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• Tour de Anting

Cyclists from France and China take part in a road race at Anting Automobile Expo Park last month to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two nations. More than 200 cyclists joined the race and French musicians also performed for riders and spectators.
— Li Huacheng

Car industry keeps economy on right road

Tang Min and Qian Tong

Industrial added value in Jiading rose 9.8 percent year-on-year in the first half of this year to 80 billion yuan (US\$13.11 billion).

The automobile industry is the pillar economy in Jiading, and a number of new ventures settled in the district during this time have helped boost the industry.

The output value of Shanghai Volkswagen Powertrain Co Ltd exceeded 5 billion yuan. It is expected to exceed 10 billion yuan by the end of the year, and become the second enterprise in Jiading to surpass the output value of 10 billion yuan after Shanghai Volkswagen.

Car dealers also saw business increase. The 21 car 4S dealers recorded combined

sales of 3.8 billion yuan — 7.5 percent higher than the same period last year.

Other industries also handed in satisfactory reports — especially equipment manufacturing and electronics industries. Philips Electronics and Jintai Engineering reported 30 percent leaps in output value during this period.

Shut down or renovated

Meanwhile, Jiading continues to place great emphasis in environmental protection. In the first half of the year, 67 coal and heavy oil-fueled boilers and kilns were shut down or renovated. And the energy consumption for every 10,000 yuan output value has been reduced to 0.051 tons of standard coal.

E-commerce is another sector recording impressive figures. From January to June, the volume of business transactions exceeded 45 billion yuan.

During a June 18 birthday promotion by JD.com — China's largest online direct sales company — sales of household appliances exceeded 10 million yuan a minute.

The district's top 10 shopping malls achieved sales revenue of 1.38 billion yuan in the first six months, a year-on-year jump of 26.5 percent.

However, the government's frugality campaign, which is targeting extravagant entertaining by officials and departments, resulted in a 7 percent fall in sales volume for the hotel and catering business during the first half of the year.

Project leader predicts bright future for solar cell test center

Qian Tong

A SOLAR cell test center has been created by the Shanghai Institute of Microsystems and Information Technology in Jiading.

Currently, the project is applying for national approval and if this is granted it is expected to go into use next year.

The test center is a 40-square-meter enclosed draught-proofed laboratory with strictly controlled cleanliness and humidity.

At the center are two pieces of equipment — each nearly 2 meters high — emitting light and functioning as the center's very own suns.

When a beam of light is cast on the solar cell being tested, all the cell data is available to staff on their computers.

"To complete a standard test takes about half an hour, however, preparations takes around two hours to ensure the illumination intensity and indoor temperature are kept unchanged," project leader Liu Zhengxin said.

Liu saw the need for such a solar cell test facility when he was returning to China from Japan.

Even though the market was huge and the development of the solar power industry rapid, there were almost no test facilities in China, explained Liu. "Testing technology is a guarantee for the development of the industry," added the project leader.

Chinese enterprises have to send cell panels overseas for testing, a process that can take between two to four

months. Testing at the center would save the time and money, as it can complete five standard tests in three days — equivalent to the test speed in Japan.

"Our next challenge is to recruit the right people with professional experience and English ability," Liu said.

Liu also called for stronger management of solar cell testing from the government.

"I hope central government can produce a long-term and systematic plan on solar cell testing," Liu added.

CULTURE

Art Factory

Located in a former factory, Jiayuanhai Art Center is Jiading's latest cultural hotspot, offering comprehensive exhibition space while also housing a community of artists in their studios. **4-5**



OUTING

Lotus Lovers

Summer's most certainly here and lotus flowers are in full bloom in pools at parks across the district. We recommend some top spots for viewing these majestic blooms at their very best. **6**



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