

**NEWS FROM CHINA**

# **CHINA-INDIA REVIEW**

## **THE CHINESE WAY**

**Health, Holiday & Happiness**





Let Diwali Spirit  
Shines Forth...

HAPPY  
*Diwali*



# Celebrating Resilience and Cultural Connect

There is nothing like a good holiday to recharge your body and spirit. More than half a billion Chinese people decided to take a break and soak in unique charms of China's eight-day Golden Week holiday in October.

This surge in domestic tourism has also generated consumption-driven boom and reinforced ongoing economic recovery in China. In this regard, I am glad to share that China's economic recovery picked up steam in the third quarter of this year. China is confident of sustaining the current momentum amid the effective control of the novel coronavirus. As the epidemic is largely brought under control domestically, factories and schools have reopened and tourist sites across the country are attracting millions of people.

This economic resurgence could not have been possible without the leadership of President Xi Jinping and the Communist Party of China. The optimism of the Chinese people about their future is aptly encapsulated in the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035 to guide the country's next modernization process unveiled by the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) during its 5th Plenary Session in late October. For the 14th Five-Year Plan period, China will speed up fostering a new development pattern where domestic and foreign markets can boost each other with the domestic market as the mainstay. The 15-year roadmap underscores the resolve to basically achieve socialist modernization by 2035. The roles of innovation, real economy, a strong domestic market, rural vitalization and green development were underscored for China's growth.

Going by latest indicators, China's epidemic prevention and economic recovery will also stimulate global economy and help partners and friends like India. As our two countries step up efforts to reach an agreement to de-escalate the current border situation, we should not forget that our two countries share deeper intellectual and spiritual bonds which were formed by centuries of unbroken interaction among scholars and seers. People-to-people and cultural exchanges form the heart and soul of the China-India partnership.

The importance of cultural and spiritual exchanges was epitomized in the lives of Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis and Xu Fancheng. The Chinese Embassy in India held an online conference to commemorate the 110th birth anniversary of Dr Kotnis, which was attended by scholars, cultural figures and relatives of the legendary Indian doctor. Dr Kotnis was "A Hero to Remember and A Monument to Eternity," as I said in my speech at the webinar. Above all, he was an embodiment of China-India friendship and deep empathy our people have for each other. Similarly, we organized an online event to unveil *Essays in Memory of Xu Fancheng* to pay tribute to this iconic scholar who brought the depth and beauty of Indian philosophy and literature to the Chinese people. We need more such cultural bridge-builders and spiritual seers to enrich and transform the China-India relations.

Last but not least, moved by the beauty and radiance of Diwali festivities, I wish all Indian friends a joyous Diwali. May Diwali light shine warmth and brightness on your life forever!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be '孙卫东' (Sun Weidong), written in a cursive style.

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# China's Golden Week Holiday Shows Health, Resilience and Economic Recovery

**The total number of domestic tourists nationwide was previously expected to reach 550 million during the holiday, while statistics from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism showed that 618 million domestic tourist visits were made in the first seven days, generating overall revenue of 454 billion yuan (about USD66.9 billion)**

China's eight-day Golden Week Holiday has reflected the country's impressive health and economic recovery from COVID-19, with more than half a billion people on the move for their long-awaited vacations and factories stepping up production to complete new orders.

Amid the epidemic measures, the peak season of tourism-driven consumption, witnessed during the National Day celebration which coincided with the Mid-Autumn Festival this year, was a test for China's new economic development model of "dual circulation".

As a key part of the "dual circulation" development pattern floated by China's top leadership in May that encourages domestic and overseas markets to reinforce each other, the country's enormous market and expanding domestic demand during the holiday has gathered sound momentum for China's economy to further perk up, Xinhua reported on October 8.

## Tourism Revenue

The total number of domestic tourists nationwide was previously expected to reach 550 million during the holiday, while statistics from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism showed that 618 million domestic tourist visits were made in the first seven days, generating overall revenue of 454 billion yuan (about USD66.9 billion). In Wuhan, the "heroic" city once hard hit by coronavirus but has restored its vigor, visitors ambled by the Yellow Crane Tower as the historic building launched night tours for the first time since its opening to the public in 1985 after reconstruction. The landmark topped the "country's hottest scenic spots" rankings by China's largest online travel agency Trip.com Group.

"The Wuhan Yangtze River Bridge is the same as usual, so is the roaring Yangtze flowing eastward," Wang Yu, a tourist from Hubei's Enshi City, said while enjoying a distant view on top of the tower. "What's different is the heavy traffic on the bridge and the passing cargo ships on the river. Wuhan returns to life!" Mr Wang said.

Top scenic sites in central China's Hubei Province received over 2.07 million visitors in the first seven days of the holiday, according to the provincial culture and tourism department, with 30 key scenic sites raking in 205 million yuan from October 1 to 7.

In Beijing, more than 90,000 people, standing in the drizzling autumn rain, gathered at Tian'anmen Square on October 1 and burst into cheers as the five-starred red flag was hoisted to the top of the flagpole, accompanied by the national anthem.

According to the Beijing Municipal Administration of Cultural Heritage, some 40 museums in the city have offered more than 100 special cultural activities for the holiday, with 13 museums extending opening hours or providing night-time activities on October 1, on which the Mid-Autumn Festival fell. The 600-year-old Palace Museum, also known as Forbidden City, raised its daily visitor cap for the third time, up to 30,000, since it partially reopened from May 1. Unlike in previous years, some museums have moved part of their activities online while maintaining on-site visits to avoid crowd gathering during this year's Golden Week, said Li Yang, who works in the museum's administration department. The Beijing Road pedestrian street in the southern city of Guangzhou, after two years of modification, took on a new look with full 5G coverage and attracted over 4 million visitors during the holiday, with a sales turnover of more than 600 million yuan, up 160 percent year-on-year. In central China's Hunan Province, the temperature plunge did not restrain visitors' passion for Zhangjiajie, a UNESCO World Heritage Site

known for its forest parks. The picturesque tourist spot received 1.8 million visitors in the first five days of the holiday, with total tourism revenue exceeding 1.3 billion yuan.

"I made travel plans and booked the tickets before setting out," said Li Lin from Beijing who visited the Wulingyuan scenic area in Zhangjiajie. She was impressed by the smart face-scanning quick pass, noise-free wireless audio guide, clean and tidy tourist trails, as well as zero-contact customer services. "The distinctive scenery, good tourism facilities and services have offered me a great travel experience."

## Brisk Business

Chinese card payment giant China UnionPay saw its online payments go up by 9.6 percent year on year to 921.5 billion yuan during the first three days of the holiday, with payments over its network exceeding 330 billion yuan on October 1, an increase of 15.5 percent over the same day of last year.



Thousands of tourists descend on Beijing for shopping and fun, indicating the return of normalcy in the city.

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Data from Alibaba's travel agency Fliggy showed that stimulated by the company's 10-billion-yuan subsidy campaign and coupons introduced by local governments to revive tourism, hotel bookings nationwide surged by more than 50 percent year-on-year during the holiday, while both air ticket and scenic spot bookings rose by 16 percent year-on-year.

"In any year, the outlay of the weeklong holiday is a closely watched barometer of the country's economic health," the New York Times reported, noting that this year's holiday offered "the clearest measure yet of China's recovery from the pandemic."

The huge consumption potential during the Golden Week will not only accelerate the recovery of China's domestic economy but also drive imports and investment from other countries as the booming "holiday economy" promotes both internal and external circulation, offering a strong boost to the global trade and the world economy.



Visitors at Yangchenghu Expressway Service Area along the Shanghai-Nanjing Expressway in Suzhou in east China's Jiangsu Province.



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People enjoy a light show at the Bund in Shanghai in October.

Gu Qingyang, an associate professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore, noted that holiday consumption will help boost the service sector and promote more balanced development between other industries that bore the brunt of the epidemic. As transportation, tourism, and other sectors witnessed domestic demand during the holiday, production and trade have also bounced with remarkable speed.

With less than 500 days to go, construction of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics venues has entered the home stretch, with over 10,000 workers choosing to remain employed during the vacation. Construction workers are focusing on interior decorations and making ice at the National Speed Skating Oval, locally known as the “Ice Ribbon,” which boasts the most extensive full ice design in Asia, with an ice surface area of 12,000 square meters. Song Jiafeng, executive deputy general manager of the National Speed Skating Oval, has spent the past three National Day holidays staying on position. “On every National Day, we watch the live broadcast of the flag-raising ceremony at Tian’anmen Square, drawing strength to better devote ourselves to the construction work,” he said.

Workers of the Guangzhou Lianrou Machinery and Equipment Co. Ltd., a mattress manufacturer in the Yunpu Industrial Area in Guangzhou, have spent their holiday working extra shifts for new

orders. “It has been our busiest National Day holiday, our confirmed orders are scheduled until next February,” said Tan Zhiming, vice chairman of the company. With 60 percent of its products sold overseas, Lianrou once saw its production capacity drop by 70 percent during the epidemic. The company’s orders started to pick up in May, with orders in August and September doubled year-on-year.

China’s economic recovery continued to gather steam with improving major economic indicators, including retail sales of consumer goods, industrial output, the export of goods, and the purchasing managers’ index for the manufacturing sector. The country has become the only major economy, projected by the World Bank, to achieve positive growth in 2020. The increase in China’s domestic consumption will beef up global demand through international trade, thus stimulate world economic recovery, Mr Gu said.

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# Domestic Consumption Driving China's GDP Growth, Say Experts

**D**omestic consumers are the driving force for China's modest GDP growth as the COVID-19 pandemic eases and normalcy returns, said economists and banking experts. Consumption will become the main contributor to China's GDP growth in the fourth quarter of 2020, overtaking manufacturing and investment, according to the UBS Global Wealth Management. Data based on the cinema box-office revenue, duty-free shopping in Hainan, and tourism income suggest strength and resilience for Chinese consumption, said Haeefe.

During the "Golden Week" holiday, the country's retail and catering sales totaled 1.6 trillion yuan (around USD239 billion), up 5 percent year-on-year, and tourism generated 460 billion yuan, UBS noted. China's GDP is expected to expand 5.4 percent year-on-year in the third quarter, up from 3.2 percent in the second quarter, Xinhua reported, quoting a global study of the Bank of America (BoA) on October 11, 2020.

The service sector continued to normalize in the third quarter while industrial production

and construction momentum likely further strengthened, BoA economists said. Nominal retail sales could show year-on-year growth of 1.6 percent in September, up from 0.5 percent in August, thanks to the continued recovery of catering demand and solid goods sales, they said.

China's growth will be sustained by a robust service sector while the overall economic momentum is expected to ease back, said a report of the investment advisory firm MRB Partners. The service sector is leading the rebound and export growth has been modest in addition to restrained overall stimulus policies, said Mehran Nakhjavani, partner and strategist with MRB Partners.

These factors explain how "above-trend" overall growth coexists with a flat profile for imports in the last few months, according to Nakhjavani. The "Golden Week" holiday implies that Chinese economic data in October will show weak aggregates because of fewer working days, while service sector metrics will reflect strong travel and leisure activity, he added.





Tickets for the Badaling section of the Great Wall sold out completely during the Golden Week holiday.

# New Consumption Trends Shine in China's Golden Week Holiday

China has seen new consumption patterns during the eight-day Golden Week holiday as pent-up demand unleashed amid effective containment of the COVID-19 epidemic. Sales of key retail and catering firms totaled 1.6 trillion yuan (USD236 billion) between October 1 and 8, with daily average sales climbing 4.9 percent compared with the National Day holiday last year, data from the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) showed.

This year's Golden Week is the first long holiday after authorities lifted most of the domestic travel restrictions amid effective control of the epidemic, and is widely watched as a barometer of China's consumption vitality and growth potential. Here are some new consumption trends noticed during the holidays compiled by Xinhua on October 9.

## Internet-Powered Sales

As more people are getting accustomed to placing online orders for groceries, takeaways, and other services, this year's



**As more people are getting accustomed to placing online orders for groceries, takeaways, and other services, this year's Golden Week featured more internet-powered consumption.**

Golden Week featured more internet-powered consumption. In Mayang Miao Autonomous County of central China's Hunan Province, local agricultural products were marketed to the rest of the country via live streaming, which helped the county rake in revenues of 450,000 yuan on a single day.

The internet has also changed the flavor of traveling. During the holiday, more travel essentials, including personal care products and charging cables, were ordered online and delivered to hotels and scenic spots, a report by the internet company, Alibaba, showed.

### **Higher-End Purchases**

During the holiday, the Chinese spent more on high-end, expensive products. Sales of organic food, automobiles, smart home appliances, and jewelry saw notable increases, MOC data showed. Duty-free consumption, meanwhile, gained momentum at China's island province of Hainan, thanks to the favorable policies.



**Data from Haikou Customs showed that Hainan's four offshore duty-free shops received some 146,800 customers and sold 998,900 duty-free merchandise during the holiday, with total sales jumping 148.7 percent year-on-year to reach 1.04 billion yuan (around USD155 million)**

Data from Haikou Customs showed that Hainan's four offshore duty-free shops received some 146,800 customers and sold 998,900 duty-free merchandise during the holiday, with total sales jumping 148.7 percent year-on-year to reach 1.04 billion yuan (around USD155 million). Starting on July 1, Hainan increased its annual tax-free shopping quota from 30,000 yuan to 100,000 yuan per person. The range of duty-free goods has also expanded from 38 categories to 45, while the previous tax-free limit of 8,000 yuan for a single product has been lifted. As people's income continues to rise and the number of high-net-worth individuals increases, China's consumption will continue to upgrade, said Guotai Junan Securities in a research note.

## **Family-Oriented Spendings**

The COVID-19 outbreak disrupted the past Chinese Lunar New Year, a time for family reunions. It, however, seemed that Chinese people have taken advantage of the long October holiday to make up for the lost time. Air tickets purchased by groups of three or more people soared compared with the Dragon Boat Festival holiday in late June, while more people turned to recreational vehicles for traveling, according to an Alibaba report. Besides, the recovery of the box-office was supported by family spendings. Film tickets bought by groups of three or more accounted for a larger share of the box office, data showed.

## **County-Level Consumption**

As people living in small towns in China are becoming more affluent, they are spending more



on traveling. The Alibaba report showed travelers from third-tier or smaller cities accounted for 60 percent of all travelers during the holiday, with their average spending rising 50 percent year-on-year.

More than 50 percent of the commercial electrical appliances, such as popcorn poppers and sausage grill machines, sold during the holiday flowed to county-level markets, manifesting confidence of shop owners in the small-town economy, the report showed. The trends indicate that China's small towns still have huge consumption potential, the Guotai Junan Securities said.

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## CHINESE PEOPLE GO ON LONG TRIPS AS PANDEMIC WANES

On the first day of an eight-day holiday in China, railway passenger trips were at their highest level since the COVID-19 outbreak. Many people were taking their first long-distance tourist journeys this year, Xinhua reported on October 3. The overlapping National Day and the Mid-Autumn Festival starting October 1 this year gave a combined eight-day holiday for the Chinese people. These are the first holidays since the country resumed trans-provincial group tours in July. Data from Airbnb showed that China's long-distance travel would

see robust growth over this holiday compared with the five-day May Day holiday break.

As this is a long holiday, people have shown strong interest in traveling, said Dai Bin, director of the China Tourism Academy. Booking data has shown a larger proportion of travels over 800 km, with a noted increase in journeys longer than 1,600 km, said Airbnb, citing search volume for trips from Shanghai to Hainan's resort city of Sanya. According to a report of the Meituan Research Institute released on September 22, around 30 percent of ticket bookings in the first

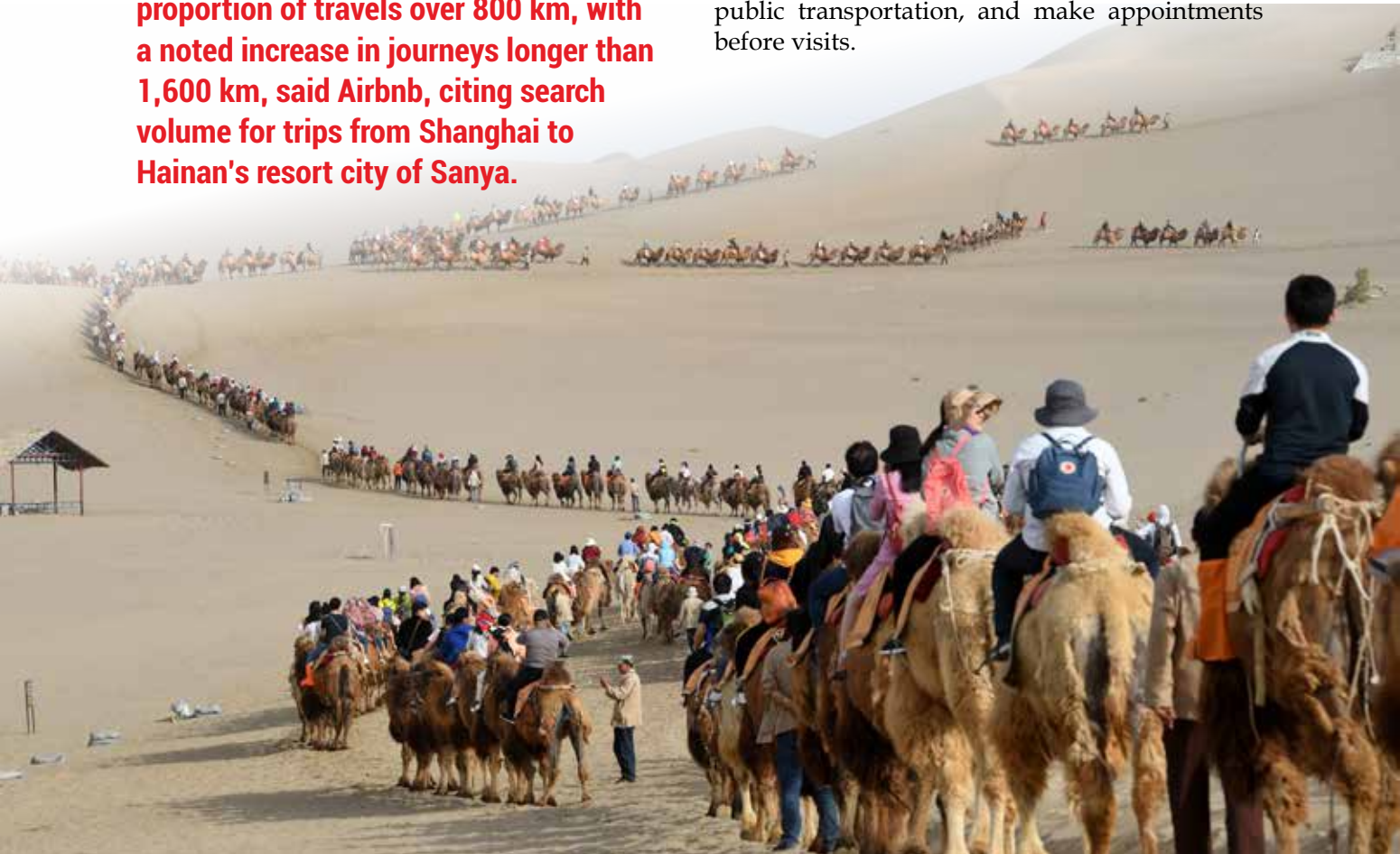
half of the month was made by trans-provincial travelers. Tourists are more willing to take long-distance trips, the report said.

Online travel agency Tuniu said that long-distance trips to the northwest and southwest parts of the country became “hot sellers”. Travels to northwest China, in particular, have soared, according to a survey conducted by the online travel agency Trip.com Group. It showed that car rentals had also increased notably, with over half of all orders during the holiday coming from new users. Due to COVID-19 concerns, many tourists have turned to recreational vehicles (RVs) for more private and secure tours. More people took to renting RVs during the epidemic as orders rose by 10 percent, according to the China Tourism Academy.

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**Data from China's Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MCT) showed that 75.72 percent of the country's travel agencies resumed operations by mid-September, with 91 percent of star-rated hotels reopened.**

Data from China's Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MCT) showed that 75.72 percent of the country's travel agencies resumed operations by mid-September, with 91 percent of star-rated hotels reopened. As the tourism market gets back on track, authorities have warned of epidemic risks ahead of the national holiday, demanding regular COVID-19 control checks. The MCT called on tourists to research COVID-19 prevention measures required for visiting tourist attractions in advance, maintain a safe distance when taking public transportation, and make appointments before visits.



Tourists on camels in the Crescent Spring and Mingsha Sand Dune scenic area in Dunhuang, northwest China's Gansu province.

# Golden Week Holiday *Chill Time in China!*





# China Confident of Sustaining Recovery Momentum as Economy Bounces Back



Photo taken on July 16, 2020 shows a container dock in Tangshan City, north China's Hebei Province.

China's economic recovery picked up steam in the third quarter, and the country is confident of sustaining the current momentum amid the effective control of the novel coronavirus and the government's sweeping efforts to stimulate demand and consumption.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expanded 4.9 percent year-on-year in Q3, faster than the 3.2-percent growth seen in Q2, Xinhua reported, citing data from the National Bureau of Statistics

(NBS) on October 19. In the first three quarters, the country's GDP expanded 0.7 percent year-on-year, returning to growth after the 1.6-percent contraction in the first half of the year and the 6.8-percent slump in Q1, the data showed.

To soften the impact of the COVID-19 shock, the government has rolled out a raft of measures, including more fiscal spending, tax relief, and cuts in lending rates and banks' reserve requirements to stabilize growth and employment. As the epidemic is largely brought under control domestically, factories and schools have reopened, and tourist sites across the country have resumed their usual hustle and bustle, the report said.

In Q3, major indicators returned to positive territory, with industrial output rising 5.8 percent and retail sales reporting the first quarterly expansion this year, up 0.9 percent year-on-year. The country's fixed-asset investment went up 0.8 percent year-on-year in the first three quarters, reversing a decline of 3.1 percent in the first half of this year. Per capita disposable income rose 0.6 percent in the first nine months, compared with a decline of 1.3 percent in H1.

## Positive Quarterly Results

"Seen from the trends of the key indicators, China's epidemic prevention and economic recovery are at the world's forefront, which shows the strong resilience and vitality of the economy," said Liu Aihua, spokesperson of the NBS. Among the bright spots, new growth drivers, including the Internet-powered economy and new infrastructure have assumed a bigger role in boosting growth, and the contribution of domestic demand is steadily picking up, Ms Liu said.

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP) expanded 4.9 percent year-on-year in Q3, faster than the 3.2 percent growth seen in Q2, Xinhua reported, citing data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on October 19.**

The NBS data showed consumption pulled up GDP growth by 1.7 percentage points in Q3, compared with a 2.3-percent drag on growth in Q2. “The unleashing of the potential of China’s super-large market not only demonstrates the country’s basic strategy of expanding domestic demand but will also facilitate the recovery of the entire world economy,” Ms Liu noted.

Despite the across-the-board improvements, the foundation for sustainable recovery requires further consolidation due to global uncertainties and uneven performance at home, she cautioned.

“Overall, China has the foundation, conditions, and confidence to maintain the current trend in Q4 and the full year,” she added.

In the latest World Economic Outlook report released earlier this month, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) projected China’s economy to grow by 1.9 percent in 2020, 0.9 percentage points above the IMF’s June forecast, making it the only major economy that will see positive growth this year. For future policy moves, China should maintain the stability and continuity of macro-control policies to consolidate the



Workers check a production line at Lianyungang Economic and Technological Development Area in Lianyungang, east China’s Jiangsu Province, July 16, 2020.

foundation for sustained recovery, while further increasing policy support for key areas and weak links to achieve development goals and tasks for the whole year, said Wen Bin, chief analyst at China Minsheng Bank.

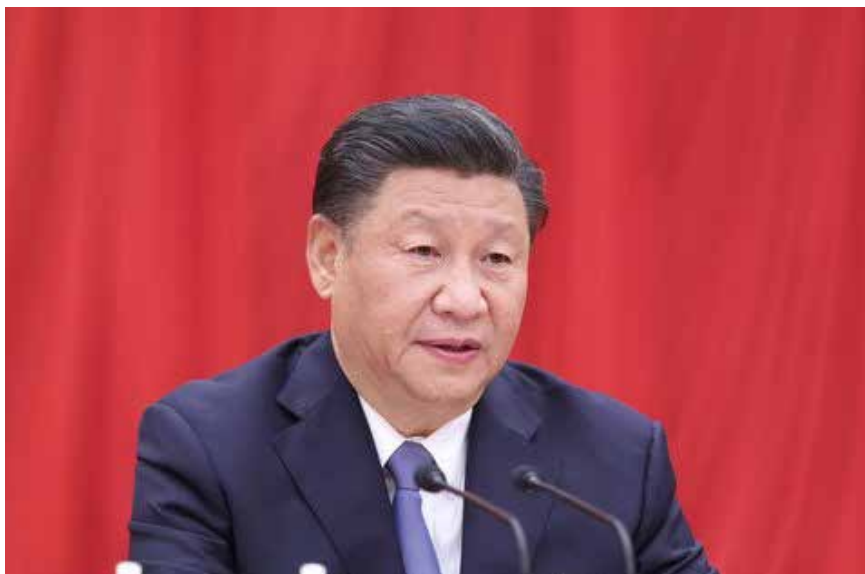
In a research report on the data, Lu Ting, chief China economist with Nomura, expects China will neither add more easing measures nor start tightening in the near term. China will carry out what it planned in late May for the scheduled budget and government bond issuance, while on monetary and credit policies, the period of quickly accelerating credit growth is over, according to the report. “We do not expect any reserve requirement ratio cuts or rate cuts before end-2020, but expect some more liquidity injections via low-profile channels such as medium-term lending facilities and re-lending,” the report noted.



People visit the 5G communication services exhibition area during the 2020 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) in Beijing, capital of China, Sept. 7, 2020.

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# Key CPC Session Unveils 15-Year Plan for China's Socialist Modernization



President Xi Jinping chaired the 5th Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee in Beijing in October which finalized a 15-year modernization roadmap of China.

The Communist Party of China's (CPC) Central Committee has prepared a new 15-year roadmap to guide the country's next modernization process during its 5th Plenary Session that concluded on October 29, Xinhua reported. The details of the plan were unveiled in a communique issued after the conclusion of the four-day session. It underscored innovation, strong economy, domestic market, rural vitalization, as well as green development for China's growth, the report said. The session adopted the document titled "14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives through the Year 2035".

Senior members of the 19th CPC Central Committee, including President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, and Han Zheng, among others, attend the session in Beijing. Noting that "a victory is in sight in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects", the communique stressed that building a modern socialist China is a part of a four-pronged comprehensive strategy envisaged in the 14th Five-Year Plan. In his speech at the session, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee and President Xi Jinping highlighted the progress in various areas and delivered a work report of the Party's Political Bureau.

## Targets Through 2035

The session adopted a set of long-range objectives to achieve its vision of socialist modernization by 2035.

- China's economic, technological, and national strength will increase significantly. A new stride will be made to increase the per capita income of people, enhance the overall economy, and make China a global leader in innovation through breakthroughs in core technologies.
- China will finish building a modern economy through new industrialization, IT application, urbanization, and agricultural innovation.
- Modernize China's system and capacity for governance. People's rights to participate and develop as equals will be adequately protected. The rule of law, the government, and society will be firmly in place across its territory.
- China will become an important strong country in culture, education, talent, sports, and health. The well-rounded development of all people and social etiquette and civility will be significantly enhanced. China's cultural soft power will grow stronger.
- Eco-friendly ways of work and life will be advanced to cover all areas of society. Carbon emission will steadily decline after reaching a peak, and there will be a fundamental improvement in the environment to build a beautiful China.
- The opening-up will reach a new stage with substantial growth of the country's strengths for participating in international economic cooperation and competition.
- The per capita GDP will reach the level of moderately developed countries. The size of the middle-income group will be significantly expanded. Equitable access to basic public services will be ensured. Disparities in urban-rural development, between regions, and in living standards will be significantly reduced.

- The implementation of the Peaceful China initiative will be promoted to a higher level. The modernization of national defense and the military will be achieved.
- People will lead a better life, and more notable and substantial progress will be achieved in promoting well-rounded human development and achieving common prosperity for everyone.

Acknowledging the work of the Political Bureau, the communique stressed that China has managed to maintain the growth momentum over the past year beyond expectation, ensuring people's living standards and maintaining the overall stability of the society.

## Targets for 14th Five-Year Plan

The session also laid down a set of guiding principles to be followed, and major economic and social development targets for the next five years. For the 14th Five-Year Plan period, China will speed up the implementation of a new development plan in which the domestic and foreign markets would boost each other, with the local market as the mainstay, said the communique. Furthermore, China will make new strides in economic development during the period. It will aim for sustained and healthy economic development based on a marked improvement in quality and efficiency. With new steps to be taken in reform and opening up, China will further improve its socialist market economy and complete the building of a high-standard market system, it said. China's social etiquette and civility shall be further enhanced, while the core socialist values shall be embraced by the people. The country aims to make new progress in building an ecological civilization, boost the well-being of people, and enhance governance capacity.

## Development Priorities

The session also highlighted several development priorities. The foremost is the innovation-driven development strategy. China must continue its focus on the development of high-quality manufacturing as well as enhanced cyberspace

**China's economic, technological, and national strength will increase significantly. A new stride will be made to increase the per capita income of people, enhance the overall economy, and make China a global leader in innovation through breakthroughs in core technologies.**

and digital technology capabilities. It must nurture a strong domestic market by establishing a new development pattern, deepen reform in pursuit of a high-level socialist market economy, prioritize development of agriculture and rural areas, advance rural vitalization, push forward a coordinated regional development plan, and usher in a new type of urbanization, among others, the document said. It also stressed that the CPC leadership must be upheld to realize the 14th Five-Year Plan and the objectives set for 2035. It stated that China is committed to maintaining lasting prosperity and stability in Hong Kong and Macao and advancing the peaceful development of cross-Strait relations and national reunification. China, it said, will hold high the banner of peace, development, cooperation, and mutual benefit, and strive to create a favorable external environment to promote a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for humanity.

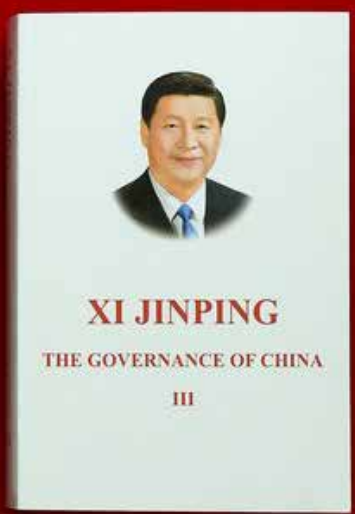
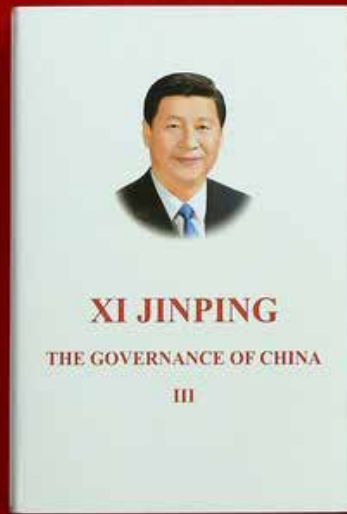
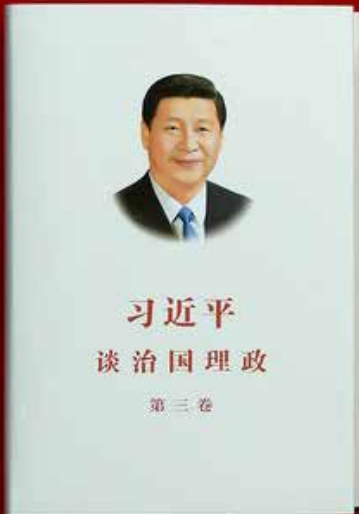
## Five-Year Progress Highlights

- China's gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to cross the 100-trillion-yuan mark in 2020.
- 55.75 million rural residents were lifted out of poverty.
- The annual grain output has remained above 650 million tons for five consecutive years.
- China has built the world's largest social security system, among other achievements.

The communique said China still has immense scope and opportunity for development.



# 5<sup>th</sup> plenary session of 19th CPC Central Committee



## Xi Stresses Modernizing Socialist System, Governance Capacity in New Book

The third volume of “Xi Jinping: The Governance of China”, an authoritative work that “fully and systematically” reflects the president’s thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics for a New Era was published by the Foreign Language Press early this year.

The book contains a collection of 92 articles, speeches, discussions, instructions, and letters of the General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee between October 18, 2017, and January 13, 2020, Xinhua reported on October 10.

The following are the highlights of his quotes on modernizing the socialist system and governance capacity:

- Approach tells more than words, and conduct reveals more than approach. Practice is the best touchstone of the efficacy of our systems.
- I have often said that only the wearer of the shoes knows if they fit or not. The Chinese people know best whether the socialist system suits the country or not.
- Making our state system more mature and better defined constitutes a dynamic process. Modernizing state governance capacity is also a dynamic process. We cannot get there in one step; neither can we falter in our efforts.
- The Chinese socialist system and state governance system did not fall out of the sky but emerged from Chinese soil through a long process of revolution, economic development, and reform. They are the results of a combination of the tenets of Marxism with China’s conditions and the outcome of a range of innovations in theory, practice, and system.
- Our state system and state governance system are always directed to realize, protect, and develop the fundamental interests of the greatest possible majority of the people, guarantee and improve their wellbeing, and share the fruits of reform among all our people in a fair way.

# 40 Years Later, Shenzhen Leads China's New Journey Toward Socialist Modernization



## 深圳经济特区建立四十周年庆祝大会

Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone

1980-2020



Chinese President Xi Jinping attended a grand gathering to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone in Shenzhen on October 14, 2020.

In 1982, Lu Jianxin packed his belongings and jumped on a train to Shenzhen, a southern border town designated as China's first special economic zone (SEZ) only two years earlier.

Receiving a letter from a friend talking about the construction scenes in the SEZ and building a 50-story building, then the tallest in China, as an 18-year-old architecture student, he could not resist the temptation of participating in the grand project and made up his mind to go there. "Looking back, I didn't know I would participate in a great cause of building the SEZ and witness a miracle of the age," said Mr Lu, who has remained in Shenzhen ever since, working as

an architectural engineer. He was telling his life story and his connection with the city at a grand gathering held on October 14 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the SEZ in the country's southern Guangdong Province, a paragon of China's reform and opening up, Xinhua reported.

With the efforts of Mr Lu and millions of others drawn to the SEZ in the past four decades, Shenzhen has transformed from a small backward border town into an international metropolis with a permanent population of over 13 million. The gathering was attended by President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of



Chinese President Xi Jinping interacted with the locals in south China's Guangdong Province during his visit to Shenzhen.

China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission. Hailing Shenzhen's development over the past 40 years as "a miracle in the world development history," Xi encouraged China's SEZs to advance reform and opening up at a higher starting point and make greater contributions to building China into a great modern socialist country.

## 40 Years of Growth and Innovation

On August 26, 1980, the Standing Committee of the fifth National People's Congress, the top legislature, approved the establishment of special economic zones in Shenzhen, Zhuhai, and Shantou, in Guangdong Province, and Xiamen in Fujian Province. After 40 years of rapid growth, Shenzhen now ranks fifth among Asian cities in terms of gross domestic product (GDP), which expanded at an annual rate of 20.7 percent to 2.7 trillion yuan (about USD400 billion) in 2019. The establishment of SEZs is a great innovative move made by the CPC, and the country in advancing reform, opening up and socialist modernization, President Xi said.

**"Looking back, I didn't know I would participate in a great cause of building the SEZ and witness a miracle of the age," said Mr Lu, who has remained in Shenzhen ever since, working as an architectural engineer.**

As a flagship of China's high-tech industrial development, Shenzhen boasts a bevy of Chinese startups and tech heavyweights, including Huawei and Tencent. In 2019, the city's research and development investment accounted for 4.93 percent of local GDP, up from 3.81 percent in 2012. President Xi identified the valuable experience of Shenzhen and other SEZs, including adhering to the Party's leadership, upholding and improving the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, adhering to the concept that development is of paramount importance, remaining committed to opening up on all fronts, taking innovation as the primary driving force, following the people-centered philosophy of development, and ensuring scientific legislation, strict law enforcement, judicial impartiality, and universal law-abiding. He also highlighted experience, such as achieving sustained development of economy and society as well as ecology and environment in a comprehensive and coordinated way, implementing the fundamental principle of "one country, two systems" comprehensively and accurately, and giving full play to the leading and exemplary role of the SEZs while making overall plans for the country.

## New Missions

Building on past success, the CPC Central Committee, in the face of profound changes in international situations, entrusted Shenzhen with new historic missions, including leading the country's drive of socialist modernization. In his speech, President Xi also called on Shenzhen to build itself into a pilot zone for socialism with Chinese characteristics, set an example for cities of a modern socialist country, increase its





**Foreign participation has been indispensable in the building of the special economic zones over the past 40 years, which in turn has also created vast development opportunities and offered development benefits for foreign countries, said President Xi.**

capabilities to implement the new development philosophy, build a new pattern to deepen all-round reform and expand opening up on all fronts and contribute to the construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to enrich the new practices of the “one country, two systems” cause.

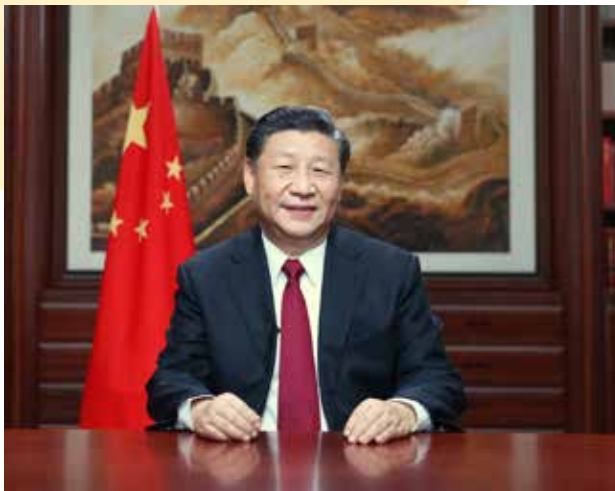
He also welcomed foreign countries to participate more in the reform, opening up, and development of China’s special economic zones.

Foreign participation has been indispensable in the building of the special economic zones over the past 40 years, which in turn has also created vast development opportunities and offered development benefits for foreign countries, said President Xi. His call came days after China unveiled a plan on implementing pilot reforms in Shenzhen to build the city into a demonstration area of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the next five years. The city has been granted greater autonomy in the reform of important areas and key links, such as carrying out market-based economic reform, improving market and legal environments for global businesses, building a high-level open economy, providing service for people’s livelihood, and bettering the environment and urban space.

He urged the city to unswervingly implement the new development philosophy, achieve higher-quality development by deepening reform on all fronts, and expanding all-around opening up. President Xi stressed modernizing Shenzhen’s urban governance system and capacity with innovation and solving problems in urban governance with the rule-of-law mindset and methods. Meanwhile, he underlined efforts to address issues in areas, including employment, education, medical care, social security, housing, elderly care, food safety, ecology and environment, and public security.

The Chinese leader asked Shenzhen to take active moves to further promote the construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, calling for efforts to synergize economic rules and mechanisms in the three regions and urging wider exchanges and deeper integration among young people in those regions to strengthen their sense of belonging to the motherland. “History chose Shenzhen 40 years ago, and Shenzhen created a miracle. Today, the city has been chosen once again, and it must make an even greater difference,” said Wang Weizhong, Party Secretary of Shenzhen.

# Xi Jinping Leads China's Anti-Poverty War from the Front



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a televised New Year speech in Beijing to ring in 2020, in which he vowed to eliminate poverty in all poor counties of China.

China is making a final sprint to eliminate absolute poverty as it marked the 7th National Poverty Relief Day, also the 28th International Day for Eradication of Poverty on October 17.

Leading this effort is President Xi Jinping, also the general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission. The year 2020 was set by the Chinese leadership as the deadline to eradicate poverty. In early March, President Xi convened a large televised symposium on poverty alleviation. There, he reiterated the deadline and vowed to lift the remaining five million-plus people out of poverty by the end of the year, despite the sudden strike of COVID-19, Xinhua wrote in an editorial.

In late September, the Chinese leader said that China has “every confidence” of achieving the goal within the set timeframe. The nation will meet the poverty eradication target set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule, he told the 75th session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly. In his latest instruction made public on October 17, President Xi said that while the anti-poverty fight is in its final stretch, there should be no letting up until a complete victory has been secured.

## Eliminating Poverty

Poverty has plagued China for thousands of years. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, especially the reform and opening up in 1978, the anti-poverty war led by the CPC had lifted over 700 million rural people out of poverty. The Chinese leader assumed the historic responsibility of leading this fight, after he was elected general secretary of the CPC Central Committee at the first plenary session of the 18th CPC Central Committee in November 2012. At that time, 98.99 million Chinese lived under the poverty line, earning a per capita annual income of less than 2,300 yuan, or about 1 US dollar a day. The country entered what is known as the toughest phase of poverty reduction - when the ratio of the impoverished falls to under 10 percent of a country's total population, the article said.

To meet the anti-poverty deadline, over 10 million people have to be lifted out of poverty every year. This equals about one million people every month or 20 people every minute. About

**In his latest instruction made public on October 17, President Xi said that while the anti-poverty fight is in its final stretch, there should be no letting up until a complete victory has been secured.**

one month after taking the helm of the Party, he braved the winter cold to visit poor villagers in Hebei Province. Sitting down with them, he asked about their income, if they had sufficient food and enough quilts and coal to stay warm through the winter. In November 2013, he went to Shibadong, a Miao ethnic minority village nestled in the mountains of central China's Hunan Province. There, he put forward the concept of targeted poverty alleviation. Poverty relief should be "meticulous like doing embroidery," rather than akin to "killing fleas with a hand-grenade," the Chinese leader said.

Across the country, all impoverished people and the factors that led to their poverty are identified. Each household or individual is given a custom poverty relief plan. They might get help to start a small business, be relocated out of mountains, or receive training to find a job in cities. And there is a system to keep track of progress to ensure the measures are having the desired effect. President Xi has put poverty relief work under the unified leadership of the CPC with 90 million members. Party chiefs at all levels were



Chinese President Xi Jinping inquired about poverty alleviation efforts at an organic farm in Yunzhou District of Datong City, north China's Shanxi Province in May, 2020.



**He once cited an old Chinese adage: "Great leaders of nations treat their people like a father loves his son and an elder brother loves his younger sibling. They will be saddened to hear of their people's hardship or toil."**

Chinese President Xi Jinping inspected poverty relief industries and progress in consolidating poverty eradication at a modern agricultural tourism demonstration base in Shazhou Village, Rucheng County, central China's Hunan Province in September, 2020.

required to assume the primary responsibility. Over 2.9 million public sector officials were sent from cities and towns to villages to fight poverty "at the frontline".

He has convened a series of meetings on poverty alleviation. Before every such meeting, he would visit impoverished regions to conduct research, learn about local situations, and hear opinions of grassroots officials and members of the public. He has a complete portfolio of poverty relief plans. He required meeting the targets: rural poor people do not have to worry about food and clothing, access to compulsory education, basic medical services, and safe housing.

He stressed the role of education to stop poverty from being passed from one generation to another, underlined the collaboration between eastern and western regions, stressed relocation as an effective anti-poverty solution, and repeatedly warned against needless formalities, red tape, or perfunctoriness. "Poverty alleviation must have genuine effects that can win the approval of the people and stand the test of practice and history," President Xi said. Yuri Tavrovsky, a sinologist and

professor at the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, said that under President Xi's leadership China's anti-poverty fight has notably gathered pace. Defeating poverty before the CPC's 100th founding anniversary will lay the foundation for the realization of the Chinese Dream, he said.

## **Leave No One Behind**

President Xi is no stranger to poverty. As a teenager and young adult, he spent seven years with peasants on the Loess Plateau where he lived in cave-like adobe houses and slept on flea-infested bed-stove made of clay. He joined the CPC in the village of Liangjiahe and had his first experience as a grassroots-level Party secretary there. The Chinese leader once said that his biggest wish back then was to make it possible for the villagers to have meat on their plates. Rising through the Party ranks, he spent most of his time on poverty relief. He said eliminating poverty, improving people's well-being and achieving common prosperity for everyone are an essential requirement of socialism and an important mission of the CPC. "Poverty is not socialism,"

President said. He has personally taken charge of commanding the anti-poverty war and vowed to tackle it “with force and tenacity as a hammer drives a nail.”

Poverty alleviation was a priority in his roughly 80 domestic inspections over the past eight years. These trips took him to some of the country’s most remote and impoverished areas. He stressed that no one should be left behind. In just over four years into the Party’s top post, he visited all of China’s 14 “contiguous impoverished areas”. At times he had to travel by plane first and then in train and car before reaching the remote villages. He once cited an old Chinese adage: “Great leaders of nations treat their people like a father loves his son and an elder brother loves his younger sibling. They will be saddened to hear of their people’s hardship or toil.”

“What impresses me most is that Xi always puts people’s well-being first,” said Zhao Ruqi, an official who worked with President Xi in the eastern province of Fujian. Ismatulla Bekmuratov, a professor at Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies in Uzbekistan, attributed China’s poverty reduction success primarily to the attention of President Xi, who made poverty eradication a centerpiece of the country’s development plan and personally led the war against poverty. This attention has been consistent over time and sometimes meticulous.

In 1997, he was deputy Party chief of Fujian. He headed the province’s leading group on pairing-up support for Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. He focused on solving the water problems of poor villagers, pushing for new water storage and irrigation projects in the arid land. In 2016, when he visited a village in Ningxia, President Xi checked the shower facilities in a villager’s home, and was pleased to learn that the family had a solar water heater. Recalling his early trips to some poor areas as the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, he said that his heart sank when he saw the bumpy and rugged roads, harsh living conditions of the locals and heard stories of children dropping out of school, or patients not getting treated in time. “But when I went to poor villages in these few years, I saw substantial changes,” Xi said at the March symposium. “Seeing the smiles of the people, I feel delighted.”

## Miracle in Human History

“When we have defeated poverty in this generation, we will have brought to an end, once and for all, the extreme poverty that has shackled the Chinese nation for millennia,” President Xi said. The number of Chinese living in poverty dropped from 98.99 million to 5.51 million in the seven years since 2013. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said China made the greatest contributions to world poverty alleviation in the past decade. In China, the per capita net income of the poor rose from 4,124 yuan in 2016 to 9,057 yuan in 2019, registering an average annual growth of 30 percent. Countless rural people saw a significant improvement in their lives. “We used to earn 2,000 yuan a year growing potatoes and corn. Now I earn 2,100 yuan a month working for a travel company. So do my eldest daughter and son,” said Gu Baoqing, a 72-year-old woman in rural Hebei. Gu’s family is just one of the many households that have shaken off poverty by participating in the tourism sector.

The development of rural industries has changed lives. In the past five years, more than nine million rural poor in China were moved out of inhospitable areas that mired generations of inhabitants deep in poverty. Yang Qingzhong recalled that his family of six had to cram themselves into a tiny mud-brick house in mountainous Guizhou Province. In 2018, the family moved into a spacious modern apartment in town, allocated by the government. And he found a job in a workshop near home, making rattan chairs. Rural infrastructure, education, and health-care all improved. Some rural hospitals partnered with their metropolitan counterparts to offer high-quality medical services to rural residents.

“Illness-induced poverty is one of the toughest problems in rural areas,” said Hu Yi, head of the public hospital in the county of Zhenxiong in Yunnan Province. “Now they don’t have to travel far to get treated, not even for serious illness.” Benefiting from the poverty eradication campaign, some ethnic minorities, residing in the country’s remote, southwestern corners, took big strides in their development. “Poverty eradication is only the first step; better days are still ahead,” President Xi said in a letter to the Dulong ethnic minority group, congratulating



Chinese President Xi Jinping surveyed poverty alleviation efforts in Jinmi Village of Xiaoling Township in Zhashui County, Shangluo City, northwest China's Shaanxi Province in April 2020.

the Dulong people for collectively shaking off poverty.

Zhaotong, a city in Yunnan with a huge poor population, has seen the blossoming of rural industries, including the growing of potatoes, apples, and chili peppers, following President Xi's visit in 2015. These industries have grown large in scale and some even helped the city gain international acclaim, said Yang Yalin, the city's Party chief. China has also contributed to the global anti-poverty fight. In September 2015, at high-level meetings to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the UN, President Xi put forward new measures to help developing countries grow their economies and improve their people's livelihoods. These included increasing investment in the least developed countries, and setting up the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund as well as the Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development. Said Haji Mrisho, a Tanzanian graduate of the institute, said China's assistance to Africa is not limited to financial aid. More importantly, Chinese companies build infrastructure and factories in Africa to help African countries achieve broader and longer-term development, he said.

Over the years, China has helped other countries boost employment and improve people's livelihoods through the Belt and Road Initiative. According to the Ministry of Commerce, despite the impact of COVID-19, Chinese companies' non-financial direct investment in 54 countries along the Belt and Road grew by over 33 percent to reach 72.18 billion yuan in the first seven months of 2020. A World Bank report last year said that globally the Belt and Road initiative could contribute to lifting about 7.6 million people from extreme poverty and 32 million from moderate poverty.

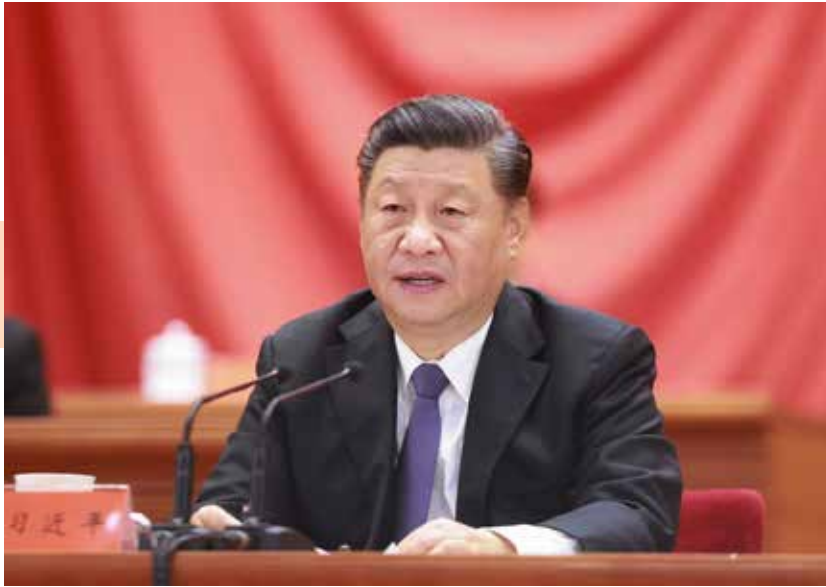
In June 2018, Lao President Bounnhang Vorachit, also general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, traveled to Shibadong to retrace the route taken by President Xi and explore China's experience in targeted poverty alleviation.

In the village, he saw a winding mountain trail turned into a six-meter-wide concrete road. Every household has running water, while there are hiking trails, post offices, ATMs, a rural library, and even a poetry society. While China is on the way to winning the epic war against poverty, President Xi has reminded people that shaking-off poverty is not the finish line but the starting line of a new life and new endeavor.

Revisiting Hunan in September, he stressed establishing and improving long-term mechanisms for preventing any relapse into poverty. He demanded a dovetailing drive of rural vitalization following the victory of poverty eradication. This clearly shows his confidence in eliminating China's absolute poverty in 2020 as he has started to plan for the country's development after the completion of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

**A World Bank report last year said that globally the Belt and Road initiative could contribute to lifting about 7.6 million people from extreme poverty and 32 million from moderate poverty.**

# Xi Calls for Embodying Great Spirit Forged in the War for National Rejuvenation



**A**t a meeting to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the War to Resist U.S Aggression and Aid Korea on October 23, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee and President Xi Jinping made a clarion call to embody the great spirit forged in the war as the citizens embark on the task of national rejuvenation. The Chinese People's Volunteers (CPV) had fought alongside North Korea during the war from 1950-1953. President Xi stressed promoting the same spirit to realize national goals. The meeting was presided over by Premier Li Keqiang which saw the participation of many senior leaders such as Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng, and Wang Qishan.

## Milestone Victory

Eight months after the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Korean War broke out in

June 1950. The flames of war soon reached the border river of Yalu, and US planes repeatedly bombed northeast China's border regions, causing casualties and property losses and seriously endangering its security. On October 19, 1950, as requested by the DPRK, CPV forces crossed the Yalu River to aid them in the fight until a truce was signed in 1953. It was a time when China had poor weapons and weak air and naval forces. But the US, which led the rival forces in the war, had much greater military power.

The supreme commander of the Chinese military lauded the CPV's achievements and patriotism demonstrated during the war. He said that their contributions will never be forgotten since victory would have been impossible without them. Chinese and the DPRK forces defeated their armed-to-teeth rival and shattered the myth of invincibility of the US army, he said. The great victory in the war defied the invasion

and expansion of imperialism, safeguarded the security of New China, stabilized the situation on the Korean Peninsula and upheld peace in Asia and the world, he said. The people and the armies of the two countries forged a great friendship with blood in the war, he said.

President Xi thanked all the peace-loving countries, people, friendly organizations and personnel who supported the CPV during the war. In his speech, he called the victory in the war “a declaration that the Chinese people have stood firm in the East, and an important milestone in the Chinese nation’s march toward great rejuvenation.” “It smashed the aggressors’ plot to nip New China in the bud, and helped the Chinese people to completely get rid of the label of the ‘Sick Man of East Asia’”, he said.

The victory also laid a solid foundation for New China’s important status in Asia and on the international stage, demonstrating the Chinese people’s resolve to safeguard world peace. Furthermore, it advanced the modernization of

**Chinese and the DPRK forces defeated their armed-to-teeth rival and shattered the myth of invincibility of the US army, he said.**

China’s national defense and the armed forces. Profound changes occurred to the strategic landscape of Asia and even the world following the war, which, he said, has shown that justice is sure to prevail over power.

### **Lasting Effect of Victory**

People across China have expressed their gratitude to the CPV veterans for their sacrifice and contribution to the nation. Hu Jian, a professor with the National Defense University, hailed the CPV’s triumph as “a world-class victory” that brought a fundamental change in the international status of China after lagging behind in development and being vulnerable to aggression for more than 100 years. Over the



Chinese People’s Volunteers (CPV) veterans and comrades paid tribute to martyrs of the CPV during a flower baskets presenting ceremony at the memorial tower in the Memorial Hall of the War to Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea in Dandong, northeast China’s Liaoning Province in October 2020.



## **In his speech, President Xi lauded the Great Spirit forged in the war, stressing that it must be promoted and passed down through generations**

past seven decades, China has developed from a war-torn country into the world's second-largest economy, contributing 30 percent of the global economic growth.

The per capita disposable income of Chinese people surged by two-thirds to 30,733 yuan (around \$4,600) between 2013 and 2019. The country now aims to eradicate absolute poverty by the end of 2020 and realize a moderately prosperous society in all respects. Huang Chongxi, an 85-year-old CPV veteran who watched the meeting on television, recalled: "Some of the comrades-in-arms who crossed the Yalu River aboard the same truck with me couldn't make it to be back to the motherland." "The values the young men and women demonstrated in meeting challenges and overcoming difficulties on the battlefield 70 years ago are eternal," said Li Guoqing, 21, a student at the Northeastern University. "They are the true heroes who we admire."

In his speech, President Xi lauded the Great Spirit forged in the war, stressing that it must be promoted and passed down through generations. Elaborating on the spirit, he said the CPV members have upheld patriotism by placing the interests of the motherland and the people above all and defying personal danger to safeguard the dignity of the motherland and the Chinese nation; upheld revolutionary heroism with their bravery and acts of valor; upheld revolutionary optimism by demonstrating high morale despite hardships and difficulties; upheld revolutionary loyalty by sacrificing themselves to complete missions assigned by the motherland and people; upheld internationalism by striving for the cause of peace and justice of humanity.

"It is necessary to speak to invaders in the language they know: that is, a war must be fought to deter invasion, and a victory is needed to win peace and respect," Xi said.

## **Right Way Forward**

The Chinese leader urged pooling national strength, fostering China's national valor, and keeping on the right path and making innovations. As China commemorates the great victory and advances the great cause, President Xi urged efforts to uphold the Party's leadership, put people first, boost economic and social development, advance the modernization of national defense and the armed forces, as well as uphold world peace and justice and promote the building of a community with a shared future for humanity. Seeking peaceful development and win-win cooperation is the right way forward as people of all countries need to join hands to overcome difficulties and meet the challenges facing the world, he said.

**"In today's world, the pursuit of unilateralism, Seeking peaceful development and win-win cooperation is the right way forward as people of all countries need to join hands to overcome difficulties and meet the challenges facing the world, he said.**

protectionism and extreme egoism leads nowhere," he said. Blackmail, blockages and the application of maximum pressure on others lead nowhere, and so do "Arrogance, doing as one pleases, acts of hegemony, overbearance or bullying," he said. Calling the Chinese military a staunch defender of world peace, President Xi said China never seeks hegemony or expansion and firmly opposes such politics. "China will never sit idle and allow its national sovereignty, security and development interests to be undermined, and will never allow any individual or force to impair or divide this sacred territory," he said. Chinese people are confidently looking forward to the bright prospects of national rejuvenation, he said, urging the people to carry forward the spirit forged in the war 70 years ago, march on the journey of building a great modern socialist country, and achieve the goal of national rejuvenation.

# Xi's Statements at UN Show China's Global Vision, Commitment: Wang Yi



Chinese President Xi Jinping's statements at the high-level meetings marking the 75th anniversary of the United Nations (UN) demonstrate China's global vision and a firm commitment to the world, which were welcomed and highly regarded by the international community, China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has said.

President Xi has recorded video messages for a series of important video conferences, including the high-level meeting to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the UN, the General Debate of the 75th Session of the UN General Assembly, the Summit on Biodiversity, and the high-level meeting on the 25th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Mr Wang said, giving an overview of President Xi's participation and important statements at these meetings, Chinese media reported on October 3. It is widely agreed that President Xi's statements and proposals will have a positive and far-reaching impact on the evolution of the international landscape, both now and in the future, he added.

## Demonstrate New Sense of Responsibility

The General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee has provided comprehensive and systematic answers to such key questions as what kind of world humanity will face in the

post-COVID era, what role China will play in the world and what kind of an international order we all need, the Chinese foreign minister said. The president took a clear stand and unequivocally reiterated China's firm commitment to multilateralism, the authority of the UN, the path of peaceful development and mutually beneficial cooperation, and the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, he said. Noting President Xi announced a set of new initiatives and measures at this year's General Assembly, the minister said these initiatives are part of China's proactive efforts to advance global peace and development and multilateralism. He emphasized that President Xi's statements at this year's UN General Assembly have further enriched his thought on diplomacy in theory and practice.

## Inject New Impetus into Global COVID-19 Response

Mr Wang said the world needs solidarity to overcome the pandemic, the worst crisis to confront humanity since World War II. He said that President Xi put forward a range of important initiatives and proposals that demonstrated a strong sense of responsibility for the wellbeing of humanity against this backdrop. The CPC General Secretary also elaborated on China's experience in fighting COVID-19, including its people-first and life-first commitments, science-based approach, and well-calibrated measures, Mr Wang said, adding that many countries have stated China's experience has been proven effective in practice and reinforced their confidence and strength in defeating the virus.

"China both advocates, and more importantly, actively pursues global cooperation against COVID-19. Under the personal direction of President Xi, China engaged in a biggest-ever global humanitarian action in the history of the People's Republic and provided assistance to countries in need to the best of its ability," Mr Wang said.

## Forge New Consensus on Global Governance Reform

Emphasizing the global governance system needs to be reformed and brought up to date, Mr Wang said that President Xi has set out China's views on this subject in an all-round fashion, with a dialectical perspective on what should remain unchanged and what should be changed in today's global governance system. The Chinese president pointed out that there is but one system in the world, and it is the UN-centered international system; there is but one set of rules, and it is the basic norms governing international relations underpinned by the UN Charter, Mr Wang said. These important statements set the tone for the reform of the global governance system, he added.

President Xi called on the UN to stand firm for justice, uphold the rule of law, promote cooperation, and focus on real action, he said, adding that these four propositions epitomize the great expectations of the global community on the UN. Mr Wang highlighted that the Chinese leader's resounding statements struck a chord with the majority of the international community and charted the right course for reforming the global governance system.

## New Proposals for Global Economic Recovery

Noting COVID-19 has taken a heavy toll on the economic and social development of all countries, while the backlash against globalization and the rise of protectionism have aggravated the downturn, Mr Wang said President Xi made proposals on effectively removing the main obstacles holding back global recovery and development at this critical moment.

The Chinese leader calls for remaining committed to building an open world economy, upholding the multilateral trading regime with the World Trade Organization as the cornerstone, and working to ensure the stable and smooth functioning of global industrial and supply chains demonstrate China's vision and sense of responsibility to forge ahead against all odds and chart the future course for the world economy, the state counsellor said.

The president has underlined that China aims to foster a new development paradigm with domestic circulation as the mainstay and domestic and international circulations reinforcing each other, he said. These statements reflected China's openness and readiness to share its huge market with the rest of the world, and project its image as a responsible country promoting win-win cooperation through real actions, he added. President Xi also made many important observations on the new round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation and the transition to green and low-carbon development. "All this has pointed the way forward for the sound and sustained growth of the world economy," noted the state councillor.

## Set New Benchmark for Global Ecological Progress

Besides, President Xi has put forward four proposals: increase the drive for building a beautiful world, build synergy for global governance on the environment, increase the potential for high-quality economic recovery after COVID-19, and strengthen the power of action to tackle challenges to the environment. Mr Wang said that these insightful views and important announcements have contributed to the promotion of global ecological progress.

President Xi's "solemn announcements" have helped meet China's 2020 climate action targets two years ahead of schedule, China will scale up its nationally determined contributions, adopt even more forceful policies and measures, and strive to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. Mr Wang said these ambitious targets have shown to the world that China is firmly committed to the new development philosophy and stands ready to make new contributions to global climate response. Looking ahead, Mr Wang said that no matter what difficulties and obstacles may lay ahead, the pursuit of the Chinese nation for rejuvenation will not be stopped, the just cause of multilateralism will not be halted, and the prevailing trend of peace and development in the world will not be reversed.

# China's Ties with ASEAN Growing from Strength to Strength: Wang Yi



Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen and visiting Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi attended the signing ceremony of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in October.

China's recent diplomatic interactions with the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have enhanced unity and cooperation for the anti-pandemic fight, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has said. He made the remarks in an interview with Xinhua on October 17 after holding talks with Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan, the Indonesian president's special envoy, and Philippine Foreign Secretary, Teodoro Locsin, last week. Mr Wang had wrapped up his tour of Southeast Asia on October 16 which took him to Cambodia, Malaysia, Laos, Thailand, and Singapore. It was his first tour of the region in connection with the prevention and control of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Unity and Cooperation

The Chinese foreign minister believes that his visit has enhanced China-ASEAN unity. "We have exchanged views and reached a series of consensus on major issues, such as jointly responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and the evolving international situation, deepening bilateral relations, maintaining regional peace and stability, and improving the global governance system," he said. Mr Wang noted that all parties should further enhance mutual trust and solidarity, and continue to work to take the China-ASEAN ties to a higher level.

Furthermore, anti-pandemic cooperation has been deepened, he said. East Asia has

made outstanding achievements in combating COVID-19, which comes from countries' commitment to putting the people first, taking scientific epidemic prevention measures, sticking together and providing mutual assistance and support, he said. All parties should improve the level of joint prevention and control against the pandemic, enhance the exchange of prevention and treatment experience, and strengthen cooperation in vaccine research and development, and production and use, he added.

China will continue to help ASEAN countries to prevail over the pandemic, including providing necessary anti-epidemic materials, carrying out cooperation on vaccine, assisting the establishment of nucleic acid testing laboratories, supporting ASEAN in launching an anti-epidemic fund, and establishing repositories for emergency medical supplies, Mr Wang said. According to him, the Southeast countries have spoken highly of China's vaccine research and development

with the World Health Organization (WHO) in a timely manner at the early stage of the epidemic, creating the necessary conditions for global vaccine development. China has made it clear that it is willing to make efforts within its capacity in vaccine development, and give priority to the needs of developing countries, including the ASEAN countries, he added. The virus knows no borders, and only when all countries get rid of the epidemic can the global fight against the COVID-19 be a final victory, he said. Vaccines are the "ultimate weapon" to prevail over the disease, he said, calling on the international community to work jointly on issues concerning life and health of the mankind. Noting that China is one of the frontrunners in vaccine development, Wang said China has shared the genetic sequence of the virus with the World Health Organization in a timely manner at the early stage of the epidemic, creating the necessary conditions for global vaccine development. China will earnestly fulfill its commitment to make vaccines a global public product once they are successfully developed and put into use, and contribute to the accessibility and affordability of the vaccines in developing countries, he pledged.



A worker unloaded medical supplies brought by an anti-COVID-19 medical team from China to Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Selangor, Malaysia in April.

and expressed the hope to conduct all-dimension cooperation with China in vaccine research and development, and purchase, production and use.

## Vaccine Development

Noting that China is one of the frontrunners in vaccine development, Mr Wang said that China has shared the genetic sequence of the virus

## Economic Recovery

Importantly, China has promoted economic recovery in the post-pandemic era, Mr Wang noted. "All parties have spoken highly of China's major anti-epidemic achievements and its progress in the resumption of work and production, and they look forward to and believe that China will continue to be the main engine driving global economic recovery," he said. They all hope to take the opportunity of China's "dual circulation" development pattern and dock China's Belt and Road Initiative with their own countries' development strategies to embark on the fast track of post-pandemic economic recovery soon, he said.

## Peace and Stability

Mr Wang said that his visits have strengthened regional peace and stability. In the face of foreign forces stirring up tension in the South China Sea, he noted that the Chinese side has emphasized that the region, which is generally recognized by all parties, should not become a site for great

**East Asia has made outstanding achievements in combating COVID-19, which comes from countries' commitment to putting the people first, taking scientific epidemic prevention measures, sticking together and providing mutual assistance and support, he said.**



Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha (R) with visiting Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Bangkok in October.

powers to play games or overrun gunboats. The countries agreed to resolve differences through friendly consultation, fully and effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea as well as endeavor for an early conclusion of a more binding and effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea, and jointly safeguard peace and stability in the region, he added.

## **International Equity**

These visits have helped safeguard international equity and justice, Mr Wang said. He said that ASEAN countries have expressed the need to oppose power politics and unilateral bullying, uphold the basic norms of international relations, firmly practice the concepts of multilateralism and win-win cooperation, and make joint efforts to promote democratization of international relations and multi-polarization of the world.

## **Dual Circulation Strategy**

Mr Wang noted that a new economic development pattern featuring “dual circulation,” in which domestic and overseas markets complement and reinforce each other, with the domestic market as the mainstay, has been a major strategic deployment by the Chinese government. “China will promote high-quality development and build a new system of an open economy,” he

said. “The scale of the domestic market will be further expanded. The domestic and international markets will have close linkage. There will be more room for cooperation between countries and China.” ASEAN countries are in the best position to draw momentum from China’s new development pattern and seize the opportunity, Mr Wang noted, adding that they are also in the best position to expand mutual benefit and achieve economic recovery and better development with China.

China’s huge market size will first benefit its neighbors, providing ASEAN countries with a broader export market, said the Chinese minister. He said that is ready to work with ASEAN countries to implement an upgraded China-ASEAN Free Trade Area protocol and sign the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership within this year, continue to make the China International Import Expo and the China-ASEAN Expo a success, and import more products needed by the Chinese market from ASEAN countries.

**ASEAN countries are in the best position to draw momentum from China's new development pattern and seize the opportunity, Mr Wang noted, adding that they are also in the best position to expand mutual benefit and achieve economic recovery and better development with China.**

# China-Africa Cooperation Continues to Flourish as FOCAC Marks 20th Anniversary



The year 2020 has been quite unusual for Hussein Mohammed, a young Ethiopian man, who experienced the COVID-19 pandemic both in China's Wuhan, and in Addis Ababa, the capital of the most populous East African nation, Ethiopia. In the face of adversity, Mr Mohammed witnessed how the China-Africa partnership has prevailed. "I have seen how the Chinese government has done a wonderful job in securing the lives of both its citizens and those of international students by declaring a state of emergency, prohibiting mass gatherings, issuing a mask mandate and lockdown orders," he said, recalling his days in Wuhan.

After receiving his master's degree in biological engineering at the Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China, the 25-year-old returned to Ethiopia in June and

worked as a research and development engineer at BGI, a COVID-19 test kit factory built by China. "As an Ethiopian, I am proud to work in a globally connected company like BGI," he said. "I'm contributing my share to the community." Mr Mohammed is just one of the millions of beneficiaries of thriving cooperation within the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

As the forum marks its 20th anniversary, its results have been seen across Africa.

## Boosting Africa's Industrialization

From West Africa's Nigeria to East Africa's Ethiopia, China has built more than 6,000 km of railways and roads, respectively, as well as nearly 20 ports and more than 80 power plants, which

have promoted African industrialization and enhanced the continent's development capacity, Xinhua reported on October 13. "Looking at what Africa has become in the past 20 years with FOCAC, we can say that it has been a game-changer. The whole African infrastructure has been massively changed," said Charles Onanaju, director of Nigeria's Center for China Studies.

The BGI factory, located inside the Bole Lemi industrial park on the outskirts of Addis Ababa, will not only boost the country's capacity to fight COVID-19, but also improve its position as a manufacturing hub in Africa. "Once the plant reaches peak capacity of 10 million kits' production annually, it will not only be serving Ethiopia, but will also be able to serve other countries in the East African region and even the wider African continent," said Ethiopian Minister of Health Lia Tadesse.

At the Beijing summit of the FOCAC held in 2018, China announced industrialization as one of the eight initiatives that will help Africa fast-track its economic transformation. Private enterprises in China have also been delivering on the country's commitment to help industrialize Africa through the FOCAC framework. One such enterprise is ENGO, which started with the assembling of feature phones and smart phones and later planned to manufacture thermometers due to the pandemic.

The firm exported its first batch of phones to Morocco in May, with the North African country ordering 16,000 phones every two or three weeks. David Beecham Okwere, secretary of chief executive director of the electronics firm, told Xinhua that besides the domestic market, the company also started exporting to regional markets via dealerships.

Earlier this month, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed inaugurated an industrial park built by China at a cost of 60 million US dollars.

The PM said that the Bahir Dar Industrial Park, located 552 km north of Addis Ababa, will facilitate the country's knowledge transfer and boost its science capacity in addition to creating more jobs. "Ethiopia has so far commissioned 13 industrial parks which have been crucial in the country's efforts to achieve prosperity and boost economic development," he said. Moreover,

China has been serving as a strong driving force for Africa's sustained economic growth. It has been Africa's largest trading partner for 11 years in a row, and bilateral trade exceeded 200 billion dollars in 2019. China's stock of direct investment in Africa has reached 110 billion US dollars, and over 3,700 Chinese enterprises have invested and started businesses in various parts of Africa.

## Capacity Building

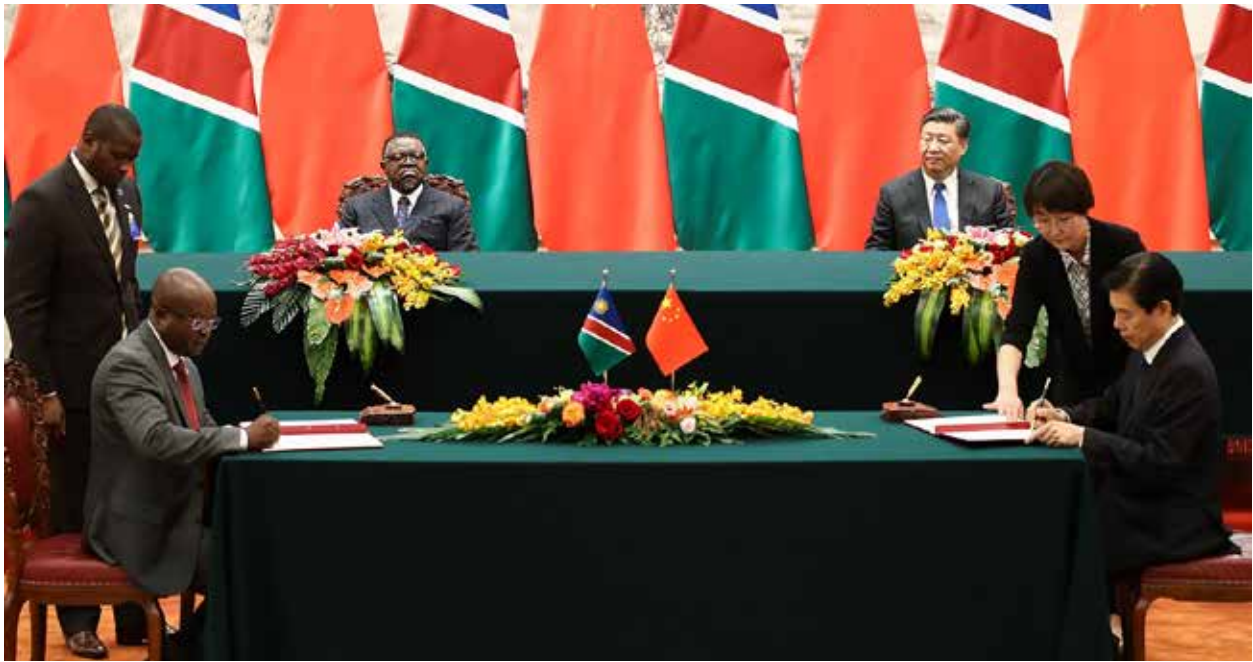
Thanks to the Juncao technology developed by China, Emmanuel Ahimana, a father of four in Rwanda, managed to survive the economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Many people in Rwanda are not aware that mushroom farming is a profitable business that can help fight poverty," said Mr Ahimana, who started his mushroom-growing business in 2016. Juncao, which literally means "mushroom" and "grass," refers to a technology using grass to grow mushrooms. The former mechanical technician of a sugar factory learned Juncao technology from experts with China's Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University. "I feed my family, pay school fees for my children ... the income I get from this business helps me grow my company," he said. Mr Ahimana is not alone in getting benefits from Chinese technology and starting a new life.



On May 31, 2017, Kenya launched its first high-speed railway between Nairobi and Mombasa, covering 290 miles. The Madaraka Express was built with China's help under the Road and Bridge initiative at a cost of \$3.2 billion and financed by the China Exim Bank.





Chinese President Xi Jinping (top right) with Namibian President Hage G. Geingob (top left) attended a signing ceremony at The Great Hall Of The People in Beijing in March, 2018.

Elizabeth Wanjala, a young Kenyan woman, is among the pioneering group of female drivers of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) passenger train after graduating from university. “I joined the company in early 2017 and went to China for a three-month training program that focused mainly on SGR locomotives. When I returned to the country, we continued with on-the-job training,” Ms Wanjala said.

Li Jiuping, general manager of SGR operator Afristar, said that as part of the Belt and Road Initiative, SGR is the “road of friendship” and “road of prosperity and development” for win-win cooperation between China and Kenya. Vocational training is key to economic growth in Africa, said Yang Guanchen, a vocational projects development manager at AVIC International Holding Corporation, a major infrastructure contractor in Kenya.

China has shared with African countries its experiences of “lifting its people out of poverty, building its industrial prowess, using its resources in a very efficient way, and developing its technology,” which the West has never done in Africa, said Costantinos Bt. Costantinos, a professor of public policy at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia.

## Friend in Need

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, which has claimed more than 38,000 lives in Africa, China has been lending a helping hand. China has sent much-needed supplies to more than 50 African nations, dispatched medical experts to over 10 African nations, and shared its anti-epidemic experience with medical workers across the continent via video conferences. China and Africa are ready to uphold the spirit of solidarity and cooperation, jointly cope with various risks and challenges, and let their cooperation shine as an example of multilateralism and mutual benefits, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Senegalese President Macky Sall said on October 12 in a joint congratulatory message to mark FOCAC’s 20th anniversary.

Members of Namibia’s COVID-19 pandemic task team attended a video consultation conference with Chinese medical experts in Windhoek, Namibia, on April 14, 2020. Chen Tao, an infectious disease doctor at Tongji Hospital in central China’s Hubei Province, set foot on the African continent in September with nine colleagues to help fight COVID-19 in Lesotho and Angola. “When our African brothers are in need, we come to help,” he said.

The loosening of regulations and lax social distancing and mask habits, together with inadequate testing, tracing and treatment capabilities, pose great risks for African countries, said Mr Chen, who compared notes about treatment with more than 200 Angolan medical staff. According to a communique issued by the AU recently, China has ensured the supply of 30 million testing kits, 10,000 ventilators and 80 million masks each month for Africa, a significant contribution to Africa's response to the pandemic.

China's plan to start construction of the Africa CDC headquarters this year ahead of schedule is "once again a testimony to the renewed commitment of African and Chinese leaders for strong partnership and friendship between Africa and China in public health," Kwesi Quartey, deputy chairperson of the AU Commission, said at a virtual meeting.

Chinese enterprises and civil organizations have also been actively assisting the continent's fight against the virus. Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba Foundation have donated three batches

of essential medical supplies, including 10.6 million masks and 800 ventilators, to Africa. Solomon Ayele, a nurse at an Ethiopian hospital, said that the medical supplies and guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and control of the disease will greatly contribute to Africa's battle against COVID-19. "FOCAC is consolidating relations.

Relations between China and Africa are growing stronger in different areas," said Professor Mamadou Fall, executive director of the Confucius Institute at Senegal's Cheikh Anta Diop University, adding that the pandemic was a clear testimony of the close relationship.

**Moreover, China has been serving as a strong driving force for Africa's sustained economic growth. It has been Africa's largest trading partner for 11 years in a row, and bilateral trade exceeded 200 billion dollars in 2019.**



President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing during the FOCAC Summit's Round Table in 2018.

# China Elected to Human Rights Council for 2021-2023

China has been elected as a member of the UN Human Rights Council for the period 2021-2023 during the 75th United Nations General Assembly. “China expresses heartfelt gratitude to the member-states for their support, and warmly congratulates other elected members,” the Chinese mission to the UN said in a release after the election on October 13, 2020, Xinhua reported. “China always attaches great importance to the promotion and protection of human rights. Following a path with Chinese characteristics, China has made great achievements in human rights development,” the release said.

China has previously served as a member of the Human Rights Council four times and will take this opportunity to continue to firmly uphold multilateralism and the purposes and principles

of the UN Charter, it said. It will participate in the work of the Human Rights Council in-depth, actively promote international exchange and cooperation on human rights, and oppose the politicization of human rights issues and double standards to make greater contributions to the healthy development of international human rights, the statement added.

The Human Rights Council, founded in 2006, is responsible for the promotion and protection of human rights. It is a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly and composed of 47 member-states. The members of the Council are elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years and can only be re-elected for a single term. China was previously elected to the Human Rights Council in 2006, 2009, 2013, and 2016. It will be its fifth term.



# China-US Decoupling Unrealistic, Bad for the World: Official



Han Wenxiu, deputy head of the Office of the Central Commission for Financial and Economic Affairs.

Cutting all ties between China and the United States is unrealistic and won't benefit them or the rest of the world, a senior official of the Communist Party of China (CPC) has said, stressing that only a small minority of people want disengagement. Han Wenxiu, the deputy head of the Office of the Central Commission for Financial and Economic Affairs, made the remarks while speaking about the guiding principles of the Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee at a news conference on October 30, 2020.

Economic ties between the world's two largest economies are determined by the "highly complementary" nature of their economic structures and the openness of the global economy, China Daily quoted Mr Han as saying. According to him, those who pursue cooperation represent an "overwhelming majority" which is evident from the modest pace of their bilateral trade. He said that trade volume between the two countries was up by 16 percent year-on-year in the third quarter amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

"China will continue to uphold peace, development and win-win cooperation, unswervingly safeguard multilateralism and stand firm on the right side of history," Mr Han said. He reaffirmed China's commitment to higher-level opening-up while stepping up the building of the nation's new development pattern of "dual circulation", which allows the domestic and the international markets to complement each other with the domestic market as the mainstay.

Fostering the new development pattern will by no means affect the country's opening-up, Mr Han said, adding that the scale of China's foreign trade, foreign capital usage, and outbound investment will continue to expand. The tone-setting party meeting, which concluded on October 29, adopted the CPC Central Committee's proposals for the formulation of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035.

The session decided that in the next five years, starting in 2021, China will nurture a strong domestic market and speed up the formation of the new development pattern, according to a communique released after the party. Meanwhile, the country will pursue higher-level opening-up, promote international cooperation and explore new prospects for win-win results, the document said. It will also advance high-quality Belt and Road cooperation and actively participate in the reform of the global economic governance system.

China will widen market access for foreign enterprises and turn itself into a "gravitational field" that attracts the world's high-quality production factors and resources and a fertile ground for foreign investment by building a market-oriented, rule-based, and international business environment, Mr Han said.

**According to Han Wenxiu, those who pursue cooperation represent an "overwhelming majority" which is evident from the modest pace of their bilateral trade. He said that trade volume between the two countries was up by 16 percent year-on-year in the third quarter amid the COVID-19 pandemic.**

"No matter how the international situation changes, we will never waver in our basic national policy of opening-up," he said. "China's opening-up will provide countries around the world with larger markets and more opportunities." As a long-range objective, China will shape a new opening-up structure with substantial growth of the country's strengths in international economic cooperation and competition by 2035, according to the party communique. The document mentioned the words "reform" and "opening-up" more than 20 times, which sends a clear message to the world that China will stick to deepening reforms and expanding opening-up to enhance

mutual benefits and win-win cooperation with other countries, Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said in another news conference on October 30.

John Ross, a former director of economic and business policy for the mayor of London, and currently, a senior fellow at the Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China, said China's new five-year plan has landmark significance for both itself and the rest of the world. Speaking at an online dialogue organized by the institute recently, he said China will remain committed to economic globalization, the best road for global development. Another speaker, William Jones, Washington bureau chief of Executive Intelligence Review magazine, said that spurring domestic consumption could help China boost its economic growth, but expanding opening-up would also serve the same purpose. Growing foreign direct investment in China and the large international participation expected at the upcoming China International Import Expo in Shanghai demonstrate that China's new development pattern of "dual circulation" is the right move for development, Mr Jones said.



# Shared Community of Health: China Signs Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access Facility



China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying.

China has signed up to the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access Facility, or COVAX, as an important step to build a shared community of health for all and honor its commitment to turn COVID-19 vaccines into a global public good, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said, according to a Xinhua report published on October 9.

“Even when China is leading the world with several vaccines in advanced stages of R&D and with ample production capacity, it still decided to join COVAX,” Ms Hua said in an online statement published on the website of the ministry.

“We are taking this concrete step to ensure equitable distribution of vaccines, especially to developing countries, and hope more capable countries will also join and support COVAX,” she said. China will also strengthen vaccine cooperation with relevant countries through the COVAX network, she said.

The initiative, led by the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and the World Health Organization, aims to fast track

the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines in response to the pandemic, and guarantee fair and equitable access for every country and region in the world. It aims to have 2 billion doses available by the end of 2021.

All participating economies, regardless of income levels, will have equal access to a portfolio of vaccines once they are available. Participating economies are required to commit to legally binding agreements and make their upfront payments to the facility.

**Even when China is leading the world with several vaccines in advanced stages of R&D and with ample production capacity, it still decided to join COVAX,” Ms Hua said in an online statement published on the website of the ministry.**



Chinese President Xi Jinping inquired about the progress on scientific research on a coronavirus vaccine and antibody during his visit to the Academy of Military Medical Sciences in Beijing in March 2020.

# In a Major Feat, Xizang Eliminates Absolute Poverty



Wu Yingjie, head of the Communist Party of China in Xizang (Tibet) Autonomous Region.

With years of relentless efforts, China's Xizang (Tibet) Autonomous Region has eradicated absolute poverty, an official said in Lhasa. Describing it a major achievement of China's socialist system, chief of the Communist Party of China in Xizang, Wu Yingjie, said that by the end of 2019, Xizang lifted 628,000 people out of poverty and delisted 74 counties from the poor list.

The average annual net income of poor people in Xizang rose from 1,499 yuan (\$220.44) in 2015 to 9,328 yuan in 2019, he said in a release on October 15, adding that since 2020, Xizang shifted its focus from tackling absolute poverty to consolidating poverty alleviation achievements. He attributed this success to the advantages of the socialist system. "The poverty elimination in Xizang is a major achievement of China in the new era" which will enhance Xizang's modernization drive, the CCTV.com quoted him as saying.

Known as the "Roof of the World", Xizang is famous for its picturesque plateaus and rich ethnic culture. It has also been one of the main battlegrounds of China's nationwide campaign

against poverty. Since 2016, Xizang has spent 74.8 billion yuan in agriculture-related activities for poverty alleviation, with an average annual rise of over 15 percent, Mr Wu said.

He said that numerous government projects and relocation programs have helped eliminate absolute poverty in Xizang. A total of 39.89 billion yuan have been spent in over 2,900 projects since 2016 which helped lift more than 238,000 impoverished people out of poverty and benefited over 840,000 others, according to him.

**The average annual net income of poor people in Xizang rose from 1,499 yuan (\$220.44) in 2015 to 9,328 yuan in 2019, he said in a release on October 15, adding that since 2020, Xizang shifted its focus from tackling absolute poverty to consolidating poverty alleviation achievements.**

Xizang has made great efforts in relocating impoverished people from harsh natural conditions to areas with relatively better infrastructure and resources, he said. To date, the construction of 965 relocation sites has been completed and 266,000 people have moved into new houses. "The relocation programs were carried out entirely on a voluntary basis," he added.

A third-party assessment on the anti-poverty efforts in Xizang showed that the satisfaction rate among the people in the region was over 99 percent, Mr Wu said. "The historical achievement of eliminating absolute poverty in Xizang not only marks a milestone in China's campaign against poverty but also serves as an exemplary case and a huge booster for the global poverty reduction cause," said Thubten Kehdrup, a professor with Tibet University.

# China Hits Back at US Threat of Financial Sanctions Against Hong Kong



Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian.

China has firmly opposed the US government's plan to sanction international financial institutions doing business with Chinese individuals deemed responsible for undermining Hong Kong's autonomy, vowing to take countermeasures "if

**Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian has said that China strongly condemns the US threat to sanction Chinese individuals through this Act. "We have lodged stern representation with the US side," he said, adding that Hong Kong is an internal affair of China, and no foreign country has the right to make irresponsible remarks or interfere in its affairs.**

it is bent on going this way." The warning came after the State Department unveiled the "Hong Kong Autonomy Act" that seeks to prohibit the financial institutions from doing business with Chinese individuals accused of curtailing the people's freedom on the island, Xinhua reported on October 15.

Responding to a media query on the US move, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Zhao Lijian has said that China strongly condemns the US threat to sanction Chinese individuals through this Act. "We have lodged stern representation with the US side," he said, adding that Hong Kong is an internal affair of China, and no foreign country has the right to make irresponsible remarks or interfere in its affairs.

"The US has grossly violated international law and basic norms governing international relations, interfered in China's internal affairs and exposed its sinister motive to undermine Hong Kong's prosperity and stability and contain China's development," Mr Zhao said. The official urged the US to "correct its mistakes and stop interfering in China's internal affairs".

"If the US is bent on going this way, China will take resolute countermeasures to safeguard national sovereignty and security interests and the legitimate rights and interests of the Chinese companies and the relevant personnel," he added.

**China will take resolute countermeasures to safeguard national sovereignty and security interests and the legitimate rights and interests of the Chinese companies and the relevant personnel, he added.**



# China Slams DPP for Pushing Taiwan's Independence



Ms Zhu Fenglian, spokesperson for the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council.

China has slammed the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) of Taiwan for “repeatedly peddling the idea of Taiwan’s independence”. The DPP’s desire to go any length, even collusion with external forces, only goes on to show its confrontational mindset, Zhu Fenglian, a spokesperson for the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, said in a briefing on October 10.

Fraught with hostility, the DPP authority has once again exposed its “nature of seeking Taiwan independence” and misled the people of the province, the China Daily quoted Ms Zhu as saying.

The root cause for cross-strait tensions is DPP’s refusal to recognize the 1992 consensus that embodies the one-China principle, and it obstructs exchanges and cooperation, harbors separatist ambitions, and takes provocative actions by colluding with external forces, she added.

Ms Zhu said that attempts to seek “Taiwan independence” lead to a dead-end; confrontation is doomed to fail, and those who bank on foreign forces to build themselves up will become the victim of their own evil deeds. She urged the DPP to stop provocations and acts for “Taiwan independence” and return to the right track of the political foundation of the 1992 consensus.

“Only in this way can the two sides of the Strait resume dialogue and consultation, the cross-strait relations become better, and peace and stability across the Strait be secured,” she added.

**Ms Zhu said that attempts to seek “Taiwan independence” lead to a dead-end; confrontation is doomed to fail, and those who bank on foreign forces to build themselves up will become the victim of their own evil deeds.**



The 16th Cross-Straits Travel Expo took place in Xiamen, Fujian province in August, 2020. Culture and tourism bureaus from over 10 provinces took part in the event to promote destinations in their respective regions.

# Lights on: All Prefectures in Xinjiang Covered with 750-KV Power Network

**A** new ultra-high-voltage power transmission line has begun operation in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, marking the full coverage of 750-KV electricity network in the region. After a 72-hour trial run, the 341-km line, connecting the Altay Prefecture with the northern Junggar Basin, was put into operation on October 14. The new line will increase the region's transmission capacity to two million KW, Xinhua reported.

Although the Altay Prefecture is rich in solar and wind power, it could earn limited revenue from power due to lack of generation and transmission capacity. In September 2018, the State Grid's Xinjiang branch had commenced

work to upgrade its capacity with an investment of 1.67 billion yuan (\$247.7 million), which has helped them earn more from surplus electricity.

According to the Xinjiang branch, the 750-kV backbone power grid has now covered all the prefectures in Xinjiang, ensuring power supply for the region's development.

**A new ultra-high-voltage power transmission line has begun operation in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, marking the full coverage of 750-KV electricity network in the region.**



# DR KOTNIS WILL ALWAYS LIVE IN HEARTS OF CHINESE PEOPLE: AMBASSADOR SUN



The Chinese Embassy in India jointly held an online symposium with Dr Kotnis Acupuncture Health and Education Center to commemorate the 110th birth anniversary of Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis on October 13, 2020.

On October 13, 2020, the Chinese Embassy in India jointly held an online symposium with Dr Kotnis Acupuncture Health and Education Center to commemorate the 110th birth anniversary of Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis. Ambassador Sun Weidong delivered the keynote speech titled “A Hero to Remember, A Monument to Eternity”. Kant Kotnis, cousin of Dr Kotnis, Dr Sumangala Borkar, niece of Dr Kotnis, Dr

Inderjit Singh, Director of Dr Kotnis Acupuncture Health and Education Center, Rajendra Jadhav, Chairman of Dr Kotnis Memorial Committee in Mumbai, V. Bhaskran, General Secretary of the Karnataka India-China Friendship Association (ICFA), Prof. Deepak, Director of Center of Chinese and Southeast Asian Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, and other Indian representatives participated in the online

**Participants in the symposium cherished the memory of Dr Kotnis in various ways. Kant Kotnis, 97, greeted the participants in Chinese. Dr Borkar emotionally recalled the care for her family from the CPC and Chinese government leaders over the years and thanked the Chinese people for always remembering Dr Kotnis.**

symposium. Ms Lin Yi, Vice President of Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), Wang Lizhong, Director General of the Foreign Affairs Office of Hebei Province, Kang Mengwei, Political Commissar of Bethune International Peace Hospital, Zhang Wansheng, Party Secretary of the Second Affiliated Hospital of Hebei Medical University (Kedihua China-India Friendship Hospital), Ma Jia, Minister, and Zhang Jianxin, Counselor of the Chinese Embassy also attended the event.

The Chinese people were deeply saddened by the death of Dr Kotnis. Chairman Mao Zedong personally wrote the condolence couplet: "An Indian friend, Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis came to China to assist the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. He worked in Yan'an and North China for five years, treated the wounded. He died of fatigue and illness. The whole army has lost a helping hand and the nation has lost a friend. The internationalism of Dr Kotnis shall never be forgotten."

The participants in the symposium cherished the memory of Dr Kotnis in various ways. Kant Kotnis, 97, greeted the participants in Chinese. Dr Borkar emotionally recalled the care for her family from the CPC and Chinese government leaders over the years and thanked the Chinese people for always remembering Dr Kotnis. Dr Inderjit Singh said that martyrs, such as Dr Kotnis and Dr Basu, were pioneers not only in the cause of China-India friendship, but also brought the Chinese acupuncture to India benefiting the Indian people and keeping the spirit of Dr Kotnis to be passed on in India. Mr Bhaskaran said that Dr Kotnis is a flag-bearer of the cause of China-India friendship that never fades, and India-China Friendship Association will strive to be a pioneer in inheriting and carrying forward the spirit

of Dr Kotnis. Ms Lin Yi introduced the work of the CPAFFC in carrying forward the spirit of Dr Kotnis and promoting the cause of the China-India friendship, and said that CPAFFC will deepen the cooperation and communication with Indian friendship organizations. Mr Wang Lizhong, Mr Kang Mengwei and Mr Zhang Wansheng and other participants pledged their commitment to guard the spiritual monument of China-India friendship, carry forward Dr Kotnis' spirit and promote the cause of China-India friendship with the Dr Kotnis Memorial Hall and the China-India Friendship Hospital as the base. Prof. Deepak recalled the touching story of translating the biography of Mrs Guo Qinglan, spouse of Dr Kotnis, and talked about his thoughts on carrying forward the spirit of Dr Kotnis. Canadian doctor Norman Bethune and Indian doctor Kotnis came to China from thousands of miles away to save lives. Their touching stories and noble characters will always be remembered in the hearts of the Chinese people.

Ambassador Sun Weidong reviewed the life of Dr Kotnis and pointed out that after the founding of the People's Republic of China, successive party and state leaders of China met and consoled the relatives of Dr Kotnis during their visits to India. Dr Kotnis became a symbol of the two great nations joining hands to resist foreign aggression and colonial rule, and pursue national independence and freedom, he said.

Ambassador Sun emphasized that Dr Kotnis' birth anniversary commemoration is not only to honor his deeds, but also carry forward his spirit and promote the cause of China-India friendship. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and India and the "Year of China-India Cultural and People-to-People Exchange.

# A HERO TO REMEMBER, A MONUMENT TO ETERNITY



Chinese Ambassador to India H.E. Sun Weidong addressed an online symposium, which was held to mark the 110th birth anniversary of Dr Kotnis on October 13.

**P**aying rich tribute to Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis on his 110th birth anniversary on October 13, 2020, China's Ambassador to India H.E. Sun Weidong highlighted the Indian doctor's immense contribution to the promotion of China-India friendship. Dr Kotnis was a hero, a humanitarian, who worked tirelessly to rescue the dying and heal the wounded during the Chinese People's War of Resistance, whose love and sacrifice will always be remembered in the hearts of the Chinese people, Mr Sun said in an inspiring speech titled "A Hero to Remember, A Monument to Eternity" on the occasion. The ambassador underlined that both sides should build on the legacy of Dr Kotnis to build stronger China-India relations.

## **Text of Chinese Ambassador' Speech**

It's a great honor to join you today to commemorate the 110th birth anniversary of Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis, a great internationalist warrior. Dr Kotnis is an outstanding representative of the Indian people and a monument to China-India friendship. He gave his precious life for the World Anti-Fascist War and the cause of China-India friendship. We will always remember him.

Over 80 years ago, the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression broke out in an all-round way. East China and North China fell to occupation. The Communist Party of China led the Eighth Route Army, the New Fourth Army and other armed forces to go

deeply behind the enemy lines, to mobilize the masses extensively, engage in guerrilla warfare, and establish people's local regime, dealing heavy blows to the aggressors. The war entered the stage of strategic stalemate.

## A Real Friend

In September 1938, Dr Kotnis, only 28 years old, with four other Indian doctors Atal, Cholkar, Basu, and Mukerjee, formed the Indian Medical Mission Team and resolutely went to China to support the just cause of the Chinese people. During his time in China, Dr Kotnis had been always working on the front line. He was the first president of Bethune International Peace Hospital, and saved countless lives with superb medical skills. He also trained a group of skilled Chinese medical staffs, making significant contributions to the victory of the war.

Dr Kotnis became ill after a long period of work in harsh environment and subsequently passed away at the age of 32 in Tang County, Hebei Province, on December 9, 1942. The Chinese people were deeply saddened by the loss of Dr Kotnis. Chairman Mao Zedong personally wrote the condolence couplet: "An Indian friend, Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis came to

**Chairman Mao Zedong personally wrote the condolence couplet: "An Indian friend, Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis came to China to assist the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. He worked in Yan'an and North China for five years, treated the wounded. He died of fatigue and illness. The whole army has lost a helping hand and the nation has lost a friend. The internationalism of Dr Kotnis shall never be forgotten."**

China to assist the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. He worked in Yan'an and North China for five years, treated the wounded. He died of fatigue and illness. The whole army has lost a helping hand and the nation has lost a friend. The internationalism of Dr Kotnis shall never be forgotten." This couplet is still stored at Solapur, the hometown of Dr Kotnis.

After the founding of the People's Republic of China, successive party and state leaders of China met and consoled the relatives of Dr



Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis' Memorial statue in Shijiazhuang, Hebei, China



Kotnis during their visits to India. On September 19, 2014, President Xi Jinping met in New Delhi with representatives of friendly Indian people and groups and conferred the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence Friendship Award in recognition of their long-term commitment to the cause of China-India friendship. Among them was the younger sister of Dr Kotnis, Manorama Kotnis at the age of 93 years. She came all the way from Mumbai in her wheelchair to attend this event. She expressed that Kotnis's family would continuously carry forward the Kotnis Spirit and endeavor to make further contributions to the cause of India-China friendship.

On September 3 this year, the CPC Central Committee, the State Council and the Central Military Commission held a symposium to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-fascist war. In his important speech, President Xi Jinping pointed out that the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression is a great victory for the Chinese people, anti-fascist allies, and people around the world who fought shoulder-to-shoulder. The Chinese people will never forget the precious assistance and support provided by various anti-fascist forces such as peace-loving and justice-loving countries and people, international organizations in the Chinese People's War of Resistance against

Japanese Aggression. Canadian doctor Norman Bethune and Indian doctor Kotnis came to China from thousands of miles away to save lives. Their touching stories and noble character will always be remembered in the hearts of the Chinese people!

### Spirit of Humanitarianism

During my first posting in India a decade ago, I had the privilege to visit the family of Dr Kotnis in Mumbai. Mrs Manorama Kotnis warmly received me in spite of her old age. We recalled the life of Dr Kotnis together, reviewed the history of friendly exchanges between our two countries, and talked about the future of China-

**Dr Kotnis completely dedicated himself to his work and the people. He worked nearly 20 hours a day under extremely difficult conditions and in extreme shortage of medicines. In 1941, he personally performed more than 450 surgeries, pulling countless people back from death.**

India friendship. This intimate scene often recurs to my mind till today.

Although human life is limited, the noble character and great spirit will last forever. Dr Kotnis is exemplary in this respect. It is a spirit of humanitarianism for rescuing the dying and healing the wounded. Dr Kotnis completely dedicated himself to his work and the people. He worked nearly 20 hours a day under extremely difficult conditions and in extreme shortage of medicines. In 1941, he personally performed more than 450 surgeries, pulling countless people back from death. In order to communicate with the wounded and his Chinese colleagues, he studied diligently Chinese culture and language. After three years in China, he was able to speak fluent Chinese. He shared joys and sorrows with the soldiers and civilians of the liberated areas, and was deeply respected by Chinese people.

It is a spirit of heroism with no fear of sacrifice. Dr Kotnis, along with the medical team from India, went through untold hardships and traveled thousands of miles to Yan'an. After he learned of his father passing away in India, Dr Kotnis endured great grief and continued marching to the battlefield without hesitation. Regardless of his safety, he voluntarily demanded to go to the front line. He risked his life to cross the enemy's blockade many times, and insisted on bringing the operating table to the front line, leaving his own life and death behind.

It is a noble spirit of internationalism. Dr Kotnis said, Chinese people's victory against imperialism is also the victory of the Indian people. With a strong sense of justice against oppression, he selflessly supported the liberation of the Chinese people. He became a symbol of the

**Dr Kotnis said, Chinese people's victory against imperialism is also the victory of the Indian people. With a strong sense of justice against oppression, he selflessly supported the liberation of the Chinese people. He became a symbol of the two great nations joining hands to resist foreign aggression and colonialism, and pursue national independence and freedom.**



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis' younger sister Manorama in New Delhi in September 2014.

two great nations joining hands to resist foreign aggression and colonialism, and pursue national independence and freedom. He dedicated his life to the noble cause of peace, solidarity, and progress for mankind!

## Dr Kotnis' Legacy

Today, we are commemorating Dr Kotnis to not only honor his deeds, but also carry forward his spirit and promote the China-India friendship. Here, I'd like to thank Mr Kant Kotnis. At the age of 97, you are willingly without hesitation to accept the invitation and participate in this event. I am deeply touched. You have lived with Dr Kotnis and witnessed the development of China-India relations. As staunch defender of China-India friendship, your family has been committed to promoting the development of bilateral relations from generation to generation.

I'd like to thank Dr Kotnis Memorial Committee in India and Dr Kotnis Memorial Hall in China. You are on the land where Dr Kotnis lived and fought. For decades, you have been actively telling touching stories and promoting noble spirit of Dr Kotnis, and constantly inspiring



those who support China-India friendship to move forward.

I'd like to thank Dr Kotnis Acupuncture Health and Education Center, Indian Acupuncture Association, Dr Bethune International Peace Hospital, and the Second Affiliated Hospital of Hebei Medical University. You carry on the legacy of Dr Kotnis, work tirelessly to help the sick, and promote medical cooperation and exchanges between the two countries. You are building a golden bridge for China-India friendship.

I'd also like to thank my old friends from the India-China Friendship Association and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. Over the past 70 years, regardless of the changing situation, you have always been committed to promoting friendly exchanges between China and India. You have organized China-India joint medical team

**Over 70 years ago, China and India helped and supported each other in the struggle for national liberation and independence and forged deep friendship. Today, the two countries are facing the common task of achieving economic and social development and improving people's livelihood.**

and called on our young people to inherit the spirit of Dr Kotnis and carry forward China-India traditional friendship. You've made great contribution to the cultural and people-to-people exchanges between our two countries.

Over 70 years ago, China and India helped and supported each other in the struggle for national liberation and independence and forged deep friendship. Today, the two countries are facing the common task of achieving economic and social development and improving people's livelihood. We need to enhance mutual trust and strengthen cooperation more than ever to write a new chapter in China-India friendship.

Recently, the bilateral relations have encountered some difficulties and challenges. As two major neighboring countries, it is normal to have differences. We need to put differences in an

appropriate place in bilateral relations, properly manage and resolve them through dialogue and consultation and not allow differences to become disputes. The exchanges and mutual learning between the two civilizations of China and India have a profound accumulation of more than 2,000 years. The common interests of the two countries far outweigh the frictions and differences. I believe that with the joint efforts of both sides, we have the wisdom and ability to overcome difficulties and bring bilateral relations back on track to forge ahead.

At present, all countries in the world are faced with severe challenges posed by COVID-19. No one is immune to this public health crisis. As the only two major developing countries with a population of over one billion, China and India need to strengthen cooperation and tide over current difficulties together.

It is of great significance in the global fight against the pandemic. In the past few months, we have witnessed the exchanges of diagnosis and treatment experience between Chinese and Indian medical institutions, the donation of medical supplies by companies and friendly organizations, and videos recorded by young people and film stars of the two countries to cheer each other on. The spirit of Dr Kotnis has been carried forward by concrete actions and been given a new connotation of the times.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and India and the "Year of China-India Cultural and People-to-People Exchange". When we cherish the memory of the martyrs, all kinds of emotions swell up in our hearts. While looking ahead, we are fully aware of the responsibilities on our shoulders.

We should build on the legacy of Dr Kotnis, follow the guidance of the important consensus reached by our leaders, act in line with the trend of the times, enhance mutual trust, focus on practical cooperation in all fields and inject positive energy into China-India relations. I firmly believe that with our joint efforts, the noble cause started by Dr Kotnis will be carried forward and the friendship between Chinese and Indian people will be evergreen like a pine tree!



Dr Kotnis' memorial at the North China Military Martyrs Cemetery on April 27, 2015, in Shijiazhuang city of Hebei province, China.

# INDIAN DOCTOR WHO TRANSFORMED CHINA-INDIA TIES INTO AN ETERNAL BOND

A bronze statue of an Indian man erected outside a medical school in north China is to be formally unveiled soon. Although most passersby may not recognize him merely by looking at his sculpture, many have heard the name Ke Dihua, whose ordinary-looking persona could easily belie his “towering stature” in the country.

Ke Dihua has been a household name in China, although his original name is Dwarkanath Kotnis, who was one of the five Indian physicians, sent to China to provide medical assistance during the World War II, during which he breathed his last.

Apart from the institute named after him as the Shijiazhuang Ke Dihua Medical Science Secondary Specialized School, there are memorials of Dr Kotnis in both Shijiazhuang, the capital of China's Hebei province, and Tangxian County where he once worked.

In North China Martyrs' Memorial Cemetery (or North China Military Martyrs Cemetery), his white grave headstone has witnessed numerous visitors coming to mourn and leave bouquets throughout the decades, Xinhua reported on August 24.

“We were astonished to see how the Chinese people did not forget their foreign friends who



A file photo shows students visiting a photo exhibition in the memory of Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis in Vengurla, Maharashtra, in November, 2013.

## Highlights

Dwarkanath Kotnis, also known as Ke Dihua, was one of five Indian physicians sent to China to provide medical assistance during World War II, during which he breathed his last.

“We were astonished to see how the Chinese people did not forget their foreign friends who helped them in their anti-fascist and liberation struggle,” said Mrigendranath Gantait, president of the Dr Kotnis Memorial Committee.

Today, the legacy of Dr Kotnis has been handed down in China to a medical school named after him, from where more than 45,000 medical professionals have graduated.

helped them in their anti-fascist and liberation struggle,” said Mrigendranath Gantait, president of the Dr Kotnis Memorial Committee (DKMC) in West Bengal, India, during a tour to China.

### “Old Ke” and “Dr Thoughtful”

Dr Kotnis was born in 1910 to a middle-class family in India, and studied medicine before coming to China in 1938, one year after China began a full-scale resistance against the aggression of Japanese invaders. “At that time, China was in tremendous difficulty,” said Lou Yue, a research fellow with the North China Martyrs’ Memorial Cemetery who spent years studying the life of Dr Kotnis.

“We had an acute shortage of practitioners and medicines,” she said. “Many injured soldiers died or were crippled because they couldn’t receive timely treatment.” “At the request of Chinese leader Zhu De, the Indian National Congress,

under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose, sent a five-member team of doctors on behalf of the Indian people to China to show solidarity with the Chinese in their fight against Japanese fascist aggression," said Mr Gantait.

Like Dr Kotnis, or Ke Dihua, each of the other four doctors had a Chinese name ending with "hua," the character meaning China. Ms Lou can tell many stories about Dr Kotnis, collected from ordinary people. "He helped his patients with food. He was careful and quick while changing dressings so that the wounded wouldn't feel too much pain. He gave his horse and hat to patients on the march," she said. Dr Kotnis was

**In North China Martyrs' Memorial Cemetery (or North China Military Martyrs Cemetery), his white grave headstone has witnessed numerous visitors coming to mourn and leave bouquets throughout the decades, Xinhua reported on August 24.**



A file photo of Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis.

so hard-working that during one battle in 1940, he performed operations for up to 72 hours, and treated more than 800 patients in 13 days. "Despite hearing news of his father's death, he did not return to India. Instead, he reaffirmed his commitment to continue his work in China. Such mental strength for a peoples' cause is exemplary," Mr Gantait recalled.

**The efforts of Dr Kotnis won him the nicknames "Dr Thoughtful" and "Old Ke," the way Chinese used to refer affectionately to their friends**

The efforts of Dr Kotnis won him the nicknames "Dr Thoughtful" and "Old Ke," the way Chinese used to refer affectionately to their friends. In 1941, he was appointed as director of the Dr Bethune International Peace Hospital, named after the famous Canadian surgeon Norman Bethune. After his appointment, he performed about 2,000 operations.

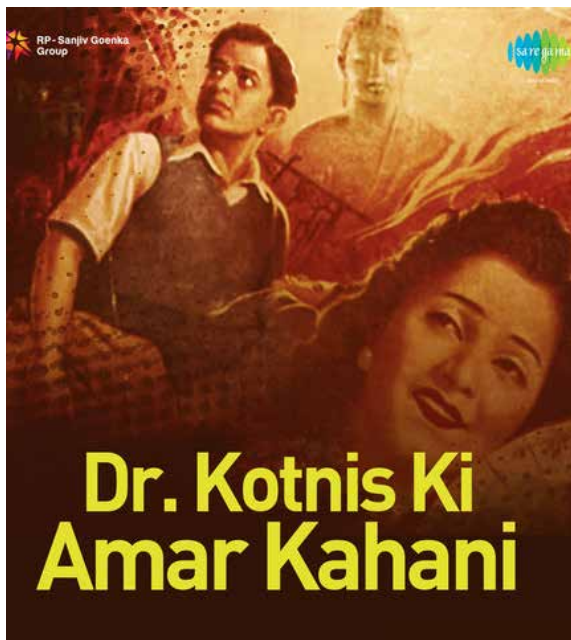
Dr Kotnis, who learned to speak fluent Mandarin, also taught medicine to Chinese students. When a student graduated, the doctor would write something to encourage him: "Study hard for the sake of the liberation of the oppressed mankind" in English, and "Victory in the war of resistance against Japan" in Chinese. He Jiangyong, whose mother Xue Ying was one of Dr Kotnis's students, donated a graduation album to the North China Martyrs' Memorial Cemetery. Without textbooks, Kotnis would compile them himself.

On the evening of December 8, 1942, when he was writing on page 173 of his second surgery textbook, he collapsed, with the pen leaving a long line on the paper. He later died of epileptic seizures at the age of 32. "He made his highest sacrifice by giving his life for the cause of the Chinese peoples' liberation movement," said Mr Gantait.

## **A Bridge between China and India**

Late Chinese leader Mao Zedong was deeply affected by his death. He wrote in his eulogy "the army has lost a helping hand; the nation has lost a friend. Let us always bear in mind his internationalist spirit." "Dr Kotnis swore by the tomb of Dr Bethune 'I will live a life as yours'," said Ms Lou. "He lived up to his oath."

Dr Kotnis's wife, a Chinese woman called Guo Qinglan, gave birth to their son less than four months before his death. The boy was named Yinhua, two Chinese characters literally meaning "India" and "China." Unfortunately, Yinhua died in 1967 at the age of 24 as a result of medical



**Late Chinese leader Mao Zedong was deeply affected by his death. He wrote in his eulogy "the army has lost a helping hand; the nation has lost a friend. Let us always bear in mind his internationalist spirit."**

malpractice, shortly before graduating from medical college.

However, the memory of the doctor that connects China and India is everlasting. According to Mr Gantait, a movie about his life was made in India in the 1940s, "Dr Kotnis ki Amar Kahani", which means the Immortal Story of Dr Kotnis in Hindi. It was popular among Indian people. The All India Dr Kotnis Memorial Committee (AIKMC) was founded in the same year, led by Bejoy Kumar Basu, another doctor in the five-man team from India, known as Ba Suhua to the Chinese. "After functioning for more than 25 years, activities of the AIKMC gradually stopped. But DKMC in West Bengal has been continuing its functions for the last 47 years since its inception in 1973," said Mr Gantait.

Mr Gantait visited China in 1978, when he went to Dr Kotnis' memorial in Shijiazhuang, as well as to the Gegong village in Tangxian County, where the doctor lived and died. "The villagers gave us a description of Dr Kotnis' activities," he said. "One woman was weeping when she described her memories of Dr Kotnis. It touched my heart to know how one Indian doctor was so deeply rooted in the heart of a remote hilly village in China." He was then doing acupuncture training at Nanjing University. Twelve years later, the Dr B.K. Basu Memorial Research and Training



Students singing during an opening ceremony of a photo exhibition in memory of Dr Kotnis in Vengurla, Maharashtra, on Nov 23, 2013.

Institute of Acupuncture was set up by the West Bengal government, of which Mr Gantait became the first director until his retirement in 2010.

He also persuaded the West Bengal government to give legal recognition to acupuncture therapy in 1996. “West Bengal was the first state of India to give legal recognition to acupuncture,” he said. “Acupuncture therapy itself acts as a bridge of friendship with the Chinese people,” said the old man emotionally. “When common people get the benefits from acupuncture clinics, they develop a soft spot for China.” His latest visit to China was in 2018, when he led a seven-member DKMC delegation on the 80th anniversary of Dr Kotnis and his teammates’ arrival in China. “DKMC members were amazed to see how the Chinese have remembered Dr Kotnis,” he said.

## Carrying Legacy Forward

More than 3,000 km away in Shijiazhuang, the legacy of Dr Kotnis has also been handed down to a school. Hu Bangzhong, a researcher who has helped prepare the founding of Dr Kotnis’ memorial in Shijiazhuang since 1975, retired in 1990. Bored with solitary life at home, he got a job at a local school. One day a friend asked him why he never founded his own medical school. Years of research had planted the stories of Dr Kotnis

deep into Hu’s mind. It suddenly occurred to him that perhaps he could start a medical school, and name it after the revered Indian doctor. He then wrote a letter to the wife of Dr Kotnis, Guo Qinglan. Ten days later he received a reply. Ms Guo was happy to be the honorary president of the school.

According to Liu Wenzhu, an official of the Shijiazhuang Ke Dihua Medical Science Secondary Specialized School, since the founding of the institute in 1992, more than 45,000 medical professionals have graduated from it. Each of the new students and staff must swear in front of a stone statue of Dr Kotnis that they would work like him. Mr Liu hopes that Dr Kotnis will be remembered not only as a symbol inspiring medical students to work hard, but also an eternal bond between the peoples in China and India. “We are the world’s two most populous countries. We should always be friends, coexisting peacefully,” he said. This wish was shared by Mr Gantait, who noted that the two countries should strengthen exchanges and cooperation in various fields, which is “the right tribute” to the celebration of 75th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People’s War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression this year, and the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China.



Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis’ ancestral home in Solapur, Maharashtra.

# Connecting Minds: Xu Fancheng Culture Study Centre Opens in Pondicherry

On October 26, 2020, the opening ceremony of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center was held in Pondicherry. Chinese Ambassador to India H.E. Sun Weidong attended the event online and delivered a speech. Mr V. Narayanasamy, Chief Minister of Pondicherry, Mr K. Lakshminarayanan, Parliamentary Secretary to Chief Minister of Pondicherry, Ms Radha Srinivasagopalan, Director of Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center, Dr Das Bikash Kali, Deputy Director of Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center, Mr Peng Shaoyun, Deputy Secretary-General, Yunnan Provincial People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Mr Yang Xibin, Director, Foreign Affairs Office of Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture, and representatives of Dali University and Pondicherry University, and experts and scholars also attended the event.

Ambassador Sun expressed his sincere congratulations on the inauguration of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center in his speech. More than 1,000 years ago, Chinese monk Xuanzang traveled to India and brought Buddhist scriptures back to China. Over 1,000 years later, with a yearning for Indian culture, Prof. Xu Fancheng came to this magical land. He had worked and lived in India for 33 years. During this period, Prof. Xu systematically translated classic Indian philosophical works such as "Bhagavad Gita" and "Fifty Upanishads". He also introduced the great Indian thinker Aurobindo to China. He taught Chinese culture in India for a long time and translated a large number of Chinese classics into English, which opened an important window for people in India and around the world to understand China. It is hoped that the center can inherit and carry forward the spirit of Prof. Xu Fancheng's rigorous scholarship, introduce his life and research results to the two peoples,



China's Ambassador to India Sun Weidong unveils the book *Essays in Memory of Prof. Xu Fancheng* to mark the opening ceremony of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center.

**Ambassador Sun pointed out that cultural and people-to-people exchanges are a major pillar of China-India relations. Since modern times, China and India have supported and helped each other in pursuit of national independence and liberation**

enhance the cultural and academic exchanges between China and India, and let the seeds sown by Prof. Xu Fancheng blossom and bear fruits in the new century.



Ambassador Sun Weidong and Pondicherry Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy participated in the online opening ceremony of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center in Pondicherry on October 26.

At the ceremony, Ambassador Sun and Chief Minister Narayanasamy unveiled the *Essays in Memory of Prof Xu Fancheng*, and had an interaction on the promotion of exchanges and cooperation between China and Pondicherry. The Chinese Embassy in India will continue to support the development of pragmatic cooperation between Pondicherry and Dali in the fields of culture, education, tourism, and trade, said the ambassador.

Mr Narayanasamy said that Pondicherry is culturally diverse and tolerant, making it unique in India. The people of Pondicherry are interested in Chinese culture. There are some Chinese people living in Pondicherry, and many Chinese tourists come to visit each year. He warmly welcomed Ambassador Sun to visit Pondicherry after the pandemic and looks forward to continuing communication with the Chinese Embassy in India on deepening practical cooperation in various fields.

Ambassador Sun expressed gratitude to the Chief Minister. After the opening ceremony, a seminar on “Xu Fancheng and China-India Cultural Relations” was held, and the participants had a lively discussion on cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and India. The Xu Fancheng Center was established by the India-China Friendship Association of Pondicherry, India, with the aim of studying Xu Fancheng’s academic achievements, promoting Chinese

culture and cultural exchanges between the two countries, and enhancing the friendship between the two peoples.

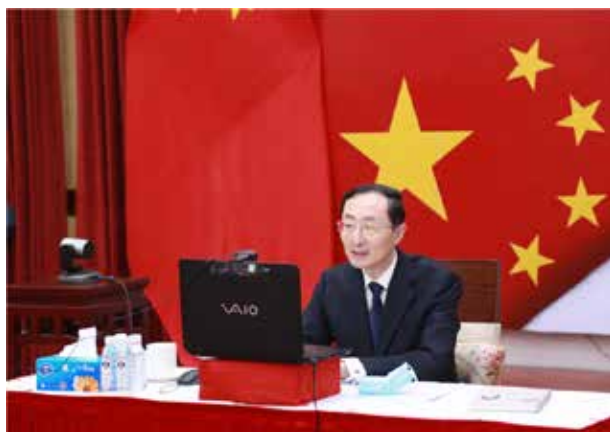
Ambassador Sun pointed out that cultural and people-to-people exchanges are a major pillar of China-India relations. Since modern times, China and India have supported and helped each other in pursuit of national independence and liberation.

Pondicherry’s Chief Minister congratulated the establishment of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center. Recalling his visits to China, he said that it is a great honor to attend today’s event on the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China and the 111th birthday Anniversary of Xu Fancheng. He emphasized that Pondicherry has unique cultural and tourism resources, and its economic development and education level are among the highest in India.

Pondicherry is currently attracting foreign investment, actively building smart cities, and focusing on the development of tourism. He believed that with the establishment of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center, there will be more Chinese companies and tourists coming to Pondicherry, which will add new impetus to Pondicherry’s economic development and India-China relations.



# Xu Fancheng Opened a Window to Indians to Understand Chinese Culture: Ambassador



It's a great pleasure to attend today's event and unveil the *Essays in Memory of Xu Fancheng* together with the Chief Minister of Pondicherry. On this special occasion, I would like to convey my warm congratulations on the inauguration of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri V. Narayanasamy, Shri K. Lakshminarayanan, Ms Radha Srinivasagopalan, Mr (Bikash Kali) Das, and friends who have long been committed to promoting friendly exchanges between China and India.

## Promoting Diversity and Exchanges among Civilizations

President Xi Jinping pointed out that diversity leads to exchanges among civilizations, which in turn will promote mutual learning and further development. As two ancient civilizations, China and India have a long history of cultural exchanges. More than 1,000 years ago, Chinese monk Xuanzang traveled to India and brought Buddhist scriptures back to China. Over 1,000 years later, with a yearning for Indian culture, Prof. Xu Fancheng came to this magical land.

He had worked and lived in India for 33 years. During this period, Prof. Xu systematically translated classic Indian philosophical works such as "Bhagavad Gita" and "Fifty Upanishads". He also introduced the great Indian thinker Aurobindo to China. He taught Chinese culture in India for a long time and translated a large number of Chinese classics into English, which opened an important window for people in India and around the world to understand China. We may say that Prof. Xu Fancheng is a well-deserved "Xuanzang" of our times. The establishment of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center will be helpful for a comprehensive and systematic study of the academic achievements of Prof. Xu Fancheng and the deep excavation of its connotation. I hope that the center can inherit and carry forward the spirit of Prof. Xu Fancheng's rigorous scholarship, introduce his life and research results to the two peoples, enhance the cultural and academic exchanges between China and India, and let the seeds sown by Prof. Xu Fancheng blossom and bear fruits in the new century.

**President Xi Jinping pointed out that diversity leads to exchanges among civilizations, which in turn will promote mutual learning and further development. As two ancient civilizations, China and India have a long history of cultural exchanges.**

## Focus on People-to-People and Cultural Exchanges

Cultural and people-to-people exchanges are a major pillar of China-India relations. Since modern times, China and India have supported and helped each other in pursuit of national

independence and liberation. In the 1920s, Rabindranath Tagore visited China twice. He highly praised China-India friendship, condemned colonial aggression, and called on China and India to join hands to make up for the defects of Western civilization with the wisdom of the East. At the invitation of Tagore, Mr Tan Yunshan went to the International University of India to establish the Cheena Bhawan and actively spread Chinese culture. Mr Xu Beihong, a famous Chinese artist travelled to India to hold a painting exhibition and raise funds for the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Aggression. He completed his masterpiece painting "The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains" in India. Together with these sages, Prof Xu drew a splendid chapter of China-India cultural and people-to-people exchanges.

The friendship between peoples is the solid foundation of bilateral relations. No matter how the external situation changes, the friendly exchanges between our two peoples have never been stopped. I'm happy to see representatives from the educational and cultural circles of the two countries get together today to discuss the culture of China and India. In the future, we should hold more such events to set up platforms for exchanges between our two peoples and enhance mutual respect, understanding, and trust. I'm also very pleased to see many young faces in today's event. Young people represent the future of the world. We should encourage the young people of our two countries to carry on the fine traditions of the older generation and contribute more wisdom and vitality to enhancing the friendship between our two peoples and promoting exchanges and cooperation in various fields.

## Multicultural Pondicherry: Where East Meets West

Local exchanges are an important driving force for bilateral relations. Pondicherry is an example of Indian multiculturalism where East meets West. People of different nationalities and faiths live in harmony. Prof Xu Fancheng had been living here for 27 years, where he completed most of his works in his life, leaving behind a large number of paintings and calligraphy works. In

recent years, Pondicherry is attracting more and more tourists from all over the world. We are also joined today by representatives from the Chinese city, Dali in Yunnan Province. Dali is also a beautiful and liveable tourist city with rich cultural resources. Among Dali and Pondicherry, there can be more exchanges and cooperation in fields, such as tourism, education, culture, and urban governance to promote common development. For more than 2,000 years, China and India as two major civilizations have been promoting exchanges and mutual learning with an open and inclusive attitude. It not only benefits the two peoples but also makes the garden of world civilizations more colorful and vibrant. We should take the establishment of the Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center as a new start to follow the footsteps of our predecessors and make a greater contribution to China-India cultural and people-to-people exchanges. I sincerely wish Xu Fancheng Culture Study Center continued success in the future!

**Pondicherry is an example of Indian multiculturalism where East meets West. People of different nationalities and faiths live in harmony. Prof Xu Fancheng had been living here for 27 years, where he completed most of his works in his life, leaving behind a large number of paintings and calligraphy works.**



A panoramic view of the Pondicherry.

# LEARN EVERYDAY CHINESE



xūyào  
需要 (4)  
NEEDS

## 14 我要去换钱

### I AM GOING TO CHANGE MONEY

#### 一 句子 Sentences

085 钱都花了。I've run out of money.  
Qián dōu huā le.

086 听说饭店里可以换钱。  
Tīngshuō fàndiàn lǐ kěyǐ huàn qián.  
I hear that one can change money in a hotel.

087 这儿能不能换钱?  
Zhèr nǎng bu néng huàn qián?  
Is it possible to change money here?

088 您带的什么钱?  
Nín dài de shénme qián?  
What kind of money have you brought with you?

089 请您在这儿写一下儿钱数。  
Qǐng nín zài zhèr xiě yíxià qián shù.  
Please write down the sum of money here.

090 请数一数。<sup>①</sup> Please count the money.  
Qǐng shù yí shù.

091 时间不早了。It is getting late.  
Shíjiān bù zǎo le.

092 我们快走吧! Let us hurry.  
Wǒmen kuài zǒu ba!

#### 四 生词 New Words

1	花	huā	动	to spend
2	听说	tīngshuō	动	it is said, I hear
3	饭店	fàndiàn	名	hotel
4	里	lǐ	名	inside
5	能	néng	能愿	can, to be able to

#### 二 会话 Conversations

1

玛丽: 钱都花了, 我没钱了。我要去换钱。  
Mǎlì: Qián dōu huā le. wǒ méi qián le. Wǒ yào qù huàn qián.

大卫: 听说饭店里可以换钱。  
Dàwèi: Tīngshuō fàndiàn lǐ kěyǐ huàn qián.

玛丽: 我们去问问吧。  
Mǎlì: Wǒmen qù wènwen ba.



2

玛丽: 请问, 这儿能不能换钱?  
Mǎlì: Qǐngwèn, zhèr nǎng bu néng huàn qián?

营业员: 能。您带的什么钱?  
Yíngyèyuán: Néng. Nín dài de shénme qián?

玛丽: 美元。  
Mǎlì: Měiyuán.

营业员: 换多少?  
Yíngyèyuán: Huàn duōshǎo?



6	带	dài	动	to take, to bring
7	数	shù	名	number
8	数	shù	动	to count
9	时间	shíjiān	名	time
10	快	kuài	形	quick, rapid
11	营业员	yíngyèyuán	名	shop employee
12	美元	měiyuán	名	US dollar
13	百	bǎi	数	hundred
14	人民币	rénmínbì	名	RMB (Chinese monetary unit)
15	这样	zhèyàng	代	this
16	电话	diànhuà	名	telephone
17	号码	hàomǎ	名	number
18	念	niàn	动	to read
19	汉字	Hànzì	名	Chinese character
20	等	děng	动	to wait

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Dr Dwarkanath Kotnis Memorial Statue in Shijiazhuang, Hebei, China. Dr Kotnis, one of the five Indian physicians dispatched to China to provide medical assistance during the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression in 1938, has become an embodiment of China-India friendship.