

Huyan Village in Shanxi develops rural scenic spot to boost tourism



In recent years, Huyan Village has striven to develop its flower industry and rural scenic spots to boost tourism and increase the income of villagers. Photos: Xinhua

TOURISM

China Sees 105m Tourists During Mid-Autumn Festival Holiday

A total of 105 million Chinese tourists traveled around the country during this year's three-day Mid-Autumn Festival holiday which started last Friday, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism said on Sunday.

The figure represented a 7.6 per cent increase compared with the holiday last year, the ministry said.

Domestic tourism revenue generated during the period totaled 47.28 billion yuan (around FJ\$14.57bn), up 8.7 per cent year on year, according to ministry figures.

Many events that promote family values, patriotism and traditional Chinese culture were held across China during the holiday, the ministry noted.

Among them was the Shanghai Tourism Festival opening ceremony on Saturday evening, which featured 32 performance

groups from 19 countries and regions and attracted some 300,000 spectators.

Night-time sightseeing is the highlight of the Mid-Autumn Festival, with Xi'an, Chongqing, Xiamen and Chengdu ranking among the most popular places for sightseeing at night, according to the ministry.

Light shows were staged at ancient towns including Zhouzhuang in east China's Jiangsu Province and Wuzhen in the neighboring Zhejiang Province to showcase the towns' classic elegance at night during the holiday, the ministry noted.

The Mid-Autumn Festival is typically marked by family reunions, enjoying sights of the full moon and eating mooncakes, among other traditions.

Xinhua

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DEVELOPMENT

Shanghai home to over 700 regional headquarters of multinational corporations

Shanghai: A total of 701 multinational corporations have established regional headquarters in Shanghai by the end of August, according to the municipal commission of commerce.

Among them, 106 are headquarters for the Asia Pacific region, showing that the city is an important operation centre for many multinational corporations both in China and the Asia Pacific region, the commission said.

The number of foreign-funded research and development centres reached 451 by the end of August, with 10 newly launched in the first eight months of this year, it added.

Driven by the prosperous development of these headquarters, foreign investment into Shanghai has maintained fast growth,

with 4661 new foreign investment projects set up from January to August, up 47.8 per cent year on year.

Shanghai launched new policies last month to attract global enterprises, according to which the requirement for the total assets of parent companies of regional headquarters has been adjusted to US\$200 million (FJ\$434.98m).

To further facilitate research and development, Shanghai also plans to add renowned foreign trademarks that are vulnerable to infringement to the city's key protection list, to provide better intellectual property protection services for the regional headquarters. Xinhua

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TECH CHINA WEEKLY

New satellites, robotics factory, facial recognition and intelligent lamp posts boost China's technology development

Beijing: The following are the highlights of China's key technology news from the past week:

NEW SATELLITES

China sent a resource satellite and two small satellites into planned orbits from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in north China's Shanxi Province last Thursday.

The resource satellite, ZY-1 02D, will provide observation data for natural resources asset management, ecological monitoring, disaster prevention and control, environmental protection, urban construction, transportation and contingency management.

ROBOTICS FACTORY

Swiss tech giant ABB began construction of its new 67,000-square metre robotics manufacturing and research facility in Kangqiao, Shanghai on Thursday.

With an investment of US\$150 million (FJ\$

326.15m), the facility is expected to be put into use in 2021.

FACIAL RECOGNITION FOR SUBWAY STATIONS

The southern Chinese city of Guangzhou has adopted facial recognition technology since Monday in two of its subway stations, allowing for fast and easy entrance.

Instead of using tickets or their smartphones, passengers can smile at a screen to unlock the electric gates.

INTELLIGENT LAMP POSTS

Beijing has introduced intelligent lamp posts with multiple functions in several districts.

Lamp posts in 17 streets of Haidian District are being updated into smart lamp posts that integrate roles of monitoring traffic violations, showing road signs and holding 5G facilities.

Xinhua