

Friday, December 8, 2023

Xi urges building Shanghai into modern socialist int'l metropolis

CHINESE President Xi Jinping has stressed the need to speed up building Shanghai into a modern, socialist and international metropolis by focusing on the construction of international centers of economy, finance, trade, shipping and sci-tech innovation.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks during an inspection tour of Shanghai last week.

Xi urged Shanghai to accelerate building itself into a modern, socialist and international metropolis with global influence, and play a leading and exemplary role in advancing Chinese modernization.

He inspected the Shanghai Futures Exchange last Tuesday afternoon as soon as he got off a train. Xi urged the exchange to speed up the construction of a world-class exchange, and make greater contributions to exploring the futures regulatory system

and business model with Chinese characteristics and building an international financial center.

When visiting Zhangjiang Science City in the Pudong New Area, Xi said promoting Chinese modernization cannot be separated from the strategic support of science and technology, education and talent, and that Shanghai should take a lead in this respect.

At a project for affordable rental housing in Minhang District, Xi learned about the city's efforts to increase the supply of affordable housing for migrant workers and other low-income residents.

He said that cities should not only be tall, but also warm while stressing the need to ensure that migrant workers have access to affordable housing.

Xi said that Shanghai's mission to build itself into a global financial, trade, shipping, and technology innovation center is of great importance to the country.

(Xinhua)



The covers of works that won the WebNovel Spirit Awards Gold Prizes. — Ti Gong

International Online Literature Week off to a flying start in city

Zhu Shenshen

THE Shanghai International Online Literature Week opened in the city on Tuesday, with international authors honored, adoption of artificial intelligence for creation and translation, and plans revealed to cash in on the boom in micro dramas.

Writers, translators, scholars and representatives from 18 countries and regions have gathered in Shanghai to participate in the international event. The weeklong event, being held for the second time, organized by industry regulators and Shanghai-based China Literature, the country's biggest online literature site backed by Tencent.

Wang Yayuan, vice

director of the Shanghai Publicity Department, said at the opening ceremony that in the future, Shanghai would enrich the world's literary treasury with high-quality masterpieces, strengthen copyright protection and IP development (in such genres as games and drama), and promote cultural exchanges to "make the world a better place because of literature."

In 2022, China's online literature industry generated 4.06 billion yuan (US\$572 million) in revenue, with almost 40 percent growth year-on-year.

WebNovel, an overseas site of China Literature, has published 610,000 works online with a combined 220 million visits, according to an industry report

released at the event.

During the weeklong event, the 2023 WebNovel Spirit Awards ceremony was held to honor international authors.

Nineteen writers won WSA awards and shared a prize pool of US\$70,000.

WebNovel is an overseas platform owned by China Literature since its debut in 2017. By October, WebNovel had about 400,000 authors and had released around 610,000 web novels.

WebNovel also announced its Multilingual Development on Tuesday, which will translate selected works into multilinguals and publish them in more regions. The languages cover English, Spanish, Indonesian, Portuguese, German, French, Thai, and Japanese.

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