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* China Fortnightly, a segment of the CLAWS Newsletters, offers a concise overview of key developments in China, blending sharp analysis with expert insights.

Internal Politics, Society & Security

In late August, China's domestic affairs were marked by Xi's calls for private sector "high-quality development", Tibet-focused pledges, and expanded 'ethnic unity' regulations. Premier Li emphasised tech innovation and economic stabilisation, while Vice Premier Liu spotlighted healthcare and rural resilience. Anti-graft chief Li Xi pushed grassroots probes, CPPCC and NPC leaders advanced 2026–2030 five-year plans and legislative reforms, and personnel reshuffles continued across water, rail, and commerce sectors. War anniversary commemorations reinforced historical memory as a core ideological tool.

16 Aug (People's Daily Online): General Secretary of the CPC, **Xi Jinping**, published an **article on nurturing the private sector's "healthy, high-quality development"**. It emphasised policy continuity, the implementation of Party directives without 'compromise', and entrepreneurial 'responsibility' for strengthening enterprises. *This reflects Beijing's attempt to project reassurance to private capital while keeping autonomy firmly under Party oversight.*

17 Aug (Xinhua): The **second rehearsal for the 03 Sept grand military parade** in Tian'anmen involved nearly 40,000 personnel, running overnight to refine the "organisational, logistical, and command operations". *Beyond symbolism, such scale-testing underscores both military preparedness spectacles and the regime's emphasis on mass participation in nationalistic displays.*

18 Aug (Xinhua): **Premier Li Qiang chaired the 9th plenary meeting of the State Council** and urged consolidation of recovery momentum, policy alignment with Party directives, and cultivation of new demand drivers. Stress was placed on stabilising property markets, deploying AI and tech integration, and cushioning against global risks. *The language reveals strong diagnostic awareness but also continuing reliance on consumption and state direction to generate growth.*

19 Aug (Xinhua): **Vice Premier Liu Guozhong marked Doctors' Day** by visiting Beijing medical institutions, calling for proper conduct, skills enhancement, and traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) modernisation. *Liu's framing of doctors as "vital contributors" fits into the Party's ongoing narrative of healthcare as both service provision and nation-building.*

20 Aug (Qinghai Daily): **Xi Jinping, while in Lhasa for the 60th anniversary of Tibet's control**, called for building a "modern socialist new" Tibet based on unity, prosperity, and stability. *The speech, delivered after local Party-government reports, reasserts the centrality of ideological loyalty and development as tools of control in border regions.*

20 Aug (Xinhua): **Vice Premier Liu Guozhong chaired a video conference on autumn grain harvest and disaster preparedness**, pushing for tighter monitoring of drought, flooding, typhoons, extreme heat, early frost, pests, diseases, and restoration of farmland. *The linkage with poverty alleviation zones suggests ongoing anxiety over the vulnerability of rural livelihoods to natural stressors.*

20 Aug (Beijing News): **Premier Li Qiang, during a Beijing fact-finding and research tour, urged biomedical innovation**, industrial upgrading, and AI integration across life sciences. *Li coupled calls for "original innovation" with the advancement of TCM*

industrialisation, reflecting Beijing's two-track push for both frontier science and cultural heritage repackaging.

23 Aug (Xinhua): **Li Xi, the anti-graft chief** and head of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), **called for grassroots anti-graft consolidation during a symposium in Jinan, Shandong Province**, targeting daily livelihood-linked corruption. *Stressing the “self-reform of the Party”, Li Xi underscores the need to expand surveillance penetration deeper into society, while framing anti-graft as integral to high-quality development.*

26 Aug (Xinhua): The Standing Committee of the 14th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee concluded its 13th session, with **Wang Huning, chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, seeking ideas from political advisors for the 15th Five-Year Plan (2026–2030)**, aligned with 2035 modernisation goals. *Deliberations revolved around digital economy integration and domestic demand expansion—showing forward-planning remains deeply centralised intellectual work harnessed for long strategic horizons.*

26 Aug (Xinhua): Zhao Leji, chairman of the 14th National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, presided over a decision to convene the **17th session of the NPC, Sept. 8–12, to review atomic energy, public health emergency, national parks, and hazardous chemicals legislation**. *Discussion of revisions on the Arbitration Law and the Prison Law, Cybersecurity Law revisions and an extradition treaty with Serbia also signal broader global and domestic governance recalibrations.*

29 Aug (Xinhua): The **Politburo of the CPC Central Committee, chaired by Xi, deliberated stricter ideological-political regulations and a draft law to advance ethnic unity**. Focus was placed on reinforcing Party leadership, cohesion among ethnic groups, and disaster-preparedness obligations. *This indicates priority continuity: ideological tightening, national unity, and public security as governance anchors.*

29 Aug (Xinhua): The **State Council announced appointments and removals, with new leadership** at the National Railway Administration (appointed Song Xiude) and the Changjiang Water Resources Commission (appointed Liao Zhiwei). Removed Zhu Chengqing as vice minister of water resources, and Tang Wenhong from the post of assistant minister of commerce. *Such adjustments, though routine, reflect the Party's ongoing personnel rotations to consolidate control over strategic infrastructure.*

31 Aug (Qiushi): **Xi Jinping penned another article**, in the Party's 17th issue of the Qiushi Journal, this time **on carrying forward the wartime resistance spirit** in the “journey toward national rejuvenation”. *The piece, timed with war victory commemorations, illustrates Beijing's continued reliance on historical memory as a mobilising ideological resource.*

Military & Defence

In mid-to-late August, Beijing undertook parallel initiatives of military exercises, joint diplomacy, propaganda mobilisation, and responses to regional flashpoints. The PLA highlighted ideological strengthening with the release of new Xi Jinping military texts and the wide promotion of the Gongjian video series, while tightening online information governance. Externally, China condemned Japan's military normalisation and US naval presence in the South China Sea (SCS),

marking the 80th WWII anniversary with sharp historical positioning. Regional engagements included outreach to Singapore and Nepal, joint training with Mongolia, and emphasis on steadier border talks with India. Simultaneously, tensions spiked at Second Thomas Shoal with the Philippines, while external security narratives around China (NZ intelligence report, US espionage case) illustrated sharpening contestation.

15 Aug (MoND): Regular Press Briefing of Senior Colonel Jiang Bin, MoND spokesperson, announced the **Border Defence Cooperation 2025 joint exercise in Xinjiang with Mongolia**, focused on cross-border crime control. He also highlighted the release of the **“Gongjian” video series**, a PLA ideological project promoting Xi Jinping Thought on Strengthening the Military, with over 6.1 billion cross-media reach. Additionally, MoND shut down fake official military-related social media accounts. Jiang issued strong statements against Japan’s F-35B deployment and against the USS Higgins near Scarborough Shoal. *Beijing blended hard power drills with political-ideological consolidation, asserting control over domestic military narratives and projecting deterrence to adversaries through SCS and Japan-related warnings.*

16 Aug (MoND): **Wang Yi on Japan’s WWII History**, marking the 80th Anniversary of Japan’s WWII surrender, urged Tokyo to face history and abide by post-war settlements (Potsdam/Cairo Declarations). It targeted the glorification and revisionism, asserting sovereignty claims over Taiwan. *China framed Japan’s actions as direct challenges to the post-war order, positioning itself as defender of historical justice and consolidating domestic legitimacy on nationalism-infused anniversaries.*

18 Aug (Xinhua): **The Fourth Volume of Xi Jinping’s Military Thought Text** was published, with a CMC directive for armed forces study. *Continuous codification of Xi’s military ideology ensures Party control over the PLA while integrating doctrine into modernisation and loyalty-building.*

19 Aug (People’s Daily Online): **Defence Minister Dong Jun met Chan Heng Kee, Singapore’s MoD’s Permanent Secretary**. Both sides pledged to enhance multilateral exercises, military training, and regional security cooperation. *Engagement with ASEAN core states reinforces China’s efforts to project the image of a stabilising actor, seeking to counterbalance rising US security influence.*

20 Aug (Xinhua): **V-Day Parade Modernisation Display**, PLA officer Xu Guizhong revealed that the Sept. 3 V-Day military parade will employ **BeiDou satellite navigation, smart systems, and will debut hypersonic, directed-energy weapons, UAVs, and strategic platforms**. *This parade will serve dual aims—military deterrence vis-à-vis external rivals, and domestic propaganda to showcase PLA modernisation aligned with centenary goals.*

21 August (Scoop): The **New Zealand SIS report named China as an “assertive foreign interference actor”**. While the **US convicted Navy sailor Jinchao Wei for espionage** on behalf of Chinese agents, transferring sensitive data on naval ships. *Parallel Western security narratives amplify the perception of China as a persistent intelligence threat, potentially influencing allied counterintelligence cooperation and justifying expanded military budgets.*

22 Aug (Naval News): The **Philippine military reported intense Chinese activity at Second Thomas Shoal near the grounded BRP Sierra Madre**, including coast guard ships, fast boats with mounted weapons, militia vessels, and aerial assets. CCG simultaneously accused Manila of provocations, insisting that enforcement at Ren'ai Jiao will continue. *This escalation underscores China's grey-zone posture, signalling resolve while testing the limits of Manila's endurance under external alliance commitments.*

28 Aug (MoND): Spokesperson Zhang Xiaogang confirmed the **24th Special Representatives'** border talks concluded with consensus, affirming peace and tranquillity mechanisms amid the 75th anniversary of China–India ties. *China is projecting a calibrated posture—managing border frictions diplomatically while emphasising the “major neighbour coexistence” narrative to stabilise ties without conceding core positions.*

28 Aug (China Military Online): The **5th “Sagarmatha Friendship 2025” – China–Nepal Training**, a joint counter-terrorism army training with Nepal, was announced. It includes disaster relief and peacekeeping drills. *Partnerships with smaller subcontinent states deepen PLA operational linkages and reinforce influence in Himalayan geopolitics, projecting China as an alternative net security provider in regional peripheries.*

External Affairs & Diplomacy

In the past fifteen days, China concentrated on weaving together new regional architectures, developing informal trilateral and quadrilateral turning them into institutional arrangements, especially within its Asian neighbourhood. The interesting fact that needs attention is that countries involved share historical issues, common resources, or are forging a collective agenda. Notable examples include the China–Lancang–Mekong mechanism, China–Laos–Myanmar–Thailand grouping, and China–Afghanistan–Pakistan trilateral, alongside bilateral engagements with India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and South Korea. Concurrently, Beijing reinforced ties with ASEAN through a new five-year action plan and showcased multilateral leadership at the SCO Summit. The appointment of new envoys to Africa, Central Asia, and the Caribbean signals a balanced external outreach.

15 Aug (Xinhua): **The State Council appointed Envoys to Maritime & UN-Linked Institutions**, Zheng Zeguang as Permanent Representative to the International Maritime Organisation, and Wang Jinfeng as Permanent Representative to the International Seabed Authority, reshaping China's representation in key maritime rule-making forums. *These institutions are central to seabed resources and shipping governance, areas where China seeks a greater scope and voice.*

15 Aug (Xinhua): **Xi Jinping Approved A Reshuffle Of Ambassadors** appointed by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. These appointments are Zhang Jianwei to Thailand, replacing Han Zhiqiang; in Central Asia, Guo Zhijun to Tajikistan, replacing Ji Shumin; and Ji Shumin to Turkmenistan, replacing Qian Naicheng; in Africa, Xu Yong to Cameroon, replacing Wang Yingwu; Sun Yong to Guinea, replacing Huang Wei; Zhao Deyong to Burkina Faso, replacing Lu Shan; Zhang Yang to Cabo Verde, replacing Xu Jie; Huang Zheng to the Comoros, replacing Guo Zhijun; and in Caribbean, Wang Jinfeng to Jamaica, replacing Chen Daojiang; and Zheng Bingkai to Barbados, replacing Yan Xiusheng.

14–15 Aug (MoFA): The **10th Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) Foreign Ministers' Meeting** in Anning, Yunnan, co-chaired by Wang Yi and Thailand's Malik Sreenat, China pushed a widened agenda—digital economy, AI, green energy, security. In separate talks with Cambodian FM Prak Sokhonn and Thai FM, Wang pledged China's support for restoring border calm and backing ASEAN's unity. *By offering mine-clearing aid, Beijing underlined its role as a conflict mediator in mainland Southeast Asia, while consolidating control over Mekong connectivity.*

15 Aug (MoFA): **China–Laos–Myanmar–Thailand Informal Meeting**, foreign ministers of the four countries, led by Wang Yi, agreed to deepen joint law enforcement against online fraud, drug trafficking, and arms smuggling along their shared borders. Stress on “eradicating breeding grounds for cross-border crimes” shows China's interest in linking security-development in fragile borderlands. *This extends Beijing's influence over transboundary governance mechanisms outside formal ASEAN circles.*

18–19 Aug (MoFA): **China–India Diplomatic Engagements**, Wang Yi met Indian EAM S. Jaishankar in New Delhi, emphasising a shared “**five-home**” framework (peace, prosperity, friendship, beauty, tranquility). Wang separately met NSA Ajit Doval for the 24th SR Talks, stressing dual-track progress balancing border stability and broader ties. Wang also met PM Modi, framing China–India as “partners, not adversaries”. *Chinese readouts spoke of a 10-point consensus, absent in India's version—suggesting Beijing projecting progress domestically and regionally while asserting border management continuity.*

20 Aug (MoFA): **China–Afghanistan Bilateral**, in talks with Afghan FM Amir Khan Mottaki and PM Akhund, Wang pledged economic engagement and reiterated Beijing's security red line on ETIM. Commitments included patrols in Wakhan Corridor and assurances from Kabul that Afghan territory would not be used for actions against China. *Beijing's approach couples promises of trade dialogue with pressure on Afghanistan to curb militancy, leveraging China's unique position as one of few external partners engaging post-U.S. withdrawal.*

20 Aug (MoFA): **6th China–Afghanistan–Pakistan Trilateral FM Dialogue**, in Kabul brought together Wang Yi, Mottaki, and Ishaq Dar. Focus was on security, counterterrorism coordination, and promoting “indivisible security”. *By embedding Afghanistan into a China–Pakistan framework, Beijing seeks to stabilise its western periphery while advancing its connectivity agenda.*

21 Aug (MoFA): **6th China–Pakistan Strategic Dialogue**, in Islamabad, Wang co-chaired with FM Ishaq Dar, proposing CPEC 2.0 structured around “five corridors” (growth, livelihood, innovation, green, openness). Follow-up meetings with President Zardari, PM Shahbaz, and COAS Munir underscored security guarantees for Chinese projects. *The narrative of “all-weather iron friendship” was reaffirmed, with both states signalling CPEC's shift from infrastructure to diversified investment.*

24 Aug (MoFA): **Meeting Park Byung-seok, Presidential Envoy of South Korea**, Wang Yi urged strengthening bilateral ties while managing sensitive issues constructively. *The message reflected China's cautious recalibration with Seoul, amid U.S.-driven strategic alignment, signalling Beijing's intent to keep economic cooperation stable.*

29 Aug (MoFA): **The China-ASEAN Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Action Plan (2026-2030) (Abstract)** was released to guide cooperation in governance, trade, connectivity, and sustainable development. *Structured financial commitments and annual reporting mechanisms point to institutional consolidation, marking ASEAN as a pillar of Beijing's regional diplomacy.*

30 Aug (MoFA): **Wang Yi Meets UN Secretary-General Guterres**, Tianjin ahead of the SCO Summit, underscored support for the UN's centrality and invoked WWII's historical lessons to delegitimise "unilateralism". *The reiteration of multilateralism positions Beijing as a defender of global governance, projecting legitimacy during turbulent geopolitical shifts.*

31 Aug (MoFA): **Xi Jinping's Welcome Speech at the SCO Leaders Summit** emphasised on the "Shanghai Spirit" and collective security. Xi highlighted Tianjin's role as a gateway for reform and opening, framing the SCO as vital to consolidating the Global South and countering global uncertainties. *The focus was on institutional unity and modernisation pathways, projecting SCO as both a regional bloc and part of China's broader alternative global governance design.*

Economy, Finance, Trade & Commerce

China's economic and trade policies underscored a further push for the political goal of "high-quality development", with increased credit support for sci-tech, green, and digital sectors, alongside stimulation activities for trade growth with BRI countries. The 15th Kashgar Commodity Fair and the China-Northeast Asia Expo highlighted expanding regional trade networks, while industrial tourism in Fujian and companion economy services addressed evolving domestic demands. Beijing's 5G to 6G and industrial internet integration plan and new energy patent leadership signal a focus on technological self-reliance, though US semiconductor restrictions pose supply chain challenges. These developments reflect China's balancing act between global integration and domestic resilience amid complex external pressures.

15 Aug (Xinhua): **The People's Bank of China reported a significant increase in loans** to sci-tech (12.5%), green development (25.5%), inclusive finance (11.5%), elderly care (43%), and digital economy (11.5%) sectors by June 2025, with sci-tech loans reaching 44.1 trillion yuan. *This targeted financial support, outpacing overall loan growth, underscores Beijing's prioritization of structural transformation and high-quality economic development, leveraging credit to drive innovation and sustainability in strategic industries.*

15 Aug (Xinhua): **The 15th Kashgar-Central and South Asia Commodity Fair** in Xinjiang attracted 181 enterprises from 40 countries, focusing on biomedicine, cultural tourism, and textiles. With a 40,000-square-meter exhibition space and trade deals exceeding 480 billion yuan, the event reinforces Kashgar's role as a trade hub, reflecting China's intent to deepen economic integration with Central and South Asia amid growing regional influence.

15 Aug (Xinhua): **New home price declines in China's 70 major cities narrowed** in July, with first-tier cities like Shanghai seeing a 6.1% price increase. Second and third-tier cities reported slower declines, signalling a cautious recovery. *This trend, supported*

by relaxed purchase restrictions and enhanced housing provident fund loans, indicates Beijing's course correction approach to stabilising the property sector while managing economic risks.

18 Aug (Xinhua): **Report on Autonomous Regions' GDP Surges**, Duan Yijun, deputy head of the National Ethnic Affairs Commission, reported that the combined GDP of five autonomous regions grew from 6.01 trillion yuan in 2020 to 8.38 trillion yuan in 2024. *This robust growth highlights Beijing's focus on domestic regional development, leveraging infrastructure and resource advantages to integrate these regions into broader mainland economic modernisation efforts.*

21 Aug (Xinhua): **China Launched the Green Foreign Debt Financing Pilot** - the State Administration of Foreign Exchange initiated a pilot in 16 regions to channel global capital into green and low-carbon projects, expanding cross-border financing limits. *This move reflects China's strategy to align financial openness with environmental goals, positioning itself as a leader in sustainable development while navigating global capital flows.*

22 Aug (Xinhua): **China's Pharmaceutical Industry Grows, Ranks Second Globally**. Yang Sheng, deputy head of the National Medical Products Administration, noted that the sector, now the world's second largest, accounts for 30% of global innovative drug development. *With 387 pediatric and 147 rare disease drugs approved since 2021, this growth underscores China's push for self-reliance in healthcare innovation, balancing domestic needs with global competitiveness.*

25 Aug (Xinhua): **China Ranks Among Top Three Trading Partners For 157 Countries**. Sun Meijun, head of the General Administration of Customs, reported that China's trade with BRI countries reached 22 trillion yuan in 2024, comprising over 50% of its total trade. *This expansion, coupled with 519 international cooperation agreements, highlights China's strategic pivot toward emerging markets, reinforcing its aim to continue as a global trade anchor.*

26 Aug (Xinhua): **China to Reinforce Job Market Stability**. It reported that over 12 million urban jobs were created annually since 2021, supported by unemployment insurance refunds and customised training programs in cities like Jiujiang and Xiamen. *Targeting youth, migrant workers, and low-income groups, these measures address structural employment mismatches, signalling a proactive approach to sustaining social stability through economic resilience.*

27 Aug (Xinhua): **Ling Ji, Vice Minister of Commerce, reported on SCO Trade**. A 2.7% increase in China's trade with SCO member states to 512.4 billion USD in 2024, with significant energy and agricultural imports. *The upcoming SCO Summit in Tianjin aims to deepen cooperation, reflecting China's strategy to leverage regional blocs for economic and geopolitical influence.*

27 Aug (Xinhua): **Beijing Accelerates 5G And Industrial Internet Integration**. Beijing's 2025-2027 plan targets 20 5G factories and 50 industry-specific networks by 2027, prioritising sectors like electronics and biopharmaceuticals. *This initiative, coupled with 6G research, underscores China's ambition to lead in industrial digitisation, balancing technological advancement with economic security.*

27 Aug (Xinhua): **CCPIT Enhances Support For Foreign Enterprises.** The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade hosted 274 international delegations and the China International Supply Chain Expo, fostering industrial cooperation. *These efforts, despite global uncertainties, signal China's commitment to maintaining an attractive business environment, strategically countering external pressures while deepening global economic ties.*

27 Aug (Xinhua): **Vice Commerce Minister Sheng Qiuping Announced Service Trade Growth Supported By New Policies.** An 8% rise in service trade to 3.9 trillion yuan in 2025's first half, with new export measures planned. *The upcoming CIFTIS in Beijing will showcase AI and healthcare innovations, reflecting China's push to expand service sector openness while driving global trade integration.*

28 Aug (Xinhua): **The Ministry of Commerce extended anti-dumping duties on phenol** from the US, EU, and others for five years, citing potential harm to domestic industries. *This decision reflects China's protective stance on key industrial materials, balancing global trade relations with domestic economic safeguards.*

28 Aug (Xinhua): The 15th China-Northeast Asia Expo in Changchun attracted over 10,000 participants from 40 countries, showcasing products like 3D knitting machines and traditional Chinese medicine. *The event's focus on cross-border cooperation highlights China's strategy to strengthen Northeast Asian economic ties, enhancing regional market access.*

28 Aug (Xinhua): **Local Government Bond Issuance Rises.** 3.31 trillion yuan in new bonds by July 2025, with 2.77 trillion yuan in special-purpose bonds. *This proactive fiscal policy, with a planned 4.4 trillion yuan issuance for 2025, underscores Beijing's focus on infrastructure and economic stability. It also notes not reaching targets.*

29 Aug (Xinhua): **Ezhou Huahu Airport Emerges As China's First Cargo-Focused Airport.** Since its operation in 2022, it has handled over two million tonnes of cargo in 2025, with 15 new international routes. *Its role in facilitating imports like Indian crabs highlights China's push for efficient global logistics, strengthening cross-border e-commerce and trade networks.*

30 Aug (Xinhua): **Tibet's Trade With Nepal Reached 2.578 Billion Yuan** in 2025's first seven months, with a 17.6% rise in new energy vehicle exports. *Streamlined customs procedures reflect China's focus on deepening bilateral economic ties, leveraging geographic proximity for regional trade expansion.*

30 Aug (Xinhua): **Companion Economy Meets Ageing Population Needs.** This new model, driven by an ageing population of over 300 million, is projected to reach 50 billion yuan by 2025. *Services like medical escorts in Beijing and Shandong address seniors' needs, reflecting China's adaptation to demographic shifts while navigating challenges in service standardisation.*

30 Aug (Xinhua): **The Ministry of Commerce criticised the US for revoking VEU authorisation** for three semiconductor firms, citing supply chain disruptions. *This response underscores China's efforts to safeguard its technological ecosystem, highlighting tensions in global semiconductor trade dynamics.*

31 Aug (Xinhua): **The manufacturing PMI Signals Recovery**, it rose to 49.4 in August, with production at 50.8 and business expectations at 53.7. *High-tech and equipment manufacturing growth, alongside stabilising demand, reflects China's cautious optimism in economic recovery, supported by targeted policy interventions.*

Science, Technology, Industry & Resources

China's advancements in science, technology, and industry highlight its strategic focus on high-energy battery development, space exploration, and AI integration, with breakthroughs like lithium metal batteries and 6G photonic-electronic systems. The nation's leadership in nanotechnology patents, alongside lunar research and deep-sea exploration, underscores its ambition for technological self-reliance. Despite setbacks like the ZQ-2 Y3 rocket failure, successes in Long March rocket tests and satellite launches reinforce China's space capabilities. These efforts reflect a broader strategy to dominate next-generation technologies while addressing global competition and domestic innovation demands.

15 Aug (Xinhua): **Researchers from Tianjin University developed a lithium metal pouch cell** with an energy density of 600 Wh/kg and a battery pack at 480 Wh/kg, published in Nature. *This innovation, offering 200-300% improvements over current lithium-ion batteries, targets electric mobility and robotics, signalling China's push to overcome energy storage limitations and lead in high-energy battery technology.*

15 Aug (Xinhua): **A modified ZQ-2 Y3 private commercial rocket test failed**, launched from the Dongfeng pilot zone, experienced an anomaly during flight, resulting in mission failure. *This setback highlights the challenges in China's burgeoning private space sector, underscoring the need for enhanced reliability to compete in global commercial space markets.*

15 Aug (Xinhua): **Long March-10 Rocket Completes Static Fire Test** at Wenchang, announced by the China Manned Space Agency, with seven engines producing nearly 1,000 tonnes of thrust. Designed for manned lunar missions, this milestone strengthens China's lunar exploration ambitions, aligning with its broader space strategy.

16 Aug (Xinhua): **Tiangong Taikonauts Use AI For Spacewalk**, the Shenzhou-20 crew members Chen Dong and Wang Jie utilised Wukong AI, delivered by Tianzhou-9, to assist in their third spacewalk. *Built on a home-grown AI model, it provided scheduling and guidance, reflecting China's integration of AI in space missions to enhance operational efficiency.*

17 Aug (Xinhua): **Shiyan-28B 02 Satellite Launched Successfully** via a Long March-4C from Xichang, it entered orbit for space environment exploration. *As the 589th Long March mission, it underscores China's consistent progress in expanding its satellite capabilities for scientific and technological applications.*

17 Aug (Xinhua): **A Modified Long March-6 Rocket From Taiyuan Launched** the ninth group of low Earth orbit satellites for an internet constellation. *This 590th Long March mission highlights China's focus on building global internet infrastructure.*

19 Aug (Xinhua): **Lijian-1 Y10 Rocket Launches Seven Satellites** from a northwest pilot zone, reinforcing China's growing commercial space launch capabilities. *This achievement*

reflects efforts to diversify launch platforms and strengthen private-sector involvement in space.

20 Aug (Xinhua): **Chang'e-6 Samples Date Apollo Basin** with Chinese and international researchers, using samples, dated the Apollo Basin's formation to 4.16 billion years ago, published in Nature Astronomy. *This finding clarifies the moon's Late Heavy Bombardment history, highlights China's interests in lunar science.*

22 Aug (Xinhua): **Shanghai Changzheng Hospital successfully treated a near-complete cervical spine dislocation** using a novel "satellite plate" technique led by Chen Huajiang. *This pioneering surgery, with no prior documented survivors, showcases China's advancements in high-risk medical innovation.*

23 Aug (Xinhua): **Chang'e-6 samples reveal lunar volcanic drivers**; the two identified basalt types in samples formed 2.8-2.9 billion years ago, a study in Science Advances by Wang Chengyuan and Xu Yigang from the Chinese Academy of Sciences. *This discovery updates lunar thermal history, highlighting China's contributions to understanding lunar evolution.*

24 Aug (Xinhua): **The 6,000-meter Haiqin ROV deep-sea voyage reached 4,140 meters** in the SCS, developed by Shanghai Jiao Tong University, collecting samples with Haidou-1. *This coordinated mission marks a leap in China's deep-sea exploration, enhancing resource and scientific capabilities.*

24 Aug (Xinhua): **Researchers Develop Hybrid Model For High-Resolution Precipitation Downscaling Model**, from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, published in IEEE Transactions. *This addresses flash flood and landslide monitoring needs, reflecting China's focus on precise environmental management solutions.*

26 Aug (Xinhua): **Long March-8A launches internet satellites** from Hainan, deploying the tenth group of low Earth orbit satellites for an internet constellation. *This success strengthens China's global internet infrastructure ambitions, aligning with its digital economy expansion goals.*

28 Aug (Xinhua): **Developed an ultra-wideband system for 6G photonic-electronic integration**, supporting 0.5-115 GHz transmission by Peking University and City University of Hong Kong. *This world-first enhances China's position in next-generation wireless communication, addressing future connectivity demands.*

29 Aug (Xinhua): **China Targets AI Breakthroughs in Six Sectors by 2027**, Huo Fupeng of the NDRC outlined plans for AI integration, aiming for 70% penetration of intelligent terminals. *The "AI Plus" initiative reflects China's strategic push to transform into a smart economy, balancing innovation with global competition.*

31 Aug (Xinhua): **The White Paper: China Nanotechnology Industry 2025**, issued at the 10th International Conference on Nanoscience and Technology in Beijing, reported China's 464,000 patents (43% of the global total). *With focus areas like semiconductors and biomedicine, this direction underscores China's drive for technological dominance and commercialisation efficiency.*

CLAWS NEWS & PUBLICATIONS

Web Articles:

Ashu Maan and Dokku Nagamalleswara Rao, [From Standoff to Handshake: What Wang Yi's India Visit Really Means?](#), 18 Aug 2025.

Issue Briefs:

Brig Jaideep Agarkar, [The People's Liberation Army's Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics to Enhance Warfighting Capabilities](#), 27 Aug 2025.

Manekshaw Paper:

Major General KTG Krishnan, SM, VSM and Col (Dr) Rajan Bakshi, [Deterrence, Disarmament and Dilemma: The Effectiveness of WMD Non-Proliferation Frameworks Today](#), No. 119, 28 Aug 2025.

CLAWS Cyber Newsletter:

Govind Nelika, [CLAWS Cyber Index | Volume I | Issue 14 16 - 31 August 2025](#).

YouTube Podcast (Strategic Frontlines): Claws Junior League

Dr Tara Kartha, Ashu Maan, Rajoli Siddharth Jayaprakash (ORF), Anusua Ganguly and Nomita Chandola, [War, Tariffs & Power Plays | CLAWS Junior League | Ep 03](#), 27 Aug 2025.

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