

News on China | No. 44



About 10 min read.



Geopolitics

From Ningde Village to Shanghai Consensus, Global South Forum Turns Theme into Mechanism

On 17 and 18 October, hundreds of party representatives, scholars and media delegates met in the city. Wang Shaoju, a national honouree, traced how Chixi village left thatched huts and sweet-potato meals after a 1984 readers' letter, and delegates rose to applaud. Across six sub-forums, the two-day meeting ended with a formal Shanghai Consensus, a 'Bandung Circuit' release and a new four-outlet media centre.

Read More:

- Guancha, 21 October 2026

- teleSUR, 18 October 2026

Kyrgyz Rail Section Crosses 2,000 Local Hires as First Tunnel Breaks Through

Civil works began in June 2025. Crews have now started 27 tunnels, 43 bridges and 88 subgrade sections, holing through the first at 209.6 metres. The project company has employed more than 2,000 Kyrgyz person-times, trained 1,800 at three skills bases, spent over 10 billion som locally and bought more than 60 percent of its cement in Kyrgyzstan. In Tashkent on 17 October, Premier Li Qiang told President Shavkat Mirziyoyev that Beijing would ensure high-quality delivery.

Read More:

- Xinhua, 18 October 2026
- China Railway, 9 September 2026



National Politics

At Long March Commemoration, Xi Reiterates Push for Military Modernisation by 2027

At the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, a gathering heard that remembering history is how the future is created. Xi Jinping traced the 1934 to 1936 victory to Party leadership, Mao Zedong's core position decisive, and mass support. He then restated the founding story as five imperatives: Party ideals, high-quality development, a 'great struggle', a world-class military by 2027 and Party self-governance.

Read More:

- CCTV, 22 October 2026
- South China Morning Post, 22 October 2026

Rescuers Reach Xizang Villages at 4,800 Metres as Magnitude-7.0 Quake Kills 16

At 10:33 p.m. on Thursday, police, firefighters, troops and volunteers began moving through the night toward the epicentre. The county seat lost power and communications, and 339 homes were damaged. The national response rose from Level IV to Level III, with 50 million yuan (US \$7.44 million) for relief and 30 million yuan for recovery. Officials reported 16 dead and 76 injured on Friday and relocated 12,000 people, monitoring seismic activity to prevent secondary disasters.

Read More:

- Global Times, 23 October 2026
- India Today, 23 October 2026



Economy

Canton Fair at 70 Spotlights Robots and Green Goods as New Products Hit 23.2 Percent

In 1957 the first session filled 9,600 square metres and drew 1,200 buyers. This month's 140th edition, built around an advanced-manufacturing first phase, fills 1.55 million square metres and brings in more than 30,000 companies. Organisers report that 64 percent of exhibitors now apply industrial internet or artificial intelligence technologies. New products account for a record 23.2 percent of displays and green goods for 26 percent.

Read More:

- Xinhua, 15 October 2026
- NewsGD, 14 October 2026

China Drafts One Rulebook for the World's Largest Grid as Spot Trading Goes National

The National Development and Reform Commission released proposed spot-market rules on 19 October, replacing 2023 interim rules. They would apply to every provincial, regional and interprovincial spot market from 1 January 2027, with consultation to 18 November. Clearing would favour locational marginal pricing, with real-time dispatch set 5 to 15 minutes ahead. That shift from administrative dispatch to node-level prices is what lets a high-renewables grid run.

Read More:

- Caixin, 20 October 2026
- Energy Storage, 21 October 2026



Agriculture and Environment

FAO Names Yin Yuzhen Among 100 Women Heroes for Turning Nearly 5,000 Hectares Green

Over four decades in the Mu Us Sandy Land, a rural woman and her husband planted more than eight million trees by hand. Their work restored nearly 5,000 hectares of barren dunes around their home in Inner Mongolia. The United Nations food agency honoured her in Rome on 15 October, during the International Year of the Woman Farmer 2026.

Read More:

- FAO, 15 October 2026

- People's Daily Online, 16 October 2026

Hydrogen Reward Funds Tied to Five-Cluster Pilot Results in National Chain Push

Regional alliances will spend four years scaling clean fuel across heavy industry, freight and refuelling, from the north-east to the far west. Each cluster can receive up to 1.6 billion yuan (US \$238 million), released only after annual reviews of its performance. The rules ask regions to build one supply chain, share hydrogen across provincial borders and avoid duplicating projects. A March policy set a 2030 target of 100,000 fuel cell vehicles.

Read More:

- Xinhua, 16 October 2026
- Sxcoal, 16 October 2026



Science and Technology

DeepSeek Opens the Inference Engine Behind Its Production Model to Any Operator

The disclosure came with hard numbers: one cluster handles 155 trillion tokens a day, and revenue works out at US \$38 per GPU-hour. The engine was published on Tuesday under the Apache 2.0 licence. It runs on Nvidia SM100 and Huawei Ascend 950 chips, so operators can use either. A Chinese expert quoted by Global Times said the shift from 'opening up capabilities' to 'opening up productivity' would lower deployment costs for developers worldwide.

Read More:

- SiliconANGLE, 20 October 2026
- Global Times, 21 October 2026

Tech Finance Opens to Global Capital as 18 Measures Back AI in Commerce

A central bank plan with ten other departments sets 2030 as the deadline for full-chain services across Beijing, Shanghai and the Greater Bay Area. Nine departments also issued 18 measures the same day to embed artificial intelligence in shopping, logistics and consumer services. The plan eases cross-border fund management for multinational firms and for Chinese companies financing overseas research centres. Governor Pan Gongsheng said the bank would widen relending, bond-market and cross-border financing pilots.

Read More:

- Xinhua, 19 October 2026

- CGTN, 19 October 2026



People's Life and Culture

Lu Xun Editions Museum Opens Beside His Childhood Home on 90th Anniversary of His Death

Collector Shi Xingwen preserved the material for more than 50 years. He has now given 1,000-plus volumes to Shaoxing, the writer's birthplace, for permanent public display. The collection includes a 1926 *Wandering* and the 1938 complete works, editions through which the texts have travelled. In Japan, *My Old Home* has been required middle-school reading since 1953.

Read More:

- China News Service, 20 October 2026
- Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research, 23 October 2026

Chongyang Festival Spotlights 323 Million Elderly as Beijing Court Stresses Filial Duty

Lion dances and opera for grandparents marked the Double Ninth on 18 October, now Seniors' Day in law. Ahead of the holiday, Beijing No 3 Intermediate People's Court released six cases on children's duty to ageing parents. It said its 4,415 support suits since 2021 now turn less on money than on care quality and who manages the family property. Some 323.38 million people are aged 60 or above, 23 percent of the population.

Read More:

- China Daily, 16 October 2026
- Global Times, 31 July 2026