#### 中国新闻

### **NEWS FROM CHINA**

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Ambassador Luo Zhaohui attends the Academic Year Opening Ceremony of the Fo Guang Shan Cultural and Educational Center.



Ambassador Luo Zhaohui interacts with Indian Yatris who visited Kailash Mansarover.



Ambassador Luo Zhaohui interviewed by The Tribune.



Ambassador Luo Zhaohui visits Manipal University.



Chinese Embassy in India holds Reception in Celebration of 69th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China.



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#### The 69th Chinese National Day

## STATE COUNCIL HOLDS NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION



Leaders of the Communist Party of China and the state Xi Jinping (C), Li Keqiang (4th R), Li Zhanshu (3rd L), Wang Yang (3rd R), Wang Huning (2nd L), Zhao Leji (2nd R), Han Zheng (1st L) and Wang Qishan (1st R) attend a reception celebrating the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in Beijing, capital of China, on Sept. 30, 2018. (Xinhua/Liu Weibing)

Beijing, Sept. 30 (Xinhua) — China's State Council held a reception Sunday, ahead of the National Day on Oct. 1, to mark the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Party and state leaders Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan, as well as over 1,200 guests from home and abroad, including Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni, attended the reception at the Great Hall of the People.

Premier Li Keqiang addressed the reception while Vice Premier Han Zheng presided over the reception.

Li said that China will firmly uphold rule-based multilateralism and promote opening-up on a higher level.

While safeguarding its own

development interest, China will open wider to share development opportunities and progresses with other countries, Li said.

Noting that this year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up, Li said nothing would undermine the country's resolve to push forward reform and opening-up.

He said China will continue to

comprehensively deepen reform and unleash and develop productive forces under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

China will work to advance reforms and strive to create a better business environment through streamlining administration, cutting taxes, lowering fees, and intensifying protection of intellectual property rights, Li said.

He also said that China will encourage innovation among entrepreneurs and scientific and technical personnel, foster new drivers, push forward the high-quality development of the economy, promote international cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative and improve people's livelihood.

Li summarized major progress in various reforms, economic restructuring, opening-up, international cooperation, people's wellbeing and social stability.



"China has handled new challenges at home and abroad with composure and concentrated its efforts in addressing domestic affairs, enhancing the endogenous dynamic of economic development, defusing risks with multiple measures, and keeping its economy operating within a reasonable range," he said.

Li reiterated the policies of "one country, two systems," "the people of Hong Kong governing Hong Kong," "the people of Macao governing Macao," and a high degree of autonomy for both regions, and the need to deepen exchanges between the mainland and Hong Kong and Macao regions for common prosperity and development.

"We will continue to uphold the one-China principle and the 1992 Consensus, safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and absolutely not tolerate any 'Taiwan independence' attempts and activities," said Li.

China will unswervingly stick to the road of peaceful development, work with the international community on improving global governance, and promote the building of a community with a shared future for humanity, Lisaid.



## FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY HELD AT TIAN'ANMEN SQUARE TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL DAY



The guard of honor escorts the national flag for a national flag-raising ceremony in a celebration of the National Day at the Tian'anmen Square in central Beijing, capital of China, on Oct. 1, 2018, the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. (Xinhua/Ju Zhenhua)

Beijing, Oct. 1 (Xinhua) — A ceremony for raising the National Flag was held early Monday morning at the Tian'anmen Square in downtown Beijing to celebrate the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

The Guard of Honor of the Chinese People's Liberation Army escorted the national flag to the square, while the military band played the national anthem.

Around 145,000 people from across China gathered at the square to watch the ceremony.

Tian'anmen Square witnessed the raising of the first PRC national flag on Oct. 1, 1949, marking a great new start for the Chinese people.





## COMMENTARY: AT 69, PRC MARCHES STEADILY TOWARDS BRIGHTER FUTURE



A national flag raising ceremony is held at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing, capital of China, on Oct. 1, 2018, the National Day, to celebrate the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. (Xinhua/Li Gang)

Beijing Oct. 1 (Xinhua) — Festive mood is in the air as the Chinese people celebrate the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

On Monday, a huge crowd of people — numbering over 145,000 — turned up at Tian'anmen Square in the heart of Beijing to watch the raising of the national flag at daybreak.

It was 69 years ago when the founding of the PRC sent the

message that "the Chinese people have stood up." Today, the nation has grown rich — thanks to the reform and opening up which began four decades ago — and is on the track to becoming strong under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

The world is changing, with seemingly more uncertainties and challenges. But China is determined to keep striding ahead. And it is capable of doing so. The Chinese economy, the second largest in the world, is stable with good growth momentum. In 2017, China's gross domestic product (GDP) expanded 6.9 percent to 82.7 trillion yuan (12.8 trillion U.S. dollars), around 15 percent of the world total. In the first eight months this year, profits of major Chinese industrial firms grew 16.2 percent, manufacturing investment went up 3 percentage points and the consumer market kept expanding.

New growth drivers and business



People take photos at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing, capital of China, on Oct. 1, 2018. People across China celebrate the National Day in various ways. China's National Day falls on Oct. 1. (Xinhua/Hu Chenhuan)

models have emerged. Farmers have good harvests and employees receive bigger paychecks.

According to an income tax overhaul going into effect in October, people will see the minimum threshold for personal income tax exemption raised from 3,500 yuan (about 513 U.S. dollars) to 5,000 yuan per month.

Retirees can be assured that their pension payments will be on time and in full, partly thanks to a reform to balance pension distribution across different regions.

Parents can breathe a sigh of relief as authorities have moved to regulate extracurricular classes that put too much stress on children. Key infrastructure projects are on schedule.

The country's massive high-speed rail network was extended to Hong Kong in September, cutting land travel between Hong Kong and Beijing to around nine hours.

The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the longest bridge-and-tunnel sea crossing in the world, is ready to open.

Planes coming to Beijing's crowded skies will be able to land at a new international airport next year. The airport, located in Beijing's southern suburbs, is set to become the Chinese capital's next architectural icon.

Of course, tough challenges lie

ahead. These include issues of environmental protection, unbalanced development and poverty alleviation, to name just a few.

China will take on these challenges with deeper and broader reforms and is confident of surmounting them one after another.

Between 1978 and 2014, over 700 million people in China, with a population of 1.3 billion, were lifted out of poverty, known as "Poverty reduction with Chinese characteristics." From 2012 to 2017, China lifted nearly 70 million rural people out of poverty, and the poverty rate fell from 10.2 percent to 3.1 percent.

The nation is closer than ever to



Fireworks are seen during the celebration of China's National Day, in Hong Kong, south China, Oct. 1, 2018. People celebrate the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on Monday. (Xinhua/Li Gang)

reaching national rejuvenation — the Chinese Dream.

This can be achieved as China marches on under the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core.

Three landmark years are in sight. In 2019, the PRC will celebrate its 70th anniversary. In 2020, a moderately prosperous society in all respects will be established. In 2021,

the CPC will celebrate its centenary.

To translate the blueprint into a reality, the Chinese people have to avoid any distraction, take one step at a time and approach their work with a firm footing.

## OVERSEAS CHINESE CELEBRATE CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY ACROSS THE WORLD

Beijing, Oct. 1 (Xinhua) — Thousands of overseas Chinese across the world are celebrating the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, which falls on Oct.1.

Though living abroad, overseas Chinese are coming together in various ways to take part in celebrations that help honor and share Chinese traditions and cultures with local communities, catalyze cultural exchanges, and strengthen friendly diplomatic relations with host countries.

Overseas Chinese in Houston

and Chicago held grand flag-raising ceremonies on Friday and Saturday to celebrate China's National Day at the Chinese Civic Center.

Hundreds of Chinese, Chinese Americans and local residents with different ethnic backgrounds attended the ceremony, watching the Chinese national flag being raised to the sounds of the Chinese national anthem.

People hold more deep-rooted feelings for their motherland when they live abroad, said Fan Yuxin, the chief executive of the Chinese Civic Center.

The celebrations also inspire Chinese to realize the aspirations articulated in national developments.

Acting Chinese Consul General in Chicago Liu Jun extended his greetings to Chinese nationals and Chinese Americans in the Greater Chicago area and Midwest United States, saying that "with the development of 69 years, China has achieved tremendous success, which is encouraging and inspiring for Chinese people all over the world."

"The achievements of China's reform and opening-up in the past 40 years are jointly made by all Chinese at home and abroad," said You Quan, a member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and head of the United Front Work Department of the CPC Central Committee.

During these celebrations, China's diplomatic missions host receptions dedicated to friendship and partnerships abroad with their host countries.

Chinese Consul General Li Qiangmin in Houston said that China-U.S. relations are the most important bilateral relationship in the world. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1979, their have developed in an all-round way and have formed an inseparable community of interests.

"This December marks the 40th year anniversary of 'Joint Communique on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States of America,' and I hope we can together promote China-U.S. friendship," said Liu.

Besides the celebrations, diplomatic advances have fueled a more fruitful relationship.

Mayor London Breed of San Francisco in the U.S. state of California Friday declared China's upcoming National Day as ChineseAmerican Friendship and Heritage Day in San Francisco to underpin the city's desire to expand cooperation with China.

The San Francisco City Council held a ceremony at the City Hall Friday morning to celebrate China's National Day.

"This year marks the 39th anniversary of the founding of the San Francisco-Shanghai Sister City relationship, and we recognize the volunteers of our Sister City Committee who promote mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation between the people of both cities," Breed said.

She said that the celebration of China's National Day offers an opportunity to reaffirm San Francisco's commitment to encouraging deeper connections between the Chinese people and San Francisco.

Waving tiny Chinese and American flags, the spectators enjoyed traditional Chinese performances, such as dragon and lion dances, a qipao show, as well as Chinese folk dances and music.

## CHINESE EMBASSY IN INDIA HOLDS RECEPTION IN CELEBRATION OF 69TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

On the evening of September 28th, Chinese Ambassador to India Luo Zhaohui and his wife Dr.Jiang Yili hold National Day Reception at the Chinese embassyin celebration of the 69th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. H.E. V.K. Singh, Minister of State of the Ministry of External Affairs of India, attended the receptionas Chief Guest. Around 700 guests including parliamentarians, officials, scholars, entrepreneurs, journalists, foreign envoys to India, and all diplomats of the Chinese embassywere present.



















# REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI AT RECEPTION IN CELEBRATION OF THE 69TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

(Sept 28, 2018, South Lawn of Ambassador's Residence)

Honorable V.K. Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, Excellencies, distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen, Namaste and Good evening!

It is a great honor for my wife Dr. Jiang Yili and myself to host today's

function to celebrate the 69th National Day of China on such a lovely evening with bright moonlight.

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, China has made tremendous progress in economic and social development. One of the most important experience is that we adhere to the strong leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics. We have been guided by Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important

thought of Three Represents, Scientific Outlook on Development. Right now we have Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era.

Another important experience is that we keep our door open to the world. This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up, which started in 1978. China is the second largest economy with total GDP of 13 trillion US dollar and per-capita GDP of 8,800 US dollar last year. We have lifted over 700 million people out of poverty over the past 40 years.

Since this year, we have seen significant progress of China-India relations. On my way to the Golden Temple in Amritsar last month, I visited Dr. Kotnis Memorial Acupuncture Hospital. I was deeply impressed that in such a remote area, a hospital is named after Dr. Kotnis, a great Indian hero who sacrificed his life in China during the Second World War. This hospital has also been promoting acupuncture, a traditional Chinese medical treatment method in India for decades. It really shows the profound basis of our friendship among the peoples.

Such kind of stories are important elements that lead up to Wuhan Summit last April, which opens a new chapter for our relations. Now both sides have been working hard to translate Wuhan consensus into reality. Let the Phoenix and the Peacock fly together, dance together, and make the world better.

Now may I propose a toast, to the prosperity of China and India, to the friendship between the two peoples,

and to the health of all the guests.

## THE HINDU PUBLISHES NATIONAL DAY OF CHINA SPECIAL PAGE

On September 28th, The Hindu published a special page about the National Day of China. The special page contained Ambassador Luo Zhaohui's National Day Message and brief introduction to the four major diplomatic events in China this year, the accomplishments during 40 years of China's Reform and Opening-up, the Belt and Road Initiative, and a blueprint for turning China into a great modern socialist country in all respects.

#### 1. Ambassador's Message

On the occasion of the forthcoming 69th National Day of the People's Republic of China, on behalf of the Chinese Embassy in India, I would like to express my best wishes to my country for further progress and prosperity.

The world this year is developing under the threat of protectionism and uncertainty. Chinese economy has



played an important and positive role in the world economy against downward pressure. China's GDP grew 6.9 percent and totaled 82.71 trillion yuan (about \$12.84 trillion) last year. It kept steady growth and expanded 6.8 percent year on year in the first half of 2018, as continued restructuring efforts provided resilience and impetus. China contributed more than 30 percent of global growth for the past 5 years. What's more, in the next 15 years, China is expected to import \$24 trillion in goods and invest \$2 trillion overseas, which will offer great market opportunities for all countries in the world including India.

This year also witnesses more positive development and atmosphere of China-India relations. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi have met for 3 times and will have their fourth meeting during the upcoming G20 summit. The Wuhan informal summit is a milestone in the history of bilateral relations, creating a new model of engagement between the two leaders. With the guidance of Wuhan consensus, we have brought our relations back on the right track with joint efforts and had frequent high-level exchanges. The Chinese Defense Minister has visited India and Minister for Public Security will be here soon. The Special Representatives' Meeting on Boundary Question and the first meeting of high-level people-topeople and cultural exchange mechanism will be held later this year.

It is important to implement the consensus of leaders and transmit their personal friendship down to the people. During my two years in India, I visited 17 states/Union Territories. I felt the strong amity of Indian people

from all walks of life. There are many Chinese people devoted to strengthening our cooperation. Over 800 Chinese companies are investing and doing business in India, creating over one lakh local jobs. Our people share the same value of harmony and peace, which stems from our interlinked historical roots.

As the two largest developing countries and major emerging markets, China and India are also joining hands to explore a new model for regional cooperation, uphold multilateral trading system and WTO rules, champion economic globalization and strive for a more just and rational international order.

The Dragon and the Elephant should dance together rather than rivaling with each other. China is ready to carry forward the fresh impetus and endeavor to open new prospects in China-India relations.

#### 2. Main Highlights of China's Diplomacy in 2018



Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference took place in Hainan in April with the theme of "An Open and Innovative Asia for a World of Greater Prosperity." President Xi Jinping stressed China's reform and opening-up had "not only profoundly changed the country but also greatly influenced the whole world"; "people around the world will work together toward this community with a shared future for mankind and make Asia and the world peaceful, tranquil, prosperous, open and beautiful."



Shanghai Cooperation Organization Qingdao Summit was held in Qingdao of Shandong Province in June. As the first summit after SCO membership expansion, Qingdao Summit adopted Qingdao Declaration and mapped out new blueprint for SCO future development. President Xi Jinping stressed that "SCO enjoys strong vitality and momentum of cooperation. This, in the final analysis, is attributed to the Shanghai Spirit, a creative vision initiated and followed through by the SCO that champions mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations and pursuit of common development. The Shanghai Spirit, transcending outdated concepts such as clash of civilizations, Cold War and zero-sum mentality, has opened a new page in the history of international relations and gained increasing endorsement of the international community."



Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Beijing Summit 2018 was held in September with the theme of "China and Africa: Toward an Even Stronger Community with a Shared Future through Win-Win Cooperation". The Beijing Declaration and the FOCAC Beijing Action Plan were adopted. President Xi Jinping stressed "China values sincerity, friendship and equality in pursuing cooperation";"We follow a "five-no" approach in our relations with Africa: no interference in African countries' pursuit of development paths that fit their national conditions; no interference in African countries' internal affairs; no imposition of our will on African countries; no attachment of political strings to assistance to Africa; and no seeking of selfish political gains in investment and financing cooperation with Africa."



China International Import Expo (CIIE), the world's first import-themed national-level expo, will be held in Shanghai in November. At the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2018, President Xi Jinping said: "It is not just another expo in an ordinary sense, but a major policy initiative and commitment taken of our own accord to open up the Chinese market. Friends from around the world are welcome to participate in the Expo."

#### 3. Reform and Opening up Breaking New Ground for China

This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up, which ushered in a new stage of development and brought about China's growth miracle.



From rural areas to cities, from pilot programs to nationwide projects, from economic restructuring to the comprehensive deepening of reform, the past four decades have witnessed "epic progress" and historic leaps for an old country.

China has grown into the world's second largest economy, the largest industrial producer, the largest trader of goods, and the holder of the largest foreign exchange reserves. Over the past 40 years, China's GDP has averaged an annual growth of around 9.5%, reached \$12.84 trillion in 2017 with a per-capita GDP of \$8,836. By lifting over 700 million people out of poverty, China has contributed greatly to the global fight against poverty.

Chinese people have emerged from a life of shortages and poverty and are now enjoying abundant supply and a moderately prosperous life. Urban per-capita disposable income increased to \$5,245 in 2017 from \$199 in 1978, while rural per-capita net income rose to \$1,952 from \$77. The number of rural and urban jobs in the country totaled 776 million at the end of 2017, up 93 percent from 1978.

China has been actively integrating with the world economy and constantly expanding its opening up. Its foreign trade has registered an annual growth of 14.5 percent in U.S. dollar term. China's foreign goods trade volume moved up from 29th worldwide in 1978 to the top place in 2013. In 2017, China's goods imports and exports surpassed \$4 trillion,

accounting for 11.5 percent of the global sum, up from 0.8 percent in 1978. China's service trade volume climbed from 34th worldwide in 1982 to second place in 2014. In 2017, service imports and exports amounted to almost \$700 billion, accounting for 6.7 percent of the world's total.

China's outbound direct investment (ODI) rose from 28th globally in 1982 to second place in 2016. In 2017, China's ODI hit \$124.6 billion. Foreign direct investment (FDI) in China rose from 122nd worldwide in 1979 to second place in 2013 and saw an average annual growth rate of 46.1 percent from 1979 to 2017. In 2017, China's FDI stood at \$131 billion.

China has comprehensively fulfilled its commitments to the WTO. As of 2010, China had already delivered on all of its tariff reduction commitments, lowering the overall tariff level from 15.3 percent in 2001 to 9.8 percent in 2010. In 2015, China's trade-weighted average tariff was reduced to 4.4 percent, fairly close to 2.4 percent of US and 3 percent of EU.

As a beneficiary, active participant and contributor of globalization, China will remain committed to its path of reform and opening-up, continue with its nonstop efforts to streamline administration, lower taxes and reduce fees, enhance policy transparency, and strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights. China will also further align its business environment with international economic and trade rules, significantly broaden market access, take the initiative to expand imports, encourage competition and oppose monopoly, and create more opportunities for itself and the world.

#### 4. Belt and Road Turns Five: Facts and Figures

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) comprises the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in the autumn of 2013. As a project for economic cooperation and an open, inclusive process, it serves to promote policy coordination, facilities connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration and people-topeople bonds, adhering to the principle of achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration.

#### 5. New Era on the Road to 2050

The 19th National Congress of Communist Party of China (CPC) held last October ushered socialism with Chinese characteristics into a new era and drew a blueprint for turning China into a great modern socialist country in all respects.

CPC developed the vision that by the time the Party celebrates its centenary, the Chinese society will have been developed into a moderately prosperous one. After this, with another 30 years of work, and by the time we celebrate the centenary of the People's Republic of China, we will have basically achieved modernization and turned China into a modern socialist country.

The period between now and 2020 will be decisive. China will make solid efforts to win the "three tough battles" of forestalling and defusing major risks, carrying out targeted poverty alleviation, and preventing and controlling pollution.

To defuse major risks, the focus is

to prevent financial risks. In the coming three years, China will seek to foster a "virtuous circle" between finance and the real economy and the property sector, as well as within the overall financial system. China will reduce the leverage ratio of local governments and companies, especially state-owned enterprises. Financial supervision at the state and local level will be better coordinated. Tailored policies will be used to control risks in different financial markets.

To achieve the goal of poverty alleviation by 2020, in the next three years, China has to ensure that about 30 million rural poverty-stricken people are lifted out of poverty. This is a difficult task since it requires reducing poverty by more than 10 million people a year. From 2018 to 2020, the central government finance

will contribute an additional 214 billion yuan (\$31.13 billion) to support the poverty alleviation work.

China has also rolled out a three-year action plan on air pollution control, vowing to significantly reduce concentrations of PM2.5. The plan aims to greatly reduce major air pollutants. In 2020, the production and sales of new energy vehicles will reach 2 million. A range of sectors, including public transportation, sanitation, postal and light logistics, will be encouraged to use new energy or clean energy vehicles. Some key cities will turn all buses into new energy vehicles.

China has also drawn up a twostage development plan for the period from 2020 to the middle of the century. In the first stage from 2020 to 2035, China will build on the

Silk Road Fund to support BRI	\$40 billion
Economic Corridors Built under BRI	6
Economic and Trade Cooperation Zones and Investment in BRI	82/\$28.9
Countries	billion
Direct Non-Financial Investment to BRI Countries	\$80 billion
Cooperation Agreements China has signed with BRI Countries and	118
International Organizations	
Contracts Signed by Chinese Enterprises in BRI Countries	1800
Local Jobs Created in BRI Countries	244,000
Total Trade with BRI Countries	\$5 trillion
BRI Countries of which China has become the largest trading partner	25
RMB Settlement Arrangements with BRI Countries	7
BRI Countries that RMB cross-border payment systems can cover	41
Chinese Cultural Centers in BRI Countries	35
Educational institutions and project set up under BRI	81
Direct Flights between China and BRI Countries	45

foundation created by the moderately prosperous society to see that socialist modernization is basically realized. In the second stage from 2035 to the middle of the 21st century, China will,

building on having basically achieved modernization, develop into a great modern socialist country that is "prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful."

China will strive to write a brilliant chapter on our new journey to socialist modernization.

## AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI TOOK PART IN THE 69TH CHINA NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION ORGANIZED BY INDIA-CHINA FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATIONS



On Sept 29th, Ambassador H.E. Mr. Luo Zhaohui and his wife Dr. Jiang Yili were invited to attend the grand celebration of the 69th China National Day organized by India China Friendship Association (ICFA) and Friends of China Society (FOCS). Over 300 people including Mr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani, Hon'ble MP & President of FOCS, Mr. Bhaskaran and Dr. Reddy etc from ICFA took part in the event. During the celebration, diplomats from China Embassy in India and Guangzhou Ballet presented cultural performances.

#### China-India Relations

## CHINESE, INDIAN AND AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTERS CONGRATULATE THE CHINA-INDIA JOINT TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR AFGHAN DIPLOMATS



October 15. Ambassador Luo Zhaohui attended the Inauguration Ceremony of the China-India Joint Training Programme for Afghan Diplomats and read out a special congratulatory message from H.E. Mr. Wang Yi, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister for this event. Amb. J.S. Mukul, Dean of Indian Foreign Service Institute and Mr. Mohanmmad Khairullah Azad, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of Afghanistan also respectively read out the special congratulatory messages from Smt Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs of India, and H.E. Salahuddin Rabbani, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan. Political Counselor Li Ya and Press Counselor Ji Rong of the Embassy, Mr. Deepak Mittal, Joint Secretary of PAI Division, MEA, and Afghan diplomats to be trained were present at the ceremony.







# REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE CHINA-INDIA JOINT TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR AFGHAN DIPLOMATS

Oct. 15th, 2018, Foreign Service Institute of India

Ambassador J.S. Mukul, Dean of Indian Foreign Service Institute,

Mr. Deepak Mittal, Joint Secretary of PAI Division, MEA,

Mr. Mohanmmad Khairullah Azad, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of Afghanistan,

Afghan Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Very good morning.

It is my great pleasure to attend today's inauguration ceremony. First of all, it's my great privilege to read out a special message from H.E. Mr. Wang Yi, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister as follows:

"I sent warmest congratulations on the launch of the China-India Joint Capacity Building Program for Afghan Diplomats.

Earlier this year, President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi had multiple meetings and reached important understandings on "China-India plus" cooperation. They identified Afghanistan as a priority partner and agreed to start by jointly training Afghan diplomats. The launch of this program today marks an important step forward. It reflects the closer coordination and cooperation between our two countries on regional affairs and represents a positive development in China-India relations.

Afghanistan is an important country in our region. Recent years has seen the Afghan government and people making significant strides in national stability and development with the support of the international community. China and India have been active supporters of Afghanistan's peace, and reconstruction process. This Joint Capacity Building Program is an essential part of the international efforts to assist Afghanistan and marks the start of China-India-Afghanistan cooperation. It is a testament to the joint aspiration and endeavor of China and India, both being major, responsible developing countries, to contribute to regional peace and stability.

I have every confidence that this program will go a long way toward helping Afghan diplomats build capacity, enhance friendship and understanding among our three nations, and realizing peace and development in Afghanistan at an early date.

I wish the China-India Joint Capacity Building Program for Afghan Diplomats a great success!"

That's the end of the message.

Besides the message, I want to share some additional insights with you.

First, China and India share a lot of common interests and similar stance on Afghanistan issue. Both of us support an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace reconciliation process. Both of us uphold that Afghanistan should realize peace, stability and prosperity. Both of us are against terrorism. China and India are members of Istanbul Process and Shanghai Cooperation Organization. We are talking a lot about the regional connectivity initiatives, such as International North-South Transport Corridor, India-Afghanistan-Iran transitand trade arrangement and China-Pakistan-Afghanistan cooperation. All of these have provided a solid foundation for the current and future cooperation between China and India in Afghanistan.

Secondly, the training program is the first step for China-India Plus cooperation in Afghanistan. This is just the beginning. China and India have respective advantages. For example, India has remarkable edge in agriculture and medical services, and China in hybrid rice and poverty reduction. I am sure that in the future days China-India cooperation in Afghanistan will span from training programme to more concrete projects.

Thirdly, China-India Plus cooperation should be extended from Afghanistan to other countries, such as Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Iran and Myanmar. We can also join hands under the mechanisms of SAARC, BIMSTEC and BCIM to promote regional peace, stability and prosperity.

Fourthly, the function today is an implementation of the consensus reached by President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi during the Wuhan Informal Summit held this April. A lot of consensuses are being implemented now. I am delighted to see that China-India relations are now on a fast track.

Last but not the least, the diplomats from Afghanistan are our dear colleagues. We are all careerdiplomats with shared spirit of service and sacrifice for national interests and world peace. Three foreign ministers of China, India and Afghanistan send special congratulatory messages to one training programme, which shows its significance. I wish through this joint programme, you could understand China and India better, and make more contribution to your great country, and to the regional and world peace.

Thank you.

## AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI INTERACTS WITH INDIAN YATRIS

On October 12, Ambassador Luo Zhaohui had an interaction with representatives of Indian Yatris who visited Kailash Manasarovar. Ambassador Luo's wife Dr. Jiang Yili, Minister Li Bijian, Counselor Zhu Xiaohong of the Embassy, and Mr. Tarun Vijay, Chairman of Indian China Parliamentary Friendship Group, as well as representatives from Ministry of External Affairs of India and Yatra agencies attended the event.







#### REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR LUO **ZHAOHUI AT THE INTERACTION WITH THE** YATRIS TO KAILASH MANSAROVER

Shri Tarun Vijay, Dear Friends, Namaste!

Welcome to Chinese Embassy. It is my great pleasure to host this function to interact with Yatris to Kailash Mansarover. Most of you have just come back from the Yatra this year.

First of all, I would like to show my great respect for your determination, sacrifice, courage and faith. These qualities are essential for making your Yatra a great success. I know as a Hindu, making pilgrimage to Kailash Mansarover is a dream. You have spent a lot of time, money and overcome a lot of difficulties to realize your dream. I want to congratulate you all for your remarkable achievements.

You are not just Yatris, but modern day Indian "Xuan Zang" and friendship envoys between China and India. I hope you will tell your friends about your trip to China, and encourage more people to visit China,

learn about China and eventually fall in love China.

Secondly I want to share with you some information about what governments and officials have done for your Yatra. The two foreign ministries as coordinate centers for Yatra affairs have done a lot of work. Chinese government respects the freedom of religion and understands the importance of the Yatra. Since 1954, Chinese government signed an agreement with the Indian government for the arrangement of

Yatras. After that the Yatra affairs has witnessed ups and downs, but always moved forward. To help more Indian friends fulfill their dreams, the Chinese side has worked hard to open new pilgrimage route and expand pilgrim quota. In 2015, President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi reached agreement for opening a new route through the Nathu La Pass.

In February this year, a working group from Chinese Foreign Ministry and Tibetan local government visited India. In July, a delegation from Indian Ministry of External Affairs visited China. They exchanged views with each other and jointly prepared for the arrangement of this year's Yatra.

On the side of our Embassy, every year we are faced with heavy load of work related to Yatra visas. The visa officers have to work overtime and often late into the night to ensure timely issuance of the visas. Our headquarters in Beijing

seasonally send two extra diplomats to the Embassy to help out Yatra visas. We have opened a green channel for Yatra applicants, and established a liaison hot line between Chinese Embassy and Indian MEA.

The Tibetan local government bears very heavy logistic works regarding the Yatra. Kailash Mansarover is located in remote areas. Despite adverse natural conditions, new reception centers and hotels were built, roads and bridges were constructed, professional guides and interpreters were trained, stay points and medical emergency service were prepared, and Indian chefs cooking vegetarian food were facilitated. Roughly for every three official Yatris there is one local staff facilitating them.

Thanks to our joint efforts and hard work, the number of Yatris has increased from several hundred in 1980s to more than 20,000 this year.

Friends,

Pilgrimage affairs are not only related to your personal spiritual life, but also a part of China-India relations. It plays a very important role for people-to-people interaction. After the Wuhan Informal Summit this April, both countries are implementing the consensus reached by our two leaders. In December this year, the first meeting on High-level People-to-People Exchanges Mechanism will be launched in New Delhi. The Chinese side will continue working closely with the Indian side on the Yatra affairs and further enhancing the mutual understanding and friendship between our two peoples.

Time for Yatra is limited. But faith is beyond time. Through today's function, we wish you can share with us your stories and suggestions, so as to make future Yatra an even greater experience.

Thank you.

#### AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI INTERVIEWED BY *THE TRIBUNE*

On September 29th, Ambassador Luo Zhaohui gave an interview to Mr K.V. Prasad from The Tribune. The full transcript of the interview is as follows:

#### 1. What is your comment on China-India relations after being the Chinese Ambassador to India for two years?

By September this year, I have been the Chinese ambassador to India for two years, during which I experienced the ups and downs of China-India relations like a roller coaster. In 2016, bilateral relations began to decline due to issues such as the Nuclear Suppliers Group. The year of 2017 saw our relations fall into a trough due to Dong Lang standoff.

President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi, who met in Xiamen in September 2017, "put on the brake" for the downturn in our relationship. The two sides agreed to turn the old page, open a new chapter and look

forward, and agreed to hold an informal summit.

In April this year, our two leaders successfully held the informal summit in Wuhan. The Wuhan summit, which serves as a milestone, adds fuel to the bilateral relations and has created a new model of exchanges between leaders. At present, China-India relations have



been stabilized and improved, moving into the fast lane of development. I have used five "Cs" to summarize the priority directions for the two sides in implementing Wuhan consensus and promoting bilateral relations, namely, Communication, Cooperation, Contacts, Coordination, Control and Management.

In the past three months, the two leaders have met three times and will also meet in G20 summit in Argentina in November. General Wei Fenghe, State Councilor and Defense Minister of China, visited India in August. State Councilor and Minister for Public Security Mr. Zhao Kezhi will visit India this October. The two sides will also hold the first Meeting of China-India High-Level Cultural and People-to-People Exchange Mechanism this year. The Special Representatives' Meeting on the

China-India Boundary Question will be held in China. I am optimistic about the prospect of our bilateral relations.

#### 2. How both sides translate the Wuhan consensus into action?

The two sides have built a strong momentum by setting the tone in Wuhan Summit and implementing the consensus in the follow-up meetings, which has strongly led the development of bilateral relations. Next, the two sides will focus on four areas to strengthen action:

First, we should expand practical cooperation. From January to July this year, bilateral trade reached nearly \$55 billion, with a year-on-year growth of 15%. China attaches great importance to the bilateral trade imbalance and has lowered tariffs on some of Indian

goods exported to China, increased imports of sugar, non-Basmati rice and other agricultural products from India, facilitated the export of Indian medicines to China, and further improved the trade structure. China is ready to explore the resumption of negotiations on China-India Free Trade Agreement, carry out cooperation on major projects such as high-speed rail and industrial parks, and explore cooperation in new energy, science and technology innovation and other areas. The two sides are coordinating the preparations for the first Meeting of China-India High-level Cultural and People-to-People Exchange Mechanism. China and India have established 14 pairs of sister cities and provinces. We have seen great enthusiasm and potential for cooperation at local level, which is expected to become a highlight in the follow-up cooperation.

Second, we should strengthen coordination in international and regional affairs. The United States has provoked a trade dispute, imposed sanctions on Russia for arms sales and required countries to cut crude oil imports from Iran to zero. Both China and India have suffered. The two sides are strengthening coordination to safeguard common rights and interests.

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One of the outcomes of the informal summit between Chinese and Indian leaders in Wuhan is to carry out "China-India Plus" cooperation in Afghanistan. The two sides will soon jointly conduct a training program for Afghan diplomats. We also discussed "China-India Plus" cooperation on the Rohingya issue in Myanmar and the Iranian nuclear issue. This new model of cooperation can also be extended to South Asian countries, including Nepal, which is conducive to enhancing mutual trust between China and India.

Terrorism is a great concern for India. Both China and India are victims of terrorism. I want to stress that China is firmly committed to counter-terrorism. China is ready to work with India and the international community to fight against terrorism with determination. Terrorism is a global challenge. Countries should adopt consistent policies, consensus and actions.

Addressing the Shangri-la Dialogue, Prime Minister Modiji stressed that India's Indo-Pacific policy is not aimed at any country and advocates open, inclusive and rule-based cooperation, with which the Chinese side also agrees.

China welcomes India to become a full member of the SCO and hopes to strengthen China-India cooperation in counter-terrorism and connectivity within the SCO framework and explore trilateral cooperation between China, India and Pakistan. China is ready to play a role in improving India-Pakistan relations.

As emerging major countries, China and India should continue to maintain communication on subjects such as climate change, free trade, rights and interests of developing countries, energy pricing cooperation and maritime cooperation under the framework of the UN, WTO, BRICS, SCO, G20 and East Asia summit, in a bid to safeguard common interests.

Third, we should enhance sharing of best practices in governance. Both China and India are major developing countries with similar views on their historical orientation, development stages and development goals. Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered into a new era. The Chinese people are pursuing the "Chinese dream" and India has proposed the "New India" vision. We should seek synergy between our development strategies and share our governance experience. The two sides should learn from each other in the areas of poverty alleviation, anticorruption, agriculture and rural areas, employment, urbanization and environmental protection, deepen understanding of each other's respective development strategies and reform measures, and support the modernization process of both countries.

Fourth, we should try our best to solve the boundary question. China's willingness to resolve the boundary question is clear and our attitude is positive. Mr. Ajit Kumar Doval, National Security Advisor of India, will visit China to attend the Special Representatives' Meeting on the China-India Boundary Question. Both sides will continue to discuss the framework to resolve the boundary question and strive for an "early harvest". Two rounds of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on China-India Border Affairs (WMCC) have been held this year. The two sides are committed to creating more CBMs, properly managing differences and maintaining peace and tranquility in the border areas. In August, Chinese State Councilor and Defense Minister Wei Fenghe visited India and the two sides agreed to maintain contacts on the establishment of a military hotline.

### 3. You visited Bhutan recently. Could you share with us the details of the visit and the model of "Two Plus One"?

Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Mr. Kong Xuanyou visited Bhutan this July. This is the first time for him to visit Bhutan as the Chinese government's representative on China-Bhutan border talks. Bhutan is the only neighboring country with which China has not established diplomatic relations. It is also China's good neighbor and good friend. China and Bhutan have conducted cooperation in economic, trade, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. China wishes that the national assembly election be held smoothly in Bhutan and hopes that Bhutan maintain stability and achieve development and prosperity. It serves the interests of both China and India. A few days ago, I attended the "Bhutan Week" to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the India-Bhutan diplomatic relations. China is pleased to see the development of India-



Bhutan relations and would like to establish diplomatic relations with Bhutan on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and resolve boundary question at an earlier date. China hopes that India could play a positive role in this regard. Relevant discussions are still going on. This could also be one direction for "China-India Plus" cooperation.

## 4. What is your view on the new practices caused by the regime change in the Maldives and Malaysia on China and the Belt and Road Initiative?

The political changes in the Maldives and Malaysia are their internal affairs, and we never interfere. The BRI brings in bilateral and multilateral cooperation projects as an initiative for economic cooperation and inter-connectivity instead of a tool of geostrategy. The mutually beneficial cooperation carried out by China and its neighboring countries

under the framework of the BRI is conducive to the economic and social development of partner countries, regional inter-connectivity and interregional economic integration.

It will take some time for the new governments to get acquaintance with the BRI after the new governments take office. This is a normal phenomenon and we fully understand it. Even if there are some changes in the cooperation projects between China and these countries, this is nothing remarkable. Chinese companies seek economic benefits in their investments, and financial institutions assess risks in providing loans. Whether the BRI has put partner countries into a so-called "debt trap", the concerned countries have the best say. Leaders from countries such as Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Maldives have offered clarification.

#### 5. What is China's view on the trade friction between China and

### the US? How should China and India conduct cooperation in various multilateral organizations?

The US brandished sanctions club, and continued to withdraw from signed agreements and international organizations. In particular, it initiated a host of investigations under the auspices of Section 232 and Section 301. The trade protectionism and hegemony adopted by the US government harm others without benefiting itself and seriously threaten the principle of free trade and the multilateral trading system. China does not want a trade war, but it is not afraid of one and will fight to the end. Recently, China issued a white paper entitled "The Facts and China's Position on China-US Trade Friction" to comprehensively clarify the basic facts about China-US economic and trade relations and China's policy stance. It is normal to have some trade differences and frictions between two countries. The key is to find solutions through dialogue and consultation in a way of equality, honesty and mutual respect, rather than practicing unilateralism and protectionism.

In the 70 years since the establishment of the world multilateral trading system, trade barriers have been gradually reduced and trade frictions effectively controlled. However, like water and air, we take it for granted in life. Once lost, you'll find it indispensable. It is hard to imagine now what is going to happen to your life without the multilateral trading system and free trade.

Today, against the backdrop of in-depth development of economic globalization and trade liberalization, the US is practicing unilateral trade protectionism in the name of "national security" and "fair trade". It will shake the foundations of the multilateral trading regime and affect the smooth development of free trade. Not only will it affect China's economic development, but also damage the external environment of India and hinder India's booming economy.

China and India share common interests in defending the multilateral trading system and free trade. President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modiji spoke with one voice to safeguard the multilateral trading system and free trade at the World Economic Forum in Davos respectively. In April this year, China and India initiated a consultation request concerning certain US duties imposed on imports of steel and aluminium products at the WTO, and officially launched the dispute settlement procedure. In June, the two sides jointly participated in publishing the "Qingdao Declaration" during the SCO Summit, clearly expressing support for building an open global economy and opposing all forms of trade protectionism. In July, the two sides jointly participated in the publication of the 10th BRICS Summit Johannesburg Declaration, and once again sent a clear message against protectionism. As the world's largest oil buyers, China and India can also promote the establishment of some kind of "buyers club" to safeguard common interests.

6. Are there any new measures for both sides to jointly resolve this issue as India has been seeking to cut trade deficit? China recently allowed the import of Indian rice, but prohibited the export of Indian soybeans to China since 2011. China imports 900 million tonnes of soybeans annually. What about re-allowing import of Indian soybean? What is the status of trade in sugar and cotton?

China never intends to pursue a trade surplus with India. This problem is largely due to the unbalanced trade structure between the two countries. China attaches importance to addressing India's concerns. In March this year, the Chinese side sent a business delegation to India and signed import contracts worth about \$2.4 billion with Indian exporters. In June, the two countries also signed an agreement for export of non-Basmati rice to China. The first consignment of 100 tonnes non-Basmati rice has been shipped to China from Mumbai. Since this year, China has also taken the initiative to cut tariffs on thousands of products from India and other countries. China's overall tariff level has been further reduced, which is basically close to that in the US and Europe. We welcome more

Indian businesses to explore the market in China and would like to study and expand bilateral trade and facilitate the export of Indian agricultural products and medicines to China, so as to increase the scale and level of China-India trade and form a more balanced trade structure.

This November, the first China International Import Expo (CIIE) will be held in Shanghai. Over 1,500 companies from 180-plus countries and regions have confirmed participation in the CIIE. More than 150,000 Chinese professional buyers are expected to attend. India's participation would help reduce the trade deficit and improve the trade structure between China and India. India is preparing for the Country Pavilion of the CIIE. However, many Indian companies are not keen on participation as the CIIE coincides with the Indian festival of Diwali, and will miss the opportunity to expand exports to China.

It is learned that China banned the import of rapeseed meal, soy meal and other products from India in 2011, mainly due to the detection of harmful ingredients such as malachite green in Indian rapeseed meal. At present, China has lifted limits on the access for rapeseed meal and does not prohibit soybean imports from India. From July 1 this year, China reduced its tariffs on soybean imported from India and other four countries from 3% to zero. China imports most of its sovbeans from Brazil and the United States. We hope that the Indian side could negotiate and sign the protocol on Plant Sanitation Requirements with China to create conditions for Indian soybeans expanding market share in China.

In 2017, China imported \$190 million raw cotton from India with a year-on-year growth of 1.7%, which is the second-largest imported agricultural product from India. India exported 22,000 tons of sugar to China, with a trade volume of \$10.89 million. In order to reduce bilateral trade deficit of India, China is willing to import more sugar, non-Basmati rice from India. The export of Indian medicines to China is an important direction for addressing the trade imbalance as it involves a large amount of money and has broad prospect. Both sides can strengthen cooperation in this area.

#### 7. The 40th Anniversary of China's Reform and Opening-up

President Xi Jinping pointed out that reform and opening up is the second revolution of China. It has not only profoundly changed China, but also significantly changed the world. This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening up. Over the past 40 years, China's GDP has grown at an average annual rate of 9.5%. The Chinese people's lives have gone from shortage to abundance, from poverty to moderate prosperity. More than 700 million people in poverty under the current UN standards have been successfully

lifted out of poverty, accounting for more than 70% of the total global poverty reduction. China has contributed more than 30% of world economic growth rate for many years, becoming the main stabilizer and driver for world economic growth. Today, China is the world's second largest economy and a major trading partner of more than 120 countries and regions.

In fact, China is still a developing country, with its per capita GDP still below the world average. The problem of uneven development is relatively prominent in terms of significant disparities between urban and rural areas, between regions, and across the social class. China still faces three arduous tasks of preventing and defusing major risks, targeted poverty alleviation, and pollution prevention and control. China will continue adhering to the fundamental national policy of reform and opening-up and pursuing development with its door wide open. China's door will not be closed and will only open even wider!

#### 8. Religious Freedom in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, China

In recent years, Xinjiang enjoys a sound momentum of socio-

economic development with people of different ethnic groups living in harmony. All Muslims enjoy full freedom of religious belief. Normal religious activities are fully guaranteed by the Chinese Constitution and relevant laws. The most serious threat facing Xinjiang today is the violent terror and ethnic separatist activities, behind which is the "Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement", a violent separatist and terrorist organization.

Regarding the so-called "Reeducation Camp" rumors, the measures adopted by Xinjiang aim to improve stability, development, solidarity and people's livelihoods, while cracking down on ethnic separatist and violent terrorist activities in accordance with the law, safeguarding national security, and protecting people's life and property. The so-called "restricting citizens" personal freedom" and "coercive political brain washing" are groundless accusations and not consistent with the facts. We welcome friends from Indian media to visit Xinjiang to get firsthand experience on the economic and social development, and freedom of religious belief in Xinjiang.

### AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI VISITS MANIPAL UNIVERSITY

On October 6, Ambassador Luo Zhaohui and his wife Dr.Jiang Yili visited the Manipal University in Karnataka and met with Pro Chancellor Dr. H.S. Ballal of the academy. They exchanged views on the second round of Dialogue for China-India Relations and cooperation between China and Indian universities. Chinese Consul General in Mumbai Mr. Tang Guocai and Counselor Li Ya of the Embassy attended the meeting.







## THE MEETING OF WORKING MECHANISM FOR CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION ON CHINA-INDIA BORDER AFFAIRS HELD IN CHENGDU

From September 27 to 28, 2018, the 12th Meeting of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on China-India Border Affairs was held in Chengdu. Director-General of the Department of Boundary and Ocean Affairs of the Foreign Ministry Yi Xianliang and Joint Secretary of the East Asia Division of the Ministry of External Affairs Pranay Verma of India co-chaired the meeting. Representatives from

the Foreign Ministries, Defence Ministries and other departments of the two sides attended the meeting.

The two sides reviewed the situation in the China-India border areas since this year, and exchanged in-depth views on such topics as border control and enhancing confidence-building measures in the border areas. Both sides agreed to well implement the spirit of consensus reached by the leaders of the two

countries, further intensify communication and coordination between the diplomatic and defense departments of the two countries, properly manage and control the border-related issues, enhance exchanges and cooperation in border defense and jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas, so as to create a sound atmosphere for the healthy and stable development of China-India relations.







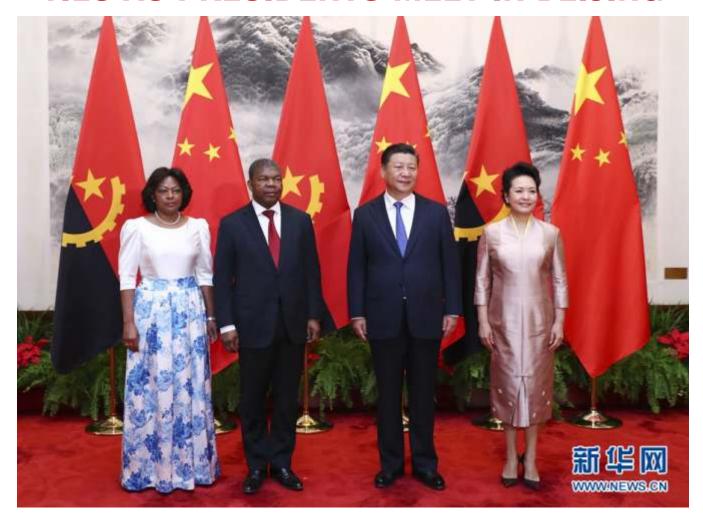
# ACUPUNCTURE SEMINAR IN MEMORY OF DR. KOTNIS HELD IN INDIA

On October 10th 2018, Seminar on Role of Acupuncture for Healthy Life in Memory of Dr. Kotnis was held in Panipat, Haryana on the occasion of his 108 birthday. Counselor Zhu Xiaohong of Embassy of China in India was invited to attend the seminar and delivered a speech. The guests including Mme Sumedha Ktariya, Deputy Commissioner of Panipat, Dr. Inderjit Singh, Director of Dr. Kotnis Accupuncture Hospital and Dr. Debasis Bakshi, Secretary General of Acupuncture Science Association were present too.



#### **External Affairs**

# CHINA, ANGOLA AGREE TO PROMOTE TIES AS PRESIDENTS MEET IN BEIJING



Beijing, Oct. 9 — Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with visiting Angolan President Joao Lourenco in Beijing Tuesday, agreeing to continue developing bilateral ties.

Xi said he is glad to see the second visit to Beijing in about a month by Lourenco, who came to attend the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in early September.

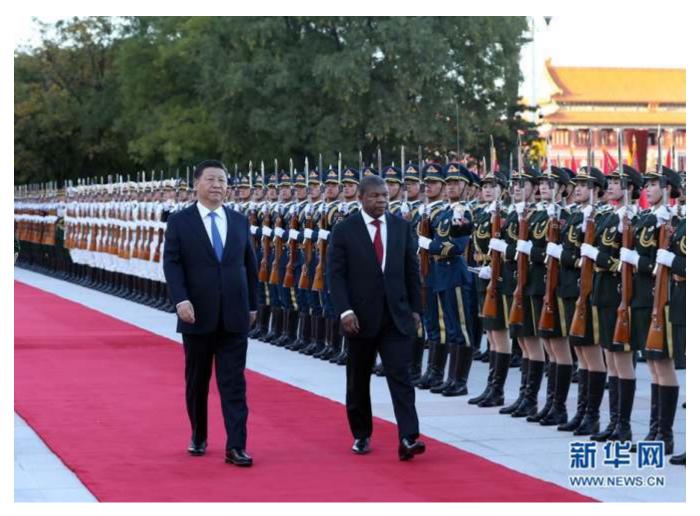
Xi said the success of the summit

has injected vigor and opportunities into the development of China-Africa and China-Angola ties, calling on the two sides to work together to actively and quickly promote the development of ties.

"China is confident of the future of bilateral cooperation," Xi said, urging the two sides to "cement political mutual trust, strengthen high-level contacts, deepen strategic communication, and understand and support each other's core interests and grave concerns."

Xi said that China has empathy with the historical experiences of African countries and firmly supports people of African countries in opposing foreign interference, and independently choosing their path of development.

Xi said he expects the two sides to implement the results of the 2018 Beijing Summit of the FOCAC, promote the eight major initiatives



unveiled at the summit to realize early progress, and advance the Belt and Road Initiative.

The Chinese president called on the two sides to advance the strategic integration of each other's development plans, strengthen cooperation in traditional areas, expand new growth points in mutually beneficial cooperation, and promote the industrialization and economic diversification of Angola.

Xi also said it is necessary to expand people-to-people exchanges and exchanges between local areas.

He called for closer multilateral coordination, expecting the two sides to jointly safeguard multilateralism, build an open world economy and make the international order more just and equitable.

The Angolan president said that Angola and China have maintained close high-level exchanges, which shows the two sides attach great importance to the relations.

Noting that for a long time, bilateral cooperation has played a positive role in the economic and social development of Angola, Lourenco said that Angola looks forward to further strengthening bilateral cooperation in infrastructure construction and people's livelihood, to better promote Angola's development.

Lourenco said that the FOCAC has promoted cooperation between

China and Africa as a whole, and that African countries highly appreciate China's cooperation with Africa "on the basis of Africa's actual needs and its taking tangible measures without attaching any political conditions or interference in African countries' internal affairs."

"The cooperation plans proposed by China within the framework of the FOCAC has a very positive impact on the development of African countries," Lourenco said.

"It is hoped that cooperation between Angola and China will become a model for Africa-China cooperation."

He said Angola values China's important influence in international



affairs, and hailed China's constructive role in addressing hotspotissues in Africa.

The Angolan president said that Angola supports multilateralism and advocates that the world's future should be decided by all countries, expressing the will to cooperate closely with China in multilateral affairs.

The two presidents also watched the signing of a series of bilateral cooperative documents.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and China's top legislator Li Zhanshu also met with Lourenco Tuesday.

### XI MEETS LATVIAN PRESIDENT

Beijing, Sept. 18 — Chinese President Xi Jinping met with his Latvian counterpart Raimonds Vejonis in Beijing Tuesday.

Vejonis is in China to attend the annual meeting of the Summer Davos Forum in north China's Tianjin.

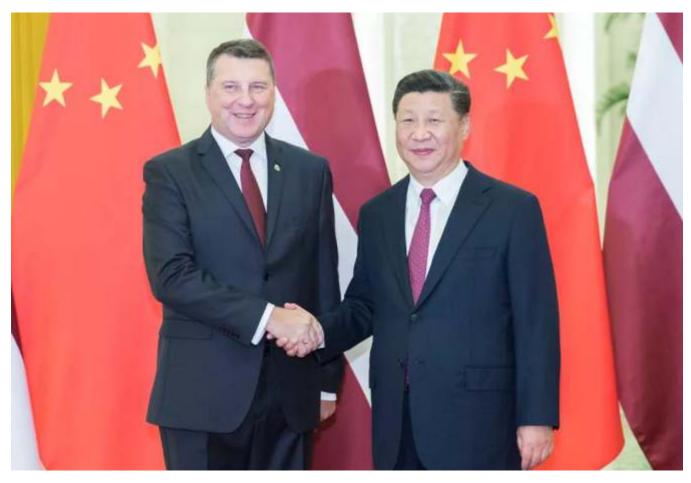
"China stands ready to deepen political trust, expand economic and trade cooperation and enhance people-to-people exchanges with Latvia based on mutual respect and equality so as to benefit the two peoples," Xi said.

Noting that Latvia is the first among countries in the Baltic Sea region to sign a document on cooperation with China on the Belt and Road initiative, Xi said the two countries should facilitate the alignment of their development strategies, increase cooperation in such areas as logistics and infrastructure construction, and help promote interconnectivity between

Asia and Europe.

"China and Europe, as two stabilizing forces in the world and two major economies, should strengthen strategic communication, maintain opening up to each other, and jointly uphold multilateralism and build an open world economy through China-Europe cooperation, to contribute to world peace, stability and development," said Xi.

This is the common



responsibility China and Europe share, he said.

Deeming the cooperation between China and the Central and Eastern Europe Countries (CEEC) "an important component of China-Europe relations" as well as "a bridge connecting the Belt and Road initiative with Europe," Xi proposed China and Latvia step up cooperation within the framework of China-EU and China-CEEC cooperation mechanism.

Vejonis spoke highly of the China-proposed Belt and Road initiative and the China-CEEC cooperation mechanism, saying he hoped the two countries could strengthen cooperation in the fields of trade, investment, transportation,

logistics and tourism, and people-topeople exchanges.

"Latvia is committed to promoting the development of Europe-Chinaties," said Vejonis.

Xi and Vejonis also witnessed the signing of cooperative documents after their meeting.

### XI SENDS CONGRATULATORY LETTER TO 35TH ANNUAL PLENARY SESSION OF INTERACTION COUNCIL

Beijing, Sept. 28, Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday sent a congratulatory letter to the 35th Annual Plenary Session of the InterAction Council which opened in Beijing.

In the letter, Xi, on behalf of the Chinese government and Chinese people, and in his own name, extended his congratulations on the opening of the session and sincere welcome to the members of the InterAction Council present at the session.

Xi said the reform of the global governance system and the international order was accelerating, and it has become a general trend and the common task for all countries to strengthen global governance and improve the global governance system.

The InterAction Council has

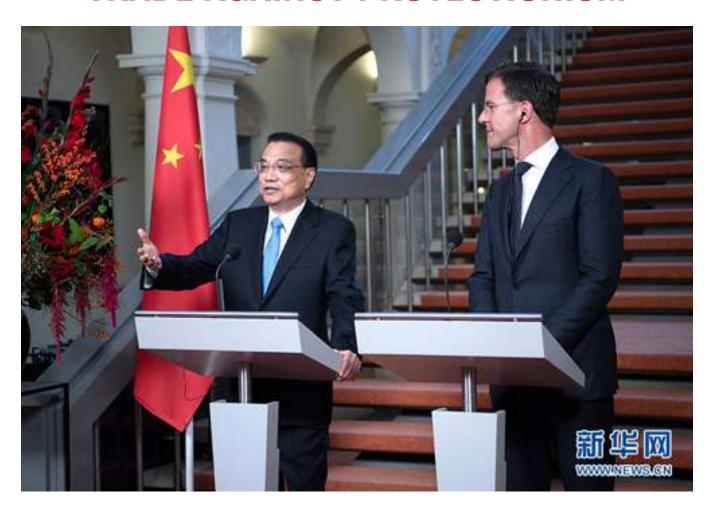
made continuous efforts on solving global challenges and played an active role in safeguarding world peace and promoting common development, Xi said.

The session focused on topics about global governance affairs, Xi said, adding that he believed it would help various parties deepen their consensus and improve the global governance system.

He stressed that China always follows the principle of achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration in engaging in global governance, firmly supports multilateralism, and actively promotes the building of a new type of international relations as well as a community with a shared future for humanity.

"We stand ready to work with the international community to strengthen the exploration and practice on improving the global governance system and jointly build a better future for humanity, "Xi said, adding that he wished the session a complete success.

# CHINA, NETHERLANDS CALL FOR FREE TRADE AGAINST PROTECTIONISM



The HagueHE HAGUE, Oct. 15, China and the Netherlands on Monday appealed for global efforts to promote free trade and safeguard multilateralism in order to tackle the common challenges confronting the world.

In a joint press conference with Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte in The Hague, visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said that the two countries will cement consensus and work together with all sides to boost free trade and further improve the multilateral trading system against the backdrop of growing uncertainties.

"Free trade is not a rejection of fair trade," Li said. "Without free trade, there is no fair trade; while without fair trade, free trade will not gain sustainable development."

As for multilateralism, Li said, it does not mean disrespect for country-to-country relations, but a promotion to the democratization of international politics.

Li reiterated China's determination to be more open to the world, saying that his country will continue to expand its markets for Dutch investments in such areas as agriculture and services.

Answering a question on a recent

China-Germany agreement over the building of a chemical production site in China, Li said China's new policy to further open up its basic manufacturing sector by removing foreign ownership restrictions is applicable to all.

"The policy is not just for some specific companies of some specific countries," he said, adding that some European enterprises are among the first that benefit from the policy.

China will further liberalize its financial services market and expand market access in manufacturing and services industries, Li told the press.

He said he hopes that companies from all over the world can seize the opportunities brought by the new round of reform and opening-up in China so as to achieve win-win results and common development.

Under the current circumstances, Li said China and the Netherlands need to open markets wider to each other, deepen cooperation in traditional industries including agriculture and energy, and seek new cooperation in such fields as hi-tech manufacturing and services.

During their talks, the two leaders agreed to further enhance cooperation between their countries against climate change, population ageing and other global challenges.

China is willing to discuss with the Netherlands to open its senior service industry, Li said.

For his part, Rutte urged all big countries to work collectively on an open, fair and multilateral trading system, saying that the Netherlands and China will make joint efforts to cope with global challenges.

"Free and fair trade is about not only how we can share the cake, it is also about how we can make the cake bigger," Rutte said.

Speaking highly of the two countries' fruitful cooperation in various areas and joint efforts in dealing with challenges such as climate change, Rutte said the Netherlands will work with China to further promote bilateral ties and cooperation.

Li is on an official visit to the European country. During his three-day stay, he will also meet with Dutch King Willem-Alexander as well as parliamentary leaders. The premier is also set to visit a hi-tech exhibition and address a business forum in The Hague.

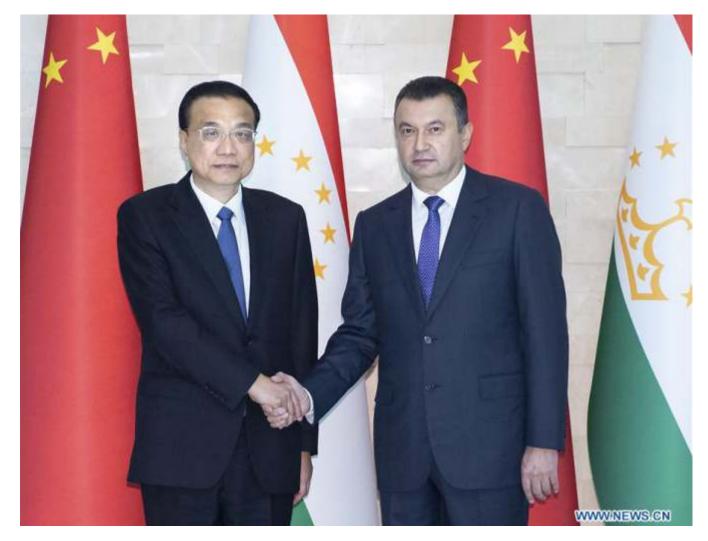
The visit to the Netherlands is Li's first as Chinese premier and also the first by a Chinese premier in 14 years.

# CHINA TO BOOST TIES WITH TAJIKISTAN TO NEW LEVELS: PREMIER LI

Dushanbe, Oct. 13, China and Tajikistan will support each other and seek common development to boost bilateral ties to new levels, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said.

Li made the remarks when holding talks with Tajik Prime Minister Kokhir Rasulzoda in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan, on Saturday.

Li said Tajikistan is the first leg of his Eurasian trip, which demonstrates the importance China attaches to the comprehensive strategic partnership with Tajikistan.



Noting the rapid and healthy growth of bilateral ties and cooperation in all areas at the moment, Li said China stands ready to strengthen the synergy of the Belt and Road Initiative with Tajikistan's development strategy to advance good-neighborliness and practical cooperation across the matrix.

Speaking in details, Li said cooperation in economy and trade and investment must be expanded. Leading and trustworthy Chinese companies are encouraged to invest in Tajikistan in the fields of energy, power, mineral exploitation, industrial capacity and processing.

He said connectivity should be

strengthened, with more to be done in transportation, energy, and border infrastructure development.

Cooperation on agriculture needs to be expanded, he said, adding that the focus is agricultural processing and import of more high-quality Tajik farm products.

Li also spoke of the need to improve the business environment, strengthen cultural and people-to-people exchanges, and tighten coordination and cooperation under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

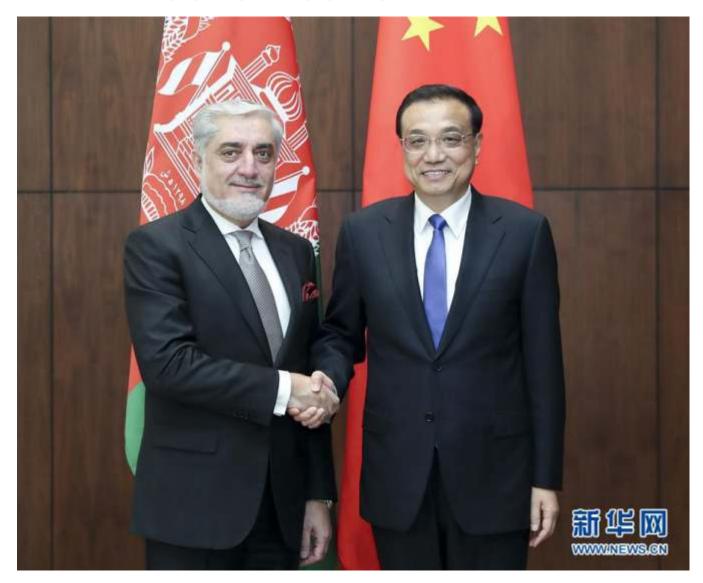
Rasulzoda said Tajikistan is willing to take an active part in

building the Belt and Road, enhance bilateral practical cooperation in trade, energy, transportation, agriculture, investment and financing, expand cultural and people-to-people exchanges, among others, to maintain the healthy and steady development of the bilateral ties.

Rasulzoda said Tajikistan is ready to coordinate closely with China under the SCO framework.

After the talks, Li and Rasulzoda witnessed the signing of documents on political, trade, customs, and local cooperation, and jointly met the press.

# CHINA TO CONTINUE TO HELP PROMOTE AFGHAN RECONCILIATION, RECONSTRUCTION: PREMIER



Dushanbe, Oct. 12, China will continue to play a constructive role in promoting the political reconciliation in Afghanistan and help with the country's peaceful reconstruction, said Chinese Premier Li Keqiang here on Friday.

Li's remarks came as he met with

Afghan Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah on the sidelines of the 17th meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Council of Heads of Government in Tajik capital Dushanbe.

Calling Afghanistan a traditional friend and good neighbor, Li said

China will continue with its friendly policy toward Afghanistan and hopes to see the security situation in Afghanistan keep improving so as to provide a peaceful and stable environment for development.

Li said China will continue to support the Afghan government in safeguarding national security and stability and promoting the Afghanled and Afghan-owned political reconciliation and will continue to play a constructive role to this end.

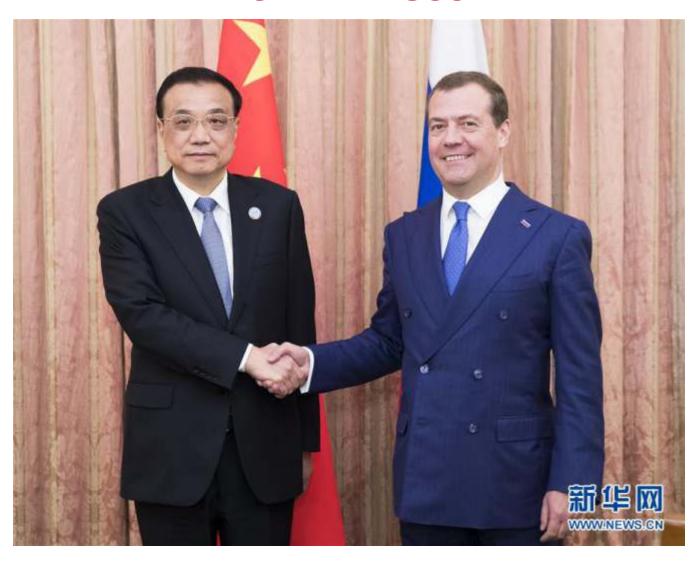
China is willing to help Afghanistan boost reconstruction and improve its people's livelihood by aligning the two countries' development strategies and deepening bilateral practical cooperation, said the premier.

China also encourages more capable Chinese enterprises to participate in Afghanistan's infrastructure construction so as to boost the country's connectivity with other countries in the region, said Li.

He added that China will enhance anti-terror cooperation and personnel training with Afghanistan, and promote trilateral cooperation among China, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Noting that China has always been a good friend of Afghanistan, Abdullah expressed his gratitude to China for its long-term assistance to his country.

Afghanistan is willing to enhance cooperation with China in such areas as economy and trade, electricity generation, agricultural produce and counterterrorism, and to actively participate in China-Afghanistan-Pakistan cooperation, said Abdullah.

# CHINESE PREMIER LAUDS BILATERAL TIES WITH RUSSIA



Dushanbe, Oct. 12, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on Friday lauded the China-Russia bilateral relationship, which has kept high-level development momentum and made remarkable achievements in economic cooperation.

Li made the remarks when meeting with his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev on the sidelines of the 17th meeting of the Council of Heads of Government of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization held here.

The Chinese side is willing to strengthen comprehensive strategic coordination with Russia, Li said when speaking of the successful meeting of the two countries' leaders at the fourth Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) held in September in Russia's Far East city of Vladivostok.

New impetus can be injected into bilateral cooperation by expanding cooperation fields and converging interests of both countries, Li said.

Under the current complex and changing international situation, China is willing to innovate cooperation ideas together with Russia to further explore potential, Li said.

He added that cooperation in energy, finance, as well as science and technology, should be boosted to enhance bilateral high-quality cooperation.

For his part, Medvedev said with steady and practical cooperation in all fields, positive development of energy cooperation and deepened regional exchanges, the bilateral trade is expected to exceed 100 billion U.S. dollars this year.

Russia is willing to work with China to safeguard multilateralism and free trade, contributing to the world peace, stability and prosperity, said Medvedev.

He also said that he expects to visit China this year for the China-Russia Prime Ministers' Regular Meeting.

### MULTILATERALISM, SHARED PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

 Statement by H.E. Wang Yi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of The People's Republic of China at the General Debate of The 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 28 September 2018

Madam President,

Every September, global attention focuses on the United Nations and on this stately Assembly Hall. People watch closely what is happening here, hoping that the United Nations will deliver to the world peace, development, harmony and prosperity. People look to the UN to help realize their dream for a better life, a UN that is committed to "Making the United Nations Relevant to All People", thus making our world a better place for everyone to live in.

The contemporary international order, which began with the founding of the United Nations, is based on the purposes and principles of the UN

Charter and enhanced by the vision and practice of multilateralism. It has, over the past 70 years or more, brought about general peace and rapid development. A people-centered philosophy has gained wide acceptance, and broad consensus has formed on the need for interdependence and win-win cooperation. Yet, it is also true that the international order today faces problems and challenges and needs steady reform and improvement.

The world is changing. As we celebrate mankind's proud achievements and progress in an everchanging world, we must never lose sight of the challenges and difficulties

we face, and must remain vigilant. What we see today is that international rules and multilateral mechanisms are under attack, and the international landscape is filled with uncertainties and destabilizing factors.

Should we stay committed to multilateralism or let unilateralism have its way? Should we seek to uphold the architecture of the world order or allow it to be eroded upon and collapse? These are questions of critical importance bearing on the future of all countries and the destiny of mankind, questions that all countries must carefully reflect on and seek answers to.

China's answer is clear-cut. All along, China has upheld the international order and pursued multilateralism. Though once kept out of the UN for 22 years, China has never wavered in its conviction to multilateralism and to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. China stayed true to its commitment throughout the negotiation process on its return to the GATT and then accession to the WTO, negotiations that lasted 15 long years and were concluded at a certain price. China fulfilled its promise and integrated itself into the world economic system. After the international financial crisis broke out, China chose not to stand idly by but to work together with other countries to tide over rough times. For years running, China has contributed to over 30% of global growth. It has played its part in helping restore global recovery.

In the face of new developments and severe challenges, China will keep to its commitment and remain a champion of multilateralism. Standing at this podium back in 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping, in his statement reflecting the keen understanding of mankind's common interests and the future of our planet, called for building a community with a shared future for mankind. This major initiative is in keeping with the trend of history, and it echoes the call of the times. It adds to our conviction and strength as we pursue the common endeavor to protect this global village. It points to the direction for us to work together to open up an even better future for mankind. To uphold multilateralism in the new era, we believe the following principles need to be adhered to:

First, we must pursue win-win cooperation. Our world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a

century. Also unseen before are the problems and challenges we are faced with. No country can meet them alone or stay immune to their impact. What we need to do is to replace confrontation with cooperation and coercion with consultation. We must stick together as one big family instead of forming closed circles. We must promote common development through consultation instead of taking a winner-takes-all approach. This is a sure way for a bright future to be ushered in to the world.

Second, we must act upon rules and order. State-to-state relations should be based on credibility, not willful revocation of commitments. International cooperation should be guided by rules, not impulse. Practicing multilateralism is, first and foremost, about upholding the UN Charter, observing international law and the basic norms governing international relations and honoring international agreements reached upon through negotiations.

Third, we must uphold fairness and justice. In international affairs, fairness and justice means equality between all countries, big or small. It means responsibility for big countries to help the small and the rich to assist the poor. Fairness and justice also means respect for other countries' sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as their choice of development path and the right to a better life and to more development opportunities.

Fourth, we must act to deliver real results. Multilateralism is not about making empty rhetoric. It must be pursued to solve problems. Efforts must be targeted, results-oriented, and measured by visible progress. Whether a multilateral mechanism works depends on the will and

engagement of countries in the world. It is imperative that we work together to uphold the international system with the United Nations at its core as well as the multilateral trading system centering on the World Trade Organization.

Multilateralism requires a strong United Nations. China supports Secretary-General Guterres in his endeavor to advance reform of the UN system in the three critical areas of peace and security, economic development and internal management. Such reform should be led by member states. It should be designed to prioritize concerns of developing countries, make the UN more efficient and enhance oversight and accountability. Crucial to the UN's proper functioning is stable and predictable funding. China will continue to fulfill its due financial obligations, and China calls upon other member states to pay their membership contributions and peacekeeping assessments on time and in full.

#### Madam President,

The course of development and progress for humanity is unstoppable. Peace, reconciliation and harmony are the surging trend, while war, conflict and terror are opposed by all. Equality, mutual trust and win-win cooperation are the call of our times, whereas power politics and the law of the jungle find no support. As a major responsible country, China commits itself to the path of peaceful development, and China will work with other countries and contribute its share to global peace and security.

Since this year, the situation on the Korean Peninsula has seen a major turnaround thanks to the efforts of all parties concerned. China, on its part, has contributed to such development. China supports all-out improvement of relations between the North and the South of the Peninsula, as well as efforts to facilitate dialogues between the DPRK and the US. China encourages the DPRK to continue moving along the right direction of denuclearization. At the same time, we believe it is also right for the US to make timely and positive responses so as to truly meet the DPRK half way. China will continue to honor its due international responsibility and obligation, and will strictly implement Security Council resolutions related to the DPRK. Meanwhile, China calls upon the Security Council to take timely actions in light of the development and changes of the situation to create more favorable conditions for a peaceful settlement of the Peninsula issue through political and diplomatic means. Effective settlement of the issue requires complete denuclearization as well as establishment of a peace mechanism. Only when the two wheels move in tandem can the issue be truly resolved and can peace start to dawn.

Regarding the Iranian nuclear issue, now is a crucial time for continued implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The JCPOA is a consensusbased multilateral agreement endorsed by the UN Security Council. It serves the common interests of all parties concerned and the international community at large. If the agreement fails to be implemented, the international nuclear non-proliferation regime will be undermined, the authority and role of the Security Council challenged, and peace and stability in both this region and the wider world

jeopardized. That is a scenario in which no one stands to gain. China urges parties concerned to continue observing and implementing the JCPOA. On this basis, possibility could be explored for a dialogue platform that is inclusive and transparent to facilitate proper settlement of each party's concerns through dialogue and consultation.

The question of Palestine must not be marginalized. For more than seven decades, peace and justice have remained elusive in that part of the world. On this issue, what the international community needs most is not proposal or initiative, but rather resolve and action. To implement the two-state solution, a new round of peace-promoting efforts need to be made to explore a new mediation mechanism. To that end, China will play its part and Chinese humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people will continue.

The issue involving Rakhine State of Myanmar cannot be resolved overnight, and steady progress needs to be made through a three-phased process involving cessation of violence, return of displaced persons and economic development. Myanmar and Bangladesh are inseparable neighbors, and could well be inseparable partners. Yesterday, at my meeting with colleagues from Myanmar and Bangladesh and also in the presence of Secretary-General Guterres, agreement was reached between Myanmar and Bangladesh on accelerating the return of the first batch of displaced persons. We believe Myanmar and Bangladesh are capable of resolving this issue properly through friendly negotiations.

China supports the UN's leading role in coordinating responses to non-

traditional security challenges. In the new frontiers of global governance like cyber space and outer space, state sovereignty must be upheld, rules observed, and responsibilities honored. Terrorism, a menace to the entire human society, should by no means be justified. Security Council resolutions must be earnestly implemented to counter cyber terrorism, terrorist financing and the spread of radical narratives, so as to remove the breeding ground of terrorism.

#### Madam President,

Development is essential for our world today. We need to address both insufficient development and, more important, the imbalance in development. There is no one-sizefits-all model. Every country is entitled to explore a development path that suits itself to deliver happiness and security to its people, and bring a future of confidence and hope to its children. Countries face various questions in development. Questions themselves could be turned into drivers for reform, and solutions to problems could bring about development.

Economic globalization should not be a process for some to gain and others to lose, still less should it result in widening the gap between the North and the South. It is important that we adapt ourselves to the trend of economic globalization, and see to it that such a process is open, inclusive, balanced and win-win to deliver benefits to all.

International trade is complementary and win-win by nature. It should not be a zero-sum game in which one gains at the expense of others, and no one should be allowed to place its own interest above the interest of others. Protectionism will only hurt oneself, and unilateral moves will bring damage to all. Regarding trade frictions, China stands for a proper settlement based on rules and consensus through dialogue and consultation on an equal footing. China will not be blackmailed or yield to pressure. China has taken steps not just to defend its own legitimate rights and interests. China is also acting to uphold the free trade system and international rules and order for the benefit of global recovery and the common interests of all countries.

Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should top the agenda of the current session of the General Assembly. We need to incorporate the implementation of this agenda into the development strategies of member states and pursue innovation-driven, coordinated, green and open development that benefits all. We need to forge closer partnerships for development and pursue international development cooperation with the UN at its center, North-South cooperation as the main channel, supplemented by South-South cooperation. To meet climate change is crucial to achieving sustainable development. China hopes to see negotiations on the implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement be concluded, as scheduled, by the end of this year to boost joint efforts for global ecological conservation.

#### Madam President,

In pursuing our common cause for development and progress for humankind, China has worked in partnership with other countries of the international community. This year marks the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up program. Over the past 40 years, we have worked hard and forged ahead successfully along a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

This path has brought fundamental changes to China. Over the past 40 years, more than 700 million of the Chinese population have been lifted out of absolute poverty, which accounts for over 70% of the global total in the same period. A basic medical insurance system has been set up to cover the 1.35 billion Chinese people, and a social pension network accessible to over 900 million people is now fully instituted, all as part of China's contribution to human development and progress. Starting from scratch, China has built some 25,000 kilometers of highspeed railway. This accounts for two thirds of the global total and helps elevate global infrastructure construction. According to polls conducted by authoritative international polling agencies, China tops global rankings in terms of public satisfaction with its development and of public confidence in the future of development.

The path of development China pursues has provided the world with opportunities for common development. Over the past 40 years, China's foreign trade has registered an average annual growth of 14.5%. This has sustained impetus for global growth and offered the world a huge Chinese market. We have every confidence to maintain the momentum and realize high-quality development. China will speed up efforts to build an advanced economic system, and this will create greater trade opportunities and an even better investment environment for other countries. Going forward,

China will not reverse course or shut the door close. China will open still wider to the world. China will not erect market barriers but will expand access to the Chinese market. Of all developing countries in the world, China has been the fastest in opening up to a level that is unparalleled by others. When it comes to overall tariff reduction, China has accomplished more than what it committed when joining the WTO. The breadth of China's openness in services is close to the average level of developed countries. This November, China will host the first International Import Expo in Shanghai. It will be yet another major step to open China's market. Countries are welcome to take an active part in the event.

The Belt and Road Initiative proposed by President Xi Jinping is a public good China offers the world. Indeed, it has grown into the largest platform for international cooperation. It aims to deliver benefits for all through consultation and cooperation. The Initiative is open, transparent and inclusive; it is based on international rules and laws, and it aims to achieve green, environment-friendly and sustainable development. It is about pursuing common prosperity through greater complementarity among participating countries. By September this year, over 130 countries and international organizations have signed agreements on Belt and Road cooperation with China. Next year, China will host the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, and we welcome all parties to go and attend this event.

China is the largest developing country in the world. To strengthen cooperation and solidarity with other developing countries has been and will continue to be the staunch strategic priority for China's diplomacy. This is determined by what defines China as a country and by the system and values China upholds. No matter how much China has grown in strength, and however the international landscape may change, this strategic priority of China

will remain unchanged.

Madam President,

The United Nations is the premium platform to advocate and practice multilateralism. We hope the current session of the General Assembly will go down in the record for its part in upholding

multilateralism and world peace and development. We hope that all of us in the international community will support the UN in playing its central role in international affairs. And we call upon people of all countries to join hands and work together to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

# WANG YI DELIVERS A SPEECH AT THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES (US)



On September 28, 2018 local time, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, who was attending

the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the United States (US), delivered a speech titled "Opportunities or Challenges, Partner or Rival" at the Council on



Foreign Relations of the US.

Wang Yi expressed that this year marks the 40th anniversary of the publication of the Joint Communiqué between China and the US on establishing diplomatic relations. It is necessary for us to objectively examine the changes that have taken place in each other with the telescopes of history, calibrate bilateral relations, and well grasp the direction of future advancement. Thanks to the unremitting efforts made by several generations of leaders from both sides as well as the efforts of people from all walks of life in both countries, China-US cooperation has

yielded significant results over the past 40 years, promoting respective development and benefitting people on both sides. At the same time, however, as two countries with significant differences in historical culture, social systems and development levels, doubts, differences and even frictions may emerge as both sides interact more closely with each other and their interests are more intertwined. It is not surprising and there is no need to panic either.

Wang Yi pointed out that the deep-seated crux of the problems we face at present is that some American

friends believe that once China develops, it would seek hegemony, and even challenge and replace the US leadership in the world. This is obviously a huge strategic miscalculation. Unfortunately, this kind of suspicion with its own imagination is spreading, which magnifies existing contradictions, creates new doubts and makes it more difficult and complicated for China and the US to resolve specific problems. I want to make it clear to you that China will surely take a development path different from that of a traditional power. This path with Chinese characteristics determines that China will not repeat the old path in which a strong power would surely seek hegemony, and that China will neither become another US, nor challenge or replace the US.

Wang Yi pointed out that China follows a path of peaceful development. The Chinese people have never had the gene of external expansion. Today, adhering to following the path of peaceful development has been written into the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and the Constitution of the Communist Party of China. China follows a path of win-win cooperation. On the ancient Silk Road, we upheld openness, inclusiveness, mutual benefit and winwin results. China's reform and opening up aims to integrate and cooperate with all countries in the world including the US for development. The joint construction of the Belt and Road Initiative proposed by President Xi Jinping has grown into the most popular platform for cooperation in the world. China follows a path of seeking common ground while shelving differences. Gentlemen seek harmony but not uniformity. We always believe that all countries can live in harmony and exchange with and learn from each other. Regardless of the past, present or future, China will neither copy models of foreign countries nor require other countries to copy China's practices.

Wang Yi stressed that China has become a force for safeguarding world peace. We have peacefully settled the border issues with most of have sent the most military personnel to peacekeeping missions among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council as well as have become the second largest financial contributor to peacekeeping operations of the UN. China has become the engine driving global growth. We served as a ballast stone to stabilize the world economy in the Asian Financial Crisis in 1997 and the international financial crisis in 2008. With the transition from high-speed growth to high-quality development, China is bound to increasingly expand opening up and bring more development opportunities to the world. China has become an example of eradicating poverty and backwardness. Nearly 800 million people have been lifted out of poverty, covering more than 70 percent of the global total. In addition, we actively help other developing countries implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. China's foreign aid aims to elevate the independent and sustainable development capacity of each country, and China respects the needs of the recipient country in the first place. China has become an ally of the cause of international counterterrorism. We actively help relevant countries enhance the capability building of counter-terrorism, and help fundamentally remove the breeding grounds for terrorism. China has become the partner mediating hotspot issues. We actively push for the contact between the US and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and easing the

the neighboring countries on land,

relations between the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the DPRK. Thanks to China's adherence and the efforts from various parties, important turn, like what we have seen this year, occurs on the Korean Peninsula situation. China has become a pillar safeguarding international order. We have actively integrated into the current international system and joined nearly all the important intergovernmental international organizations, playing an increasingly significant role in the global governance system.

Wang Yi said that is China, which adheres to the path of peace, cooperation and openness, an opportunity or challenge on earth? Is China, which plays an active and constructive role in the international arena, a partner or a rival? It is believed that anyone who harbors no prejudices will make a rational judgment. China-US relations are the common assets of the two countries, which need our joint attention. The current China-US relations are again at a crossroad. If the two sides take a positive and tolerant attitude toward each other, expand and deepen positive cooperation, and properly manage differences and contradictions, we will open up better prospects. It is hoped that the farsighted figures from all circles of both countries will take concrete actions to maintain the healthy and stable development of China-US relations and jointly steer the bilateral relations in the right direction.

#### Culture & Life

# FULL TRANSCRIPT: INTERVIEW WITH XINJIANG GOVERNMENT CHIEF ON COUNTERTERRORISM, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN XINJIANG

Beijing, Oct. 16 (Xinhua) — Correspondents at Xinhua News Agency have recently interviewed Shohrat Zakir, chairman of the Government of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on counterterrorism and the vocational education and training program in the region. The following is the full transcript of the interview:

Question: Would you please brief us on the current situation in Xinjiang, given that under the influence of international terrorism and religious extremism, the number of violent terrorist attacks had been on the rise in parts of the region over a period of time?

Answer: Since the 1990s, the "three evil forces" (terrorism, extremism and separatism) in China and abroad have plotted, organized and conducted thousands of violent terrorist attacks including bombings, assassinations, poisoning, arson, assaults, unrest and riots, causing the deaths of a large number of innocent people and hundreds of police officers, as well as immeasurable property damage. The horrific crimes of terrorists not only severely undermined the stable and peaceful order and the atmosphere of solidarity and progress of Xinjiang, but also trampled upon the essential human rights of people of all ethnic groups in the region, such as their rights to life, health, property and development. People of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang were enraged and shared hatred toward the terrorist

crimes. A child of a Uygur police officer who died in the line of duty wrote me a letter. In emotional words, the letter reads: "My father sacrificed his life on the counterterrorism frontline. His upright personality will always inspire me. I hope that the Party and government can unwaveringly root out terrorism so that no children grow up without their fathers."

Facing complex and grave circumstances as well as the pressing anti-terrorism desire of the people, the Chinese government has resolutely taken measures in preventing and combating violent terrorist crimes in accordance with the law. In the past few years, under the firm leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core, Xinjiang has thoroughly carried out the policies of the CPC Central Committee on governing Xinjiang, unswervingly worked for the general goal of ensuring social stability and long-term security and made major achievements in fighting against terrorism and safeguarding stability. Now Xinjiang is generally stable, with the situation under control and improving. In the past 21 months, no violent terrorist attacks have occurred and the number of criminal cases, including those endangering public security, has dropped significantly. Public security has notably improved with religious extremism effectively contained, while people are now feeling more

secure. We have laid a good foundation for completely solving the deeply-rooted problems that affect the region's long-term stability.

Xinjiang has started to enjoy the dividend of effective counterterrorism efforts with its economy steadily growing, people's livelihood improving, and overall progress being made in all respects. In 2017, the region had a 7.6 percent growth in GDP while the per capita disposable income of urban and rural residents increased by 8.1 percent and 8.5 percent, respectively. Tourism boomed in 2017 when the region registered more than 100 million trips by domestic and international tourists, a year-on-year growth of 32.4 percent. In the first nine months of this year, Xinjiang has already recorded 132 million trips by tourists from home and abroad, a 40 percent year-on-year increase. Many people who have visited Xinjiang used social media to extol the region's progress: Today's Xinjiang is not only beautiful but also safe and stable. No matter where they are or at what time of the day, people are no longer afraid of going out, shopping, dining and traveling.

Question: It has been reported that Xinjiang has launched a vocational education and training program in a bid to facilitate its efforts to counter terrorism and extremism. What's the thinking behind this move?

Answer: Terrorism and extremism go against human

civilization and are the common enemy of the international community. Countering terrorism and eradicating extremism is a global issue as well as a global headache. Over the years, many countries have pursued approaches to countering terrorism and extremism according to their own conditions and have made headway in this regard. The international community has also realized that terrorism and extremism are very hard to root out and can easily resurge. Drawing on the anti-terrorism experience of the international community, China has actively responded to the UN General Assembly's resolution on Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and has been committed to addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, while preventing and combating terrorism. Based on its realities, China has combined fighting and preventing terrorism with an emphasis on prevention. China has been actively exploring and applying preventive measures in countering terrorism and extremism.

Based on its own realities, Xinjiang has given equal importance to fighting and preventing terrorism, and sought to combine the fight against violent terrorist crimes with the protection of human rights. On one hand, Xinjiang has put emphasis on strictly countering a small number of violent terrorist crimes according to law, and spared no efforts in protecting the basic human rights of the citizens from the harm of terrorism and extremism. On the other hand, Xinjiang has also stressed addressing the root cause of terrorism, and moved to bring around, educate and save the majority of those who committed petty crimes, through assistance and education, to prevent them from becoming victims of terrorism and extremism.

Today, despite the significant progress Xinjiang has made, countering terrorism and extremism is still a long-standing, complicated and serious issue and calls for high alert. In particular, the four prefectures in southern Xinjiang were threatened by terrorism and seriously influenced by the spread of religious extremism in the past. Some residents there have a limited command of the country's common language and a limited sense and knowledge of the law. They often have difficulties in finding employment due to limited vocational skills. This has led to a low material-basis for residents to live and work there, making them vulnerable to the instigation and coercion of terrorism and extremism. There is still a long way to go for southern Xinjiang to eradicate the environment and soil of terrorism and religious extremism.

Based on the above-mentioned situation, Xinjiang has launched a vocational education and training program according to the law. Its purpose is to get rid of the environment and soil that breeds terrorism and religious extremism and stop violent terrorist activities from happening.

**Question:** Could you tell us more about the legal basis and relevant procedure of the vocational education and training program?

Answer: In recent years, the Chinese government has accelerated the legislation of its anti-terrorism efforts to strictly prevent and combat violent terrorist crimes according to law.

The National People's Congress passed the Anti-Terrorism Law in 2015 and the Ninth Amendment to the Criminal Law, while the Supreme People's Procuratorate, together with the Supreme People's Court, the Ministry of Public Security, and the Ministry of Justice, in 2018 issued guidelines on the application of law in cases involving terrorism and extremism, which have improved and clarified the definitions of terrorist crimes, criteria for conviction, case handling procedures, and working

mechanisms. Together with the Criminal Procedure Law, these laws and regulations have formed a relatively sound Chinese antiterrorism legal framework. While strictly following the Constitution, the law on regional ethnic autonomy and the legislation law, Xinjiang has taken its local conditions into consideration and formulated the region's enforcement measures of the anti-terrorism law, deextremization regulations, among others. These laws and regulations are subject to revisions to keep them up to date.

In practice, when dealing with those who have been instigated, coerced, or lured into terrorist or extremist activities, or people who only committed minor offenses when involved in terrorist and extremist activities, Xinjiang combines punishment with leniency and gives prominence to their rehabilitation and redemption in accordance with the Criminal Law, the Criminal Procedure Law, the Anti-Terrorism Law and other relevant laws and regulations. As for most people who are influenced by terrorism and extremism, those suspected of minor criminal offenses but do not have to be subject to penalties or can be exempted from criminal punishment, Xinjiang has provided them with free vocational training through vocational education institutions to improve their ability in commanding the country's common language, acquiring legal knowledge and vocational skills, among others. In that way, Xinjiang can better guard against the infiltration of terrorism and extremism. The detailed procedures include, on the premise that training goals, methods, program completion standards and testing methods are clearly identified, that vocational training institutions sign an agreement with the trainees. The institutions will then conduct the free programs through various forms

such as collective courses, boarding schools and hands-on training. The trainees will be issued certificates of completion after they meet the required standards.

**Question:** Could you please elaborate on the main content of the vocational training?

Answer: Currently, Xinjiang has established a training model with professional vocational training institutions as the platform, learning the country's common language, legal knowledge, vocational skills, along with de-extremization education, as the main content, with achieving employment as the key direction. The vocational training institutions have set up departments of teaching, management, medical care, logistics and security, and allocated a corresponding number of faculty, class advisors, medical, catering, logistics and security staff.

In the process of learning and training, the trainees will advance from learning the country's common language, to learning legal knowledge and vocational skills. Firstly, the trainees will take learning the country's common language as the basis to improve their communication abilities, gain modern science knowledge and enhance their understanding of Chinese history, culture and national conditions. The teaching follows standardized plans, textbooks, materials and systems. The trainees are taught in various methods suited to their literacy to raise their abilities to use the country's common language as soon as possible. Secondly, the learning of legal knowledge is taken as a key part of cultivating the trainees' awareness of the nation, citizenship and rule of law. Legal experts are hired to lecture on the Constitution, the criminal law and the civil law, etc., and judges, prosecutors and lawyers are invited to teach the criminal law, the law on public security administration, the anti-terrorism law, the marriage law,

the education law and Xinjiang's deextremization regulations. Thirdly, vocational learning is taken as a key way to help trainees find employment. Courses on clothing and footwear making, food processing, electronic product assembly, typesetting and printing, hairdressing and ecommerce have been set up to suit local social needs and job market. Multi-skill training is provided to trainees who have the desire and capability to learn, so that they acquire one to two vocational skills upon graduation. Businesses in garment making, mobile phone assembly and ethnic cuisine catering are arranged to offer trainees practical opportunities. In the meantime, they are paid basic incomes and a bonus. The mechanism has taken shape in which the trainees can "learn, practice and earn money."

In daily life, vocational institutions and schools strictly implement the spirit of laws and regulations, including the Constitution and religious affairs regulations, and respect and protect the customs and habits of various ethnic groups and their beliefs in diet and daily life. Faculties of the institutions and schools also try their best to ensure and meet the trainees' needs in study, life, and entertainment on the basis of free education. The cafeteria prepares nutritious free diets, and the dormitories are fully equipped with radio, TV, air conditioning, bathroom and shower. Indoor and outdoor sports venues for basketball, volleyball and table tennis have been built, along with reading rooms, computer labs, film screening rooms, as well as performance venues such as small auditoriums and open-air stages. Various activities such as contests on speech, writing, dancing, singing and sports are organized. Many trainees have said that they were previously affected by extremist thought and had never participated in such kinds of art and sports activities, and now they have realized that life can be so

colorful.

Moreover, the vocational institutions and schools pay high attention to the trainees' mental health and helped them solve problems in life. They not only provide professional psychological counseling services, but also duly deal with complaints from the trainees and their families. All this shows that the management of the vocational institutions and schools are people-oriented.

**Question:** Could you please elaborate on the progress of the vocational training?

Answer: Through vocational training, most trainees have been able to reflect on their mistakes and see clearly the essence and harm of terrorism and religious extremism. They have notably enhanced national consciousness, civil awareness, awareness of the rule of law and the sense of community of the Chinese nation. They have also been able to better tell right from wrong and resist the infiltration of extremist thought. They have become more proactive in shaking off poverty, and becoming better off. It has been a common practice among them to expect and pursue a modern life. They are confident about the future. "I didn't understand the country's common language, nor did I know about the laws. I wouldn't even have known that I had made mistakes. But the government didn't give me up. It has actively saved and assisted me, giving me free food, accommodation and education. Now I have made great progress in many aspects. I will cherish this opportunity and become a person useful to the country and society," a trainee said.

On the whole, the following achievements have been made. Firstly, the trainees have gained progress in mastering the country's common language. In the past, many of them had difficulties in listening, speaking and reading. They now are

able to basically understand and use it in communication, which has broadened their sources to acquire modern knowledge and information. Many trainees said they were affected by religious extremism and failed to understand the significance of bilingual education. They said they had thought of merely sticking to their own ethnic language as the way to preserve their ethnic culture, so they refused to learn the country's common language. Now they have realized they should not only learn the common language well, but also foreign languages to follow modernization trends.

Secondly, the trainees have been increasing their awareness of the rule of law. Affected or coerced by religious extremist thought, many of the trainees acted under "religion discipline" or "family discipline" that was distorted or concocted by extremists. Many trainees have now realized that they are firstly citizens of the nation, and their behavior is both protected and regulated by law. They have truly understood what is legitimate and what is not. They now also know how to turn to the law for help. "As a divorced woman, I am raising a son and a daughter with the help of my parents, living in poverty. I did not know that my ex-husband had the obligation to raise the children, too," said a female trainee, who is now able to use the law to claim overdue alimony from her ex-husband.

Thirdly, the trainees' vocational skills have been enhanced. Many trainees had no vocational skills before. Even though they wanted to get a job, it was hard for them to find one. By learning vocational skills and knowledge, and participating in practical training, the trainees have now mastered preliminary practical skills. It has gradually become realistic for them to increase their incomes, get rid of poverty and acquire wealth. "Through practicing vocational skills, I can earn 1,500 yuan per month now.

My income has increased a lot and I have become the main support for my family. I can stand tall and start receiving praise from my elders. My wife has become more considerate. My kids are proud of me. I have regained respect and confidence," a trainee said.

As a result of the vocational education and training, the social environment of Xinjiang has seen notable changes, with a healthy atmosphere on the rise and improper practices declining. There has been a growing trend to pursue modern scientific and technological knowledge and etiquette; the dissemination of religious extremism is resisted consciously; communication, exchanges and integration among various ethnic groups are closer; public support for countering terrorism, maintaining stability and de-extremization is stronger; and people of all ethnic groups are full of hope for better

Question: After your introduction, we have got a clear and comprehensive understanding of the work of vocational education and training. Would you please give us some information on the future plan of vocational education and training?

Answer: Facts have proven that vocational education and training fits the reality of current efforts in countering terrorism, maintaining stability and eradicating extremism in Xinjiang. It is an effective measure of Xinjiang to explore ways to remove the environment and soil of terrorism and extremism, and prevent violent terrorist crimes. Since its launch, the work has won high recognition and sincere support from people of all ethnic groups across Xinjiang. It has played an important role in achieving social stability and enduring peace and security in Xinjiang, and served as a positive exploration and constructive attempt for the international

community in countering terrorism and eradicating extremism.

According to feedback from the vocational education and training institutions, some trainees have come close to or reached the completion standard agreed in the training agreements. They are receiving course-completion tests in an orderly manner. They are expected to complete their courses successfully by the end of this year. We are busy with their employment arrangements. Meanwhile, Xinjiang will carry out programs to invite investments that suit the vocational skills of trainees. By bringing more businesses to Xinjiang, we will create jobs and alleviate poverty. We will try to achieve a seamless connection between school teaching and social employment, so that after finishing their courses, the trainees will be able to find jobs and earn a well-off life.

Next, Xinjiang will further implement the strategies and policies on the region, set by the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core, adhere to the peoplecentered philosophy of development, properly handle the relations between stability and development, and concentrate on the three major tasks: construction of the core zone of the Silk Road Economic Belt, the implementation of the rural vitalization strategy and the development of the tourism industry. It will also take the four prefectures in southern Xinjiang as the main battlefield to fight against poverty with targeted measures to ensure that by 2020, all rural residents living below the poverty line are lifted out of poverty. Xinjiang will also work to see that people of all ethnic groups have a stronger sense of fulfillment, happiness and security, and that the gains of development benefit people of all ethnic groups in a fair way.

# TOFU COOKING CONTEST HELD IN EAST CHINA'S ANHUI



Photo taken on Sept. 21, 2018 shows tofu dishes in a cooking contest in Huainan, east China's Anhui Province. The tofu cooking contest, with the participation of more than 300 tofu dishes in various styles, kicked off on Friday. (Xinhua/Chen Bin)



A cook prepares a tofu dish during a cooking contest in Huainan, east China's Anhui Province, Sept. 21, 2018. The tofu cooking contest, with the participation of more than 300 tofu dishes in various styles, kicked off on Friday. (Xinhua/Chen Bin)



Photo taken on Sept. 21, 2018 shows tofu dishes in a cooking contest in Huainan, east China's Anhui Province. The tofu cooking contest, with the participation of more than 300 tofu dishes in various styles, kicked off on Friday. (Xinhua/Chen Bin)



Photo taken on Sept. 21, 2018 shows tofu dishes in a cooking contest in Huainan City, east China's Anhui Province. The tofu cooking contest, with the participation of more than 300 tofu dishes in various styles, kicked off on Friday. (Xinhua/Chen Bin)

### HARVEST CELEBRATED AROUND CHINA TO MARK FARMERS' HARVEST FESTIVAL



In this aerial photo taken on Sept. 22, 2018, a farmer rakes rice crops for air-drying in Sanshi Village of Jingzi Township in Shuangfeng County, central China's Hunan Province. China will mark its first Farmers' Harvest Festival on Sept. 23 this year. From 2018 on, the festival, to be celebrated on the Autumnal Equinox each year, is set to be observed annually to greet the harvest season and honour the agricultural workers. (Xinhua/Li Jianxin)



A farmer picks grapes in Zhuguantun Village of Tuanpiaozhuang Township of Zunhua City in Tangshan, north China's Hebei Province, Sept. 22, 2018. China will mark its first Farmers' Harvest Festival on Sept. 23 this year. From 2018 on, the festival, to be celebrated on the Autumnal Equinox each year, is set to be observed annually to greet the harvest season and honour the agricultural workers. (Xinhua/Liu Mancang)



A woman from the Miao ethnic group prepares crops for a harvest-praying ceremony in Wuji Village of Anchui Township in Rongshui Miao Autonomous County, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Sept. 22, 2018. China will mark its first Farmers' Harvest Festival on Sept. 23 this year. From 2018 on, the festival, to be celebrated on the Autumnal Equinox each year, is set to be observed annually to greet the harvest season and honour the agricultural workers. (Xinhua/Huang Xiaobang)



A villager hangs corn ears for air-drying in Jiaolong Village of Majiadu Township in Zhushan County, Shiyan, central China's Hubei Province, Sept. 22, 2018. China will mark its first Farmers' Harvest Festival on Sept. 23 this year. From 2018 on, the festival, to be celebrated on the Autumnal Equinox each year, is set to be observed annually to greet the harvest season and honour the agricultural workers. (Xinhua/Zhang Lei)

# HAIRY CRAB CULTIVATION AREA ON YANGCHENG LAKE, E CHINA'S JIANGSU



Aerial photo taken on Sept. 29, 2018 shows crab cultivator Ji Jiang and other staff members taking boat to catch hairy crabs at his cultivation base on Yangcheng Lake at Bacheng Township, Kunshan City, east China's Jiangsu Province. Ji Jiang, born in 1966, is a Yangcheng Lake hairy crab cultivator at Bacheng Town of Jiangsu. Having been in the trade for 15 years, he has accumulated experience in the cultivation of hairy crabs and became famous in Bacheng. Due to good water quality of the Yangcheng Lake, hairy crabs here possess good taste and high nutrition. Every year, a large number of the crabs are sold to cities across China like Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. (Xinhua/Li Xiang)



Photo taken on Sept. 29, 2018 shows hairy crabs caught from Yangcheng Lake at Bacheng Township, Kunshan City, east China's Jiangsu Province. Ji Jiang, born in 1966, is a Yangcheng Lake hairy crab cultivator at Bacheng Town of Jiangsu. Having been in the trade for 15 years, he has accumulated experience in the cultivation of hairy crabs and became famous in Bacheng. Due to good water quality of the Yangcheng Lake, hairy crabs here possess good taste and high nutrition. Every year, a large number of the crabs are sold to cities across China like Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. (Xinhua/Zhu Weixi)



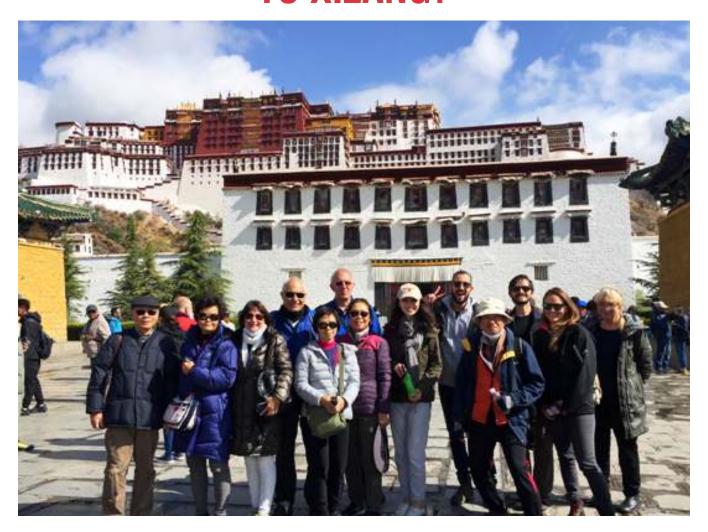
Crab cultivator Ji Jiang (R) catches hairy crabs at his cultivation base on Yangcheng Lake at Bacheng Township, Kunshan City, east China's Jiangsu Province, Sept. 29, 2018. Ji Jiang, born in 1966, is a Yangcheng Lake hairy crab cultivator at Bacheng Town of Jiangsu. Having been in the trade for 15 years, he has accumulated experience in the cultivation of hairy crabs and became famous in Bacheng. Due to good water quality of the Yangcheng Lake, hairy crabs here possess good taste and high nutrition. Every year, a large number of the crabs are sold to cities across China like Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. (Xinhua/Zhu Weixi)



Photo taken on Sept. 29, 2018 shows cooked hairy crabs in Bacheng Township of Kunshan City, east China's Jiangsu Province. Ji Jiang, born in 1966, is a Yangcheng Lake hairy crab cultivator at Bacheng Town of Jiangsu. Having been in the trade for 15 years, he has accumulated experience in the cultivation of hairy crabs and became famous in Bacheng. Due to good water quality of the Yangcheng Lake, hairy crabs here possess good taste and high nutrition. Every year, a large number of the crabs are sold to cities across China like Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. (Xinhua/Li Xiang)

#### Xizang Today

# WHY NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER ARE THE BEST MONTHS TO TRAVEL TO XIZANG?



With an average elevation of 16,000 ft., Xizang is considered the highest region on earth. Traveling to this location rewards even the most hardened travelers with amazing sights—gorgeous snow-peaked mountains are scattered across vast plains, pristine turquoise lakes at the foot of ancient glaciers, and a wealth of wildlife you won't be able to see

anywhere else. Avid adventurers should not miss this incredible part of the world and for good reason: there's really no place like it.

If you're planning a **Xizang travel** anytime this year, November and December are perfect months to seize the opportunity. For avoiding the touristy crowd and more

affordable tour rates, November and December are great times to maximize your journey. Here's everything you need to know about traveling to Xizang during the last months of the year.

Why Travel to Xizang in November and December?

#### It's more affordable

It goes without saying that tour rates drop when peak seasons are over. During November and December, airlines, hotels, and Xizang travel agencies will mark down their prices to attract as many tourists as possible. If you're on a budget or want to experience Xizang without putting a dent in your wallet, November and December are both fitting dates to go.

#### There are fewer tourists

Traveling to Xizang during the high season from April to October might put you in the middle of a throng of tourists, all waiting to see the same attraction. If your aim is to experience Xizang with the least disruption possible, it's wise to visit the region during the winter months of November and December. Think

about it: you can snap all the photos you want sans the photo bombers!

#### It's sunny and dry

If you're looking to experience Xizang without the hassle of rain, November and December are great months to go. Summer months from June to early September bring with them some clouds and greater chances of precipitation, so if you're looking for a great view of the peaks including Mt. Qomolangma (known as Mt. Everest in west) without the usual shroud of clouds, the winter months when the skies are clear are a great time to visit.

You can brush shoulders with the pilgrims

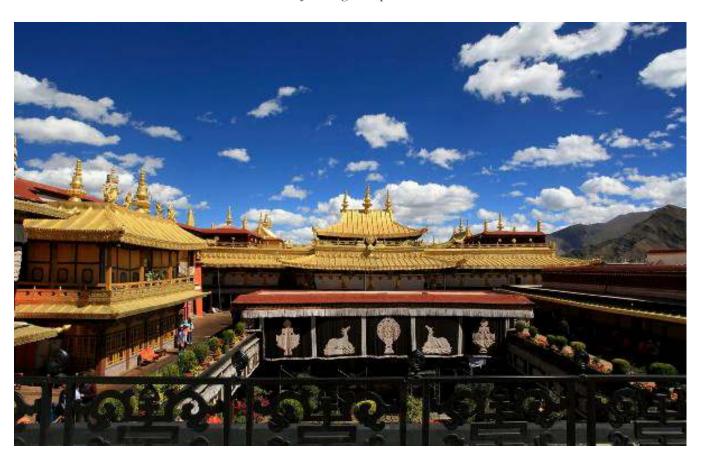
During the winter season, Xizang pilgrims go on a journey to Lhasa to visit the Jokhang Temple as well as other important monasteries. This is a great time to meet Tibetans from various walks of life and get a deeper understanding of Xizang Buddhism.

#### Snow makes everything beautiful

One of the most beautiful views you'll ever see in Xizang is snow-capped peaks and mountains. November and December mark the peak of the winter season, so elevated areas are blanketed with snow and make for a great snapshot. If you're from South East Asia or any part of the world where snow doesn't fall, this is a great time to experience making a snowman or snow angels!

### Weather in November and December

The winter season brings with it below zero temperatures in most locations in Xizang during November and December. In Lhasa





and in some high-altitude areas like Yamdrok Lake, it could feel warm during November. Although it is winter, please note that it is dry and sunny so don't forget to pack some sunblock to avoid getting sunburn. During December, Lhasa and other high-altitude areas are cooler.

When traveling, don't forget to bring proper attire so you can easily acclimate to temperature extremes. The winter season can be very cold and winds can make it feel even chillier especially at night. To cope, dress in layers and don't forget to bring a coat. Many restaurants and hotels lack central heating, so it's best to be ready with the appropriate winter wear. When heading out, slather on some sunblock to protect yourself from the harsh rays of the sun. Remember, since skies are clearer during the winter, clouds won't be

providing much shade.

#### Best Places to Visit

#### Yamdrok Yutso Lake

Yamdrok Yutso Lake is one of Xizang's three sacred lakes, the other two being Namtso Lake and Mapham Yutso Lake. Hailed as one of the most gorgeous lakes in the world, Yamdrok Yutso Lake features crystal blue waters flanked by majestic snow-capped mountains during the winter. The scenery is best enjoyed from a distance, especially when up on a mountain.

In Yamdrok Yutso Lake, local Tibetans who care for their yaks, goats, and Xizang mastiffs can allow you to take a selfie with their animals for 5-10 yuan. This is also a popular spot for bird watching, hiking, visiting

the Samding Monastery, or exploring Nagarze, a small town located nearby.

#### Shigatse

Shigatse is the second biggest city in Xizang and is popular for sightseeing destinations such as the Tashilhunpo Monastery. Located in the plain where the Nianchu River and the the Yarlung Zangbo River meet, Shigatse is an ancient city with a history spanning six centuries.

Visit the Shalu Monastery to gawk over its fine murals, head to the Summer Palace of the Panchen Lamas for a dose of history, or chow down on some Amdo-style food at the Tashi Choeta restaurant. There are lots to see and do if you know where to look!

#### Mt. Qomolangma Base Camp

Perfect when visited during November and December for picture-perfect views of the Mount Mt. Qomolangma peak, Mt. Mt. Qomolangma Base Camp offers lots of adventure for the most active travelers. Plan an overnight stay to see stunning views of the sunrise, sunset, and stars, or send a meaningful postcard to yourself from the highest post office in the world.

#### **Ganden Monastery**

Fawn over the historical and cultural relics and unique architecture in the Ganden Monastery, one of the earliest and largest Buddhist monasteries in Xizang. This monastery has over 600 centuries of history and is one of the three major temples of the Gelug Sect. of Xizang Buddhism, the other two being the Drepung Monastery and the Sera Monastery.

Explore the Best Places via a Tour

If you're really up for seeing a number of destinations in your November and December trip, why not join a tour? This Lhasa to Kathmandu Overland Tour via Gyirong Port crosses Gyantse, Shigatse, the Mt. Qomolangma Base Camp, Gyirong, and the Rasuwa Bridge before it stops at Kathmandu. This is a great way to see Xizang's best scenes and natural beauty!

Places You Can't Visit

A lot of places are available for a visit during the winter time, but locations such as Namtso Lake, Mt. Gangrinpoche, and other trekking routes are not available to be accessed or completed.

#### Most Popular Tours

Make the most of your adventure in Xizang with these ready-made tours. You're guaranteed access to all the best places, and it's a hassle-free way to explore this incredible region in November and December.

8-Days Lhasa to Mt. Qomolangma Base Camp Small Group Tour

This classic tour allows you to

explore the best locations and main tourist sites such as the Jokhang Temple, Potala Palace, Barkhor Street, the Drepung and Sera Monasteries, and the Gyantse Kumbum and Shigatse Tashi Lhunpho monastery. Best of all, this itinerary includes the sacred Yamdrok Lake and the Karo Glacier with breathtaking views of Mt. Qomolangma from the Mt. Qomolangma Base Camp.

7-Days Lhasa to Kathmandu Overland Small Group Tour

For a scenic tour that's perfect for shutterbug adventurers, this 7-day overland tour from Lhasa to Kathmandu is a great choice. Since it follows the Sino-Nepal highway, you'll be able to catch breathtaking views of the picturesque Xizang countryside and the Himalayas. You will also be visiting Lhasa, Shigatse, and Gyantse, which is expected to give you a cultural impression and a historical account of Xizang's cultural treasures and religion.

Editor: Tommy Tan.









# ANOTHER 25 COUNTIES IN XIZANG SHAKE OFF POVERTY

Twenty-five counties and districts in southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region have been officially taken off the country's list of impoverished areas, according to an announcement by the local poverty relief office, made public on Saturday.

The counties and districts went through rigorous evaluation, including assessments from thirdparty institutions and examinations by both central and local governments, before being removed from the list.

A county can be removed from the list if less than 2 percent of its

population lives below the poverty line, defined as a per capita annual income of 2,300 yuan (around 335 U.S. dollars) at 2010 prices. In the country's western regions, counties must have less than 3 percent of people living in poverty to be removed from the list.

More than 85 percent of the land in Xizang is located over 4,000 meters above sea level. Harsh natural conditions have been part of the causes of entrenched poverty.

Poverty reduction has been high on the government's agenda and various means have been adopted, including e-commerce, relocation and improved infrastructure.

Statistics show that from 2016 to 2017, around 300,000 people were lifted above the poverty line in Xizang. The poverty incidence dropped to 7.9 percent by the end of 2017 from 25.2 percent at the end of 2015.

Xizang has seen a total of 30 counties and districts removed from the country's list of poorest areas. It will help the remaining 44 counties in the region remove the "impoverished" label.

# CHINESE MOUNTAIN CAT SEEN NURSING CUBS IN SANJIANGYUAN AREA

It is reported that the Chinese mountain cat, a species of felid unique to China, was seen nursing its cubs for the first time in Chindu County of Yushu, northwest China's Qinghai Province, based on the biodiversity monitoring and protection records.

Chinese mountain cat is a second class national protected animal in China, and a cat species found only in China. Chinese mountain cat, along with giant panda, is the only two kinds of carnivores unique to China. Currently, Chinese mountain cats are only seen in areas of Sichuan, Qinghai, and Gansu Provinces. Due to their discreet movements and small

number, the data on them is very limited over the past years. Thus, this species is known as one of the most mysterious cat species in the world.

"Starting on September 20th, 2018, infrared cameras placed in Chindu County recorded a Chinese mountain cat's breeding cave, and continuously recorded the daily life of one female Chinese mountain cat and her two cubs," said Zhao Xiang, director of programs with the Shanshui Nature Reserve Center, a non-governmental organization on natural protection in China.

The records captured the life of a Chinese mountain cat family, where

the two cubs, about two or three months old, are trained by their mom in skills such as capturing plateau pikas, and the records are very complete.

Chinese mountain cats are on the top of the food chain on the meadows, primarily eating birds and rodent species such as pikas. In the current monitoring, the Chinese mountain cat was recorded eating two plateau pikas per day, therefore, the protection of Chinese mountain cats is also critical to the meadow's ecology.

Editor: Tommy Tan.

### SCENERY OF ZHARI NAMCO LAKE IN ALI, CHINA'S XIZANG



Photo taken on Sept. 20, 2018 shows Xizangan gazelles near the Zhari Namco Lake in Ali, southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region. (Xinhua/Dainzin Nyima Choktrul)



Photo taken on Sept. 20, 2018 shows the scenery of the Zhari Namco Lake in Ali, southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region. (Xinhua/Dainzin Nyima Choktrul)



Photo taken on Sept. 20, 2018 shows Xizangan wild donkeys near the Zhari Namco Lake in Ali, southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region. (Xinhua/Dainzin Nyima Choktrul)



### **BOOK REVIEW**

### Xi Jinping - The Governance of China-II

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) held in 2012, the Central Committee with Xi Jinping as general secretary has led the whole party and the people of China in the drive to realize the Two Centenary Goals and the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation. In pursuit of these goals the country has upheld and developed socialism with Chinese characteristics, advanced the Five-point Strategy and the Four-pronged Strategy in a coordinated and integrated manner, and achieved historic progress in reform and opening up and socialist modernization. We have braved new challenges, blazed new trails, resolved long-standing and complex problems, realized long sought objectives, championed the causes of the CPC and the country, and brought Chinese socialism to the threshold of a new era.

We hope you will find this book useful.

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.

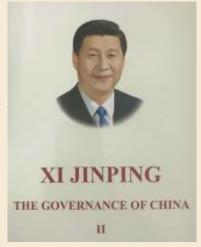
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### FLIGHTS BETWEEN CHINA AND INDIA

#### Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights

ROUTING	FLIGHT NO.	DEPARTURE TIME	ARRIVAL TIME	FLIGHT DATES
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
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**

ROUTING	Flight Number	Dep.	Arr.	Frequency	Aircraft	Remarks	
Delhi-Shanghai(Pudong)	MU564	0230	1100	Daily	Airbus 330-200		
Shanghai(Pudong)-Delhi	Flight Number MU563	Dep 2110	Arr 0125+1	Frequency Daily	Aircraft Airbus 330-200	Shanghai Pudong: Terminal-1	
Kolkata-Kunming	Flight Number MU556	Dep 0035	Arr 0510	Frequency Daily	Aircraft Boeing 737	Delhi IGI: Terminal-3 Kolkata NSCBI:	
Kunming-Kolkata	Flight Number MU555	Dep 2355	Arr 2345	Frequency Daily	Aircraft Boeing 737	Terminal-2	

### **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	CA 429	1650	0050+1	MON/WED/FRI/ SUN	MON/WED/FRI/ SUN (NOV -DEC WED/FRI/SUN)	WED/FRI/SUN
вом-рек	CA 890	0230	1120	MON/WED/FRI/ SUN	MON/WED/FRI/ SUN	MON/WED/FRI/ SUN
PEK-BOM	CA 889	1940	0100+1	TUE/THUR/SAT/ SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/ SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/ 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	Cathy Pacific G123, Tolstoy House, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi	

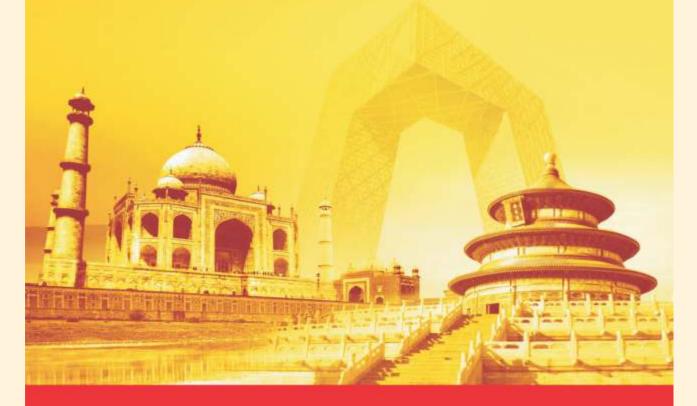


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Fireworks are seen during the celebration of China's National Day, in Hong Kong, China, Oct. 1, 2018.

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