in Shanghai



Participants exchange views ahead of the opening ceremony of the 9th China International Import Expo and the Hongqiao International Economic Forum in Shanghai on Thursday. WANG JING / CHINA DAILY

Despite rising uncertainties and headwinds in global trade, confidence of foreign companies in China remains unchanged, and this can be largely attributed to the country's continued efforts to advance higher-level opening-up and facilitate innovation, officials and top executives attending the 9th China International Import Expo said.

That confidence is reflected in the record highs registered at this year's CIIE, which opened in Shanghai on Thursday and runs through Tuesday. Altogether, 4,142 overseas exhibitors are present at this year's business exhibition — the core commercial segment — more than in any previous editions. Furthermore, the total exhibition area exceeds 440,000 square meters for the first time, and more than 480 exhibits are expected to make their debut, another high.

In his speech during Thursday's opening ceremony, Vice-Premier Ding Xuexiang said that various opening-up policies of China have been first introduced or better interpreted to the world through the CIIE. Quality products, innovative services, frontier technologies and application scenarios have all been extended worldwide through the expo.

He said that amid a rapidly changing world economy, the consecutive CIIE editions are China's active moves to advocate an open world economy and strike a dynamic balance in world trade.

Alexander De Croo, administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, said that while the world is facing rising pressures due to economic uncertainty, geopolitical tensions and climate change, the CIIE provides a crucial platform of dialogue and cooperation.

The value of the CIIE lies not only in opening up the Chinese market, but also in the business ties that are created and tightened in the process, sharpening competitiveness of economies and elevating prosperity, he said.

Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker agreed that dialogues addressing challenges and different perspectives openly and constructively form the very foundation of common prosperity.

"Europe does not seek isolation. We seek engagement while also ensuring that our economic resilience and industrial capabilities remain strong," said Stocker, advocating deeper China-Austria cooperation in future-oriented technologies.

Speaking at Thursday's event, Gabonese President Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema applauded China's green transition and digitalization.

He said the zero-tariff treatment that China has comprehensively granted since May 1 to African countries that have diplomatic relations with China will help to build a community with a shared future for humanity.

This year, the number of Fortune Global 500 companies and industry leaders attending the CIIE tops 300 for the first time.

Caterpillar Inc, a United States-based construction and mining machinery manufacturer, is showcasing a range of digital technologies, energy solutions and services to address challenges across the infrastructure, mining and energy sectors.

Alan Yang, the company's senior vice-president, considers the expo a valuable platform to connect with customers and key stakeholders, better understand their evolving needs and explore new opportunities.

This year's expo is hosting over 2,000 first-time exhibitors, including Singapore-based Perennial Holdings. The group's project in Tianjin — China's first wholly foreign-owned tertiary comprehensive hospital — began operations in February 2025. A similar project is expected to open in Guangzhou, Guangdong province, at the end of this year, according to Zhai Lili, the company's head for brand promotion in China. Such progress testifies to China's institutional opening-up in trade of services, she said.

Around 170 enterprises and 30 overseas organizations have participated in all nine editions of the CIIE. Swedish medical technology company Elekta is one of them.

Gong Anming, president for China at Elekta, said the company is shifting from introducing global technologies to developing innovations locally and bringing Chinese clinical experience to international markets.

Contact the writers at shijing@chinadaily.com.cn

Inside

• Editorial, **page 8**
• See more, **page 13**

Stronger marine cooperation stressed

By LI MENGHAN, ZHANG YI and **HU MEIDONG** in Xiamen, Fujian

Global ocean experts called on Thursday for stronger international cooperation to translate agreements into tangible results, acknowledging China's experience in marine restoration and governance as a valuable contribution to this shared effort.

"The ocean faces pressures that are increasingly interacting with each other: climate change, unsustainable fishing, pollution, habitat degradation, invasive species and other pressures," said Grethel Aguilar, director-general of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Aguilar made the remarks at the opening ceremony of the 21st World Ocean Week in Xiamen, Fujian province. The event is themed "Safeguard the Deep Blue Together, Foster Human-Ocean Harmony".

Aguilar noted that while the numbers of coral reefs, sharks and rays are shrinking, mangroves have shifted from net loss to net gain, indicating that the problem is "not whether recovery is possible", but whether it can be achieved at the speed and scale required, and with the scientific rigor needed.

"Xiamen and Fujian have a long record of working with the sea rather than against it, from coastal wetland and mangrove restoration to the marine science now advancing at the Fujian Ocean Innovation Center. This is the kind of practical, science-based approach that the ocean needs," she said.

See ***Ocean,*** *page 3*

Inside

• Views, **page 9**
• See more, **page 5**

INSIDE

Jiangsu's soccer league drives grassroots play

Sports, page 19

国内统一连续出版物号: CN 11-0091
国际标准连续出版物号: ISSN 0253-9543
代号: 1-3

ANN ASIA NEWS NETWORK
A member of the Asia News Network

© 2026 China Daily
All Rights Reserved

Vol. 46 — No. 14496