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HEADER

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BODY

COUNTRY: PRC
 SUBJ: POLL SHOWS ENHANCEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

SOURCE: BEIJING XINHUA IN ENGLISH 1437 GMT 2 FEB 91
 TEXT:

((TEXT)) BEIJING, FEBRUARY 2 (XINHUA) -- WHAT IS THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S VIEW OF SCIENCE AND HOW MUCH DO THEY KNOW ABOUT IT? A RECENT OPINION POLL HAS REVEALED THAT THE PUBLIC BELIEVE IN SCIENCE AND RESPECT SCIENTISTS, WHILE ADMITTING THAT THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE NEEDS TO BE ENHANCED.

THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED BY THE MANAGEMENT SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER ATTACHED TO THE CHINA ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AMONG 4,523 CHINESE CITIZENS ABOVE THE AGE OF 18, FROM LAST SEPTEMBER.

ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF THE POLL, WHICH WAS RELEASED HERE TODAY BY PROFESSOR ZHANG ZHONGLIANG OF THE RESEARCH CENTER, ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE SAY THAT THEY HAVE A GREAT OR SOME INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND THE INFLUENCE OF SCIENCE ON SOCIETY, AND THEY ALSO BELIEVE THAT SCIENCE HAS BROUGHT ABOUT MORE BENEFITS FOR MANKIND THAN DRAWBACKS.

AS MANY AS 75 PERCENT OF THE INTERVIEWEES THINK THAT SCIENCE HAS BROUGHT THEM BLESSINGS, AND THEY POINT TO ADVANCED MEDICAL SERVICES, SOPHISTICATED HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, PLENTY OF FOOD AND CLOTHING, SPEEDY TRANSPORTATION, URBAN PUBLIC FACILITIES, AND FAVORABLE WORKING CONDITIONS.

OVER 80 PERCENT OF THEM BELIEVE THAT SCIENCE IS CAPABLE OF SOLVING SOME PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE LONG TROUBLED THE MINDS OF SCIENTISTS, INCLUDING THE TREATMENT OF CANCER AND AIDS AND THE SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION OF QIGONG AND OTHER PHENOMENA IN TRADITIONAL

CHINESE MEDICINE.

THE POLL ALSO SHOWS THAT SCIENTISTS ENJOY THE GREATEST REPUTATION AMONG THE PUBLIC. OTHER PROFESSIONS THE PUBLIC RANK AMONG THE BEST IN THE COUNTRY ARE, IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE, THOSE OF DOCTORS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PRIMARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHERS: UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, ENGINEERS, JOURNALISTS, LAWYERS, MANAGERS OF ENTUPRISES AND BANKS, ARCHITECTS AND ACCOUNTANTS.

FIFTY-SEVEN PERCENT OF THE INTERVIEWEES THINK THAT THE SCIENTISTS' INCOME IS LOW COMPARED WITH THAT OF OTHER PROFESSIONS.

AS FOR THE DAMAGE SCIENCE HAS DONE TO MANKIND, 67.4 PERCENT OF THOSE POLLED RANK ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AS THE WORST. OTHERS INCLUDE THE OVER-EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES, THE DEVELOPMENT OF WMCNS, AND THE ABUSE OF ADDITIVES IN FOOD PROCESSING.

THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED ACCORDING TO AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD METHOD CALLED THE PPS METHOD.

PROFESSOR ZHANG, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE SURVEY, SAID THE RESEARCH CENTER OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCE CONDUCTED THE POLL AIMING AT A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE PUBLIC ATTITUDE TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

ADMIN

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