

Taipei energy transition

The nation's "second energy transition" would focus on geothermal energy and small hydropower, with the first geothermal exploration to start this month, Minister of Economic Affairs J.W. Kuo () said yesterday.

President William Lai () on Thursday said in his Double Ten National Day address that the government would continue to promote the "second energy transition" to ensure stable power supply by developing more sources of green energy, promoting energy conservation and improving energy storage to steadily advance toward the nation's goal of achieving net zero by 2050.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs said in a statement yesterday that it would continue to develop green energy such as geothermal power and small hydropower, in addition to more mature technologies such as photovoltaic power and offshore wind power.

A research team is to start geothermal exploration in four out of 10 selected locations, Kuo said.

The first site to be explored by the end of this month is 4,000m underground, and the experience, if successful, could be applied to the following explorations, he said in response to media queries on the sideline of a legislative meeting in Taipei.

The application of small hydropower, which means powering up engines using the vertical force of flowing water, would begin in line with the Water Resources Agency's hydraulic engineering program starting from next year, Kuo said.

The construction of small hydropower facilities is under planning, and several hydroelectric power stations have already been built, he added.

The road map to stable power supply is complete from now to 2030, Kuo said, urging local governments and the public to support the central government's plan to build power plants.

Asked whether nuclear energy is included in Lai's energy transition policy, Kuo said the ministry as an executive branch would keep up with new technologies and international trends, but added that he could not speak on behalf of the president.

Theaters and institutions in Taiwan have received 28 threatening e-mails, including bomb threats, since a documentary critical of China began being screened across the nation last month, the National Security Bureau said yesterday. The actions are part of China's attempts to undermine Taiwan's sovereignty, it said. State Organs () documents allegations that Chinese government officials engage in organ harvesting and other illegal activities from last month to Friday last week, 28 incidents have been reported of theaters or institutions

receiving threats, including bomb and shooting threats, if they did not stop showing the documentary, the bureau said. Although the threats were not carried out,

The Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) yesterday confirmed that Chinese students visiting Taiwan at the invitation of the Ma Ying-jeou Foundation were almost all affiliated with the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). During yesterday's meeting convened by the legislature's Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee, Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) Legislator Michelle Lin () asked whether the visit was a way to spread China's so-called "united front" rhetoric, to which MAC Deputy Ministry Shen You-chung () responded with the CCP comment. The MAC noticed that the Chinese individuals visiting Taiwan, including those in sports, education, or religion, have had increasingly impressive backgrounds, demonstrating that the

As Taiwan celebrated its baseball team's victory in the World Baseball Softball Confederation's Premier12 on Sunday, how politicians referred to the team in their congratulatory messages reflected the nation's political divide. Taiwan, competing under the name Chinese Taipei (), made history with its first-ever Premier12 championship after beating Japan 4-0 at the Tokyo Dome. Right after the game, President William Lai () congratulated the team via a post on his Facebook page. Besides the players, Lai also lauded the team's coaching and medical staff, and the fans cheering for them in Tokyo or watching the live broadcast, saying that "every

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Web: <https://kary.com.pl/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

