



P2

About the cover

By integrating 38 observing sites along the 120°E longitude and 30°N latitude, China has set up two new chains to better understand and predict near-Earth space environment. Shown is a very high frequency radar array in south China built by scientists from the National Space Science Center (NSSC), Chinese Academy of Sciences to detect ionospheric variations. China has also launched an international initiative to invite ground-based stations from Russia, Canada, the US and Brazil, etc. to participate in global-scale observations. (Photo: NSSC)

Contents



P6

The 2012 Award for International Scientific Cooperation of CAS goes to three noted scientists from India, Germany and Russia, namely C. N. R. Rao, Herbert Jäckle and G. A. Zherebtsov. CAS President BAI Chunli met with two winners of the award who were present at the awarding ceremony held on January 23, 2013 in Beijing.

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2 2012 Top S&T Progress in Limelight

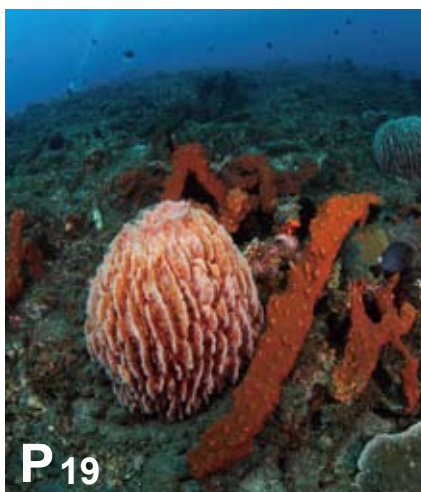
CAS Int'l Coop Awardees

- 6 “I Want to See China and India Shine at the Top of Scientific Kingdom”
— An Interview with Prof. C. N. R. Rao
- 8 Learn from Each Other in Friendship and Trust
— An Interview with Prof. Herbert Jäckle, Vice President of MPG
- 13 Working Together Towards A Better Space Science
— An Interview with Prof. G. A. Zherebtsov and Prof. WU Ji

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The real ruler of the Ordovician sea might have been an early sponge as thin and delicate as this spherical creature, rather than trilobites, according to Drs. Botting and Muir at the Nanjing Institute of Geology and Paleontology, CAS.



Universal gravitation might travel at the speed of light: A group at the CAS Institute of Geology and Geophysics got hints from their observations of gravity tides during solar eclipses.



Follow *BCAS* reporters to visit TWAS-CAS Fellowship recipients at CAS institutes and see how science and friendship grow in the developing world.

Science Highlights

- 16 Antiferromagnetic Order Coexisting with Superconductivity in $\text{Ba}_{0.77}\text{K}_{0.23}\text{Fe}_2\text{As}_2$
- 19 Sponges, Rather than Trilobites, Might Have Reigned Over Middle Ordovician Seas
- 24 Gravity Demonstrated to Travel at Speed of Light
- 26 Continental Saline Aquifers Suitable for CO_2 Sequestration

InFocus

- 28 China Sets up One of the World's Most Powerful Ground-based Systems for Space Weather Monitoring

- 35 New Chains of Space Weather Monitoring Stations in China
- 41 Save the Last "River Pigs" and their Last Refuges
- 46 Population Status, Threats and Conservation of the Yangtze Finless Porpoise

South-South Cooperation

- 56 Bridging Institutional and Continental Gaps through Scientific Excellence
— An Interview with Dr. Abiodun Humphrey Adebayo at the Institute of Microbiology
- 61 A Visiting Nigerian Biologist's Days at IOZ