

Part 1: Understanding the Changes in China

December 23, 2022

POLITICAL: After Bali, in the midst of the pandemic, China has invited **Penny Wong**, the Foreign Minister of Australia, to hold the sixth Australia–China Foreign and Strategic Dialogue **in person** on Wednesday, 28th December 2022.

On the sidelines of G20 meeting at Bali, Indonesia, **Anthony Albanese**, the new Australian PM had met Xi Jinping and had indicated that the approach of his government would be different from that of the conservative government and he wanted to improve mutual relations.

Australia may want China to remove sanctions on Australian dairy products and other items.

Australia also wants the following two Australian writers, who have been detained in Beijing and are on trials in the courts of China, to be released:

1. Australian journalist and broadcaster **Cheng Lei** has been detained in China since 14th August 2020. She was an Anchor on the Chinese government’s English news channel called China Global Television Network (CGTN). On Twitter, she described herself as a “passionate orator of the China story”.



2. Australian political blogger and novelist, **Yang Hengjun** is accused of espionage. He can be awarded death penalty. He is kept shackled in chains, when he is questioned in a Beijing detention centre.



Yang was a diplomat, working in China's ministry of foreign affairs. Later he started working for a private firm in Hong Kong. Then he moved to Australia and became a citizen in 2002. At present he is working as a Research Scholar at Columbia University. He had gone to Guangzhou for meeting his family members when he was arrested at the airport in January 2019.

CHANGES in the CHINESE ECONOMY:

- Chinese e-commerce giant JD.com this year replaced Huawei, hit by U.S. restrictions, as the largest non-state-owned enterprise in China by revenue.
- Real Estate slumped
- Beijing released the tough zero-covid measures. It led to a sudden growth in the number of Covid cases.
- Exports to the west did not increase. But the exports to ASEAN countries increased fast.
- The export of electric cars of NIO and BYD and parts of electric cars increased to Europe and other markets.

Xi Jinping has decided that China would have a fast growth in the areas of

- digital economy, consisting of communication systems, IT and software and
- green economy for reducing carbon emissions in electric power, steel, chemicals etc.



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Notes: Please read "China's differentiated Approach with USA and its Allies" on December 14, 2022 at <https://diginews360.com/chinas-differentiated-approach-with-usa-and-its-allies/>

Please also read "BILATERAL MEETINGS of Australian PM with Xi and Modi at Bali" on 17th November 2022 at <https://diginews360.com/17th-q20-heads-of-state-and-government-summit-3/>