Zhang Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress, meets with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, India, June 15, 2015.
Chinese Ambassador to India Mr. Le Yucheng met with Indian Vice President H.E. Mohammad Hamid Ansari in New Delhi on June 12 and exchanged views with him on China-India relations.

Chinese Ambassador Mr. Le Yucheng gave a keynote address at the Seminar on India-China Industrial Cooperation organised by Chinese Embassy and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in New Delhi on June 10.

Chinese Ambassador to India Mr. Le Yucheng met with Mr. Anoop Mishra, Secretary General of Lok Sabha of India on June 9 and exchanged views with him on bilateral relations.

Chinese Ambassador to India Mr. Le Yucheng met with Mr. Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairperson of National Institution for Transforming India Aayog (NITI Aayog) on June 11 and talked with him on China-India relations.

Mr. Le Yucheng, Chinese Ambassador to India met with Rahul Gandhi, Vice-President of the Indian National Congress (INC) party on June 11 and exchanged views with him on cooperation between the two parties.

Chinese Ambassador to India Mr. Le Yucheng met with Mr. K.V. Kamath in embassy on June 3rd and congratulated him to be the first chief of the New Development Bank (NDB) of BRICS countries.
At about 6,700 meters above sea level, Kangrinboqe Peak (In India it is called as Mount Kailash) in Ngari Prefecture, Tibet Autonomous Region of China, attracts flocks of pilgrims from other parts of the country and other countries like India and Nepal. Also it is one of the pilgrimage centers of Tibet Buddhism, Hinduism and the Bon.

Kangrinboqe Peak is the summit of Gangdise Mountain. The Tibetans call the peak “Kangri”, which means “treasure of the snowy mountains”. In Buddhism, this peak occupies a position as important as the Mandala, or the center of the universe.

The peak is said to “be like an olive towering into the sky, with a seven-colored round crown and surrounded by an eight-petal lotus.” The whole mountain is like a crystal ice-carving inlaid with jade. Kangrinboqe is not only the symbol of natural beauty, but also symbol of religious belief.

The peak of the mountain is covered by snow all the year round. The shape of the mountain is like a pyramid. There is a mysterious feature of the holy mountain. The snow on the sunny slope never melts over the year. On the contrast, the snow on the opposite side melts as the sunshine covers it.

**Mapham Yutso, a Eternal and Invincible Jade Lake**

The holy lake Mapham Yutso (means “eternal and invincible jade lake” in the Tibetan language, and in India it’s called Manasarovar) lies at an elevation of 4,600 meters in Burang County of Tibet Autonomous Region of China, covering more
than 400 sq.km. It enjoys a reputation equal to the holy mountain in the eyes of local Tibetans.

According to Tibetan Buddhism, Lake Mapham Yutso, with its blue waters, sandy shoreline and snow capped mountain backdrop, is water offering to the mount Kangrinboqe. Tibetans always try to keep the lake as clean as they can possible.

Along the circumambulate circuit to the lake Mapham Yutso, you can notice different interesting Gonpa(temple) like Trugo Gon, Gotsuk Gon and Jiu Gonpa. Among them, Jiu Gonpa is most familiar to everyone. Now more and more tourists and pilgrims are coming at the shore of the lake, and the tourist facilities of the area are improving rapidly.
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BOOK REVIEW
CRI A BRIDGE OF FRIENDSHIP
Zhang Dejiang Meets with Indian PM

New Delhi, June 16 (Xinhua) — The Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress of China Zhang Dejiang on Monday met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi here.

During the meeting, Zhang conveyed the cordial greetings from Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang to Modi.

He said that the successful visit by President Xi to India last year and the recent visit by Prime Minister Modi to China resulted in important consensus by the two countries on deepening bilateral strategic cooperative partnership.

The two countries have also agreed to build a closer developmental partnership and they are therefore pushing the bilateral relations to a new upward stage, he pointed out.

Zhang said that China is willing to work with India in increasing political trust, deepening pragmatic cooperation, expand exchanges of humanity, while properly controlling and handling disputes, seeking better communication and coordination over regional and international issues.

Modi asked Zhang to convey his good wishes for other Chinese leaders.

He said India always regards China as a great neighbor and important strategic partner and will continue to strengthen cooperation with China in all fields, including economic and trade cooperation, people to people exchanges, culture, tourism and regional governments.
Zhang Dejiang Calls for Strengthening Cooperation Between Legislatures of China, India

New Delhi, June 16 (Xinhua) — Chinese top legislator Zhang Dejiang has called for strengthening cooperation between legislative bodies of China and India.

Zhang, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPC), arrived in New Delhi on Saturday for his four-day official friendly visit at the invitation of Mohammad Hamid Ansari, Vice President of India and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha or Upper House of Indian Parliament, and Sumitra Mahajan, Speaker of the Lok Sabha or Lower House of Indian Parliament.

This is Chinese top legislator’s first visit to India in 14 years.

Zhang discussed the issue with the two parliament leaders of India respectively, saying one of purposes of his visit is to upgrade the level and improve the quality of the current cooperation between the legislative bodies of the two countries.

Zhang proposed that the two sides should carry out more close exchanges of legislative bodies at all levels to increase mutual understanding, strengthen experiences of governance exchanges, and seek a better
understanding of each other's policies and laws to establish well-being legal environment to promote strategic and pragmatic cooperation between the two countries.

Leaders of both houses of the Indian parliament expressed wish to have more contacts with China's NPC and exchange experiences in economic and social development, lawmaking and law enforcement.

During his visit, Zhang also met with Indian President Pranab Mukherjee and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Zhang conveyed the cordial greeting from Chinese President Xi Jinping during his meeting with the Indian president on Monday.

During his meeting with the Indian president, Zhang said China and India have thousands of years of friendly exchanges and a history of mutual learning and benefiting from each other's culture.

Today the two neighbors have become not only the two biggest developing countries, but also the two most dynamic market economies in the world, he pointed out.

“The two countries should join hands to realize goals for peaceful development, cooperative development and inclusive development, in order to benefit the 2.5 billion
NPC Chairman’s Visit to India

Mukherjee asked Zhang to convey his good wishes to President Xi.

He said India always pays great importance to developing good neighborly relations and friendly with China and is willing to strengthen cooperation and increase exchanges with China in all fields.

Raising the bilateral relations to new heights will help realize common development and prosperity of both countries, he added.

Zhang Dejiang (L Back), Chairman of the Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress, holds talks with Indian Vice President Mohammad Hamid Ansari (R Back) in New Delhi, India, June 15, 2015. (Xinhua/Li Tao)

Zhang Dejiang Pays Tribute to Mahatma Gandhi

Mr. Zhang Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress paid tributes to Mahatama Gandhi at Rajghat in New Delhi on June 15, 2015.

Zhang Dejiang, who arrived in New Delhi late on June 14, had earlier met Maharashtra Governor C Vidyasagar Rao and stressed on strengthening cooperation between the Parliaments and provincial legislatures of India and China.

He also lauded Chinese President Xi Jinping’s visit to India in September 2014, and Prime Minister Modi’s visit to China in May of 2015, said that the two tours have added a ‘new dimension’ to the relations between China and India.
Top Chinese Legislator Pays Tribute to Heroic Indian Doctor

Beijing, June 17 (Xinhua) — Top Chinese legislator Zhang Dejiang chose Mumbai as the first stop of his four-day Indian visit to pay tribute to an heroic Indian doctor who died in China’s anti-Japanese war and became a symbol of the China-Indian relations.

After arriving in Mumbai, Zhang met relatives of Dwarkanath Kotnis and attended a photo exhibition commemorating this old friend of China.

Dr. Kotnis is a great friend of Chinese people, and an example of China-India friendship, said Zhang, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPC).

“He gave his life in China while helping the Chinese fight Japanese agression, and he will forever live in the hearts of the Chinese people,” Zhang said at the photo exhibition.

Kotnis, who came to China in 1938 as a member of an Indian medical aid team, is well remembered in China for his selflessness and untiring support of the Chinese people. He died of illness in China in 1942 at the age of 32.

At the photo exhibition, Zhang met Manorama Kotnis, one of the doctor’s seven siblings and the only one that is still alive.

“I’m really happy and feel quite honored to know that the Chinese people still remember my brother after more than 70 years,” said Manorama. “The friendship between China and
Zhang Dejiang (R), Chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress, meets with members of the Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis family and the Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis Memorial Committee before visiting a photo exhibition of Dr. Kotnis in Mumbai, India, June 14, 2015. (Xinhua/Li Tao)

Zhang Dejiang (2nd L, front), Chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress, views photos during a photo exhibition about Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis in Mumbai, India, June 14, 2015. (Xinhua/Li Tao)
India has been continuously developing over the years, and we (the two peoples) are always friends.”

Zhang Dejiang described Dr. Kotnis as a symbol of Sino-Indian friendship and stressed the need to carry forward his legacy. In the eyes of Chinese people, Dr. Kotnis and Indian Medical Mission represent the great and friendly people of India, he said.

Describing the India-China friendship initiative of Dr. Kotnis Memorial committee as a noble undertaking, he stressed the need to join hands to “give life” to the physician’s spirit.

During his visit to India, Zhang also met with Indian President Pranab Mukherjee and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Three Keys to Advance China-India Industrial Cooperation

Remarks by Ambassador Le Yucheng
At the China-India Industrial Cooperation Seminar

Dear Mr. Amitabh Kant, Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry,
Dr. Jyotsna Suri, President of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends,
Let me begin by thanking FICCI for co-organizing today’s event with the Chinese embassy and for your efforts over the years in promoting China-India business cooperation. My thanks also go to Secretary Kant for taking time out of your schedule to attend the seminar and give a keynote speech. It gives me great pleasure to attend today’s seminar and meet so many friends from the government, business and academia. I look forward to hearing your vision and insights in advancing China-India industrial cooperation.

Last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid a successful visit to China. I was happy to be part of the visit and wrote an article in Hindu, in which I summarized the visit with 3 supers: super high-level reception, super friendly atmosphere and super fruitful results. 26 business agreements were signed covering a wide range of areas. I remember saying to Indian press before the visit that no less than US $10 billion of agreements were to be expected. What I didn’t know at that time was it would be twice as much and reach US $22 billion. What’s more important and more encouraging is that the visit has greatly boosted the enthusiasm of both sides and brought about unprecedented opportunities and a bright prospect for our industrial cooperation.

After years of development, China has entered a new stage of industrialization with a lot of advanced and competitive industries that are ready to go global. And India has huge demand and great potential in industrialization. China’s newly released strategy of “Made in China 2025”, featuring innovation and high-end manufacturing among others, and Prime Minister Modi’s “Make in India” strategy are compatible and complementary. As two big neighbors and emerging economies, China and India are close to each other geographically, culturally, and philosophically, and our people have enjoyed a natural affinity since antiquity. All these have set the stage for close
cooperation. On top of that, the Modi government has taken effective measures to enhance government efficiency, improve market environment, and make it easier for Chinese businesses to invest in India: including granting e-visa to Chinese nationals, appointing a Joint Secretary in the PMO to overlook Chinese investment and relaxing restrictions and security checks for Chinese companies. Prime Minister Modi said that for foreign investors, there is no red tape, but only red carpet in India. The latest developments have proved that the red carpet is ready for Chinese investors. This week we have Mr. Wang Jianlin, Chairman of the Dalian Wanda Group, the commercial and real estate giant in China, coming to visit India. He was well received in Delhi and yesterday Prime Minister Modi met him. It’s their second meeting in less than a month, after they met in Shanghai during Prime Minister Modi’s visit there. During the talks with Indian officials, he was promised expedited land acquisition and single-window clearances for his investment. And I am sure that Chinese companies will find increasingly improved investment environment in India.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends,

I’ve been in India for nine months now. From what I have seen on the ground and what I have learnt through interactions with Chinese and Indian friends, I believe there are three keys to advance our industrial cooperation.

First, the key areas of China-India industrial cooperation are infrastructure and manufacturing. Infrastructure is the very foundation of connectivity, which is essential to bring about a true Asian century with shared development of China and India. According to experts, every one dollar spent in infrastructure will result in 1.89 dollars in upstream industries and 3.05 dollars in downstream industries.
There is considerable demand in infrastructure as India advances urbanization and industrialization and builds smart cities. The Modi government has set the goal of increasing infrastructure by 15-20% in 2015, including more rural roads, highway, power generation, and electricity. With China’s reliable technology and advanced facilities offered at an affordable price, infrastructure can be a highlight in our cooperation. The railway cooperation is a case in point. China has provided heavy haul transportation training to more than 100 Indian engineers. The two sides are discussing jointly setting up a railway university. The speed raising of Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore railway and redevelopment of railway stations are well underway. Feasibility study of the 1754 km high speed rail from Delhi to Chennai has been started. And Chinese companies have taken part in the bidding of feasibility study for other high-speed rails. In addition to railway cooperation, we are also working together in smart city projects. Gujarat International Finance Tec-City, GIFT, and Shenzhen of China have been chosen as the first batch of pilot cities in our smart city cooperation. In addition, our cooperation in power generation, real estate development and other infrastructure sectors is in full swing.

Manufacturing is another important area of cooperation as it is the industrial foundation for economic development. History shows that manufacturing is critical for a country to rise and prosper. Thanks to 30-plus years of development since reform and opening-up, China has accumulated abundant experience, technology, know-how, capital and human resources in manufacturing, which can be applied to the promising market in India. At the same time, India’s high-end manufacturing such as pharmaceutical and IT can find a ready market in China. Chinese industrial parks in Pune and Vadodara are under construction. I was impressed to see the progress made on the ground when I visited the industrial park in
Pune not long ago. Once completed, it will create 100,000 jobs and produce an annual output of US$20 billion. When I visited the Indian software giant, WIPRO, in Bangalore this year, I was told that the company has set up an R&D center in Chengdu Tianfu Software Park, opened offices in Shanghai and Dongguan, and plans to further expand its business in China. I am sure that these flagship projects will give a strong boost to our overall industrial cooperation.

Second, the key focus of China-India industrial cooperation is at the local level, as this is where the greatest potential lies. I have visited quite a few Indian states in the past nine months, and am deeply impressed by the diversity in your great country. For instance, Punjab in the North is a big agriculture state while Tamil Nadu in the South is strong in car manufacturing. The same is true with China, a big country with huge diversity. In this sense, sub-national cooperation is an effective way to tap into the full potential of different regions. There are 8 sister cities and 2 sister states between China and India. A regional cooperation forum was established during Prime Minister Modi’s visit to China, the first such forum India has launched with any country. The Chief Minister of Andhra, Maharashtra and Gujarat have visited China, and a number of local Chinese leader have visited India. Last month, the new head of Linyi, Shandong province visited India as his first overseas trip after taking office and briefed me about the China-India software industrial park there. Some 40 Indian software engineers have made it their new home, and the local government especially built a Lotus Temple-style club and opened Indian TV channels for them. As far as I know, Tamil Nadu and Andhra have become new focal points for Chinese companies in our industrial cooperation. Chinese manufacturers plan to invest in a large industrial park in the Kakinada special
economic zone in Andhra. And a successful Chinese private tire manufacturer, Greatoo, has settled in Mahindra World City in Chennai and produces over half tire molds in the India market. Indian colleagues from the China desk at the East Asia Division in the Ministry of External Affairs told me that almost everyday they receive calls from the business community about cooperation with China. Many offices (bhawan) of local states in Delhi have reached out to our embassy, and I receive several Chinese business delegations every week. Each time I learn that they have found a cooperation partner or decide to invest in India, I am more than happy for them.

Third, the key driver of China-India industrial cooperation is the business community. We are now witnessing a new wave of business cooperation between our two countries with many success stories. For instance, a well-known Chinese private company, Sany Heavy Industry, set up a plant in Pune, creating several hundred jobs for the local community. In February, I participated in the opening ceremony of Huawei’s new R&D center in Bangalore, which employs over 2,000 local people. China Huaneng Group plans to invest US$ 3 billion in Gujarat to build a coal power plant with a capacity of 4000MW. Xiaomi, a Chinese home-grown mobile phone maker, is among top 5 smart phone providers in India, with Ratan Tata recently acquiring a stake in the group. The partnership between the Chinese e-commerce company Alibaba and its Indian counterpart Paytm is yet another good example of our industrial cooperation. As the scheduled 20-minute meeting between the two charismatic founders, Jack Ma and Vijay Shekhar, went into a two-hour talk, an agreement was sealed that Alibaba will invest US$500 million in Paytm. To facilitate business engagement and help explore market opportunities in each other’s country, many investment forums and exhibitions have been
set up in both countries. In China, there are Canton Fair, China-South Asia Expo, Central China Expo, and Western China Expo, to name a few. And in India, various investment forums have been or will be held in Andhra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka this year to attract Chinese investment. I hope that the business leaders present here and across our countries will make good use of these platforms and unleash your full potential in the world’s two biggest markets.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends,

Recently, I noticed a catch word in Indian media, “Chindia”, and a catch phrase, “made in Chindia”. This shows that China-India industrial cooperation is the trend of the times and the wish of the people. It reminds me of the latest laptop by a Chinese company Lenovo, which is not only lighter and faster than Mac Air of Apple, but is also the industry’s first multi-mode tablet with a 360 degree flip-and-fold design. It is said that the popularity of this product in the US has even caused reduced sales for Apple. It’s worth noting that this product has a fabulous Indian name, YOGA, and the Chinese brains behind it got their design inspiration from the elegance and flexibility of the art of yoga. What’s more, Lenovo invited Bollywood star Mr. Ranbir Kapoor to be its endorser. I end my remarks with this story to show that China-India industrial cooperation is not just a mere concept, but a reality now.

I am confident that so long as we seize the opportunities of the day and work together in a joint pursuit, we will usher in a new chapter in China-India industrial cooperation, create new splendor in the duet of the dragon and the elephant, and bring about new progress of the Asian Century.

Thank you.
China Opens New Route for Indian Pilgrims to Tibet

Lhasa, June 22 (Xinhua) — China on Monday opened a new route along the Himalayan Nathu La Pass for pilgrims from India traveling to Tibet, to further promote religious exchanges between the two countries.

The first group of 43 Indian nationals entered Tibet Autonomous Region, southwest China, via this pass at 10 a.m., starting a 12-day pilgrimage to the sacred religious sites of Mount Kangrinboqe and Mapam Yumco Lake in Ngari Prefecture, Tibet.

Free jackets, backpacks and blankets were provided to the pilgrims by Chinese authorities upon their arrival.

“This new route is safer, more convenient and comfortable than the former one,” said Dong Mingjun, vice chairman of Tibet regional government, at the pass.

It will shorten the pilgrimage time from more than 20 days to about eight, he added.

Le Yucheng, the Chinese ambassador to India, said the pass was the result of a consensus reached by both Chinese and Indian leaders when Chinese President Xi Jinping visited India in September, 2014.

It will promote mutual understanding and communication between the peoples of the two countries, he said. Le traveled from New Delhi to Nathu La Pass for the occasion.

“We hope to use this opportunity to strengthen strategic mutual trust between China and India, expand cooperation in all fields, promote people-to-people and cultural exchanges, properly handle our divergences, boost common development, and take the bilateral relations of our two countries to a new historical level,” Le said.

According to Indian media, around 250 pilgrims, in five groups of 50, will travel to Tibet along the new route this year. Among the first
group, some pilgrims had dropped out for health reasons. Another 18 groups of 60 pilgrims will undertake the pilgrimage along the old route.

Tarun Vijay, President of the Parliamentary Group on India China Friendship, said the new route marked a milestone in the bilateral relationship, and it has global significance.

“It is a moment of mutual trust,” he said. “We are grateful to President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for their efforts.”

The new route will be an enduring symbol of the people-to-people ties between India and China, said Shrila Datta Kumar, counsellor from the Indian Embassy to China.

Amarnath, 70, from Mumbai was among the first group of pilgrims.

“It is my first time traveling to Tibet, and probably my last time. I thank the Chinese government for the warm welcome,” he said.

The Nathu La Pass sits 4,545 meters above sea level and is wedged between Tibet’s Yadong County in Xigaze Prefecture, and India’s Sikkim State. It was the shortest land pass for trade between China and India, and also the highest altitude land pass for trade.

The pass was closed for more than 40 years. It was reopened in 2006, but for trade only.

Indian nationals have made the pilgrimage to Tibet every year since 1981. China has welcomed almost 80,000 Indian pilgrims in the past decade alone.

The pilgrims traditionally climb over the Qang La Pass, which sits 5,200 meters above sea level on the China-India-Nepal border, to reach their destination. The road is steep and usually covered by snow.

Relations between India and China are on a continuous growing path. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited China this May, following Chinese President Xi Jinping’s visit to India last year.
China, India to Enhance Trade and Tourism Cooperation

The China-India Economic and Tourism Cooperation Forum was held in Kunming, Yunnan province on June 11. The two sides reached an agreement to achieve foreign trade balance and mutually beneficial cooperation.

More than 300 business and government representatives from the two countries attended the forum and discussed cooperation in trade, tourism, and infrastructure investments.

The forum was organized by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the Indian Embassy in China and the government of India’s West Bengal state.
Indian Woman Meets Long-Lost Chinese Sister

When 62-year-old Jennifer An and her husband Balaji from the South Indian city of Chennai arrived in Beijing, armed with a few old letters from Jennifer’s Chinese father, they never imagined they would succeed in locating Jennifer’s long-lost Chinese half-sister.

Jennifer’s Chinese father An Chi Pong had always carried a black-and-white photo of his only daughter An Luoxi from his first marriage in Shanghai. But he never made it back to China, after his mercantile ship was stranded in the Indian port of Mumbai in the early 40’s.

After 33 years since her father’s death, Jennifer An says she decided to take a leap of faith and come to China to fulfill her father’s dying wish – which was to see his Chinese daughter one last time.

“We actually thought that we were going to meet her in Shanghai, because the last address my father had for her Remit road Shanghai, 10, Remit road. So were all prepared for Shanghai and we had little days to spend here. So everything is taking a topsy-turvy turn. We never expected to find her in Beijing.”

Although Jennifer had no definite plan, on how to find her sister amidst the 1.3 billion people in China, a stroke of luck, helped her to fulfill her mission in just four days.

According to Zhao Jiang, Director of the
Tamil Service of China Radio International, who helped Jennifer find her sister, the national government database only had two people with the relevant name. One was an 8-year-old and the other the 80-year-old An Luoxi, who turned out to be Jennifer’s sister.

“Many people had seen the news about this Indian lady looking for her half-sister in China, and they sent us many useful information. Someone in Jiangsu province found evidence that the father had served in the Navy during the Chinese people’s war against Japanese aggression. Someone who had seen the news on social media helped us find An Luoxi’s address.”

But to An Luoxi, the sudden discovery of a half-sister, whom she had never heard of, came as a shock.

Her father had divorced her mother when she was a baby and she was raised by her grandmother in Shanghai.

She says that the pain of being abandoned by her father when she was just 6 years old had shadowed her all through her life.

“Everyone in my Shanghai neighborhood knew my story and they used to say look your father would never come back. My father was the most educated from his family. He had studies abroad and became a ship captain. Loosing such an excellent man left a hole in my life that could never be filled.”

An Louxi had received just one letter from her father via the Chinese embassy. It was written when he was seriously ill. Jennifer says that after the end of World War II her father An Chi Pong had tried to find information about her lost daughter. He had finally received a letter in 1982 from the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi with some possible clues as to his daughter’s whereabouts. An Chi Pong had immediately applied for his daughter to come to India, but as fate had it, he passed away just 20 days after receiving the letter.

But it was this letter that helped Jennifer track her sister almost 3 decades later. After the tearful meeting, the two sisters exchanged information about their families. Jennifer said their father loved to play Mahjong. And he had also served the Chinese community in Chennai and had even got a separate cemetery for the flourishing Chinese community there.

This fateful meeting coincides with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s first visit to Beijing and will serve as a modern day example of the warm people-to-people relations that have existed for thousands of years between the people of China and India.

Happy reunion of the relatives. (Photo: CRIENGLISH.com/Zhou Xin)
Chinese President Meets with Aung San Suu Kyi

Beijing, June 11 (Xinhua) — President Xi Jinping met with a delegation from Myanmar’s National League for Democracy (NLD), headed by NLD chair Aung San Suu Kyi, on Thursday afternoon at the Great Hall of the People, Beijing.

“China and Myanmar are close, friendly neighbors,” said the Chinese president, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

The traditional friendship between China and Myanmar has not changed for 65 years, since the establishment of diplomatic relations, and practical cooperation has yielded fruitful results, said Xi.

“China and Myanmar have become a community of common interests and common destiny sharing weal and woe,” Xi said.

He proposed that the two sides continue to work together, and honor the bilateral friendship and cooperation.

“China always looks at the China-Myanmar relationship from a strategic and long-term perspective,” Xi said.
“We hope and believe that the Myanmar side will also maintain a consistent stance on China-Myanmar relationship and be committed to advancing friendly ties, no matter how its domestic situation changes,” said the president.

At the invitation of the CPC, Suu Kyi’s first visit to China runs Wednesday through Sunday.

China Urges BRICS to Unite for Promoting Multi-Lateralism

Moscow, May 26 (Xinhua) — Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi Tuesday urged BRICS members to unite and promote multi-lateralism in international relations.

At the fifth meeting of high-ranking security representatives of the BRICS nations, Yang said the unity, mutual respect and support of BRICS countries would give a positive signal of protecting world peace, promoting multi-lateralism as well as democratization and nomocracy of international relations.

According to Yang, in 13 years, BRICS countries conquered many difficulties and grew up to become a powerful bloc in the international arena.

With the responsibility of protecting world peace and common development, BRICS should facilitate the soonest establishment and operation of the development bank and contingent reserve arrangement, Yang noted.

He added that the five countries, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, should also support each other on the post-2015 development agenda, climate change negotiations, anti-terrorism, cyber security, reform of the International Monetary Fund and other global issues.

Only in this way could the BRICS gain more say and protect the benefits of new economies and developing countries, according to Yang.

He expressed China’s expectation that positive and historical results could be reached at the seventh BRICS summit in July in Ufa, capital of Russia’s Bashkortostan republic.

Speaking to all participants of the meeting, Russian President Vladimir Putin pointed out
that Russia is ready to work with the other four BRICS members in face of the challenges of external political interference, terrorism, cross-border crimes and financial risks.

Representatives of BRICS countries agreed that joint efforts are needed to promote multilateral international relations as well as fair and reasonable world order, while practical and win-win cooperation strategy should be enhanced to deal with all kinds of regional and global issues.

As this year marks the 70th anniversary of the victory of the WWII and the establishment of the UN, Yang stressed that the leading role of the UN in settling international affairs, as well as fundamental norms and principles enshrined in the UN Charter, should be safeguarded.

“The world community should jointly improve the global governance system, push forward the establishment of new win-win cooperative international relations and strengthen the concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security,” Yang said.

Chinese FM Urges Bigger Role for SCO in Regional Security

Moscow, June 4 (Xinhua) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Thursday called on the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to play a more constructive role in safeguarding regional security and stability.

During an SCO meeting on regional security
and stability in Moscow, Wang noted that in the face of the complicated global and regional situation, the SCO has the obligation and ability to play a more constructive role and make greater contributions to regional security and stability.

To that end, the SCO members should take security cooperation as a priority and build the SCO into a reliable platform for promoting peace, stability and development, said the Chinese minister.

Wang also called on the SCO members to enhance their ability to maintain stability and to eradicate potential security threats in the region.

He urged the bloc to deal with hot-spot regional issues via dialogues and consultations and avoid armed conflicts and violent confrontations.

Moreover, Wang advocated adherence to the “Shanghai Spirit” of mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for cultural diversity and pursuit of common development, as well as the Security Concept for Asia, which calls for a common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security strategy in the region.

Wang also expressed China’s support for the SCO’s peace-building efforts in Afghanistan and warned the bloc against the resurgence of “the three evil forces” of terrorism, extremism, and separatism in the region.

SCO FMs Discuss Strategy for Future Development

Moscow, June 4 (Xinhua) — Foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on Wednesday discussed the strategy for the bloc’s future development and made preparations for an SCO summit in the Russian city of Ufa in July.

The ministers decided to formulate the future strategy based on the SCO Development
Strategy until 2025 which will promote cooperation among member states in politics, security, economy and culture.

They adopted a draft resolution on granting SCO membership to India and Pakistan, an enlargement the ministers believe is of great significance to deepen SCO member states’ cooperation with its observers and dialogue partners.

Also adopted at the meeting was a draft statement on the 70th anniversary of the victory of World War II. The ministers noted that SCO member states and other countries made great contributions to the anti-Fascist war.

As this year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the ministers stressed the need to consolidate the UN mechanism of global governance, calling for the need to uphold its key role endowed by the UN Charter in maintaining world peace and security.

The ministers approved the draft of the Outline of Cooperation in the Fight Against Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism for 2016-2018, and vowed to work closely to crack down on narcotics trade.

The ministers also called for dialogue and consultation to such hotspot issues as the situation in Afghanistan and Syria, the Ukraine crisis as well as Iranian nuclear issue.

Founded in 2001, the SCO has China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as its full members, with Afghanistan, India, Iran, Mongolia and Pakistan as observers and Belarus, Turkey and Sri Lanka as dialogue partners. Russia holds the rotating presidency of the SCO in 2015.

**China Signs Free Trade Agreement with South Korea and Australia**

Beijing, June 1 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and his South Korean counterpart, Park Geun-hye, on Monday exchanged congratula-tions on the signing of a
bilateral free trade agreement (FTA), hailing the achievement as a milestone in bilateral relations.

With both countries being important economies in East Asia and the Asia-Pacific region, the signing of the China-South Korea FTA will not only lead to new leaps in bilateral trade and economic ties and bring tangible benefits to the two peoples, but also allow them to make greater contributions to regional economic integration and global economic development, Xi said.

China and South Korea enjoy geographical proximity, cultural affinity and economic complementarity, Xi added, noting that China has become South Korea’s largest trade partner and largest destination of overseas investment, while South Korea has become China’s third largest trade partner and fifth largest source of overseas investment.

For her part, Park said the FTA serves as an institutional framework for future bilateral cooperation and has charted the course from a long-term and strategic level for the two countries to carry on their collaboration.

It has set up a historic milestone in the deepening of the two countries’ strategic cooperative partnership, and will bring more opportunities and benefits to the enterprises and people of both sides and lift the status of both nations in the international community, she added.

South Korea and China should work together to help their people and enterprises take full advantage of the FTA and enjoy more benefits, Park suggested, adding that the deal will play a positive role not only in promoting the prosperity of the two countries and the broader East Asia but also in galvanizing global economic growth.

Chinese Commerce Minister Gao Hucheng and his South Korean counterpart Yoon Sang-jick, signed the FTA in Seoul, three years after the two countries began talks in May 2012.

Under the accord, within 20 years after the implementation of the deal, South Korea will eliminate tariffs on 92 percent of all products from China, while China will abolish tariffs on 91 percent of all imported South Korean goods.

The pact, the largest bilateral free trade deal for China in terms of trade volume, will take effect after getting approval from the parliaments of both countries.

Chinese, Australian Leaders Exchange Congratulations on Landmark FTA

Beijing, June 17 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping and Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott on Wednesday exchanged congratulations on the signing of a bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA), hailing it as a paradigm of regional economic integration.

In his message, Xi said the signing of the
China-Australia FTA will provide a better platform and an improved institutional guarantee for the two countries to complement each other with advantages and conduct close win-win cooperation.

Xi added that the signing of the FTA will also set an example for high-level economic and trade arrangements in the Asia-Pacific and help promote regional economic integration.

China and Australia, Xi said, have enjoyed fruitful results in economic and trade cooperation, with increasingly interwoven interests and close people-to-people exchanges since the two countries forged diplomatic ties 43 years ago.

Both being important members of the Asia-Pacific, China will work with Australia to stay on the right course of bilateral ties, follow the principles of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit and take the opportunity of signing the FTA to promote sustainable and stable development of their comprehensive strategic partnership as well as peace and prosperity in the region and the world, Xi said.

The signing of the FTA marks a fresh start for Australia-China relations, as it will provide more freedom for bilateral trade and investments and enhance bilateral ties, said Abbott, adding that he hoped both countries would benefit from it.

Moreover, the Australia-China FTA is a historic agreement as it will not only promote the economic growth of the two countries, but also serve as a model for other Asian-Pacific countries’ future economic integration.

Chinese Commerce Minister Gao Hucheng and Australian Trade Minister Andrew Robb on Wednesday signed the historic FTA in Canberra, finalizing negotiations that began ten years ago and following the Declaration of Intent signed in November by Xi and Abbott.

China is Australia’s top trading partner, with the two-way flow of goods and services exceeding 135 billion U.S. dollars last year.
Beijing, May 26 (Xinhua) — China issued its first white paper on military strategy on Tuesday, stressing “active defense” and pledging closer international security cooperation.

The white paper, “China’s Military Strategy”, issued by the State Council Information Office, outlined a strategy unifying strategic defense and operational and tactical offense.

The nearly 9,000-word paper also underscored “the principles of defense, self-defense and post-emptive strikes”, adding that China “will not attack unless we are attacked, but we will surely counterattack if attacked”.

In response to the evolving form of modern warfare and national security requirements, focus will be placed on “winning informationized local wars”.

“The adjustment is necessary as long-range, precise, smart, stealthy and unmanned weapons and equipment are becoming increasingly sophisticated, and outer space and cyberspace have become new command posts,” said Yan Wenhu, a researcher with the Academy of Military Science (AMS) of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA).

The armed forces will get better at operations based on information technology, the paper said.

They will also strengthen international security cooperation in areas considered especially important to China’s overseas interests.

The paper goes on to highlight four “critical security domains”: the ocean, outer space, cyberspace and nuclear force.

The PLA Navy will gradually shift its focus from a sole strategy of “offshore waters defense” to a combined one of “offshore waters defense and open seas protection”.

The country will expedite the development of its “cyber force” to tackle “grave security threats” online.

China opposes a space arms race and vowed to secure its space assets.

The paper also underscored that China will never enter into a nuclear arms race and pledges to continue to contribute to world peace.

China’s armed forces will lend more international peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance, under the plan.

**ACTIVE DEFENSE**

While this is the ninth defense white paper issued by China since 1998, it is the first to narrow in specifically on strategy, rather than...
the broader facts and figures of the country’s military.

It focuses on the core and most sensitive questions concerning China’s military and security policy, said Wen Bing, an AMS researcher.

China’s socialist nature, fundamental national interests and the objective requirement of peaceful development all demand adherence to active defense, according to the paper.

“Some countries adopt preemptive strategies, emphasizing preventive intervention and taking initiative in attack. Ours is totally different,” said Zhang Yuguo, senior colonel with the general staff department of the PLA, at a press conference on the white paper.

Being “active” is only a kind of means and “defense” is our fundamental purpose, he said.

It’s because of adherence to this strategy that China has been able to enjoy a relatively stable environment for development and win international respect, said Chen Zhou, director of the national defense policy research center under the AMS.

No matter how strong China becomes, it will never deviate from this strategy and will not pursue military expansion, Chen said.

China opposes hegemony and power politics in all forms and will never seek expansion, according to the paper.

In response to a question from a foreign correspondent at the press conference, Defense Ministry spokesperson Yang Yujun said China has not built any military bases overseas.

Earlier this month, foreign media reported that China was building a permanent military base in the African country of Djibouti.

However, it also warned of the outside threats of hegemony, power politics and “neo-interventionism”.

Small-scale wars, conflicts and crises are recurrent in some regions. Therefore, the world still faces both immediate and potential threats of localized wars, according to the white paper.

China remains in a period of strategic opportunities for development, but it also faces multiple and complex security threats, as well as increasing external challenges. This means China still has the arduous task of safeguarding national unification, territorial integrity and development interests, according to the paper.

It warned of threats to China’s maritime rights and interests, citing the provocative actions of some offshore neighbors, including reinforced, and illegal military presence in Chinese territory, and outside parties involving themselves in South China Sea affairs.

Yang labeled recent incidents in the South China Sea, including a U.S. military jet’s controversial reconnaissance in the area, “old tricks” used to stir tensions and smear the reputation of Chinese armed forces.

The Navy has had to deal with the reconnaissance operations of U.S. warships and aircraft in Chinese territory around the South China Sea for a long time, he said. “Our responses are always necessary, legal and professional.”

Characterizing the China-U.S. relationship as “generally favorable”, Yang said the armed forces of the two countries had a common understanding.

As for the disputes between the two sides, he said China expects the United States to respect its core interests and major concerns and hopes that the two sides can work together to consolidate trust and manage their differences.

“China is working toward establishing positive interactions with the United States in the Asia-Pacific region and hopes that other countries in the region will jointly safeguard
peace, security and stability," the spokesperson added.

China will strengthen defense dialogues, exchanges and cooperation, with the U.S military, according to the paper.

It said China will also continue to refine mechanisms for notifying other countries about planned military activity and codes of conduct for air and maritime encounters, so as to strengthen mutual trust, prevent risks and manage crises.

**BLUE-WATER NAVY**

The Chinese navy kept troops close to land from the 1950s to the end of the 1970s under the strategy of inshore defense. Since the 1980s, the Navy has realized a strategic transformation to offshore defensive operations.

The shift in the PLA Navy's focus to a combination of “offshore waters defense and open seas protection" is essential as China is facing rising challenges from the sea and the country is more reliant on maritime resources and energy, said Yu Miao, another AMS researcher.

The traditional mentality that control of the land is more important than control of the sea must be abandoned, and great importance has to be attached to managing the seas and oceans and protecting maritime rights and interests, said the paper.

The PLA Navy will enhance its capabilities for strategic deterrence and counterattack, maritime maneuvers, joint operations at sea, comprehensive defense and comprehensive support.

“Open seas protection” means that the navy should cooperate with other nations’ forces in the open seas so as to achieve the common security of the international community, said AMS researcher Zhao Dexi.

“The new strategy does not change the defensive nature of the PLA Navy or China’s resolution to safeguard world peace," Zhao said.

The navy has carried out escort missions for about 6,000 fleets from China and other countries. It has also sent its hospital ship, “Peace Ark”, to Asian and African countries. Warships have been deployed to help evacuate citizens of China and other countries from conflict-hit Libya and Yemen in recent years.

It will become normal for China's navy to have a strong and diverse presence in the open seas, Zhao added.

Answering a question about China's only aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, and the possibility of it building another, spokesperson Yang said the Liaoning was conducting trials and military training.

He said at the press conference that China's aircraft carrier plan would take into consideration a complex set of factors, including economic and social development, as well as national defense and military construction needs.
Premier Li Keqiang Visits Latin America

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He urged substantial progress in building a railroad connecting South America’s Pacific and Atlantic coasts as well as enhanced industrial chain cooperation in clean energy, iron ore and agriculture.

He called on the two countries to enhance cooperation in oil and gas exploration and exploitation, petrochemical equipment and shipbuilding trade and investment.

China supports its enterprises to expand investment in Brazil and share experiences and technology with their Brazilian partners, said Li.

To facilitate bilateral cooperation, he suggested the two sides further strengthen cooperation in the settlement in local currencies.

The premier also called for more exchanges and cooperation in the field of science, culture, education, tourism and youth between the two economies and the largest developing countries in the eastern and the western hemispheres, respectively, said Li.

Strengthened cooperation between the two nations are conducive to promoting their respective national development, maintaining the overall developing momentum of the emerging markets and advancing global recovery, he said.

He suggested the two sides develop a roadmap for industrial investment cooperation based on the framework agreement on industrial capacity investment and cooperation, so as to build an updated version of their mutually beneficial cooperation.

The industrial investment cooperation should focus on areas of railway, mining, electric power and equipment manufacturing, said the premier.
countries.

China is ready to work with Brazil to push forward China-Latin America Comprehensive and Cooperative Partnership and beef up strategic coordination within the multilateral framework of the United Nations, the Group of Twenty, the BRICS and the BASIC countries, to jointly safeguard the solidarity and interests of developing countries, said Li.

Rousseff said Brazil-China ties have scored great progress through the joint efforts of the two nations, which also benefit the relations and cooperation between Latin-American nations and China.

Li’s visit marks an important moment in bilateral ties, she said, adding Brazil is willing to work with China to deepen cooperation in infrastructure construction, finance, telecommunication, agriculture, energy, aviation and aerospace.

She called on the two sides to enhance industrial capacity cooperation and jointly carry out research on the building of the railway connecting the Brazilian Atlantic coast with the Peruvian Pacific coast.

She urged the two countries to take up the opportunity of the signing of a joint action plan to lift bilateral ties to a new height.

Brazil will maintain close communication and coordination with China on major international and regional issues to jointly safeguard the interests of the developing world, said the president.

After their talks, the two leaders signed the 2015-2021 joint action plan between the two countries and witnessed the inking of 35 cooperative documents covering areas of industrial capacity, infrastructure construction, finance, aviation, agriculture, new energy, telecommunication, science and technology.

The two sides issued a joint statement between the governments of China and Brazil as
Premier Li Keqiang Visits Latin America

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well as a joint statement on climate change.

Brazil is the first stop of Li’s four-nation Latin America tour, his first to the region since he assumed premiership in 2013.

China to Launch 30-bln-USD Special Fund for China-LatAm Production Capacity Cooperation

Brasilia, May 19 (Xinhua) — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang announced here Tuesday that Beijing will establish a 30-billion-U.S.-dollar special fund for promoting China-Latin America cooperation in production capacity and equipment manufacturing.

The fund will be channeled directly to cooperation projects with no political strings attached, Li said at the closing ceremony of a China-Brazil business summit.

To meet the needs of China and Latin American countries, he proposed the joint construction of three passages for logistics, electric power and information, so as to achieve interconnection on the South American continent.

The Chinese enterprises are willing to join their Latin American partners in building the three passages by enhancing cooperation on railway construction, high-voltage electrical power transmission and smart grids, as well as Internet technology and next-generation mobile telecommunication technology, the premier said.

He said the new mode of China-Latin America production capacity cooperation should follow the rules of the market economy, in a bid to achieve sound interaction among the private sector, society and the government.

The cooperative projects should be run by enterprises and operated commercially, with promotion from the government and
participation of the whole society, Li said.

He urged that the existing cooperative projects should be carried out as soon as possible through joint ventures, public-private partnership (PPP) and franchising.

Li called on the two sides to facilitate the construction of their cooperative projects by expanding three financing channels, namely funding, credit loans and insurance.

During Li’s visit to Brazil, the two countries signed the 2015-2021 joint action plan as well as 35 cooperative documents covering the areas of industrial capacity, infrastructure construction, finance, aviation, agriculture, new energy, telecommunication, and science and technology.

When addressing the summit, Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff said China’s proposal of enhancing infrastructure construction cooperation while providing financing support will be conducive to Brazil’s economic development as well as the interconnection and development of Latin America.

The president welcomed Chinese companies’ participation in big projects in Brazil, including electric power and railways, and hoped that the two countries would further expand bilateral trade, optimize trade structures and enhance financial cooperation, so as to push their cooperation to a new level.

China, Colombia Vow Cooperation to Boost Economic Ties

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (L) attends a welcoming ceremony held by Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos in Bogota, capital of Colombia, May 21, 2015. (Xinhua/Liu Weibing)
Bogota, May 21 (Xinhua) — China and Colombia on Thursday pledged to seek cooperation in a host of areas including production capacity, equipment manufacturing and infrastructure construction to boost economic ties.

The move came as visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met with the Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos at the presidential palace here.

The two leaders witnessed the signing of a series of bilateral cooperation deals in areas including trade, production capacity, infrastructure construction, culture, education, science and technology, agriculture and finance. The two governments issued a joint declaration after the talks.

The two countries also reached a consensus to launch a feasibility study on the China-Colombia bilateral free trade agreement and discuss the pact to avoid double taxation.

Li said that with the two economies being strongly complementary, China and Colombia have broad prospects of cooperation.

China stands ready to expand mutual investment and advance the industrial connection with the Colombian side, he said.

The premier said that his government will focus on developing the cooperation in production capacity and equipment manufacturing with the South American country.

Li said China supports its enterprises to actively participate in the infrastructure construction in Colombia, including highways, subways and ports.

He also stressed that China welcomes enterprises from developed countries to jointly push forward Colombia's process of industrialization.

China and Colombia should discuss models of financial cooperation to support the two countries' cooperation in production capacity and equipment manufacturing as well as infrastructure construction, Li said.

Li's visit to the South American country also marks the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between China and Colombia.

Li said that his country is willing to enhance political mutual trust and practical cooperation, expand people-to-people exchanges and closely coordinate and cooperate with Colombia in international and regional affairs, so as to better benefit the two peoples amid reaffirmed friendship.

"China attaches great importance to the cultural exchanges and mutual understanding with Colombia," the premier said.

"We stand ready to closely cooperate with Colombia in areas including culture, education, science and technology, tourism and sports to expand non-governmental exchanges," he said.

For his part, Santos said that he believes Li's current visit will become a landmark in the development of the Colombia-China bilateral relations.

Colombia welcomes Chinese side's active participation in the infrastructure construction including highways, subways, airports and ports and construction of the economic development zone in the country, he said.

The president said that the two sides should seek cooperation in production capacity, equipment manufacturing and agriculture, enhance financial cooperation and expand tourism cooperation.

Li arrived in Bogota on Thursday for an official visit after his trip to Brazil, the first leg of his four-nation Latin America tour which will also take him to Peru and Chile.

His visit comes about four months after the first ministerial meeting of the Forum of China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States in Beijing, where China and Latin American countries agreed to increase their trade to 500 billion U.S. dollars by 2025. China also pledged to bring its accumulative investment in the region to 250 billion dollars by then.
Li Calls for Closer China-LatAm Cooperation at Spiritual Level

Bogota, May 23 (Xinhua) — China and Latin America should promote cooperation at the spiritual level along with their fruitful collaboration at the physical level, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said here Friday.

Speaking at a symposium on China-Latin America cultural exchange, which was also attended by Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, Li noted that Beijing and Bogota reached an array of agreements on bilateral practical cooperation during his visit.

Yet China’s cooperation with Colombia and the broader Latin America is not only at the physical level but also at the spiritual level, and the latter merits even more attention, he told the 100-strong audience.

Noting that China and Latin America both boast a splendid ancient civilization and serve as excellent models for the harmonious coexistence of different cultures, he suggested the two sides continue to respect the diversity of civilizations.

Meanwhile, he called for innovative and valiant efforts to build a society where the people generate and share creative ideas so as to both produce material wealth and fulfill people’s spiritual pursuits.

In addition, Li proposed to bring to full play the role of literature as a potent medium of heart-to-heart communication, pointing out that culture and literature exchange is an important component of international relations and an effect way to promote mutual understanding between different peoples.

He encouraged writers and artists of China and Colombia to create more excellent works, hold more dialogues, learn from each other, and thus help make the win-win cooperation between China and Latin America more fruitful.

For his part, Santos said the Colombian people hold a profound feeling toward China and its 5,000-year-old civilization, and numerous famous writers such as Colombian Nobel laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez admire the time-honored Chinese culture and language.

He added that he is confident the two countries’ artists, by strengthening communication and learning from each other, can cement mutual understanding between the
two peoples and help advance the relationship between Latin America and China.

Colombia is the second leg of Li’s ongoing four-nation Latin America tour, which also includes Brazil, Peru and Chile. This year marks the 35 anniversary of China-Colombia diplomatic relations.

**China, Brazil, Peru Agree on Feasibility Study on Transcontinental Railway**

Lima, May 22 (Xinhua) — China, Brazil and Peru have decided to conduct a feasibility study on a proposed transcontinental railway line connecting Peru’s Pacific coast with Brazil’s Atlantic coast, visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said here on Friday.

The three countries have also agreed to speed up the work of their joint working group.

Lima, May 22 (Xinhua) — China, Brazil and Peru have decided to conduct a feasibility study on a proposed transcontinental railway line connecting Peru’s Pacific coast with Brazil’s Atlantic coast, visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said here on Friday.

The three countries have also agreed to speed up the work of their joint working group.
for an early, substantial progress in the project, so as to drive the economic development along the railway and accelerate industrialization and urbanization in South America under the condition of environmental protection and biological diversity, Li told reporters after talks with Peruvian President Ollanta Humala.

Li said that during his ongoing visit to Latin America, he and leaders of Brazil, Colombia and Peru agreed to build new highlights in pragmatic cooperation in such fields as trade investment, industrial capacity cooperation, equipment manufacturing, and infrastructure construction.

The premier pointed out that China has accumulated a great deal of experience in railway construction, saying Chinese-made equipment has enjoyed advantages of high safety and cost performance ratios and has stood the test of international market competitions.

The Chinese side is willing to actively take part in building the transcontinental railway line and rail transit projects in relevant countries, strengthen technology transfer while conducting cooperation in equipment and other areas, boost interconnection in South America, promote regional economic development, and better realize mutually-beneficial and win-win results, he said.

Humala said the two countries’ free trade agreement and comprehensive strategic partnership fully indicate that Peru-China relations have developed smoothly with broad prospects.

He described Li’s visit to Peru as a great event in the history of development of Peru-China relations, saying the Peruvian side is willing to keep expanding cooperation with China.
The president voiced his appreciation for a series of proposals raised by China on supporting Peru’s industrialization, noting that China is welcome to add investment in the South American country in such areas as mining and agriculture.

The two sides signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the feasibility study on the transcontinental railway line, which has consolidated and lifted the Peru-China friendly relationship of cooperation to higher levels, he said.

The MoU will help Peru realize better development and boost common development and prosperity of Peru, Brazil, China and the region, Humala said.

**Chinese Premier Encourages Firms to Upgrade Cooperation with Peru**

Lima, May 23 (Xinhua) — Visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang encouraged Chinese-funded enterprises Saturday to push forward the transformation and upgrading of China-Peru economic and trade relations through production capacity cooperation.

Chairing a discussion with over 50 representatives from Chinese-funded enterprises in Peru, the premier inquired about business operations, development plans, staff composition, and difficulties of those enterprises in operation, as well as local demand and market conditions while sending greetings from their homeland.

Li urged the enterprises to contribute to China’s export of production capacity and equipment manufacturing to Peru, which will not only promote Peru’s economic development, but will also promote China’s export and industrial upgrading.

Meanwhile, Li stressed Chinese-funded enterprises should take social responsibilities in running their businesses overseas, consider local interests, stick to the green development path, create more jobs and maintain a harmonious relationship with local employees and communities.

He also encouraged the enterprises to support each other in expanding overseas operations, saying companies in mining and equipment manufacturing should coordinate with financial institutions to achieve common development. According to Li, the Chinese government will strengthen communication and coordination with the Peruvian side to create better conditions for business operation by Chinese-funded enterprises.

When having live video chats with workers on construction sites, Li told those who work at plateau areas to take good care of themselves and asked the employers to offer better living and working conditions.

Li arrived here Friday for an official visit to Peru, a Latin American country which has a free trade pact with China and wishes to diversify its economic cooperation with China.

Peru is the third leg of Li’s four-nation tour to Latin America after Brazil and Colombia. He will also visit Chile afterward.

**China, Chile Ink Multi-Billion-USD Currency Swap Deal Amid Closer Financial Ties**

Santiago, May 25 (Xinhua) — China and Chile on Monday signed a host of cooperation deals including a multi-billion-U.S.-dollar currency swap pact as the two countries move to enhance their trade and financial ties.

The latest development came after a meeting between visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Chilean President Michelle
Bachelet, who jointly witnessed the signing of a series of bilateral business contracts and governmental accords in areas including politics, trade, finance, mining, agriculture, production capacity and science and technology.

China agreed to grant a quota of 50 billion yuan (8.1 billion dollars) to RMB qualified foreign institutional investors in the Southern American country, according to a joint declaration issued here Monday after their meeting.

The three-year currency swap deal worth 22 billion yuan (3.5 billion U.S. dollars) signed between the central banks of China and Chile is aimed at promoting the bilateral trade and investment, according to a statement on the website of the People’s Bank of China, China’s central bank.

The two countries agreed to explore the possibility of upgrading their decade-old free trade agreement (FTA) to further promote bilateral trade and investment, said the joint declaration.

“The two sides believe that it is necessary to explore the possibility of upgrading the FTA to push forward the lasting development of the bilateral trade cooperation,” said the document, adding that teams from the two countries will start the work no later than August.

Analysts say that an FTA upgrading is expected to cover more products and bring more tax cuts within the current framework.

Chile was the first South American country to establish diplomatic ties and the first in the region to sign an FTA agreement with China.

Two-way trade between China and Chile reached 34.1 billion dollars last year, four times
greater than before the signing of the pact in 2005.

China is also Chile’s biggest trade partner as well as largest buyer of copper products.

When meeting with the press, Li said that China had launched the Chilean branch of the China Construction Bank as an official RMB clearing bank, the first such organ in South America.

The two sides had also signed a pact to avoid dual taxation to facilitate bilateral trade and investment, he said.

Li noted that China stands ready to encourage Chinese enterprises to participate in the construction of Chile’s “two-ocean tunnel,” which connects the Pacific and the Atlantic with the world’s second largest economy’s rich experience in building tunnels located in the earthquake-prone areas.

Against the backdrop of the slow recovery of the global economy, the deepening of cooperation between China and Chile in areas such as finance, taxation and production capacity will promote two-way trade, investment and financing, the premier said.

In his six-point proposal to promote China-Chile practical cooperation, Li urged the two countries to advance the FTA upgrading, deepen financial cooperation to support production capacity cooperation between China and Chile and between China and the Latin America as a whole, as well as strengthen cooperation in industries where the two countries enjoy competitive edges and in infrastructure
He also called on the two nations to strengthen communication and coordination in regional and international affairs and boost people-to-people exchanges.

For her part, Bachelet hailed Li’s current visit as another landmark in the development of China-Chile relations.

She said that Chile is willing to consolidate political mutual trust, deepen cooperation with China in FTA agreement, enhance two-way investment and facilitate personnel exchanges so as to promote the overall bilateral relations.

The joint declaration said that the Chinese and Chilean governments also agreed to "actively conduct production capacity cooperation and expand investment in mining, agriculture, infrastructure construction, energy and manufacturing to promote industrial connection and integration."

The two countries will continue to support each other on major issues concerning their respective interests and enhance mutual understanding and trust, it said.

Li’s visit comes four months after the first ministerial meeting of the Forum of China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States in Beijing.

At the meeting, China and Latin American countries agreed to increase their trade to 500 billion dollars by 2025. China also pledged to bring its accumulative investment in the region to 250 billion dollars by then.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the establishment of China-Chile diplomatic ties.

According to the joint declaration, the two countries agreed to expand cooperation in such areas as culture, education, tourism, youth exchanges, antarctic scientific research, astronomical observation and earthquake prevention and disaster reduction.

They also agreed to strengthen cooperation under the framework of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, of which both are members, and simplify visa application process to promote tourism and personnel exchanges, the document said.

Chile is the last leg of Li’s four-nation tour to Latin America, which has already taken him to Brazil, Colombia and Peru.

Premier Li Urges Production Capacity Cooperation Between China, LatAm

Santiago, May 25 (Xinhua) — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on Monday called on China and Latin America to enhance cooperation on production capacity and people-to-people exchanges.

The move came as the visiting premier addressed the Santiago-based Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) after he briefly met with Alicia Barcena, executive secretary of the UN body.

In his speech, Li made a four-point proposal which he described as “the four pillars” of the China-Latin America cooperation.

They include reinforcing traditional friendship and mutual trust, mutual benefit and win-win cooperation, mutual learning between civilizations as well as China’s overall cooperation with regional organizations in the area.

Against the backdrop of the slow recovery of the global economy, countries should make use of their complementary advantages and strive to develop real economy, Li said, encouraging countries to expand infrastructure construction to lever the development of the equipment manufacturing and related service sector, in order to boost economic growth.

International production capacity cooperation, which involves bringing in facilities, production lines, technology and management experience from other countries according to one nation’s own needs, will effectively reduce infrastructure construction cost, create jobs for the local communities, and promote the diversified development of
domestic industries, he said.

“It is the right time for the Sino-Latin American production capacity cooperation, as China has cost-effective equipment and technology while Latin America needs infrastructure construction and industrial upgrading”, Li said.

The cooperation, which is also open to the United States and Europe that enjoy developed technologies, is expected to achieve win-win results and mutual development, Li said, pointing out that production capacity cooperation is a new approach for deepening the North-South cooperation.

He pledged that China stands ready to invest in this area’s production lines to roll out more building materials needed by the local iron and steel, power and infrastructure sectors.

Li also touched on China’s economic growth in his speech, saying that the world’s second largest economy is capable of keeping its economic growth within a proper range, though the country is facing considerable downward pressure.

During his trip to Brazil last week, Li announced that Beijing will establish a 30-billion-U.S.-dollar special fund for promoting China-Latin America cooperation in production capacity and equipment manufacturing. The premier said the fund will be channeled directly to cooperation projects with no political strings attached.

Li said that China and Latin America should consolidate political mutual trust amid reaffirmed traditional friendship, vowing to have more frequent high-level exchanges with the region.

The premier called for the upgrading of economic and trade cooperation between China and Latin America, and reiterated his proposal
of the new mode of production capacity cooperation dubbed “three times three.”

Li proposed the joint construction of three passages for logistics, electric power and information so as to achieve interconnection on the South American continent.

He said the new mode of China-Latin America production capacity cooperation should follow the rules of the market economy, in a bid to achieve sound interaction among the three entities of private sector, society and the government.

Li called on the two sides to facilitate the construction of their cooperative projects by expanding three financing channels, namely funding, credit loans and insurance.

Li also stressed the importance of people-to-people exchange, one of the indispensable pillars supporting the cooperation between China and Latin America.

He urged the two sides to enhance youth exchanges and promised that China will increase the number of its university scholarships for Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries.

Li said that China is willing to continue to enhance dialogue and cooperation with regional organizations in Latin America to push forward its overall cooperation with the area.

Meeting with Barcena, Li said that China is willing to expand cooperation with ECLAC in areas including production capacity, equipment manufacturing, infrastructure construction and finance to achieve mutual benefits and a win-win situation.

On her part, Barcena said that she expects that the practical cooperation between Latin America and China could go beyond general trade in the future and develop in areas including two-way investment and financial cooperation.

China is the second largest trade partner of Latin America. In 2014, two-way trade between them hit 263.6 billion U.S. dollars, a 20-fold increase from the total value in 2000. China’s investment in the region also surged to more than 80 billion dollars last year.

Li’s visit came four months after the first ministerial meeting of the Forum of China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States in Beijing, where China and Latin American countries agreed to increase their trade to 500 billion dollars by 2025. China also pledged to bring its accumulative investment in the region to 250 billion dollars by then.

**Huawei India R&D Centre**

Huawei Technologies India is the first overseas R&D center of Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd., a leading global information and communications technology (ICT) solutions provider. Established in the year 1999 in Bangalore, the Indian R&D center is engaged in developing cutting-edge software products and platforms in the areas of IP based Data transmission networks, Intelligent Networks, BSS, OSS, Terminal devices and future oriented technologies including SDN, Big Data, Cloud, Mobile Internet, Digital Services etc. The center has evolved as the biggest competence center for global product and solution delivery.

The India R&D center has evolved as a key platform/component development and delivery center of Huawei for the local and international markets and has ownership of
almost all software platforms, components and products being developed in India. Huawei India R&D Center is engaged in full life-cycle product development of cutting edge telecom solutions with its key strengths in information security and maturity of processes.

The platforms and components delivered by the India center have been deployed for majority of global leading operators including Vodafone, T-mobile, China Mobile, KPN (Holland), Deutsche Telekom, and Megafon.

**Innovation and Contribution to Standards**

Huawei believes building a strong IP base is a core competency to ensure the company stays competitive in the global telecoms equipment market. Over the past decade, the Huawei India R&D center has filed over 250 patent applications in the areas of NMS (Network Management System), OSS (Operations Support System), Protocols, Service Delivery Platform, Intelligent Network, IPv4, IPv6, Rich Communication Platform, Business Intelligence, IP, etc.

The India center actively participates in the telecom standardization efforts working along organizations such as IEEE, 3GPP, NGSON, ETSI and has contributed in the areas of network security, IP protocols, PCE application, etc.

**Quality and R&D Process Maturity**

Huawei’s India R&D centre is a CMMI Level 5 certified organization with base level product, platform, test and engineering processes conforming to high maturity levels of SEI-CMM and CMMI practices.

**Matured Quality Management System is important for our**
product realization. The R&D centre has remained focused on the adoption of Software Engineering best practices, having successfully implemented CMMI Model approach for more than a decade, and Agile development methodology for rapid development.

Since its inception in 1999, Huawei Technologies India had laid focus on deploying strong processes for managing the telecom and networking software development, achieving CMM Level 4 in 2001, CMM Level 5 in 2003, CMMI Level 5 Ver 1.1 in 2005, and CMMI Level 5 Ver1.2 in 2009, becoming a competent center for software quality and delivery.

The India center of Huawei will continue to deploy improved processes and systems to deliver more products and platforms with higher quality and performance to our customers worldwide.

Eco-system Partnership

Huawei believes in cooperating with its peers to jointly create a favorable environment. Through win-win collaboration, Huawei and its partners can share the benefits of the value chain.

Besides the captive development centre, Huawei has significant cooperation with the Indian IT industry through outsourcing software development, testing, and system integration work to Indian IT service companies, that has resulted in employment generation, IT export revenues and telecom domain expertise for these Indian companies.

Huawei has outsourced software product development, testing and deployment work in the areas of BSS, Enterprise, Consumer, mobile devices applications to leading Indian IT service companies such as MindTree, Tech Mahindra,
Cognizant, Aricent, Ion Idea, engaging more than 700 Indian software engineers.

The unique and rich experience gained by the Indian IT companies in the telecom domain through partnership with Huawei has enabled them to enlarge their business in telecom domain and also expand their presence in the Asian geography.

A strategic focus for Huawei in bridging the digital divide is to stay committed to the transfer and sharing of ICT knowledge and skills as well as to the nurturing of ICT talent. Huawei partners with universities and colleges around the world to transfer knowledge, promote a greater understanding of, and interest in the telecommunications sector and encourage participation in the digital community.

Huawei and People’s Education Society Institute of Technology (PESIT), are closely working in the areas of cloud-based data center & network optimization for software defined networks (SDN).

Our research collaboration with PESIT is one among the several collaborative programmes Huawei has initiated in India in recent years. We are fully committed to the Indian Government’s strategic vision aimed at developing the telecom Industry ecosystem under the National Telecom Policy 2012.

Corporate Social Responsibility

In line with the core values of Huawei globally, Huawei Technologies India has actively participated in the development of local communities. Since its inception in 2000, Huawei India has always been in the forefront, lending a helping hand during natural calamities, funding education of under privileged children, promotion of sports for the handicapped children, etc.

Illustrative of its social commitment, the Huawei Excellence Award Scholarship Program was set up to award the students who show academic excellence in their respective fields of study. It aims to support IT education, and more specifically in the field of higher education and research through scholarships to students from institutes like International Institute of Information Technology – IIITB & others.

Huawei India has embarked on a unique mission to bridge the digital divide, by helping educate the less privileged children through computer donation program. We hope to make a difference in the way children learn through this initiative to empower young minds through computer donation.

“Change your world in ½ a day” is an employee initiative in which employees of the R&D centre contribute half day’s salary to a Bangalore-based NGO, Parikrma. Over the last few years Huawei has been one of the regular supporters of this initiative. The monetary contribution from Huawei employees helped fund scholarship program for Parikrma’s
children entering into colleges and professional courses & vocational trainings and to support Parikrma’s other educational initiatives.

“Fill the school Bag” campaign is an effort to help the students of Government-run schools in Bangalore by providing them with educational aid such as books, writing materials, school bags and other stationeries.

**Growth & Future Investment**

With employee strength of over 2600 software engineers, market technical support engineers and management professionals, Huawei Technologies India is the largest and fastest developing overseas R&D center of Huawei.

The India center will continue to focus on development and delivery of high quality software platforms, components and applications for the various product lines of the parent company. The new thrust area for the center is global services, and the India center is being developed as a hub for System Integration and overseas market support centre for operators around the world.

To accommodate Huawei’s growing software development workforce in India, Huawei has invested over USD 150 million in building a new R&D campus in Bangalore. The one million sq. ft. campus is built on a 20 acre land, and will accommodate 4,500 engineers.

**Zoomlion In India**

Founded in 1992, Zoomlion Heavy Industry Science & Technology Development Co., Ltd. is a leading global high-tech equipment manufacturer with businesses spanning across sectors such as construction machinery, environmental industry, agricultural machinery and financial services. The company has a registered capital of RMB7.706 billion and employs around 30,000 people.

Over the last 23 years, Zoomlion has produced over 1,200 main products in 51 series and across 11 main categories. In 2014, Zoomlion’s business units achieved a total revenue of RMB25.85 billion, becoming the sixth biggest construction machinery manufacturer in the world. The company is ranked first in the domestic construction machinery and environmental sectors, and third in the domestic agricultural machinery industry.

Zoomlion has manufacturing plants all across the world. In China, the company owns
15 major industrial parks in cities such as Hunan, Shanxi, Shanghai, Anhui and Henan. In addition, the company also has manufacturing operations in Italy, Germany, India and Brazil. With subsidiaries, sales offices and research institutions in over 40 countries around the world, the company has continued to create value for its customers in over 80 countries across 6 continents through its comprehensive sales and service network. In order to accelerate the company’s global strategy, Zoomlion Overseas will increase its efforts in building resources for aftersales services, logistic management and market management in 2015, and place the focus on strategic markets to achieve breakthrough in foreign business performance.

**Milestones In India**

Since venturing into the Indian market in 2003, Zoomlion has made outstanding contributions to local infrastructure building. As of now, over 1,600 Zoomlion equipment can already be found in the country. Zoomlion’s construction cranes were once again ranked first amongst products from Chinese manufacturers in India, solidifying the company’s reputation as the leader of the Chinese construction machinery industry. On 3 December 2009, Zoomlion India Private Limited was founded in Mumbai, India. The company is mainly responsible for construction machinery sales and aftersales services. In addition, a parts warehouse was constructed to hold over 6,000 parts with a combined value of over US$5 million. To ensure better services, the company also established a Zoomlion India Training Center in Maharashtra, Mumbai.

As part of the plan to expand Zoomlion’s presence in India and fully realize the vision of going global, the company signed a joint venture agreement with its Indian partner, ElectroMech Material Handling System (India) Private Limited (ElectroMech). This joint venture will focus on the production and market development of material handling systems in India. The agreement has important strategic implications for both sides. It is a significant milestone in Zoomlion Overseas’ expansion strategy in the Indian market.
Limited on 21 August 2012, with Zoomlion holding 70% share of the joint venture company, while EM holds the remaining 30%. The joint venture company has created in Pune, India, on 11 June 2013. In addition, the company also established strategic partnerships with the following companies: Reliance, Essar, TATA, Gammon, BHEL, NBPPL, Jindal Power, L&T, HCC, Punj Lloyd, NCC, JMC, Sanghvi, ABG, Ideal Movers, Ayoki Group, UB, Petron and Sunil Hi Tech.

Community Integration

Zoomlion ventured into the India market with the vision of tolerance, responsibility and sharing. Based on the different requirements of the Indian market, the company has developed suitable mid- and low-end small towers that caters to the market demands. The machineries were locally produced with services coverage across Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore.

At the same time, the company also emphasized on the hiring and nurturing of local talents with the aim of creating a high quality international team. 25% of Zoomlion India’s employees are locals. For over a decade, the aftersales service team has provide complete service solutions for Zoomlion products. Not only has the company sent professional service engineers and technicians to work sites to provide training on operational procedures and common issue handling, it also ensure periodic full inspection of the construction equipment to ensure that they work stably even in continuous and intense working environments. At the same time, as a partner of major local projects,
Zoomlion has also ensured quick response for parts and service needs. The overall service quality provided by the company has garnered acclaims from the local government and customers.

Zoomlion’s excellent equipment and services have made significant contributions to the building of a good relationship between China and India, promoting stable and rapid growth between the two countries and helping India improve its infrastructure.

Greatoo (India) Private Limited

Greatoo Inc., established in the year 1992, has more than 2,600 employees with total assets exceeding 3 billion. Its headquarters is in Jieyang City, Guangdong province, China. It is a listed company in the Shenzhen Stock Exchange from the year of 2004. Greatoo Inc. is the global development and manufacturing leader of high grade tire mold, tire vulcanizing equipment and cutting-edge intelligent equipment. As a key high-tech enterprise in China, it has established a state-level technology centre, national technology R&D centre, academician workstation, postdoctoral scientific research station, etc.

Greatoo (India) Private Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Greatoo Inc. The subsidiary has over 300 employees, located in Mahindra World City, Chennai, India. It was established in October of 2011 and started production in...
China Signs Cooperation Document with Hungary over Belt and Road Initiative

Budapest June 6 (Xinhua) — Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi inked a memorandum of understanding in cooperation between China and Hungary with Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Peter Szijjarto in Budapest, the capital of Hungary, Saturday.

The MOU, which is involved in jointly building the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road, is said to be the first such document China has ever signed with a European country.

Saying the “Belt and Road” initiative will link China and Hungary closely together, Wang hoped Hungary will work to make a success of it and play a pioneering and exemplary role in this
We welcome more and more countries in Europe will look to the Orient and step up mutually beneficial cooperation with China and other nations in Asia by way of choosing to engage themselves in the ‘Belt and Road Initiative,’” said Wang, “History will prove this is a wise and right choice of strategy to make.”

The Belt and Road Initiative, which refers to creating the modern Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road to boost international trade and expand global economic ties, was proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping when he visited Central Asia and Southeast Asia in September and October of 2013.

The Belt and Road routes run through the continents of Asia, Europe and Africa, connecting vibrant East Asia economic circle at one end and developed European economic circle at the other.

Szijjarto said that his country is willing to work with China over the Belt and Road Initiative and pledged Hungary will make concerted efforts with China toward boosting pragmatic cooperation between his country and China, as well as other European countries beyond.

China's Belt and Road Initiative Benefit Foreign Companies

Beijing, April 29 (Xinhua) — Trade and cooperation projects surged between China and countries along the route of Belt and Road Initiative during the first quarter as more foreign companies get involved.

Trade with countries along the new commerce routes amounted to 236 billion U.S. dollars in the first quarter of 2015, according to the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) on Tuesday.

China is engaged in joint construction of 70 cooperative zones through projects such as the construction of industrial parks, with more than 8 billion U.S. dollars invested by companies, said Shen Danyang, spokesperson with MOC.

These zones are expected to realize an annual output of at least 20 billion U.S. dollars, and provide up to 200,000 jobs, Shen said.

The government has not identified all nations included in the Belt and Road, but so far
as many as 60 have voiced support and interest in the initiative, which was designed to better connect China to the region.

During the first quarter, non-financial investment into these countries stood at 2.56 billion U.S. dollars, accounting for 10 percent of its total overseas investment.

Chinese firms are expected to step up their overseas ventures such as acquisitions as the Belt and Road Initiative goes ahead, according to a report released by the international consulting firm Ernst & Young.

“Chinese firms now are more aware of transactional and operational risks while they venture overseas, as well as of the importance of professional intermediary services such as law, finance and public relations consulting,” said Sameh El-Shahat, CEO of China-i Ltd., a risk management and public diplomacy advisory firm.

“The growing trend and demand means a huge market for global law firms, accounting agencies and PR companies,” Sameh said.

Gu Chunyuan, senior vice president with ABB Group, a global leading power and automation facility and service provider, believes there is much more room for foreign companies to benefit from the Belt and Road Initiative, especially in infrastructure development.

“Improving infrastructure connection is a top priority in the initiative and it also highlights environmentally friendly design, construction and management. This means opportunities for companies with leading technology, global presence and insight of Chinese market,” Gu said.

Meanwhile, communication and cooperation platforms such as exhibitions and forums also allow foreign enterprises to seek win-win partnership with Chinese counterparts, said Xu Ningning, executive president of the China-ASEAN business council.

**Belt and Road Initiative to Benefit Global Development**

Lisbon, May 13 (Xinhua) — China’s Belt and Road Initiative plays a fundamental role in linking emerging markets with countries of huge economic potential and will promote the global development, a Chinese scholar said here Wednesday.

“The economic evolution between China and frontier countries is increasingly more intimate,” Shao Binhong, secretary-general of China Society of World Economics, said at the 1st edition of the China-Portugal conference organized by the University of Lisbon.

“Since now the majority of the volume of China’s economic growth has to do with cooperation between countries, we have to innovate and we have to use our capitals to help developing countries,” she added.

The Belt and Road initiative, a development strategy proposed by the Chinese government in 2013, refers to the Silk Road Economic Belt, which will link China with Europe through...
Central and Western Asia, and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, which stretches from southern China to Southeast Asia, and even to Africa.

The initiative serves more as a roadmap for China’s further integration with the world economy, bringing “new opportunities and a new future to China and every country along the road that is seeking to develop,” said Shao, who is also a research fellow with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

The construction of pipelines and mineral extraction infrastructure, transport facilities, and communication were the main aspects of cooperation among relative countries, she noted.

Echoing Portuguese professionals, she said China and Portugal could establish a research center and oceanic economic zone in an effort to develop the oceanic economy of the two countries.

Meanwhile, Chinese Ambassador to Portugal Huang Songfu pointed out that Portugal could play an important role in the Belt and Road Initiative.

“We welcome Portugal to make the most of this good opportunity and to explore the possibility to cooperate in the Silk Road,” he said.

**Sino-Thai Railway Project Set to Exemplify “Belt and Road” Initiative**

Bangkok, May 21 (Xinhua) — The railway cooperation between Thailand and China could play an exemplary role in the implementation of the China-proposed “Belt and Road” initiative, a senior researcher said.

Thailand and China have been negotiating to thrash out details on jointly building a medium-speed railway line. Construction is expected to commence in October.

The railway project, once completed, could serve as a model of the “Belt and Road” initiative and demonstrate to the world how projects of its kind can propel local economy, said Huang Bin from Kasikorn Research Center, a Thai think tank.

It could bring along more projects as the initiative unfolds, Huang said in an interview with Xinhua.

The initiative of the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013, is aimed at reviving the famous ancient

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*The Silk Road Forum of the 18th Eurasian Economy Summit held in Istanbul, Turkey, April 8, 2015.*
trade routes that span Asia, Africa and Europe.

The mid-speed railway, with trains running at 160-180 km per hour, will connect northeast Thailand’s Nong Khai province, capital Bangkok and eastern Rayong province. It is also expected to join the planned China-Laos railway.

"Thailand’s railways will lead all the way to Europe via China’s railway network, making the country the real ASEAN transport hub," Huang commented.

Thailand stands to gain from its railway cooperation with China, according to Sumet Ongkittikul, research director for transportation and logistics policy under the Thailand Development Research Institute.

Thailand needs a lot of investment and technology from China to be able to proceed with its railway development, Sumet said, stressing it will be beneficial if China’s technologies can be transferred to Thailand.

Comparatively, China’s railway technologies suit Thailand better at the moment, as it caters to the kingdom’s need for cost-effectiveness, Sumet told Xinhua.

Huang echoed Sumet’s views, saying that China’s railway technology stood out “because of its high cost-effectiveness.”

China possesses the most comprehensive technology for high-speed railway systems, the best integration capability, the longest operating mileage, the highest operating speeds and the largest scale of railways under construction, Huang explained.

In addition, Sumet argued that Thailand could also benefit from its improved linkage with China.

Once the railway project is completed, transportation costs will be reduced, which will pave the way for more goods to be traded between Thailand and China, he said.

When the 867-km dual-track line is connected with the China-Laos railway, regional trade, investment, financial exchanges and tourism will boom, according to Huang.

"Rice, rubber, cassava, fruit and other agricultural products will have easier access to
the markets of China and the rest of the world, as will industrial products,” he said, adding that the economy along the line will grow in leaps and bounds.

Thailand and China have so far held rounds of talks and details on construction costs and credit line are expected to be released in August.

Services on the line, which is divided into four phases, should be gradually available from December 2017 to March 2018, Transport Minister Prajin Juntong said.

To further smooth the cooperation, Huang advised China to try to offer some preferential financing package while Sumet suggested that China give some technical support to the Thai side, for instance, by sending experts to help Thai officials better understand details of the cooperation and thus facilitate their decision-making.

Sumet also insisted that if China and Thailand reach some conclusions or early agreements, the information should be disclosed so as to make the project more transparent and the public well-informed.

21st Century Maritime Silk Road Matches Very Well with Brunei’s Economic Diversification Drive

Bandar Seri Begawan, May 23 (Xinhua) — The needs to diversify Brunei’s economy and to multiply the range of products for export have become extremely urgent today. Brunei is an integral part for the building of the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, which matches very well with Brunei’s economic diversification strategy and “Version 2035” blueprint of development.

Chinese Ambassador Yang Jiang had told local media that China and Brunei enjoy good relations. The two sides should seize the opportunity and give impetus to the Hengyi Comprehensive Refinery Project, Huludao Steel Pipe Factory Project and other infrastructure projects like highway and bridge.

She said the two sides should steadily translate the “Guangxi- Brunei Economic Corridor” into reality. Cooperation in agriculture, halal food processing, biological medicine, shipping, tourism and other fields, as well as cultural and people-to-people exchanges should be further enhanced.

“China will encourage more enterprises of competitiveness and excellence to invest in Brunei, and take part in the infrastructure construction of the region,” said the ambassador.

Yang stressed that “China will also support the development of the ‘East ASEAN Growth Area’ with Brunei as its hub.”

“I am confident that the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road will bring more opportunities for further cooperation between China and Brunei. It will be helpful to Brunei’s economic diversification, and will promote
mutual benefits and common development of our two countries,” said ambassador Yang.

With Southeast Asia being one of the focal points of the Belt and Road initiative, she said, ASEAN countries are prioritized on the Maritime Silk Road and will be the beneficiary of early harvest. Thanks to the hard work of both sides over the years, the China-ASEAN exchanges and cooperation are going deeper and further, laying a very good foundation. The initiative will provide new areas of combination for the development strategies of China and ASEAN countries, presenting a broader prospect for future cooperation.

Meanwhile, Brunei’s minister of Industry and Primary Resources YB Pehin Dato Hj Yahya said in a recent International Investment Conference that Brunei’s economy today is still heavily dependent on oil and gas. “The oil and gas sector currently makes up close to 67 percent of our Gross Domestic product (GDP); represents close to 90 percent of the government’s revenues; contribute a staggering 96 percent of our exports; but employs less than 5 percent of our workforce.”

The Brunei government now is making efforts to diversify its economy by introducing new core industries and by attracting more foreign investments. In accordance with the “Vision 2035,” Brunei has created an environment characterized by a stable political and economic climate. Leveraging on the already well-established advantages, Brunei seeks to promote an innovative business environment and encourage investments in the country in order to create a dynamic and sustainable economy for future generations to come.

Earlier, minister Yahya said Brunei intends to build stronger links with Guangxi through cooperation in many fields including agriculture and food production. He said Brunei intends to make Guangxi Qinzhou Port as its main entry point to China, which is hoped to facilitate agriculture and fisheries cooperation that can be further explored. “We are giving special attention to Guangxi so we hope both sides can reap benefits from it and improve Brunei-China relations as a whole.” Brunei also hopes to strengthen shipping service cooperation between Muara Port and Qinzhou Port.

Brunei and Guangxi currently have strong cooperation in rice production: a company from Guangxi offers technical assistance and expertise for a pilot paddy production scheme in Brunei which started as a research field back in 2009 and transformed into a farmland today.

**China’s Silk Road Crucial for Italian Tourism**

Milan, Italy, May 23 (Xinhua) — Cooperation A signing ceremony is held at the China Pavilion of Expo Milano 2015 in Milan, Italy, May 22, 2015. (Xinhua/Song J Ian)
with China is at the center of Italy’s tourism policies, Onofrio Cutaia, Italian Ministry of Culture and Tourism director general for tourism policies, told Xinhua in an interview on Friday.

In recent times the Italian government has made efforts to ease visa policies, considered to be the main obstacle in bilateral tourism exchange, and attract more Chinese travelers, also helped by the ongoing world exposition in Milan, Cutaia said.

On Friday, the provincial representatives of Gansu, Ningxia, Qinghai, Henan, Shandong and Shanghai of China signed a memorandum for tourism exchange and cooperation with representatives of 10 major regions of Italy including Lombardy, whose capital is Milan, Tuscany and Sicily.

“I have a goal, which is to multiply the number of Chinese travelers to Italy and make Italy more and more capable of welcoming Chinese friends and respecting their culture,” Cutaia went on saying on the sidelines of the signing ceremony, held at Expo Milano 2015’s China Pavilion.

“China is a fantastic country of which we can perceive the infinite history and the magnificence offered to visitors and travelers,” he highlighted.

“We have strongly wanted this agreement with China to strengthen relations between the two countries, but especially to increase the visits of our citizens to China and improve our welcome to Chinese friends in Italy,” Cutaia went on saying.

He said the Chinese and Italian governments played a “facilitation role” in the signing of the memorandum. “Today we have made an institutional step that will lead to concrete collaborations between entrepreneurs and tour operators from both countries,” he explained to Xinhua.

Cutaia said there is still much work to do in terms of more convenient and diversified tourism solutions, as well as familiarity with different cultural needs, but was confident that China and Italy are eager to better discover each other.

Moreover both countries, he added, also have a desire for exploring the beauty of less known places than the famous cities of art.

Friday’s signing ceremony was part of an event named “Explore beautiful China along the Silk Road” that took place in Milan this week with various activities intended to present China’s tourism resources in an all-round way to Italy.

The theme of the event, attended by 13 Chinese provinces and 20 Italian regions, also refers to the initiatives of the Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st Century Maritime Silk
Road introduced by Chinese President Xi Jinping to boost transport infrastructure building, investment and trade facilitation, financial cooperation and cultural exchanges between Asia and Europe.

In fact, in a globalized world characterized by fast technological progress in the transport and communication systems, the tourism field is central but still far away from being fully exploited, Cutaia highlighted.

“The influence of tourism on all areas has clearly strengthened,” he noted. He said tourism not only attracts investments in tourist regions and boosts rising of per capita incomes, but also helps employment and promotes industrial growth.

“Public authorities and market operators are now aware of the strategic value of tourism as a driver for development,” Cutaia told Xinhua.

China, with a registered number of 109 million tourists travelling abroad in 2014, offers huge opportunities, he said. “The development of China and its propensity for tourism are overwhelming facts. Taking account of them is a duty, being involved is a vital necessity,” he concluded.

CULTURE & LIFE

Traditional Chinese Weddings

Traditional Chinese wedding customs are considered as the foundation of rites in traditional Chinese culture. A wedding is usually a grand occasion with overly-elaborate formalities. There are eight major procedures of a wedding, including proposal making, birthday matching, marriage divination, betrothal gifts presenting, wedding date fixing, dowry urging, welcoming the bride to the wedding and performing the formal wedding ceremony.

The procedure of birthday matching was the process in which the boy’s family asked the matchmaker to go to the girl’s family to enquire about her name and date of birth. Then, the boy’s parents would send the girl’s and their son’s names and birthdates to a sorcerer or fortune teller for divining to see if the marriage between the two would be appropriate. The foretelling of the luck of the marriage was what was called “marriage divination”.

If according to Chinese astrology the couple
was compatible and both families agreed to the marriage, the boy's family would then send betrothal gifts to the girl's family. The betrothal gifts mainly included clothes, jewelries, gold, silver and cash etc. In addition, a gilded silver coin bearing the word “qiu” (meaning “proposal”) was among the gifts. The girl's family would send back another coin bearing the word “yun” (meaning “agreed”) among their gifts presented in return. Thus, the marriage was confirmed.

Then, the two families would make arrangements for the wedding. When everything was ready, the boy's family would invite a fortune teller to choose a wedding date believed to bring the most luck to the couple based on the Chinese calendar mythology. After the date was fixed, the boy's family would send someone to inform the girl's family of it, which was part of the procedure of fixing the wedding date.

During the period between the wedding date settlement and welcoming the bride, the boy's family would customarily urge the girl's family to send her dowry in for bridal chamber decoration, otherwise the wedding could not be held on schedule. After being urged, the girl's family would begin to prepare the dowry, which would be sent to the boy's family on a chosen date. The amount and quality of the dowry would determine the girl's future status in her husband's family.

Welcoming the bride to the wedding and performing the formal wedding ceremony would be conducted on the same day, which was the climax of the whole wedding procedures. On the wedding day, the bridegroom's family would welcome the bride to the wedding in a bridal sedan accompanied by a wedding procession. With firecrackers exploding and band playing, the precession was a noisy and joyous show. As soon as the bride arrived at the groom's home, the couple would perform formal bows. The rituals were also called “bowing to Heaven and
Earth”, which were conducted to gain approval of the marriage from gods, divinities, ancestors as well as from parents, older generations, relatives and neighbors in the mortal world.

After the bowing rituals, the couple would enter the bridal chamber, followed by rituals like sitting on the bed, throwing happiness-embodying nuts and drinking the nuptial cup etc. After that, relatives and friends to the wedding would be treated to a wedding feast. Then, wedding guests, old and young, would play bridal chamber pranks and wouldn't leave till the dead of night. Thus, the wedding ceremony was finished.

Traditional Chinese wedding customs have been around for thousands of years. They may vary from place to place and time to time, but have been holding an important position in the lives of Chinese people, causing a far-reaching impact on the way the Chinese lead their lives.

Mother's Day Gifts in Internet Era

Hohhot, May 10 (Xinhua) — On Friday, Liu Yang ordered a luxury cosmetics set on a Turkish online store and sent it to his hometown in Bayannur City, north China’s Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

Liu, who works for a Chinese communications company in Turkey, said the gift was to let his mother know that he missed her.

“I’ve been working in Turkey for a few years and have missed out on celebrating Mother’s Day with my mom,” Liu said.

Working away from home may take many young Chinese away from their families, but the Internet is helping to narrow the distance.

Like Liu Yang, Beijing-based lawyer Zhang Shiyun bought a special gift online for her mother on Mother’s Day, which Americans celebrate on Sunday.

After the purchase, Zhang left a voice message on popular instant messaging service WeChat.

“Mom, even though I am not home, I’m with you,” Zhang said.

According to a nationwide survey that allows people aged between 15 and 34 to score their filial affection, 23 percent of respondents gave themselves a mere five out of 10 points.

“Many young people realize that they have grown apart from their families as they work or live far away from home,” said Wei Gang, a psychologist in Inner Mongolia.

However, the Internet offers a way to rekindle family connections, Wei said.

“The Internet makes it much easier to reconnect, and what better timing to do it than on Mother’s Day?” Wei added.

Personalized gifts, like cups or T-shirts that have pictures on, are popular.

“Just imagine the surprise on my mom’s face,” giggled Zhang Yajuan, who just ordered a cup online for her mother that had her smiling face printed on it. Zhang works in Inner Mongolia while her family live in east China’s Jiangxi Province.

“When my mom sees the cup, she will see me smile,” Zhang said, “and that is good enough.”
China’s Dragon Boat Festival, or Duanwu, also called Double Fifth Festival, the festival is celebrated on the fifth day of the fifth month of the lunar calendar, which falls on June 20 this year.

It is one of the oldest festivals, not only in China but also throughout the world, with a history of more than 2,000 years.

The Legend

The Dragon Boat Festival commemorates the death of Qu Yuan, a patriot poet during the Warring States Period (475-221 BC), who committed suicide by flinging himself into the Miluo River in Hunan province after his mother kingdom fell into enemy rule.

Legend holds that people in boats raced to the site where he drowned and threw in zongzi (glutinous rice wrapped in reed leaves) so fish wouldn’t feed on Qu’s body.

Since then, the fifth day of the fifth month on the lunar calendar is celebrated as the Dragon Boat Festival. People hold boat races and prepare zongzi in memory of Qu’s righteousness and his beautiful poems.

Eating Zongzi

Most Chinese festivals are tied to a particular food, and Dragon Boat Festival is no exception.

A very popular dish during Dragon Boat Festival is zongzi. This tasty dish consists of rice dumplings with meat, peanuts, egg yolks or other fillings wrapped in bamboo leaves. The tradition of zongzi is meant to remind us of village fishermen scattering rice across the water of the Mi Luo River in order to appease the river dragons so that they would not devour Qu Yuan.

Balancing Eggs

A participant balances a row of eggs at a Dragon Boat Festival carnival in Taipei, Taiwan.
Dragon Boat Festival is usually in June. It is said that you will be lucky in the coming year if you can balance an egg upright during Dragon Boat Festival. The egg balancing competition will be held at noon in many places.

**Hanging Auspicious Leaves**

Mugwort leaves and calamus distributed free of charge, Fuzhou, Fujian province.

The fifth lunar month is marked as a “poisonous” month in the Chinese farmer’s calendar. This is because insects and pests are active during this summer month and people are more prone to catch infectious diseases.

During Dragon Boat Festival, Chinese put mugwort leaves and calamus on the doors or windows to repel insects, flies, fleas and moths from the house. Those leaves have curative properties and can prevent an epidemic.

**Wearing Scented Sachets**

Scented sachets in Qingyang, Gansu province.

On Dragon Boat Festival, children normally wear scented sachets to ward off evil. A scented sachet is an ornament worn on the front of the dress. The sweet-smelling sachet contains cinnabar, realgar and aromatic herbs.

It is usually wrapped in a silk cloth and sometimes embroidered with exquisite patterns. Multicolor silk threads are attached to the sachet as tassels, making the sachet more appealing. In some areas of China, a scented sachet is also used as a love token between young lovers.

**Dragon Boat Race**

At the center of the festival are the dragon boat races. Competing teams drive their colorful dragon boats forward to the rhythm of beating drums. These exciting races were inspired by the villager’s valiant attempts to rescue Chu Yuan from the Mi Lo River. This tradition has remained unbroken for centuries.

A dragon boat race is held to celebrate Dragon Boat Festival in Ningbo, Zhejiang province.

**Hanging the Image of Zhong Kui**

Zhong Kui is a famous exorcist. His picture, a fierce-looking male brandishing a magic sword, used to be hung up in Chinese houses in order to scare away evil spirits and demons, especially during Dragon Boat Festival.
Beijing, June 10 (Xinhua) — President Xi Jinping met the 11th Panchen Lama Bainqen Erdini Qoigyijabu on Wednesday, and asked him to carry on the patriotic tradition of Tibetan Buddhism.

Xi hoped that the Panchen Lama would keep the motherland and its people in his heart and work for the unity of the country and for all its ethnic groups.

The President said during the meeting that he expected the Panchen Lama to grow into “a Tibetan Buddhist leader with great religious acumen, deeply loved by the monks and secular followers.”

The Panchen Lama should carry on the legacy of his predecessor and actively engage in the cause of incorporating Tibetan Buddhism into socialist society under the Buddhist principles of equality and compassion among all beings.

He suggested that the Panchen Lama promote positive Buddhist doctrines, such as upholding kindness, denouncing wickedness, promoting equality and generosity, as well as helping the needy.

The Panchen Lama was also advised to advance his religious study, nurture his own virtue and expand his vision by studying science.
and culture.

Xi said the Chinese government has always paid high attention to the development of Tibet. This year marks the 50th anniversary of establishment of Tibet Autonomous Region, and the central authorities will send delegations to Tibet to celebrate with local people.

Xi also said he is convinced that Tibet will achieve the goal of building a moderately prosperous society together with other regions of the country by 2020, and he wished a bright and prosperous future to Tibet.

During the meeting, Panchen Lama presented President Xi with a hada — a piece of silk used as a greeting gift among the Tibetan and Mongol people. He also detailed his study and work over the past two decades, which the president replied to with warm congratulations.

Panchen Lama promised that he would learn from the example of 10th Panchen Lama to unswervingly safeguard national unity and ethnic harmony.

He also said he would bear in mind President Xi’s advice, to learn hard and work vigorously to make his contribution to Tibetan Buddhism and socialist construction, so as to live up to the expectations of the people.

Yu Zhengsheng, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, also attended the meeting.

### Tibetan Women's Favorite Ornaments

Tibetan women love wearing jewelry around their necks which includes necklaces made from all kinds of seashells and fossils, colorful beads, kallaite and others, as well as jewelry of varying lengths made from bone, jewels and wax beads. Beautifully crafted metal capsules, called Garwu, are often found hanging from these necklaces. They come in different shapes and are usually made from silver or copper, with agate and kallaite embedded in the surface of the capsule and adorned with a variety of colorful patterns. Fitted inside the Garwu are amulets, statues of Buddha, and belongings of Rinpoches and Lamas. The Garwu evolves from the Buddha box and is now an indispensable accessory for Tibetan women, as they believe it has sacred properties.

Tibetan women also like wearing decorations around their waists. They usually consist of a wide band made of metal or leather while others have a single or multi-stranded silver chain, embedded with gold and silver jewelry, with one end tied to the waist and the
other hanging keys, bells and ear picks, amongst other things. The decorations have patterns or hollow patterns carved into them, such as lotus petals, peacocks, deer, Eight Auspicious Symbols and Six Symbols of Long Life, which symbolize good fortune and peace.

Xueji, commonly known as “Naigou” or “Xiaosang”, is a very popular accessory amongst the pastoral women in Qinghai Province and northern Tibet Autonomous Region. Pastoral women used to use it as a hook on a milking pail, but then it gradually evolved as a kind of ornament due to its practical and decorative qualities. Xueji is shaped like a small anchor which is about one inch long. It is mostly made of silver and embedded with kallaite and agate, and contains various carved patterns. Regardless of whether the Tibetan pastoral women are at home or outside they still wear it, either tied around their waist or dangling over their stomach. Due to its increased use as an accessory, it has become all the more beautiful.

Tibetan prayer beads are also an indispensable religious accessory. A thread is used to tie the 108 beads together and it can be worn around the neck or wrist. The common Tibetan Buddhist belief amongst the majority of Tibetan farmers is that, men and women of all ages wear the amulets, such as Buddha, scriptures or “holy relics pellets”, which are encased into exquisite Buddha boxes or leather bags around their neck and waist, in order to receive blessings from the Buddha and to prevent disaster. It has also become an accessory with distinct Tibetan characteristics.

(Source: China Tibet Online)
The Lhasa Dream of Three Tibetan Sisters

Text by Nigya Tsering

Speaking of “the yellow house of Lhasa”, most people will think of the famed Makye Ame Restaurant on the Barkor Street. But there is another yellow house known as “Mani Lhakhang” to the east of the Potala Palace. Sitting opposite the yellow house, there is a butter shop run by three sisters from Qinghai Province. Through their hard work and kindness, the three sisters have fashioned their own remarkable story of “the yellow house of Lhasa”.

In 1999, Degyi Droma, a beautiful girl from Qinghai, came to Lhasa for the first time on a pilgrimage. She was particularly impressed by the strong religious atmosphere and the inclusive spirit of the city of Lhasa. The business-savvy girl was drawn to the fast-growing city full of opportunities. She soon learned that the residents of Lhasa drink butter tea each day. However, the quality of the butter here was uneven, and it often ran out of stock in winters. She thought of that the butter from her hometown was of top quality, but the herdsmen there were often troubled by the lack of market for their products. A bold idea started to form in Degyi Droma’s mind, and she immediately set about doing it. After consulting with her family, Degyi Droma rented a small shop space facing the yellow house “Mani Lhakhang” to the east of the Potala Palace, and started her adventure in Lhasa.

In the start-up period, Degyi Droma encountered many difficulties and obstacles. But none of them stopped this industrious and strong-willed girl from Qinghai. Degyi Droma always sticks to her own business principle, i.e. her shop only carries the butter of the best quality and never gives short weight. Every day, Degyi Droma gets up before dawn, and walks three laps around the Potala Palace. She would pray silently, and start her day full of energy. Each winter, many pilgrims come to Lhasa. Thanks to its wonderful location, Degyi Droma’s

Sisters showed their butter to the passers-by at the foot of the Potala Palace.
shop has gradually become people’s first-choice when buying butter. As her business grew, Deygi Droma could no longer handle the work by herself. So in 2001 and 2006, her two younger sisters, Jangkyi and the new college graduate Metok Droma, came to Lhasa. Of the three of them, the eldest one Deygi is good at making decisions and has the final say on all the big matters of the shop. The hardworking and down-to-earth Jangkyi keeps every little thing in the shop in good order. Their quick thinking baby sister Metok Droma is fluent in Tibetan, Chinese, and English. Besides doing her own job, she put her computer skills to good use and opened up the online market for the shop. Their hard work bore fruits: the business continued to expand, and their goods exhibited a wider variety: pastoral-area-style plain yogurt, Qinghai steamed bun, and Qinghai fried dough twist were rolled out one after another. Their shop became more well-known in Lhasa. The large number of repeat customers ensures that their business is always brisk.

Besides running the shop, the sisters have been widely lauded for their remarkable devotion to charity work. When they see someone needing help on the internet, they would send some money over anonymously and keep an eye on the conditions of the recipients. Every year the sisters donate a section of their income to the nearby home for orphans and the disabled. At the same time, they also give financial support to some disadvantaged students from their hometown. Some tourist customers in trouble also received their help. Since their shop is close to the wall of prayer wheels, they also provide free tea and benches for the weary pilgrims. In the summer, when tons of tourists from all over the world come to Lhasa, Metok Droma, the youngest of the three, would introduce the Tibetan culture to them using her good English. The sisters have made many friends in the process.

In my talk with the three of them, their diligence and honesty left me with a deep impression. During our talk, many people came into their shop, and they always gave me an apologetic smile, and then provided the customers with warm services. When we talked about the stories between them and their customers, their face lit up with joy. But whenever their charity work was mentioned, they all shook their heads saying how little they had done. Speaking of future plans, their only wish is to start their own charitable foundation in order to help more people in need. These three beautiful and kind-hearted Qinghai girls are building their dreams in Lhasa with their own hands.
BOOK REVIEW

Dear Readers,

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

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

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

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FOREWORD

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

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

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

Huaiyang Cuisine, also called Jiangsu cuisine, is one of China's top four cooking styles having a great reputation at home and abroad. It originates from the dishes and cooking styles of Huai'an, Yangzhou, and Zhenjiang, the cities surrounding the lower reaches of the Yangtze River.

Traditional Huaiyang cuisine came into being in Ming (1368 AD - 1644 AD) and Qing (1644 AD - 1911 AD) Dynasties, which was particularly popular in the Qing Dynasty. Nowadays, Huaiyang cuisine has become a symbol of Chinese food culture, which plays a key role in the banquets for big events, such as the first Grand Banquet for the Ceremony of the Founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 AND the grand banquet for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China.

Known as "a land of fish and rice" in China, Jiangsu Province highlights a grand variety of food ingredients, and the typical raw materials are fresh and live aquatic products. Other cooking ingredients are often carefully selected teasleaves, bamboo shoots, mushrooms, and pears.

The flavor of Huaiyang cuisine is light, fresh and sweet and its presentation is delicately elegant. It stresses the freshness, exquisite workmanship, elegant shape, and rich culture trait. Traditional Huaiyang cuisine features delicate carving techniques, of which the melon carving technique is especially well known. Typical cooking methods of Huaiyang cuisine include stewing, braising, steaming, quick-frying, stir-frying, and wine sauce pickling.

The famous dishes of Huaiyang cuisine include Braised Giant Meatball, Stewed Crab with Clear Soup, Longboiled and Dry-shredded Meat, Crystal Meat, and Sour Vegetable Fish Pot.

Huaiyang cuisine also includes several snacks and breakfast choices such as Crab Soup Dumplings, Thousand Layer Cake, Steamed Dumplings, Tofu Noodles, and Wild Vegetable Steamed Buns.

For the vegetarian and non-vegetarian travelers from India, there will always be some delightful choices from the Huaiyang Cuisine.
The Holy Mountain and Lake in Tibet Autonomous Region of China.