

# CIIE's Circle of Friends Expanding

By LI Linxu

As an important platform to advance high-level opening up, the sixth edition of China International Import Expo (CIIE) will be held in Shanghai from November 5 to 10.

Participants from 154 countries, regions and international organizations are expected to join this year's CIIE, said Sheng Qiuping, vice minister of commerce, at a recent media briefing.

More than 3,400 exhibitors and 394,000 professional visitors have registered to attend the event, said Sheng, noting that CIIE is welcomed around the world, with an increasingly larger circle of friends.

Sixty-nine countries and three international organization have confirmed to be this year's country exhibitors, of which 11 attend CIIE for the first time.

Honduras, Kazakhstan, Serbia, South Africa and Vietnam will serve as this year's guest countries of honor.

Of particular note is that this year's China Pavilion will cover 2,500 square meters, the largest ever in the history of the CIIE.

The exhibition area of the business exhibition will be around 367,000 square meters, and 289 Global Fortune 500 companies and industry-leading enterprises will attend this year's CIIE, both exceeding the previous levels.

The industry heavy-weights to at-



The National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai) is decorated to welcome the upcoming sixth CIIE. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

tend the expo include the world's top 15 vehicle brands, top 10 industrial electrical companies, and top 10 medical equipment companies.

The world's top three miners, top four grain traders, and top five shipping

companies will also be on the stage of this year's expo.

A batch of new products in the fields of high-end equipment manufacturing, green and environmental protection, and biotechnologies will be un-

veiled at this year's expo.

The Hongqiao International Economic Forum, an important part of the CIIE, will host a series of forums, and release the World Openness Report 2023, according to Sheng.

## Exchange & Cooperation

# Talented Young Scientist Program Celebrates 10th Anniversary

By ZHONG Jianli

Scientific and people-to-people exchanges serve as a bridge for enhancing mutual knowledge, trust and affinity in the science and technology community.

The Talented Young Scientist Program (TYSP) launched by China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) in 2013 offers young scientists from other countries a good opportunity to get acquainted with the latest sci-tech developments in China and promote international sci-tech cooperation, Zhang Guangjun, vice minister of China's Ministry of Science and Technology, said during a symposium marking the 10th anniversary of the program on October 31.

The TYSP has been welcomed by

sci-tech institutions and young experts in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) partner countries, attracting more than 700 young scientists from about 40 countries to work and study in more than 200 institutions in China.

At the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing earlier in October, China announced eight steps to support high-quality BRI cooperation, including advancing innovation in science and technology and supporting people-to-people exchanges.

Sun Jian, deputy director general of the Department of International Cooperation at MOST, said the TYSP has not only strengthened mutual trust for inter-governmental cooperation, but also provided convenient and efficient channels for universities, research insti-

tutions and enterprises of various countries to expand and deepen cooperation.

"It has also built an open and inclusive platform for young scientists from different countries to learn from each other," Sun added.

Addressing the event by video, Yasser Refaat, vice minister of Egypt's Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, said the TYSP "with its remarkable ability to nurture young scientists" has not only resulted in researchers' excellence but also significantly contributed to the exchange of innovative concepts and technological solutions for addressing global challenges.

Exchanges and cooperation under the TYSP have yielded results in various fields, such as agriculture, the life sciences, chemistry and chemical in-

dustry, materials, the environment and medicine.

Gao Xiang, director general of China Science and Technology Exchange Center, said TYSP participants have worked together to build an open international innovation environment, carried out joint research to enhance scientific research capacity, and gained career development.

There have been several academic achievements, including R&D papers, monographs and patents, which have contributed to global scientific and technological progress.

During the symposium, a collection of articles on the TYSP participants was released, which will provide helpful references for international sci-tech cooperation and cultivating young scientists in the future.

# Participants Laud TYSP's Role in Promoting Exchanges

By CHEN Chunyou

The 10th anniversary of the Talented Young Scientist Program (TYSP) is a milestone from which it will move forward with its mission to ignite passion in young scientists and support them to come up with innovations and breakthroughs that will enrich collective knowledge.

This was the opinion of the attendees at a symposium marking the 10th anniversary of the TYSP organized in Beijing on October 31 by the Department of International Cooperation of Ministry of Science and Technology and the China Science and Technology Exchange Center.

The researchers who had participated in the program and their institutions from around the globe shared their stories with the TYSP and spoke about their expectations.

Gao Qingzhu, deputy director of

the Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, said his organization received five scholars from Mongolia and Egypt. They applied to take part in projects with their Chinese counterparts and published high-quality papers during the period of cooperation.

Gao suggested extending the TYSP research cooperation span to more than one year since it takes time to get results from agricultural research. This can better meet researchers' needs, he said.

Farkhod Kasimov, an associate professor at the Tashkent State Technical University of Uzbekistan, joined the TYSP in 2018, when he was invited to take part in cooperative research at the Institute of Automation, Shandong Academy of Sciences in east China. It was his first visit to China. During his stay at the institute, he met researchers

from different backgrounds, and had the opportunity to implement his research ideas.

Kasimov and his team made significant progress in improving the automatic control system of agricultural machinery.

Kasimov, who is currently studying intelligent agricultural machinery in automation, hoped that the scope of scientific and practical cooperation under the TYSP would expand in the future.

In the era of globalization, people are faced with common challenges, such as poverty, epidemics, natural disasters and climate change.

The TYSP has created a platform where scientists across the world can work together to promote exchanges and share knowledge, improving humanity's living environment, said Naser Golsanami, an Iranian researcher at the Shandong University of Sci-

ence and Technology who had taken part in the TYSP. He also said the program can play a key role in sustainable development, high-quality industrial growth and talent cultivation.

"The TYSP not only contributes to the advancement of science, but also plays a significant role in fostering understanding and collaboration among people and nations," said Ferenc Hegyi, a research fellow at the Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Hegyi, who joined the TYSP in 2019, regards it as a life-changing experience. He said it enabled him to learn about new research practices, experience a new culture, and build cross-cultural understanding.

More young researchers across the globe should participate in the program if they have the opportunity, he added.

## Policy

# Action Plan to Stimulate Patent Application

By ZHONG Jianli

To promote the industrialization of patents and accelerate the transformation of innovation achievements into real productivity, the General Office of the State Council recently issued the Special Action Plan for Patent Transformation and Application (2023-2025).

The plan proposes that a number of high-value patents should be industrialized by 2025, while the rate of patent industrialization in universities and R&D institutions will have increased significantly. The turnover of technology contracts involving patents nationwide is expected to reach 800 billion RMB, and the output value of certified patent-intensive products should exceed one trillion RMB.

"Through the implementation of a three-year special action, we aim to solve problems in patent transformation through improving patent quality and strengthening policy incentives, so as to enhance the efficient use of patents and better help high-quality economic development," said Shen Changyu, commissioner of China National Intellectual Property Administration during a recent press briefing in Beijing.

Data shows that a total of 1.6 million invention patents had been granted in core industries of China's digital economy by 2022, accounting for 38 percent of the total amount of invention patents, which provided strong support for the digital transformation and upgrading of

industries.

According to the plan, it is necessary to sort out and revitalize the stock of patents in universities and scientific research institutions, advance the growth of small- and medium-sized enterprises through patent industrialization, strengthen the efficiency of intellectual property (IP) application in key industries, and cultivate and promote patent-intensive products.

It also calls for the building of a high-standard IP market system and a unified and standardized IP trading system, as well as promoting diversified financial support for IP development.

Du Mo, head of regulations at China National Financial Supervision and Administration, said the Administration will continue to improve the IP pledge financing policy system, support banks to provide loans for the R&D of intangible assets such as patents, and expand the paperless processing of pledge registration.

In deepening international cooperation on IP, the plan proposes to promote patent sharing and applications in the Belt and Road Initiative partners and BRICS countries, and encourage opening up IP rights of green technology internationally.

According to Shen, China has set up IP cooperation relations with more than 80 countries and regions and international organizations, and established the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) with 32 countries, which effectively promoted IP international cooperation and exchanges.



The Fuxing intelligent bullet train prepares for departure at Fuzhou South Station. It is a new generation of high-speed intelligent trains developed by China with independent intellectual property rights. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

# China's Manned Spacecraft Blazes Innovations in Space Exploration

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To enhance R&D, the manufacturing team used advanced automation technologies, replacing manual labor with automation. This improved assembly guidance and contour checks, improving both efficiency and accuracy.

For the Shenzhou-17 mission, the team continued to use the relay terminal developed by the CASC. The relay terminal, along with the payload developed for the relay satellite, establishes a "space highway" that ensures uninterrupted communication between the spacecraft and the ground, so that the ground testing personnel can monitor the spacecraft's flight status in real time.

## Putting people first

However, the most important feature of the Shenzhou-17 is ensuring foolproof safety of the crew, according to Chen Tongxiang, a researcher at CASC.

It goes with the Chinese governance philosophy that the people and their lives always come first.

China's manned spaceflight development has been a process of solving

problems painstakingly and innovatively.

When the manned spaceflights started, our development team faced a large number of technological challenges, said Zhang Bainan, deputy chief designer of China's manned spaceflight project. But they rose to the challenge, aiming at independent breakthrough technology.

"We mastered the core key technologies of manned spaceflight step by step," Zhang added.

According to Chen, in the past two decades, besides breakthroughs in manned spaceflight technology, China has also achieved similar success in cabin technologies, including using robotic arms to assist in cabin activities, and in on-orbit rendezvous and docking technology.

The next step is to study the living conditions of the astronauts in space, including growing plants in space to ensure fresh vegetable supply in the future.

Zhang called the manned spaceflight spirit one of improvement, unity and cooperation, and pioneering and innovation.