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Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with visiting Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, May 14, 2015.



Chinese Ambassador to India Le Yucheng met with Sumitra Mahajan, Speaker of the Lok Sabha of India in New Delhi on April 24, and both sides exchanged views on China-India Relations.



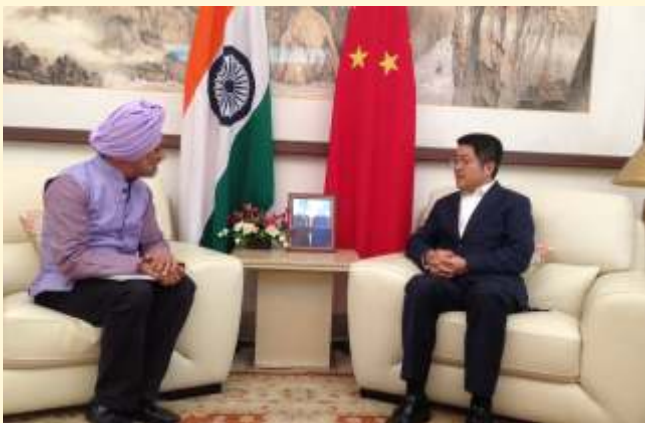
Chinese Ambassador to India Le Yucheng met with Indian Urban Development Minister M Venkaiah Naidu in New Delhi on April 28 and talked with him on city cooperation between China and India.



Chinese Ambassador to India Le Yucheng accepted interview of CNN-IBN on May 6 in New Delhi and answered questions on Indian Prime Minister's visit to China, bilateral cooperation of trade, economy and culture and China's Belt and Road Initiative.



Chinese Ambassador to India Le Yucheng gave a speech entitled as "Riding the Tide of the Times, Writing a New Chapter of Security Together" at the National Defense College of India on April 22, 2015.



Chinese Ambassador to India Le Yucheng met with W.P.S. Sidhu, Senior Fellow for Foreign Policy at the Brookings India Centre and Brookings Institution in New Delhi on April 29.



Mr. Le Yucheng, Chinese Ambassador to India, met with Mohammed Saqib, Secretary-General of India China Economic and Cultural Council in New Delhi on April 17.



Xi'an has been a bright pearl along the Silk Road for 2000 years. Emperors of thirteen dynasties chose here as their political, cultural and economic center. This is a place of history.

The Western Zhou Dynasty set up their capital here in 1066.B.C, followed by the Qin, Han, Tang and another 9 dynasties who all made here the location for their royal palace.

The influence of those emperors is everywhere, though no emperors lived here after the Tang dynasty. The strategic position and its potential threat of the so-called imperial descendants forced the Ming emperors to build the Bell Tower, Drum Tower and City Wall to suppress those dragon spirits. As dynasty after dynasty added their own mark to Xi'an, the relics of old palaces, temples and tombs abounded throughout the city and surrounding countryside.

The first Qin emperor of the Qin Dynasty started to build his resting place when he was only 13. The Terra Cotta Warriors are just a part of tomb complex of Qin Shi Huang. The emperors in Han dynasty were more practical, preferring the small figurines to the full sized ones to be buried with them. The valiant and mighty soldiers were replaced with the graceful, peaceful and kind smaller ones.

Bell Tower

Standing in the center of Xi'an's walled city, in the middle of the intersection between North, South, East and West streets, is the imperial, imposing Bell Tower.



The Muslim Quarter

Stretching north and west from the Drum Tower, the streets of the Muslim Quarter are great for shopping, eating and experiencing.



The Great Mosque

One of the highlights of Xi'an, this is probably the most interesting mosque you will find anywhere in China.



Xi'an City Wall

The Xi'an City Walls are the best-preserved and largest city walls in China and one of the largest in the world.

Shaanxi History Museum

This wonderful museum is a must-visit while in Xi'an. In fact, if you only visit one museum while in China, it might as well be this one.

Shanghai, the Capital of Industry and Business



No other Chinese city has a name so evocative. One hundred years ago it symbolized all there was about adventure and the mysterious East. Today it is thought of as the financial powerhouse driving forward the rapid development of what is potentially the world's largest economy. By Chinese standard Shanghai is a young city. But its history is as florid and fascinating as any of its millennia-old contemporaries. The modern city has an undeniable energy and presence to it. Frenetic, hectic and fast-paced, with a mixture of the ultra-modern, the old and the colonial, Shanghai is a perfect counterpoint to the well-ordered and disciplined political capital of Beijing.

Shanghai doesn't offer a lot in the way of sightseeing and tourists who are focused on attractions will probably be bored after two days. A good way to experience the city is to wander the alleys around Suzhou Creek and the French Concession. Almost all these streets offer something fascinating. There are, of course, some prominent attractions in the city, listed below.

The Bund

The dominant symbol of colonialism in China and the financial center of East Asia in the early 20th Century



The Bund Sightseeing Tunnel
You'll either love it or hate it: the Bund Sightseeing Tunnel polarizes public opinion



Nanjing Dong Lu

Nanjing Road was established as a commercial district in the mid 19th Century when it was part of the international settlement.



Yuyuan Garden

This is probably the only must-see tourist



CONTENTS

PM MODI'S CHINA TOUR

1. Chinese President Meets with Indian PM	6
2. Premier Li, Prime Minister Modi Hold Talks in Beijing	10
3. Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi Hold Joint Press Conference	13
4. Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi Attend First Forum of Leaders of Regions of China and India	14
5. Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi Attend Taichi and Yoga Show of China-India Cultural Exchanges	15
6. PM Modi Launched a Centre for Gandhian and Indian Studies at Shanghai	17
7. Joint Statement between China and India	18
8. A Super Visit to China	23

CHINA INDIA RELATIONS

1. Chinese Premier Li Keqiang's Interview by <i>India Today</i>	26
2. Riding the Tide of the Times, Writing a New Chapter of Security Together	32
3. China's Economy: From Miracle to New Normal	38
4. China Welcomes India's Nomination of BRICS Bank Head	41

CHINESE PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN VISIT

1. Chinese President Attends Russia's V-Day Parade	42
2. China, Kazakhstan to Align Development Strategies for Common Prosperity	46
3. China, Belarus Vow to Combine Development Strategies, Boost Partnership	48
4. Xi Raises Three-Point Proposal on Carrying Forward Bandung Spirit	52

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

1. Chinese Leaders Meet with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry	60
2. China Provides Assistance to Nepal over Disastrous Earthquake	65

CHINESE ENTERPRISES IN INDIA

1. Alibaba's E-Commerce Projects in India	73
2. China's Xiaomi Makes Waves in India	76
3. ZTE India, a Leading Provider of Telecommunications	80

EDITOR'S LETTER	81
BOOK REVIEW	82
FLIGHTS BETWEEN CHINA AND INDIA	83
CCTV NEWS YOUR LINK TO CHINA AND THE WORLD	85
CRI A BRIDGE OF FRIENDSHIP	86

PM MODI S CHINA TOUR

Chinese President Meets with Indian PM



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with visiting Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, May 14, 2015. (Xinhua/Yao Dawei)

Xi'an, May 14 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with visiting Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Xi'an, capital city of Shaanxi Province and Xi's hometown, on Thursday afternoon.

"This is the first time I have treated a foreign leader in my hometown and I hope you have a happy stay," Xi said at the start of the meeting.

Xi welcomed Modi and thanked him for the warm reception he received on his India visit in September, when the Indian PM accompanied him to visit his home state of Gujarat.

"That left me with a deep and good impression," Xi said.

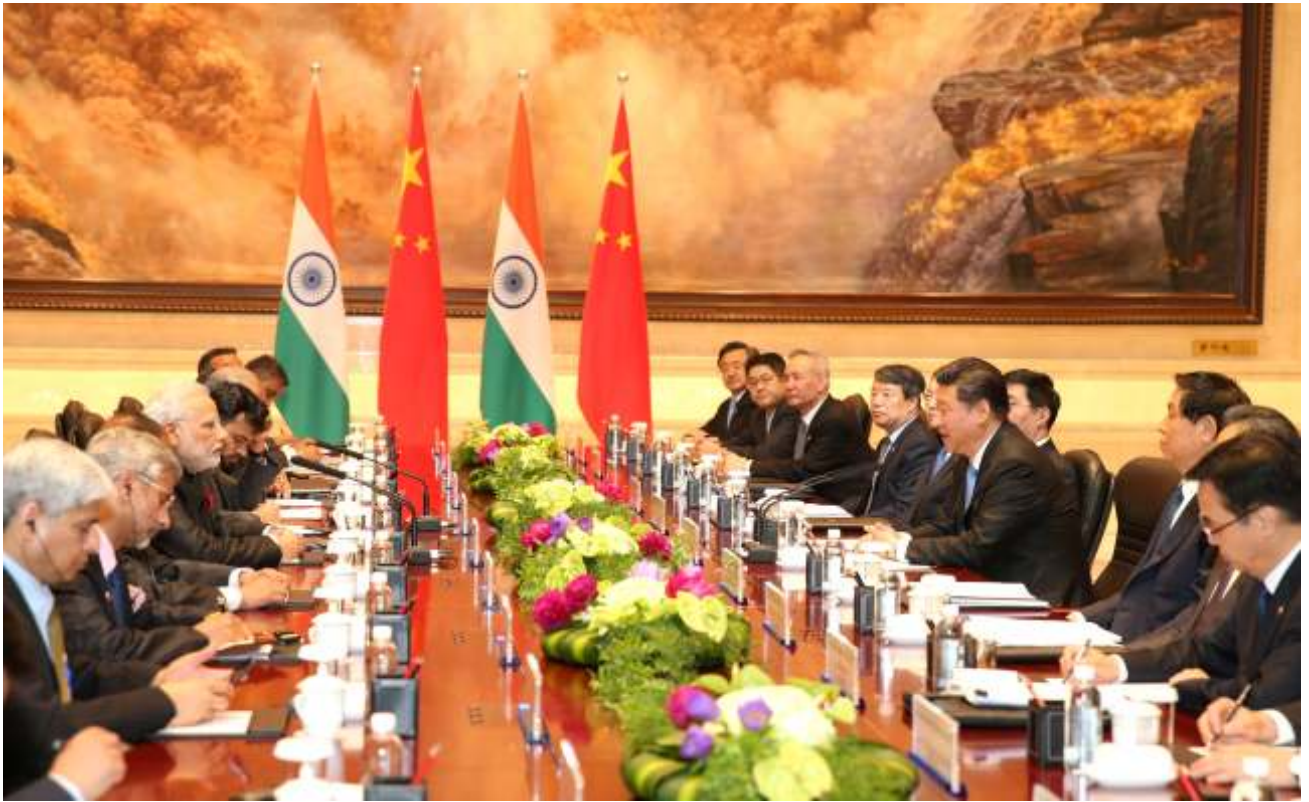
In September, Xi and Modi "reached an

important consensus on promoting the bilateral strategic partnership of cooperation and forging a closer partnership of development," according to the president.

Both sides have maintained frequent high-level contact and engagement, promoted cooperation in priority areas including construction of railways and industrial parks, strengthened exchanges, controlled border areas, Xi said.

China-India relations are experiencing stable development and facing broad prospects, he added, predicting that Modi's visit will strengthen the partnership.

Xi called on the two countries to look at their



Chinese President Xi Jinping holds talks with visiting Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, May 14, 2015. (Xinhua/Huang Jingwen)

ties from a long-term perspective, strengthen coordination on global and regional affairs, and “steer the international order to develop in a fairer direction”.

The two countries could strengthen communication on the Belt and Road Initiative, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), and Modi’s “Act East” policy, find areas of common interest, and hone a mode of cooperation with reciprocal benefit, Xi said.

He said the two countries should seek common ground in their respective development strategies to jointly promote the region’s economic integration and contribute to global economic growth.

He called for more bilateral cooperation in areas including railways, industrial parks, urbanization and training, pledging to encourage Chinese companies to invest in India.

The president also expressed hope that the two countries can trust each other more and control their disputes to avoid weakening

bilateral ties.

Xi also called on the two countries to strengthen exchanges between media, think tanks and young people to promote mutual understanding.

Calling China a great neighbor, Modi said India was ready to communicate and cooperate more closely with China, increase cultural exchanges and properly handle disputes.

He also voiced hope for more bilateral trade and closer cooperation with China within the AIIB.

He said he believed the AIIB will play an important role in regional economic and social development, and that India welcomes China to increase investment.

With regard to South Asia, Xi stressed that China has close relationships in the area and supports the region to maintain friendly ties. China is ready to strengthen reciprocal cooperation with all South Asian nations and promote the region’s peace, stability and

prosperity, he said.

Modi echoed Xi, saying India attaches high importance to communication in South Asia. India is ready to cooperate with China concerning the Belt and Road Initiative to promote the region's development and prosperity, he said.

Hometown Diplomacy Highlights Modi's Xi'an Tour

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Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) accompanies Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Da Ci'en Temple after their meeting in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, May 14, 2015. (Xinhua/Lan Hongguang)

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Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) accompanies Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Da Ci'en Temple after their meeting in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, May 14 2015. (Xinhua Lan Hongguang)

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After their meeting, Xi accompanied Modi to the Da Ci'en Temple and the Wild Goose Pagoda, where the famous Chinese Buddhist monk Xuan Zang presided over translation of Buddhist scriptures and expounded Buddhist doctrines in the Tang Dynasty.

The Da Ci'en Temple has witnessed a long

history of friendly exchanges between China and India, said Xi, vowing to push forward the friendly ties between the two countries.

Modi said he was deeply impressed by the Xi'an visit and presented saplings of Bodhi tree to the temple.

Xi said the Bodhi trees presented by ex-Indian Prime Minister Javaharlal Nehru in 1954 continue to thrive today and have become a telling symbol of the friendship between the two peoples.

After the visit, Modi was accorded traditional Tang Dynasty welcome at the Xi'an city wall and Xi welcomed him at the watchtower of the wall.

The two leaders also enjoyed a brilliant art performance staged by Chinese artists.

Premier Li ,Prime Minister Modi Hold Talks in Beijing



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (L) holds a welcoming ceremony for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi before their talks in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2015. (Xinhua Pang Xinglei)

On the morning of 15 May 2015, Premier Li Keqiang of the State Council held talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the

Great Hall of the People.

Li first welcomed Modi on his official visit to China. He noted that relations between China



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R back) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (L back) attend a document signing ceremony after their talks in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2015. (Xinhua/Pang Xinglei)

and India, the world's two largest developing countries, concern not only the well-being of their 2.5 billion people but also development and prosperity in the region and beyond. Li said that President Xi Jinping paid a successful visit to India last year and had a productive meeting with Prime Minister Modi in Xi'an yesterday, and that India was the first stop of his first overseas trip as the Chinese premier. China and India should not be competitors but rather each other's important partner of cooperation. Both countries need to view the relationship in the larger context of Asia and the world, vigorously promote strategic mutual trust, economic cooperation and cultural and people-to-people exchange, jointly facilitate the recovery of the world economy, boost development of both countries and other developing countries and uphold peace and prosperity of the region and the world at large.

Li said that China stands ready to work with

India to jointly forge a closer developmental partnership. Politically, the two sides need to maintain regular contact at the leadership level, intensify communication on major issues, and ensure the right direction in the development of bilateral ties. Both sides need to fully demonstrate vision in properly managing sensitive issues such as the boundary question, keep up the momentum for negotiations and establish framework mechanisms for cooperation. While ensuring peace and tranquility in border areas, they need to focus their energy on promoting bilateral strategic cooperation and common development in the joint effort to usher in a truly Asian Century. Economically, the two countries need to fully leverage their complementarity, align their development strategies, and expedite cooperation in infrastructure, industrial production capacity and equipment to speed up the industrialization and modernization

process in both countries. They need to speed up the building of the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor to promote regional economic development. They need to advance practical cooperation in railways, industrial parks and other priority areas, create flagship programs of cooperation, and promote a dynamic balance in bilateral trade. China is ready to take part in India's Industrial Corridor development and strengthen bilateral cooperation in vocational skills training, and hopes that India will create an enabling environment for Chinese investors. On cultural and people-to-people exchange, the two sides need to expand two-way visits, and intensify exchanges in science and technology, education, tourism and other fields so as to solidify public support for the growth of China-India relations.

Li stressed that China stands ready to intensify communication and coordination with India on global governance, reform of the international financial system, climate change, sustainable development and other global issues, promote various regional cooperation initiatives, and jointly uphold the legitimate rights and interests of the two countries and developing countries in general.

Modi said that India and China, both being major developing countries, need to strengthen communication and cooperation and promote common development, as this will benefit both countries and their peoples and serve peace and prosperity in Asia and the world. Modi noted that Premier Li's recent interview with India Today on the eve of his current visit was warmly received in India. The two sides need to draw framework plans and roadmaps for deepening bilateral strategic cooperation to bring the relationship to even higher levels in the interests of regional and global stability and

China is ready to take part in India's Industrial Corridor development and strengthen bilateral cooperation in vocational skills training, and hopes that India will create an enabling environment for Chinese investors.

development. Relations between India and China are a mature one and India is ready to properly manage the boundary question and other sensitive issues. Given the immense complementarity of the two economies and their respective strengths and needs, the two sides may enhance policy coordination, and work with each other in urbanization, manufacturing, infrastructure, industrial parks, renewable energy, finance, IT sector and other fields to promote mutual benefit and win-win progress. India and China are both ancient civilizations and are well-positioned to intensify exchanges and cooperation in culture, tourism, health and at the subnational level to enhance mutual trust and understanding between the two countries and their peoples.

The two sides commended each other's efforts in assisting Nepal's post-quake rescue and relief operations, and agreed to vigorously engage in and strengthen cooperation on disaster mitigation and relief assistance for less developed countries.

The leaders also had an in-depth exchange of views on international and regional issues of mutual interest.

Before their talks, Li held a welcoming ceremony for Modi outside the Eastern Entrance of the Great Hall of the People. Vice Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Wang Zhengwei attended the welcoming ceremony.

After the talks, 24 cooperation documents were signed in the presence of the two leaders covering railways, mining, education, space, quality supervision and inspection, film and television, ocean, earthquake science and between political parties, think tanks and various localities of the two countries.

Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi Hold Joint Press Conference

2015/05/15



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (rear) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi attend a joint press conference at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2015. (Xinhua/Liu Weibing)

On the morning of May 15, 2015, Premier Li Keqiang met the press at the Great Hall of the People together with visiting Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India.

Li Keqiang expressed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and I had a friendly and in-depth talk, reaching broad consensus on further building mutual trust, continuously deepening practical cooperation in various fields and forging a closer development partnership. We believe that common interests of China and India far outweigh our divergences, and that both sides have sufficient political will and political wisdom to properly handle sensitive issues. Both sides agreed to

maintain frequent contacts between the state leaders, expand practical cooperation in key fields, support more exchanges between regions and think-tanks of the two countries and boost communication and coordination in international and regional affairs.

Li Keqiang stressed that currently both China and India are facing a historic opportunity of development and revitalization. The Chinese side stands ready to work with the Indian side to seize the opportunity and remove interferences, so as to constantly advance the bilateral relations to new highs and make contributions to regional and world stability and prosperity. Both sides will strengthen cooperation in the

post-disaster reconstruction of Nepal, and appeal to the international community to continue providing Nepal with indispensable assistance, in a move to help the Nepalese people restore their homeland at an early date.

Narendra Modi expressed that during his visit, he had sincere and friendly communication with the Chinese leaders, reaching important consensus and setting new goals. India regards China as an important strategic partner, and the development of India-China relations will exert a significant influence

on the peace and development of the two countries and the world at large. The Indian side stands ready to make joint efforts with the Chinese side to view India-China relations from a strategic and long-term perspective, maintain high-level exchanges, intensify strategic mutual trust, manage and control differences, deepen practical cooperation, expand people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and strengthen communication and coordination in regional and international affairs, so as to promote regional and world peace and development.

Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi Attend First Forum of Leaders of Regions of China and India

2015/05/15



At noon on May 15, 2015, Premier Li Keqiang and Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India attended the First Forum of Leaders of the Regions of China and India and delivered speeches at the Great Hall of the People .

Li Keqiang said that holding the First Forum of Leaders of the Regions of China and India is a major and significant event in our bilateral relations. Over the 30-odd years of reform and opening up, China has made enormous achievements in economic and social development. An important reason is to fully mobilize the initiative of both central and local governments and stimulate market vitality and social creativity. Currently, we are promoting mass entrepreneurship and innovation, which is to make people with aspiration and competence have equal opportunities for innovation and entrepreneurship, and the local governments play an important role in this aspect.

Li Keqiang pointed out that as two developing countries with the largest population, both China and India are pushing forward industrialization and urbanization and have great potential in domestic demand. Developing exchanges and cooperation between the local governments of the two countries is a very good start to stimulate huge market vitality. Both sides have full capacity to build smart cities and realize smart living

through smart work. The central governments of both countries will provide facilitation to this process.

Narendra Modi said that as the India-China relations are currently under rapid development, bilateral exchanges and cooperation at the local level face new opportunities, and it is highly opportune to hold this Forum. India pays high attention to the positive role of local exchanges in promoting the development of the bilateral relations, is glad to see a constant deepening of exchanges between the two countries, and welcomes Chinese enterprises to invest in India. He hoped that the central and local governments of both countries will make joint efforts to bring the grand vision of developing the bilateral relations into reality.

The first Forum of Leaders of the Regions of China and India was co-hosted by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the China International Friendship Cities Association with the theme of "Smart City, Smart Living". About 150 representatives from local governments and enterprises of China and India attended the Forum.

Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi Attend Taichi and Yoga Show of China-India Cultural Exchanges

2015/05/16

On the afternoon of May 15, 2015, Premier Li Keqiang and Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India attended a Taichi and Yoga show of China-India cultural exchanges at the Temple of Heaven in Beijing.

It is early summer in Beijing, with clear sky, gentle breeze and all-embracing green. Bathed in the late afternoon sunshine, the time-honored building complex at the Temple of Heaven stands plain and sedate.

Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi came to the

square in front of the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvest. Over 400 Taichi and Yoga enthusiasts from China and India were practicing here. Their movements and poses spoke perfectly for the balance of strength and flexibility as well as dynamic and static.

Premier Li Keqiang and Prime Minister Narendra Modi had friendly talks with the coaches and exercisers, and delivered ardent speeches.

Li Keqiang said that Taichi of China and Yoga



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi attend a Taichi and Yoga show at the Temple of Heaven in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2015. (Xinhua/Pang Xinglei)

of India are both treasures of ancient civilizations of the two countries as well as the crystal of two Oriental civilizations and enjoy everlasting popularity. Although they have some differences in external forms, the internal essence of pursuing harmony among nature, man and mind is similar, and they both embody the inheritance and flourish of culture and civilization. The joint show of Taichi and Yoga at the Temple of Heaven is not to display unique brilliance, but to add radiance to each other. It demonstrates to the two countries as well as to the world at large the beautiful pursuit of China and India to coexist in harmony and join hands to deliver an even better life to the 2.5 billion Chinese and Indian people, and their firm faith in promoting stability and prosperity of the region and safeguarding long-lasting peace of the world.

Narendra Modi said that the fact that the Show takes place at the Temple of Heaven conveys profound meanings and manifests the new look of robust development of the relations between India and China, two countries of ancient civilizations. Both Taichi and Yoga could help people achieve balance among human body, mind and wisdom so as to cope with various pressure in peace. The youth of the two

countries developing communication and gaining understanding through practice of Taichi and Yoga further reflects the paving and bridging role of cultural exchanges in the development of the bilateral relations between India and China.

Premier Li Keqiang and Prime Minister Narendra Modi encouraged the Taichi and Yoga enthusiasts from China and India to make more efforts to promote the exchanges and spread of traditional Oriental civilizations.

The speeches of Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi received warm applauses from the audience, who rushed over for a photo opportunity with the leaders.

After the event, accompanied by Li Keqiang, Narendra Modi visited the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvest with interest.

After that, Premier Li Keqiang and Prime Minister Narendra Modi had conversations while taking a stroll in the woods, making blueprint for the bilateral relations and cooperation. Upon the time to say goodbye, Li Keqiang congratulated Narendra Modi on the success of his visit to China and wished him a good trip to Shanghai. Narendra Modi said that he looks forward to receiving Li Keqiang in India at an early date.

PM Modi Launched a Centre for Gandhian and Indian Studies at Shanghai



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (L) unveils a plaque with Xu Ningsheng, president of Fudan University, as he attends the inauguration for the Centre for Gandhian and Indian Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai, east China, May 16, 2015. (Xinhua/Pei Xin)

On May 16, 2015, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a Centre for Gandhian and Indian Studies at Shanghai's Fudan University.

PM Modi told the students during the address on that special occasion that the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi had addressed two key concerns of the world, global warming and terrorism. "By studying Gandhi's teachings, the Chinese youth will help not only the country but the world in realising that it has innovative solutions for these problems," PM Modi said.

The Prime Minister repeatedly remarked on how Gandhiji's life is still relevant. In Australia's Brisbane, he had mentioned how Gandhiji's teachings have solutions to terrorism and

global warming. He said he had believed in the ideologies of the Mahatma "even before I was chief minister of Gujarat".

The event had started with the Chinese students reciting verses from Bhagwad Gita. "The students who chanted shlokas from the Hindu scriptures... the fundamentals of life were stated in those shlokas," he said.

Knowledge exchange between India and China goes back a long way, PM Modi said. "To let foreign knowledge flow in is a little difficult, because then we have to make room for new point of views," he said. But China has managed it — first through the teachings of Buddha, and now, through the teachings of Gandhi.

"Opening doors for business is easy... but to

open the doors of knowledge, one needs great inner strength... Trade only helps the Centre run the government, but the exchange of knowledge helps generations," said PM Modi, who had spent the morning addressing various industry

leaders in China.

"Had a good interaction with students at Fudan University & launched the 'Centre for Gandhian and Indian Studies,'" the Prime Minister later mentioned it in Chinese Weibo.

Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of India

1. H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, is currently paying an official visit to China at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. Prime Minister Modi called on H.E. Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China and held talks with H.E. Mr. Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council. He also met with H.E. Mr. Zhang Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China. Prime Minister Modi expressed his deep appreciation for the special gestures extended by President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang during the visit and thanked the Chinese people for the warm welcome accorded to him.

2. Leaders of the two countries reviewed the progress of bilateral relations. The two sides shared the view that President Xi's visit to India in September 2014 was a significant milestone in the development of bilateral relations. The leaders noted that there is a historic imperative for China and India to enrich their bilateral relations, with the agreement on building closer developmental partnership reached during President Xi's visit to India as a core component.

3. The leaders agreed that simultaneous re-emergence of China and India as two major powers in the region and the world offers a momentous opportunity for realisation of the Asian Century. They noted that China-India bilateral relations are poised to play a defining role in the 21st Century in Asia and indeed, globally. The leaders agreed that the process of the two countries pursuing their respective

national developmental goals and security interests must unfold in a mutually supportive manner with both sides showing mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's concerns, interests and aspirations. This constructive model of relationship between the two largest developing countries, the biggest emerging economies and two major poles in the global architecture provides a new basis for pursuing state-to-state relations to strengthen the international system.

Strengthening Political Dialogue and Strategic Communication

4. Recognizing the expanding bilateral relationship, the growing international role of India and China and the imperative of forging strategic trust, the leaders agreed to enhance communication through frequent exchanges at the leadership level and by fully utilising the existing dialogue mechanisms.

5. The two sides agreed to regular visits at the level of Heads of State/ Government. Full use will be made of the opportunities provided by the presence of their leaders at various multilateral fora to hold consultations on bilateral relations and issues of regional and global importance.

6. Noting the increasingly important role played by Indian States and Chinese Provinces in advancing the bilateral relationship, the two sides agreed to establish a State/Provincial Leaders' Forum. The first meeting of the Forum was held in Beijing on 15 May 2015, with the participation of Premier Li and Prime Minister

Modi.

7. Acknowledging the contribution of high-level exchanges organised under the aegis of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the Ministry of External Affairs of India in fostering cooperation and understanding, the two sides agreed to institutionalise and expand the exchange mechanism.

8. In order to facilitate and promote greater cultural, tourism, economic and people-to-people engagement between the two countries, an additional Consulate General shall be established in each other's country. China shall open a new Consulate General in Chennai, while India shall open a new Consulate General in Chengdu.

9. The two sides believed that enhanced military ties are conducive to building mutual trust and confidence. The Indian side welcomed visit of a Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission of China to India this year, and the Chinese side invited Indian defence minister and other military leaders to visit China this year. The fifth joint counter-terrorism training between the two armies will be held in China in 2015. The two sides will exchange visits of naval ships and hold PASSEX and SAR exercises.

10. The two sides acknowledged the positive role of the Agreements and Protocols that have been signed so far in maintaining peace and tranquillity in the border areas. Committed to enhance border defence cooperation, the two sides will carry out annual visits and exchanges between the two Military Headquarters and neighboring military commands, endeavor to operationalize the hotline between the two Military Headquarters and establish border personnel meeting points at all sectors of the China-India border areas.

11. The two sides affirmed that an early settlement of the boundary question serves the basic interests of the two countries and should be pursued as a strategic objective by the two governments. Bearing in mind the overall bilateral relations and the long-term interests of the two peoples, the two sides are determined to actively seek a political

settlement of the boundary question. They made a positive assessment of the important progress made through the mechanism of the Special Representatives, and reaffirmed the commitment to abide by the three-stage process for the settlement of the boundary question, and continuously push forward negotiation on the framework for a boundary settlement based on the outcomes and common understanding achieved so far, in an effort to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution as early as possible.

12. The two sides will resolve outstanding differences, including the boundary question, in a proactive manner. Those differences should not be allowed to come in the way of the continued development of bilateral relations. Peace and tranquility on the China-India border was recognized as an important guarantor for the development and continued growth of bilateral relations. Pending a final resolution of the boundary question, the two sides commit to implementing the existing agreements and continue to make efforts to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Next Steps in Closer Developmental Partnership

13. The two sides resolved to work together to further strengthen their closer developmental partnership as it would provide impetus to economic growth and prosperity of the two countries as well as of their respective regions and the world at large.

14. Taking note of the increase in two-way trade and investment flows in the past few years, the two sides acknowledged its positive contribution to strengthening their overall bilateral relationship and to supporting each other's growth and development processes. In this regard, it was agreed that both sides will take necessary measures to remove impediments to bilateral trade and investment, facilitate greater market access to each other's economies, and support local governments of the two countries to strengthen trade and investment exchanges, with a view to optimally exploiting the present and potential

complementarities in identified sectors in the Five Year Trade and Economic Development Plan signed in September 2014, including Indian pharmaceuticals, Indian IT services, tourism, textiles and agro-products.

15. The two sides resolved to take joint measures to alleviate the skewed bilateral trade so as to realize its sustainability. Such measures will include cooperation on pharmaceutical supervision including registration, speedier phytosanitary negotiations on agro-products for two-way trade, stronger links between Indian IT companies and Chinese enterprises, and increasing services trade in tourism, films, healthcare, IT and logistics. Both sides will make full use of the China-India Joint Economic Group to work on this. The leaders welcomed the decision to expedite discussion and endeavor to favourably address, in the spirit of mutual cooperation and reciprocity, the issues pertaining to tariff reduction in respect of relevant Indian products under the framework of Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement.

16. The two leaders agreed that the Strategic Economic Dialogue is an important mechanism to explore new areas of bilateral economic cooperation. The next meeting of the Strategic Economic Dialogue, co-chaired by Chairman of NDRC of China and Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog of India, will be held in India during the second half of 2015.

17. The leaders noted with appreciation the positive momentum in investment projects as Chinese companies respond to the invitation to 'Make in India' and Indian companies expand their presence in China.

18. The two leaders noted with satisfaction the steps taken and the progress achieved in the Railway sector cooperation including the projects on speed raising on the existing Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysore line, the proposed feasibility studies for the Delhi-Nagpur section of high speed rail link, the station redevelopment planning for Bhubaneswar & Baiyappanahalli, heavy haul transportation training and setting up of a railway university. They welcomed the Action Plan outlining the next steps in the partnership in this key infrastructure sector.

19. The leaders welcomed the signing of the MoU to institute a dialogue mechanism between the Development Research Centre of the State Council of China and the NITI Aayog of India.

20. The two sides expressed their readiness to enhance cooperation between the financial regulators and enterprises of the two countries in support of the building of the Closer Developmental Partnership.

Culture and People-to-people Exchanges

21. Premier Li and Prime Minister Modi attended the Yoga-Taichi demonstration event in Beijing on 15 May 2015. The two sides also agreed to work together to successfully organize events related to the International Yoga Day on 21 June 2015. The leaders welcomed collaboration between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Yunnan Minzu University.

22. The leaders noted that enhanced exchanges among education institutions of the two sides will play a positive role in socio-economic development of the two sides. They welcomed the signing of the expanded Educational Exchange Programme.

23. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved in the China-India Cultural Exchange Initiative. The two sides will have the annual exchange of 200 youths from each side in the second half of this year.

24. The agreements on establishing a provincial partnership between Karnataka and Sichuan and sister-city relationships between Aurangabad - Dunhuang, Chennai - Chongqing, and Hyderabad - Qingdao were welcomed.

25. With a view to foster closer dialogue and mutual understanding, the two sides decided to establish a 'China-India Think Tanks Forum', which will meet annually, alternately in China and India. They also agreed to institutionalize the 'High Level Media Forum' and tasked the State Council Information Office of China and the Ministry of External Affairs of India to convene it on an annual basis, alternately in China and India. The leaders welcomed the establishment of the Center for Gandhian and Indian Studies at Fudan University, Shanghai.

New Avenues for Cooperation

26. The leaders welcomed continuous enrichment of China-India Closer Developmental Partnership with its expansion into newer areas of cooperation. The leaders welcomed initiation and expansion of cooperation in the following fields and mandated the relevant agencies to implement the projects in a purposeful manner:

i. Enhanced cooperation in vocational training and skill development, including through the signing of the Action Plan on the establishment of Mahatma Gandhi National Institute for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship at Gandhinagar/Ahmedabad in Gujarat;

ii. Initiating cooperation in development of smart cities with identification of Shenzhen in China and GIFT City in India as pilot smart cities for joint demonstration projects;

iii. In peaceful uses of outer space and the peaceful use of nuclear energy;

iv. In the sphere of public health, medical education and traditional medicine.

v. Welcomed the establishment of the Space Cooperation Mechanism between space authorities of China and India and the signing of the *2015-2020 Space Cooperation Outline between China National Space Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Indian Space Research Organization of the Republic of India*. The two sides agreed to reinforce the cooperation in the field of Satellite Remote Sensing, Space-Based meteorology, Space Science, Lunar and Deep Space Exploration, Satellite Navigation, Space Components, Piggy-back Launching Services, and Education and Training.

vi. Noting the recent visit of the Minister of Justice of China to India, the two sides agreed to strengthen cooperation between the law enforcing agencies of the two sides including on measures to enhance welfare of nationals of either side in the prisons of the other side. The two sides welcomed start of discussions on an agreement for transfer of sentenced persons.

Trans-border Cooperation

27. The Indian side expressed appreciation to China for providing flood-season hydrological data and the assistance in emergency management. The two sides will further strengthen cooperation through the Expert-Level Mechanism on the provision of flood-season hydrological data and emergency management, and exchange views on other issues of mutual interest.

28. The two sides recognized that enhancing border areas cooperation through border trade, pilgrimage by people of the two countries and other exchanges can effectively promote mutual trust, and agreed to further broaden this cooperation so as to transform their border into a bridge of cooperation and exchanges. The two sides agreed to hold negotiation on augmenting the list of traded commodities, and expand border trade at Nathu La, Qiangla/Lipu-Lekh Pass and Shipki La.

29. The Indian side appreciated the support and cooperation by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the local government of Tibet Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China to Indian pilgrims for the Kailash Manasarover Yatra (Gang Renpoche and Mapam Yun Tso Pilgrimage). To further promote religious exchange between the two countries and provide facilitation for Indian pilgrims, the Chinese side would launch the route for the Yatra through Nathu La Pass in 2015.

Shaping the Regional and Global Agenda

30. As two major powers in the emerging world order, engagement between India and China transcends the bilateral dimension and has a significant bearing on regional, multilateral and global issues. Both Sides agreed to not only step up their consultations on developments affecting international peace, security and development but also coordinate their positions and work together to shape the regional and global agenda and outcomes. They agreed to further strengthen coordination and cooperation in multilateral forums including RIC, BRICS and G20, promote the interests of

developing countries and the building of a better world. India will support China in hosting the G20 summit in 2016.

31. The leaders welcomed the decision to launch a bilateral consultative mechanism on WTO-related issues as a positive step for enhancing coordination in the context of global trade talks.

32. Both sides reiterated their strong condemnation of and resolute opposition to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and committed themselves to cooperate on counter-terrorism. They agreed that there is no justification for terrorism and urged all countries and entities to work sincerely to disrupt terrorist networks and their financing, and stop cross-border movement of terrorists, in accordance with the relevant principles and purposes of the UN Charter and international laws. They called for early conclusion of negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

33. The two sides support a comprehensive reform of the United Nation, including recognizing the imperative of increased participation of developing countries in UN's affairs and governance structures, so as to bring more effectiveness to the UN. China attaches great importance to India's status in international affairs as a large developing country, and understands and supports India's aspiration to play a greater role in the United Nations including in the Security Council.

34. The two sides are ready to continue cooperation under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. China welcomed India's application for full membership of Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

35. The two sides agreed to work together with relevant parties to accelerate the preparation for establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to promote regional infrastructure and economic development.

36. The two sides welcomed the progress made in promoting cooperation under the framework of the BCIM (Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar) Economic Corridor. Both

sides recalled the second meeting of the Joint Study Group of BCIM Economic Corridor and agreed to continue their respective efforts to implement understanding reached at the meeting.

37. The two sides agreed to broaden cooperation in SAARC.

38. Both sides recognized that APEC has a significant role in advancing regional economic integration and in promoting regional economic growth and prosperity, and welcomed the success of the Beijing APEC meeting. China acknowledged India's important role in driving the global economic growth, supported the openness of APEC, and welcomed India's desire to strengthen its link with APEC.

39. The two sides welcomed the China-India Consultation on Arms Control and Non-Proliferation held in Beijing on April 17, 2015. Noting the commonalities in their approach to global arms control and non-proliferation, they agreed to continue their engagement bilaterally and in multilateral fora on arms control and non-proliferation. The Chinese side took note of India's aspirations to become a member of the NSG, in a bid to strengthen international non-proliferation efforts.

40. The two sides shared the view that the issue of climate change is of vital importance for the sake of today's world and future generations. They underscored the importance of working together and with other countries to conclude an ambitious, comprehensive, universal, balanced and equitable climate agreement at the forthcoming CoP 21 to UNFCCC to be held in Paris later this year that will also encourage genuine technology transfer, collaboration for adaptation and mitigation and financial support in meeting this common global challenge. The two sides issued *Joint Statement on Climate Change between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of India* during the visit.

41. Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited Premier Li Keqiang to visit India at a mutually convenient time. Premier Li accepted the invitation with pleasure.

Beijing 15 May 2015

A Super Visit to China

by Chinese Ambassador to India Le Yucheng

Spring is the season of hope with flowers in full blossom. Amidst the fresh spring air, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India paid an official visit to China from 14 to 16 May at the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Keqiang. As Chinese ambassador to India, I am happy to witness the historic visit. The visit, the first by Mr. Modi as Prime Minister of India, can be characterized by three 'supers'.

First, Prime Minister Modi was accorded a super high-level reception. In the first stop of the visit, Xian, the capital of the home province of President Xi Jinping and a long-time ancient capital of China, a grand Tang-dynasty welcome ceremony was held to escort Prime Minister Modi into the city, the first ever such ceremony for a foreign dignitary in more than a decade. President Xi and Prime Minister Modi spent more than 5 hours together. In addition to official meetings, the two leaders also visited Dacien Temple and Wild Goose Pagoda, built in commemoration of Xuanzang, the eminent Chinese monk who went on a pilgrimage to India for Buddhist scriptures, and watched traditional cultural performance together. President Xi held a special banquet for Prime Minister Modi at the ancient city wall complex. It's particularly worth-noting that it is the first time for President Xi to host a foreign leader outside Beijing. And the visit in a way reciprocates President Xi's visit to Prime Minister Modi's home state, Gujirat, last year. There is a special



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (L) holds a welcoming ceremony for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi before their talks in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2015. (Xinhua Liu Weibing)

bond between the two places as Xuanzang pursued Buddhist learning in Gujirat and it was from there that he brought Buddhist scriptures back to then capital of Tang Dynasty, Xian, and translated and taught the scriptures there. In Beijing, Premier Li Keqiang held a warm official welcome ceremony and state banquet for Prime Minister Modi. The two leaders spent almost a whole day together, including official meetings



Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivers a lecture at Tsinghua University in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2015. (Xinhua/Ding Lin)

that went much longer than expected, attendance in the first China-India State/Provincial Leaders' Forum and a Yoga-Taichi demonstration event. Prime Minister Modi also met with Chairman of the National People's Congress, Mr. Zhang Dejiang. A cabinet minister accompanied Prime Minister Modi throughout his visit in Beijing and Shanghai as representative of the Chinese government, a rare practice in many years. Each leg of the visit was marked by senior-level attendance, including Vice Speakers of the parliament, several cabinet ministers including the Foreign Minister and the Commerce Minister, governors and mayors. All these special arrangements, senior attendance and high-level reception attest to the importance China attaches to the visit and the friendly relations between our two countries.

Second, the visit yielded super fruitful results. The leaders of our two countries had an in-depth exchange of views on a host of major issues of mutual interest, reached important consensus while not shying away from differences. They took stock of China-India relations and charted the course for its future growth. The visit builds on the consensus to foster a Closer Developmental Partnership, further enriches the partnership and raised the regional and global significance of China-India cooperation. A Joint Statement was issued, which noted that India-China bilateral relations are poised to play a defining role in the 21st century in Asia and indeed, globally. Peace and tranquility on the India-China border was recognized as an important guarantor for the development and continued growth of bilateral relations. Pending a final resolution of the

boundary question, the two sides commit to implementing the existing agreements and continue to make efforts to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas. Prime Minister Modi pointed out in his speech that “the prospects of the 21st century becoming the Asian century will depend in large measure on what India and China achieve individually and what we do together”. A record number of 45 agreements were signed during the visit, including 24 inter-governmental agreements in outer space, cyber space, earthquake preparedness, maritime science, smart city, consular establishment, finance, education, exchanges between political parties, local States/Provinces and think tanks, etc, and 21 business agreements worth US\$22 billion. I remember saying to the Indian press before the visit that the business agreements signed would be no less than US\$10 billion. I thought at the time of the interview that I was giving a rather bold number, but it turned out to be too modest. Prime Minister Modi also brought a special gift to the Chinese people by announcing the extension of e-visas to Chinese nationals. All these deliverables are bound to inject fresh dynamism to our relations.

Third, the visit was conducted in a super friendly atmosphere. Prime Minister Modi opened a Chinese Weibo account to say “Ni Hao” (hello) to the Chinese people and met with Chinese journalists before the much-anticipated visit. Throughout the visit, he was warmly received by the Chinese government and people. Everywhere he went, the feeling of warmth and friendship was very much in the air. The choice of Xian, the symbol and witness of the millennium-old friendly exchanges between the Indian and Chinese peoples, is in itself of great significance. There, Prime Minister Modi visited the famous Terracotta Warriors and Daxingshan Temple, where three eminent Indian monks taught and promoted

Buddhism more than 1,400 years ago. Hundreds of thousands local residents lined up the streets to welcome Prime Minister Modi, waving and shouting “Modi, Modi”, all eager to catch a glimpse and maybe a picture of the Prime Minister. Moved by their enthusiasm, Prime Minister Modi stopped the motorcade to interact with local people. At the Temple of Heaven in Beijing, the Yoga-Taichi event brought together more than 400 people from 8-year old to 80-year old. At Tsinghua University and the opening ceremony of Center for Gandhian and Indian Studies at Fudan University, Prime Minister Modi's remarks were a big hit. At the State/Provincial Leaders' Forum, many local leaders from the two countries queued to have photos with Prime Minister Modi and Premier Li. At the business forum in Shanghai, many top Chinese CEOs expressed their desire to invest in India. During the visit, Prime Minister Modi posted dozens of Tweets and Weibo, including the much-liked-and-forwarded selfie with Premier Li. All this speaks volume of the strong will of our two peoples to build on the traditional friendship and open up new prospects in China-India relations.

The three-day visit is now successfully concluded, but with its fruitful achievements and wide-ranging impact, it will leave a big imprint in our relations. Like our cooperation in high-speed railway, the train of China-India relations has entered a fast track of high-speed growth. As Chinese ambassador to India, I am truly encouraged by this milestone visit. We will implement the outcomes of the visit, enhance exchanges and cooperation across the board in the interest of our two countries and two peoples, and jointly write a new chapter in the duet of the Chinese dragon and the Indian elephant.

(The article was published in *The Hindu* on May 17, 2015)

CHINA INDIA RELATIONS

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang's interview by *India Today*

2015/05/08

1. Premier Li, you chose India as your first destination for an overseas visit after taking over as Premier, visiting in May 2013. What was behind your choice? Have you been satisfied with how relations have developed since your visit?

Two years ago, I visited India as the first stop of my first overseas trip as Premier. That visit is still fresh in my memory. China and India are the two largest developing countries in the world and two most vibrant emerging markets. A growing China-India relationship is not only related to the welfare of the 2.5 billion Chinese and Indians but also crucial to the peace and prosperity of Asia and the world at large. During my visit, Indian leaders and I agreed that our two countries should join hands to achieve common development, foster new highlights in Asian cooperation and create a new engine for the world economy.

A new Indian government was formed after last year's general election. I am glad to see that China-India relations and practical cooperation have maintained sound growth momentum and made fresh progress. This shows that the development of China-India relations is blessed with strong consensus and profound popular support among various sectors of the two countries.

Both China and India have a historical mission to grow economy, deepen reform and improve people's living standards. Moving steadily forward along the path identified by the leaders of the two sides, China-India relations enjoy historical opportunities for substantial enhancement. I expect that Prime Minister



Modi's upcoming visit to China will deepen our strategic and cooperative partnership and serve the peaceful, cooperative and inclusive development of both our countries.

2. What has been your impression of Prime Minister Modi's first year in office since his election victory?

In his first year in office, Prime Minister Modi has demonstrated his resolve and courage to advance reform and development. The Indian economy has gathered momentum significantly. The international community has been following closely the developments and changes of India over the past year. International investors have renewed their focus on "India opportunity" and expressed optimism in India's



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (L) holds a welcoming ceremony for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi before their talks in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2015. (Xinhua Liu Weibing)

growth prospects. I want to offer my congratulations to Prime Minister Modi and the Indian government.

China is glad for India over its development achievements. The Indian economy is shifting to a higher growth rate while the Chinese economy is transforming and upgrading at a faster pace. Our two countries, with similar development visions and great economic complementarity, can see opportunities in each other's development. China is ready to work with India to align our development strategies, reinforce political trust, expand mutually beneficial cooperation and progress together through mutual learning and assistance.

3. On the economic front, over the past few years, relations have been slow to take

off in many respects. Trade has been dominated by Indian exports of resources and Chinese exports of machinery. Mutual investments, and a closer economic engagement beyond buying and selling, have moved slowly. What do you see as the reason for this?

The economic relations between China and India cover a wide spectrum of areas. In addition to traditional trade in goods, we have trade in services, tourism, investment and finance. Let me give you some examples. Investment by Chinese businesses in India is now on a fast track of growth. Cooperation between the two sides on railway and industrial parks, among others, is taking shape with a broad prospect. As far as I know, 10 Indian

banks have set up 13 branches in China, outnumbering those set up by their Chinese counterparts in India by a big margin. Indian companies have wide-ranging investment in China, including software, pharmaceuticals, higher education, iron and steel, chemical industry and clean energy. Therefore, we do not see trade in goods as the sole criterion in assessing our economic relations.

Even if we just look at trade in goods, despite some decline in bilateral trade in the couple of years after the international financial crisis, the trade volume started to pick up last year. It grew by 7.8% year on year and reached US\$70.6 billion. China understands and takes seriously India's concerns over the balance of trade. We are ready to continue to take measures to expand imports from India that are marketable in China and seek to find balance in

a wider range of areas including trade in goods, trade in services, investment, science and technology and tourism. We hope, in such a way, we can achieve dynamic balance and sustainable growth in our bilateral trade.

As I see it, for China and India, two countries with a combined population of 2.5 billion, our cooperation falls far short of reaching its due scale or level. Cooperation between China and India is just like a huge treasurehouse waiting to be discovered. We have great hopes and expectations. During Prime Minister Modi's visit, he and I will further exchange views on deepening practical cooperation between our two countries. I am sure that with our joint efforts, our economic relations will soon get aboard the high-speed train, deliver benefits to our peoples and give a strong boost to our respective national rejuvenation efforts.



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang encouraged young people in China and India to draw strength from the two countries' historical traditions and become participants as well as proponents of bilateral friendly cooperation when he met with 100-member Indian youth delegation in Beijing on May 15, 2013.

4. When President Xi Jinping visited India in September, both sides agreed to set up two industrial parks for Chinese companies, focusing on power companies and automobiles. In your opinion, do you think major Chinese companies will in the future see India as not just a market for export, but as a manufacturing destination as well? Do you see the changes taking place in China on the economic front having an impact on the relationship? And what do you think these industrial parks can achieve going forward?

During his visit to India, President Xi Jinping reached important agreement with Indian leaders on industrial park cooperation in India. China and India are the world's major manufacturer and service provider respectively. Each with distinctive features, the two economies have a lot to offer each other. At the moment, the Chinese economy is moving toward a medium-to-high level with efforts to maintain a medium-to-high speed of growth. We will deepen reform in an all-round way and further open up to the outside. China's overseas investment in the next five years will reach US\$500 billion. The Make-in-India initiative and other programs rolled out by the Indian government are aimed at promoting reform and innovation, raising the manufacturing level and attracting more foreign investment. Under such circumstances, deepening practical cooperation is all the more relevant and promising for both sides.

Chinese companies have decided to set up two industrial parks in India, a major step to deepen practical cooperation between the two countries. With a huge market and rich human resources, India has all the conditions to become a big manufacturing country. I hope that India will provide more preferential policies and investment facilitations to Chinese businesses, help them address difficulties and inconveniences they may encounter so that the industrial parks can deliver tangible benefits at an earlier date as flagship projects in China-

India practical cooperation. We also welcome greater presence of Indian companies in China. I am confident that as we make progress in our cooperation in industrial parks and investment, China and India will surely have greater success in win-win cooperation and common prosperity.

5. The Chinese government has put forward the Belt and Road Initiative over the past year, and the proposal to build the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar economic corridor was raised during your visit to India. In what way does China want to work with India under the Belt and Road framework? More generally, what impact do you think the Belt and Road Initiative will have in terms of how China is viewed in the region?

China and India are the two biggest countries in Asia and both are countries of major significance in the region. We shoulder the responsibility to work together to promote cooperation and prosperity of the region at large. That is why during my visit to India in 2013, I raised together with the Indian side the initiative of building a Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM), a proposal that received positive response from Myanmar and Bangladesh. The Belt and Road Initiative as well as the BCIM are designed to facilitate common development instead of the self-interests of China only.

At present, China-India cooperation in railway, industrial parks and other fields is making solid progress. A joint working group for the BCIM has been set up and is running well. India was among the first group of prospective founding members of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and has played host to the second Chief Negotiators' Meeting of the AIIB. That speaks strongly to the fact that China and India are indeed each other's strategic cooperation partner, whether at the bilateral or regional level. China is open to India's views and suggestions regarding the Belt and Road Initiative. China will fully respect and



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R, front) met with Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis' younger sister Manorama (L, front) and other relatives in Mumbai, India, May 21, 2013.

accommodate India's concerns, and will work with India to seek the convergence of interests between the two countries, explore a path of win-win cooperation and jointly promote development and prosperity in the region.

6. How do you view relations with India going forward? Over the past two decades, the two sides have sought to follow the framework suggested by Deng Xiaoping of shelving disputes and pushing ties in other areas. How do you evaluate how successful this approach has been? With rapid growth of the relations between the two countries, do you think the time has come for a more proactive approach to solve pending disputes such as the boundary question, once and for all?

The existence of different views between neighbors on certain issues is just natural. What

I want to stress is that for China and India, friendship and cooperation make the defining feature of bilateral relations. I see the need and desire for cooperation on both sides, and I believe our common interests far outweigh our disagreements.

Over the years, the leaders of our two countries have formed an important piece of agreement. That is, the two countries need to upgrade bilateral relations at all levels and in all areas while addressing differences through negotiations and peaceful means in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner, and that differences between the two countries should not be allowed to affect the overall growth of bilateral relations. Such agreement provides the basis underpinning long-term and steady growth of China-India relations. It is fair to say that China and India have developed a

unique relationship that allows us to grow our friendship and cooperation while seeking proper settlement to our differences.

The boundary question is left over from history, and is a difficult question in bilateral relations. To settle the question as early as possible is the historical responsibility that falls on both governments; it also represents the shared aspiration of the two peoples. Thanks to joint efforts, positive progress has been made in boundary negotiations over the past 30 years and more. The two sides have formulated a road map for the settlement of the boundary question, signed an agreement on political parameters and guiding principles and reached the important agreement on a package settlement through making meaningful and mutually acceptable adjustments. Meanwhile, the border areas have maintained peace and stability on the whole. This is important accomplishment for both sides. We should build on what has been achieved and continue to work unremittingly to move forward the boundary negotiation process, with a view to finding a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement. Pending that, the two sides need to work together to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas, so that we could foster an enabling environment for the ultimate settlement of the boundary question and promote overall growth of bilateral relations.

Mr. Deng Xiaoping once observed that only when China and India became developed could there be a genuine Asian Century. To maintain enduring and stable growth of China-India relations serves the fundamental interests of the 2.5 billion Chinese and Indian people in the long run. It is also good for Asia and the world at large. I believe, with joint efforts by the leadership, governments and people of vision in both countries, China and India will continue to make progress in our respective pursuit of national rejuvenation and together embrace an early arrival of the Asian Century.

7. Premier Li, I would like your thoughts on how you see the evolving global order. China has often spoken of the need for multipolarity. How much concurrence is there between China and India on this? On the reform of international institutions such as the United Nations, would China support a greater role for India, including as a permanent member on an expanded United Nations Security Council?

The move toward multipolarity is a prevailing trend in today's world. Since the turn of the century, emerging markets and developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America have grown in international standing, moving the balance of power toward greater equilibrium. China and India are two major forces in shaping a multipolar world as well as two engines driving economic growth in Asia and the world. Both being representatives of emerging markets and developing countries, China and India have engaged in sound coordination and cooperation in global affairs, where we face similar challenges and share extensive common interests. China-India relations have gone far beyond the bilateral scope and assumed regional and global significance.

The population of China and India combined exceeds one third of the world's total. When we speak with one voice, the world will listen; when we join hands, the world will pay attention. While driving the economic growth of Asia and the world through our own development, China and India may continue to strengthen cooperation under multilateral frameworks, including in the United Nations, BRICS, G20 and Shanghai Cooperation Organization. This way, we could make the international order more just and reasonable and uphold the common interests of our two countries and the vast number of developing countries as a whole.

India, a major Asian country with global influence and an important member of BRICS, plays a significant role in ensuring stability and

prosperity in South Asia and the Asia-Pacific. China attaches great importance to India's role as a major developing country in international affairs and supports India's aspiration to play a bigger role in the United Nations, including in the UN Security Council.

8. I would like your thoughts on how you see China and India working together in the region. China has recently witnessed a number of terror attacks. Given India's long expressed concern on the spread of terrorism, in what ways do you think the two countries could work together?

China is the largest neighbor for countries in South Asia, and peace and stability in South Asia bears on China's stability and development. China and India have shared interests in maintaining peace and stability and promoting development and prosperity in South Asia. China and India have had good communication and coordination in supporting peace and

reconstruction in Afghanistan and assisting disaster relief and reconstruction efforts in Nepal. Our two countries may well enhance cooperation based on our respective strengths to inject more positive energy to efforts upholding peace, stability and development in the region.

Terrorism, whose root causes are complex, is a common enemy of mankind. To settle the problem takes long and arduous efforts. It requires solidarity and stronger cooperation among the international community to eradicate terrorism and safeguard security and stability in the region and the world. China and India, having both suffered from the menace of terrorism, share common interests and face similar challenges in fighting terrorism. China stands ready to deepen counterterrorism cooperation with India to better safeguard the development and security interests of our two countries.

Riding the Tide of the Times, Writing a New Chapter of Security Together

– Speech by Chinese Ambassador Le Yucheng at the National Defense College

April 22, 2015

It is a pleasure to meet you all. The National Defense College is a renowned institute of higher learning and the cradle of generals of the Indian armed forces. I am honored to have been invited here to exchange ideas with you. The year 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War, the 70th anniversary of the



founding of the United Nations, and the 60th anniversary of the Bandung Asian-African Conference. When we commemorate the historical significance of this year, it is of high necessity to discuss the Changing Global Security Paradigm and China's Response as suggested by Major General Saini.

Global security is an ever evolving topic. Ever since I received your invitation, I have been giving it much thinking. 30 years ago when I had my initial exposure to diplomacy, the subject of my research was the arms control negotiation between the Soviet Union and the United States with the focus on the numbers of their strategic nuclear weapons, nuclear warheads, middle-range missiles, the "Star Wars" program and the arms race. Today, times have changed. If we compare the contemporary concept of security with that of 30 years ago, it will not be difficult to see that the world security paradigm has undergone astonishing changes.

The question which deserves an answer is "what are these changes?" Firstly, the content of security has expanded. In addition to the traditional wars between countries, regional conflicts and geostrategic politics, non-traditional security issues are looming large. If you ask the passers-by on the street or watch the television news, you will realize that we are perhaps more concerned about the safety of the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink, the internet we use all the time and the campus of our kids. Recently, horrible massacres have taken place in a Pakistani school and a Kenyan university. Our travel is severely hindered by security factors. We must go through security checks not only before



boarding airplanes and trains but also when entering malls and hotels. Not to mention the invasive electronic monitors. Nonetheless, our sense of security has deteriorated instead of increasing.

Secondly, the contours of security have blurred. In the past, people only cared about the security issues in their own country or region, careless or insensitive about the security problems in other places. That is not the case anymore. Security issues in one country or one region have global repercussions today. Security threats often cross the border and spread to various corners of the world. The global financial crisis induced by the American sub-prime crisis in 2008 remains pervasive until now. The outbreak of Ebola epidemic in Western Africa caused global panic. The recent situation in Yemen directly affected lives and assets of citizens of dozens of countries.

Thirdly, the enemies of security have become more complex. In the past we knew who the enemies are, where they are, even what they are doing. What's terrifying now is that we do not know from where the security threats are coming or who the missiles are targeting. When the 9.11 tragic struck, I happened to be working in New York. The biggest confusion of the Americans was that they did not know against

whom they should take revenge. It took Osama bin Laden only one million US dollars to wreak the havoc of 9.11. Yet it took the US 10 years to locate the perpetrators at the price of one million US dollars per hour. Editors of Charlie Hebdo in Paris could not have expected that a piece of cartoon will cost them their lives. Nor would the 150 passengers on that German Wings flight have imagined that their death will be caused by a pilot suffering from depression.

Essentially, the change in the global security paradigm lies in the changes of our living environment. In the backdrop of globalization and information age, we are increasingly living in a global village where we depend on each other, interact closely, and where our interests are intertwined. If you do not feel safe, I will not feel safe either, even no one will really feel safe. Security has increasingly become mutual, common, collective and inter-dependent. Security concepts of the Cold War era such as zero-sum game, gunboat policy, arms race, military confrontation, power politics and group confrontation are getting more and more out of date. Mankind needs to build a new, common, comprehensive and cooperative security outlook which has sustainable security at its core and which is based on the spirit of mutual respect, equal negotiation, transparency and win-win cooperation because all of us are travelling in the same boat. In this context I'd like to emphasize on 3 points:

First is cooperation. As a Chinese proverb goes, "Strength does not come from the muscle of the arms, but from the unison of the hearts." No matter how strong a country is, she cannot



meet complex security challenges by herself. That is the reason why we should promote peace and security through cooperation. Not so long ago, when Ebola epidemic started to spread in West Africa, many countries actively offered assistance, and through their joint efforts and cooperation it was contained effectively. Recently, the fighting in Yemen necessitated mass evacuation of expatriates. Countries like China, India, Russia, Pakistan, Egypt and Sudan sent out airplanes and vessels not only for ferrying their own nationals but also helping stranded foreigners. The more the international community cooperates at the time of crises, the safer the world will become.

Second is development. Development and security are interconnected and interact with each other. Development cannot exist without security and vice versa. Why West Asia and North Africa are trapped in continuous turmoil in recent years? Why combating terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq turns out to be a failure? Why some former Soviet Union countries fell into conflict and split? Answers to these questions can be found in the unsolved issues of development and people's livelihood in these regions. Several days ago I read in a book that short while after assuming office, Prime Minister Modi received a letter from a Ukrainian

lady married to an Indian. In her letter, she spoke highly of Mr. Modi and sincerely hoped that Mr. Modi will lead India to stability and prosperity through his reform and opening-up policy, unlike her motherland that has become the “battleground of Europe” from being the “granary of Europe” by repeated turbulences in the past 20 years. This lady’s opinion may bring us a more profound understanding of the relationship between development and security.

Third is innovation. In today’s world numerous security issues are emerging in an endless stream, we cannot solve new problems by using old methods. We used to say, “Grandpa tells story to grandson, passing his knowledge on.” However, nowadays children’s knowledge always goes beyond their parents. As to myself, I learned to use a smart phone and computer from my son and my father even doesn’t dare to touch them. Just like advancements in other fields, international security is also fast evolving. We must also advance with the times. The Cold War mentality should truly be discarded and new security concepts should be nurtured as we explore a path that ensures security for all, by all and of all. A good example could be the anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden and near Somali waters where naval

forces from various countries are carrying out escorting tasks. If we act without coordination or start adopting a pre-cautionary approach against each other, how can we achieve our goal of combating the pirates? It is through the zonal escorting cooperation and joint exercises carried out by various navies who bear in mind the overall maritime situation and take an open approach towards escorting vessels that the international community has managed to ensure safety of maritime routes in the Gulf of Aden and Somali waters.

Dear Faculty and Course members,

Last September, I accompanied President Xi Jinping to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Raj Ghat, while standing in front of the memorial and looking at the eternal flame, it occurred to me that the oriental wisdom embodied in the spirit of non-violence and pursuit of peace has all along been carried on from generation to generation. Having suffered long from imperialism and colonialism, China cherishes the current harmonious domestic situation and the peaceful international environment. China will stick to the path of peaceful development and safeguard and promote peace, stability and development of the world. Facing an intricate

international security situation, China advocates a new security concept, stands for creating a consciousness among the mankind that we are a community of common destiny, and wants to promote the establishment of new international relationship based on mutual win-win.

China is actively involved in settling the hot spot issues



peacefully so as to provide a Chinese perspective for the solution of knotty problems. At the make-or-break moments in both the Syria crisis and the Iranian nuclear talks, China has resolutely safeguarded the basic norms governing international relations, upheld equity and justice, and opposed war and power politics. China supports all the diplomatic endeavors made by the international society, with the aim to resolve crisis in Syria and has played a positive role in reaching the framework agreement on the Iranian nuclear issue recently.

China has acted as a major responsible country in international security affairs by actively participating in the global cooperation to curb the spread of communicable diseases, and coping with climate change. China provided 750 million RMB in assistance in four rounds and sent more than 1000 experts and medical workers to the affected countries upon the outbreak of the Ebola epidemic last year. We promptly built a treatment center for Liberia, thus making positive contributions for controlling the spread of the epidemic. On the issue of climate change, China regards low-carbon development as its international obligation. China is first among the developing countries to formulate and implement a national plan for coping with climate change, and would cut carbon emissions by 40% to 45% by 2020 compared with 2005 levels.

China is an active contributor to international peace and security operations and has actively contributed towards ensuring international and regional peace and stability. As a victim of terrorism, China firmly opposes terrorism in all forms and firmly believes that we should have zero tolerance for terrorism, separatism and extremism, step up the fight against these three evil forces, and must strengthen international and regional cooperation on security and anti-terrorism. China is the largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping missions among the five permanent members of the UN Security

Council. China has been actively contributing to the peacekeeping operations since 1990 and has sent nearly 30,000 soldiers on such missions. A 700-soldier infantry battalion has just been sent to South Sudan to join UNMISS. China has also dispatched the largest number of troops for engineering, transportation and medical support among all the 115 contributing countries and contributes the largest share to the UN peacekeeping costs among all the developing countries.

China has actively conducted escort missions for the safe passage of over 825 batches and a total of 5,900 international ships in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia. Since 2009, China has sent 20 fleets to conduct anti-piracy operations in the above mentioned areas and successfully rescued, and provided support and relief to more than 60 ships from various countries. Chinese escort fleet has also played an active role in important emergencies such as the evacuation of Chinese personnel in Libya and providing maritime escort for the transportation of the Syrian chemical weapons etc. During the evacuation of Chinese personnel in Yemen earlier this month, the Chinese navy actively assisted 233 nationals from 13 countries including India.

UN will formulate the Development Agenda beyond 2015 this year. China proposes that various countries should work to secure their greatest common interests while seeking common development at the same time. According to the estimate of IMF, China's contribution to the world economic growth has reached 30%. While solving its own problems, China will continue to provide the world with more market, investment and cooperation opportunities, and make continuous efforts to benefit other countries with its own development. China has put forward the Belt and Road Initiative, which would be jointly built through consultation with all the stakeholders to meet the interests of all involved, and efforts would be made to integrate the development strategies of the countries along the Belt and

Road. Owing to the efforts made by the Chinese government, more than 60 countries along the routes and international organizations have already shown interest in taking part in the development of the Belt and the Road. The programs of development under the initiative will be open and inclusive, not exclusive. The initiative is a real chorus comprising all countries along the routes, and not a solo performed by China alone. It is bringing and will continue to bring real benefits to countries along the routes. China's proposal to set up the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with 100 billion US dollars registered capital has also been welcomed by various countries. 57 countries and regions spread over five continents have applied for joining the bank which fully reflects its representativeness and universality. We would like to work with other countries and parties concerned to make the initiative of building "the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road" a success, make good use of the AIIB as an institutional platform, deepen cooperation with various countries in a mutually beneficial manner, solve issues pertaining to sustainable development and eliminate safety concerns.

Dear Faculty and Course members,

The Chinese nation loves peace and in ancient times, the following axiom was already popular in China: "A warlike state, however big it may be, will eventually perish." China's concepts like "Peace is of paramount importance", "Seek harmony without uniformity" and "Unity of the world" are similar with India's concepts of "Non-violence" and "The whole world is a family". Both of our nations view "peace" as the very essence of the world and hope all nations can live in peace and co-exist in harmony. President Xi Jinping mentioned in his editorial published in an Indian newspaper last year: "Despite their distinctive features, the 'Chinese Dragon' and the 'Indian Elephant' both cherish peace, equity

and justice". President Xi's words vividly explained that loving peace is the common essence of our two peoples and were widely accepted by the Indian people from all walks of life. The idea of peaceful coexistence and common development of the "Chinese Dragon" and the "Indian Elephant" is deeply rooted among our peoples. China and India are the biggest developing countries and emerging market countries in the world. The combined population of our two countries forms almost one third of the world population. If the 2.5 billion people of our two countries live a happy and tranquil life, it will be the greatest contribution to the world's peace and security. Both China and India are natural cooperation partners and representing the developing countries in many international multilateral mechanisms, such as UN, G20 and BRICS. If we further our mutually beneficial cooperation and achieve common development, then it will be a true blessing for Asia and the world.

Two days later, leaders from various countries will meet in Bandung, Indonesia to attend the 60th anniversary of the Asian-African Conference. Six decades ago, the struggle for independence and liberation in Asia, Africa and Latin America surged at the end of the Second World War. A large number of countries, represented by India, gained independence in Asia, Africa and Latin America. These newly independent countries entered the world stage, and joined the efforts aimed at safeguarding world peace. Feeling the pulse of time and echoing the historical trend, China, India and Myanmar jointly initiated the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The ten point Declaration on Promotion of World Peace and Cooperation passed at the Bandung Conference in 1955 further expanded the Five Principles. The Five Principles have been the cornerstone of our respective foreign policies and China-India bilateral relations. The Five Principles not only became the common stand for China and India regarding international relations, but also served as basic norms guiding

state-to-state relations. The Five Principles were a historic contribution to the building of new type of just and equitable international relations and maintaining world peace and stability.

Over the years, the Five Principles have helped us in properly handling our differences left over by history, such as the boundary question. It is noteworthy that not a single shot has been fired in the border regions. China and India has opened the door of friendly cooperation wide. We have pushed forward all-around cooperation in political, economic, cultural and other areas, established the closer partnership of development, become good neighbors and partners across the Himalayas and made great contribution to the peace and stability in the world and region. Our two armies held joint anti-terrorism training exercise last November in Pune, India. Soldiers from our two countries lived under the same roof, ate at the same table and exchanged experiences. The Seventh China-India Defense and Security Consultation concluded in Beijing two weeks ago. We have reached consensus on strengthening cooperation in various areas, such as anti-terrorism exercises, personnel training, security of major events, combating transnational crime, food security and climate change.

Today, both China and India are similarly going through a critical period of seeking the great national rejuvenation. The China-India relations now stand at a new historical starting

point. The destinies of China and India are inextricably linked with the destiny of the world. The peaceful coexistence between China and India will have far-reaching impact on the world's peaceful development. Last September, President Xi Jinping carried out his immensely successful and historical visit to India. Prime Minister Modi will visit China next month. This visit will effectively enrich the connotation of closer development partnership between the two countries, promote China-India relations to a new level and make new contribution to peace and development in Asia and even the whole world.

Dear faculty and Course members,

It is often said that international relations are run by diplomats and soldiers. They combine the soft power and the hard power to attain the objective of upholding national sovereignty and security, and safeguarding the regional and world peace. The great Indian poet Tagore said "We live in this world when we love it." No matter whether one is a diplomat or a soldier, we all deeply love the humanity which is like one big family and bear the responsibility to safeguard and take care of our common homeland. I believe that through our joint efforts, the planet where we live will be more peaceful, much safer and more harmonious. May our children live in genial sunshine and be far away from war, turmoil and fear forever.

Thank you!

China's Economy: From Miracle to New Normal

by Chinese Ambassador to India Mr .Le Yucheng

Last year, China's economic growth decreased to 7.4%, and in the first quarter of this year, came down to 7%. Those accustomed to China's rapid economic growth over years

may come up with the questions: what has happened to China's economy? How should one look at the slow down in China's economic growth?

First of all, I think, overall, China's economy is progressing steadily. Even though its growth rate has come down, it is still one of the fastest among the world's major economies. After more than 30 years of rapid development, China's economy has already crossed the threshold of \$ 10 trillion and is ranked second in the world. Following the increase in the base figures, long-term high speed economic growth has already become unrealistic. It is just like driving a car, sometimes we need to slow down by easing off the accelerator and applying brakes gently to ensure smooth and safe driving.

Second, and more importantly, we can not judge an economy only on the basis of its speed of growth. We have to consider the factors like, whether the overall quality and structure of the economy has improved or not. According to statistics, in the first quarter of this year, although China's economic growth has come down, the industrial structure, income distribution structure, energy efficiency and other aspects have seen positive changes. China's industrial structure is undergoing profound changes. The share of tertiary industry which accounted for 46.7% of the total GDP in 2013, improved to 48.2% in 2014, and increased to 51.6% in this first quarter; the high-tech industries grew by 11.4% in this first quarter; new energy vehicles increased by more than 50%; and the technology services also registered further growth. The income distribution structure continued to improve. The difference of urban and rural incomes in this first quarter was 2.61 times, 0.05 smaller than last year. Energy consumption per unit of GDP fell by 5.6% compared to the same period last year, thus further enhancing the quality and efficiency of economic growth. Overall, China's



A CRH train runs on a bridge on the Yellow River of the Zhengzhou-Jiaozuo railway line, central China's Henan Province, May 4, 2015.

economy is developing smoothly and the quality of development is improving.

Moreover, the size of China's economy has increased dramatically. Even 7% growth amounts to 700 billion US dollars which, in incremental terms, is equal to 11% growth in 2010, and equivalent to a medium-sized country's total GDP. Because of changing demographic structure, rising labor costs, increasing number of industries reaching the forefront of technology in the world, and environment and resource constraints, China's economy can no longer go along the old path of high input, high consumption, and high pollution. Hence, the slowdown is a result of proactive measures taken by the government to regulate the economy, which shows that China's economy has entered a state of "new normal". The gear of economic growth is shifting from high speed to medium-to-high speed, the growth model is transiting from the investment-driven to the innovation-driven, and development is moving from low-to-medium level to medium-to-high level.

I would like to emphasize that there is sufficient and diversified momentum for the future growth of China's economy. As pointed out by Premier Li Keqiang recently, "we have enough tools in our 'toolbox'". Comprehensively

deepening reforms, streamlining administration and delegating power, promoting scientific and technological innovation, accelerating structural adjustment, and stimulating vitality of the market, will together provide new impetus for economic development. China has carried out various reform measures, and actively adapted to the new normal. Although the economic growth has slowed down, China's economic environment is becoming more dynamic. Statistics show an increase of 38.4% in the number of newly registered enterprises in the first quarter of this year. More and more private enterprises have gained great success through technological innovation and pioneering spirit.

On April 23, Chinese company Xiaomi held the global launch event of its latest mobile phone in New Delhi. The event drew great public attention, where more than ten thousand people were vying for about 1000 entry tickets. I learnt during a talk with Lei Jun, the founder and CEO of Xiaomi, that Xiaomi entered the Indian market in July last year and sold more than one million handsets in its first five months in the country. Now they are planning to

establish a data center in India in June this year. What impressed me most is that Xiaomi's output value reached 74.3 billion RMB within four years of starting from scratch. In China there are many such successful companies, such as Huawei, ZTE, Alibaba, Lenovo, etc. They have become an important driving force of China's economic growth. In addition, more and more small, medium and micro-enterprises are also contributing to the growth of China's economy. My hometown is in Jiangsu Province, lots of people there have set up online stores, and they are doing brisk business following the improvements in Chinese e-commerce, e-finance, logistics, warehousing and other industries. According to statistics, there are more than 6 million online stores on Taobao, an e-commerce platform run by Alibaba in China.

In order to achieve win-win cooperation and common development, China has also proposed the "Belt and Road" initiatives, whose objective is to link Asian, European and African economies, push forward policy coordination, road connectivity, unimpeded trade, monetary circulation and mutual understanding between the peoples, and strengthen international



Huawei India, a leading global information and communications technology (ICT) solutions provider.

cooperation in the area of production capacity. The initiatives are needed for expanding and deepening China's opening up, and also for strengthening the mutually beneficial cooperation among the countries along the "Belt and Road". The initiatives will not only promote the healthy development of the Chinese economy but that of the entire region.

As major developing countries, the cooperation between China and India has great potential and broad prospects. Last September, when President Xi Jinping visited India, he announced that China would invest 20 billion US dollars in India in the next five years. In May this year, Prime Minister Modi will visit China. Both sides are preparing a series of cooperative projects and if consensus is reached over them, the agreements could be worth no less than 10 billion US dollars. The cooperation between China and India in railway and for setting up



Xiaomi often makes surprises for Mi fans in the world.

industrial parks is also moving ahead in full swing. I believe that as long as China and India join hands to strengthen cooperation, they will definitely complement each other as "twin engines" of Asia's economic growth, jointly promote the sustainable economic development in Asia, and hasten the arrival of the "Asian Century".

(The article was published in *The Indian Express* on May 2, 2015)

China Welcomes India's Nomination of BRICS Bank Head

Beijing, May 12 (Xinhua) — China on Tuesday welcomed the naming on Monday by India of K.V. Kamath as the first head of the New Development Bank (NDB).

China hopes Kamath will soon head to Shanghai, where the bank's headquarters will be, and lead the pre-management group in charge of the BRICS-led bank, said Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying at a routine press briefing.

Kamath is credited with turning the ICICI Bank into one of India's largest private lenders during his 13 years as managing director and CEO.



He also spent several years working at the Asian Development Bank and is currently non-executive chairman of both ICICI and Indian software giant Infosys.

An interim board of trustees has been appointed to oversee the operationalization of the NDB, South African Finance Minister Nhlamhla Nene said in a speech to parliament on Friday.

During a BRICS summit held in Fortaleza, Brazil, last July, Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa signed agreements to establish the development bank and a contingent reserve arrangement.

The NDB will have initial authorized capital of 100 billion U.S. dollars, and its initial subscribed capital of 50 billion dollars will be equally shared among founding members, according to the Fortaleza Declaration.

As the host country of the NDB office, China will provide full support to the establishment of the bank as well as Kamath's work in Shanghai, said Hua.

BRICS nations agreed that the bank would have a president from India and four vice-

presidents from the other BRICS member countries.

Hua said China had nominated Zhu Xian as its vice president.

Zhu Xian is currently vice president and chief ethics officer in the Office of Ethics and Business Conduct at the World Bank. He also worked in the Ministry of Finance in various capacities and at the Asian Development Bank.

"With sound experience in international cooperation, we believe that Zhu will collaborate with his colleagues to speed up the establishment of the bank and make it operational as soon as possible," said Hua.

Hua said the founding of the NDB was a milestone in the financial cooperation among BRICS nations, with profound significance in promoting infrastructure construction and sustainable development in BRICS nations and other developing countries.

It is important to the reform of global economic governance, she said, adding it will be a useful supplement to existing global and regional multilateral financial institutions.

CHINESE PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN VISIT

Chinese President Attends Russia's V-Day Parade

Moscow, May 9 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping on Saturday attended a grand military parade held in Moscow to mark the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Great Patriotic War, Russia's term for WWII.

Xi was hosted by Russian President Vladimir Putin. There were about 20 leaders of nations and international organizations present in the commemorative event.

China's guards of honor, consisting of 102 members, joined the parade and marched through the Red Square.

It is the first time for Chinese soldiers to participate in Russian Victory Day parades.

China, Russia pledge to remember history, strengthen practical cooperation

Moscow, May 8 (Xinhua) — Visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, on Friday vowed to defend history of World War Two (WWII) and safeguard world peace and international justice.

The two leaders also agreed to promote the



Chinese President Xi Jinping (5th R, front) and his wife Peng Liyuan attend a grand military parade to mark the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Great Patriotic War, with Russian President Vladimir Putin and other leaders, in Moscow, Russia, May 9, 2015. Xi, hosted by Putin, was among more than 20 leaders of countries, regions and international organizations to attend the commemorative event. (Xinhua/Ju Peng)

docking between the China-proposed Silk Road Economic Belt initiative and Russia's aspiration under the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) framework.

Xi, who expressed his pleasure in attending events in Moscow to mark the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Great Patriotic War, recalled the great sacrifices and contributions made by China and Russia, two major battlefields during WWII.

By fighting shoulder to shoulder during the wartime, the two peoples forged a profound friendship, Xi added.

Noting that China and Russia will respectively hold events commemorating the WWII victory, Xi said those celebrations are aimed at remembering history and paying tribute to martyrs while, alongside people of all nations, safeguarding the hard-earned peace and ushering in a bright future for peace and development of all mankind.

"We stand ready to deepen the traditional friendship with the Russian people, promote the docking of our strategies of development, chart the future course for our friendly cooperation, and keep the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination running at a high level," Xi said.

In so doing, he added, the two neighbors will also help build a fairer and more reasonable world order and safeguard regional and global peace, security and stability.

For his part, Putin hailed the comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination between the two countries, noting that it has yielded fruitful results in various fields and at different levels.

Agreeing with Xi's remarks on the historic contributions China and Russia made in WWII, Putin said both countries will oppose any attempt to deny and distort history, and fight against any move to beautify Fascists and



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R, front) and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin hold talks in Moscow, capital of Russia, May 8, 2015. (Xinhua/Ma Zhancheng)

militarists and sling mud to liberators.

In their ninth meeting in two years, Xi and Putin vowed to deepen bilateral cooperation in various fields, especially the docking of the former's Silk Road Economic Belt initiative with the latter's aspiration under the EAEU framework.

The two leaders agreed to expand and deepen China-Russia collaboration from a strategic and broader perspective, further open up to each other, and strengthen the interlinkage of interests.

In so doing, they said, the two nations will better promote each other's development, expand the Eurasian common economic space and help the whole Eurasian continent maintain development and stability.

The two leaders agreed to tap their countries' cooperation potential and expand bilateral collaboration in energy, agriculture, high-speed railway and infrastructure

construction among many other fields.

They also pledged to carry out more youth and media exchanges and strengthen military interaction.

In addition, the two heads of state vowed to boost bilateral cooperation within the frameworks of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, BRICS and the G20.

They also exchanged views on regional and global issues of common concern, including the Korean Peninsula situation and the Iranian nuclear issue, and agreed to maintain close coordination on these issues.

After the talks, Xi and Putin signed two joint statements, in one of which they reiterated their commitment to integrating the Belt initiative with the EAEU construction.

In the other statement, they pledged to further strengthen the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination.



Chinese President Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan pose for a group photo with other leaders and their spouses after a commemorative event marking the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Great Patriotic War, in Moscow, Russia, May 9, 2015. (Xinhua Huang Jingwen)

They also witnessed the signing of a series of cooperation deals on such subjects as energy, transportation, space, finance and media exchanges.

Xi arrived in Moscow earlier Friday for a visit to Russia, where he is scheduled to attend a series of events to mark the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Great Patriotic War.

China's Participation in Victory Day Parade at Moscow's Red Square

The guard of honor of the three services of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) made its official debut on Saturday at a Victory Day parade at Red Square in Moscow.

The 112-member PLA guard of honor arrived here late April and started training and rehearsing for the parade marking the 70th anniversary of the victory of World War II.

The Chinese soldiers are between 18 and 34 years old and all at least 6 feet 2 inches tall.

China and Russia, two major battlefields in WWII, made historical contributions to the

eventual defeat of fascist forces.

China's participation in the parade, a landmark event in China-Russia military exchanges, shows the strength of bilateral ties and their resolve to safeguard world peace.

Nine other countries — Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Serbia and Tajikistan — also dispatched their military units, all in 70-strong formation, to Russia.

In previous rehearsals for the event, the uniformed Chinese servicemen strode forward in strict formation with a valiant posture and synchronized steps, drawing applause from both their foreign counterparts and Russian audience.

During a night rehearsal on April 29, the Chinese soldiers marched with famous Russian song "Katyusha" as background music in a show of respect to veterans of the Great Patriotic War, the Russian term of WWII.

As a matter of fact, it is the fifth time that the PLA guard of honor has marched on foreign soil.

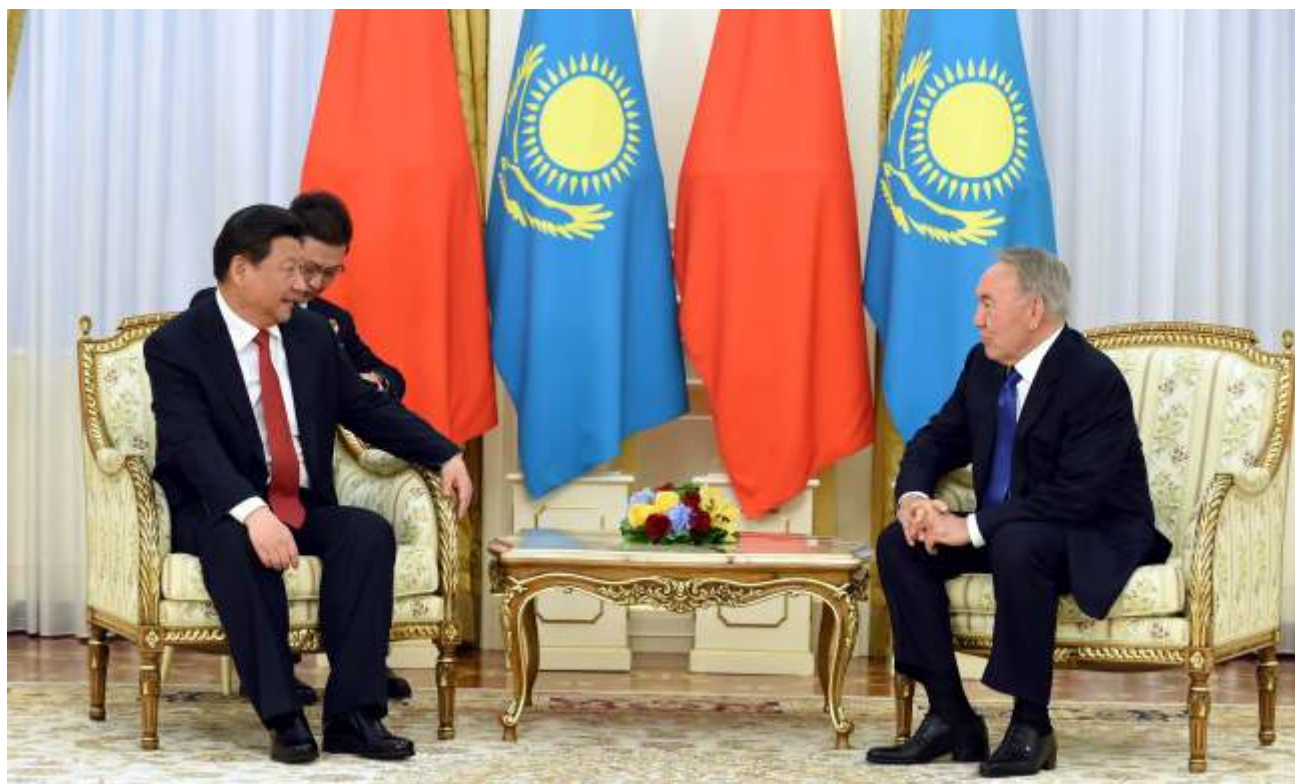
In 2013, the Chinese guard of honor marched in Mexico City in a military parade marking the 203th anniversary of Mexico's independence and the 100th birthday of the Mexican Army.

Also in Mexico, a 34-member Chinese team staged a stunning performance at the host country's independence bicentennial in 2011, the first time for PLA honor guard to participate in a military parade abroad.



The guard of honor of the three services of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) take part in the military parade marking the 70th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War, in Moscow, Russia, May 9, 2015. (Xinhua/Jia Yuchen)

China, Kazakhstan to Align Development Strategies for Common Prosperity



Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) holds talks with Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev in Astana, Kazakhstan, May 7, 2015. (Xinhua/Rao Aimin)

Astana, May 7 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Kazakh counterpart Nursultan Nazarbayev agreed here on Thursday that the two countries will align their development strategies in pursuit of common prosperity.

“We are ready to align the (China-proposed) Silk Road Economic Belt initiative to Kazakhstan’s new economic policy of the Bright Road, so as to achieve common development and prosperity on the basis of equality and reciprocity,” Xi said during the talks.

The Chinese president, along with his wife Peng Liyuan, arrived in Astana Thursday afternoon for a visit to Kazakhstan.

It was the first leg of his second overseas tour this year, which will also take him to Russia and Belarus.

Recalling his first visit to Kazakhstan in September 2013 when he raised the Silk Road Economic Belt initiative, Xi said the Chinese

side thought highly of the early harvest of the cooperation between the two countries on building the economic belt.

He said China and Kazakhstan should continue to boost cooperation on infrastructure, energy, finance, security, and cultural and people-to-people exchanges.

Echoing Xi, Nazarbayev said Kazakhstan backs China’s initiative and stands ready to be an important partner of China to build the Silk Road Economic Belt.

Kazakhstan will work with China to link the Bright Road strategy to the building of the Belt, and cooperate with the Chinese side on trade, industrial capacity, energy and technology, Nazarbayev said.

During the talks, Xi congratulated Nazarbayev on his re-election as Kazakh president.

Nazarbayev won the election on April 26, garnering more than 97.7 percent of the votes.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (3rd L) holds talks with Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev (3rd R) in Astana, Kazakhstan, May 7, 2015. (Xinhua/Rao Aimin)

Hailing the fast development of the bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership over the past years, Xi said China attaches great importance to its ties with Kazakhstan and is ready to work with the Kazakh side to elevate economic, security and people-to-people cooperation bilaterally, and strengthen coordination in international and regional affairs.

The Chinese president also voiced China's support for Kazakhstan's bid to host EXPO-2017, which will focus on the theme "Future Energy."

Xi said China pays much attention to the work as chair of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), and will work together with Kazakhstan and other countries concerned to make the conference an efficient platform for promoting consensus, unity and mutual trust among Asian countries.

China's presidency will last till May 2016.

Nazarbayev said Kazakhstan is firmly committed to the friendship with China and will deepen cooperation with China in various fields.

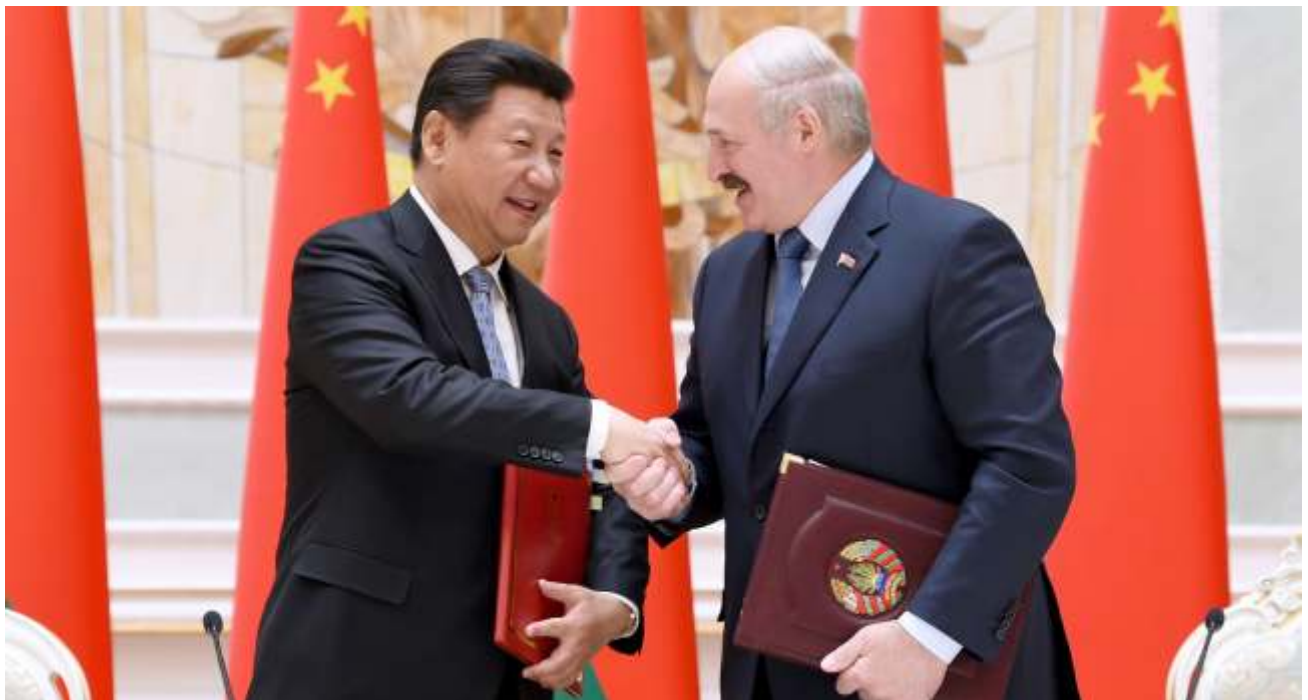
He said the Kazakh side supports Xi's proposal of building a community of common destiny in Asia, which is in line with the historical trend as well as in the interests of countries in the region.

Kazakhstan is ready to work more closely with China under the framework of the CICA and that of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Nazarbayev said.

During the talks, the two presidents also discussed the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the situation in Central Asia, among others.

Before the talks, Nazarbayev held a red-carpet ceremony to welcome the Chinese president at the presidential palace in Astana.

China, Belarus Vow to Combine Development Strategies, Boost Partnership



Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) shakes hands with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko during the signing of a treaty of friendship and cooperation and a joint statement on deepening cooperation after their talks in Minsk, capital of Belarus, May 10, 2015. (Xinhua/Xie Huanchi)

Minsk, May 10 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Belarusian counterpart, Alexander Lukashenko, pledged on Sunday to combine strategies of development and boost the comprehensive strategic partnership between their two countries.

“I hope the two sides will take the opportunity of our meeting to turn the high-level political relationship into more substantial and practical outcomes, and work together to open up a new era for the China-Belarus comprehensive strategic partnership,” Xi said as he held talks with the Belarusian president.

Xi arrived in Minsk Sunday morning for a three-day state visit to Belarus, the first by a Chinese head of state in 14 years.

China and Belarus are good friends and good partners that trust and help each other, Xi said, highlighting the smooth development over the past years, especially since the announcement of the partnership in 2013.

During Sunday's talks, Xi proposed the two countries build a community of common interests and common destiny.

China and Belarus should enhance political trust and always support each other's view on development and the path of development, Xi said.

He suggested the two sides should combine their development strategies and work together to build the Silk Road Economic Belt, emphasizing the significance of the China-Belarus Industrial Park.

The Chinese president wanted to make the industrial park a “pearl” on the Belt, or an exemplary project of reciprocal cooperation between the two countries.

He also mentioned the cooperation on trade, housing for low-income families, infrastructure construction, electricity, industrial modernization and financing on a win-win basis.

Xi called for more people-to-people

exchanges and closer sub-national government-to-government cooperation.

This year, 100 Belarusian university students will be invited to attend education exchange programs in China, he added.

As this year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations, Xi said China and Belarus should strengthen coordination in international and regional affairs to safeguard their common interests and to promote a new type of international relations centered on win-win cooperation.

The Chinese president also pointed out that this year marks the 70th anniversary of the victory of both China's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War. The former war started earlier and lasted longer than the latter, he said.

The Chinese people and Belarusian people made great sacrifices and immense contributions to the victory against fascism and militarism, he said.

“The purpose of our commemorative activities is to recall history, commemorate martyrs, cherish peace and sound a warning for the future,” the Chinese president said.

Lukashenko said that it is of great significance for President Xi to pay a state visit to Belarus on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Great Patriotic War.

The Belarusian side values its ties with China, Lukashenko said, noting that his country thanks the Chinese government and people for attaching great importance to the friendly cooperation with Belarus and offer strong support for the country without any political strings attached.

The two countries, he said, have seen a rapid development of exchanges and cooperation in various areas since they established a comprehensive strategic partnership in 2013, including the economy and trade, investment, people-to-people and cultural sectors.

The cooperative ties between the two

countries have reached an unprecedented high level, he said.

Lukashenko stressed that Belarus is now speeding up efforts and taking effective measures to implement the development plan for the China-Belarus comprehensive strategic partnership from 2014 to 2018.

Belarus is endeavoring to advance practical exchanges and cooperation with China in industry, transport, real estate, telecommunications and other fields, especially in carrying out cooperation in infrastructure, finance and investment in Belarus, he said.

The Belarusian side is willing to work with the Chinese side to promote bilateral trade and strengthen cooperation in science and technology, tourism, education and other areas, he said.

Lukashenko underscored that Belarus fully supports the China-proposed initiatives of building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, and that his country is ready to become an important pillar

of the initiatives.

He also voiced support for expanding people-to-people and cultural exchanges and cooperation with China.

Citing Xi's remarks upon arrival at the airport in Minsk that the youths are the future, Lukashenko said he fully agrees with the idea, and that many young Belarusians are studying the Chinese language with enthusiasm, fostering the future of the friendly relations between the two countries.

He noted that both Belarus and China are victorious nations of WWII. Belarus gives a high appraisal to the immense contributions made by the Chinese people to the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War, Lukashenko said, and it supports China in holding commemorative activities to mark the 70th anniversary of the victory of both China's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War.

The two leaders also exchanged views on international and regional issues of mutual concern.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (8th, L) and Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko (9th, L) meet with 15 Belarusian World War Two (WWII) veterans at the Belarusian State Museum of the Great Patriotic War in Minsk, capital of Belarus, May 11, 2015. (Xinhua/Xie Huanchi)

After the talks, Xi and Lukashenko signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation and a joint statement on further deepening the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries.

It is a cornerstone of the China-Belarus comprehensive strategic partnership to support each other on national sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, security, development and other issues involving their core interests and major concern, said the joint statement.

It said the two sides will take measures to enlarge trade volume, improve the structure of trade, increase mutual investment and boost technology cooperation between the two countries.

In addition, the "three evil forces" of terrorism, extremism and separatism remain serious threats to the security and stability in the Eurasia region. China and Belarus will encourage closer cooperation to fight them as well as drug-related crimes, human trafficking and other trans-border organized crimes, according to the statement.

The two countries also voiced support for necessary and reasonable reforms of the United Nations and its Security Council in the statement.

China and Belarus agreed that developing countries should have more say in the Security Council, and that medium- and small-sized countries should have more accession to the Security Council in rotation, said the statement.

They called for comprehensive and democratic consultations to find out a package solution to the Security Council reform, with the interests and concern of all sides taken into consideration, rather than setting a timetable for the reform or advancing immature motions forcibly.

The two countries also voiced their common stance on human rights, opposing double standard or politicization on human rights, said the statement.

According to the statement, Xi also invited Lukashenko to visit China when convenient for both sides.

They also witnessed the signing of a series of cooperative documents covering politics, culture, economy, technology, education, local government cooperation and other sectors.

In addition, the two leaders met reporters after their talks. Xi described the talks as "fruitful," saying the two leaders defined the key areas and direction for the two countries to deepen cooperation in the next period to come.

Xi said that the two sides agreed to take building the Silk Road Economic Belt as an opportunity to deepen all-round and practical cooperation between the two countries.

Both sides also agreed to, together with all peace-loving people in the world, firmly safeguard the fruits of the victory of WWII, jointly promote a more just and equitable international order and international system, and endeavor to realize the lofty ideal of everlasting peace for humankind.

For his part, Lukashenko pledged to strengthen all-dimensional cooperation with China and enhance communication and coordination with China on international and regional affairs.

Belarus supports and will actively participate in the China-proposed initiative of building the Silk Road Economic Belt, he said.

He also told reporters that the two countries will jointly commemorate the 70th anniversary of the victory against fascism and militarism.

Before the talks, Lukashenko held a grand welcome ceremony for Xi and his wife, Peng Liyuan, at the Independence Palace. He even personally went to Xi's car to meet the Chinese guests. Accompanied by Lukashenko, Xi reviewed the Belarusian honor guards.

On Sunday evening, Xi planted a spruce tree at the palace in token of the friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

Xi Raises Three-Point Proposal on Carrying Forward Bandung Spirit



Chinese President Xi Jinping (L) delivers a speech at the opening ceremony of the Asian-African Summit 2015 in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia, April 22, 2015. (Xinhua/Lan Hongguang)

Jakarta, April 22 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping on Wednesday urged Asian and African nations to carry forward the Bandung Spirit and work together to promote the building of a community of common destiny for all mankind.

Speaking at an Asian-African summit here, Xi brought forth a three-point proposal on realizing that grand vision in line with the time-honored Bandung Spirit of solidarity, friendship and cooperation, which he said remains relevant and potent today.

The first is to boost Asia-Africa cooperation, he said, suggesting that countries on the two continents pursue all-win common development, align their development strategies, and translate their economic complementarity into a driving force for common growth.

The second is to expand South-South cooperation, Xi added, pointing out that developing countries, faced with similar missions of speeding up development and improving people's living conditions, need to join their forces and march forward together.

Meanwhile, the Chinese president also called on Asian and African countries to beef up cooperation with developing countries in Latin America, the South Pacific and other regions.

The third is to promote South-North cooperation, Xi said, stressing that cooperation between the developing and developed camps should be based on mutual respect and equality.

It is a binding obligation of the developed countries to help boost the development of their developing peers and narrow down the South-North gap, added the Chinese president.

The developed countries, he suggested,

should fulfill their aid pledges and increase their assistance for the developing world with no political strings attached.

Meanwhile, the president said his country will work with relevant parties to jointly advance the "Belt and Road" initiative and the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and make better use of the Silk Road Fund.

China, said Xi, will provide 100,000 training opportunities for developing nations in Asia and Africa in the coming five years.

In addition, a total of 2,000 Asian and African young men and women will be invited to visit China and attend a series of youth get-togethers, said the president.

In his opening remarks, Indonesian President Joko Widodo said the Bandung Conference, which was held 60 years ago, demonstrated the solidarity of Asian and African countries.

Given the prominent inequalities and

injustices in the international community, said Joko, the Bandung Spirit still holds realistic significance today.

Indonesia, he added, stands ready to work together with other developing countries to advance the building of a fair and justified world political and economic order.

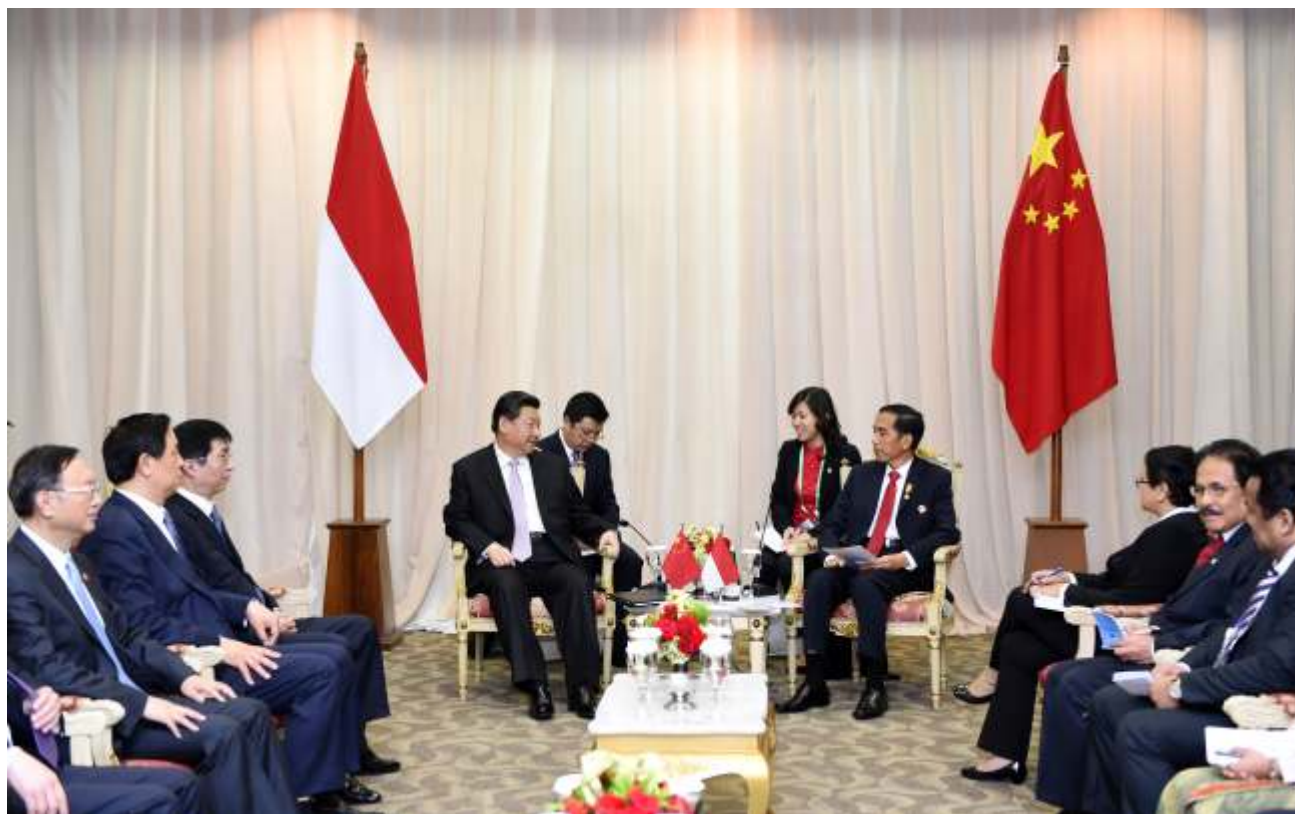
Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said in his speech that the African continent is facing arduous development tasks and is in urgent need of international assistance in key areas such as infrastructure.

He added that Asian and African countries should carry on the Bandung Spirit, consolidate their unity and make joint efforts in building a fair and balanced international order.

The two-day summit is expected to adopt three documents — the Bandung Message, the Declaration of Re-invigorating New Asia-Africa Strategic Partnership and the Declaration on Palestine.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (8th L, front) and other leaders and representatives pose for a group photo at the opening ceremony of the Asian-African Summit in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia, April 22, 2015. (Xinhua/Zhang Duo)



Chinese President Xi Jinping (4th L) meets with Indonesian President Joko Widodo in Jakarta, Indonesia, April 22, 2015. (Xinhua/Xie Huanchi)

Bandung Spirit Still Relevant in Today's World

Jakarta, April 21 (Xinhua) — Sixty years ago, delegates from 29 Asian and African countries gathered in Bandung, Indonesia for a conference to decide their own future and destiny. That conference gave birth to the Bandung Spirit, calling for solidarity, friendship and cooperation, seeking common ground while shelving differences, and pursuing common development.

More than half a century has passed, drastic and profound changes have taken place in the world. The Bandung Spirit, which upholds principles of solidarity, friendship and cooperation, still holds significant importance for Asian and African nations and the international community as a whole.

Following the Asian-African Conference in 1955, the Bandung Spirit served as an important foundation for building a new

international political and economic order that is just and equitable, and provided guidance for developing countries to seek strength through unity and cooperation.

The Bandung Spirit, containing the Ten Principles of Bandung on handling state-to-state relations and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, became a widely recognized set of norms for international relations.

Those principles represented a just call for independence, dignity and equality from the oppressed nations, serving as a guiding principle for countries with the same or different social systems to build and grow friendly relation.

The principles also pointed out an effective way for seeking peaceful solutions to outstanding historical issues and disputes in the world, thus making historic contributions to the solidarity and cooperation among Asian and African countries.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with Myanmar President U Thein Sein in Jakarta, Indonesia, April 22, 2015. (Xinhua/Xie Huanchi)

Sixty years after the Bandung Conference, the world once again finds itself at a historical juncture amid complicated changes. This time, multi-polarity and globalization are gathering momentum. Countries are becoming increasingly interdependent with a stronger sense of community of common destiny.

In today's Asia and Africa, developing countries are rising as a group. The two continents are leading the world in terms of both development potential and dynamism. This is attributable to the united efforts of peoples on these two continents, and also to the guidance of the Bandung Spirit.

The Bandung Spirit is still needed today as Asian and African countries are faced with the daunting tasks of upholding national security

and social stability, accelerating economic and social development, as well as improving people's living standards.

For the world at large, a set of new challenges have also arisen. Traditional and non-traditional security threats are intertwined, the North-South gap is yet to be narrowed, and the balance on economic development and environmental protection needs to be better addressed. To meet these challenges, the Bandung Spirit, which upholds the values of solidarity, friendship and cooperation, can be the most relevant and effective guidelines.

At this historical moment, as Asian-African leaders will gather in Bandung to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Asian- African

Conference, the world needs to join hands so as to carry forward the Bandung Spirit and work tirelessly for the common dignity and wellbeing of all human beings.

60 Years on, China Carries on Bandung Spirit

Beijing, April 22 (Xinhua) — At the 60th anniversary of the 1955 Bandung Conference, leaders from Africa and Asia gathered to carry forward the Bandung spirit.

At Wednesday's Afro-Asian summit 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for a more just and equitable international order and a community of common destiny for mankind.

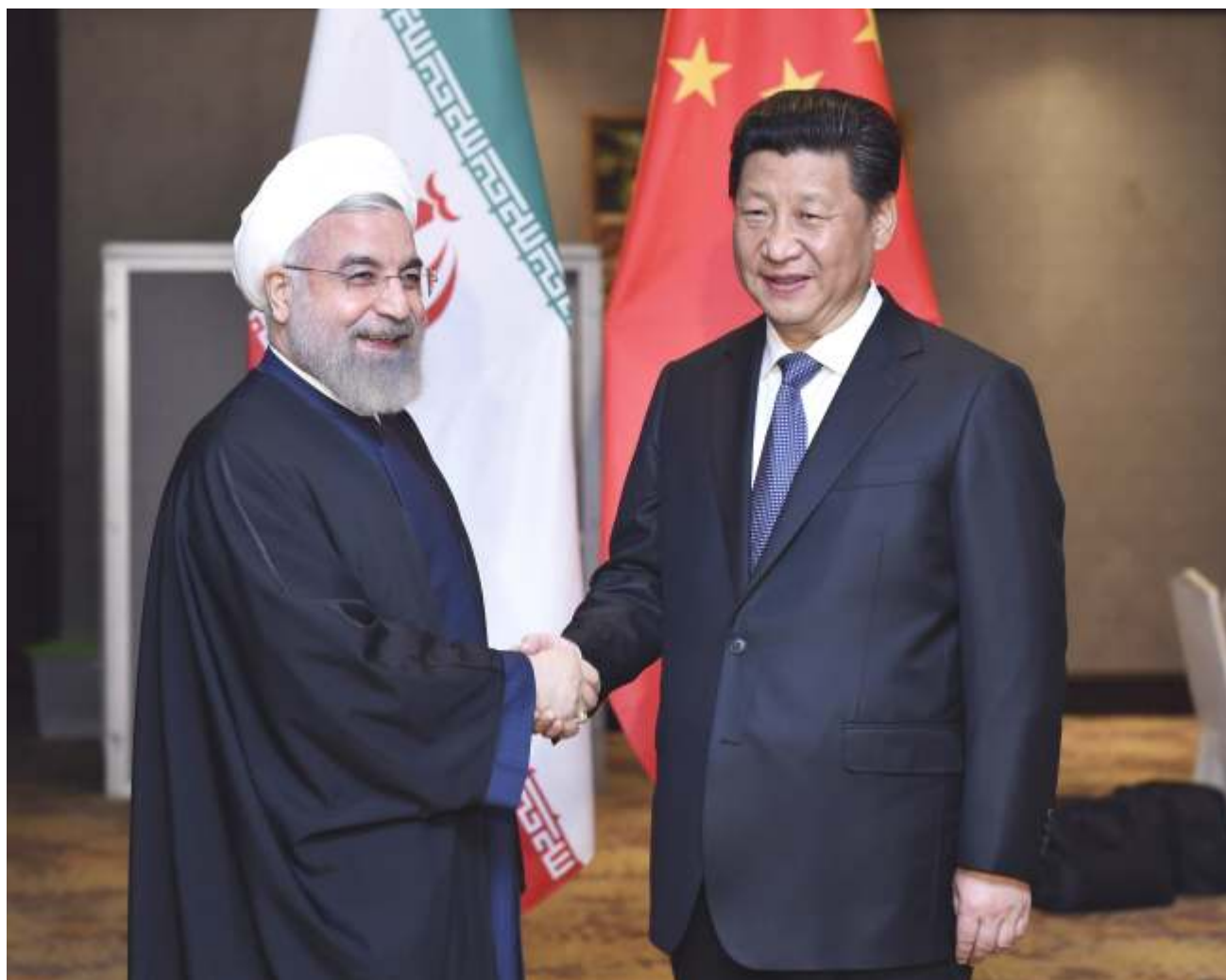
The Bandung spirit of solidarity, friendship

and cooperation remains relevant and potent today, and the concept of "common destiny" is of great importance, not only to Asia and Africa, but to the whole world.

Sixty years ago, Asian and African leaders gathered to oppose colonialism and neocolonialism, with late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai advocating "peaceful coexistence" and "seeking common ground while shelving differences."

Increasingly prosperous, China's will and ability to promote cooperation among Asian and African countries and beyond demonstrate its respect for the basic tenets of international relations as well as the will to improve them.

To share China's development with other countries, Xi has promised 100,000 training



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia, April 23, 2015 . (Xinhua Zhang Duo)

opportunities for developing nations in the next five years.

Asian-African cooperation is key to South-South cooperation. The two continents boast three quarters of the global population and more than half of UN member states. Faced with similar missions to improve living conditions, these countries can cooperate in infrastructure, agriculture, human resources, green energy and environmental protection.

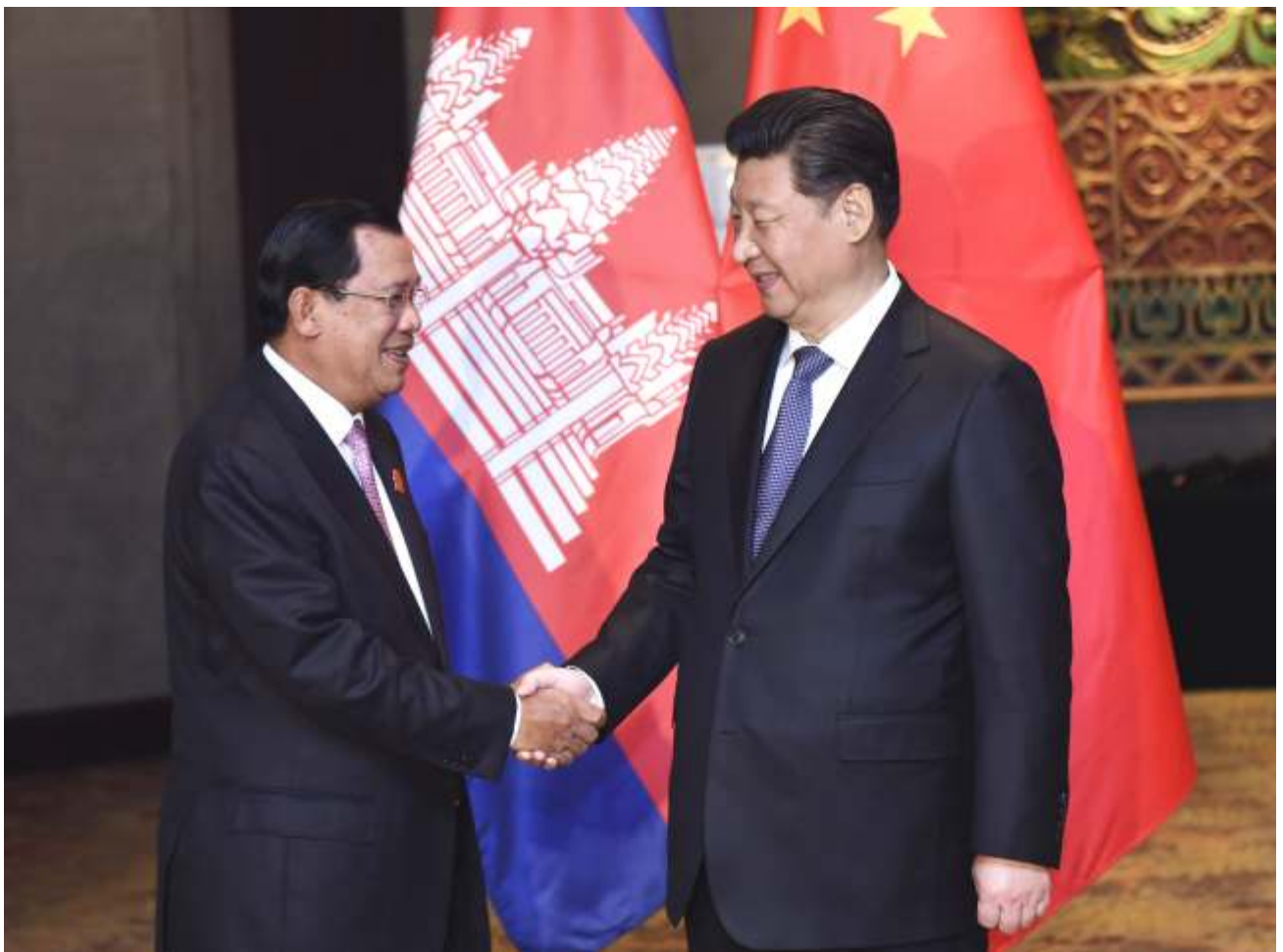
Collaboration is not a zero-sum game. The Cold War mentality should be dropped and

infrastructure projects.

Xi's initiative is an ambitious vision, in line with China's wish to share development with the rest of the world.

Historic Bandung Spirit Inspires Modern Asia-Africa Cooperation

Bandung, Indonesia, April 24 (Xinhua) — Shoulder to shoulder and step by step, a dedicated team of Asian and African leaders literally followed the trail of their iconic



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia, April 23, 2015. (Xinhua/Zhang Duo)

win-win cooperation upheld.

Many of the countries at Wednesday's summit are already closely linked to China on the economic front, the China-proposed Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road, international trade and

predecessors on Friday with a highly symbolic stroll in this Indonesian city of legacy.

With the "historic walk" from Savoy Homann Hotel to Gedung Merdeka, or the Independence Building, the constellation sent out a clear message: They also see eye to eye and agree

heart to heart on carrying forward the time-honored Bandung Spirit and further boosting Asia-Africa cooperation.

Sixty years after the landmark 1955 Bandung Conference, the two continents and the entire world have grown into "a closely intertwined community of common destiny," Chinese President Xi Jinping, who took part in the commemorative event, pointed out in a speech Wednesday at an Asia-Africa summit in Jakarta.

Under the new circumstances, the Bandung Spirit of solidarity, friendship and cooperation remains relevant and potent, Xi said, suggesting that the two vibrant continents continue their time-tested partnership in order to build a more equitable and reasonable international order for the benefit of their own people and those well beyond.

"The Chinese Delegation has come here to seek unity and not to quarrel, ... to seek common ground and not to create divergences," then Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai said at the Bandung Conference, the first large-scale Asia-Africa conference.

The emphatic remarks by the charismatic Chinese leader gave away the enormous ideological, historical and other differences between the more than two dozen participating nations.

Yet the straightforward statement also embodied the pragmatism of the Chinese mission, which worked flexibly with its counterparts to unite those disparate nations around their largest common denominator — their aspiration for national independence and peaceful coexistence.

Upholding the Bandung Spirit, those mostly newly independent countries, a major part of what was later known as the Third World, choose a third path besides the Soviet and U.S. orbits and converged to become a political force to be reckoned with on the world stage.

Sixty years later, the international landscape has undergone profound changes, yet the Bandung Principles remain the

cornerstone of international relations, and the Asia-Africa bond has never weakened, said Li Renliang, a professor at Thailand's National Institute of Development Administration.

Indeed, in the increasingly globalized modern world, the interests of the two and also all other continents have become inseparably intertwined and their futures closely interlinked in a community of common destiny for all mankind that is coming into shape.

Take China as an example. The Asian giant is now Africa's largest trading partner, and has contributed one fifth of the continent's economic growth, according to the International Monetary Fund.

For the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), China is not only its largest trading partner but also the largest importer of its products, and the two sides are looking to upgrade their free trade deal this year.

In the new era, the Chinese president proposed in his Wednesday speech, Asian and African nations should continue to be good friends, good partners and good brothers that always stands together in weal and woe and in thick and thin.

Setting off from the heart of Zambia's copper belt in Kapiri Mposhi, locomotives rumbled east along a 1,860-km railway to the port of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania.

It is through this transnational railway, popularly known as the TAZARA and distinguished as one of China's biggest aid projects in the 1970s, that landlocked Zambia finds its way out to the Indian Ocean.

The rail link serves as a typical case of China's decades-long support for Africa's development, and a telling example of the increasingly strong economic dimension of the ever closer cooperation between the two dynamic continents.

With the days of global colonialism and the Cold War long gone, the focus of Asia-Africa cooperation has shifted from political aspirations to economic ambitions, but the Bandung Spirit remains relevant.

As disparity between the rich and the poor remains gaping, noted Professor Yang Baoyun, a well-known scholar with Thammasat University of Thailand, it is important for Asian and African countries to reinvigorate the Bandung Spirit and unite in their new common struggle, this time for economic prosperity.

The two continents have already become robust powerhouses for global growth, and their combined economic output reached 29 trillion U.S. dollars last year, accounting for 37.5 percent of the world's total and equaling 47 times the 1970 volume.

Given that they make up nearly half of the world's landmass and 70 percent of the population and their economies are highly complementary, their cooperation has enormous potential yet to be explored.

However, the way forward is fraught with pitfalls and hurdles. While some are faced with

the so-called middle-income trap, some others are still exploring their own development paths.

Asian and African countries, Xi suggested, need to boost win-win cooperation and create the "one plus one greater than two" effect, by aligning their development strategies and translating their economic complementarity into a driving force for common growth.

In addition, the Chinese president called for closer South-South and South-North cooperation, and urged the developed countries to honor their aid pledges for their developing peers and offer more assistance with no political strings attached.

Xi's Wednesday speech, particularly his proposal, opened up a new chapter in Asia-Africa interaction, as the content and prospect of the cross-continental cooperation has become ever richer and brighter, said Tang Zhimin, director of China-ASEAN Studies under



Chinese President Xi Jinping and other Asian and African leaders take part in a highly symbolic stroll to commemorate the historic 1955 Bandung Conference in Bandung, Indonesia, April 24, 2015. (Xinhua/Li Xueren)

the Bangkok-based Panyapiwat Institute of Management.

China has for long played a constructive and exemplary role in Asia-Africa cooperation, bringing out new visions and practical initiatives for the two continents to prosper side by side.

“China is an active champion and driver of Asia-Africa unity and cooperation. ... Under the new circumstances, China will continue to unswervingly promote Asia-Africa cooperation,” Xi told the leaders and dignitaries from about 100 nations at the Jakarta summit.

During his visits to Kazakhstan and Indonesia in 2013, Xi put forward the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road initiatives, in a bid to rejuvenate win-win cooperation among nations along the ancient trade routes.

Thanks to the two comprehensive projects, Silk Road countries will be able to take a ride on the express train of China’s economic growth, said Asanga Abeyagoonasekera, executive director of Sri Lanka’s Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute for International Relations and Strategic Studies.

The Belt and Road initiatives, echoed former Pakistani Foreign Secretary Akram Zakisaid, are aimed not just at a revival of the

historical Silk Road, but also at achieving co-prosperity in a peaceful way.

Meanwhile, the China-initiated Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), dedicated to improving regional infrastructure, is expected to start operation by the end of this year.

The enthusiasm that prompted 57 countries, including many from outside Asia, to join the AIIB as founding members is an eloquent testament to the all-win nature of the initiative.

China, Xi reaffirmed in Jakarta, stands ready to work with interested nations to realize the Belt and Road vision, build the AIIB into a high-quality and all-win institution and achieve common development and prosperity.

Also at the summit, Xi announced that China will, among other programs, provide 100,000 training opportunities for Asian and African developing nations in the coming five years and set up a China-Asia-Africa cooperation center.

Samuel Stevquoah, chief of staff at the office of Liberia’s vice president, said he highly appreciates China’s provision of training opportunities for developing countries.

“This is very important for us. We always look for opportunities to build the youth’s capacity and make them stronger,” he said.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Chinese Leaders Meet with U S Secretary of State John Kerry

Beijing, May 17 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in Beijing on Sunday, discussing his forthcoming state visit to the United States in September.

Recalling U.S. President Barack Obama’s visit to China in November last year, Xi said he

looked forward to continuing to talk with the U.S. president in September in a “candid and in-depth” way on the bilateral ties and other major issues to further expand cooperation and benefit the people of the two countries as well as the world at large.

The consensus between Xi and Obama to



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) meets with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in Beijing, capital of China May 17, 2015
(Xinhua Li Tao)

build a new model of major-country relationship is in the common interests of China and the United States, he said.

“In my view, the China-U.S. relationship remains stable on the whole,” Xi told Kerry during Sunday’s meeting at the Great Hall of the People.

“The new type of China-U.S. relationship has witnessed early harvest.”

During the meeting he highlighted new progress on trade, investment, the number of visitors to each other’s territory, energy, and military-to-military and people-to-people exchanges.

China and the United States have also been in close communication on major regional and global issues, said the Chinese president, suggesting the two sides expand practical cooperation to make their new type of relationship more fruitful.

“Meanwhile, the two sides should manage, control and handle disputes in an appropriate way so that the general direction of the bilateral relationship will not be affected,” said the president.

“The broad Pacific Ocean is vast enough to embrace both China and the United States,” Xi reiterated.

He hoped that the two sides would work together to enhance mutual trust, reduce doubt, and boost cooperation through more dialogues, to ensure that the bilateral ties would consistently grow along the right track of the new type of major-country relationship.

Echoing Xi’s evaluation of the bilateral ties, Kerry said the extensive cooperation between the United States and China had shown the world the important roles of the two nations in addressing major international and regional issues.



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R) meets with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in Beijing, capital of China, May 16, 2015. (Xinhua/Xie Huanchi)

It also proved that the two sides were able to manage their disputes in a matured manner, said the U.S. official.

Kerry highlighted the cooperation between the two countries on climate change, fighting against Ebola and the Iranian nuclear issue, hoping for more cooperation between the two countries.

Kerry said President Obama looks forward to continuing to exchange views with President Xi on issues of common concern during his state visit to the United States in September, which the secretary of state said will be an important event for the bilateral ties.

The U.S. will work together with China to make preparation for Xi's visit, Kerry said.

Chinese Premier Urges U.S. to Constructively Handle Disputes

Beijing, May 16 (Xinhua) — Chinese

Premier Li Keqiang urged the United States to handle and control disputes with China in a constructive manner, and do more to promote the mutual trust and regional cooperation.

He told U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry that China was ready, on the basis of mutual respect and equality, to strengthen exchanges and communication with the United States, increase coordination on the bilateral ties, major international and regional issues and global challenges, and realize inclusiveness and cooperation in Asia-Pacific and broader areas.

Kerry, on his part, said the two countries should commit to common development instead of competing with each other. The two sides should strengthen communication and coordination through mechanisms such as the Strategic and Economic Dialog (SED).

Li said China will continue to reform and open up. He called on the two sides to speed



Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi (R) meets with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in Beijing, capital of China, May 16, 2015. (Xinhua/Xie Huanchi)

up the negotiation on investment agreement, promote negotiation on negative list with constructive efforts and try to achieve a high-level and balanced result. The two sides could also cooperate with the third parties, Li noted.

Kerry echoed Li saying the two sides should step up the negotiation.

With regard to the climate change, Li said this is an important area for the bilateral cooperation.

China is a developing country and has made unremitting efforts to cope with the climate change. China was ready to work with the United States to strengthen policy communication, abide by the principle of

common but differentiated responsibilities, and implement the consensus already reached and commitment, Li noted.

Li hoped developed countries could increase technology transfer and experience sharing to help developing countries cope with climate change.

Kerry agreed with Li that the two countries should strengthen cooperation in this regard.

He also voiced hope for more cooperation in areas including Africa's health, education and infrastructure.

Li and Kerry also discussed international and regional issues of common concern.

The meeting was held in downtown Beijing after Kerry's talks with Foreign Minister Wang

Yi. State Councilor Yang Jiechi also met Kerry on Saturday afternoon.

China's Will to Safeguard Sovereignty "Unshakable": Foreign Minister

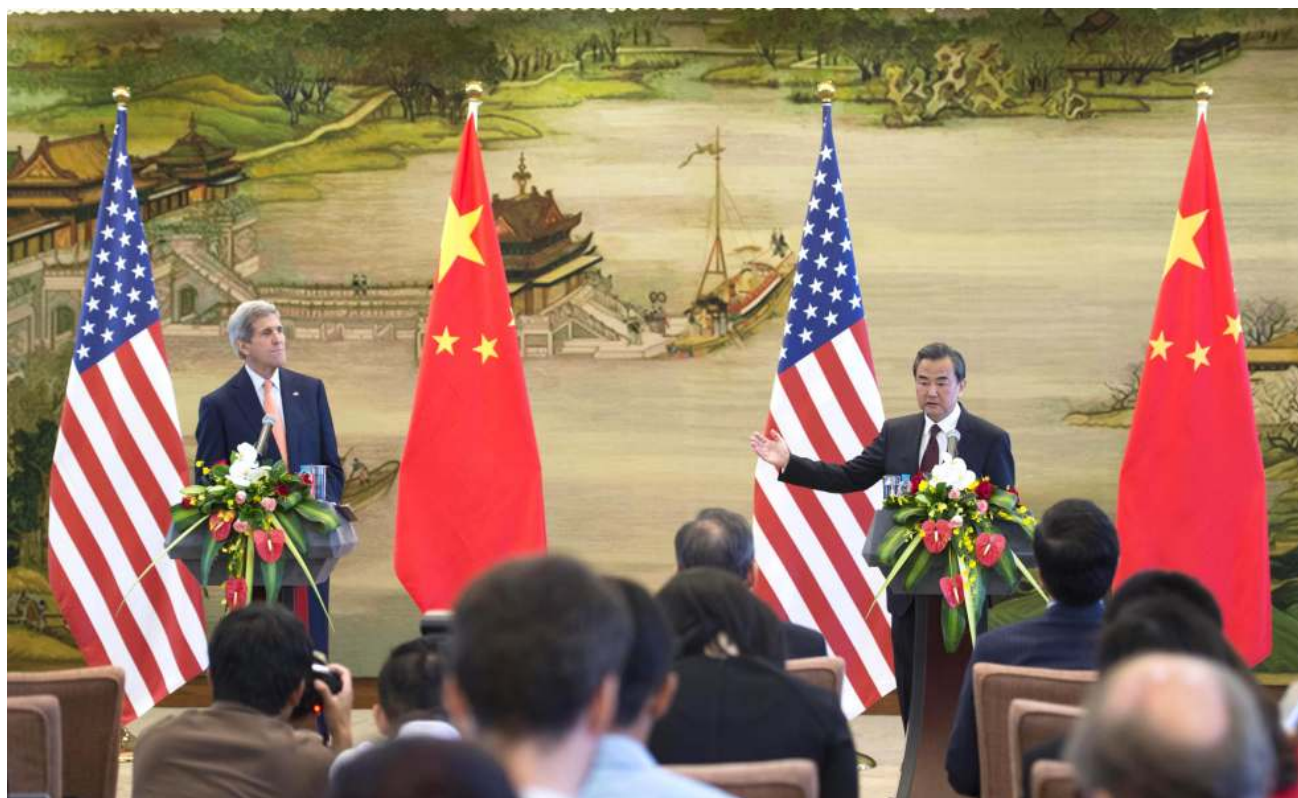
Beijing, May 16 (Xinhua) — China's determination to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity is "unshakable", Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Saturday.

"The determination of the Chinese side to

As to the concerns of related parties, the minister said China is willing to dialogue with them to promote mutual understanding, and that such dialogues are already underway between China and ASEAN countries.

China is also willing to conduct necessary dialogue with the United States on the basis of mutual respect, Wang said.

He acknowledged that China and the U.S. do have differences on the South China Sea issue, but noted the two sides also share common ground.



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi (R rear) and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry (L rear) attend a joint press conference after their talks in Beijing capital of China May 16, 2015. (Xinhua Xie Huanchi)

safeguard our own sovereignty and territorial integrity is as firm as a rock and it is unshakable," Wang said at a joint press conference with visiting U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry.

"China's development on some of the islands and reefs in Nansha is something fully within the scope of China's sovereignty," Wang said.

"We are both committed to maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea, and to safeguarding freedom of navigation as defined by international law. We both stand for dialogue so as to solve the disputes peacefully," Wang said.

"It's OK to have differences, but we must not misunderstand each other, and certainly we must avoid miscalculation," Wang said.

China Provides Assistance to Nepal Over Disastrous Earthquake

Beijing, April 25 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping on Saturday sent a message of condolences to Nepalese President Ram Baran Yadav over a disastrous earthquake in the country, which has caused a huge loss of property and lives.

On behalf of the Chinese government and people, as well as in his own name, Xi offered his deep condolences to the victims in the powerful earthquake, and offered sincere sympathies to those injured and families of the victims.

In his message, the Chinese president also expressed his confidence in the Nepalese government, under the leadership of Yadav, to combat the disaster and China's willingness to provide all necessary assistance.

China Offers 20 Mln Yuan in Humanitarian Aid to Quake-hit Nepal

Beijing, April 26 (Xinhua) — The Chinese government has decided to provide 20 million yuan (3.3 million U.S. dollars) in humanitarian aid to Nepal following the massive earthquake, according to the Ministry of Commerce on Sunday.

The aid, including supplies of tents, blankets and generators, will be delivered to Nepal by chartered planes, the ministry said, adding China will offer further support according to Nepal's demands.

A massive 8.1-magnitude quake shook



Members of China International Search and Rescue Team transfer a survivor in Kathmandu, capital of Nepal, on April 26, 2015. China International Search and Rescue Team rescued the first survivor during its humanitarian mission following a fatal quake in Nepal. (Xinhua/Bai Yang)

Nepal at 2:11 p.m. (Beijing Time), killing more than 2,000 people in the country.

A 62-member China International Search and Rescue Team (CISAR) arrived in Nepal's capital Katmandu at Sunday noon and started quake-relief work, according to the China Earthquake Administration.

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The CISAR was the first international heavy rescue team to arrive in the country, which was jolted by an 8.1-magnitude earthquake.

The team set off at 6 a.m. Sunday Beijing time aboard a chartered plane and arrived in Nepal's capital city at about 12 a.m.

The team consists of 62 members, including

rescuers, medical staff, earthquake experts and engineers, as well as six dogs well-trained for search and rescue.

The team has dispatched members to conduct field surveys and safety analysis in quake-hit zones, according to the administration.

Chinese Army Rescuers, Field Hospital Start Operation in Quake-devastated Nepal

Kathmandu, April 29 (Xinhua) — A joint task force of rescuers and medical staff from the Chinese army has started joining the rescue and medical treatment operation here, in coordination with the Nepalese army.

The team, consisting of 102 officers and soldiers in charge of rescuing and 70 military medical staff members from the Chengdu Military Region, arrived since Monday evening, bringing along with them advanced equipment, searching dogs, a field hospital and many electricity generators.

The task force set up a camp near the Nepalese Prime Minister's office building along side a Nepalese army camp. They started

working as soon as they arrived. So far they have treated over 50 injured people and found one victim's body in a collapsed house.

Colonel Nie Xuezheng, chief of the rescue team, told Xinhua that he still believes there are chances to find survivors and the rescuers won't waste a single minute to find them.

He also found the rescue operation in the Nepalese capital quite difficult because of the structure of the buildings and narrow lanes and insufficient space where many collapsed houses are located.

Colonel Li Xuecheng, head of the field hospital, said the medical staff is setting up a trauma treatment center with 50 beds, two operation room, at the requirement of the Nepalese army.

Because the local hospitals are overflowing with the injured, the Nepalese army is sending of the patients to the field hospital for treatment.

An Hong, head of the 6-member nurse team in the hospital, said she is proud to join the operation to help Nepalese quake victims.

Nepalese Praise Chinese Rescue Team as Cooperative, Resourceful, Well-coordinated

Kathmandu, May 9 (Xinhua) — The China International Search and Rescue Team (CISAR) camp at the Narayanhiti palace museum in Kathmandu, was ready to move to its home country after the official announcement of the completion of search and rescue operations.

In the camp most of the members were packing up their bags and others were having



Members of China International Search and Rescue Team (CISAR) work at the rescue site in Nepal's capital Katmandu on April 28, 2015. (Xinhua/Bai Yang)

an early breakfast. The breakfast of noodles and readymade canned foods had become their regular food. They had spent 12 difficult days without having a bath. They just washed their heads with the cold water provided by the Nepalese army camp.

The central part of the camp was where the logistics and medical items were kept. The difference was that the goods had received new tags in English with some descriptions to assist local people to use them properly. Previously, the goods were tagged mostly in Chinese.

After a few minutes, Sojit Silwal, major of the Nepal army valley department that coordinates all the foreign rescue teams, arrived to receive the goods that CISAR decided to handover for the earthquake affected people.

One lady from CISAR handed a list of the goods to the officer. The Chinese rescue team handed 33 logistics materials and 38 medical objects to the department of Nepal army. The lady took a few more minutes to introduce all the items to alleviate possible language problems.

The Nepal army said that the goods will be used for those affected.

"We will use the materials and the medical items for the earthquake affected people," said the major.

He found the Chinese team to be very closely coordinated.

"They have very good working ethics and we are really thankful for their hard work," he added.

"It was really a very good time to work with the Chinese rescue team," said captain Prabal of the Nepal army, a liaison officer.



Nepalese army soldiers carry a victim for treatment at the camp of the Chinese government medical team at an army barracks in Dhulikhel, Kavre, Nepal, April 28, 2015. A 58-strong Chinese government medical team arrived in Nepal Monday morning to carry out humanitarian mission after the country was struck by a powerful earthquake at midday Saturday. (Xinhua/Pratap Thapa)

The liaison officer said that this is the first foreign heavy Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team to start work in Nepal.

One of the Nepalese army officials working with the team said, "I will really miss this team." He said that their work has also been praised by local people.

"We coordinated with them and provided only the basic resources," said another army member in the camp.

"They were well prepared for their needs," he added. He also noted that the rescue team had good skills and technology for such a disastrous situation.

After their arrival in Nepal the following day after the devastating earthquake, the rescue team had worked in Dhading and Kathmandu.

"They rescued two live victims from the debris," informed the liaison officer.

The CISAR checked up on 7481 people and treated more than 3000 patients with various illnesses and injuries in their deployed areas.

"Look they are using an excavator to bury the toilet, they have left not a trace of dirt here," said a junior member of the Nepalese army.

More than 60 members of the team had rescue dogs, regarded as the most important part of such emergency teams, work faithfully

Beijing, April 25 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping on Saturday sent a message of condolences to Nepalese President Ram Baran Yadav over a disastrous earthquake in the country, which has caused a huge loss of property and lives.

On behalf of the Chinese government and people, as well as in his own name, Xi offered his deep condolences to the victims in the powerful earthquake, and offered sincere sympathies to those injured and families of the victims.

In his message, the Chinese president also expressed his confidence in the Nepalese government, under the leadership of Yadav, to combat the disaster and China's willingness to provide all necessary assistance.

China Offers 20 Mln Yuan in Humanitarian Aid to Quake-hit Nepal

Beijing, April 26 (Xinhua) — The Chinese government has decided to provide 20 million yuan (3.3 million U.S. dollars) in humanitarian aid to Nepal following the massive earthquake, according to the Ministry of Commerce on Sunday.

The aid, including supplies of tents, blankets and generators, will be delivered to Nepal by chartered planes, the ministry said, adding China will offer further support according to Nepal's demands.

A massive 8.1-magnitude quake shook Nepal at 2:11 p.m. (Beijing Time), killing more than 2,000 people in the country.

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A Chinese student donates money to help the people affected by Nepal earthquake ,at Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics ,east China's Jiangsu Province ,April 26 , 2015 (Xinhua Sun Can)

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The task force set up a camp near the Nepalese Prime Minister's office building along



Students light candles and pray for people trapped in Nepal earthquake at the University of South China in Hengyang City, central China's Hunan Province, April 26, 2015. (Xinhua/Cao Zhengping)

side a Nepalese army camp. They started working as soon as they arrived. So far they have treated over 50 injured people and found one victim's body in a collapsed house.

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Members of the China International Search and Rescue Team work in Kathmandu, capital of Nepal, on April 26, 2015. (Xinhua/Zhou Shengping)

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Members of China International Search and Rescue Team arrive at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal, April 26, 2015. (Xinhua/Zhou Shengping)

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More than 60 members of the team had rescue dogs, regarded as the most important part of such emergency teams, work faithfully and tirelessly across the boundaries.

A few days earlier, the deputy team leader of CISAR said, “We really praise the cooperation and coordination of the Nepalese army in such a disastrous situation.”

China Continues to Help Quake-stricken Nepal

Beijing, May 11 (Xinhua) — China has pledged to continue to help Nepal in its post-earthquake reconstruction as the Himalayan



China International Search and Rescue Team members prepare to work after they arrive in Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal, April 26, 2015, after a strong earthquake hit Nepal on Saturday. (Xinhua/Sunil Sharma)

country struggles to get back to normal more than two weeks after the devastating quake.

Chinese relief supplies continue to flood into Nepal, in which more than 8,000 people were killed and 17,800 injured when the quake struck on April 25.

Over the weekend, some 460 tonnes of relief materials arrived in Nepal from China.

China has sent 1,088 military personnel and members of armed police — the largest such group it has dispatched to foreign soil for humanitarian aid missions since 1949.

The People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Air Force has deployed eight transport planes to carry a total of 416 tonnes of relief supplies to Nepal.

Three air force helicopters flew to Nepal last week to help with transportation and rescue, and they carried 190 pieces of engineering machinery.

The Chinese army will continue to send relief supplies to Nepal and intensify decontamination and medical services to prevent diseases, according to Zheng Weibo, director of the emergency response office of the PLA’s General Staff Headquarters.

“As a neighbor, China will do its best to help

Nepal's government and people to pull through the difficulties and reconstruct their home," said Huang Xilian, deputy head of the Foreign Ministry's Department of Asian Affairs.

China has also sent seven medical and rescue teams, which have helped diagnose and treat locals and assisted the Nepalese to formulate a post-disaster health and epidemic prevention plan.

China is also considering sending experts to help local psychologists counsel victims.

A 62-member China International Search & Rescue Team, as well as six sniffer dogs, landed in Beijing on Friday after a 13-day mission in which they were the first foreign team to save a survivor in the quake field.

During their stay, the team's 10th international mission, they rescued two survivors from the rubble, treated more than 2,700 victims, and cleared about 430 buildings. Most members of the team had rescue experience following the devastating quakes in Haiti and Japan.

"The rescue of the second survivor was the most difficult since our team was established in 2001. It took us 34 hours," said Tao Zongpeng, a senior member of the team.

With their efforts hampered by poor infrastructure, a total of 76 international rescue teams from various countries had rescued 16 survivors in Nepal by May 5.

Two weeks after the quake, the search and rescue phase has come to an end, and epidemic prevention and temporary housing of victims have taken over as priorities.

Reconstruction of heavily damaged infrastructure, rehousing of victims and restoration of historic buildings will be prioritized, Huang said.

Nepal's health minister said on Sunday that the Nepalese government will forward a list of requirements for medical assistance to China as the quake-hit country is in the process of getting its medical infrastructure back up and running.

"China has been very proactive in providing such logistics and medical equipment and supplies," Minister of Health and Population Khagaraj Adhikari told Xinhua.

The minister said he expected China to help Nepal in establishing rehab and follow-up centers in the worst-hit districts, adding that Chinese field hospitals and medical centers are benefiting a number of districts.

Aside from rescue teams sent by the Chinese government, at least five Chinese civil rescue teams came to Nepal, Xinhua has learned.

China's Blue Sky Rescue Team, a non-governmental rescue organization, wrapped up its mission in Nepal on Sunday. The 83 volunteers, who paid for their own air tickets, brought with them rescue equipment and supplies.

During its 12-day stay in Nepal, the team found 24 bodies, provided assistance to 2,320 people,



Airport staff arrange the arrived material assistance from China for rescue operation at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal, April 26, 2015. (Xinhua/Sunil Sharma)

and conducted epidemic prevention disinfection for over 20,000 people. They also provided water purification equipment as well as rescue training to the Nepalese side.

Many Chinese organizations, companies in Nepal and overseas Chinese provided logistic support to the team for free.

“A friend in need is a friend indeed, and China is such a true friend of Nepal,” said Nepal Ambassador to China Mahesh Kumar Maskey.



Chinese medical team arrive at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, capitol of Nepal, April 27, 2015. (Xinhua/Zhou Shengping)

CHINESE ENTERPRISES IN INDIA

Alibaba's E-Commerce Projects in India

New Delhi, March 31 (Xinhua) — Jack Ma, founder and chairman of Alibaba Group of China, visited Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 31, 2015 and the two discussed in depth the significance of the spirit of entrepreneurship for growth in both India and China, as well as the whole world.

Both Modi and Ma were just back from attending the state funeral of Singapore's late leader Lee Kuan Yew. The two highly admired Lee for transforming a backward port city in 1950s into a big economic success.

After Modi came to power in May last year, one of the first things he did was to create a new Ministry of Entrepreneurship which will help produce more entrepreneurs and businessmen in the country.

They are aiming to produce 500 million skilled persons by 2022, who are capable enough to start their own business, thus producing an avalanche of new jobs in every sector all over the country.

More prominently, both Modi and Ma believed the entrepreneurship Singapore had shown and showcased in its growth is good reference for the two largest Asian giants.

In their 50-minute meeting, Modi and Ma exchanged views on the meaning for development and application of internet technology and other information and digital technologies in India's economic growth.

Ma, who made a success story of electronic commerce and internet-related financing and banking, told Modi that e-commerce, internet

banking and financing, digitizing the infrastructure for delivering and shopping, among others will greatly help the small- and-medium-sized enterprises to grow in India, and consequently create millions of jobs.

They agreed that India urgently needs innovative moves to improve the performance of its financing, banking, transporting, delivering, mailing and retailing systems. Through the establishment of a sophisticated e-commerce infrastructure and online-shopping, paying and banking framework like Alipay, as well as internet banking and investing, many small and medium business opportunities will be created and jobs will come.

“Had a very good meeting with Jack Ma,” Modi tweeted after the meeting. “In today’s world, globalization is no longer monopolized by big companies. Small and medium sized



China's Alibaba Group founder and chairman Jack Ma (L) shakes hands with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Modi's residence in New Delhi, India, March 30, 2015. (Xinhua Indian Press Information Bureau)

companies are playing a more prominent role. E-commerce and internet financing can help create new enterprises,” said Ma in an interview with Xinhua.

He said Alibaba group is interested in helping India enable and empower millions to start business and get jobs. But the key to realize this is to help encourage and create the spirit of entrepreneurship in the country.

Describing India’s a country with one of the longest histories in the world but at the same time also one of the youngest nation in terms of average age of its population, Ma said every ambitious businessman should come to the country and closely follow the development of the country. “Nowadays, to invest in another country is



not purely to transplant the business to that country, but is to bring the core values of the company to that country," said Ma.

He said Alibaba group is now focused on bringing its entrepreneurship values to India, share its experiences, help train qualified personnel and create a credit value environment here through internet paying and financing practices. "Once the credit value is established, there will be a sound banking system, and innumerable small and medium-sized enterprises will benefit from it," said Ma. "In a way, it can be regarded as an altruistic move," he said. "Whether or not we can strike gold in 15 to 20 years here, we are not in a hurry."

He said due to the complexity of the Indian society, it is impossible for foreign companies not to localize their operation through building a strong local basis in management, personnel and infrastructure.

Alibaba is already hiring Indian talents and



Jack Ma (Chairman and CEO of Alibaba Group) with Alibaba.com's one millionth member in India.

sending them to China to get vocational training. Meanwhile, the group has invested some 570 million U.S. dollars in local e-commerce projects.

Ma expressed his confidence that when Modi visits China later this year, some of the ideas on setting up bilateral collaboration in e-commerce and internet financing will be concretized through substantial agreements and projects. "India should soon have its own Alipay, because it is already ready for it," he said.

China's Alibaba to Fund Mobile Commerce Start-up Incubator in India

New Delhi, April 1 (Xinhua) — China's Alibaba group will set up a start-up incubator for mobile internet and mobile commerce in the southern Indian city Bangalore, according by local daily the Times of India.

The project will be set up with the Globals, a Bangalore-based mobile and analytics



Jack Ma, Chairman and CEO of Alibaba Group, takes an interview of Indian TV18 in New Delhi.

solution company, after a meeting between Alibaba chairman Jack Ma and Globals founder Suhas Gopinath.

The two companies want to focus on mobile internet as e-commerce is moving rapidly to mobile.

“It becomes easier to mentor the startups, and find the right set of funders if you have a



focused incubator,” the report quoted Gopinath as saying.

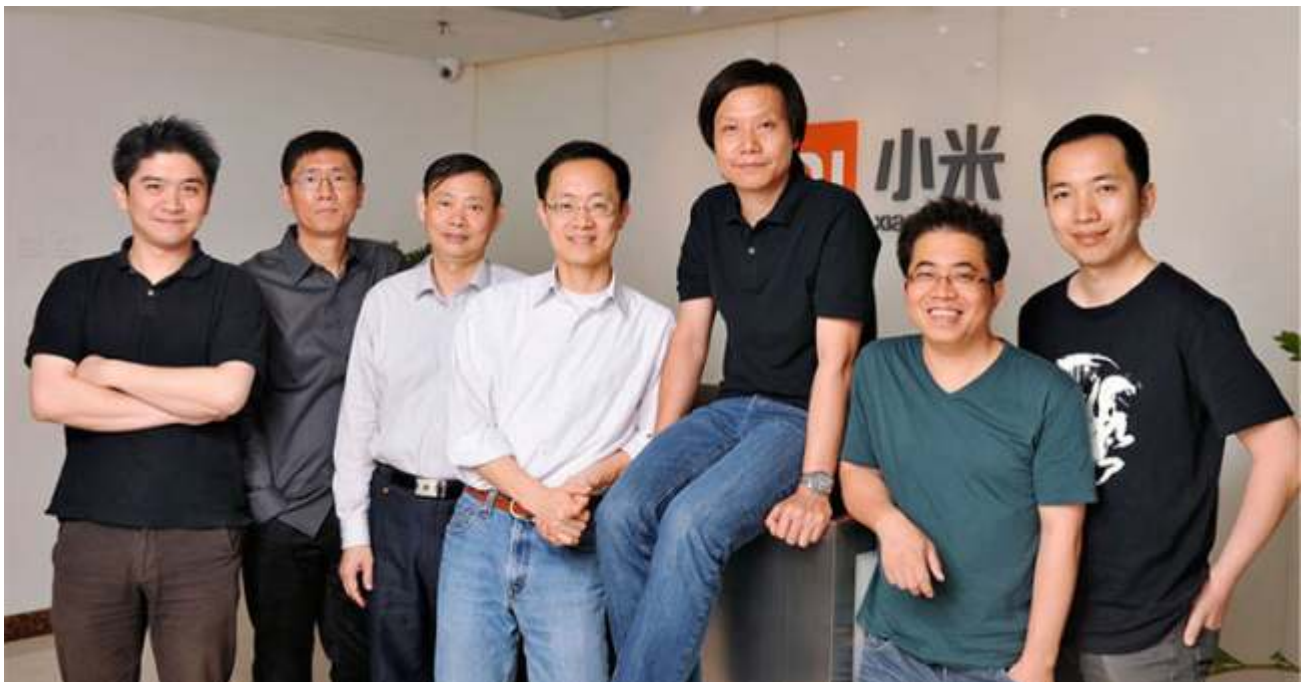
The idea for the incubator came from Guru Gowrappan, chief operational officer and head of product and marketing in Silicon Valley-based Quixey, of which Alibaba is an investor. The project is expected to start by May or June, according to the report.

China's Xiaomi Makes Waves in India

In India, Chinese mobile phone makers are giving a tough time to not only Indian companies, but to other foreign players in India as well. China's Xiaomi is making huge waves in India, becoming the fifth biggest seller of handsets in just 8-months since entering the Indian market. The madness has begun. There is excitement in the mobile phone market. Registration for this new Xiaomi phone has begun and sales open on March 24th. With the

new products the company aims to increase its four percent market share.

“These devices are high quality high spec devices, both software and hardware, and they are all youngsters and they are all online tech savvy and they read online blogs and that was important for us, and they were affordable products, and they became our brand ambassadors, and we get sales from 1200 cities in India,” said Manu Jain, head of India



Operationa, Xiaomi.

They reach out to their consumers through social media. These phones are sold online and they are gone within seconds. In the first four months, the company sold around one million units while many were still waiting.

“I think the problem is that there are not enough phones as the phones finish soon in stock sales, and that has not made the consumers so happy. They are not getting the phones instantly otherwise the people have liked the phones,” said Shrutui Shapola, business journalist.

To reduce this gap between demand and supply, Xiaomi plans to begin manufacturing in India. While they still ascertain the feasibility, they might have to give in to the new strategy of the government.

“The Indian government is focusing that every company should invest in India as the foreign exchange outgo is 50000 crore rupees, and India is forcing the manufacturers to come. Maybe Chinese companies just mean to trade in



India as initially the volumes are not enough in India. But they will have to come in line as the government is changing policies,” said Anil Kumar, a telecom expert.

Whatever the hurdles, the leadership in India is confident of moving ahead and creating new milestones.

There are an estimated 117 million smartphone users in the country, and India is set to become the world’s second largest smartphone market by 2016. In such a scenario the advantage is that of the consumers as companies will have to offer competitive prices and better technology to capture this market share.

Xiaomi Connects with the Market

Chinese smartphone manufacturer Xiaomi, which has won a large following - and a lot of controversy - with ultra-cheap mobile devices, will break the 2,000-yuan (369 U.S. dollars) barrier when its new handset hits the market Tuesday.

The company unveiled two “Mi Notes” - priced from 2,299 yuan and



3,299 yuan - on Jan. 15, exceeding its previous price record of 1,999 yuan for a basic smartphone.

“Mi Note is a landmark product, and it will be the best Xiaomi smartphone ever,” said Lei Jun, founder and chief executive officer of Xiaomi.

The reservation of the “flagship product” has reached 1 million, said Lin Bin, company co-founder and president, on his microblog on Jan. 20.

The best selling smartphones in China usually come from U.S.-based Apple and Samsung of the Republic of Korea. Xiaomi has battled for market share by keeping its prices competitive.

“May more people enjoy the fun of technology,” Lei yelled to a cheering crowd at the launch of the new products at the China National Convention Center in Beijing.

Lei said Xiaomi sold 61 million smartphones last year, up 227 percent year on year, with total sales revenue (including tax) of 74.3 billion yuan (12 billion U.S. dollars).

This claim on his microblog followed the revelation that Xiaomi’s market value was estimated at 45 billion U.S. dollars, about 180 times its worth when it was founded in 2010.

“Xiaomi has exceeded all science and technology companies that have yet to go public,” said the 46-year-old entrepreneur.

Four years ago, the Chinese market was dominated by foreign brands. Newspapers splashed photos of people queuing for Apple’s iPhone 4 and few people would consider buying handset from a domestic startup.

Now Xiaomi ranks second in domestic market and its products have been launched in Taiwan and Hong Kong as well as five neighboring countries. Its new valuation makes it the fourth largest Internet company in China, and the world’s third largest smartphone producer after Apple and Samsung.

When the first Xiaomi smartphone was released in August 2011, more than 300,000 handsets sold out online within 5 minutes. Each



new model has set a new record. Price-sensitive customers have been surprised to find that a Chinese-brand smartphone can have the same or better functions than the foreign brands - and for under 2,000 yuan.

Xiaomi has also developed a wider range of electronics in the past year, including a smart TV, air purifier, earphone, mobile power bank, fitness band and blood pressure monitor - all marketed as “high quality at a low price”.

“As well as good performance and cheap price, I choose Xiaomi to show my support for a Chinese brand,” said devoted Xiaomi user Wang Yuan.

Lei Jun is quite open about appealing to patriotism. He originally wanted to call the company “Red Star”, but that name was already registered, so he changed it to Xiaomi, the Chinese for “millet”. Lei said he was inspired by Chairman Mao’s phrase during China’s Civil War of 1945-1949.

“We want to conquer the world by using millet and rifles,” Lei once said to media.

However, competitors argue Xiaomi wants to conquer the market by stealing their ideas and infringing patents.

The Xiaomi air purifier, costing 899 yuan, was criticized last month as remarkably similar to that of Japanese brand Balmuda in appearance, internal structure, and even in its marketing.

The same month, Sweden's Ericsson won a court order banning the import and sale of Xiaomi smartphones in India after claiming the Chinese handsets violated patent rights.

Lei acknowledged learning from Apple co-founder Steve Jobs in explaining the similarities with the iPhone, but critics point out that Apple has more than double the patents claimed by Xiaomi.

"Lei's salute to Jobs is just trickery to disguise copying Apple's designs," said Liu Zhirong, a commentator, who posted on his popular blog an article titled "Xiaomi discredits the reputation of 'Made-in-China'".

Like other Chinese smartphone manufacturers that have flourished in their booming home market, Xiaomi has had a rude reception regarding patent issues when it goes abroad. The company has even hit legal troubles in Southeast Asia, where IPR protection is regarded as lax.

"Most parts of a Chinese-made smartphone,

including the chip, memory card, screen and operating system are imported," said Zhang Yi, chief executive officer of iiMedia Consultation Group, a market research company focused on China's mobile Internet sector.

"Once the global giants decide to use patents to contain Chinese manufacturers, the consequences can be disastrous."

Lei revealed on Jan. 15 that Xiaomi applied for 2,318 patents last year, including 665 abroad.

"In another decade, Xiaomi will have tens of thousands of patents; it will have more than any other company in the world," he claimed confidently.

In his eyes, Xiaomi is more than a smartphone maker - it is an innovator in Internet connectivity, allowing all Xiaomi devices to be controlled by a smartphone through the "Internet of things".

Lei said its "Mi" brand also stands for mobile Internet.

"I think all changes will come from mobile Internet, and from the smartphone. It could be a soul mate for people," Lei said in an Internet conference in southeast China last year.

"One day, someone might marry a



smartphone.”

Guinness Record for Xiaomi

Xiaomi held a Mi Fan Fest sale in China yesterday where it was offering its smartphones, accessories and other devices to the customers. The demand for this sale was so high that the company has managed to sell 2.11 million



smartphones during the course of the 24 hour sale.

This has given them an official entry in the Guinness Book of World Records for selling the most number of handsets in a single day. Interestingly, the company reached this landmark within 12 hours as the smartphone sales were not held throughout the day.

ZTE India ,a Leading Provider of Telecommunications

ZTE Corporation is a globally-leading provider of telecommunications equipment and network solutions. With operations in 160 countries and with its 15 R&D centers located globally, the company is a leader in technology innovation, delivering superior products and business solutions to clients all over the world. Founded in 1985, ZTE is listed on both the Hong Kong and Shenzhen Stock Exchanges and is China's largest listed telecoms equipment company. This year is a big milestone for ZTE as it completes its 30th anniversary of existence in the industry.

With a Strong growth in Smart phone shipment , ZTE is world's No. 5 handset provider in terms of shipment; world's No. 6 smartphone provider with 42 million shipment in 2013. ZTE is a top 4 smartphone provider in the United States, achieving business



Delhi Office of ZTE .

relationships with all major US operators

ZTE started its India operations in 1999 and established a fully owned subsidiary in 2003 selling more than 50 million handsets in India. ZTE's aim is to offer its portfolio of products covering every sector of the wireline, wireless, terminal and service markets to the fast-growing telecom market in India. In 2004 ZTE established its first manufacturing & repair facility at Manesar.

ZTE strategy for India Market will be its new Enabler@M-ICT. Under the company's new Enabler@M-ICT strategy, we strive to deliver enhanced quality of life and higher productivity to customers by focusing on delivering world-class innovations in four key areas: smart-pipes, mobile devices, cloud-based services, and big data infrastructure systems.

ZTE INDIA Enterprise Business will focus on offering industry-leading solutions to key

target industry verticals including transportation, energy, public utilities, financial and Internet, building on the company's industry-leading technologies such as Smart City, U-Safety & Modern Railways. ZTE India has an Mission & Vision to provide state of art latest generation technologies like 3G, 4G & 5G in future to Indian operators, which we are very must sure will contribute in some way or other in Indian's growth story.

Editor's Letter

As a bridge of the Chinese Embassy in India and readers of *News From China*, this magazine contributes a lot to our mutual understanding and is expected to play a better role. Thus, as the editor of *News From China*, I treasure every chance to interact with you face to face and be happy to hear your valuable advice to improve this magazine and also, push forward China-India relations



Interaction with Mr. Vijayachanda (R) and Mr. Shaji (L), readers from Kochi.

On May 3, we paid a visit to Kerala, and hold an interaction with Mr. Vijayachandran and Mr. Shaji, two readers from Kochi, which impressed me deeply. I was happy to learn that they had been the reader of the magazine for a long time and seen the improvements we had made. We discussed a lot in how to improve the magazine further, enhance the connection of the editors and the readers, as well as promote the personnel exchange and communication between our two countries. I was really touched by their sincerity and the enthusiasm to promote China-India relations.

Thank you all for your support to *News From China*. With all the improvement already achieved, I hope you'll also notice what remains to be improved and let me know. And indeed, one of the pleasures of editing this magazine is how I engage with the readers. I am ready to hear from you.

Xie Liyan
Press Counsellor of Chinese Embassy
Editor of *News From China*

BOOK REVIEW

Dear Readers,

China is attracting growing attention worldwide. The world wants to know what changes are in progress in China, and what impact they will have on the rest of the world. To respond to rising international interest and to enhance the rest of the world's understanding of the Chinese government's philosophy and its domestic and foreign policies, the State Council Information Office, the Party Literature Research Office of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the China International Publishing Group have worked together to produce this book --- *The Governance of China* .

You can come to get the book for FREE or ask for a VPP service as you need.

Please email us first to reserve the book providing the serial No. Hope to hear from you in the coming future. Your comments and suggestions on NFC are also greatly welcome .

Editor

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FOREWORD

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) held in November 2012, the new central leadership with Xi Jinping as general secretary has led the whole Party and the people of China in confronting the problems and challengers they face: to drive reform and opening up to a deeper level, to modernize the national governance system, and to marshal their enormous strength behind the Chinese Dream of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

As general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and president of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping has delivered many speeches on a broad range of issues. He has offered his thoughts, views and judgments, and answered a series of important theoretical and practical questions about the Party and the country in these changing times. His speeches embody the philosophy of the new central leadership.

The book is a compilation of Xi Jinping's major works from November 15, 2012 to June 13, 2014. It includes speeches, talks, interviews, instructions, and correspondence. The 79 pieces are arranged in 18 chapters, and notes are added to help readers understand China's social system, history and culture.



XI JINPING

THE GOVERNANCE OF CHINA

Flights Between China and India

Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights

ROUTING	FLIGHT NO.	DEPARTURE TIME	ARRIVAL TIME	FLIGHT DATES (NOV2014-MAR2015)
New Delhi-Guangzhou	Cz3028	12:45	19:50	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	CZ3027	7:30	11:30	Daily
New Delhi-Guangzhou	CZ360	23:40	6:50+1	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	Cz359	18:50	22:30	Daily

Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights (Summer Season)

ROUTING	FLIGHT NO.	DEPARTURE TIME	ARRIVAL TIME	FLIGHT DATES (NOV2014-MAR2015)
New Delhi-Guangzhou	Cz3028	11:50	19:30	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	CZ3027	7:30	11:50	Daily
New Delhi-Guangzhou	CZ360	23:10	6:50+1	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	Cz359	18:50	22:10	Daily

China Eastern Time Table

Delhi-Shanghai(Pudong)	Flight Number	Dep\	Arr	Frequency	Aircraft	Remarks
1APR,2015-31OCT, 2015	MU564	0230	1100	Daily	Airbus 330-200	Shanghai Pudong: Terminal-1 Delhi IGI: Terminal-3 Kolkata NSCBI: Terminal-2
Shanghai(Pudong)-Delhi 31MAR,2015-31OCT, 2015	Flight Number MU563	Dep 2110	Arr 0125+1	Frequency Daily	Aircraft Airbus 330-200	
Kolkata-Kunming 1APR,2015-31OCT, 2015	Flight Number MU556	Dep 0035	Arr 0510	Frequency Daily	Aircraft Boeing 737	
Kunming-Kolkata 1APR,2015-31OCT, 2015	Flight Number Mu555	Dep 2355	Arr 2345	Frequency Daily	Aircraft Boeing 737	

Schedule of Air China Flights Between India and China

ROUTING	FLIGHT NO.	DEPARTURE TIME	ARRIVAL TIME	FLIGHT DATES (JUL- AUG)	FLIGHT DATES (SEP-DEC)	FLIGHT DATES (JAN-MAR)
DEL-PEK	CA948	0310	1140	TUE/THUR/SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/SUN
PEK-DEL	CA947	2040	0140+1	MON/WED/SAT	MON/WED/FRI/SAT	MON/WED/FRI/SAT
BOM-SHA	CA430	0150	1325	MON/TUE/THUR/SAT	MON/TUE/THUR/SAT(NOV-DEC MON/TUE/SAT)	MON/THUR/SAT
SHA-BOM	Ca429	1650	0050+1	MON/WED/FRI/SUN	MON/WED/FRI/SUN (NOV-DEC WED/FRI/SUN)	WED/FRI/SUN

Address and Contact Numbers of Chinese Airlines

Airlines	Address	Contact No.
Air China	Ground Floor, E-9 Connaught House, Connaught Place, New Delhi 110001	Tel: 011-43508888 Fax: 011-43508899
	Unit No. 9/2, Queen's Road, Bangalore 560001	Tel: 080-43587900 Fax: 080-43587999
	Ground Floor, C&B Square, 127 Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (east), Mumbai 400069	Tel: 022-61175555 Fax: 022-61175566
China Eastern Airlines	Thapar House, 124, Janpath, New Delhi 110001	Tel: 011-43513166 Fax: 011-43513155
	228A, Land Mark Building, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700020	Tel: 033-40448887/88 Fax: 033-22875173
China Southern Airlines	118, New Delhi House, 27, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi 110001	Tel: 011-43596075/77/78 Fax: 011-23737453
Cathy Pacific	G123, Tolstoy House, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi	Tel: 011-23321286/3332 Fax: 011-23721550



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Hindi-CRI

Shaanxi, a Charismatic Destination

Shaanxi Province (Shan or Qin for short), an inland region located in the middle reaches of the Yellow River, is one of the cradles of Chinese civilizations. Its total area is 205,800 square km, or roughly 2.1% of China's total area. The railway distance between Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi and Beijing, the national capital of China, is about 1200 km.



Shaanxi is a major culture-rich province. The glorious history of the Zhou, Qin, Han, and Tang Dynasties once made Shaanxi's culture the mainstream of Chinese civilizations. In fact, cultures originating in the Qinling Mountains and Yellow River have been largely preserved. To this day, the people of Shaanxi still cannot help expressing pride in the province's rich cultural heritage.



The numerous cultural and historic heritage sites invariably show the completeness, richness and supremacy of cultural relics which witnessed the unprecedented prosperity of ancient China. Being the "Natural History Museum", Shaanxi has endless poetries and stories to offer. The profound and splendid aura of Chinese

civilization has subconsciously evoked a sense of nostalgia and meditation deep inside everyone who has ever visited Shaanxi.



To name a few top attractions in Shaanxi: Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses - the most significant archeological excavations of the 20th century; Xi'an City Wall - the most complete ancient city wall that has survived in China; Big Wild Goose Pagoda (Dayan Pagoda) - a well-preserved ancient building and a holy place for Buddhists; Mount Huasha - a high mountain range which is famous for natural vista of steep and narrow paths and precipitous crags as well as a holy land of Taoism; Hukou Waterfalls - a glistening pearl in the middle reaches of the Yellow River, which is the only magnificent yellow waterfall in the world.



Shaanxi, a Charismatic Destination, awaits your arrival.



中国驻新德里旅游办事处

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Li Keqiang and Narendra Modi with the pupils attending a Taichi and Yoga show in Beijing.

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