# **NEWS FROM CHINA**

# CHINA-INDIA REVIEW

# HAND-IN-HAND MARCHING TOGETHER IN PROGRESS





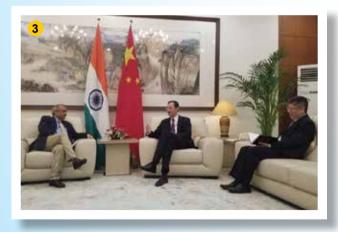
# 中华人民共和国驻印度共和国大使馆

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of India

# CONNECTING & BUILDING BRIDGES









- On December 1, China's Ambassador to India Sun Weidong met Du Liming, Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of Chongqing Municipal People's Congress, China
- Ambassador Sun Weidong met Qin Rupei, Member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Guangxi Committee and Executive Vice Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China. They exchanged views on enhancing cooperation in the fields of IT, medical care and pharmaceutical between Guangxi and India.
- Ambassador Sun Weidong met Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General of the Confederation of Indian Industry, at the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi, on December 9.
- 4. Ambassador Sun Weidong met Mr. Zheng Xincong, Member of Standing Committee and Secretary General of CPC Fujian Provincial Committee and exchanged views on establishing friendly provincial state relations between Fujian and Tamil Nadu and friendly city relations between Quanzhou and Chennai, which were agreed at the second informal meeting between Chinese and Indian leaders. They also shared ideas on promoting culture, trade, tourism between Fujian and Tamil Nadu.

# From Ambassador's Desk



H.E. SUN WEIDONG China's Ambassador to India

# China-India@70: New Dreams, New Horizons

The end of the year is a time for introspection as well as looking ahead. By all accounts, 2019 has been a year of remarkable progress. The Second Informal Summit in Chennai marked a reaffirmation of the Wuhan Consensus and underlined the pivotal importance of the leaders-driven interaction in steering the China-India relations onto a higher trajectory.

Besides the informal summit, the two leaders, President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi, met many times on the margins of multilateral summits, including the SCO and BRICS. The positive effects of the second informal summit and bilateral meetings continue to manifest in myriad ways, widening the arc of win-win cooperation between our two countries. It's reassuring and encouraging to see that the narrative of China-India relations is changing, and there is greater appreciation and recognition of China and India as an important opportunity to each other.

Both China and India have their own dreams of becoming a great nation. China, under President Xi's leadership, is on track to achieve the "two centenary goals", while PM Modi is pursuing the vision of building a "new India". If we keep our relationship on a positive trajectory, the Chinese Dream and the New India Dream can entwine in many ways, opening new avenues for mutually beneficial cooperation.

Going forward, sustaining this positive momentum in China-India relations will depend on timely and focused implementation of important decisions taken at two informal summits in Wuhan and Chennai. The Chennai summit yielded fruitful outcomes, including the establishment of a high-level economic and trade dialogue mechanism. The mechanism will help to strengthen practical cooperation in trade and investment. Currently, the discussion on the functions and operation of the new mechanism is going on at the working level.

Building on the leaders' discussions, we are also determined to accelerate efforts to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the boundary question and maintain peace and tranquillity along the border area. During the 22nd meeting of Special Representatives of China and India held in New Delhi, the two sides exchanged views on the early harvest of the boundary negotiations and reached a consensus on strengthening confidence building measures. The eighth Hand-in-Hand joint exercise underlined that the two countries will not only deepen counter-terror cooperation, but will also enhance mutual strategic trust.

Looking ahead, as the only two major developing countries with a population of over one billion and two important emerging economies, China-India relations will transcend the bilateral dimension and assume greater global and strategic significance. As the Ambassador of China to India, it's gratifying to see bilateral relations acquiring greater positivity and energy. 2020 is set to be an even more productive and reinvigorating year for China-India relations as our two great countries gear up to celebrate the 70th year of establishment of diplomatic ties with 70 events spanning cultural exchanges, media, academia, music and dance. Let's ring in the New Year with wishes for a better future for China-India relations and peace in the world!

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# BOUNDARY TALKS

# CHINA & INDIA DISCUSS ADDITIONAL CBMS, HOTLINE BETWEEN MILITARIES



Taking forward their boundary negotiations, China and India have agreed to bolster border-related Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and enhance mutual trust with a view to jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas.

The 22nd meeting between Chinese and Indian Special Representatives on the Boundary Question in New Delhi on December 21 ended with joint decisions to pursue an early harvest of the boundary negotiations and set up hotlines between the armed forces of China and India to enhance mutual trust.

Visiting Chinese Special Representative, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, held wide-ranging talks with India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on the Boundary Question as well as other bilateral issues that impact the trajectory of China-India relations.

China and India should positively press forward the talks on the Boundary Question in accordance with the important instructions provided by the leaders of the two countries, and work out the framework of the negotiation roadmap in a bid to reach a final solution which is fair, reasonable and accepted by both sides, Wang Yi said. In addition, both sides should also advance consultations which can yield early results, promote mutual trust and enhance cooperation in the border areas so as to jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas, he said.

# **Focus on Early Harvest**

The statement by China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed that the two parties "shall, in accordance with the important instructions given by the leaders of the two countries, actively advance boundary negotiations in line with the Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question. The two sides decided to formulate a road map for negotiations on the settlement framework, and strive for a final solution that is fair, reasonable and acceptable for both parties."

"The two sides exchanged views on the early harvest of the boundary negotiations and reached a consensus on strengthening confidence building measures. They agreed to formulate management rules for maintaining peace and tranquility in the border areas," said the statement by China's MFA.

The two sides "agreed to strengthen communication and exchanges between the border forces of the two countries and set up hotlines between the relevant departments of the two armed forces, add border meeting points, expand border trade and personnel exchanges."

Alluding to the two informal summit meetings between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Wuhan and Chennai in 2018 and 2019 respectively, Wang Yi stressed that they clearly pointed out that China and India are opportunities for each other's development, and have led the healthy development of China-Indian relations in a forceful manner.

China and India should positively press forward the talks on the Boundary Question in accordance with the important instructions made by the leaders of the two countries, and work out the framework of the negotiation roadmap in a bid to reach a final solution which is fair, reasonable and accepted by both sides, Wang Yi said.

The annual meeting of China-India Special Representatives is not only the main channel for China and India to discuss the boundary question, but also an important platform for strategic communication between the two sides.

At the talks, Wang Yi underlined that as the main representatives of emerging market countries, China and India are both at the key historical stage of rejuvenation and development and share a wide range of common strategic interests. Placing the China-India relations in the larger global perspective, Mr Wang Yi said: "The two sides should further strengthen communication and cooperation to jointly defend multilateralism, fairness and justice, and safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of the two countries and the developing countries."



Chinese Special Representative, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, hold the 22nd round of boundary talks with India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval on the Boundary Question.

# China-India@70

Looking ahead to the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between China and India in 2020, the two sides agreed to promote high-level exchanges and institutional dialogues, deepen practical cooperation, and manage well the commemorative activities so as to ensure that the China-India relations can move forward on the right track.

India's Special Representative Ajit Doval, on his part, underlined that Chinese and Indian leaders have provided a new vision and strategic guidance for the development of bilateral ties and the solution of boundary issues.

"The Special Representatives shared the view that stable and balanced development of India-China relations is a positive factor for peace and prosperity in the region and the world," said a statement by India's Ministry of External Affairs. The two sides also agreed to hold the 23rd Special Representatives' Meeting on the China-India Boundary Question next year in China.

The two sides "agreed to strengthen communication and exchanges between the border forces of the two countries and set up hotlines between the relevant departments of the two armed forces, add border meeting points, expand border trade and personnel exchanges."

# Vice President Naidu Meets Wang Yi, Lauds Positive Progress

ndia's Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu met China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi and lauded the "positive progress" made in the 22nd meeting of Special Representatives of India and China.

"India pursues a good-neighborly foreign policy, and is willing to work with China to safeguard regional and world peace and stability," Mr Naidu conveyed to Wang Yi during their meeting in New Delhi on December 21.

Mr Naidu said that the India-China friendship has a long history and stressed that both countries are ancient civilizations, and are the two most populous countries in the world. "They are also the two fastest-growing emerging economies."

"Leaders of India and China reached an important consensus that we should deal with differences and sensitive issues well, and not allow differences to become disputes," said India's Vice President.

Mr Naidu stressed that the Indian side is willing to take the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries as an opportunity to strengthen high-level exchanges, deepen pragmatic cooperation,

strengthen people-to-people exchanges, and push India-China relations to a new level.

### Leaders' Consensus

Wang Yi underlined that this round of meeting is aimed at implementing the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, review the cooperation between the two countries in various fields, and plan bilateral relations for next year. According to the political parameters and guiding principles for the settlement of the China-India boundary question, China has put forward a practical framework for solving the boundary question, to which the Indian side has attached importance, he said. The two sides also reached consensus on strengthening confidence building measures (CBMs) and cooperation in the border areas, Wang Yi told Mr Naidu.

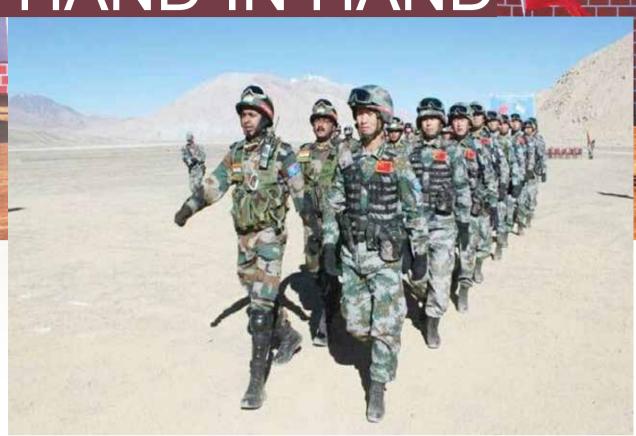
"The next step is to take the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations as an opportunity to deepen mutually beneficial cooperation and people-to-people exchanges, so as to consolidate the social foundation of the friendship between the two countries," said Wang Yi.



China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi with India's Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu.



OINT EXERCISE HAND - IN - HAND 2019



# Joint Counter-Terror Exercise in Meghalaya Boosts Trust

hinese and Indian troops held their eighth "Hand-in-Hand" counter-terrorism exercise in the north-eastern state of Meghalaya, which boosted strategic trust between the militaries of the two countries.

The "Hand-in-Hand" 2019, held on the theme of counter-terrorism under a United Nations mandate, was held December 7-20 at the state-of-the-art Joint Training Node at Umroi Cantonment, about 25 km from Shillong.

A total of 130 troopers each of the People's

Liberation Army led by Colonel Hu Chunguang of 1st Infantry Battalion, the Xizang (Tibet) Military Command and the Indian contingent, led by Colonel K. J. Singh, took part in the Handin-Hand exercise.

The exercise was held not far from the China-India border, a move which Chinese experts said will boost the strategic trust between the two countries' militaries.

The fortnight-long drills, which consisted of three phases of adaptation training, mixed

# The exercise was held not far from the China-India border, a move which Chinese experts said will boost strategic mutual trust between the two countries' militaries.

training and comprehensive exercises, mixed Chinese and Indian troops into two groups as soldiers and officers from the two countries lived and trained together, understanding each other's skills, tactics, training methods and command procedures.

This year's exercise was the eighth joint counter-terrorism exercise between China and India since 2007.

## **Enhancing Military Cooperation**

"The joint exercise will further deepen military communication and cooperation between the two sides, boosting mutual understanding and friendly relations, and contribute to regional peace and development," said Hu Chunguang, commander of the participating Chinese troops.

Colonel Hu underlined that two contingents will learn different tactics together to improve counter-terrorism capability. "It is through this and through this exercise, they would deepen their friendship and improve mutual understanding," he said.

The joint exercise will further deepen military communication and cooperation between the two sides, boosting mutual understanding and friendly relations, and contribute to regional peace and development.

"We would surely learn from each other's practice and evolve practice and drills besides rehearsing established joint command and control structures," said Colonel K. J. Singh, commander of the participating Indian troops. "The terminal aim is to evolve and develop high degree common combat compatibility and synergy to be able to conduct successful counterterrorism operations in future," he said.

The exercise came after the second informal meeting between the two countries' top leaders in the southern Indian city of Chennai in October,



making it a practical action pushing for military mutual trust, which is an important consensus reached by the two countries' leaders in the meeting, Qian Feng, a research fellow at the national strategy institute of Tsinghua University in Beijing, told the Global Times. Qian pointed out that the location of the drills was not far from the border, an indication that the Indian side no longer sees the issue as warily as before.

Besides counter-terrorism operations, discussions on Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) operations were also held as part of the exercise.

"The exercise this year is special as it comes before the 70th year of diplomatic ties between India and China. It will demonstrate the historic relationship between the two countries and help in growing bilateral relations," General Officer Commanding Red Horns Division, Major General Deepak Mehra, said. "It will further deepen people-to-people interaction between academics, forces, youths organizations and the political class of both countries," he said.



# China Will Work with India for Promoting Regional Peace & Stability: Chinese Envoy

In a comprehensive interview to Press Trust of India, Chinese Ambassador to India H.E. Sun Weidong shares his perspective on the situation in Xinjiang and Hong Kong, which has received a lot of international attention. In both Hong Kong and Xinjiang, the ambassador stresses that Western media outfits have wilfully misrepresented facts and underlines that China will not tolerate any meddling in its international affairs. As for the China-India relations, the ambassador expresses his satisfaction at positive momentum in bilateral relations after the second Informal Summit in Chennai this year and highlights myriad ways in which the two countries can expand their win-win cooperation for mutual benefit. (Excerpts from the interview)



Xinjiang is now in its best period of development in history. Xinjiang has seized the opportunity to accelerate its development and become a gateway for China to open up on its western frontier.

and rural residents there has increased by 8.4% and 8.2% respectively. In 2018, Xinjiang received 150 million domestic and overseas tourists, and over 200 million in the first 10 months of this year. Since 2014, more than 2.38 million people have been lifted out of poverty in Xinjiang, which is an unprecedented change in history.

Xinjiang has long been a region where different religions coexist and converge. The people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang enjoy freedom of religious belief, the right to use their own spoken and written languages and to practice their own cultural traditions. The number of mosques in Xinjiang has increased from more than 2,000 in the early years of the reform and opening-up to 24,400 today, with an average of one mosque for every 530 Muslims, and the clerical staff has increased from 3,000 to over 29,000.

Xinjiang was also a victim of terrorism. Since the 1990s, ethnic separatists, religious extremists and violent terrorists at home and abroad have spread extremist ideas, advocated such heresies as "killing and martyrdom leads to paradise" and instigated violent and terrorist activities. From 1990 to the end of 2016, these forces committed thousands of violent and terrorist cases in Xinjiang and other places, resulting in the loss of numerous innocent lives and the death of hundreds of public security officers, which greatly jeopardized the lives and property of people of all ethnic groups. The "July 5 Incident" in Xinjiang in 2009, which shocked the world, left 197 people dead and more than 1,700 injured. These violent terrorist acts are inhuman, shocking and heinous. These bloody acts prove that if extremism is not eliminated, it's impossible to end violent terrorist activities. The Xinjiang-related issues are not about religion, ethnic groups or human rights, but about fighting violence, terrorism and separatism.



Q: According to western media reports, the Chinese government has set up some "Detention Centers" in Xinjiang, and large numbers of Muslims have been sent there. We have noted that the Chinese government has denied these allegations and made clarifications. What's your view on this issue?

A: There are no so-called "Detention Centers" in Xinjiang. The vocational education and training program conducted in Xinjiang are in line with the law and aims to eliminate the root cause for terrorism and religious extremism. People who have visited the vocational education and training centers all realize that they are open institutions that help trainees break free from extremist ideas and acquire legal and cultural knowledge and vocational skills.

Innocent people are vulnerable to extreme religious ideology mainly because of poverty, backwardness, unemployment, and insecurity in life. Xinjiang has set up vocational education and training centers in order to root out extreme thoughts, enhance awareness for the rule of law, improve vocational skills and create employment opportunities, so that those affected by extreme and violent ideas can return to society and live a normal and happy life.

These training centers maintains that counterterrorism and de-radicalization should not be linked to specific region, ethnicity or religion. The trainees' freedom of movement, personal dignity, customs, religious belief and other legitimate rights and interests are fully respected and protected. Trainees can take leaves, return home to meet family, and make phone calls at any time. Trainees who have religion can decide by themselves whether to participate in legal religious activities when they return home.

The reasonable needs of trainees in terms of study, life and entertainment are also guaranteed and met to the greatest degree. The training centers are equipped with all living facilities, and all dormitories are uniformly equipped with radio, television and air conditioning. It also provides clinics and facilities for sports and cultural activities. Ethnic cultural shows and performances and sports games are often staged.

The number of trainees joining in the training is changing all the time, since some new trainees enter into it, while others graduate from it. Some foreign media claimed that there are one million to two million trainees in the centers, some maliciously claim that the "detention of large numbers of Uygur Muslims" and "human rights violations" occur in Xinjiang -- these are nothing but sheer lies.



Q: As you said, these "Detention Centers" are actually education and training centers. However, some media reports say that trainees of these centers are separated from their families involuntarily, which in turn causes many social problems. What is your response?

A: In terms of preventive counter-terrorism, the vocational education and training centers have made remarkable achievements.

First, there has been a remarkable decrease in violent terrorist incidents in Xinjiang. In the past three years, not a single violent terrorist case has taken place in Xinjiang. Xinjiang now enjoys a good situation of economic development, social stability, ethnic unity and religious harmony. The approach of training centers is widely supported by 25 million people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang.

Second, the overall capabilities and awareness of trainees for the rule of law has been significantly improved. Through a period of education and training, they become aware of what is legal and what is illegal, what things can and cannot be done, and that religious activities must be carried out within the confines of laws and regulations.

In the past three years, not a single violent terrorist case has taken place in Xinjiang. Xinjiang now enjoys a good situation of economic development, social stability, ethnic unity and religious harmony.

Third, the trainees can now use the national common language skilfully, master practical skills and improve their employment abilities. At present, the trainees have finished their courses, found suitable jobs and have a decent income. For many families, as long as one family member is employed, the whole family can be lifted out of poverty. For example, a former trainee named Ayigul of Kashgar Prefecture's Buchu County said she has become a workshop leader with the sewing skills she learned at the center. She makes more than 3,000 Yuan (around 430 USD) every month and her family has been out of poverty.

Fourth, it has provided useful experience and successful examples for the international efforts to combat terrorism and de-radicalization. Since the end of 2018, over 1,000 people including foreign diplomatic envoys to China, representatives of international organizations and news media have visited Xinjiang and witnessed the remarkable achievements made in Xinjiang's preventive counter-terrorism and de-radicalization efforts.

They feel that what they see with their own eyes is completely different from what western media has reported, and that Xinjiang's practices are worth learning from.

Q: These training centers, as you said, were established to train specific groups of people to protect them from being radicalized, and thus prevent terrorist acts from happening. But is this practice consistent with relevant international laws and practices?

**A:** The establishment and operation of vocational education and training centers are reasonable and legal.

First, vocational education and training centers are established in accordance with the law, including the Counter-terrorism Law of the People's Republic of China, the Measures of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region on Implementing the Counter-terrorism Law of the People's Republic of China, and the Regulations of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region on De-radicalization.

Second, this approach is fully in line with the spirit and purpose of the United Nations counter-terrorism initiatives. The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism clearly state that the international community should provide educational opportunities, vocational training resources and economic opportunities for people from violent extremist groups and encourage them to leave the groups.

Third, the idea and practice of preventive counter-terrorism is not China's "innovation". More than 20 countries in the world have also adopted similar compulsory programs for suspects of violent terrorists. The measures of establishing vocational education and training centers in Xinjiang are just more systematic, comprehensive and effective.

Facts have proved that some western media, out of ideological prejudice, always look at China and China's Xinjiang through colored glasses, and maliciously play up the issues related to Xinjiang. This fully exposes their "double standards" on the issue of counter-terrorism and de-radicalization. It even amounts to connivance with terrorism and extremism.

Xinjiang-related affairs are purely China's internal affairs. We firmly oppose interference in China's internal affairs by any force using Xinjiang-related issues. The Western forces' attempts to sow discord among various ethnic groups in China and contain China's growth will never succeed.

As I pointed out in my recent article, Xinjiang's lasting prosperity and stability is the most powerful response to slanders by the West. China welcomes foreigners with an objective and fair mind to visit Xinjiang and truly experience the sublime beauty of Xinjiang basking in social stability and harmony.

# 'US' real purpose is to destabilise Hong Kong'

Q: When will China be able to bring the situation to normal in Hong Kong. Is there any possibility of agreeing to the demands of "pro-democracy protesters" in Hong Kong?

A: Hong Kong is an international financial, shipping and trade centre. Over the past 22 years since its return to China, Hong Kong has maintained prosperity and stability. It is widely recognized as the most free economy in the world with renowned business environment and international competitiveness recognized by the international community. The rule of law index of Hong Kong ranks among the top in the world, thanks to the effective implementation of the principles of "one country, two systems", "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" and a high degree of autonomy

Since June this year, the protests in Hong Kong over the extradition bill have degenerated to radical violent crimes. The rioters have severely violated the rule of law and order, undermined Hong Kong's prosperity and stability, and seriously challenged the bottom line of the "one country, two systems" principle. The rioters committed vandalism and arson everywhere in the city, wantonly attacked students, tourists, journalists from China's mainland as well as Hong Kong citizens with different opinions from them, assaulted police officers by bows and arrows, petrol bombs and other deadly weapons, attempted to kill a legislator in public, and even



Chinese President Xi Jinping with HKSAR Chief Executive Carrie Lam.

set a citizen on fire just because he disagreed with them. A 70-year-old man was killed when he was hit by stones hurled by rioters. How can it be called "peaceful demonstration" when the rioters' actions have obvious character of terrorism? How can they talk about "democracy", "freedom" and "human rights" when they abuse ordinary people at will, forcibly destroy public facilities and prevent others from going to work and school? Therefore, the biggest risk for Hong Kong is not about democracy or human rights, but brutal violence.

Extreme violence will never be tolerated by any society, and the offenders should be brought to justice. At present, the most urgent task for Hong Kong is to stop violence and chaos, and restore social order. The Central Government of China will continue to firmly support the efforts of Chief Executive Carrie Lam to lead the HKSAR government in lawfully administering Hong Kong, support the Hong Kong police in enforcing law, and support the Hong Kong judiciary organs in punishing violent criminals in accordance with the law.

Q: China has suspended US Navy ships and aircraft to Hong Kong and President Donald Trump has signed the Human Rights and Democracy Act into law. How do you see the US action? Is it trying to corner China politically by using the issue?

**A:** In disregard of China's strong opposition and the great harm inflicted on Hong Kong society caused by violence, the US signed into

law the so-called Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act. This is a blatant violation of international law and basic norms governing international relations, and a brazen interference in China's internal affairs, under the pretext of "democracy" and "human rights". The spiral of violence in Hong Kong has plunged the territory into a technical economic recession, led to a surge of unemployment in consumer sector and tourism, and undermined foreign investor confidence in Hong Kong. The real purpose of the U.S. is to destabilize and even ruin Hong Kong. China has taken countermeasures against the US actions. The US should immediately stop interfering in Hong Kong otherwise it will only shoot itself in the foot.

The Central Government of China will continue to firmly support the efforts of Chief Executive Carrie Lam to lead the HKSAR government in lawfully administering Hong Kong, support the Hong Kong police in enforcing law, and support the Hong Kong judiciary organs in punishing violent criminals in accordance with the law.



Some western politicians and media have whitewashed and glorified the criminal acts of violent extremists by ignoring facts and calling the rioters "peaceful demonstrators" and "prodemocracy protesters", and providing support and protection for them in both covert and overt ways.

Hong Kong is a part of China. Hong Kong affairs are purely China's internal affairs. No one shall underestimate the firm determination of the Chinese government to oppose external interference in Hong Kong's affairs. Nor shall they misjudge China's resolve in implementing the principle of "one country, two systems" and safeguarding China's sovereignty, security and development interests.

# Q: Will the US action impact the proposed trade deal between China and the US?

**A:** China's position on China-US economic and trade issue is consistent and clear. The trade frictions provoked by the US will only harm others without benefiting itself, and eventually harm the

interests of the American people. We hope the US side can meet the Chinese side halfway and reach a mutual beneficial and win-win agreement on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit. This is in the interest of both countries, and the common expectation of the international community.

# Q: Do you think external forces are involved in escalating the situation in Hong Kong?

**A:** The turmoil in Hong Kong over the past several months and the behaviours of some ill-intentioned external forces in Hong Kong affairs suggest that, what is happening in Hong Kong bears the hallmarks of "color revolution". There is evidence showing that the interference, intervention and instigation of the external forces are behind the escalation of Hong Kong's situation today.

Some western politicians and media have whitewashed and glorified the criminal acts of violent extremists by ignoring facts and calling the rioters "peaceful demonstrators" and "prodemocracy protesters", and providing support and protection for them in both covert and overt ways. It has been exposed that diplomats from the US Consulate General in Hong Kong met with the heads of the so-called "Hong Kong

independence" group. Some western media turned a blind eye to the crimes committed by violent extremists such as smashing fires, attacking police and harming innocent people. On the contrary, they blindly pointed the finger at the Hong Kong police for upholding the rule of law and protecting the safety of the citizens. They blamed and criticized the police and tried to obstruct the police from bringing criminals to justice. The US used the socalled Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act to interfere in China's internal affairs and meddle in Hong Kong affairs. It's quite obvious who is behind the chaos in Hong Kong.





# Q: How do you see India's position regarding the situation in Hong Kong?

A: China and India jointly advocated the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and opposed interference in other countries' internal affairs. India has a large number of diaspora and enterprises in Hong Kong. It is not only in China's interest, but also in the common interests of all countries including India, to maintain Hong Kong's prosperity and stability and uphold "one country, two systems" policy. I believe that is what our Indian friends with fair and objective attitudes would like to see.

# 'China & India represent opportunity to each other'

Q: What is your outlook towards India-China ties and regional security situation including in Kashmir?

**A:** The positive effects of the second informal summit between Chinese and Indian leaders in Chennai are gradually showing up, and the bilateral relations are enjoying sound and steady development. As the only two major developing countries with a population of over one billion

and two important emerging economies, China-India relations transcend the bilateral dimension and assume global and strategic significance. Both China and India have their own dreams of becoming a great nation. China is on track to achieve the "two centenary goals", while India puts forward the vision of building a "new India".

From all perspectives, China and India should be good neighbors living in harmony, and good partners moving forward, hand in hand. China hopes to achieve good development for itself and India as well. China and India should see their respective development and growth as important opportunities for each other. The two countries should help each other to accomplish their respective goals and "light up" each other. It will not only inject strong impetus into the respective developments of the two countries, but also add stability and positive energy to the world.

The pursuit of peace, development and cooperation is the trend of our times, as well as the common aspiration of countries and peoples in the region. Without a peaceful and stable environment, development is out of the question. China's position on the Kashmir issue is consistent and clear. I will not repeat it here. China maintains that all parties should resolve

As the only two major developing countries with a population of over one billion and two important emerging economies. China-India relations transcend the bilateral dimension and assume global and strategic significance.

differences peacefully through dialogue and avoid any unilateral actions that may complicate the situation. China is willing to work with all parties including India to jointly safeguard regional peace and stability, promote win-win cooperation in the region and make contributions to regional development and security.

Q: The significant outcome of the second informal summit between President Xi and PM Modi included setting up of a new high-level mechanism to boost trade and investment, enhance defence and security cooperation and work on additional confidence building measures. What is the progress in implementation of each of the decisions, including setting up the mechanism to boost trade?

A: The Second Informal Summit between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi in Chennai yielded fruitful outcomes, including the establishment of a high-level economic and trade dialogue mechanism at the vice-premier level. It shows that China attaches great importance to the development of China-India economic and trade relations. It is also a positive step taken by China to ease trade imbalance between the two countries and strengthen practical cooperation in trade and investment. Currently, the discussion on the functions and operation of the new mechanism is going on at the working level.

The two leaders also exchanged views on issues such as the boundary question and strengthening defense and security cooperation. The Special Representatives of China and India on the Boundary Question will continue their discussions on the basis of the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the Boundary Question reached in 2005, advance the border negotiation process through equal and friendly consultation, and seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution. Prior to this, the two sides will continue to properly handle and manage border-related incidents through multi-tiered mechanism, jointly maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas, and continue to promote more confidence-building measures.

The Chinese and Indian armies have also maintained friendly exchanges and cooperation. The "Hand in Hand" joint exercise between the two armies is going on in India. China is willing to promote defense and security cooperation with India to enhance mutual understanding and

Q: Like other RCEP member countries, are you trying to persuade India to re-join RCEP? Will you go ahead in signing the RCEP deal without resolving India's concerns?

A: RCEP is an open and inclusive regional free trade agreement led by ASEAN. It is a blueprint for regional economic development drawn up by all parties on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and win-win cooperation. It is conducive to strengthening and improving regional supply and value chains, and is of great significance to promoting regional economic development, supporting economic globalization and opposing trade protectionism.

Over the past 7 years of negotiations on RCEP, all parties have made great efforts in overcoming many difficulties. It is not easy to eventually conclude the negotiation. parties have committed in principle to signing the agreement next year, which is an encouraging sign. We understand and respect India's decision on RCEP. RCEP is open, and China is willing to work with all parties, in the spirit of mutual understanding and accommodation, to continue consultations and resolve the concerned issues with India.



# COMING TOGETHER ON CLIMATE



H.E. Sun Weidong

# CHINA-INDIA COOPERATION WILL HELP BUILD A BRIGHT FUTURE

In this article published *The Tribune*, China's Ambassador to India Sun Weidong outlines common positions of China and India on various facets of climate change negotiations and maps the way forward for proactive cooperation between the two Asian neighbours in shaping a green future for mankind.



The 25th United Nations Climate Change Conference \_ (COP25), held in Madrid, Spain, has attracted a lot of global attention. The key objective was to complete negotiations on the rules for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, which is an important basis for the full operationalisation of the agreement and is also significant to the authority and effectiveness of multilateralism. Sharing similar positions, China and India are important partners in promoting the achievements of the conference.

On December 11, Zhao Yingmin, Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China, stressed in Madrid that no country could stay immune in the face of climate change, and all countries need to work together to cope with the challenge. The Paris Agreement is a valuable achievement of multilateralism. China expects the conference to implement the agreement and

As the world's two largest developing countries, China and India should not only complete the arduous tasks of economic development, poverty alleviation and improving people's livelihood, but also take effective measures to cope with the disasters and risks brought by climate change. such as extreme weather and environmental changes.

uphold multilateralism. All parties need to work hard to complete the negotiations on the remaining issues in the implementation rules of the agreement, especially Article 6, which is the main task of this conference.

## **Promoting Carbon Market**

China attaches great importance to the use of market mechanism to deal with climate change, and takes the construction of national carbon emission trading market as an important measure to deal with climate change and promote the construction of ecological civilisation. The Chinese government regards mitigation and adaptation to climate change as an important part of its national strategy.

Prakash Javadekar, Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India, also pointed out at the COP25 that it was time to look in the mirror to check the fulfilment of commitments.

especially for the developed countries, as we are near the end of the pre-2020 period.

### China & India: Shared Positions

As the world's two largest developing countries, China and India should not only complete the arduous tasks of economic development, poverty alleviation and improving people's livelihood, but also take effective measures to cope with the disasters and risks brought by climate change, such as extreme weather and environmental changes. From 1984 to 2018, China's direct economic loss caused by meteorological disasters was about \$1 trillion. According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2020, released by an NGO, German Watch, India suffered the maximum number of deaths - 2,081- from climate-triggered extreme weather events in 2018, and was second in terms of economic losses.

China and India are important contributors to the global response to climate change. Both have actively participated in global climate governance, issued joint statements and signed MoUs through multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, such as BASIC countries and China-India Climate Change Consultation, and expressed common interests and concerns. China and India agree that we should adhere to the principle of fairness, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities to deal with climate change. Developed and developing countries have different historical responsibilities for causing climate change. Developed countries should help developing countries in terms of funds and technology.



Zhao Yingmin, China's chief climate negotiator and Deputy Minister of Ecology and Environment.



In Chennai, the zeroemission, pure electric buses, jointly produced by enterprises of the two countries, have been sent to the market all across India.

In recent years, China and India have taken a series of effective measures to deal with this change. In 2018, China's carbon emission intensity decreased by 45.8% compared with that in 2005, reaching the commitment of reducing the carbon emission intensity in 2020 by 40%-45% compared with 2005 in advance, the proportion of nonfossil energy consumption has reached 14.3%, and the power generation of renewable energy accounted for 26.7% of the total generation. India has also set the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions to reduce the carbon emission intensity by 33%-35% on the basis of 2005, by 2030. New and renewable energy is developing fast in India, and the total installed capacity has reached 80 gigawatts. Earlier this year, a NASA study showed that China and India contributed the most to global greening, contributing onethird of the green area growth in the past two decades.

Cooperation of China and India has a good foundation and great potential in addressing climate change. In recent years, in addition to cooperation in global climate governance, both countries have also carried out extensive cooperation in specific areas, such as marine climate, polar scientific research, disaster prevention and mitigation, and other fields. They have signed relevant agreements and implemented personnel exchanges, joint research and development, joint exercises, and other forms of cooperation. In Chennai, the zero-emission, pure electric buses, jointly produced by enterprises of the two countries, have been

sent to the market all across India. The Kunming Institute of Botany, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences are exploring the possibility to hold the China-India Climate Change and Green Development Forum in New Delhi next year.

## **Shaping Green World**

China and India can further strengthen cooperation in technology and experience in coping with climate change and benefit each other. The carbon emission of service industry is relatively low, and the service industry in India is developing well.

China can learn relevant experiences from India, and both countries can carry out extensive cooperation in the IT and financial service industry. NASSCOM, Infosys, NIIT and other Indian IT companies are expanding their business and growing rapidly in China, with huge space in the future. At the same time, China has some advantages in electric vehicles, smart grid, energy saving and emission reduction technologies, and welcomes cooperation with India. In addition, China and India can carry out 'China India plus' cooperation, jointly carry out projects of new and renewable energy, energy conservation, environmental protection in other countries, to make greater contributions to handle climate change and build a community with a shared future for mankind.

(This article was first published in *The Tribune* newspaper)

# Xi to Trump: Phase-One Trade Deal Benefits China, US & World

The phase-one economic and trade deal between China and the United States benefits both sides and the whole world, said Chinese President Xi Jinping.

In a telephonic conversation with his US counterpart Donald Trump, President Xi noted that the two countries have reached the phase-one agreement on the basis of the principle of equality and mutual respect.

Against the backdrop of an extremely complicated international environment, the agreement benefits China, the United States, as well as peace and prosperity of the whole world, President Xi said.

Mr Trump agreed with the Chinese leader and said that the phase-one deal is good for the two countries and the whole world. Noting that both countries' markets and the world have responded very positively to the agreement, Mr Trump said that the US is willing to maintain close communication with China and strive for the signing and implementation of the agreement at an early date.

President Xi stressed that the economic and trade cooperation between China and the US has made significant contributions to the stability and development of China-US relations and the advancement of the world economy.

Modern economy and modern technologies have integrated the world as a whole, thus making the interests of China and the US more intertwined with each other, President Xi said.



#### **Win-Win Outcomes**

As long as both sides keep holding the mainstream of China-US economic and trade cooperation featuring mutual benefits and win-win outcomes, and always respect each other's national dignity, sovereignty and core interests, they will overcome difficulties on the way of progress, and push forward their economic and trade relations under the new historical conditions, so as to benefit the two countries and peoples, President Xi said.

President Xi, however, expressed serious concerns over the US side's recent negative words and actions on issues related to China's Taiwan, Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Xizang (Tibet). He noted that the US had interfered in China's internal affairs and harmed China's interests, which is detrimental to mutual trust and bilateral cooperation.

China hopes that the US will seriously implement the important consensuses reached by the two leaders over various meetings and phone conversations, pay high attention and attach great importance to China's concerns, and prevent bilateral relations and important agendas from being disturbed, President Xi said.

Mr Trump, on his part, said he is looking forward to maintaining regular communication with President Xi and underlined that he is confident that both countries can properly handle differences, and US-China relations can maintain smooth development.

Mr Trump, on his part, said he is looking forward to maintaining regular communication with President Xi and underlined that he is confident that both countries can properly handle differences, and US-China relations can maintain smooth development.

Mr Xi also stressed that he is willing to maintain contacts with Mr Trump by various means, exchange views over bilateral relations and international affairs, and jointly promote China-US relations on the basis of coordination, cooperation and stability.

The two heads of state also exchanged views on the situation of the Korean Peninsula. President Xi stressed that it is imperative to stick to the general direction of a political settlement, saying all parties should meet each other halfway, and maintain dialogue and momentum for the mitigation of the situation, which is in the common interests of all.



# CHINA, US SEAL PHASE ONE TRADE DEAL



The world's top two economies have finalised the text of the Phase-One trade deal which will help them to enhance economic cooperation after months of strife, and to effectively resolve differences.

Both sides have reached consensus that the US side will fulfill its commitments to phase out its additional tariffs on Chinese products, so as to achieve a switch from hiking to cutting additional tariffs.

hina and the United States have agreed on the text of a phase-one economic and trade agreement based on the principle of equality and mutual respect.

The text includes nine chapters: the preface, intellectual property rights, technology transfer, food and agricultural products, financial services, exchange rate and transparency, trade expansion, bilateral assessment and dispute settlement, and the final terms, according to a statement issued by the Chinese side.

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products, so as to achieve a switch from hiking to cutting additional tariffs

## **The Big Picture**

The Chinese side believes that China and the United States, the world's two largest economies, must deal with bilateral economic and trade relations with the big picture in mind. Reaching the agreement will serve the fundamental interests of the people of the two countries and the world, and is expected to impact positively areas, including economy, trade, investment and the financial market.

The agreement is generally in line with the main direction of China's deepening reform and

With the expansion of China's domestic market, Chinese enterprises will import more high-quality and competitive goods and services from countries including the US under the WTO rules as well as market rules and business principles.



(Left to Right) US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, China's Vice-Premier Liu He and US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin at Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on March 28, 2019.

opening up as well as the internal needs for advancing high-quality economic development. The implementation of the agreement will help enhance intellectual property rights protection, improve the business environment, expand market access, better safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of all companies including foreign firms in China. The pact will also protect the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese firms in their economic and trade activities with the US.

With the expansion of China's domestic market, Chinese enterprises will import more high-quality and competitive goods and services from countries including the US under the WTO rules as well as market rules and business principles. The increase in imports is conducive to boosting the country's consumption upgrading and meeting Chinese people's growing needs for a better life.

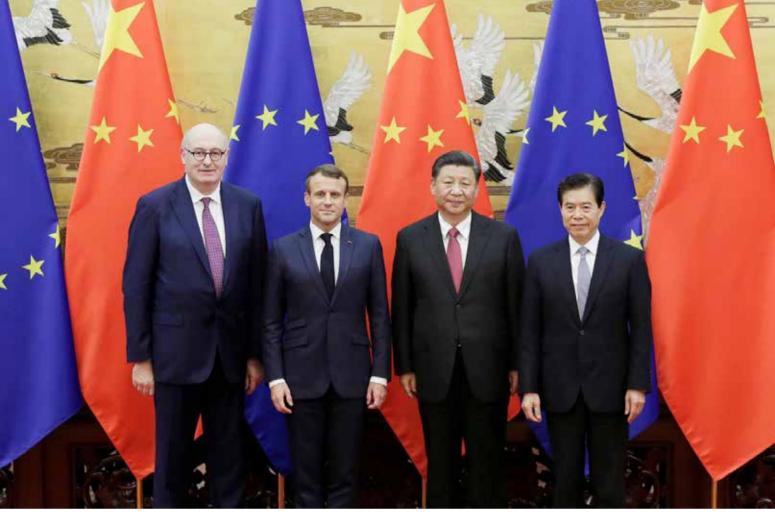
The agreement will help the two countries enhance economic and trade cooperation,

effectively manage, control and resolve differences, and promote the steady development of bilateral economic and trade relations.

As the global economy faces downward pressure, the agreement will boost confidence of the global market, stabilize market expectations, and create favorable environment for normal economic, trade and investment activities.

Both sides have agreed to complete their necessary procedures including legal review, translation and proofreading as soon as possible, and discuss the detailed arrangements for officially signing the agreement.

After the signing, it is hoped that both sides will comply with and earnestly implement the provisions of the phase one deal, do more to promote the development of bilateral economic and trade relations as well as global economic and financial stability, and safeguard the peace and prosperity of the world.



# **Xi Calls for Bolstering Strategic Ties with EU**

Both China and the EU advocate multilateralism and free trade, firmly defend a multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, and advocate that all countries should act according to the rules. President Xi noted.

hinese President Xi Jinping and President of the European Council Charles Michel held phone talks on December 9, and agreed to strengthen China-European Union (EU) relations and cooperation is in the common interests of both sides and the world.

President Xi congratulated Mr Michel on his election and assuming the presidency of the European Council.

Both China and the EU advocate multilateralism and free trade, firmly defend a multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, and advocate that all countries should act according to the rules. President Xi noted.

Under the current circumstances, China and the EU need to strengthen communication, coordination and cooperation to ensure stable development of the China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership, which not only serves the common interests of both sides, but brings more stability, certainty and positive energy to the world, said the Chinese leader.

### Partners, Not Rivals

Noting that China views its relations with the EU from a strategic height and with a long-term perspective, President Xi said China and the EU are mutually beneficial partners of cooperation, rather than rivals in a zero-sum game.

China's development is an opportunity, not a challenge for the EU, and the China-EU relations boast broad prospects for development, President Xi said.

China's EU policy will maintain its continuity and stability, and China will as always support EU's development and its active and important role in the world, President Xi said.

The Chinese leaders expressed hope that new EU institutions will maintain continuous and forward-looking policies towards China, continue to actively and constructively develop relations with China, and work with China to promote the positive and sound development of China-EU partnerships for peace, growth,



The EU and China hold important consensus on safeguarding international rules, multilateralism as well as global peace and stability, the EU Council president said.

China's EU policy will maintain its continuity and stability, and China will as always support EU's development and its active and important role in the world, President Xi said.

reform and civilization, so as to make China-EU cooperation fruitful.

## **Aligning with BRI**

President Xi stressed that China is willing to work with the EU to ensure the success of a series of important bilateral exchanges and agenda in 2020. The Chinese leader also pledged China's commitment to an alignment between the Belt and Road Initiative and the EU strategies on Eurasian connectivity, an early reaching of a bilateral investment agreement, the comprehensive and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change, as well as efforts to push the WTO reform towards a correct direction that benefits all parties.

### **China-EU Consensus**

For his part, Mr Michel said he fully agrees with the stance of and proposals by President Xi on the development of the EU-China relations. The EU and China hold important consensus on safeguarding international rules, multilateralism as well as global peace and stability, the EU Council president said. He underlined that strengthening EU-China cooperation is in the common interests of both sides and the world.



Noting that there will be a series of important high-level exchanges and cooperation priorities next year, Mr Michel said the EU is willing to work with China to ensure that relevant activities and cooperation achieve positive results. He also pledged that the EU will scale up economic and trade cooperation with China, and strengthen communication and coordination with China on the WTO reform and efforts to address climate change. He expressed his willingness in maintaining a good and close relationship with President Xi and playing an active and constructive role in promoting the EU-China cooperation.

# Premier Li Congratulates European Commission's New President



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang has assured President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen that China will proactively cooperate with the EU in upholding multilateralism and combat climate change. In telephonic talks on December 1, 2019, Premier Li congratulated Ms der Leven on assuming her new position and spoke highly of the current development of China-European Union (EU) relations. He welcomed

new EU leaders' visit to China for the 22nd China-EU Summit next year.

Premier Li pointed out that China and the EU are each other's major cooperative partners, and both are committed to upholding multilateralism and free trade. The Chinese side has always firmly supported the process of European integration. The two sides should focus on their broad common interests, strengthen strategic communication and deepen all-round cooperation, which is beneficial to both China and the EU, and the world at large, said Premier Li. As the world's largest developing country, China still has a long way to go to realize modernization, Premier Li said.

In his conversation, Premier Li conveyed that China will actively fulfill the commitments made in the Paris Agreement, make arduous efforts to address climate change, continuously improve the environment in the process of industrialization, urbanization and agricultural modernization, and work with the international community, including the EU side, to tackle climate change.

The EU leader also struck an upbeat note on the future trajectory of China-EU relations. "I held phone talks with Mr. Premier on the day of my inauguration, which indicates that the EU side highly values its relations with China," said the EU Council president. "The year 2020 will be a landmark for the development of EU-China relations as it will see a series of significant high-level exchanges between the two sides. I look forward to coming to China next year for the 22nd EU-China Summit," said Ms Ursula von der Leyen.

"The EU and China share broad common interests on such issues as sustainable development and China-EU investment agreement negotiation. Dealing with climate change is a priority of the new European Commission," she said. "The Commission highly appreciates the Chinese side's efforts on the issue and is willing to work with the Chinese side to enhance cooperation in areas including addressing climate change and the reform of the World Trade Organization, in order to push for sustained development of EU-China relations."

# CHINA-JAPAN-ROK TRILATERAL COOPERATION SCALES NEW HEIGHTS



(Left to Right) South Korea's President Moon Jae-in, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Japanese PM Shinzo Abe in Chengdu.

As this year marks the 20th anniversary of China-Japan-Republic of Korea cooperation, the 8th China-Japan-ROK leaders' meeting provided a catalyst to take trilateral ties to a higher level.

The trilateral meeting between Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, ROK President Moon Jae-in and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in the southwestern Chinese city of Chengdu on December 25 culminated in a joint decision to scale up economic and strategic cooperation between the three countries.

Before the two foreign leaders came to Chengdu, Chinese President Xi Jinping met them separately in Beijing on December 24.

In a world undergoing profound changes rarely seen in a century, the three countries enjoy a sound momentum of development of ties and their cooperation faces huge opportunities at a new starting point.

# Enhancing Trade & Investment

The three countries have forged an allencompassing cooperation system with the leaders' meeting as the core and supported by 21 ministerial meetings. Their cooperation covers over 30 areas. China-Japan-ROK trilateral investment agreement has already been signed, and 16 rounds of negotiations on free trade have been held so far.

"We should speed up the negotiations and establish a free trade area with high standard as early as possible, to realize highlevel trade and investment liberalization and facilitation," said Premier Li during the meeting. The total trade volume of the three countries increased from \$130 billion in 1999 to more than \$720 billion in 2018.

During the leaders' meeting, Premier Li called for strengthening cooperation in areas of innovation, environmental protection and people-to-people exchanges. "We should enhance exchanges and pragmatic cooperation in such fields as health, aging, and climate change, and increase the sense of fulfilment and happiness of the people," he said.

# **Blending Core Strengths**

A document, titled "Trilateral Cooperation Vision for the Next Decade," and another one on the "China-Japan-ROK+X" early achievement outcomes were released during the meeting.

"A trend for future cooperation is 'China-Japan-ROK+X,' that is to say, the three countries will strengthen cooperation in other markets. For example, they can make use of their respective advantages and resources to promote connectivity along the Belt and Road," said Jiang Ruiping, former vice president of China Foreign Affairs University.

Japan and the ROK have considerable advantages in high-tech areas, including information and big data. China, on its part, boasts a huge market, as well as unique strengths in 5G and the Internet.

"We welcome enterprises from Japan and the ROK to seize opportunities of China's expanded opening-up and win more business opportunities, to better realize mutual benefit," Premier Li said at a business summit.

## **Partnering for Free Trade**

Apart from bilateral and trilateral pragmatic cooperation, regional and global issues were also on the agenda of the leaders' meeting. Premier Li said that the three countries should jointly safeguard regional peace and stability, adding that the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the setting-up of a peace mechanism will be in their common interests.

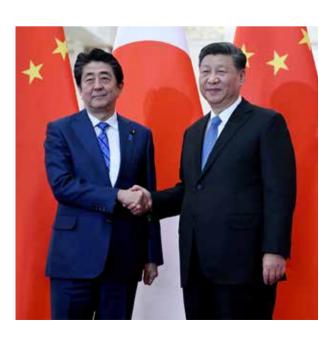
The three countries should continue to promote dialogue to promote progress, properly

"We should speed up the negotiations and establish a free trade area with high standard as early as possible, to realize high-level trade and investment liberalization and facilitation," said Premier Li during the meeting.

handle reasonable concerns of all parties, and work for a political resolution of the Korean Peninsula issue to realize lasting peace in the region, said Premier Li. He called on the three sides to reinforce unity and jointly cope with common challenges. The three countries should "carry forward the spirit of sharing weal and woe, and firmly support multilateralism and free trade," said Li.

At a joint press briefing after the meeting, Mr Moon and Mr Abe expressed the readiness to lift trilateral cooperation to new heights, safeguard free trade and multilateralism, and play constructive roles in realizing the denuclearization of and lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Observers share the view that as the multilateral system is being threatened, and protectionism and unilateralism are on the rise, the trilateral cooperation among China, Japan and the ROK can play an exemplary role for the world





# Braving Waves and Sailing Forward with Resolve

Capping a year of China's extensive diplomatic outreach and extraordinary success in the international arena, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi delivered a defining speech at the opening of the Symposium on "The International Situation and China's Foreign Relations in 2019," on December 13. The Symposium has evolved into an important platform for discussions on international developments and China's diplomacy and a valuable source of insights and suggestions for China's foreign policy.

Wang Yi's speech encapsulated China's myriad diplomatic achievements in 2019 and looked ahead to "a new journey of major country diplomacy with Chinese Characteristics." In this speech, Wang Yi underlined how China's diplomatic outreach is integrated with the overarching goal of national development and rejuvenation. China's top diplomat also outlined major priorities of the country's foreign policy in 2020 and underlined how in "the face of unilateralist and hegemonic moves, China has firmly stood on the right side of history and on the

side of the common interests of the overwhelming majority of countries." Underscoring China's core sovereignty interests, Wang Yi also makes it clear that China will not accept any bullying or interference in its internal affairs in Hong Kong, Xinjiang, Xizang (Tibet) and Taiwan. "A stable, secure and prosperous China is standing tall and proud in the east of the world, poised to make new contributions to the cause of peace and development of humankind," he said. (Excerpts from Wang Yi's speech)

# A Year of Turbulence

For the world, 2019 is a year of turbulence and mounting challenges. Multilateralism and unilateralism are locked in a bitter contest, protectionism and populism have been on the rise, and the world is seeing a rampage of power politics and bullying. Big power rivalry has intensified, global governance is confronted with more difficulties, and global growth remains sluggish.

From Asia to the Middle East, from Europe to Latin America, flashpoints keep flaring up, countries are plunged into turmoil, and traditional and non-traditional security threats are becoming more intertwined. All these are posing severe challenges to global governance.

Whether countries make the right choice between cooperation and confrontation, multilateralism and unilateralism, openness and isolation will largely shape the future of human society.

In 2019, facing the complex international situation, China has forged ahead with its foreign relations under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core.

#### Asia-Pacific & RCEP

China also played a pivotal role in bringing about important progress in regional cooperation in the Asia-Pacific. Not long ago, the 15 participating countries of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) concluded all the text-based negotiations, and a timeline has been drawn up for its formal signing. A regional free trade area boasting the largest population, most diverse membership and greatest potential is in the making.

#### Second BRI Forum

China successfully hosted the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which was attended by 40 national leaders and heads of international organizations, and nearly 6,000 representatives from 150 countries and 92 international organizations. The forum produced 283 important outcomes.

This year, China has signed documents on Belt and Road cooperation with 16 countries and international organizations, bringing the total number of such cooperation documents to



199. Flagship projects such as China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, China-Laos Railway, Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway and China-Europe Railway Express have created substantial development opportunities for the participating countries, and brought the Belt and Road cooperation into a new phase of high-quality development.

## **Upholding Multilateralism**

In the face of unilateralist and hegemonic moves, China has firmly stood on the right side of history and on the side of the common interests of the overwhelming majority of countries. From the G20 Summit to the BRICS Summit, from the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations to the China-France Seminar on Global Governance, from the Boao Forum for Asia to the leaders' meetings on East Asian cooperation, China has



taken a consistent and unwavering stand, namely, firmly upholding the UN-centered international system, safeguarding the international order underpinned by the international law, and promoting the multilateral trading regime centered on the WTO.

President Xi Jinping's call for extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits in global governance and for building a community with a shared future for mankind has been embraced and supported by more and more countries.

# China Seeks Win-Win Ties with US

In 2019, the state of China-US relations has undoubtedly been the focus of attention both in China's diplomacy and world affairs. The US has arbitrarily acted to restrict exchanges and hold China down in the fields of economy, trade, science, technology and people-to-people exchanges. It deliberately smeared China on Hong Kong, Taiwan, Xinjiang, Xizang (Tibet) and human rights, which concern China's core interests and its territorial sovereignty and national dignity. The US has also used various international occasions to discredit China's social system, development path and mutually beneficial cooperation with other countries, and slander China with trumped-up charges. Such flagrant moves are pushing the boundaries of normal international exchange. They have seriously undercut the foundation of the hard-won mutual trust between China and the US and dented the credibility of the US itself in the world.

Instead of living up to its due international responsibilities and obligations, the most powerful country in the world has opted for unilateralism and protectionism. In a little over two years, it has withdrawn from a long list of agreements and organizations, namely, the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP), the Paris Agreement, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), the JCPOA, the United Nations Human Rights Council, the Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations Concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes, and the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF). Such blatant acts of turning back the wheels of history and walking away from international commitments have caused many difficulties and disruptions for the international community, making the US a troublemaker in today's world.

The sound and steady development of the relations between the top two economies in the world serves the interests of the two peoples and meets the common aspirations of the



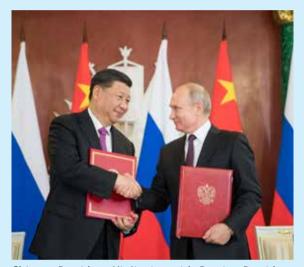
world. On the part of China, what we seek is our legitimate right to develop ourselves. We never had any intention to challenge or replace the US. What we advocate is fairness and justice in the world. We will never go down the beaten track of seeking hegemony with strength. What we pursue is common progress of humankind, never the selfish interests of China itself. We urge the US to work with us for a relationship of no-conflict, no-confrontation, mutual respect and winwin cooperation.

# Agenda 2020: Six Major Tasks

The year 2020 will be a key milestone in the course of China's national rejuvenation. We will complete the 13th Five Year Plan, eliminate absolute poverty, and realize a moderately prosperous society in all respects. We will achieve the first centenary goal, and on that basis, start a new journey toward the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in an all-round way.

Whatever dangerous shoals or raging waves may lie ahead, China's diplomacy will brave the wind and waves and steer a steady course with a strong resolve.

We will rally even more closely around the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, and thoroughly study and implement Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy. Staying true to our original aspirations, we will bravely undertake our mission to break new ground for major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era.



Chinese President Xi Jinping with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Next year, we will focus on the following six major tasks:

First, doing our utmost to serve the domestic development agenda. Taking into account both the domestic and international situation, we will leverage all diplomatic resources at hand to facilitate major development strategies at home, foster an enabling international and regional environment and provide more favorable conditions for the timely attainment of our first centenary goal, i.e. the realization of a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

We will continue to host promotion events for Chinese provinces to provide them with broader platforms for mutually beneficial cooperation with other countries and inject

more dynamism into domestic socio-economic development. We will improve the network of all-dimensional consular service and enhance the system for the protection of Chinese nationals and interests overseas to ensure the safety and legitimate rights and interests of our fellow countrymen abroad.

Second, firmly safequarding our national interests. We will stick to our principles and see to it that our bottom lines are never violated. We will work to effectively defuse risks and challenges posed by the external environment, and build strong safeguards for China's sovereignty, security and development interests. With a steely will and more robust measures, we will resolutely defend our sovereignty and territorial integrity, steadfastly uphold our system of socialism with Chinese characteristics, quard against and forestall any attempt by external forces to meddle in China's internal affairs. On the basis of equality and mutual respect, we are ready to work out the problems and differences with the US through dialogue and consultation. But we will never accept unilateral sanctions or any acts of bullying. We urge the US side to bring its China policy back on the right track as soon as possible and truly respect China's legitimate and lawful rights and interests.

Third, continuously deepening partnerships. We will follow the strategic guidance of the two Presidents of China and Russia, and advance the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era on all fronts. We will enhance and upgrade China-Europe relations by expanding cooperation with Central and Eastern European countries into broader fields and taking China-EU relations to a higher level. We will follow through on the outcomes of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, and use the third ministerial meeting of the China-CELAC Forum and the ninth ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum as an opportunity to cement our unity and friendship with fellow developing countries.

Fourth, resolutely upholding multilateralism. As the United Nations celebrates the 75th anniversary of its founding next year, we will call on all countries to reaffirm the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and support the UN's central role in international and multilateral affairs. We will galvanize greater international consensus for building a community with a shared future for mankind, and support the institution-building of platforms such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, BRICS and G20 to develop a more equitable and effective global governance system. We will speed up the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and take an active part in international climate cooperation, offering China's proposals and contributions to the resolution of global challenges.

Fifth, actively expanding international cooperation. We will earnestly implement the outcomes of the second BRF. Following the principle of consultation, contribution and benefits for all, the philosophy of open, green and clean cooperation, and a high-standard, peoplecentered and sustainable approach, we will work for new progress in high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. We will work for the early signing and entry into force of the RCEP, speed up negotiations on a China-Japan-ROK FTA, and build a high-standard free trade network open to the world.

Sixth, vigorously modernizing the system and capacity for conducting diplomacy. We are ready for more experience sharing with other countries on development and governance. We will present to the world China's "way of governance" and explain how to "decipher our system" as we tell the success story of the Party, the success story of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and the success story of a united and hard-working people.

As the world goes through profound changes and China enters a new era, the interplay of the two provides the historical backdrop for starting a new journey of our major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

# **Climate Change**

China is deeply engaged in international cooperation in such areas as climate change, combating and preventing terrorism and cybersecurity. China has honored its international responsibilities and duties, and made important contributions to global efforts against global challenges. During this year's G20 Summit, China held a meeting on climate change together with France and the UN. China and France also signed the Beijing Call for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change.

# **Regional Flashpoints**

Over the past year, China has stepped up to its responsibility as a major country, playing a constructive role in the political settlement of regional flashpoints.

On the issue of the Korean Peninsula, China has always been committed to safeguarding peace and stability of the Peninsula and resolving the issue through dialogue and consultation. China has been working to promote synchronized progress in the establishment of a permanent peace mechanism and complete



Chinese President Xi Jinping with North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un.

denuclearization of the Peninsula. In this process, China maintains that the concerns of all parties, the DPRK's legitimate concerns over its security and development in particular, should be properly addressed.

On the question of the Middle East, China is committed to upholding the effectiveness and authority of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and resolving differences through dialogue and consultation. China has advocated the political settlement of the Palestinian and Syrian issues and other regional hotspots. China held the first Middle East Security Forum, and its proposals on Middle East security were welcomed by countries in the region.

As part of its shuttle diplomacy on Afghanistan, China facilitated the intra-Afghan dialogue, the China-Afghanistan-Pakistan trilateral dialogues and the China-Russia-US consultation, and hosted the first China-Russia-US-Pakistan fourparty meeting in intensified efforts to expedite peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan.

China called on its two neighbors, India and Pakistan, to deescalate conflict, resume dialogue and manage differences. China promoted peace talks between Myanmar and Bangladesh, and urged them to properly resolve existing issues through dialogue and consultation.

#### No Interference in Internal Affairs

We have firmly implemented the policy of "one country, two systems", and supported the Hong Kong SAR government in curbing violence and restoring order. We have fought resolutely against external forces interfering in Hong Kong

and in China's internal affairs, and pushed back the dark hand instigating a "color revolution" in Hong Kong. We have given a robust response to the slanderous attacks by anti-China forces over Xinjiang. In 2019, up to 1,000 diplomats, journalists and scholars were invited to visit Xinjiang and see the situation there through their own eyes.

#### One-China Policy

Last year, China established or resumed diplomatic relations with the Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso and El Salvador. This year, China established relations with the Solomon Islands, and resumed relations with Kiribati. As the number of countries having diplomatic ties with China increased to 180, the one-China consensus is more widely embraced than ever before in the international community.

#### **Chennai Summit Sets Tone for China-India Ties**

President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi successfully held their second summit in Chennai. The two leaders had long and in-depth discussions on issues of strategic significance. They agreed to enhance practical cooperation across the board and promote exchanges and mutual learning between the two civilizations. The summit set the tone for the steady and sound growth of China-India relations and opened new prospects for mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.





A key meeting of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee focused on taking economic reforms to the next level and strengthening institutional framework for combating corruption.

he Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee held a meeting to analyze and study the economic work for 2020 and make plans for improving conduct and building integrity as well as fighting corruption. Chinese President Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, presided over the meeting held in Beijing on December 6.

#### **Fast-tracking Opening-up**

Facing the complicated situation of rising risks and challenges both at home and abroad this year, China has maintained and sustained sound economic and social development. Major steps have been taken in reform and opening-up with deepened supply-side structural reform, and breakthroughs have been made in scientific and technological innovation, the meeting noted.

"The year 2020 will be the year to finish building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, and it is also the final year for the 13th Five-Year Plan. China shall achieve its first centenary goal," said the meeting. It called for taking Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as a guide

and working hard to ensure the tasks are well completed.

#### Long-term Growth

"The basic trend of steady long-term growth for China's economy remains unchanged at present and for a period to come," the meeting said. The Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee stressed on transforming external pressure into motivation for deepening reform and furthering opening-up, and focused on running China's own affairs.

Senior party officials who attended the meeting underlined the policy framework of keeping macroeconomic policies stable and microeconomic policies flexible, and ensuring social policies cover people's basic needs and welfare of the disadvantaged. The meeting underscored preemptive, targeted and effective macroeconomic control and adoption countercyclical adjustment tools.

The meeting emphasized further efforts in building a modern economic system, strengthening the high-quality development of agriculture, manufacturing and tertiary industries, and enhancing science and technology prowess and innovation capacity, as well as deepening reforms in the economic system to achieve a higher level of opening-up.

The meeting called for turning the institutional strength of the Party leading the economy work into more effective governance as underlined in the fourth plenary session of the 19th Central Committee of the CPC.

#### **Deepening Reforms**

Under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee, the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI), the National Supervisory Commission and their local organs have strengthened their supervisory duties, implemented the eight-point decision on improving Party and government conduct, taken action against the practice of formalities for formalities' sake and bureaucratism, and conducted political inspection and rectification, said the meeting. The meeting said efforts have

been intensified to address corruption that occurs on people's doorsteps, and to consolidate the sweeping victory in the fight against corruption.

Efforts have also been made to deepen reform of the disciplinary inspection and supervision system and build a contingent of anti-corruption

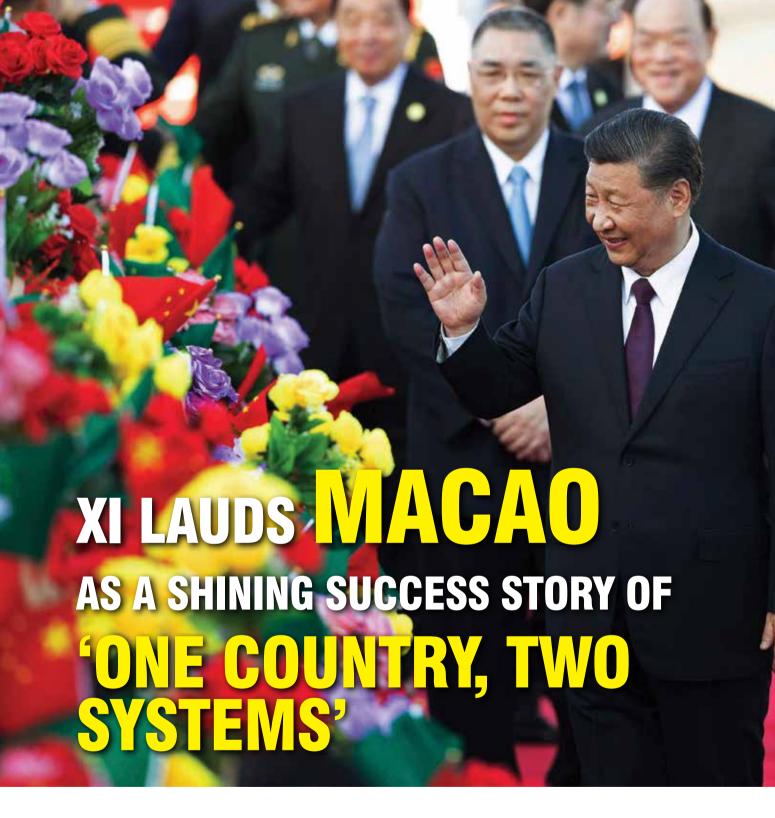


officials who are loyal to the Party, have moral integrity and demonstrate a keen sense of responsibility, the meeting noted.

The fourth plenary session of the 19th CPC Central Committee has made new requirements on promoting full and rigorous governance over the Party. The meeting called for the disciplinary inspection and supervision work to strengthen oversight over the exercise of power, comprehensively promote the system under which officials "don't dare to, are unable to and have no desire to commit acts of corruption." The meeting also decided to train a competent and professional disciplinary inspection team to safeguard the realization of the first centenary goal.

The meeting called for turning the institutional strength of the Party leading the economy work into more effective governance as underlined in the fourth plenary session of the 19th Central Committee of the CPC.

At an earlier meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, President Xi was briefed on the CCDI's work in 2019 and preparations for the commission's upcoming fourth plenary session, scheduled for January 13 to 15, 2020.



President Xi Jinping lauded Macao's success story on the 20th anniversary of its return to the motherland and underlined that 'one country, two systems' will continue to define the SAR's development journey in the future.



hinese President Xi Jinping has lauded Macao's "shining chapter" of practicing "one country, two systems" with Macao characteristics that led the capitalist city to achieve its greatest development in history after it returned to the socialist motherland 20 years ago.

"The success of 'one country, two systems' practice has been widely recognized by the

Macao's economy has grown by leaps and bounds since its return to the motherland, with its per capita GDP soaring to the world's second highest, President Xi said.

world," said President Xi, also General Secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, at a function celebrating the 20th anniversary of Macao's return to the mainland.

"Macao's successful experience volumes about the viability and strength of 'one country, two systems' as long as we are committed to it and act on it," President Xi said.

Macao's executive, legislative and judicial bodies have fulfilled their duties strictly in accordance with the law, properly handled mutual relations, and consciously upheld the authority of the chief executive to ensure the smooth functioning of the executive-led system with the chief executive at the center, said President Xi. He said Macao residents widely enjoy law-based rights and freedom, as the Macao SAR has seen an orderly development in its democratic political system.

Macao's economy has grown by leaps and bounds since its return to the motherland, with its per capita GDP soaring to the world's second highest, President Xi said.

President Xi was also present at the inauguration of the new government of the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR). Ho Iat Seng, former president of Macao's Legislative Assembly, was sworn in as the fifth-term chief executive of the Macao SAR. His two predecessors - Ho Hau Wah and Chui Sai On - as well as Hong Kong SAR Chief Executive Carrie Lam sat in the audience.

Upon assuming office, the 62-year-old Ho pledged to continue implementing "one country, two systems," fully and faithfully, to advance Macao's economic and social development.

Once notorious for its gangs and burdened with a floundering economy, Macao has morphed into one of the safest cities and has the second-highest per capita gross regional product in the world

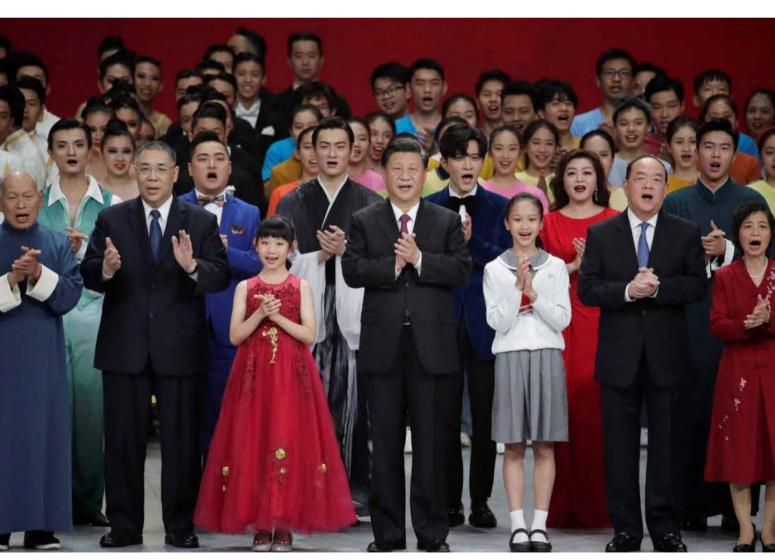
#### **Best Development Period**

Flags adorned the streets; banners flew from the lamp posts and huge lanterns lit up public squares in this corner of the Pearl River Estuary. This is no ordinary Christmas cheer as December 20 represents a key day in the history of this former Portuguese-occupied territory. On December 20, 1999, China resumed exercising sovereignty over Macao and established the Macao SAR. Under "one country, two systems," the socialist system is not practiced in Macao. It is allowed to retain its capitalist system and way of life and is given a high degree of autonomy.

Once notorious for its gangs and burdened with a floundering economy, Macao has morphed into one of the safest cities and has the secondhighest per capita gross regional product in the world.

Education is free from kindergarten to high school. With good health care, life expectancy has risen to 84 years, also one of the highest in the world.

After arriving in Macao, President Xi told reporters that the central government and the



Chinese people are proud of the achievements and progress of Macao."The past 20 years are also a period that saw Macao compatriots share the dignity of the great motherland and enjoy the greatest sense of glory," said President Xi at a welcome banquet on December 19.

He also visited a one-stop government services center and praised the government for providing efficient public services to the people. The residents' "greater sense of fulfilment and happiness," as described by President Xi, was endorsed by people on the streets.

"Macao is stable. We have a good business. Retirees live well on pension and cash handouts," said 58-year-old Macao native Sou Pui Leng, who runs a roadside eatery selling milk tea and coffee. "We Macao people really have a good life." Macao is a land of fortune, and I hope it will always be," she said.

#### **What Keeps Macao Ticking**

Macao's achievements should primarily be attributed to its full and faithful implementation of the "one country, two systems" principle, said Teng Pio Iau, assistant dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Macao.

President Xi summed up four pieces of important experience from Macao's successful practice. Macao compatriots always have firm confidence in "one country, two systems," maintain the right direction and uphold a strong sense of mission and responsibility, President Xi said. They recognize that "one country" is the prerequisite and basis of "two

Macao compatriots always have firm confidence in "one country, two systems," maintain the right direction and uphold a strong sense of mission and responsibility, President Xi said.

## **GBA: China's Emerging Economic Hub**

The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area (GBA), encompassing 56,000 square km, is set to emerge as one of the leading economic hubs of China and the world. The fast-growing bay area consists of nine cities in Guangdong and the two special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macao, and it is expected to become a world-class city cluster by 2022 and an innovation-based region with a complete, comprehensive and integrated economic system by 2035.

In early July 2017, Chinese President Xi Jinping witnessed the signing of a framework agreement between the National Development and Reform Commission and the governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao on deepening Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao cooperation.

The GBA development plan was officially released in February 2019 as part of China's overall reform and opening up strategy, which sought to build the country's southern region into a model of unique development, an international first-class bay area and a world-class city cluster. Outlining and guiding the current and future measures for the GBA cooperation and development, the plan covers the period from 2019 to 2022 in the immediate term and extends to 2035 in the long term.

The GBA development plan is a manifestation of China's efforts to build an open community for coordinated innovation in the region through boosting technology carriers and platforms to enhance an innovation-based environment.

The inauguration of the newly-constructed 55-km-long Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) in October 2018 after about nine years of building, including a 6.7-km-long immersed tunnel, marks a landmark in the development plan of the GBA.

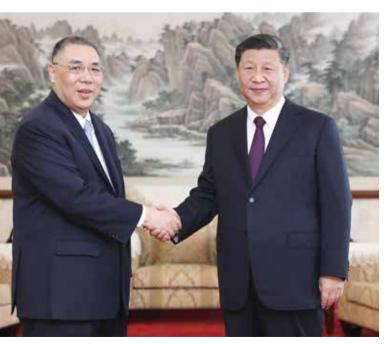
Today, the national flag flies high at all levels of educational institutions in Macao and the flag-raising ceremony has become a fixture of campus life.

systems," unequivocally uphold the constitutional order established by the Constitution and the Basic Law, respect the socialist system adopted on the main body of the country and correctly handle issues concerning the relations between the central authorities and the SAR, the Chinese leader added.

#### **Power of Patriotism**

But the most important reason, according to the president, is patriotism. President Xi praised Macao's patriotic education when he visited a local school and spent time watching a Chinese history class themed "one country, two systems and Macao."

Founded in 1932, the Premier School Affiliated to Hou Kong Middle School has the largest number of students among Macao's basic education institutions. It was precisely in Hou Kong Middle School where the national flag of



Chinese President Xi Jinping with Fernando Chui Sai, a former Chief Executive of Macao.

the People's Republic of China (PRC) was first raised in Macao on October 1, 1949, when the PRC was founded.

Today, the national flag flies high at all levels of educational institutions in Macao and the flagraising ceremony has become a fixture of campus

President Xi said patriotic education is essential and stressed the need to know the history. "One can easily feel a strong sense of national self-esteem and national pride after knowing our uninterrupted history spanning over five millennia," President Xi said. "And only by knowing the nation's history of humiliation after the Opium War, can one understand the Chinese people's strong yearning for national rejuvenation."

A senior high school student said he was inspired by the president's words and wanted to be a teacher when he grew up." I would like to spread my love for the country and Macao with my students," he said.

#### To A Higher Level

Looking ahead, President Xi spoke about four expectations to lift the Macao SAR's development to the next level. He spoke of more efforts to improve governance, further diversification of the economy, improving the people's well-being and promoting social harmony and stability.

In particular, President Xi urged Macao to grasp the opportunities brought by the Belt and Road Initiative and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). Experts say limited space has been a hindrance in the way of development for Macao, whose land area is even smaller than Shanghai Pudong International Airport. And it needs to nurture new growth drivers to balance the gaming industry.

Lao Chi Ngai, president of the Macao Economic Association, said a series of policies have been issued by the central authorities to help Macao overcome these challenges. Macao is designated one of the four core cities, along with Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou, in the GBA, an emerging world-class city cluster with a combined population of about 70 million. This has provided a broad stage for Macao entrepreneurs. The Chinese leader stressed that the affairs of these two Special Administrative Regions (Hong Kong and Macao) are entirely China's internal affairs."There is no need for any external force to dictate things to us," President Xi said to a round of loud applause.



Lai Hon Cheng, 28, founded the music training start-up Music Cracker in 2016 to help adults learn how to play the piano. He has opened three stores and trained more than 1,500 people in Macao and is now setting his sights on the mainland market." The country offers us a big stage," Lai said. "But if we young people don't take it; we will always be passive observers."

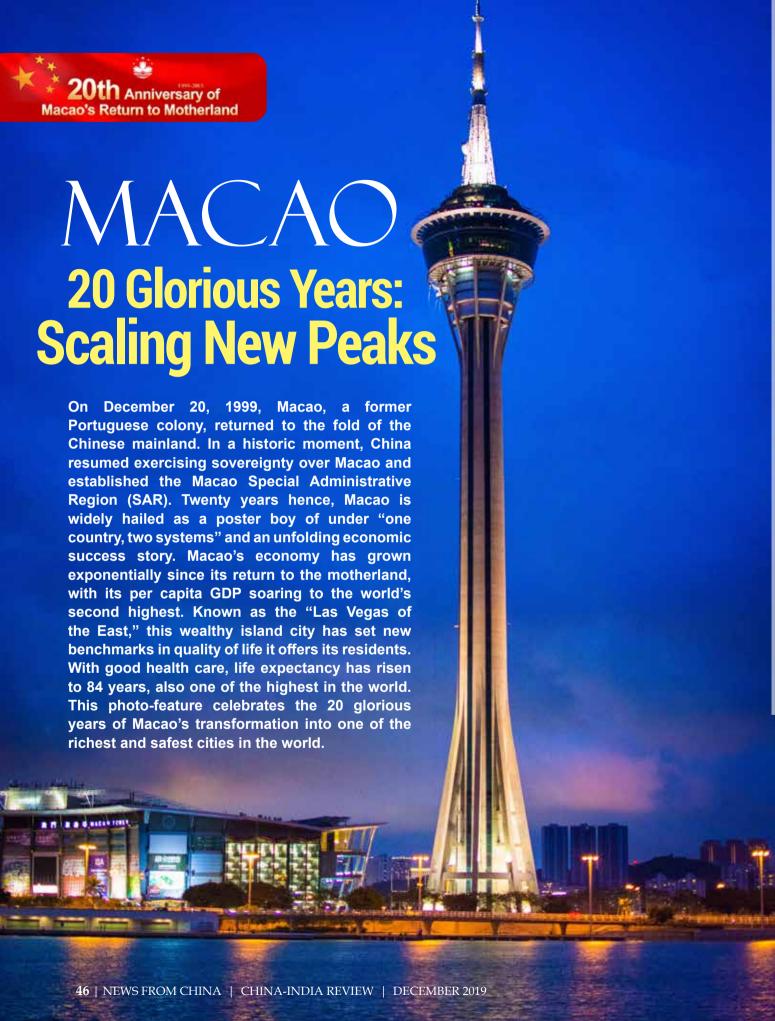
In addition, Macao is strengthening its role as a service platform for commercial and trade cooperation between China and Portuguesespeaking countries, which include Portugal and emerging economies such as Brazil, Angola and Mozambique.

President Xi also visited a complex that is being developed into a regular meeting venue for such cooperation. Leong Vai Tac, former secretary for economy and finance of Macao, said building the platform is crucial for Macao to pursue appropriate economic diversification." We still have much work to do," Leong admitted.

President Xi underlined that he believes the Chinese people have the wisdom and capability to improve the "one country, two systems" practice and run the special administrative regions even better. The Chinese leader stressed that the affairs of these two special administrative regions (Hong Kong and Macao) are entirely China's internal affairs." There is no need for any external force to dictate things to us," President Xi said to a round of loud applause.

"The great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation will not be stopped. The path of common development and prosperity of Hong Kong, Macao and the mainland will be even wider."







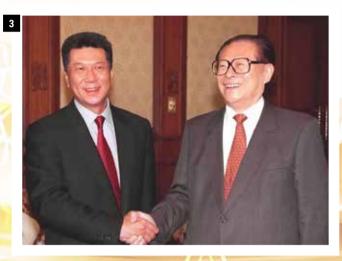


- 1. In the early 1980s, Deng Xiaoping put forward the creative concept of "one country, two systems". The idea was to advance China's peaceful reunification. His vision has been translated into reality first in Hong Kong, and then in Deng Xiaoping meets the visiting Portuguese President António dos Santos Ramalho Eanes on May 24, 1985.
- 2. The Chinese and Portuguese governments hold the ceremony for the transfer of government over Macao at the Macao Cultural Center on December 20, 1999.
- 3. A grand rally is held on Tian'anmen Square in the center of Beijing to celebrate the Chinese government's resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over Macao on December 20, 1999. As the countdown clock shows zero and the "Hello Macao" signboard lights up, the crowd bursts into deafening cheers.
- 4. The Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region came into effect on December 20, 1999.

















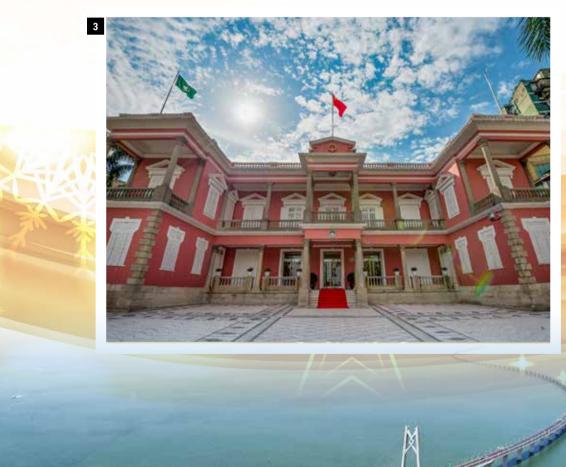




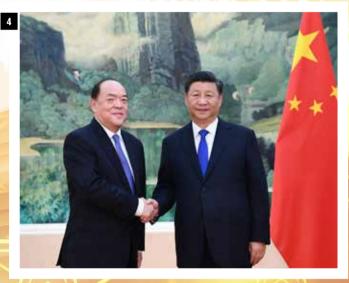
## 20th Anniversary of Macao's Return to Motherland

- 1. In 2002, the MSAR government started to liberalize the region's gaming industry market. The move promoted the integration of tourism, leisure and entertainment industries in the region. In 2018, the region's tax revenues from the gaming industry totaled MOP113.5 billion.
- 2. In June 2009, the Chinese central government approved the project of the University of Macao (UM) new campus to be built on Hengqin Island of Zhuhai in China's southern province of Guangdong. The new campus covered 1.09 square kilometers, and was 20 times larger than the old campus. The new campus was officially put into use on November 5, 2013.
- 3. Chinese President Jiang Zemin meets Edmund Ho Hau Wah on May 24, 1999, congratulating him on his election and appointment as the first MSAR chief executive. Ho won a second term five years later.
- 4. The State Council introduced new measures regarding Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan residents' application for the mainland residence permit. The measures, which became effective on September 1, 2018, are aimed at providing greater convenience for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan residents who work, study, and live in the mainland.
- 5. Chinese President Hu Jintao meets Chief Executive-elect Fernando Chui Sai On in Zhongnanhai on August 12, 2009.
- 6. Signing of the Mainland and Macao Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) in 2003. It came into effect from 2004.













#### th Anniversary of Macao's Return to Motherland

- 1. Chinese President Xi Jinping witnesses the signing of the Framework Agreement on Deepening Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Cooperation in the Development of the Greater Bay Area in Hong Kong on July 1, 2017.
- 2. The Legislative Council of the Macao Special Administrative Region. Under the Basic Law, the Legislative Council of the Macao Special Administrative Region is the legislature of the region. It supervises the MSAR government's performance, debates issues concerning public interests, and exercises other powers and functions.
- 3. The headquarters of **MSAR** the government. Under the Basic Law, the government of the Macao Special Administrative Region shall be the executive authority of the region.
- 4. Chinese President Xi Jinping meets Chief Executive-elect Ho lat Seng at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on September 11, 2019.
- 5. The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) was officially put into operation on October 24, 2018. It is the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, spanning a length of 55 kilometers, and a major link between cities in the Greater Bay Area.
- 6. Since its return to China 20 years ago, Macao has witnessed rapid economic growth. Its GDP has grown from \$6.491 billion in 1999 to \$54.543 billion in 2018, an increase of nearly 7.5 times. The per capita GDP has increased four times, from \$15,200 in 1999 to \$82,600 in 2018. According to 2018 World Bank statistics, Macao ranked the first in Asia and the second in the world in terms of per capita GDP.















## 20th Anniversary of Macao's Return to Motherland

- 1. Macao officially designated a Creative City of Gastronomy by UNESCO on November 1, 2017.
- 2. The eighth Global Tourism Economy Forum was held in Macao on October 14, 2019.
- 3. The fifth Mayors' Visiting Program in Macao in March 2019. The program was co-sponsored by the Office of the Commissioner of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Macao and the MSAR government to promote tripartite cooperation between the Chinese mainland, Macao and neighboring countries.
- 4. The Festival of the Drunken Dragon is one of Macao's many national-level intangible cultural heritage.
- 5. Macao has become a leading world tourism and leisure center. Over 30 million tourists from around the world visit Macao every year.
- 6. At its 29th session on July 15, 2005, the World Heritage Committee decided to inscribe the Historic Centre of Macao on the UNESCO World Heritage List.









#### Uth Anniversary of Macao's Return to Motherland

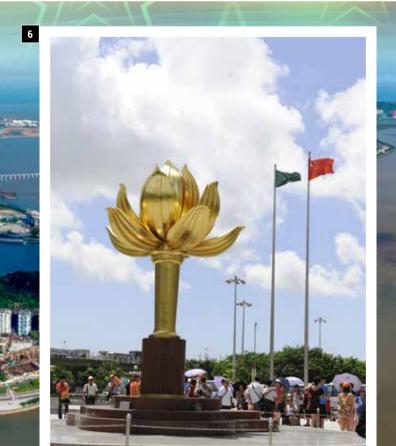
- 1. The MSAR government seeks to turn Macao into a hub of exchange and cooperation between the Chinese and other cultures.
- 2. In 2018, the average life expectancy in Macao was 83.4 years, the second highest in the world.
- 3. The MSAR government organizes a great variety of arts and cultural events every year. This is a scene of the annual Macao Arts Festival.
- 4. The fifth Ministerial Conference of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries was held in Macao October 11-12, 2016.
- 5. In 2007, Macao became one of the few regions in the world to offer 15-year compulsory education.













## 20th Anniversary of Macao's Return to Motherland

- The Macao Grand Prix is the world's oldest street circuit racing event and also the world's only street circuit racing event in which both cars and motorcycles participate.
- 2. The Macao International Dragon Boat Races take place every year during the Dragon Boat Festival.
- 3. Macao's primary healthcare system, with its broad coverage and free medical services, is highly commended by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- 4. The Macao International Marathon is a running event accredited by the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AMIS).
- 5. A bird's-eye view of Macao.
- 6. The sculpture Lotus Flower in Full Bloom in the square was presented by the Chinese central government to the MSAR government in 1999. It symbolizes the everlasting prosperity of Macao.

# No Force Can Stop Xinjiang from Stability & Prosperity



Counter-terrorism and deradicalization efforts in recent years have laid solid foundation for social stability and enduring peace in the region, says Shohrat Zakir, Chairman of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

The head of the government of Xinjiang has underlined that the region is determined in pursuing counter-terrorism, deradicalization and maintaining development.

"No force can stop Xinjiang from moving towards stability, development and prosperity," said Shohrat Zakir, chairman of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in northwest China."

"The unity of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang and their endeavors to strive forward can't be deterred either," he said at a press conference in Beijing attended by senior Xinjiang officials on December 9, 2019.

#### **Social Stability**

No terrorist incident has occurred in Xinjiang in three years, where social public security has improved significantly, Mr Zakir said. He said the counter-terrorism and deradicalization efforts made by the region in recent years have laid solid foundation for social stability and enduring peace in Xinjiang.

In 2017, Xinjiang's GDP reached 1 trillion yuan (around \$142 billion) for the first time, while the number in the first three quarters this year rose by 6.1 % year on year, and the region received over 200 million tourists from January to October,

said Erkin Tuniyaz, vice chairman of Xinjiang. As people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang have learned that stability is the source of happiness while unrest is a source of woes, they will spare no effort in maintaining the sustained stability of the region, Mr Tuniyaz said. No force from home or abroad will be able to undermine the resolve and determination of people in Xinjiang, he added.

#### **US 'Double Standards'**

Mr Zakir also slammed the passing of the socalled "Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2019" by the U.S. House of Representatives, saying that it seriously violated international law and the basic norms governing international relations and grossly interfered in China's internal affairs.

Certain people in the US should abandon their political bias and stop indulging in double standards in terms of counter-terrorism and deradicalization issues, he said.

#### **Benefits to People**

More than 2.38 million people in Xinjiang have been lifted out of poverty since 2014, and the people in Xinjiang are now enjoying a growing sense of fulfillment, happiness and security, said Mr Zakir. The poverty headcount ratio in Xinjiang dropped from 22.84% at the beginning of 2014 to 6.51%, he said.

The regional government is dedicated to promoting employment, education and medical services to improve people's benefits, with over 70 percent of the general public budget expenditure spent on ensuring and improving people's wellbeing, he said. The employment services have been boosted for college graduates, urban and rural residents alike, while people are also encouraged to start their own businesses, he added.

On education, the financial subsidies for students from poor families have been increased to ensure their access to the nine-year compulsory education which covers primary school and junior high school. In southern Xinjiang, all the students have access to three-year preschool education all the way to senior high school, the official said.

Mr Zakir highlighted that free health check-ups are available to all residents in Xinjiang. He added that the government also improved social security systems including basic medical insurance and basic pension schemes. Subsidized houses were built for 212,700 rural families in this year alone, with renovation started for 154,900 sub-standard urban homes, he added.

#### **Positive Effects of Education**

The education and training programs in Xinjiang have yielded positive results, said Xu Hairong, Party chief of the regional capital Urumqi. It saved to the greatest extent trainees with a history of terrorism, religious extremism or criminal behaviors, eliminated the ground and conditions for terrorism and religious extremism and protected the citizens' basic right to be free from the harm of terrorism and religious extremism, according to Mr Xu. "People of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang have truly felt that without education and training, the current peaceful days would not be possible," Mr Xu said.

Foreign officials, diplomats, journalists and those in the religious circle who have visited the centers also agreed that Xinjiang's counterterrorism and deradicalization efforts meet the purpose and principles of the United Nations on defeating terrorism and protecting basic human rights and are worth commending and sharing, Mr Xu said.

Mr Zakir stressed that trainees have graduated after participating in education and training programs of standard spoken and written Chinese, understanding of the law, vocational skills and deradicalization at vocational education and training centers in Xinjiang. With the help of the government, they have achieved stable employment, improved their quality of life and been living a happy life, he said.

For the next step, Xinjiang will offer regular and open education and training to village officials, party members in rural areas, farmers and herdsmen and unemployed middle school graduates who have the willingness and need for such education, he noted.

The education and training will be based on principles under which trainees' wishes and independent choices are respected, he said. He added that attendees are free to join or quit programs at any time. Training programs will be tailored to meet trainees' needs, and the periods of programs will vary based on the courses.

# Experts Slam US Bill on Xinjiang

#### 国务院新闻办公室 THE STATE COUNCIL INFORMATION OFFICE, P.R.C.



fter the US House of Representatives passed the so-called "Uygur Human Rights Policy Act of 2019" despite China's strong opposition, experts have criticized the US move, saying that it reveals the US' double standard on human rights and counterterrorism. Experts also decried that the legislation underscored the US' sinister intention to contain China's development.

Robert Griffiths, general secretary of the Communist Party of Britain, said that based on his own experience in visiting Xinjiang, those allegations against China were untrue. The Xinjiang-related bill is "yet another example of American arrogance and unwarranted interference in other countries' affairs," said Griffiths." They only want to cynically exploit questions of human and democratic rights in order to damage China's growing prestige in the world," he noted.

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#### Western Propaganda

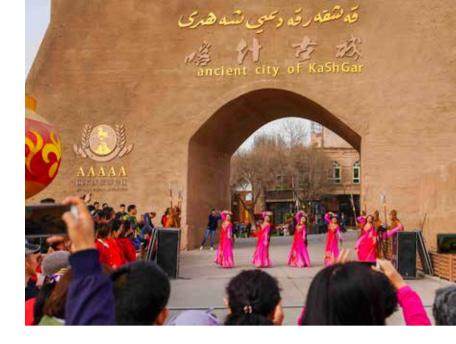
Sultan Mehmood Hali, head of the Pakistan-China Media Forum, said the Xinjiang-related bill directly interferes in China's internal affairs. There is a lot of false propaganda about Xinjiang in Western reports, said Hali, who once visited Xinjiang.

Terrorism is the common enemy of the international community, said the Pakistani political and strategic analyst, adding that other countries should learn from China's experience in fighting terrorism in Xinjiang.

Kyrgyz political analyst Mars Sariev said that facts have proved that a series of policies and measures taken by the Chinese government in Xinjiang are conducive to maintaining long-term stability and stable development. The US act interferes in China's internal affairs, supports separatism and attempts to undermine stability in Xinjiang, Mr Sariev said. Xinjiang's affairs are purely China's internal affairs and no country has the right to interfere, he added.

Azmi Hassan from the University of Technology Malaysia said what the US has done raises doubts about its real intention. The US had also exerted pressure on Malaysia by adopting similar measures on issues such as human rights and trade, Mr Hassan added.

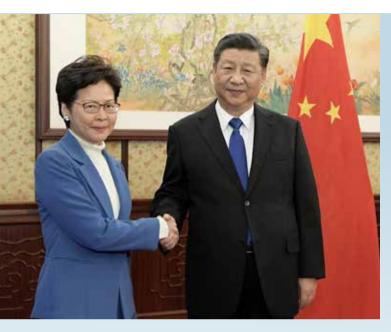
The US frequently interferes in other countries' internal affairs in the name of human rights, and as a result, faces the risk of losing the trust of other countries, Mr Hassan added.



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## Xi Vows Full Support for HKSAR Chief Executive



hina's President Xi Jinping met Chief Executive of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Carrie Lam, in Beijing and lauded her for hard work amid difficulties and pressures.

During the meeting on December 16, President Xi heard a report from Ms Lam on Hong Kong's current situation and the HKSAR government's work. President Xi said 2019 has been the most grim and complex year for Hong Kong since it returned to the motherland.

"In the face of various difficulties and pressures, you have stuck to the bottom line of the 'one country, two systems' principle, governed in accordance with the law, scrupulously fulfilled your duty, and done a great deal of hard work," President Xi told Ms Lam.

Praising Ms Lam's initiatives, President Xi said she has led the SAR government to actively respond to social concerns and adopted a series of policies and measures to support businesses and mitigate difficulties for the people by carefully studying solutions to deep social tensions and problems.

#### **Grace Under Pressure**

The Chinese leader said the central government fully acknowledges the courage and sense of mission Ms Lam has demonstrated during this special period for Hong Kong. President Xi stressed that he had made clear the stance and attitude of the central government on Hong Kong's situation at the 11th BRICS summit in Brazil on Nov. 14.

"We have unswerving determination to safeguard China's sovereignty, security and development interests, implement the 'one country, two systems' principle and oppose any external force interfering in Hong Kong affairs," President Xi said.

"We will continue to firmly support you in leading the SAR government to govern in accordance with the law, firmly support the Hong Kong police in strictly enforcing the law, firmly support all people who love China and Hong Kong, and hope Hong Kong people from all walks of life will unite and work together to bring Hong Kong's development back on track," President Xi told Ms Lam.

Senior officials including Han Zheng, Ding Xuexiang, Yang Jiechi, Guo Shengkun and You Quan attended the meeting.

"In the face of various difficulties and pressures, you have stuck to the bottom line of the 'one country, two systems' principle, governed in accordance with the law, scrupulously fulfilled your duty, and done a great deal of hard work," Xi told Ms Lam.



### **A Taste of China**

The Chinese Embassy participated in the 31st International Charity Bazaar at the PSOL Club Lawns in New Delhi on L December 15. "We displayed Chinese crafts and tasty foods such as Jiaozi and Baozi. So many people came to have a taste of China," tweeted Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong.

Children from Sunshine School of Chinese Embassy performed Chinese Kung Fu in the Charity Bazaar, which won applause from visitors. "Children's performance showcased the characteristics of Chinese culture," said the Chinese Ambassador in his tweet.









## China-India@70 Bonding with Art & Beauty

rt forms and aesthetic traditions of China and India mingled in an exhibition of 70 paintings and calligraphy works created by 10 Chinese and Indian artists, held at the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi on December 14. Organised by Dr Bao Jiqing, wife of Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong, the launch ceremony of the exhibition was attended by a galaxy of eminent personalities from different walks of life. Author Poonam Surie, celebrated miniature artist B. L. Rajput and Shallu Jindal, president, JSPL Foundation were among those who spoke at the inaugural function.

The joint exhibition, entitled "Share the Beauty, Achieve the Harmony," was held as a warm-up event for the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of China-India diplomatic ties in 2020.

Dr Bao Jiqing said that efforts were jointly made by as many as 10 artists from both the countries to elaborately produce 70 works of art in the traditional style. "The exhibition provides artists from both sides an opportunity to deepen cultural understanding and enhance mutual trust and friendship," she added.





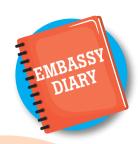
(Below) Dr Bao Jiqing, wife of Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong, presents a certificate of participation to artist B.L. Rajput (Right) Indian guests practising calligraphy at the exhibition.







(Left) Dr Bao Jiqing, wife of Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong, with author Poonam Surie and Shallu Jindal, president, JSPL Foundation, at the inaugural function of the joint China-India exhibition of paintings and calligraphy. (Above) A group photo of participants at the exhibition.



### **Sharing & Caring**

n a cold winter day, Women's Group of the Chinese Embassy visited the Delhi Commonwealth Women' Association (DCWA) Medical Center on December 20 and donated funds raised from the annual charity bazaar to the Learning Center of DCWA. In a spirit of caring and sharing, Dr Bao Jiqing, wife of Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong, interacted with staff at DCWA and spent some time with children.









#### **LEARN EVERYDAY CHINESE**



询问(5) MAKING AN INQUIRY

#### 10 邮局在哪儿

WHERE IS THE POST OFFICE



旬子 Sentences 🖗

053

八号楼在邮局旁边。 Bā hào lóu zài yóujú pángbiān. Building No. 8 stands next to the post office.

054

去八号楼怎么走? Qù bā hào lóu zěnme zǒu? Which way leads to Building No. 8?

055

那个楼就是八号楼。That's Building No. 8. Nà ge lốu jiù shì bã hào lốu.

056

请问,邮局在哪儿?① Qǐngwèn, yóujú zài năr?

Excuse me, but could you please tell me where the post office is?

057

往前走就是邮局。 Wăng qián zǒu jiù shì yóujú. The post office is just down the road.

058

邮局离这儿远不远? Yóujú lí zhèr yuǎn bu yuǎn? Is the post office far from here?



生 词 New Words ②

**************************************	1	怎么	zěnme	代	how
000000000000	2	走	zŏu	动	to go, to walk
processors.	3	就	jiù	副	right
Agendeenegdees	4	请问	qĭngwèn	动	please (tell me), could you tell me
************	5	往	wăng	介/动	to, towards; to go
-	6	前	qián	名	front, before
-	7	离	lí	动	to be away from (a place)
	8	这儿	zhèr	代	here
	9	远	yuǎn	形	far
<b>Amministration</b>	10	地方	dìfang	名	place, region
-	11	坐	zuò	动	to sit, to take a seat
00000000000	12	车	chē	名	bus, car, bicycle, train, etc.
	13	前边	qiánbian	名	front
	14	公共汽车	gönggòng qìchē		bus
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	15	那儿	nàr	代	there, over there
	16	西边	xībian	名	west side
<b>BORDONIA</b>	17	南边	nánbian	名	south side
000000000000000000000000000000000000000	18	北边	běibian	名	north side
<b>CONTRACTOR</b>	19	操场	cāochǎng	名	sports ground
CONTRACTOR	20	东边	döngbian	名	east side
<b>HONOROOM</b>	21	近	jìn	形	near



会话 Conversations 🖨



A: 请问, 八号楼在哪儿? Qǐngwèn, bã hào lóu zài năr?

刘京:在邮局旁边。 Liú Jīng: Zài yóujú pángbiān.

> A: 去八号楼怎么走? Qù bã hào lóu zěnme zŏu?

刘京: 你看,那个楼就是<sup>②</sup>。 Liú Jing: Nǐ kàn, nà ge lóu jiù shì.



和子: 请问, 邮局在哪儿? Hézĭ: Qǐngwèn, yóujú zài năr?

B: 往 前走就是邮局。 Wăng qián zǒu jiù shì yóujú.

和子: 离这儿远不远? Hézĭ: Lí zhèr yuǎn bu yuǎn?

B: 不太远。就在银行前边。 Bú tài yuǎn. Jiù zài yínháng qiánbian.



Postal Regd. No. DL-SW-16/4034/18-20 R.N.I. No. 47440/88 December 2019

