A young girl prepares to draw a picture featuring the Dongba culture of the Naxi ethnic group at a primary school in Lijiang City, southwest China’s Yunnan Province.
Mr. Wei Wei, Chinese Ambassador to India exchanged the gifts with Mr. B V Wanchoo, Governor of Goa on Nov. 30, 2013 during his visit to the 44th International Film Festival of India. Both sides exchange views on strengthening trade, tourism and cultural exchange between China and Goa.

Mr. Wei Wei, Chinese Ambassador to India talks with Indian friends during his visit to the 44th International Film Festival of India on Nov. 30, 2013. He congratulates the successful organization of the Film Festival and hoped further cooperation between the film industries of China and India.

Art performance from Honghe Hani and Yi Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China for overseas Chinese in India was held at Chinese Embassy on Dec. 15, 2013.

Chinese Ambassador to India Mr. Wei Wei and Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of India join the performers for a group photo at Chinese Cultural Night co-organized by Chinese Embassy and FICCI in New Delhi on Dec. 16, 2013.

Young students sing the songs about China-India Friendship in the photo exhibition in the memory of Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis in Vengurla in Maharashtra, India on Nov. 23, 2013. This year marks the 75th anniversary of Dr. Kotnis’ joining in China’s war of resistance against Japanese imperialists.

The women group of Chinese Embassy to India participated in the 25th Charity Bazaar organized by the Delhi Commonwealth Women International on Nov. 24, 2013 in New Delhi. More than 40 countries’ embassies and international organizations joined in the function.
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Further steps of deepening reform in China have been adopted at the third plenary session of the 18th central committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) held last month in Beijing. China has set off a new round of reform that will have a profound impact not only on its domestic economy, but also on the development of the Asia-Pacific region and the world at large. It surely will usher in new prospects for cooperation between China and India aimed at common development and prosperity when China is implementing measures of comprehensively deepening reform.

Among the proposals at the third plenary session, deepening economic reform is the principle task. The ‘decisive’ role of the market in allocating resources is affirmed. The overall objective of the reform is to improve and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics, and push on with the modernisation of the country’s governing system and capabilities. It is stated that decisive results must be achieved in key sectors by 2020. The above goal coheres with the ‘Chinese Dream’ proposed by President Xi Jinping to achieve the rejuvenation of China. It is also consonant with the ‘Two Centenary Goals’ put forward by the 18th CPC national congress, namely, to fully complete the attainment of a moderately well-off society by the time of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the CPC in 2021, and to build China into a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced and harmonious socialist modern country by the time of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 2049.

The international situation is undergoing profound changes while the weight of world power is shifting to the Asia-Pacific region. Given this, the Sino-Indian relationship constitutes one of the most important bilateral relations in the 21st century. In recent years, our bilateral relations have maintained a healthy and stable development. From the strategic and long-term perspective, both sides have made efforts to deepen the integration of mutual interests.

The two prime ministers realised reciprocal visits within a year for the first time since 1954. Exchanges and cooperation in political, economic, educational, cultural and other areas keep expanding as well, bringing tangible benefits to both the countries.

China is committed to building up a new type of economic system by renewed reform, aimed at a higher level of opening-up, creating a bigger market and more space for development, making greater contributions, therefore, to the recovery and growth of the world economy.

India is both an important neighbour to
China and a key partner in multilateral cooperation. Both China and India are the world’s largest developing nations and emerging economies. China’s further reform and development offers more space for mutually beneficial cooperation.

China and India could focus on the following: First, the two sides can share experiences in governance, reform and opening up. Second, while China is committed to further expanding and opening up in service sectors such as finance, India, with its highly developed service sector, may grasp the opportunity to explore the Chinese market. Third, along with the process of China’s experimental free trade zones, cooperation related to regional trade arrangements could be discussed. Fourth, the reform to further facilitate investment abroad will bring more Chinese enterprises to invest in such sectors as infrastructure and manufacturing in India. The establishment of Chinese industrial parks may also be considered to attract more Chinese enterprises to India. The supplementary advantages of the two economies will be fully utilised.

(This article was published on The Hindustan Times, Dec. 11, 2013)

**Chinese Ambassador Mr. Wei Wei Meets Goa Governor**

On November 30, 2013, Chinese Ambassador to India Mr. Wei Wei met with Mr. B V Wanchoo, Governor of Goa, during his visit to the 44th International Film Festival of India (IFFI). Both sides exchange views on strengthening trade, tourism and cultural exchange between China and Goa.

Wei Wei said China attaches importance to deepening cooperation with Goa in economic, trade, tourism and cultural relations. He hoped that Goa could integrate tourist route and make full use of the advantages of price and location in order to attract more Chinese tourists to visit. He welcomed Goa to establish a sister-city relation with Chinese city to promote bilateral exchanges and cooperation at local level.

Wanchoo introduced the economic and tourism situation of Goa to Ambassador Wei Wei and expressed the willing to further cooperation between Goa and China in tourism and other fields.
President Xi Jinping Holds Talks with U.S. Vice President

Beijing, Dec. 4 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with U.S. Vice President Joe Biden Wednesday in Beijing, calling to keep the correct direction of China-U.S. relations.

At the beginning of their talks, Xi expressed hope that Biden’s visit would further strengthen trust, exchanges and cooperation between the two countries.

In their talks, which lasted nearly four hours, Xi said the two countries should firmly maintain the correct direction of bilateral relations, and called for both sides to respect each other’s core interests and major concerns, actively expand cooperation, properly handle sensitive questions and disputes, and ensure the steady and sound growth of bilateral relations.

The world is undergoing complicated changes, Xi said. China and the United States, as two major economies and permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, share important obligations to maintain world peace and stability and promote development, he said.

"Enhancing dialogue and cooperation is the only correct choice for us,” said the Chinese president.

Speaking highly of the sound momentum of China-U.S. ties since the start of the year, Xi said he and U.S. President Barack Obama reached a consensus in building a new model of major-country relations during their summit in California and on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Russia, emphasizing mutual respect, common prosperity, and lack of confrontation and conflict.

China and the United States have actively worked together in bilateral, regional and global spheres and promoted the growth of bilateral relations, he said.
Xi stressed that both countries should maintain high-level strategic communication, promote the development of mechanisms such as the China-U.S. Strategic and Economic Dialogue, High-level Consultation on People-to-People Exchange, and maintain close military exchanges and dialogues.

He also urged boosted cooperation in the security, anti-terrorism, law enforcement and non-proliferation fields.

Calling trade cooperation the ‘propeller’ for China-U.S. relations, Xi suggested both sides expand cooperation in the areas of trade, infrastructure building, urbanization, food security and exchanges among local governments, speed up negotiations on a bilateral investment agreement, and promote the upcoming 24th meeting of the China-U.S. Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT).

The JCCT, established in 1983, is the main forum for addressing trade issues and promoting commercial opportunities between China and the United States.

“We hope the United States will relax export control over high-tech products for civilian use to China,” Xi said.

He welcomed more U.S. companies to invest in China, and encouraged more Chinese enterprises to explore the U.S. market. Xi hoped the U.S. government will offer a fair competition environment for Chinese companies investing in the country.

Xi also proposed enhancing coordination of macro-economic policies and boosting energy and environmental protection as new growth areas for cooperation.

Calling U.S.-China relations the most important bilateral ties in the 21st century, Biden said his country appreciates Xi’s strategic foresight, pragmatic attitude and positive efforts in building a new model of major-country relationship.

This relationship, full of hope and opportunities, would help avoid confrontations between existing and emerging major countries, Biden said.

He said he believes both countries are capable of achieving the goal.

Biden said he is impressed by the decision on deepening reforms approved at the third Plenary Session of the 18th Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee earlier in November.

Biden said he is convinced that the Chinese people will accomplish their goal of building a strong nation, stressing China’s development is in the interest of the United States.

The United States would like to work with China to improve mechanisms, maintain regular dialogues and exchanges, increase substantive cooperation, step up military-to-military exchanges and cooperation, manage differences in a constructive manner and prevent interventions from impacting overall relations, Biden said.

Biden arrived in Beijing earlier Wednesday for a two-day official visit. This is his second visit to China as U.S. vice president.
Beijing, Dec. 5 (Xinhua) — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met with U.S. Vice President Joe Biden on Thursday and said he looks forward to a higher level of economic cooperation between the two countries.

China and the United States should make a breakthrough regarding the bilateral investment treaty (BIT) and cooperate more extensively and on a higher level to open a new chapter for bilateral economic cooperation, Li said during the meeting with Biden, who visited China from Wednesday to Thursday.

From Oct. 21 to 25, the two sides held their tenth round of BIT negotiations. It was the first round since the fifth strategic and economic dialogue in July this year, when a commitment was made to the next stage of BIT negotiations. The negotiations are an opportunity for the United States and China to discuss reform of inbound foreign direct investment (FDI) approval and reciprocity.

On Thursday, Li also urged the U.S. side to "take substantial measures" to lift its restrictions on China-bound high-tech exports and step up cooperation with China on clean energy, including shale gas.

"(China and the United States) should make joint efforts to forge an open, inclusive and robust framework of economic cooperation in Asia and the Pacific," Li said, adding that the two countries should also work together to coordinate with each other on macro economic policy.

China and the United States have been economically complementary for a long time and there is far more cooperation than competition between the two countries, said the premier.

The two sides should respect each other, treat each other equally, keep expanding common interests and appropriately address their disputes to continuously advance the bilateral relationship, he said.

Li said further reform and opening up, as detailed during the Third Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, will create new opportunities for economic cooperation between China and the United States.

For his part, Biden said common interests have kept growing over the past 35 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, and bilateral
cooperation still enjoys bright prospects, according to a news release from the Chinese government.

The U.S. side is willing to boost trade, expand cooperation on clean energy, and push ahead with BIT negotiations with China, Biden was quoted in the release as saying.

The vice president said the United States welcomes Chinese enterprises’ investment and the U.S. government will provide more convenience for them to enter the U.S. market, according to the release.

Biden said the growth of the United States is closely linked to the future of China.

The U.S. side stands ready to work together with the Chinese side to counter global challenges and further advance the development of the new model of major-country relations between the two countries, he added.

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**Chinese Premier Makes 6-Point Proposal on SCO Cooperation**

Tashkent, Nov.29 (Xinhua) — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang made a six-point proposal on deepening practical cooperation among the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) countries in a speech at the 12th SCO prime ministers’ meeting here Friday.

First, deepening security cooperation. Fighting terrorist activities is in line with the common interests of the SCO member countries and is their common responsibilities as well, said Li.

He noted that cracking down on terrorist activities and drug trafficking should be regarded as the major areas for cooperation among SCO countries, adding that the SCO’s anti-terror organization should be given anti-drug function as well, so as to enhance comprehensive security-safeguarding capabilities.

Second, speeding up road interconnectivity. Considering all the SCO member countries are at the “Silk Road Economic Belt”, Li hoped that they could
sign an inter-governmental agreement on international road transport facilitation at an earlier date, and vigorously participate in the construction of the new Eurasian Continental Bridge and the Chongqing-Xinjiang-Europe railway.

In a bid to ensure smoother traffic flow from east to west, China is willing to provide support in technology, equipment and financing, Li said.

Third, promoting trade and investment facilitation. Li proposed to simplify procedures for customs clearance, lower tariffs and eliminate trade barriers and to enhance cooperation in producing and processing agriculture and livestock products.

China is willing to provide logistics and warehouse service at Lianyungang city, the east end of the Eurasian Continental Bridge, he said.

Four, strengthening financial cooperation. Efforts should be made to promote the establishment of an SCO development bank, so as to provide financing support for the interconnectivity and industrial cooperation among SCO member countries.

China is willing to establish a foundation for China- Eurasian economic cooperation which will welcome the participation of Asian and European countries including SCO member countries, observer countries and dialogue partners.

Five, promoting cooperation in ecological protection and energy. The Chinese premier proposed to jointly stipulate environmental protection cooperation strategies and establish an information-sharing platform in this regard.

Li suggested to improve energy cooperation mechanism, deepen cooperation in energy production, transportation and processing and launch cooperation in new energy areas such as nuclear electricity.

Six, expanding culture and people-to-people exchanges. He proposed to respect cultural diversity, enhance mutual understanding among people of different countries, adding that China is willing to increase the number of scholarships for students from SCO member countries.

He hoped that the cooperation in tourism could bestrengthened.

While briefing the meeting on China’s economic situation, Li said via innovating economic macro-control methods, simplifying administrative procedures, stimulating market’s vitality and encouraging private investment, China’s economy has seen steady development despite the pressure of an economic downturn.

He also said China is well on its way to accomplish this year’s major economic and social development goals.

Li pointed out that the important policies on comprehensively deepening reform made by the Third Plenary Session of the 18th Communist Party of China Central Committee will help sustain a healthy economic growth over the long-run.

At Friday’s meeting, the heads of governments of the SCO member countries and representatives of the observers and dialogue partners agreed the “six-point proposal,” and spoke highly of the important role China has played in promoting cooperation among the SCO countries and the SCO self-building.

All the countries agreed to strengthen strategic cooperation among SCO members, strengthen regional interconnectivity, and deepen practical cooperation in trade, energy
and finance.

They also agreed to intensify cultural and people-to-people exchanges, jointly deal with security challenges, and safeguard regional peace and stability and promote common development.

**Chinese Premier Meets Central, Eastern European Leaders on Cooperation**

Bucharest, Nov. 27 (Xinhua) — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met here with leaders from Montenegro, Macedonia, Slovenia and Albania on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning.

When meeting with Montenegrin Prime Minister Milo Djukanovic, Li said the Chinese government attaches great importance to developing ties with Montenegro, expressing hopes to further consolidate the sound political relations between the two countries and intensify cooperations in such areas as railway, ship building and tourism.

China supports its enterprises to participate in Montenegrin infrastructure construction and is willing to import more Montenegrin products, so as to push forward the bilateral trade to realize a dynamic balance and ensure more cooperation achievements to be scored between the two nations, Li added.

Djukanovic spoke highly of the principles and proposals made by Li on strengthening cooperation between Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries and China, noting that the enhanced cooperation with China is conducive to Montenegro’s economic development.

Montenegro is willing to work together with China to implement the cooperation projects including roads and electricity, discuss the cooperation in railway and port construction and promote the cooperation between CEE countries and China to achieve more results.
In the meeting with Macedonian Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski, Li said the year 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of diplomatic relations between China and Macedonia, and that the two countries have witnessed a new upsurge in bilateral exchanges and cooperation. He said China is willing to participate in the construction of major projects such as roads and power plants in Macedonia, and enhance cooperation with the country in trade, investment as well as in other fields such as building materials.

Gruevski also said Macedonia and China’s road and energy cooperation projects have seen solid progress and that the two countries have witnessed increasing expansion of their cooperation fields. He said Macedonia is willing to build Chinese economic zones in order to facilitate access of Chinese companies and products to the Macedonian and European markets.

When meeting with Slovenian Prime Minister Alenka Bratusek, Li commended the sound relations between China and Slovenia, and the fruitful cooperation between the two countries. He said China supports its enterprises to increase their investment in Slovenia, actively participate in infrastructure construction in Slovenia, including renovation and expansion of railways and ports, and to promote the construction of a railway network in central and eastern Europe together with relevant countries in the region.

Bratusek, for her part, said her country welcomes Chinese companies to invest more in Slovenia, and to actively take part in the country’s privatization process and the construction of railways and ports. She added that Slovenia is willing to enhance cooperation with China in the financial, high-tech and travel sectors.

In his meeting with Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama on Wednesday morning, Li highlighted the traditional deep friendship between the two countries, and called for further cooperation based on such friendship so as to better contribute to their respective development.

He said China is willing to reinforce collaboration with Albania in areas concerning transportation infrastructure, agriculture and resources, and encourages its companies to take part in the reconstruction of Albania’s railway network as well as the construction of roads, power plants and ports in the country.

Rama, meanwhile, also said Albania and China have forged a lasting friendship and laid solid foundations for cooperation. He said Albania agrees with China’s cooperation proposals, and that the country is willing to tap into its potential with China, make good use of its geological advantages, and explore cooperation with China in fields such as the construction of roads, railways and ports as well as energy, in order to open a new chapter on bilateral ties and CEE-China cooperation.

Li began his Romanian trip on Monday and was the first Chinese premier to visit the country in 19 years. It is also his first visit to the central and eastern Europe since he took office in March.
China, Britain to Enhance High-Tech, Economic Ties

Beijing, Dec. 2 (Xinhua) — China and Britain have agreed to enhance cooperation in areas including high-speed railway, nuclear power and finance, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said on Monday.

Li told a joint press briefing with visiting British Prime Minister David Cameron that both sides agreed to promote each other’s companies to seek breakthroughs in high-speed railway and nuclear power cooperation.

China is willing to have joint shares and even hold shares in British nuclear power projects, Li said, adding that Britain is open to that.

Bilateral cooperation in this area will also promote the opening of the third-party market and current and long-term employment, according to the premier.

Concerning the financial sector, the two sides discussed conducting offshore RMB business in London and Chinese banks’ opening of branches in Britain.

They agreed to expand bilateral high-tech trade and support cooperation in aerospace, offshore wind power and other new energy development, Li said.

He added that Britain has agreed to take measures as soon as possible to increase high-tech exports to China, while both sides will jointly establish an innovation and research fund of 200 million pounds.

More bilateral cooperation in traditional and new media is also on the cards to promote mutual understanding, according to Li.

On people-to-people exchanges, Britain will simplify visa procedures for Chinese tourists and business travelers and increase the frequency of flights, the premier was told.

Britain is willing to streamline processes for Chinese citizens to carry out business activities and tourism in Britain, hoping that this will bring more job opportunities to the country, Cameron said.

Invited by Li, Cameron arrived in Beijing on Monday morning for a three-day official visit to China.
Defense Ministry Spokesman on China's Air Defense Identification Zone

Beijing, Dec. 3 (Xinhua) — Following is a statement made by Geng Yansheng, spokesman for the Ministry of National Defense, on China’s establishment of the East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ):

The Chinese government announced the establishment of the East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone on Nov. 23, 2013. It is a necessary measure for China to protect its state sovereignty and territorial and airspace security. It is conducive to maintaining flying safety in international airspace, and is in line with international laws and conventions. The announcement of the East China Sea ADIZ has earned understanding and recognition from an increasing number of countries and peoples, but misunderstandings or even distortions also exist. Representing the Chinese Defense Ministry, I make some interpretations on some issues that the outside world is concerned about.

Some people take the ADIZ to be a territorial airspace by falsely saying that China violates other countries’ interests; some equate the ADIZ with a no-fly zone, accusing China of severely undermining the freedom of overflight. Both statements are incorrect. An ADIZ is essentially different from territorial airspace or no-fly zones. It is not a country’s territorial airspace, but an international airspace demarcated outside the territorial airspace for the purpose of identification and early warning; it is not a no-fly zone, and will not affect the freedom of overflight, based on international laws, of other countries’ aircraft. According to international practice, a country can identify and verify aircraft entering its ADIZ. China’s ADIZ was established to set aside enough time for early warning to defend the country’s airspace, with defense acting as the key point. The zone does not aim at any specific country or target, nor does it constitute a threat to any country or region.

Some people doubt China’s monitoring capabilities in the East China Sea ADIZ. The Chinese military’s determination and volition to safeguard the security of national territory and territorial airspace are unwavering, and the military is fully capable of exercising effective control over the East China Sea...
ADIZ. Generally, supervision and control are exercised through reported flight plans and radar response and identification, among other means. Military planes can also take flight if necessary to identify entering targets. Measures to be taken are based on factors such as an entering aircraft’s attributes — military or civilian, the extent of threat, or distance. Fighter planes are unnecessary when an entering aircraft is found to pose no threat to us, but necessary surveillance is needed; when the entering threat is ascertained to reach a certain extent, military aircraft will be mobilized at an appropriate time to dispose of the situation. It is well-known that civil flights pose no threat in most circumstances. China always respects other countries’ freedom of overflight according to international laws, so that international flights that fly normally within the rules in the East China Sea ADIZ will not be affected, as such is the fact.

Some people say that China’s requirement of reporting flight plans is unusual, and a very few countries have even pressured their civil aviation companies and demanded that they should not report flight plans to China. There is no unified international rule as to how to ask other countries to report flight plans to the ADIZ demarcators. Many countries require aircraft flying over their air defense identification zones to report flight plans beforehand. China is not special in doing so. Actually, since the announcement of the East China Sea ADIZ, a majority of civil aviation companies with their air routes traversing the area have reported flight plans to China’s civil aviation department, including some airlines of Japan. We have also noticed that some countries’ military planes took it seriously after China’s announcement of the East China Sea ADIZ. China’s requirement of reporting flight plans and relevant information is conducive to ensuring flight safety and avoiding misunderstanding and misjudgment, considering heavy air traffic in airspace over the East China Sea. A very few countries’ insistence on not reporting flight plans is not beneficial, nor responsible.

We have noticed that a very few countries have said that China’s setting up of the East China Sea ADIZ has unilaterally altered the East China Sea’s status quo, and escalated regional tension. The fact is that they established an ADIZ as early as 1969 and later expanded its scope many times to only 130 km toward our coastline from its west end, which covers most of the airspace of the East China Sea, so they are not qualified at all to make irresponsible remarks on China’s lawful and rational act. Since September 2012, Japan has been making trouble over territorial disputes, staging a farce by announcing that it would “purchase” the Diaoyu Islands, frequently sending vessels and planes to disturb Chinese ships and planes in normal exercises or training, openly making provocative remarks such as shooting down Chinese drones, playing up the so-called China threat, escalating regional tension, creating excuses for revising its current constitution and expanding its military, trying to deny the result of the World War II, and refusing to implement the Cairo Declaration and the Potsdam Proclamation. Japan’s actions have seriously harmed China’s legitimate rights and security interests, and undermined the peace and stability in east Asia. China has to take necessary reactions. A very few countries must earnestly reflect on their actions and correct their wrong remarks and wrongdoings. Other parties concerned should also mind their words and actions, and should not do things to undermine regional stability and bilateral relations. Other parties should
not be incited, or send wrong signals to make a very few countries go further on the wrong track, which will follow the same old disastrous road and undermine regional and world peace.

China unswervingly adheres to the road of peaceful development and a defensive national defense policy. The East China Sea ADIZ is a zone of safety, not risks, a zone of cooperation, not competition. We are willing to conduct active communication and consultation with relevant parties to jointly safeguard flight safety and promote peace, stability and development in the Asia-Pacific region.

BRICS Nations Should Strengthen Security Cooperation: Chinese State Councilor

Cape Town, Dec. 6 (Xinhua) — Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi said on Friday that BRICS nations should strengthen cooperation and coordination to play their roles in safeguarding international and regional peace and stability.

Yang made the remarks when attending a meeting of BRICS senior representatives on national security held in South Africa’s Cape Town, saying that the world is undergoing profound and complicated changes and facing new security challenges.

He also said cyber and information security is vital to national security and social stability, and thus BRICS members should jointly promote information security, and solve cyber disputes through negotiation.

BRICS countries should strengthen cooperation on cyber security and set up platforms for exchanges, he added.

BRICS nations refer to Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Yang also met with representatives from Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa, pledging to enhance bilateral ties with each side.

When meeting with Shivshankar Menon, India’s national security advisor, Yang said China hoped the two sides would continue to strengthen cooperation and communication, enhance coordination in regional and international affairs and work together to maintain peace.
Menon hoped the China and India could maintain high-level exchanges, cement various negotiation mechanisms, expand cooperation to push forward the bilateral relations to a higher level.

During talks with Nikolai Patrushev, secretary of the security council of Russia, Yang hoped the two sides to maintain a sound momentum of high-level exchanges, actively implement the consensus reached by leaders of both countries and advance China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership.

Patrushev said Russia is willing to maintain close exchanges and consultations with China, deepen security cooperation and jointly safeguard regional peace and stability.

China is willing to enhance strategic coordination and deepen pragmatic cooperation with South Africa and work together to push forward China-Africa ties and South-South cooperation, Yang told State Security Minister of South Africa Siyabonga Cwele.

China would strengthen cooperation with Brazil in various areas and coordination in international affairs, Yang said to Marcelo Neri, minister of strategic affairs of Brazil.

China to Share Experience on Quake Response with Nepal, Bangladesh

Beijing, Dec. 9 (Xinhua) — An international workshop on earthquake relief kicked off in Beijing Monday, with the theme of sharing quake response philosophy and strengthening urban search and rescue capacity.

The six-day workshop, supported by the UK-China Global Development Partnership, has over 40 representatives from China, Nepal and Bangladesh, as part of Sharing and Learning Programme on Community-Based Disaster Management in Asia (CBDM Asia).

“We will cooperate with Bangladesh and Nepal by studying quake relief policy, sharing information and building a pilot community,” said Lai Hongzhou, head of the disaster reduction division at China’s Ministry of Civil Affairs.

The workshop is being held at the China National Training Base for Search and Rescue in Beijing, where representatives will take part in seminars, group discussions and training in medical care and casualty management, search and rescue, and equipment drills.

A co-organizer, the British Department for International Development (DFID), also seeks cooperation in disaster relief with China. “China has deep experience in dealing with natural disasters, so Britain has very much to learn from China to improve response to disasters, including earthquakes,” said Chris Chalmers, head of DFID China.

According to United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Asia is the world’s most disaster prone region. Regional coordination and cooperation in disaster management is still far from adequate.

“China has established an outstanding urban search and rescue team within a short period of time. Its team-building capacity sets
example for countries vulnerable to natural disasters, such as Nepal and Bangladesh,” said Patrick Haverman, deputy country director at United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The CBDM Asia is jointly launched by China’s Ministry of Civil Affairs, DFID and UNDP in January 2013. Bangladesh and Nepal are initial partner countries and more are set to join.

III. CHINA’S LUNAR PROGRAM

China's Lunar Probe Soft-Lands on Moon

Beijing, Dec. 14 (Xinhua) — China’s lunar probe Chang’e-3, with the country’s first moon rover onboard, successfully landed on the moon on Saturday night, marking the first time that China has sent a spacecraft to soft land on the surface of an extraterrestrial body.

The lunar probe began to carry out soft-landing on the moon at 9 p.m. Saturday and touched down in Sinus Iridum, or the Bay of Rainbows, 11 minutes later, according to Beijing Aerospace Control Center.

During the process, the probe decelerated from 15 km above the moon, stayed hovering at 100 meters from the lunar surface to use sensors to assess the landing area to avoid obstacles and locate the final landing spot, and descended slowly onto the surface.

The success made China the third country, after the United States and the Soviet Union, to soft-land on the moon.

Compared to those other two countries, which have successfully conducted 13 soft-landings on the moon, China’s soft-landing mission designed the suspension and obstacle-avoiding phases to survey the
landing area much more precisely through fitted detectors, scientists said.

The probe’s soft-landing is the most difficult task during the mission, said Wu Weiren, the lunar program’s chief designer.

Chang’e-3 relied on auto-control for descent, range and velocity measurements, finding the proper landing point, and free-falling.

The probe is equipped with shock absorbers in its four “legs” to cushion the impact of the landing, making Chang’e-3 the first Chinese spacecraft with “legs.”

Chang’e-3 adopted a variable thrust engine completely designed and made by Chinese scientists. It can realize continuous variation of thrust power ranging from 1,500 to 7,500 newtons, according to Wu Weiren.

The soft-landing was carried out 12 days after the probe blasted off on an enhanced Long March-3B carrier rocket.

Chang’e-3 includes a lander and a moon rover called “Yutu” (Jade Rabbit).

Yutu’s tasks include surveying the moon’s geological structure and surface substances and looking for natural resources. The lander will operate there for one year while the rover will be there for three months.

Chang’e-3 is part of the second phase of China’s lunar program, which includes orbiting, landing and returning to the Earth. It follows the success of the Chang’e-1 and Chang’e-2 missions in 2007 and 2010.

The successful landing shows China has the ability of in-situ exploration on an extraterrestrial body, said Sun Huixian, deputy engineer-in-chief in charge of the second phase of China’s lunar program.

A renewed moon fever has sprung up in recent years following the lunar probe climax in the 1960s and 1970s.

Chang’e-3 is the world’s first soft-landing of a probe on the moon in nearly four decades. The last such soft-landing was carried out by the Soviet Union in 1976.

“Compared to the last century’s space race between the United States and the former Soviet Union, mankind’s current return to the moon is more based on curiosity and exploration of the unknown universe,” Sun said.

“China’s lunar program is an important component of mankind’s activities to explore peaceful use of space,” according to the engineer-in-chief.

For an ancient civilization like China, landing on the moon embodies another meaning. The moon, a main source for inspiration, is one of the most important themes in Chinese literature and ancient Chinese myths, including that about Chang’e, a lady who took her pet “Yutu” to fly toward the moon, where she became a goddess.

“Though people have discovered that the moon is bleached and desolate, it doesn’t change its splendid role in Chinese traditional culture,” said Zhang Yiwu, a professor with Peking University.

“Apart from scientific exploration, the lunar probe is a response to China’s traditional culture and imagination. China’s lunar program will proceed with the beautiful legends,” Zhang said.

“I am so excited about the news. It carries my space dream,” a netizen “Roger-Kris” posted on the Sina Weibo. “I am now so interested in space and I want to study science when I go to college.”

“I am looking forward to seeing more pictures sent back by Chang’e-3,” he said.
China’s "Jade Rabbit" Separates from Lander

Beijing, Dec. 15 (Xinhua) — China’s first moon rover, Yutu, or Jade Rabbit, separated from the lander early on Sunday, several hours after the Chang’e-3 probe soft-landed on the lunar surface.

The 140 kg six-wheeled rover touched the lunar surface at 4:35 a.m., leaving deep trace on the loose lunar soil. The process was recorded by the camera on the lander and the images were sent to the earth, according to the Beijing Aerospace Control Center.

After the separation, the rover and lander will take photos of each other and start their own scientific explorations.

Engineers made final checks of the environment of the landing site, the situation of the probe and the solar incidence angle late night on Saturday and sent signals of separation to Chang’e-3.

Yutu, atop the probe, extended its solar panel and started to drive slowly to the transfer mechanism at 3:10.

The transfer mechanism unlocked at 4:06 with one side reaching the moon’s surface, allowing the rover to descend to the surface following a ladder mechanism.

Chang’e-3 landed on the moon’s Sinus Iridum, or the Bay of Rainbows, at 9:11 p.m. Saturday, making China the third country in the world to carry out such a rover mission after the United States and former Soviet Union.

In ancient Chinese mythology, Yutu was the white pet rabbit of the lunar goddess Chang’e. The name for the rover was selected following an online poll that collected several million votes from people around the world.

The rover, 1.5 meters long with its two wings folded, 1 m in width and 1.1 m in height, is a highly efficient robot controlled by the command center from the earth. It will face challenges including temperature differences of more than 300 degrees Celsius on the moon.

Yutu will survey the moon’s geological structure and surface substances and look for natural resources for three months, while the lander will conduct in-situ exploration at the landing site for one year.
China Explores Moon for Science, Technology Advancement

Beijing, Dec. 16 (Xinhua) — China expects to gain a scientific understanding of the moon and develop its space technologies through its lunar program, a spokesman said in Beijing on Monday.

China has carried out its lunar exploration program as current financial and technical conditions have allowed, said Wu Zhijian, spokesman with the State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense, during a press conference.

China’s Chang’e-3 lunar probe succeeded in soft landing on the moon Saturday evening. The country’s first moon rover, which was on board the probe, separated from the lander early on Sunday. The two photographed each other on the moon’s surface Sunday night.

Under the program, China has made breakthroughs in key technologies, which have enabled the lunar probe to land on the moon and deploy a moon rover, Wu said.

“We have also laid a solid foundation for future exploration of deep space,” he said.

China’s lunar program has brought technological progress in the development of carrier rockets, deep space communication, remote control, artificial intelligence, robotics, new materials and new energy, he said.

In response to questions about working with other countries in this field, Wu said China is always positive about international cooperation in lunar exploration.

“Data collected through the Chang’e-1 and Chang’e-2 probes are open to scientists across the world, according to Wu.

China shared information collected by Chang’e-1 with the European Space Agency (ESA), and an ESA aerospace control center and three of its telecommand telemetry control stations took part in the Chang’e-3 mission, he said.

“In the next stage of the lunar program,
there will be more international cooperation,” he said.

“Despite current progress, China still lags behind space giants like the United States and Russia in many aspects,” he said. “We need to work harder and move faster.”

**Chinese President Xi Jinping Congratulates Chang'e-3 Mission’s Complete Success**

Beijing, Dec. 15 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping on Sunday night congratulated the success of Chang’e-3 lunar probe that completed the country’s first softlanding on lunar surface.

The moon rover Yutu, or Jade Rabbit, and the lander took pictures of each other on Sunday night, a move that marked the complete success of Chang’e 3 mission. Xi, along with Premier Li Keqiang and other senior officials, watched the live broadcast of the move at Beijing Aerospace Control Center (BACC).

After the photographing, Ma Xingrui, chief commander of China’s lunar program, announced the Chang’e-3 mission was a “complete success”.

In a congratulatory message sent by the Communist Party of China Central Committee, the State Council and the Central Military Commission, the success of the Chang’e 3 mission was hailed as a “milestone” in the development of China’s space programs, a “new glory” of the Chinese people in their exploration of the frontiers of science and technology and “outstanding contribution” of the Chinese nation in the mankind’s peaceful use of the space.

The message, read by Vice Premier Ma Kai, attributed the success of the mission to the staunch leadership of the Communist Party of China Central Committee with Xi Jinping as the general secretary and the implementation of the country’s innovation-driven development model on the front of
China’s Lunar Program

Chang’e 3 mission marked the full completion of the second phase of China’s lunar program, which includes orbiting, landing and returning to the Earth, reads the message.

After the mission, China’s lunar program will enter a new stage of unmanned automatic sampling and return, which will be more difficult with unprecedented challenges.

The Chang’e-3 mission is one of the most complicated and difficult tasks in China’s space program, the message said, adding that exploring the universe and seeking peaceful use of space are dreams of the Chinese nation for thousands of years.

Comprising a lander and moon rover Yutu, or Jade Rabbit, Chang’e-3 lunar probe soft-landed on moon at 9:11 p.m. Saturday Beijing Time. Yutu later separated from the lander and rolled to moon surface earlier Sunday.

The Chang’e 3 mission makes China the third country after the Soviet Union and the United States to soft land a spacecraft on lunar soil.

China’s Chang’e-3 Lunar Probe Amazes World

Beijing, Dec. 14 (Xinhua) — China’s Chang’e-3, which includes its first lunar rover named Yutu, or Jade Rabbit, has successfully soft landed on the Moon Saturday, fulfilling the long-awaited dream of moon landing of the Chinese nation.

Since the successful launching of Chang’e-3 mission early December, the Chang’e-3 lunar exploration program has been put in the spotlight. Now as Jade Rabbit has made its touchdown on the moon surface, the whole world again marvels at China’s remarkable space capabilities and even extends their aspiration for space cooperation with China.

“It (Developing space programs) is also a

Photo taken on Dec. 14, 2013 shows a picture of the moon surface taken by the on-board camera of the lunar probe Chang’e-3 on the screen of the Beijing Aerospace Control Center in Beijing, capital of China. China’s lunar probe Chang’e-3, with the country’s first moon rover onboard, landed on the moon on Saturday night, marking the first time that China has sent a spacecraft to soft land on the surface of an extraterrestrial body. (Xinhua/Wang Jianmin)
way to mobilize resources and to concentrate resources in a way that could result in certain types of spinoff technologies,” said Mark Stokes, the executive director of the Project 2049 Institute, a research organization in Washington focused on security issues in Asia.

Above all, China has been learning how to orchestrate complicated engineering tasks, said Dean Cheng, a senior research fellow at the Heritage Foundation in Washington who has studied China’s space programs.

“We in the U.S., in the West, tend to focus on the widget aspect of China’s space progress,” Cheng said. “But I would say what we sometimes miss is the Chinese space efforts aimed at improving their systems engineering.”

As well as patriotic pride, China’s space activities are generating skills to enhance the country’s science, satellites and military, the New York Times quoted experts as saying. “China’s advances in space include five manned flights, which are intended to pave the way for a spacestation.”

“The Chang’e-3 details tell me that the U.S. now absolutely must start communicating with the Chinese about lunar cooperation,” said U.S. astronaut Buzz Aldrin of Apollo 11, in an interview with the magazine Aerospace America. “The U.S. knows more about the Moon than anyone else, and we know more about bringing together foreign partners, as we did for the International SpaceStation,” he added.

The lander spacecraft is more than 40 percent the size of a NASA Apollo lunar module at descent stage, and the Chinese are building them on an assembly line basis, the magazine reported.

“The Chinese will be the next on the Moon, and they are going to be there for a long time, with significant staying power,” said Eugene Cernan, a U.S. astronaut of Apollo 17. He and Aldrin believed Chinese manned lunar landings will be possible on larger versions of the Chang’e-3 design within 10 years.

Germany’s Frankfurter Zeitung on Dec. 2 acclaimed the Chang’e-3 lunar probe as “the first successful attempt of an Asian power in the history of spacetravel.”

“So far there have been only two countries that made it to the Moon: the United States and the Soviet Union.”

“China has made rapid progress in space travel. It develops much faster than the previous world powers in space exploration projects as well as many other fields. Ten years ago, China sent its first astronaut into space, but now it is already on the way to building a spacestation,” it added.

Cornelia von Ammon, Germany’s spokesperson of the federation of aerospace industry, said the German federation pays close attention to the Chinese lunar mission. The success provides further insights into lunar exploration and impetus for further research approaches.

“An air show is scheduled to take place in Berlin in May 2014 and we are looking forward to China’s participation in the show with great interest.”

Igor Lisov, an expert at Russia’s Novosti Kosmonavtiki Monthly, pointed out the previous Soviet Moon program was successful as a whole but at tremendous costs. The Soviet Union launched 24 missions to the Moon, but the first five all turned out to be failures; its space efforts only started to pay off from its sixth attempt, which was the landing of the lunar rover Lonokhod.

“Besides, in the 1970s the crew were well trained to operate the Lunoklod on the Moon surface remotely from the Earth, whereas
China's Yutu is equipped with a GPS system that allows much improved orbit insertion accuracy and prevents it from colliding with other objects. That is the biggest difference between Yutu and Lunoklad.”

Russian astronaut Vladimir Kovalenok said, “It is a landmark flight.” The Chinese lunar program is advancing on the right track, and China can and will go down this right path on its own while taking into pros and cons of lunar programs in the United States and the Soviet Union, he said.

“China is now a pioneer in this field, and its lunar missions will be a catalyst for lunar explorations in other countries as the Moon can serve as a basis for a ‘jump’ on journeys to more distant space in the universe,” he added.

Japan’s Yomiuri Shimbun said lunar probe is of great importance to other space exploration programs including the exploration of Mars. With the Chang’e-3 mission smoothly completed, China will be able to make more voices heard in the future Moon exploration and development.

Segawa Shiro, a professor at the faculty of political science and economics of Waseda University in Japan, told Xinhua that science and technologies have made huge progress since moon landing in the 20th century, and therefore Chang’e and Yutu will undoubtedly adopt cutting-edge automatic sensors technology. To soft land on the Moon using latest technologies can help people appreciate the wisdom of science and give people inspiration.

He also believes it is particularly significant because the mission provides an opportunity to share mankind’s knowledge about space inspection and exploration. Japan’s lunar probe is also under way and international space cooperation is much needed.

Finland’s largest news daily Helsingin Sanomat said the conquest of space is a source of pride for China and its ordinary citizens.

“The Moon is a suitable target for China to carry out space exploration, because it is close to us and technologies developed for the Moon landing can also be later applied to further exploration, such as the conquest of Mars.”

### China's "Triple Jump" Progress in Lunar Probes

Beijing, Nov. 29 (Xinhua) — The Chang’e-1 to Chang’e-3 missions have made a “triple jump” between 2007 and 2013.

**Chang’e-1: Starting from Nothing**

Blasting off at 6:05 p.m. on Oct. 24, 2007 from southwest China’s Xichang Satellite Launch Center, Chang’e-1 entered lunar orbit after 18 days with only one orbital trimming — the adjustment required to achieve the desired orbit around an object.

On Nov. 12, 2008, a hologram of the whole moon made with data collected by Chang’e-1 was published. It remains the most complete lunar hologram published to date.

At 4:13 p.m. on March 1, 2009, Chang’e-1 hard-landed on the lunar surface.

Chang’e-1 opened up a new age of deep space exploration for China.

**Chang’e-2: Achieving Several World Firsts**

Chang’e-2, a pilot probe for Stage II of the lunar program, was launched on Oct. 1, 2010.
from Xichang, the site from which Chang’e-3 will also be launched in a few days’ time.

One of Chang’e-2’s tasks was to verify key technology ahead of the soft-landing. Unlike Chang’e-1, Chang’e-2 was sent directly into lunar orbit by a Long March-3C carrier rocket. The transfer from the Earth’s orbit to that of the moon was attained in only 112 hours.

On arrival in a circular orbit 100 km over the lunar surface, the spacecraft transitioned to a closer elliptical orbit after finishing in-orbit tests and took a series of 1.5-meter resolution (meaning each pixel captures a 1.5-square-meter area of land) pictures of the moon’s Sinus Iridium landmark, the chosen landing site of Chang’e-3.

Wu Zhijian, spokesperson for the State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense, said Chang’e-2 achieved several firsts. It was the first time a spacecraft had flown from lunar orbit to the second Lagrange Point (L2) orbit, where the gravity of the sun and Earth balance the orbital motion of the satellite; and the first time a spacecraft encountered the Toutatis asteroid at close range, capturing images with a resolution of 10 meters.

At present, Chang’e-2 is 60 million km from Earth and has become China’s first man-made asteroid in the solar system. It continues to fly into deeper space and is expected to go as far as 300 million km from Earth before contact is lost.

**Chang’e-3: Soft-landing on an Extraterrestrial Object**

So far, only the United States and the former Soviet Union have soft-landed on the moon. If successful, China will become the third country to do so. After entering lunar orbit, Chang’e-3 will go through six stages of deceleration to descend from 15 km above the lunar surface.

The soft-landing processes of the U.S. and former Soviet Union’s unmanned spacecraft had no capacity to hover or avoid obstacles. Chang’e-3, on the other hand, can accurately survey landforms at the landing site and...
identify the safest spots on which to land.

In order to land quickly, the probe is equipped with high-precision, fast-response sensors to analyze its motion and surroundings. The variable thrust engine (completely designed and made by Chinese scientists) can generate up to 7,500 newtons of thrust.

Yutu (Jade Rabbit), the autonomous moon rover which will detach from the lander, will be controlled when necessary by scientists on Earth.

**Timeline of China’s Lunar Program**

Beijing, Nov. 26 (Xinhua) — China’s lunar mission is divided into three stages: orbiting, landing, and return. Following is the timeline of China’s lunar mission development.


2004 January - lunar orbiter project is formally established;

February - mission is named “Project Chang’e” after a mythical Chinese goddess who flew to the moon;

2007 Oct. 24 - Chang’e-1 is successfully launched;

Nov. 7 - Chang’e-1 enters lunar orbit;

Nov. 26 - a clip of the voice of the probe and a Chinese song “Ode to the Motherland” are sent back from orbit. China’s first picture of the lunar surface is published by Xinhua News Agency;

2008 Jan. 31 - COSTIND publishes the first picture of the lunar polar region taken by Chang’e-1;

October - the State Council, China’s Cabinet, approves the Chang’e-2 mission;

Nov. 12 - based on data collected by

The chart shows the process of the soft-landing on the moon of China’s lunar probe Chang’e-3 on Dec. 14, 2013. (Xinhua/Zheng Yue)
China’s Lunar Program

Chang’e-1, the first lunar hologram with a resolution of 7 meters is published;

2009 March 1 - Chang’e-1 impacts the moon under control;

2010 Oct. 1 - Chang’e-2 is sent into space aboard a Long March-3C carrier rocket from southwest China’s Xichang satellite launch center;

Oct. 9 - Chang’e-2 enters 100-km circular lunar orbit;

Oct. 26 - Chang’e-2 enters lower, elliptical orbit; prepares to photograph Sinus Iridium;

Oct. 29 - Chang’e-2 photographs Sinus Iridium and returns to a higher orbit;

Nov. 8 - pictures of Sinus Iridium published by the State Administration for Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence (SASTIND);

2011 April 1 - Chang’e-2 completes all six engineering objectives and four scientific missions. Its design lifetime expires;

April to the end of May - Chang’e-3 surveys south and north poles of the moon, and takes high-resolution pictures of the chosen landing site for Chang’e-3;

Aug. 25 - For the first time in history, from lunar orbit a space craft enters the second Lagrange Point (L2) orbit, where gravity of the sun and Earth balance the orbital motion of the satellite;

2012 Feb. 6 - SASTIND publishes a lunar hologram with a resolution of 7 meters;

Dec. 13 - Chang’e-2 arrives in deep space 7 million km away from Earth, and surveys the Tout asteroid;

Present Chang’e-2 is 60 million km away from Earth and has become China’s first man-made asteroid in the solar system. It continues flying into deeper space.

Lunar Probe Boosts "Chinese Dream"

Beijing, Dec. 2 (Xinhua) — China launched the the country’s first moon rover aboard its Chang’e-3 lunar probe, bringing Chinese dreams of reaching the moon tantalizingly close.

Space exploration has been a risky undertaking. Only 51 percent of mankind’s 129 lunar probe attempts have been successful.

The successful launch is only the first step of the Chang’e-3 mission. Over the coming months, it will have to withstand multiple tests of soft landing, the separation of the rover from the lander,

The Long March-3B carrier rocket carrying China’s Chang’e-3 lunar probe blasts off from the launch pad at Xichang Satellite Launch Center, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, Dec. 2, 2013.
survival on the moon surface and remote control.

The moon rover is tasked with surveying the moon’s geological structure, surface substances and looking for natural resources.

Chang’e-3 is part of the second phase of China’s lunar program, which was initiated in 2004 and includes orbiting, landing and returning to Earth. It follows the success of the Chang’e-1 and Chang’e-2 missions in 2007 and 2010.

After orbiting for 494 days and intentionally crashing onto the lunar surface, Chang’e-1 sent back 1.37 terabytes of data, producing China’s first complete moon picture.

Launched on Oct. 1, 2010, Chang’e-2 verified crucial technologies for Chang’e-3 and reconnoitered the landing area. Chang’e-2 is heading for deep space and is expected to travel as far as 300 million km from Earth, the longest voyage of any Chinese spacecraft.

China is looking to realize the third step of its lunar program in 2017, when it will hopefully land a probe on the moon, release a moon rover and return the probe to Earth.

Despite the fast progress of the lunar mission in the past decade, China is still a newcomer in this field, as other space powers achieved moon landings about half a century ago.

The former Soviet Union first landed its probe on the moon in 1966, while the United States first sent human beings to the moon in 1969.

China’s space exploration will not stop at the moon, however. Its target is deep space.

As the starting point for deep space exploration, a lunar probe is significant because it can offer strategic resources, carry out vacuum, microgravity and low magnetic field tests, observe space and monitor Earth’s environmental change... Many of these are Chang’e-3’s tasks.

China’s space exploration does not aim at competition. The country is open in its lunar program and willing to cooperate with other nations. China hopes to explore and use space for more resources to promote human development.

Crucial technologies, however, cannot be bought. China should rely on itself to build an innovative country.

Happily, more than 80 percent of the technologies and products used for the Chang’e-3 mission are newly developed.

With advanced equipment and better capacities, Chang’e-3 will contribute more to man’s knowledge of the moon.

Reaching for the moon has been a long cherished wish for the Chinese nation since ancient times.
The lunar probe mission therefore carries the space dreams of the Chinese nation and its people. This deep aspiration, which pursues peaceful use of space to benefit humankind, will not only serve China’s own population but also contribute to space exploration for the human race.

The space dream, a source of national pride and inspiration for further development, is part of the dream to make China stronger and will surely help realize the broader Chinese dream of national rejuvenation.

### IV. DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

**China to Balance Growth, Reform Next Year**

Beijing, Dec. 14 (Xinhuanet) — China pledged to maintain stable economic policies next year to sustain growth while forging ahead with reforms as the nation’s leaders wrapped up the annual Central Economic Work Conference in Beijing yesterday.

The government will stick to a proactive fiscal policy and a prudent monetary policy in 2014 to maintain a balance between growth and reform, according to a statement issued after the four-day conference.

“China’s economy is still under downward pressure and the country should keep its policies stable and flexible, paving the way for further reforms,” it said.

“2014 will be the first year that China will implement the decisions of deepening reforms, and we should stick to the principle of seeking advancement amid stability ... through accelerating economic restructuring, promoting innovation and improving people’s livelihoods.”

Reform and innovation will be core areas of next year’s economic work and the country will push forward interest rate liberalization...
and exchange rate reform, the statement said.

The government will continue to adjust the structure of expenditure, spend money more wisely, improve structural tax cuts and increase the number of experiments for replacing turnover tax with a value-added levy, the statement said.

The country will “keep a reasonable growth of monetary credit, optimize the funding and credit structure and increase the proportion of direct financing,” it said.

China has kept a proactive fiscal policy since late 2008 when the country rolled out a 4 trillion yuan (US$650 billion) stimulus package to combat the adverse impact of the global financial crisis.

The conference, which sets the tone for next year’s macroeconomic policies, broke a record by having meetings over four days. Just two days in the past, the length of this year’s meeting was an indication of the number of items to be discussed and their increasing complexity.

The statement said the government is calling for more efforts on guaranteeing food safety, reducing industrial overcapacity, containing local government debt, enhancing coordination of regional development, improving people’s livelihoods and promoting further opening up.

Local government debt surged during the investment and construction binge that was part and parcel of the 2008 stimulus, Xinhua news agency said.

A huge number of debt-financed projects have not generated any cash since. Local government debt, which the National Audit Office estimates at around 10 trillion yuan (US$1.64 trillion), has become a major threat to financial stability.

The office announced a nationwide audit of government debt in July, but the results have yet to be published.

“China should coordinate short-term measures and a long-term mechanism to defuse the local government debt risks,” said the statement.

It promises to discipline debt-raising procedures for local governments and hold them accountable for their debt, while vowing efforts to correct the GDP-obsession mindset of many officials.

The statement noted that the way to resolve overcapacity is through innovation, as the country continues to see adjustment of industrial structure as one of its core tasks for economic development in 2014.

China should combine the goals of letting the market play a decisive role in allocating resources and letting the government play a better role, and eliminate incompetent players through the means of competition, the statement said.

Although the conference did not reveal a growth target for next year — this will come in March when Premier Li Keqiang delivers the government work report — some analysts said the target for gross domestic product growth may be lowered to 7 percent from the current 7.5 percent.

**China Pledges Steady, Human-Centered Urbanization**

Beijing, Dec. 14 (Xinhua) — China on Saturday pledged proactive yet steady moves in pushing forward human-centered urbanization as it looks to balance urban-rural
Domestic Affairs

development and unleash domestic demand.

Urbanization is the road China must take in its modernization drive, and it offers an important way to address rural problems, according to a statement released after a central urbanization work conference.

The two-day meeting, which ended on Friday, was attended by Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Keqiang and senior leaders Zhang Dejiang, Yu Zhengsheng, Liu Yunshan, Wang Qishan and Zhang Gaoli.

This was the most high-level meeting the Chinese leadership has ever convened on urbanization.

**URBANITE STATUS FOR MIGRANT WORKERS**

While promising to focus on the quality of urbanization and improving the living standards of urban residents, the statement said the primary task is to enable migrant workers to win urbanite status in an orderly manner.

The statement came as China’s rigid “hukou” (household registration) system has prevented migrants from gaining equal access to services in cities, posing a major barrier holding back the country’s urbanization process.

By the end of 2012, China has 710 million urban residents. For the first time in China’s history, its urban population exceeded rural population, with city-dwellers accounting for 51.27 percent of the total population.

Caught between the urban and rural residents are an army of 260 million migrant workers who live in cities but do not have access to the same public services as other urbanites who hold a city “hukou”.

Saturday’s statement promised that endeavors would be exerted to gradually ease restrictions in mid-sized cities, and set reasonable conditions for settling in big cities while strictly controlling the population in megacities.

Cities should develop their industries based on their unique resource advantages and enhance cooperation in professional services, especially the service sector, to consolidate industrial development foundation and encourage innovations.

Measures and policies to enable migrant workers to win urbanite status should be carried out in line with farmers’ willingness, and should proceed in the light of local conditions, the statement said.

Priority should be given to urbanizing current rural population working in cities while guiding those new migrant workers, it said.

**QUALITY DEVELOPMENT**

Quality development of urbanization, it said, is conducive to unleashing huge potential in domestic demand, lifting productivity and breaking up the city-country dualistic economic structure.

According to the statement, exertions will be made to build up a diverse and sustainable funding mechanism for the drive. It stressed the importance of green and low-carbon development in future urbanization.

It called for higher utilization rate of urban construction land, with new construction land being strictly controlled and inventory being efficiently used.

Urban construction will avoid excessive area expansion in developing cities and towns, as the bottom line of farmland’s area and quality should be secured.

The statement put particular emphasis on urbanization in the less-developed central, west and northeast regions, with the aim at making growth more balanced.

Under the guidance of market and
Domestic Affairs

government planning, China should gradually form several city clusters in those regions to make them “important growth poles”, the statement said.

It also called for better construction and governance in the cities.

**NO PURSUIT OF QUICK RESULTS**

The statement warned that development targets of urbanization should be practical and realistic, and they should not come as a result of administrative decrees.

Officials should not make unrealistic pursuit of quick results over urbanization, and instead, they should push forward with urbanization in an active and steady manner, it stressed.

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**Chinese President Xi Jinping Demands Implementation of “Mass Line” Campaign**

Beijing, Dec. 9 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday told local officials of the Communist Party of China (CPC) to seriously implement the “mass line” campaign and boost ties with the people.

Xi, also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, made the remarks at a meeting at Zhongnanhai, the central authority’s seat, attended by senior party officials of north China’s Hebei Province.

Xi listened to a report by Zhou Benshun, party chief of Hebei, on the province’s efforts in practicing the “mass line” campaign. He said measures should be tangible and be effective to better serve the people.

The one-year “mass-line” campaign was launched in June by China’s leaders to boost ties between CPC officials, members and the people, while cleaning up four undesirable work styles — formalism, bureaucracy, hedonism and extravagance.

Being in charge of supervising campaign implementation in Hebei, Xi visited the province in July and September to inspect the
local situation and give directions.

He reminded Hebei officials that they face stern challenges in implementing measures that they have decided to take during the campaign, as many will hurt the interests of someone.

Hebei will have to make tremendous efforts in fixing overcapacity in steel, iron and steel, coal, cement, glass and reducing air pollution, Xi noted.

He called on relevant authorities to enhance supervision of the implementation of the campaign and live up to promises made to the public.

Any attempt to soften efforts in handling problems should be criticized or punished, he said.

According to the report by Zhou, 17,000 official cars and 237 government building projects have been canceled during the campaign. Official gazettes have been reduced by 42 percent, and public spending on official receptions by the provincial government departments has fallen by 24 percent.

A total of 2,750 officials in the province have been punished for violations.

Xi warned officials that the upcoming second phase of the “mass line” campaign will be greater in scale and the problems faced by the officials will be more specific and difficult.

He urged the officials to have a systemic design on how they are going to conduct the campaign and make sure that the whole campaign will be subject to supervision by the people.

China to Manage Economic, Social Development with Reform

Beijing, Dec. 3 (Xinhua) — President Xi Jinping has said that China will continue to seek steady progress and manage economic and social development through reform next year.

Reform should be integrated into all sectors of China’s economic and social development in 2014, said Xi, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

Xi made the remarks at a symposium held on Nov. 22 to hear comments and suggestions from non-Communist parties, the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, as well as people without party affiliation about China’s economic situation and economic work in 2014, according to a statement released on Tuesday.

At the symposium, which was presided over by Xi, Premier Li Keqiang reported China’s economic performance this year and the main ideas of the CPC Central Committee for next year’s economic work.

Xi said China should reinforce the momentum of steady development and maintain the overall stability of the economy and society in 2014, which could create the necessary environment and conditions for further reforms.

On the other hand, China should press ahead with sweeping reforms in order to facilitate development and enhance transformation of the development pattern and improvement of people’s livelihood, Xi
Reform should first target areas for which the Chinese public has the most expectations for reform, and focus on problems that have hindered the country’s economic and social development, the president said.

All of society should be allowed to feel the tangible benefits of the reforms, so as to rally positive energy for further reforms, Xi said.

Xi said that, for next year, China should effectively safeguard food security, adjust industrial structure, promote more balanced development among regions, improve people’s livelihood, step up air pollution control and continuously improve opening up.

The president also said the sweeping reforms are relevant to all aspects and people, so it is necessary to build consensus and seek unity of thinking.

He hoped non-Communist parties, the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, as well as people without party affiliation would learn the spirit of the reform masterplan approved at the third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee and help rally public support for further reforms.

Xi expressed his gratitude to non-Communist parties, the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, as well as people without party affiliation for their suggestions during drafting of the masterplan.

Regarding China’s economic performance in 2013, Xi said China had achieved steady progress in economic and social development despite significant downward pressure earlier this year, thanks to coordinated efforts to stabilize growth, adjust structure and promotereform.

New "Two-Child" Rules to Start from Early 2014

Beijing, Dec. 9 (Xinhuanet) — Starting early next year, Chinese couples are expected to be allowed to have a second child if either the father or mother is themselves an only child, said a senior family planning official on Saturday.

Yang Wenzhuang, director of the family planning instruction department of the National Health and Family Planning Commission, made the remarks during an interview with China Central Television.

“The latest relaxation of the family planning policy will probably be implemented early next year after local administrations finish preparations and local legislatures give the final pass by amending theregulation,” hesaid.

Under previous family planning rules, in urban areas, couples could only have two children if both the father and mother were only children.

The Third Plenary Session of the 18th Communist Party of China Central Committee, which ended on Nov 12, decided to relax the policy by allowing couples to have a second child if one of the parents is the only child in his or her family.

Meanwhile, Yang urged education and healthcare institutions to prepare properly to meet the rising demand for services resulting from an increased birthrate after the policy is implemented.

“Communication and coordination among related administrations needs to be
further strengthened to ensure that expectant mothers and newborn babies will get the quality services and care they need,” he said.

According to Yang, it is up to local administrations to arrange the exact timescale for implementing the policy, according to specific circumstances.

“But there shouldn’t be a major time gap in introducing the new rule from region to region,” he said.

Moreover, Yang asked willing couples to carefully plan the timing of their second baby, stating that “there is no need to rush as the policy will be a long-standing one on the mainland”.

Previous assessment work conducted by the commission found that the new policy would see an estimated 15 million to 20 million couples eligible for a second child.

About 50 to 60 percent of such couples are willing to have a second child, according to a recent poll by the commission.

According to Yang, about 2 million more babies are expected to be born each year due to the policy relaxation, but he says the increase “will not cause major pressure on healthcare, education and other public resources”.

In the long run, the new policy is expected to help facilitate family development, promote happiness and increase the ability of families to care for the elderly, he said.

Analysts said the reform comes at the right time to help China address the issue of an increasing population imbalance, whereby the proportion of elderly people is rising relative to younger generations.

By the end of last year, China had about 194 million people aged 60 and older on the mainland, making it the country with the largest elderly population in the world, according to the National Bureau of Statistics of China.

More importantly, “the new policy better meets and respects public expectations”, Yang added.

Zhai Zhenwu, director of the School of Sociology and Population Studies at Renmin University of China, said that China’s family planning policy had always been dynamic and subject to adjustments according to new situations.

“The latest change, the most substantial one in the past 30 years, will lay the foundations for future efforts to further fine-tune the country’s birth rules,” said Zhai.

**ONE-CHILD CHANGES KEY TO BALANCED POPULATION**

Changes to China’s one-child policy, in place for decades, have aroused heated discussion, with some demographers seeing the change as a step toward balanced population development.

Couples in China will be allowed to have two children if one of the parents is an only child.

“The change of policy is of great importance and a practical step toward balanced population development in China, but it is not the end of China’s family planning policy,” said Li Jianmin, demographer with Tianjin’s Nankai University.

The one-child policy was introduced in the late 1970s to rein in the surging population by limiting most urban couples to one child.

The policy was later relaxed and if both parents were only children they could have a second child regardless.

The latest change comes as Chinese society ages and the growing burden of social pensions poses great challenges to society as a whole.
ELDERLY CARE CONSIDERATION

With the one-child policy, authorities believed they had set the stage for an economic boom and social advancement, and there is no doubt that the policy has been very effective in that respect.

The falling birthrate which resulted however, has thrown the growth of the aging population into sharp focus and led to shrinkage of the working-age population.

China’s sixth national census in 2010 showed a fertility rate between 1.5 and 1.6, almost the same as some developed countries which are now plagued by aging populations.

Statistics from the National Health and Family Planning Commission (NHFPC) contend that China’s population (1.34 billion) would be 400 million higher were it not for the policy.

“Both higher and lower fertility rates could hinder balanced development between population and the social economy,” said Guo Zhenwei, a family planning official with the NHFPC.

China’s peak population should be about 1.5 billion with a birthrate around 1.8. In addition, the labor force (940 million) decreased by 3.45 million in 2012, the first absolute decrease, and is expected to decrease by about 29 million by the end of the decade.

The elderly population meanwhile, keeps on growing with those aged 60 and over numbering nearly 200 million, 14.3 percent of the total, far ahead of the international norm of 10 percent. The figure is forecast to exceed one-third of the population by 2050.

“Loosening of the one-child policy will slow the aging phenomenon and relieve pressure on pensions,” Li Jianmin added.

POPULATION SPIKE CONCERNS

Two days after the announcement, whether the changes will lead to a population spike has been a hot Internet topic, irrespective of family planning authorities insistence that the change will put not much pressure on food supplies or public services.

An online survey by newsifeng.com showed more than 63 percent of respondents keen have a second child, and about 30 percent saying no because of the high cost of raising a child.

Some 84 percent of the respondents said the change will have little influence on the total population, with only about 9 percent worried about a sudden increase. The survey had more than 190,000 respondents by Sunday afternoon.

Demographers however, argue that there is unlikely to be a population hike with the change of childbearing ideology and the increasing cost of raising a child. Chinese parents preferred to have many children in the past as they believed more offspring would bring more blessings and children were considered the best source of care for elders.

A survey by the NHFPC shows that some 15 million to 20 million people will benefit from the policy, but only about 50 to 60 percent of them are interested in having a second child.

“The policy change will not lead to population explosion: one or two children have met couples’ fertility needs both in rural and urban areas,” said Wu Cangping, an advisor with the China Population Association.

“The policy adjustment is not only to limit population growth, but also to propose a population development model which is commensurate with China’s social and economic development,” Wu added.
Beijing, Dec. 12 (Xinhuanet) — China’s new hot words “Tuhao” and “Dama” may be included in the new edition of the Oxford English Dictionary. The words have caught on in China, and they are now spreading around the globe. To date, about 120 words of Chinese origin have been added to the Oxford English Dictionary and have become part of the English speaker’s language.

Chinese buzzwords normally reflect social changes and culture, and are increasingly gaining traction in the foreign media. Tuhao and Dama are both old words but have taken on new meanings.

Tuhao used to refer to a rural landlord who liked to bully his tenants or servants. Now it is used for a Chinese person who spends money thoughtlessly or who is rich and likes to flaunt their wealth. The BBC explains it as “nouveaux riches”. Simply expressed, a Tuhao is rich but lacks taste.

A Dama is a middle-aged woman, and first came to public attention as a term for the thousands of Chinese women who purchased large numbers of items of gold when the gold prices slumped between April and June.

Various Loanwords from Chinese

“The Chinese words Ganbu (cadre), and Guanxi (connections) were officially added to the Oxford English Dictionary many years ago; Tofu (bean curd), Peking duck (roast duck), and Chow Mein (stir-fried noodles) are now everyday terms in English countries; Cheng-guan (City management) and Dia (delicately pretty) have also made an impact,” said Professor Ran Qibin from the College of Chinese language and culture of Nankai University.

In recent years, a group of English words of Chinese origin has proliferated; some relate to Chinese culture, such as Confucius (Kongzi, politician, and philosopher of ancient China), Laozi (a philosopher of ancient China), Tao (a philosophical and
religious tradition), Tao Te Ching (a Chinese classic text), Feng Shui (an area of Chinese metaphysics), and Mandarin (China’s official language). Some come from sports and entertainment, such as Kungfu and Taichi (Chinese martial arts), and have become known through the popularity of Chinese action movies. In the fields of politics and economics, Lianghui (the Chinese government’s two annual meetings) is gradually being adopted by more international media agencies after it was first used by CNN news, and the Chinese currency unit Jiao (similar to a US 10 cents), and Yuan (like the US dollar) are also to be found in English dictionaries. Sometimes Yuan is used as the name of the Chinese currency.

Chinese is an Important Source of New English Words

A recent report by Global Language Monitor states that words of Chinese origin are playing a key role in driving the ongoing globalization of English. “The fact that some 300 million Chinese people are now studying or have studied English means the important impact of Chinese on the language can’t be denied,” said Paul J.J. Payack, president and chief analyst at Global Language Monitor.

Professor Yao Shuangyun from China Central Normal University’s Research Center for Language and Language Education gave three reasons to explain why more English words are coming from Chinese: the first is that English accepts a broad range of loanwords because it is an open and inclusive language; the second is the rapid development of science and technology and more frequent cultural exchanges between countries which are encouraging the blending of Chinese and English; the third is that the international status of Chinese is rising, providing favorable conditions for Chinese to strengthen its impact on English.

Professor Zhou Haizhong from Sun Yat-Sen University considers that English words of Chinese origin are an inevitable outcome of the meeting of English and Chinese, and of the integration of Chinese and Western cultures. China-related English is likely to increase with more frequent cultural exchanges.

There have been many studies on foreign-born words which have entered the Chinese language; in contrast, there has been little research on China-related English. Now, as Chinese buzzwords grow in popularity worldwide, Chinese language experts should focus on and discuss Chinese-born English as an emerging culture.

The Adoption Process of English Words with Chinese Roots

Various English words of Chinese origin have been absorbed in different ways, including transliteration, free translation, partial transliteration plus a generic affix, or other methods. For example, Taikonaut is a
Domestic Affairs

combination word from Chinese Taikong (Space) and Greek’s nautçs (voyager). And a translated Chinese phrase “long time no see” is now an English expression used as a greeting by people who have not seen each other for a while.

Meanwhile, Chinese-born English words need to go through a strict verification process before entering the English dictionary. Julie Kleeman, project Manager of Bilingual Dictionaries with the Oxford University Press, noted that Oxford’s English language experts would need to see evidence of a Chinese buzzword in use across a range of English media and over the course of a period of time when they are considering including it in the Oxford Dictionary.

Making a Difference

by Ni Yanshuo

With the bulk of its territory located in the North Temperate Zone, China sees millions of migratory birds flying southward over it in autumn and heading back north in spring. Of the eight major routes used by migratory birds worldwide, three cross over China.

However, due to illegal hunting, the number of birds migrating along the routes in China has dropped dramatically in recent years. According to figures released...
by China Central Television, in the 1970s, more than 1.6 million wild birds made up of more than 300 different species flew over China via the route from Siberia to Australia and New Zealand. In 2012 however, the number using the same route was less than 500,000.

“Hunting migratory birds is illegal in China and the government has taken severe measures to crack down on this behavior. However many people still violate the ban and sell captured birds to restaurants for profit,” said Deng Fei, Dean of the Journalist Department of Hong Kong-based Phoenix Weekly and an activist promoting public welfare and environmental justice.

Deng said that more individuals and social organizations need to stand up alongside government efforts to stop illegal bird hunting.

Deng, 35, was born near Dongting Lake in central China’s Hunan Province. “Every winter, thousands of migratory birds flew to the lake. They were my childhood friends. I hate the thought of people hunting and eating them,” Deng said.

In October 2012, Deng saw pictures online of people in Hunan selling migratory birds at local markets. Some of the birds in the pictures were bleeding.

“I was upset by a picture of a seller carrying a swan and a mallard with a pole on his shoulder. These birds flew south across Hunan in the hope of surviving the winter, but they failed,” Deng said.

Deng decided to help the birds. In late 2012, he joined hands with the China Social Assistance Foundation and established China’s first public welfare program addressing the plight of migratory birds, calling it Let the Migratory Birds Fly. Since then, 50 city newspapers have joined Deng’s call to protect migratory birds.

“Thanks to all these media outlets and our nationwide network, we can pass on information on how to protect migratory birds throughout China,” Deng said.

Call to Action

The program raises funds via the Internet and financially assists volunteers working in the winter habitats of migratory birds, such as Dongting Lake, Poyang Lake in central China’s Jiangxi Province and locations around Bohai Bay in the country’s north. Deng’s group call on people not to eat migratory birds and spread related information, also alerting the police when they come across people hunting or
Before launching Let the Migratory Birds Fly, Deng had already become a famous public welfare activist. Today, his name is connected to seven nationwide programs, five for helping children and two for protecting nature.

“By launching these programs, I have changed from a talker to a doer,” Deng said. “That’s what I want to be. To change something, we need people to do something, instead of simply criticizing.”

Deng worked as an investigative journalist from 2001 to 2011, first for Hunan-based Women Today weekly and later at Phoenix Weekly. During that time, he wrote more than 160 investigative features.

Through his investigations, he uncovered many social issues. “Some of the problems really shocked me. But as a journalist, I could only record them and call people to follow and solve them,” Deng said.

Deng soon found that merely talking about the problems was not enough, so he set his eyes on public welfare programs.

In early 2011, when conducting interviews in an impoverished area in Qianxi County, southwest China’s Guizhou Province, Deng learned that many primary school students could not afford to have lunch at school and many of them went hungry as a result.

As the father of a daughter attending primary school, Deng was well aware of the need for children to have lunch at school. He decided to do something to change the situation.

In April 2011, Deng launched a program by raising funds online and providing free lunch to primary school students in impoverished areas.

“When the Free Lunch for Children program grew bigger, I knew it was impossible for me to return to being an investigative journalist; so I shifted my concentration to public welfare,” Deng said.

Later, he went on to launch another six public welfare programs, including Let the Migratory Birds Fly.

Deng admits that managing the seven programs is arduous. Still, he is able to overcome the difficulties. “When I feel tired, I spend time with my family. Then I can relax. I am glad that my wife and daughter support me,” he said.

Honors

Deng has won numerous awards for his work. On October 17, Deng was awarded the China Poverty Eradication Awards Innovation Award by Wang Yang, Vice Premier of the State Council. Prior to that, in April 2012, then Vice Premier Li Keqiang conferred on him the China Charity Award for his work in the Free Lunch for Children program.

“I value these honors very much and am very happy to get them as they can further publicize our public welfare programs and attract more people to join us,” Deng said, adding that the awards also increase the pressure on him and his colleagues to work harder.

“Though given to me, they also show the government’s affirmation of the work of non-governmental public welfare organizations,” Deng said. He is proud of what he and his team have done and is determined to continue pursuing his dream of helping others.
Aging Away from Home

by Wang Hairong

There is an old Chinese saying: “When leaves fall from trees, they settle near the roots.” Traditionally, it is believed that people should return to their hometown when they age. In modern times, however, many senior citizens in China move from their hometown to join their children and grandchildren.

As China modernizes, its people become more mobile. Many young people have moved from rural areas into cities and from small and medium-sized cities into larger ones.

“Young people in big cities are under heavy pressure. They are busy with work and family. They hope their parents can help with childcare,” said Qi Xin, a research fellow with the Institute of Urban Studies at the Beijing Academy of Social Sciences.

Having grandparents take care of kids can save money for young parents and give them more time to manage other things. Nannies in big cities such as Beijing can cost around $300-500 a month. Good nannies are as difficult to find as they are expensive. Many young parents are reluctant to hire nannies out of fear that they may mistreat babies.

Living with their children somewhere else is good for elder people because otherwise they may suffer from the loneliness of an empty nest, Qi added.

Family reunion is something to celebrate; yet for a significantly large proportion of seniors, adapting to a new lifestyle is challenging. A survey conducted by China Youth Daily in 2011 revealed that 71.5 percent of the respondents said that they were lonely because they had few friends.

Slightly more than one third said that they had difficulty communicating with locals because of their different dialects.

About half of elders migrating to cities left their spouses behind in their hometown because of insufficient living space in their children’s homes.

Approximately 59.2 percent of elders reported tensions with their children due to differences in lifestyle.

In addition to interpersonal relations, seniors outside of their hometown face other inconveniences. About 61.6 percent of the people surveyed by China Youth Daily said that it is difficult for them to return to their hometown to claim insurance payments because their medical and pension benefits are non-transferable.
New Homes

Teng and his wife, a couple in their early 60s, have a daughter they are proud of. Their daughter completed her graduate studies in Beijing and then began working at a research institute in the capital city. Now 37, she is a professor, earns a decent income and owns a reasonably large three-bedroom apartment.

Some years previously, she invited her parents to come to Beijing from their rural hometown in Shandong Province to enjoy a good life with her. However, her parents declined as they still had to take care of their crops and livestock at home.

Then about three years ago, after the daughter gave birth to a boy, the Teng couple decided to come to Beijing to take care of the baby.

While his wife is busy with baby-sitting, Teng has little to do and feels bored. As something of an introverted person, he seldom talks to neighbors. He often sits in the yard, smoking.

Teng enjoys watching his grandson growing up day by day, yet he said that other than that, he has little enjoyment in life. He particularly dislikes the smog and heavy traffic in Beijing. He misses the green fields and fresh air of his hometown.

Compared with Teng, 76-year-old Zhang is comfortable with her life in Beijing. Zhang came from Daqing City in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province. She came to Beijing five years ago, shortly before her daughter gave birth.

Now living with her daughter in Beijing’s Haidian District, Zhang has been taking care of her granddaughter, as well as cooking and cleaning at home. She enjoys teaching her granddaughter how to sing and draw.

Zhang has her own social circle in Beijing. She often discusses how to best look after children with other older women and she has made many friends since coming to Beijing. In the morning, she usually gets up early, and exercises together with other senior people. She particularly enjoys taijijian, a form of Tai Chi that uses swords. She also joins other seniors for group dancing. At the weekends, she sometimes plays mahjong and sometimes does some grocery shopping. Other times she visits parks with other seniors.

Zhang admits that she misses her hometown, especially in summer, as it is hotter in Beijing compared to Daqing. Although in Beijing, she has a much more spacious apartment. Her husband passed away years ago, but her two sons still live in her hometown with their now grown-up children. She said that she misses them too.

Not all elders coming to Beijing from their hometown to take care of their grandchildren. Wu, from Shandong, is in her early 60s, and is looking after a man now in his 90s in Shangdi Community, Haidian District.

Wu’s husband died in a traffic accident when she was 47. Ever since, she has raised her three sons by herself. Wu, still in good health, does not want to live off any of her sons’ money.

Wu is hardworking and frugal. Even though she can live reasonably well with her salary as a nanny, she still tours the community from time to time to collect recyclable garbage and sells this to make a little extra. She said that she wishes to make more money.

Under Another’s Roof

Living with their children, some migrant seniors do not feel at home. Differences in
lifestyle and in child-rearing customs sometimes lead to conflicts between migrant elders and their children or children-in-law.

Liu, a retired pharmacist from Shandong, moved to Beijing four years ago to look after her daughter’s newborn son. She likes to tidy up the house. However, she frustrates her daughter, who often has difficulty locating the items that Liu has stored away.

Another source of tension in the family is the grandson’s love of candy, which he often asks for. Not wanting to reject the boy’s requests, Liu often gives him something sweet when he asks. The practice is often protested by her daughter who believes sweets will diminish his appetite for other more nutritious food.

Compared with the relationship between mother and daughter, that between a mother and her daughter-in-law has traditionally been more strained. Zhu, a woman in her 50s, has a rough time living with her son and his wife, both in their late 20s, in a rented apartment in Tiantongyuan Community, Changping District.

Zhu came to Beijing from east China’s Jiangsu Province to take care of her granddaughter, leaving behind her husband and their farm. Zhu is unhappy that rather than being paid to look after the baby, the young couple often asks her to pay for the family’s daily expenses, including groceries.

Many migrant elders feel that they have sacrificed a lot for their children’s family, and they can be very sensitive to their children’s words and get upset easily. Lin Zi, a psychological counselor and founder of Shanghai-headquartered Linzi Counseling, told Beijing Morning Post.

Nowadays, as China’s social security system improves, more and more seniors are capable of financial independence, yet some of them suffer from mental health problems because their psychological needs cannot be met, said Mu Guangzong, a professor specializing in aging problems with the Institute of Population Research, Peking University.

“Various sectors should pay more attention to migrant seniors,” said Qi, the researcher with the Beijing Academy of Social Sciences. He said that no matter how busy they are, children should spend more time communicating with their elderly parents, and encourage them to make new friends.

“Similarly, the government should reduce policy barriers so that seniors can claim medical and social security payments in their new residency,” Qi said. He also suggests that seniors themselves should be more open-minded and actively adapt to the new living environment.

Some communities have organized activities open to migrant seniors. For instance, the Anningzhuang Community in Beijing’s Haidian District holds group dance competitions and sports meetings, which are also open to migrant seniors.

This summer, the Beijing Municipal Government granted migrant seniors who have resided in the capital for more than six months preferential treatment usually enjoyed by local seniors. For instance, seniors above the age of 65 can take a bus and visit parks and museums for free.
Zhu Weiqun Talks about Dalai Clique's Instigation of Self-Immolations with Italian Reporter

On Oct. 22, 2013, Zhu Weiqun, director of the Committee for Ethnic and Religious Affairs of the Chinese Peoples’ Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) talked in an interview to Federica Bianchi, the reporter of l’Espresso, an Italian newspaper in Rome, Italy and answered questions on the relationship between the Dalai clique and issues of self-immolations in Tibet as follows:

**Reporter:** Have any changes taken place in China’s ethnic and religious policies since Mr. Xi became the Chinese president?

**Zhu:** Formed in the long-time practice of the revolution and construction of the Communist Party of China (CPC), and shaped by generations of China’s leaders led by Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping respectively, China’s religious and ethnic policies will continue as they are regardless of the change in leadership. Basic policies are consistent including ethnic equality, regional ethnic autonomy, support to boost socio-economic development of ethnic areas, protection of ethnic cultures, training of ethnic minority cadres and freedom of religious belief. The only change if any, would be the strengthened support to the ethnic minority areas for their socio-economic development and improvement of people’s life.

**Reporter:** In terms of protection of human rights, I am afraid that China has achieved a success. If it were, it is only successful in controlling local people than in its ethnic and religious policies. I think in recent years, China has been, intensifying its control over Tibet and Xinjiang, causing situations there to deteriorate continuously. Why does China insist on these policies instead of loosening them even a bit?

**Zhu:** First of all, I should say that your judgment of what has happened in Tibet and Xinjiang is quite different from the real situation there. Like other provinces, Xinjiang and Tibet have been undergone a fast economic growth, with their main indicators of economic growth rate higher than the national average. What distinguishes the two areas from the other areas in China is that either of these areas has its separatists. Tibet has the Dalai clique, and Xinjiang has East Turkestan Islamic Movement.

If you say our control is stricter over the activities of the two separatist groups mentioned above, whose separatist activities have intensified, I would say yes. But if you say we “exercised control over our people of various ethnic groups there”, that is totally not true. We do have taken some measures to fight against separatists, which shouldn’t be made a fuss because any country under these circumstances would do the same to safeguard its law and fundamental interests of its people.

For example, we took measures in a few places in the intersection area between provinces of Sichuan, Gansu and Qinghai to repress self-immolations instigated by the
Dalai clique and to crack down on those scheming for more self-immolations. By now self-immolations have been suppressed, otherwise, people’s well-being and safety cannot be guaranteed. So it is good if the separatists, especially those who instigated self-immolations feel suppressed. Some politicians and reporters mistake the Dalai clique for the representative of the Tibetans, and the East Turkestan Islamic Party for the Uyghurs, which is absolutely wrong. Since they hold this wrong view on this issue, they take the wrong and opposite stand of everything.

Reporter: In my view, a normal person in a normal country would not immolate himself. The reason why he burned himself is that he has discontent, unhappiness and anger at the bottom of his heart.

Zhu: During this trip to Europe, I’ve been waiting for someone to ask me this question, but you are the first one. I think probably the frequent self-immolations in a few places have already been put down completely, thus it has no meaning to raise such a question for those journalists.

Reporter: It is the first time I’ve the opportunity to raise such a question to a top Chinese leader.

Zhu: First, I need to say that the self-immolations did not happen just like the rumors the Dalai clique had spread: “the whole Tibet has been burning”. In fact, incidents of self-immolations mainly happened in the junction of the three provinces I have mentioned above, especially concentrated in the Kirti Monastery located in the Aba Tibetan-Qiang Autonomous Prefecture of southwest China’s Sichuan Province. The Kirti Rinpoche from the Kirti Monastery escaped with the Dalai Lama after their failed armed rebellion in 1959. He served successively as the Minister of Education and the Minister of Security in the exiled government. The Ministry of Security could not be a department in charge of chanting Buddhist scriptures, so actually it is a secret agency. According to the Voice of Tibet based in Norway and the other Dalai Lama’s media reports, in March 5, 2013, the Kirti Rinpoche claimed in Switzerland that the self-immolated Tibetans in China had dedicated their lives to the well-being and interests of the Tibetan people. Therefore, the self-immolation is “nonviolent” and that the self-immolators’ sacrifices “did not violate the Buddhist doctrines at all”. The invisible power of Tibetans exactly comes from self-immolations. This is the real reason why self-immolations happened.

Owing to the oppositions by all the Chinese people including Tibetans, and condemnation by many international media about the scheming of the self-immolations, the Dalai clique cannot push forward self-immolation any longer. You have mentioned that self-immolation won’t happen in a country in the normal state. In fact, you put the blame on our policies and work. If that was true, why self-immolation didn’t happen in Tibet and other vast Tibetan-inhabited areas? Why did the self-immolations not continue any more? This is simply because self-immolations were plotted and instigated by the Dalai clique. It happened many times only in the places which are strongly influenced by the Dalai Lama.

Reporter: So all the bad deed is caused by the Dalai Lama?

Zhu: In some sense, you are right! I have every reason to prove that the Dalai Lama instigated the self-immolations. First, by his religious status and influence, the Dalai Lama attempts to put pressure on the Chinese
government and forces it give in politics by means of self-immolations with the ultimate goal of repeating another so-called “Arab Spring” Movement initiated by the self-immolation of a Tunisian vendor in Tibet.

**Reporter:** The Chinese government is indeed concerned about the “Arab Spring” and afraid that the same incident would happen in China.

**Zhu:** The Dalai Lama does hope that the “Arab Spring” could repeat itself in China, but we are not worried about it at all because there is no possibility for that to happen. On Nov.18, 2011, the Dalai Lama said when talking with the BBC, “the reason why Tibetans resort to a hopeless means to burn themselves is because they know the western countries support the ‘Arab Spring’, which was trigged by the self-immolation.” In the meanwhile, he blamed the western countries for “speaking with China in a soft tone.”

On Nov.10, 2012, the Huffington Post wrote that “Lobsang Sangay said self-immolation is a way of protest just like the self-immolation incident in Tunisia which ultimately triggered the Arab Spring. According to a report on The DuoWei News on Feb.4, 2013, Lobsang Sangay pointed out in an assembly that “since the self-immolation incident in Tunisia accelerated the Arab Spring, then why didn’t we win as much support as the people in the Arab world?” Obviously, he is dissatisfied with some Western forces for giving him less support.

Secondly, it is the Dalai Lama who takes advantage of his religious influence to offer spiritual support to Tibetans and finally tricked them into setting themselves on fire.

On Oct.8, 2012, the Dalai Lama told a reporter with National Broadcasting Company (NBC), “I’m pretty sure that the self-immolators sacrificed themselves with sincere motive. In Buddhism, it is positive since it is for the sake of Buddha dharma and the human being.”

On Nov.7 of the same year, the so-called “Tibetan People’s Parliament” of the government in-exile issued a statement that “the self-immolation is a peaceful and non-violent action in the highest realm.” Besides, the “Tibet Religious Foundation of the Dalai Lama” described self-immolation as a lofty, altruistic and compassionate act, which could gain merits and virtues”. However, it is strange that the victims were all young men or monks in their teens or twenties and not a single rich man or a senior lama who dares to burn himself to win such a great fame.

**Reporter:** In every social change or so-called revolution, no rich man or anybody with higher social position chooses to kill or burn himself, so I don’t think your example is strong enough to support your viewpoint. For example, the riot occurred in Rome two days ago, the protestors were all young people living at the lowest level of the society. The rich will never take to the street to join them.

**Zhu:** It is true that the young people may carry out the violent and terrorist crimes directly. But the key problem lies in those behind the scene who deceived the young by saying that self-immolation is a Bodhisattva behavior. What if someone tells you that it is a lofty behavior to burn yourself for the sake of my religion, what kind of person do you think he or she is?

**Reporter:** I agree with you. The leaders will never sacrifice themselves in any revolution in history. They need to play the leadership role while those at the lowest level of the society will certainly play the role of the cannon fodder. Every revolution needs a leader to push it ahead.

**Zhu:** The Dalai Lama is such a “leader”
who takes advantage of his religion to manipulate people’s mind and cheat them. Can you find in this world any other religious leaders who encourage their followers to set themselves alight to fulfill their own political purposes and call it a religious practice?

Reporter: That is exactly what the Al Qaeda does!

Zhu: So the Al Qaeda is a terrorist organization. But if you stand for the Al Qaeda, there is no need for further talk between us.

Reporter: I was wrong about the Al Qaeda example.

Zhu: Your words shocked me because I supposed you regard the Dalai Lama equivalent to the Al Qaeda. Historically, it was not rare to express religious belief by suicidal acts. But in the modern society, probably no religious organization takes self-immolation and suicide as symbols of purity and dignity. If there is, it must be the organization like the “Al Qaeda”.

I would like to continue with the third reason why self-immolations are instigated by the Dalai clique. By far, these self-immolation issues in Tibetan-inhibited areas have generally been resolved. Many of those immolators arrested confessed that they were sent from Dharamsala to organize self-immolations.

Those suspects have been punished by law and the criminal cases have been published on China’s media. A typical case is the notorious “Self-immolation Guidebook” published on the Internet by Lhamogya£¬a “congressman” who has served two terms for the Dalai clique headquartered in Dharamsala. The book detailed self-immolation in four steps, including mind control, preparations, shouting slogans and ways to deal with other activities. Many self-immolation acts were guided by this book.

Reporter: I want to mention the Lhasa riot happened in March, 2008. I think it was a riot across Tibet. Why were armed forces used? It shows that people’s anger have gone to a certain extent, otherwise it was not necessary to resort to armed forces.

Zhu: Do you know what had happened in Lhasa on that day? Altogether 18 ordinary people were beaten and burned to death, several thousand were injured, among whom hundreds of them were badly wounded by separatists and terrorists within half a day. After that happened, why didn’t we use arms? The armed forces are obliged to safeguard our homeland security, especially to deal with the violent and terrorist acts for “Tibet independence”. If such incident happens again, we would take the same decisive measures again. I want to emphasize that a big majority of the people and cadres in the Tibet-inhabited areas support the central government, therefore, it was why we could quell the incident within such a short period of time.

Reporter: But still there are two phenomena which struck me given what you said is correct about the relationship between the Chinese central government and the Tibetan people. The first is the changing population. When the People’s Republic of China was founded in 1949, the Han population constituted 65 percent, while the minority 35 percent of the whole Chinese population. But my data shows that now the Han population has risen to 96 percent, while the population of the ethnic minority fell down to only four percent. The above two figures can well reflect China’s policies on ethnic minorities.

Second, I noticed that almost all the newly-built houses of ordinary herders were
the same when I was once arranged to visit the Tibetan-inhibited areas at the invitation of the Chinese government, I wondered whether the Tibetan culture has been lost. And should this cultural loss be attributed to China’s ethnic minority policies?

Zhu: What’s the source of your figures?

Reporter: It just occurred to me. The figures came from a certain document of the Party School of the CPC as a successful example of national amalgamation.

Zhu: Your figures are completely wrong without any authoritative source. The fact is that the ethnic population has been nearly 10 percent of China’s total since the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 1949. And there has never been such a figure as high as 35 percent. The latest census of China showed that the population of ethnic minorities is 110 million, taking up 8.49 percent of the whole population, not four percent as you just mentioned. As a reporter, you must find the correct source when referring to figures.

Reporter: In fact, China encourages the ethnic Han to move to the remote and border areas.

Zhu: According to the law of China, the Chinese citizens are not restricted to move freely within its territory. Late Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping once said, Tibet is a vast area, and it is very difficult to develop Tibet only by the two million Tibetan compatriots themselves. There is no disadvantage for the Han people to go to help them for Tibet’s development. I think it is applicable to the whole country.

The Chinese central government has organized and dispatched many technicians and workers to help with the development of the ethnic minorities-inhabited areas for a long time. It is very necessary for economically underdeveloped areas like Xinjiang and Tibet to accelerate their development, which has been open to the public with nothing to hide. After the reform and opening-up of China, the new situation is that the people’s residence registration is not that important. Many inland people have been to Xinjiang and Tibet to do business and seek their opportunities, meanwhile, Xinjiang and Tibetan people have moved to the inland area for their own development. This is the normal exchange between each nationality and different regions. No one has the right to close our citizens within their own traditionally inhabited areas.

The fact is that the percentage of the Tibetan people in Tibet is over 90 percent, and the percentage of ethnic minorities in Xinjiang especially the Uyghur nationality is rising. The percentage of Uyghur nationality in southern Xinjiang is also more than 90 percent. This situation won’t change much in a long time.

In my opinion, the blame is absurd that “building houses for farmers and herdsmen has destroyed their nomadic culture”. It has been a progress for human beings to move from nomadic areas to agricultural settlement, and then to the modern industrial cities. If someone enjoys the modern life in the city but asks our Tibetan compatriots to live a nomadic life without tap water, electricity, schools and hospitals, it is a true violation of human rights.

Reporter: Living in the new houses, they cannot move freely and their livestock cannot go to the grassland.

Zhu: Most areas of Tibet have entered the agricultural society. Our new housing project aims to help farmers rebuild their houses and change their bad living conditions with their livestock, but their residence and surrounding environment has not changed.
Two measures have been taken to help herdsmen in the Tibetan-inhabited areas of Sichuan Province. The first one is that over 1,490 herders’ settlements with water and electricity have been set up for the herdsmen to live in winter. The second one is that each household has gotten a new tent equipped with nine facilities like solar power satellite TV, milk separator and foldable steel beds. The herdsmen can live in their settlements in winter and go out to herd animals with tents after winter.

Just now you talked about the cultural genocide. Tibetan culture is an important treasure of the Chinese culture. We value it so much that it is impossible for us to let it go extinct deliberately by taking some measures. The government has helped the farmers and herdsmen to build new houses and settlements, which hasn’t changed their living style or culture, for the new houses and settlements have been built in their traditional residential zones. With so many houses being built in such a short period of time, it is hard to avoid the same design. It happened in other inland projects, so it is no surprise at all.

Reporter: Why it is so rushed to finish these projects?
Zhu: You have no idea of the harsh conditions of the traditional nomadic life. Farmers and herdsmen have been longing for the government to assist them to improve their living conditions. It is normal for them to have some dissatisfaction of the new houses. But all the people I have met are happy to live in their new houses.

Reporter: If a Tibetan person said that he didn’t want to live here, can he choose not to live in the new settlement?
Zhu: I have never met such people, and I’m not sure if someone has expressed this wish to you. If none of our Tibetan compatriots has showed up the hatred towards the new house and modern life, why do you assume such thoughts on behalf of them? Why are you unwilling to see the truth that most Tibetan people welcome the new houses and new life?

Reporter: I mean that the Chinese people don’t really have the right to vote under the existing political system in China, so I made such an explanation.
Zhu: The Chinese people do have voting rights. It is only because our ways of election and decision-making are different from yours. We fully respect the democratic way chosen by the Italians, and won’t impose the Chinese democratic way upon you. But we also have no plan to deal with some affairs based on the western mode including the Italian. Our democratic way can make our people live a better life earlier, like helping Tibetan farmers and herdsmen live in better houses as quickly as possible. We can achieve fulfill that goal very soon.

Retired Dalai Lama Works Again?

Doreen Wang

(China Tibet Online 2013-12-02) On Nov. 15, the Dalai Lama arrived in Japan for his 17th visit. At the airport he told the media that the main purpose of his visit was not for
politics, and after two complete retired years, he would not promote any political activities.

In response to the Tibetans’ self-immolation issue, the 14th Dalai Lama said that he didn’t encourage self-immolations, but he faced a difficult situation, saying “if I were to ask them to stop, I’d have to have an alternative to offer and I don’t. So all I can do is pray”.

Indeed, the Dalai Lama is experiencing a tough situation at present. As an old man nearly 80 years old, he is busy visiting and giving speeches around the world although he has “retired” two years ago. No matter where he goes, his topic has never gone far from sensitive political issues related to Tibet. He still plays a role of the “spokesman” or an invisible decision maker of the Tibetans in-exile. Just like his visit to Japan, many conventional questions had been waiting for him before he exited the airport. For him, each appearance he makes is a political show in the cloak of a “retired” religious leader.

In fact, the 14th Dalai Lama has issued his statement about “retirement” many times, but failed to keep his promise again and again. According to his statement issued on a press conference held in India’s Kalimpong on Dec.14, 2010, he meant to retire from administrative affairs only. In his opinion, the 14th Dalai Lama will no longer sign for such things as managing the items of an account or making an announcement about holding a conference, just like “president” of a nation. And that is all about of his “retirement” life.

Why 14th Dalai Lama Decides to “Retire”?

It is obvious that the Dalai Lama’s “retirement” is merely a farce to protect him when he realized the situation was against him. For example, the so-called “cabinet” resigned and the “parliament” was forced to be dismissed in 1991 due to a series of violence triggered by the frequent exposures of corruption of the Dalai clique.

To ease the conflict, the Dalai Lama declared that he would “semi-retire” form post. However, the fact proved that the Dalai Lama still has the final say in all major decisions of his clique.

In 2008, the internal contradiction of the Dalai clique became even worse after their failures to sabotage the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, so the Dalai Lama again put forward his “semi-retirement” scheme and planned to “retire totally”.

Since the Dalai Lama announced his plan to “step down as the political head of the exiled Tibetan government” on March 10, 2011, he had visited many countries and given too much “no-political-purpose” speeches and statements.

In fact, to retire or not is out of his own decision. If he refuses to take any further part in Tibetan affairs, how about those guys who have lived on “independence of Tibet movement” led by him?

Therefore, we can say that whether the Dalai Lama retires or not, the political nature of the Dalai Lama and his followers’ theocracy and splittism will never change, and the factual status of the Dalai Lama among his followers will never change. If his retirement can really bring back the downfall destiny of the Dalai Lama’s clique, the Dalai Lama would have retired long before. Why would he even bother holding up his position till today? Therefore, we don’t have to take the Dalai Lama’s retirement so seriously because he has never completely retired.
**World’s Highest 10-MW PV Power Station Completed in Tibet**

Lhasa, Nov. 21 (Xinhua) — Construction of Ngari Photovoltaic (PV) Power Station, the world’s highest 10-MW PV power station, is complete and test runs are underway, a company source said Thursday.

The PV power station in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, is a joint investment between the central government and Guodian Longyuan Tibet New Energy Co., Ltd., with a total installed capacity of 10 MW and an expected working life of 25 years.

Just 3 kilometers away from the center of Shiquanhe Township, seat of Ngari Prefecture, at 4,270 meters above sea level with an area of 357 mu (23.8 hectares), construction began on the site on July 1, 2012.

Tibet has abundant solar energy with more than 3,000 hours of sunshine annually. PV power stations have been built in the regional capital of Lhasa and Xigaze.

**Tibet’s 1st Extradosed Bridge Opened to Traffic**

Lhasa, Nov. 27 (Xinhua) — The first extradosed bridge in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region opened to traffic on Wednesday amid expectations that it will boost local tourism.

The 1.28-km-long Ngaqen Bridge above the Lhasa River in the eastern suburbs of the regional capital Lhasa, has six lanes and a 33-meter-wide roadbed, and is designed to accommodate vehicles at speeds of 60 km per hour.

Construction began on the bridge in March 2011. It cost about 370 million yuan (60.3 million U.S. dollars).

Soinam Lhamo, a resident of Ngaqen Township, said it used to take about an hour and a half to get to eastern Lhasa’s Dagze County from Ngaqen as the journey required a detour via the Newu Bridge in the western suburbs of the city.

With the new bridge in use, it will only take 10 minutes to get to Dagze, said the Tibetan, who also voiced appreciation for the Tibetan-style design of the bridge.

It links a national highway and is expected to ease the pressure of traffic to downtown Lhasa and boost local tourism and freight transport, according to local officials.

An extradosed bridge employs a design that is hybrid between a girder bridge and a cable-stayed bridge.
China Makes Key Progress in Tibetan Medicine Study

Xining, Dec. 7 (Xinhua) — Chinese scientists said great progress has been made in quality control technologies and standardization of traditional Tibetan medicine after 20 years of research.

A total of 264 criteria for Tibetan medicine processing have been completed since the “key technologies and applications in Tibetan medicine quality control” program was launched in 1993, said Wei Lixin, one of the project’s researchers.

Researchers referred to medical theories in ancient books and techniques from the provinces of Qinghai, Gansu and Sichuan and from Tibet Autonomous Region for their research, according to Wei, researcher of the Tibetan medicine research center of the Northwest Institute of Plateau Biology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The overall technical system for quality control has been built to upgrade the Tibetan medicine industry, said Wei on Friday at a project appraisal seminar in Xining, capital of northwest China’s Qinghai Province.

The Xining-based institute is the research project’s major undertaker. “Over the past three years, the results of the research have been applied in eight Tibetan medicine companies, helping them realize sales revenue of 1.1 billion yuan (177 million U.S. dollars),” said Wei.

The study has solved some bottle-neck problems hindering the development of Tibetan medicine, and some achievements have reached advanced international levels, according to domestic experts from universities, hospitals and medicine quality watchdogs at the seminar.

Tibetan medicine, also known as Sowa Rigpa in the Tibetan language, is at least 2,300 years old. It has absorbed the influences of traditional Chinese, Indian and Arab medicine and is in practice in Tibet and the Himalayan region.

Housing Project Eases Tibetans’ Life, Posing No Harm to Culture

by Ellen Liu

(China Tibet Online2013-12-02) Dorje, 59, from northern Tibet’s Nagqu moved into a new house with his 92-year-old mother. For the first time in their life, they live in a house with a living room, bedroom, kitchen and storeroom as well as tap water and electricity.

On the Changtang pastureland of north Tibet’s Naqqu Prefecture, rows of new houses have taken place of the black tents—the traditional residential places of Tibetan herders. By September 36,000 new houses have been completed—an amounting to 69 percent of the total in the housing project initiated by China’s central government for
The Tibet Autonomous Region in 2006, according to Tibet Daily.

The White Paper on Development and Progress of Tibet published by the Information Office of China’s State Council on Oct. 22 indicated that all farmers and herdsmen are expected to move into safe and comfortable houses by 2013.

Sonam Phuntsog, party secretary of Dongkar Township of Nang County said, the Zhuo Village used to be located half way on the mountain, an area stricken frequently by landslides. Thanks to the government’s housing policy, the village has relocated to a safer site and villagers built up new houses for themselves.

The 40-year-old villager Gyakor with a dumb husband and two little children lived in a dilapidated house. The housing project enabled the Gyakor’s to move to a government subsidized house and grow cash crops such as walnuts and red pepper, by which their income has increased.

The Sonam Dawas and Their Grandson

Text & Photo by Hou Miaomiao

On the afternoon of July 2, 2012, accompanied by my interpreter, I visited the home of Sonam Dawa and his wife Tsering Drolkar. It was less than 200 meters from the Namseling village committee.

This was an unplanned interview. What led us here was that I had asked my interpreter to take me to a family with elders. For over two hours, we sat in the little courtyard of Sonam’s home and listened to
him talk about his family.

There were eight people, spanning four generations, in the family. The 48-year-old Sonam Dawa and his 46-year-old wife Tsering Drolkar, Tsering Drolkar’s 80-year-old mother Jonga Drama, Tsering Drolkar’s two single brothers, the Sonams’ two daughters (who are 22 and 21) and the Sonams’ grandson, who is just 15 months old.

Both Sonam Dawa and his wife had primary school education. Sonam Dawa is the group leader of the 2nd Group of Namseling village. The floor area of his house is 256 square meters, and the homestead is 496 square meters. There are five rooms: the Sonam Dawas and their grandson have one, Sonam Dawa’s mother-in-law and one brother of Tsering Drolkar have one, the couple’s younger daughter and another brother of Tsering Drolkar also occupy one…and there is also a guest room.

Sonam Dawa told us that they have indoor plumbing in the house now, including tap water. But a water shortage still exists in summer. The water supply sometimes only flows in the mornings and evenings but not during the rest of the day. On days like that, they have to borrow water from their neighbors.

In 2011, their total household income was 27,800 Yuan: 10,000 was made by Tsering Drolkar’s brother by working out of town, and another 10,000 was made by the couple’s younger daughter on construction jobs. About 4000 was made by Tsering Drolkar’s other brother by herding sheep… sales of pork and rape earned 1000 and 1300 respectively. There is also Tsering Drolkar’s little brother, who works in the Publicity Department of Gonggar County and gave the family 1500. Domestically, the family spent 1000 on food, 2500 on clothing, 2570 on home appliances, 6000 on festivities and entertainment, 8000 on education, and 1000 on gifts. On farm production, besides the big tractor purchased in 2002, from 2009 to 2011 they bought a small tractor, a thrasher, a winnowing machine, and a harvester. The family managed 1.27 ha. of land contracted to collectives and 66.7 square meters of greenhouses, cultivating staple crops and cash crops such as highland barley, wheat, rape and potatoes.

In Sonam Dawa’s eyes, life has become much better in recent years. In the past, the whole family could survive on as little as 500 to 600 Yuan for a year but now that is impossible because their living standards have improved a lot; they have better housing and better food, but there have been price
rises. It used to be enough if everyone had adequate food and clothing, but now they need proper attention to nutrition too and try to maintain a balanced diet with eggs, meat, and vegetables. They have meat on the dinner table for nine months of the year (except for April, May, and June by the Tibetan calendar, when their cattle are growing). They have four cows, two pigs, thirty-two sheep, three goats, and six chickens. Most of them are for the family’s own consumption, only a small number will be sold. They are also self-sufficient in dairy products.

Tsering Drolkar told us that the whole family had joined a new cooperative medical system, but only her mother had joined a rural social pension insurance. Her husband has high blood pressure, which is common on the plateau. He also has some eye problems, as well as a stomach condition made worse by smoking. Her knees often hurt and she has fainting spells for unknown reasons. The doctors from the county hospital treat them only occasionally, instead of them going to the hospital to have a thorough check-up. When asked why, Tsering Drolkar answered “economic concerns”.

We did not meet Tsering Drolkar’s two brothers during our visit. Sonam Dawa said that they were both mute and still unmarried; one of them has gone out of town to work, the other is herding sheep. Sonam Dawa’s elder daughter is in college in Lhasa. She is smart, diligent, and independent. Their youngest daughter went out to work at an early age. She used to work in Lhasa, now she has a job in Samye Town. The sleeping boy is the son of their youngest daughter. Out of curiosity, I asked where his father is since his mother is not around at the moment. Uncle Sonam sighed, “The boy does not have a father.”

When speaking of his grandson, Sonam Dawa’s tone was full of affection. Initially, his younger daughter dropped out of junior high school and helped with the farming work at home, later she went to Lhasa to work, met and fell in love with the father of the child. Later they broke up, but she found out she was pregnant, so she gave birth to her son as a single mother, sent the boy back home, and went back to work again. Sonam said, “My daughter said that she would work to support the family. In the future, when her son grew up, the two of them would take care of us because by that time we would be old.”

I could not come up with a quick reply to that. Instead, I did some counting in my head of how many elderly people there would be in the family then. It would indeed be a heavy burden for the mother and son when that day finally comes. Sonam Dawa laughs a lot during our chats, even when he was talking...
about hard times. He is a tough, masculine man with a warm, tender heart.

With the help of my interpreter, I was able to understand Sonam Dawa’s account:

“My wife and I do farm work every day at home, and I am responsible for some irrigation matters in the village. We also have to look after my mother-in-law. My father-in-law died of lung disease more than 10 years ago. My mother-in-law has stomach disease, knee and spine complaints, but she does not like to go to the hospital because years ago when her husband was being treated in the hospital, his condition did not improve at all.”

“Our family used to be very poor. Our elder daughter got better grades, so we kept her in school. Our younger daughter dropped out of school at the age of 14 and helped us with the farming work at home. Later she went to Lhasa to help support the family as well as her sister’s education. She has worked as a gardener, and now works on a construction site in Samye Town where she makes 50 Yuan a day. She has been there for just over a month and hasn’t been back yet. She said she won’t get married, because if she does, there’ll be no one left at home to take care of us elders. We don’t want to marry her off to someone else but if she does get married, it would be best if her husband could come to live with us. However the fact is that she is already the mother of a child, so it won’t be easy. Ultimately, it is her decision. In the past, marriages were usually arranged and the opinion of the parents mattered the most. Nowadays, parents listen to their children on this matter. We have not done anything to find her a husband because we don’t know if she’ll like the person we choose and we don’t want to take the blame if the marriage doesn’t work out.”

“The thing worries me most is not the marriage of my younger daughter, but the fact that five elderly people will have to be looked after by her someday. We have not thought of depending on our elder daughter, since she has not yet graduated from college. We don’t know her plans after college. Maybe she’ll stay in the city. We certainly won’t pressure her to return. Of course, if the two girls can join hands to take care of us together, that would be best. We are getting older day by day, and financially we also find it more and more difficult. Although we do not have to pay for our elder daughter’s education (she goes to a tuition-free teacher’s college), we do provide for her living expenses, which is a big burden for us anyway. There are many elders in the family, so are often in financial difficulties. A brother of my wife went out to work, and to a large extent the whole family relies on his wage. How nice it would be if we had two or three young men here, but the family planning policy stipulates that one couple can only have two children, otherwise we would have had more children. Many hands make light work. Some can help with the farming while others can go out to work.”

The little grandson of Tsering Drolkar, just waking up from his nap.
**Instructions for Chinese Visa Application**

*(Effective from September 1, 2013)*

What is the main purpose of your visit to China and which is the most appropriate visa category for your application?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visa Categories</th>
<th>Description of Visa</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Issued to foreign crew members of means of international transportation, including aircraft, trains and ships, or motor vehicle drivers engaged in cross-border transport activities, or to the accompanying family members of the crew members of the above-mentioned ships.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to reside in China permanently.</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to go to China for exchanges, visits, study tours and other activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to transit through China.</td>
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<tr>
<td>J1</td>
<td>Issued to resident foreign journalists of foreign news organizations stationed in China. The intended duration of stay in China exceeds 180 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J2</td>
<td>Issued to foreign journalists who intend to go to China for short-term news coverage. The intended duration of stay in China is no more than 180 days.</td>
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<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to go to China as a tourist.</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to go to China for commercial and trade activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Issued to those who are family members of Chinese citizens or of foreigners with Chinese permanent residence and intend to go to China for family reunion, or to those who intend to go to China for the purpose of foster care. The intended duration of stay in China exceeds 180 days. “Family members” refers to spouses, parents, sons, daughters, spouses of sons or daughters, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandsons, granddaughters and parents-in-law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to visit their relatives who are Chinese citizens residing in China or foreigners with permanent residence in China. The intended duration of stay in China is no more than 180 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Issued to those who are high-level talents or whose skills are urgently needed in China.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S1</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to go to China to visit the foreigners working or studying in China to whom they are spouses, parents, sons or daughters under the age of 18 or parents-in-law, or to those who intend to go to China for other private affairs. The intended duration of stay in China exceeds 180 days.</td>
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**Visa Categories**

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<th>Visa Categories</th>
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<tr>
<td>S2</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to visit their family members who are foreigners working or studying in China, or to those who intend to go to China for other private matters. The intended duration of stay in China is no more than 180 days. “family members” refers to spouses, parents, sons, daughters, spouses of sons or daughters, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandsons, granddaughters and parents-in-law.</td>
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<tr>
<td>X1</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to study in China for a period of more than 180 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X2</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to study in China for a period of no more than 180 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z</td>
<td>Issued to those who intend to work in China.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here are the documents you shall prepare before submission of visa application:

1. **Basic Documents and Reminders**

   (1) **Passport**
   
   Original passport with at least six months of remaining validity, at least 2 blank visa pages, a photocopy of the passport’s data page and the photo page if it is separate. For multiple-visa application, the remaining validity of the passport must cover the validity of visa and the duration of stay. For example, if applying for a visa with 6 months validity, multiple entries, and 30 days of each stay, the remaining validity of the passport should be at least 7 months.

   (2) **Visa Application Form and Photo**
   
   One completed Visa Application Form (2013) with a recently-taken color passport photo (bare-head, full face) against a light background attached.

   (3) **Proof of legal stay or residence status (applicable to those who are not of Indian citizenship).**
   
   The applicant from a third country should provide valid Indian visa or valid Residence Permit in India and its copy, and fill up the Additional Application Form. In case the applicant from a third country staying in India with a short-term visa, a note verbale (with details as follows: applicant’s name, passport number, occupation, purpose to go to China, duration of stay in China) by the Embassy or Consulate-General of his/her own country is required.

   (4) **Photocopy of previous Chinese passports or previous Chinese visas (applicable to those who were Chinese citizens and have obtained foreign citizenship).**
   
   If you are applying for a Chinese visa for the first time, you should provide your previous Chinese passport and a photocopy of its data page.

   If you have obtained Chinese visas before and want to apply for a Chinese visa with a renewed foreign passport that does not contain any Chinese visa, you should present the photocopy of the previous passport’s data page and the photo page if it is separate, as well as the previous Chinese visa page. (If your name on the current passport differs from that on the previous one, you must provide an official document of name change.)
(5) The Visa Application Form shall be signed by the applicant. In case the applicant is a person without or with limited capacity for civil conduct, the application form should be signed by his/her guardian on his/her behalf. If the form is filled out by entrusted travel/visa agent, both the applicant’s signature and the stamp of the agent are required.

(6) Child of Chinese descent born either in China or in India applies for a Chinese visa for the first time, the Birth Certificate with his/her parents’ names on, the original certificate for renunciation of Chinese nationality and its copy, and the statement written by his/her parents or guardian are required.

(7) Child of Chinese descent born in a third country should make his/her Chinese visa application in his/her resident country if the Birth Certificate and the certificate for renunciation of Chinese nationality cannot be submitted.

(8) The applicant must be in India while making the application for a Chinese Visa. Otherwise, the applicant should take full consequences.

(9) Different types of visas will be issued according to applicants’ identities, purposes and activities. The applicant should not engage in activities not conform to the type of visa he/she is holding in China. Application should be made in line with the purpose of activity in China. Otherwise, the applicant should take full consequences.

(10) Fraud documents or false information provided by the applicant will result in rejection of individual application and disqualification of travel/visa agency to apply for Chinese visa.

(11) Ordinary passport holders are required to submit applications to the Chinese Visa Application Service Centre (CVASC) where CVASC is available.

(12) The Chinese Embassy and Consulates-General do not accept applications by post.

(13) The normal processing of Chinese visa takes about one to two weeks. The applicant should plan ahead. Any applicant who attempts to interfere with the office of Chinese Embassy or Consulates by using “my air ticket has been confirmed” as a pretext may likely result in the rejection of his/her visa application.

(14) In case of urgent service is provided at the approval of the Chinese Embassy or the Consulates-General, the applicant should pay extra fee accordingly.

(15) Applicants residing within consular district of Chinese Consulate-General in Kolkata and Mumbai are required to submit their applications to the respective Chinese Consulate-General in Kolkata and Mumbai. The consular district of the Chinese Consulate-General in Kolkata covers Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal. The consular district of the Chinese Consulate-General in Mumbai covers Maharashtra and Karnataka.

2. Supporting Documents

C Visa

(1) A letter of guarantee issued by a foreign transport company or an invitation letter issued by a relevant entity in China.

(2) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.
Note:
Non-regular scheduled flight, chartered flight, private plane must get the Aviation Permit before departure.

**D Visa**
(1) The original and photocopy of the Confirmation Form for Foreigners Permanent Residence Status issued by the Ministry of Public Security of China.
(2) Personal written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place of destination in China, name, address and contact number of the inviting/ contact company/ person).
(3) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

We kindly remind you that:
Holders of D Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/ entry administrations of public security organs under local people's governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners' residence permits.

**F Visa**
(1) An invitation letter issued by a relevant entity or individual in China. The invitation should contain:
   a. Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
   b. Information on the planned visit (purpose of visit, arrival and departure dates, place(s) to be visited, relations between the applicant and the inviting entity or individual, financial source for expenditures)
   c. Information on the inviting entity or individual (name, contact telephone number, address, official stamp, signature of the legal representative or the inviting individual)
(2) Personal or Company’s written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the inviting/ contact company or person).
(3) For a multiple entry visa application, copies of previous Chinese visas (on one A4 paper) are required.
(4) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

**G Visa**
(1) An onward air (train or ship) ticket with confirmed date and seat to the destination country or region.
(2) Personal or company’s written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the inviting/ contact company or person).
(3) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

**J1 Visa**
(1) Visa Notification Letter issued by the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China and an official letter issued by the media organization for which the journalist works.
(2) Applicants are required to contact the Press Section of the Chinese Embassy/ Consulate General in advance and complete relevant formalities.
We kindly remind you that:

Holders of J1 Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people’s governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners’ residence permits.

**J2 Visa**

(1) Visa Notification Letter issued by the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China or other authorized units in China and an official letter issued by the media organization for which the journalist works.

(2) Applicants should contact the press section of the Chinese Embassy/Consulate General in advance and complete the relevant formalities.

**L Visa**

(1) Documents showing the itinerary including air ticket booking record (round trip) and proof of a hotel reservation, etc. or an invitation letter issued by a relevant entity or individual in China. The invitation letter should contain:
   a. Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
   b. Information on the planned visit (arrival and departure dates, place(s) to be visited, etc.)
   c. Information on the inviting entity or individual (name, contact telephone number, address, official stamp, signature of the legal representative or the inviting individual)

(2) Personal written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the inviting/contact company/person); Certification letter from the working unit of the applicant (with details as follows: name and contact number of the working unit, the applicant’s income statement), or Original copy of recent 6-month bank statement of the applicant.

(3) If applicant repeatedly applies for tourist visa to China, the following information shall be covered in the personal statement: reasons for revisit, the places the applicant plans to visit this time and places he/she visited before.

(4) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

(5) If the applicants travel in China on a group basis, the invitation letter issued by the travel agency is required.

**M Visa**

(1) Documents on the commercial activity issued by a trade partner in China, or trade fair invitation relevant entity or individual. The invitation letter should contain:
   a. Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
   b. Information on the planned visit (purpose of visit, arrival and departure dates, place(s) to be visited, relations between the applicant and the inviting entity or individual, financial source for expenditures)
   c. Information on the inviting entity or individual (name, contact telephone number, address, official stamp, signature of the legal representative or the inviting individual).
For application of a multiple entry visa: copy of all previous Chinese visas (on one A-4 sized paper) should be attached.

Personal or company’s written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the inviting/ contact company or person).

Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

Q1 Visa
For family reunion, the following documents are required:

1. An invitation letter issued by a Chinese citizen or a foreign with a Chinese permanent residence permit who lives in China. The invitation letter should contain:
   a. Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
   b. Information on the visit (purpose of visit, intended arrival date, place(s) of intended residence, intended duration of residence, relations between the applicant and the inviting individual, financial source for expenditures)
   c. Information on the inviting individual (name, contact telephone number, address, official stamp, signature of legal representative or the inviting individual, etc.)

2. Photocopy of Chinese ID of the inviting individual or foreign passport and permanent residence permit.

3. Original and photocopy of certification (marriage certificate, birth certificate, certification of kinship issued by Public Security Bureau or notarized certification of kinship) showing the relationship of family members between applicant and inviting individual.

“Family members” refers to spouses, parents, sons, daughters, spouses of sons or daughters, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandsons, granddaughters and parents-in-law.

4. Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

For foster care, the following documents are required:

1. Foster entrustment notarization issued by Chinese Embassies/ Consulates General in foreign countries or Foster Care Power of Attorney notarized and authenticated in the country of residence or in China.

2. Original and photocopy of the consignor’s passport(s), as well as the original and photocopy of certification (marriage certificate, birth certificate, certification of kinship issued by Public Security Bureau or notarized certification of kinship) showing the relationship between parents and children.

3. A letter of consent on foster care issued by the trustee living in China who has agreed to provide foster care services and a photocopy of the ID of the trustee.

4. A photocopy of the certificate indicating the permanent residence status abroad of the parent(s) when the child was born, provided that either or both parents of the child are Chinese citizens.

5. Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

We kindly remind you that:
Holders of Q1 Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people’s governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners’ residence permits.

Q2 Visa
(1) An invitation letter issued by a Chinese citizen or a foreign citizen with a Chinese permanent residence permit who lives in China. The invitation letter should contain:
   a. Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
   b. Information on the visit (purpose of visit, arrival and departure dates, place(s) to be visited, relations between the applicant and the inviting individual, financial source for expenditures)
   c. Information on the inviting individual (name, contact number, address, signature, etc.)
(2) Photocopy of Chinese ID or foreign passport and permanent residence permit of the inviting individual.
(3) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

R Visa
(1) The applicant should submit relevant certification in accordance with relevant regulations, and meet the relevant requirements of the competent authorities of the Chinese government on high-level talents and individual personnel with special skills urgently needed by China.
(2) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

S1 Visa
(1) An invitation letter from the inviting individual (a foreigner who stays or resides in China for work or studies) which contains:
   a. Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
   b. Information on the visit (purpose of visit, arrival and departure dates, place of intended residence, relations between the applicant and the inviting individual, financial source for expenditures, etc.)
   c. Information on the inviting individual (name, contact telephone number, address, signature, etc.)
(2) A photocopy of the inviting individual’s passport and residence permit.
(3) Original and photocopy of certification (marriage certificate, birth certificate, certification of kinship issued by Public Security Bureau or notarized certification of kinship) showing the relationship of immediate family members between applicants and inviting individual.
   “Immediate family members” refers to spouses, parents, sons or daughters under the age of 18, parents-in-law.
(4) For private affairs, documentation identifying the nature of the private affairs such as marriage, inheritance, adoption, etc. should be provided as required by the consular officer.
(5) Personal written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the inviting person).
Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

We kindly remind you that:

Holders of S1 Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people's governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners' residence permits.

**S2-Visa**

For visiting family members for a short period, the following documents are required:

1. An invitation letter issued by the inviting individual (a foreigner who stays or resides in China for work or studies) which contains:
   a. Information on the applicant (full name, gender, date of birth, etc.)
   b. Information on the visit (purpose of visit, arrival and departure dates, place(s) to be visited, relations between the applicant and the inviting individual, financial source for expenditures, etc.)
   c. Information on the inviting individual (name, contact telephone number, address, signature, etc.)

2. A photocopy of the inviting individual’s (a foreigner who stays or lives in China for work or studies) passport and residence permit

3. Photocopy of certification (marriage certificate, birth certificate or notarized certification of kinship) showing the relationship of family members between the applicant and the inviting individual.

"Family members" refers to spouses, parents, sons, daughters, spouses of sons or daughters, brothers, sisters, grandparents, grandsons, granddaughters and parents-in-law.

4. For private affairs, documentation identifying the nature of the private affairs such as marriage, inheritance, adoption, should be provided as required by the consular officer.

**X1-Visa**

1. Original and photocopy of the Admission Letter issued by a school or other entities in China.

2. Original and photocopy of "Visa Application for Study in China" (Form JW201 or Form JW202).

3. Personal written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the school or entity of admission).

4. Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

We kindly remind you that:

Holders of X1 Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people's governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners' residence permits.

**X2-Visa**

1. Original and photocopy of Admission Notice issued by a school or other entities in China.
(2) Personal written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the school or entity of admission).

(3) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy or Consulate-General.

Z-Visa

(1) One of the following documents:
   a. Foreigners Employment Permit of the People’s Republic of China issued by Chinese government authorities for Human Resources and Social Security, as well as Invitation Letter of Duly Authorized Entity or Confirmation Letter of Invitation issued by relevant Chinese entities.
   b. Permit for Foreign Experts Working in China issued by the State Bureau of Foreign Experts as well as Invitation Letter of Duly Authorized Entity or Confirmation Letter of Invitation issued by relevant Chinese entities.
   c. Registration Certificate of Resident Representative Offices of enterprises of foreign countries(regions) issued by Chinese authorities of industrial and commercial administration, as well as Invitation Letter of Duly Authorized Entity or Confirmation Letter of Invitation issued by relevant Chinese entities as well as Invitation Letter of Duly Authorized Entity or Confirmation Letter of Invitation issued by relevant Chinese entities.
   d. An approval document for commercial performances issued by the Chinese government authorities for cultural affairs or Invitation Letter of Duly Authorized Entity or Confirmation Letter of Invitation issued by relevant Foreign Affairs Office of provincial governments of China.
   e. Letter of Invitation to Foreigners for Offshore Petroleum Operations in China issued by China National Offshore Oil Corporation;

(2) Personal written statement (covering letter with details as follows: place to visit, name, address and contact number of the inviting / contact company or person).

(3) Other documents required by the Chinese Embassy and Consulate-General.

We kindly remind you that:

Holders of Z Visa shall, within 30 days from the date of their entry, apply to the exit/entry administrations of public security organs under local people’s governments at or above the county level in the proposed places of residence for foreigners’ residence permits.

3. Special Reminder

(1) The invitation letter may be in the form of fax, photocopy or computer printout, but the consular officer may require the applicant to submit the original of the invitation letter.

(2) If necessary, the consular officer may require the applicant to provide other documents or supplementary materials, or require an interview with the applicant.

(3) The consular officer will decide on whether or not to issue the visa and on its validity, duration of stay and number of entries in light of specific conditions of the applicant.
## Flights Between India and China

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Airlines</th>
<th>Flight No.</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Dep.</th>
<th>Arr.</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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For more information, please refer to the original document.
### Flights Between India and China

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<tr>
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<th>Route</th>
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**Note:** Frequency: 1=Monday, 2=Tuesday,....,7=Sunday  
(+1): Flight arrives next day  
Departure & Arrival Times: In local time of departure / arrival destination  
The flight schedule is subject to change. Please refer to the airlines booking data for updates.

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<td>Ground Floor, C&amp;B Square, 127 Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (east), Mumbai 400069</td>
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<td>Tel:011-23321286/3332 Fax: 011-23721550</td>
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Reception for Readers of News From China

Readers of News From China (NFC) in Delhi join editing group of NFC for a group photo at the reception held in Chinese Embassy in India on Dec. 18, 2013.

Ms. Xie Liyan, editor of News From China and director of Press Section of Chinese Embassy delivers welcoming speech to the readers.

Free interaction between readers and editing group of News From China.

Young Readers from Jawaharlal Nehru University share impression of News From China with other readers.

Mr. B.C. Gupta, Senior reader of News From China and Secretary General of India-China Journalists Friendship Association expresses his opinion about the Magazine.
Beautiful China Promoted in Chandigarh

The campaign of Beautiful China proceeded from 5-7 December, 2013 in Chandigarh at CII Tourism Fest (www.ciitourismfest.com). Thousands of visitors from Chandigarh and its nearby regions in north India flocked to the Beautiful China Pavilion during the 3-day event. The huge LED screen, 3-D pictures wall and a large variety of China tourism brochures attracted enormous footfalls.

Since February 2013, the Beautiful China campaign has been carried out by CNTO in full swing in the Indian market. An increasing number of Indian travellers are showing strong interest in China as a tourist destination. At present, tremendous growth in outbound travels from India to China is being seen as great encouragement. From January to October 2013, the Indian arrivals to China were over 5.7 lakh, increasing more than 12.5% over the same period of last year.

Under this scenario, both China Eastern Airlines and China Southern Airlines decided recently to increase their Kolkata-Kunming and Delhi - Guangzhou flights. At CII Tourism Fest 2013 in Chandigarh, both the Airlines once again presented their flights and services towards the high-end market in north India.

The year of 2014 will be celebrated for the theme of “China-India friendly Exchanges”. CNTO is planning a series of travel and tourism activities to further strengthen friendship and understanding between people from both the countries.
A photo of beautiful scenery taken from South China’s Hunan Province.