NEWS FROM CHINA
Chinese Ambassador Luo Zhaohui attended “Beautiful China” tourism promotion programme.

Minister of Chinese Embassy, Mr. Liu Jinsong attended 6th Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development.

Chinese Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Deputy Director of the Standing Committee of Hubei Provincial People's Congress Wang Jianming.

Chinese Ambassador Luo Zhaohui, met with the Chinese Delegation attending the 1st China-India Think Tank Forum.

Chinese Ambassador Luo Zhaohui paid a visit to the former NSG Shivshankar Menon and discussed Sino-India relations.

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CHINA ADVOCATES APEC LEADERSHIP IN ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION DESPITE SETBACKS

On Nov. 20, 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping urged members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to stay committed to taking economic globalization forward with vigorous measures, despite increasing setbacks around the world.

Speaking at the 24th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting here in Peru, Xi highlighted the APEC's role as a pioneer, leader and trailblazer of economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific and the world at large, and called on APEC members to leverage the Asia-Pacific's role as a growth engine and work for an innovative, invigorated, interconnected and inclusive world economy.
At the high-level gathering of APEC economic leaders, Xi urged the APEC economies to stay committed to taking economic globalization forward, increasing openness in the Asia-Pacific economy, breaking bottlenecks in regional connectivity and blazing new trails in reform and innovation.

Currently, the world economy still finds itself in profound adjustment, with weak recovery and more divergent growth, said Xi, adding that economic globalization has encountered setbacks, as evidenced by sluggish international trade and investment and rising protectionism.

Citing the blueprint for strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive world economic growth produced by the G20 Hangzhou Summit in September, the Chinese president said it embodies the spirit of partnership to jointly rise to challenges as well as the commitment to common development.

"Instead of coming to a stop because of the temporary difficulties, we need to continue our involvement in economic globalization. What is important is to combine it with our respective development practices, strive to ensure equity and justice, and steer it towards a more inclusive and mutually beneficial direction," he said.

On the building of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), which was launched at the 2014 APEC meeting in Beijing, Xi hailed the smooth completion of the collective strategic study this year, saying it marked a new phase in FTAAP development.

"We need to stick to our agenda and take more effective actions to realize the FTAAP at an early date, thus bringing about an Asia-Pacific economy with greater openness," said the Chinese president.

Calling on APEC members to take more collective and individual actions to implement the Connectivity Blueprint for 2015-2025 adopted in Beijing and promote connectivity in infrastructure, institutions and personnel flows, Xi underlined the need for a multi-dimensional connectivity network and a well-connected Asia-Pacific community.

China is making progress with the Belt and Road Initiative. Featuring extensive consultation, joint participation and shared benefits among partners in the region, Xi said the initiative will contribute to enhanced connectivity in the Asia-Pacific, and pledged to seek synergy in development strategies and cooperation initiatives with relevant parties.

The Belt and Road Initiative refers to the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road initiative proposed by Xi in 2013. The initiative brings together
China Renews Call for FTAAP as Economic Globalization Falters

Lima, Nov. 19 (Xinhua) — China on Saturday renewed its call for pushing forward the building of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), as protectionism has dented global trade and economic integration.

The FTAAP “is a strategic initiative critical for the long-term prosperity of the Asia-Pacific,” Chinese President Xi Jinping said while delivering a keynote speech at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit in Lima, Peru’s capital.

“We should firmly pursue the FTAAP as an institutional mechanism for ensuring an open economy in the Asia-Pacific,” he told global business leaders.

The FTAAP process was launched at the 2014 APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting in Beijing with the endorsement of a roadmap. A “collective strategic study” was conducted subsequently, as agreed by the APEC members, and the result should be reported to the economic leaders by the end of 2016.

Xi arrived in Peru on Friday to attend the annual APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting, scheduled for Nov. 19-20 in Lima, and pay his first state visit to the Latin American country.

This year’s meeting comes against the backdrop of a sluggish global recovery, lack of growth momentum, backlash against globalization, weak trade and investment, and growing global challenges that cloud economic outlook.

“The Asia-Pacific is under similar pressure and is grappling with such challenges as the fragmentation of regional economic cooperation,” Xi said.

In his speech, Xi called on the 21 APEC member economies to promote an open and integrated economy, enhance connectivity to achieve interconnected development, and the country will pursue a development path of innovation, coordination, green, openness and sharing to continue to make contributions to the global and the Asia-Pacific development.

The APEC economic leaders agreed to build an open economy in the region, oppose protectionism, advance the FTAAP process and boost connectivity, thus injecting new impetus into the Asia-Pacific and global growth.

They also agreed that the outcomes of the previous meetings should be earnestly implemented and future cooperation be well planned for the sake of the long-term prosperity in the Asia-Pacific.

A declaration was issued after the annual economic leaders’ meeting.

Also on Nov.20, President Xi, along with other economic leaders, attended a dialogue with International Monetary Fund Managing Director Christine Lagarde who gave a briefing on global economic situation.

Xi expounded China's view on the world economy and reaffirmed the country's resolve to boost reform and its confidence in the prospects of development.

The APEC meeting, hosted by Peruvian President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, took place On Nov.19 and Nov.20 in Lima, capital of Peru, under the theme of “Quality Growth and Human Development.”
development, boost reform and innovation to create more internal driving force, and promote win-win cooperation to forge strong partnership.

“For any regional trade arrangement to gain broad support, it must be open, inclusive and beneficial to all,” he said, adding that “closed and exclusive arrangement is not the right choice.”

The president said that the APEC members must energize trade and investment to drive growth, make free trade arrangements more open and inclusive, and uphold the multilateral trading regime.

Acknowledging that economic globalization is a “double-edged sword” with skepticism these days, the leader of the world’s second largest economy said he nonetheless believes that economic globalization is in keeping with the law of economics and delivers benefits to all.

“We need to actively guide globalization, promote equity and justice, and make globalization more resilient, inclusive and sustainable, so that people will get a fair share of its benefits and will see that they have a stake in it,” he said.

The president also called for implementing the consensus and outcomes of the 2014 APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting in Beijing and this year’s G20 summit held in September in eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou.

“The FTAAP will lead to more investment opportunities in and outside China. China is opening its gate and helping the developing countries in fields such as transportation and infrastructure,” Carlos Galvez Pinillos, president of Peru’s National Association of Minerals, Petroleum and Energy, told Xinhua.

PROMISE ON CHINESE ECONOMY, WORLD’S OPPORTUNITIES

In his speech, Xi reassured
global business leaders on China’s economic growth and opening-up strategy, saying that the country will carry out supply-side structural reform, accelerate the shifting of growth model, promote innovation-driven development, and replace old growth drivers with new ones.

China will also boost high-standard, two-way opening-up to deliver win-win outcomes, and push for shared and green development to make life better for its people, he said.

“China’s economy has a promising future, and China’s development will present great opportunities to the world,” he noted.

China’s economy grew 6.7 percent in the third quarter of 2016, holding steady with the first and the second quarters and strengthening hope that the central government will achieve its annual GDP growth target of 6.5 percent to 7 percent.

“We will give greater access to foreign investment and continue to set up high-standard pilot free trade zones in China,” the president said.

“China’s investment climate will be more open, favorable and transparent, thus allowing foreign companies to share in China’s growth opportunities,” he said.

The president cited that in the next five years China will import 8 trillion U.S. dollars of goods, introduce 600 billion dollars of foreign investment and invest 750 billion dollars overseas, and Chinese tourists will make over 700 million outbound visits.

“All this means a bigger market, more capital, a greater variety of products and more valuable cooperation opportunities for countries around the world,” Xi said.

In his speech, Xi also briefly reviewed the interaction between China and the APEC forum since it became its member 25 years ago.

After the APEC CEO Summit, the Chinese president, along with other APEC leaders, held dialogue with representatives of the APEC Business Advisory Council, exchanging views on the FTAAP, economic integration in the Asia-Pacific, connectivity and the Chinese economy.

Also Saturday, Peng Liyuan, wife of Xi, visited Museo Larco, a museum offering one of the largest displays of ceramics in Lima, together with the spouses of some other APEC economic leaders.

Founded in 1989, APEC, grouping 21 members, now accounts for 39 percent of the global population, 60 percent of the global economy and 46 percent of the global trade.

Peru previously hosted the APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting in 2008. China had also hosted the meeting twice — in 2001 in Shanghai, and in 2014 in Beijing.

Mario Mongilardi, president of the Lima Chamber of Commerce, hailed Xi’s speech as an encouraging message to the business communities of the 21 APEC members.

“The president of China made an extraordinary speech today. He laid out the bases for the future growth of the world economy,” he said.

CHINESE PRESIDENT XI’S APEC SPEECH PUTS CHINA, ASIA-PACIFIC IN GLOBAL "VANGUARD"

Mexico City Nov. 20 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping’s keynote speech at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit on Saturday in Lima, Peru, placed China and the region at the forefront of a joint effort to reactivate the global economy, APEC participants and scholars have said.

Mario Mongilardi, president of the Lima Chamber of Commerce, believed Xi sent an encouraging message to the business communities of the 21 APEC members.

“The president of China made an extraordinary speech today. He laid out the bases for the future
growth of the world economy," Mongilardi told Xinhua in an interview following the summit.

It was made clear that China’s program of reforms will allow the participation of foreign companies in the Chinese market, which would offer other APEC members potential access to over 1.3 billion consumers, said Mongilardi.

“He (Xi) also announced that China would reach out to the world with very important investments and open its market up to foreign investments. It fills us with optimism to see that China, one of the world powers, believes in the market, believes in competition ... as a mechanism for development,” Mongilardi said.

At the summit, Xi said that China must energize trade and investment to drive growth, and will make free trade arrangements more open and inclusive.

Martin Monteverde, president of the National Confederation of Private Entrepreneurial Institutions, said after the summit that Xi’s speech showed China’s willingness to work with others to develop the economy.

Xi said it is estimated that in the next five years China will import eight trillion U.S. dollars of goods, and introduce 600 billion dollars of foreign investment. This will provide great opportunities for Latin American companies, said Monteverde.

Xi said that in the first three quarters this year, China’s gross domestic product (GDP) grew by 6.7 percent. This rapid economic growth will benefit Latin America, especially in areas such as mineral and energy resources, said another APEC participant, Alvaro Barrenechea, corporate affairs manager for Chinalco in Peru.

More than 30 percent of all foreign investments in Peruvian minerals came from China so far. Xi said that in the next five years China will invest 750 billion dollars overseas. This means that all Latin American countries will benefit from China’s opening its market up to foreign investments, Barrenechea said.

Jose Picasso, chairman of Peruvian mining company Volcan, regarded Xi’s speech as the best at the summit.
Xi’s speech showed that China is willing to open up its market and narrow down the polarization of wealth. China’s development will be an impetus for the development of the Asia-Pacific region, Picasso said.

At a time when much of the rest of the world is suffering from economic slowdowns, the Asia-Pacific region is enjoying steady growth, said Xi, and as such it must lead the way and take strong and coordinated actions to energize the world economy and create new opportunities for global growth.

Luis Delgado, a professor of social studies at the state University of Carabobo in northern Venezuela, said “the speech marks the route the Chinese government is proposing to reactivate the world economy,” and indicates “how the Asia-Pacific region can be the vanguard in the reactivation of the world economy.”

Xi’s message also places China at the forefront of that effort, because it “reinforces the free market, but it does so from a comprehensive perspective,” which calls for “growth that must be accompanied by human development schemes,” said Delgado.

In addition, the Asian giant has already taken the lead to do so in different parts of the world, such as Latin America, where “China has committed to the development” of the region in the coming years, said Delgado.

“With Latin America’s potential and the support of the Chinese government, I think it is possible for the region to overcome difficulties,” such as lack of development, infrastructure and investment, and “to reactivate the world economy,” he said.

“I believe China wants to create all of the conditions for the free movement of capital, and in that way strengthen the dynamism of the world economy,” he added.

In that sense, the 2016 APEC meetings in Lima may mark a turning point in the global economic balance, he said.

“The historic context and historic significance of this process mark a relocation of the world’s geo-economic center, which was in the Atlantic, to the Pacific, and in the midst of this, China plays a leading role,” said Delgado.

Venezuelan economist and political analyst Vladimir Adrianza, who teaches at the Bolivarian Military University of Venezuela in Caracas, agreed that Xi’s speech is evidence of “the transfer of the geo-economic center towards the Pacific.”

It also signals an awareness of the disadvantages that have afflicted smaller economies in the traditional global economic order, Adrianza said.

Xi’s speech “gives us an idea of the willingness on the part of China’s current leadership to pursue an understanding with economies that are much smaller than China’s,” he said.

Established in 1989 as a forum to promote free trade throughout the Asia-Pacific region, the 21-member APEC is becoming an increasingly important mechanism to address economic issues not only within the region, but also around the world.

APEC has played an important role in advancing trade liberalization and facilitation, promoting economic integration and boosting connectivity.

The Asia-Pacific region, which is vital to global peace and development, accounts for 40 percent of the world population, around half of world trade, and 57 percent of the global GDP.
economy, and enhance connectivity to achieve interconnected development.

Xi also suggested boosting reform and innovation to create more internal driving forces, and called for win-win cooperation to forge strong partnership.

Such a four-point proposal features directions that will help drive economic development and regional cooperation in Asia Pacific.

Economic integration and openness, which have underpinned development in China and the Asia-Pacific region over the past 25 years, are of special significance as protectionism threatens to dent global trade and economic integration.

Meanwhile, connectivity and interconnected development are key drivers that will support economic integration and continued vitality in the region, while reform and innovation are the internal forces that will spur development for member economies.

Actually, China is not only laying out a theory, but is following its words with actions.

The nation is actively pushing forward the building of a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), a strategic initiative critical for the long-term prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region and an institutional mechanism that will ensure an open economy in the region.

The FTAAP process was launched at the 2014 APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting in Beijing with the endorsement of a roadmap. Subsequently, a “collective strategic study” was conducted, as agreed by APEC members, and the results should be reported to economic leaders by the end of 2016.

In addition, China has played a positive role in the improvement of connectivity in the region through such mechanisms and channels as the Belt and Road Initiative, the Asian Infrastructure Investment
Bank, the Silk Road Fund and South-South cooperation.

China became a member of the APEC forum 25 years ago. The past quarter century has seen China act as a contributor and active participant.

The past few decades also show that shared prosperity can be achieved as member economies open up to each other.

China has entered a decisive stage in its mission to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects. Supply-side structural reform and its pursuit of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development, among other aspects, have all warranted confidence in and expectation of China's growth.

In the next five years, China will import 8 trillion U.S. dollars of goods, welcome 600 billion dollars of foreign investment and invest 750 billion dollars overseas, and Chinese tourists will make over 700 million outbound visits.

These projections bear out that China’s development offers opportunity to the Asia Pacific and the world at large.

Matching words with actions, China can be expected to stride along the Asia-Pacific region into a new phase of development.

**XI, OBAMA AGREE TO MAINTAIN HEALTHY, STEADY GROWTH OF CHINA-U.S. TIES**
On Nov. 19, 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping and his U.S. counterpart, Barack Obama, met in Lima and agreed to maintain healthy and steady development of bilateral relations.

Meeting on the sidelines of the 2016 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders’ Meeting, Xi spoke highly of the U.S. president’s endeavor in developing ties with China.

It was the third meeting this year between Xi and Obama, and the ninth in over three years, recalled the Chinese president.

The two heads of state have conducted multiple in-depth exchanges of views on issues of strategic and overall significance in bilateral ties and reached broad consensuses, especially their joint decision to build a new type of China-U.S. major country relations that has guided the two countries to achieve significant progress in bilateral ties, Xi said.

Summing up the two countries’ experience in developing bilateral relations over the past more than three years, Xi told Obama that the two countries firstly have a good grasp of the general direction of bilateral ties, with cooperation being their only correct choice.

Secondly, China and the United States have actively expanded practical cooperation and pursued win-win and multi-win outcomes, which benefited not only the two countries, but also the world at large, Xi said.

Thirdly, he noted, the two countries have stuck to managing sensitive issues in a constructive way with mutual respect, avoiding misjudgment, and more thinking in each other’s shoes, so as to prevent the escalation of disputes.

China and the United States bear great responsibilities and have broad common interest in safeguarding world peace and stability, and promoting global development and prosperity, said Xi, adding that a long-term, stable and healthy growth of China-U.S. ties serves the fundamental interest of both peoples and is widely expected by the international community.

Xi said he has had a phone
conversation with Donald Trump after Trump was elected the next U.S. president.

The Chinese president said he is willing to work with Trump to expand cooperation in various fields at bilateral, regional and global levels, and manage differences in a constructive way, so as to realize non-confrontation, mutual respect, win-win cooperation, and greater progress for China-U.S. ties from a new start point.

Recalling his close contact with Xi in recent years, Obama said he and Xi have forged a candid, friendly and constructive relationship and increased mutual trust.

In more than three years, the United States and China have jointly dealt with challenges and effectively managed differences, while bilateral consultation and cooperation mechanisms have yielded rich results, said Obama.

The two sides have carried out cooperation on such issues as promoting global growth, reaching an agreement on the Iranian nuclear issue, and addressing the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, he said, highlighting their key roles in driving forward international efforts in dealing with climate change.

Calling the U.S.-China relationship the most significant bilateral relationship in the world, the U.S. president said a constructive U.S.-China relationship is beneficial to both peoples and the international community at large.

Obama told Xi that he has underlined the importance of U.S.-China relations to Trump, and stressed that there should be a smooth transition of bilateral ties amid the U.S. presidential change.

The U.S. side is ready to develop a more sustained, fruitful relationship with China, said Obama.

The leaders of the world’s two largest economies also made an in-depth exchange of views on major global and regional issues of common concern.

**XI, PUTIN MEET ON ASIA-PACIFIC FREE TRADE, CHINA-RUSSIA TIES**

On Nov. 19, 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping on called for joint efforts by China and Russia to push forward the process of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP).

Xi told his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin at a bilateral meeting that both sides should fully implement the consensus reached at the 2014 APEC Beijing meeting and other meetings in recent years.

The FTAAP process was launched at the 2014 Beijing meeting and a roadmap was endorsed. A collective strategic study on the FTAAP was conducted subsequently, as agreed by the APEC members, and the result should be reported to the economic leaders by the end of 2016.

Xi and Putin are currently in Lima, Peru’s capital, attending the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders’ Meeting and related events.

Delivering a keynote speech at the APEC CEO Summit earlier Saturday, Xi called for concerted efforts to advance the construction of the FTAAP, noting that it is a strategic choice concerning the long-term prosperity of the region.

Holding talks with Putin on the sidelines of the meeting, Xi underlined the need for China-Russia cooperation under the APEC framework in a bid to promote the bloc to contribute more to regional and global economic growth.

Echoing Xi’s remarks, Putin said Russia and China should strengthen coordination and collaboration in APEC and other multilateral mechanisms.

As for China-Russia all-round strategic coordination, Xi said that it has not only promoted both countries’ development but also strengthened the force of world peace and justice.

China stands ready to work with Russia to continue high-level close contact, enhance mutual support and consolidate political and
strategic mutual trust in the upcoming year, stressed Xi.

The Chinese president called on the two neighboring nations to enhance synergy of their national development strategies, and further integrate the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative and the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU).

He also expressed hopes that both countries will successfully organize the China-Russia Media Exchange Year and other important people-to-people and cultural exchanges.

Putin, for his part, said the high-level relationship between Russia and China is very significant for global peace and stability, noting both sides should maintain close contact.

Hailing good momentum of bilateral economic ties and achievements they have scored in high and new technology, the Russian president stressed that Russia is looking forward to working with China to strengthen collaboration between the Belt and Road Initiative and the EEU.

The two heads of state also made in-depth exchange of views on other international and regional issues of shared concern, agreeing to safeguard peace and security in Northeast Asia, Central Asia and other regions neighboring their two countries.
On Nov. 23, 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping extended condolences to his Indian counterpart Pranab Mukherjee over a recent train accident in northern India that killed at least 146 people and injured more than 200 others.

On behalf of the Chinese government and people, and in his own name, Xi expressed his deep condolences to the victims of the disaster, as well as sympathy to the families of the victims and the wounded.

The deadly train derailment occurred in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh on early Sunday. Over 500 passengers were on board the train when the accident occurred.

CHINESE PREMIER SENDS CONDOLENCES TO INDIAN PM OVER TRAIN DERAILMENT

Beijing, Nov. 23 (Xinhua) — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on Tuesday sent his condolences to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi over a train derailment accident in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh which killed at least 146 people.

In his condolence message, Li said he was shocked to hear that a train derailed in India's northern state of Uttar Pradesh on Sunday, causing major casualties.

On behalf of the Chinese government, he offered his deepest condolences to the victims and their families.

AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI SENDS A CONDOLENCE LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU ON THE PASSING AWAY OF SMT. JAYALALITHAA

On December 6th, Ambassador Luo Zhaohui sent a condolences letter to the Government of Tamil Nadu on the passing away of Smt. Jayalalithaa, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

The condolences letter reads as follows:

Government of Tamil Nadu,

I was shocked to hear the unfortunate demise of Smt. Jayalalithaa Jayaraman, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. I’d like to hereby express my deepest condolences to the Government and people of Tamil Nadu.
Smt. Jayalalithaa was a prominent political leader in India. I pay sincere respect to. Her irreplaceable contributions to the development of Tamil Nadu will be long remembered by history and people.

I’m firmly believing that people of Tamil Nadu who just lost a great leader will soon summon up under the new leadership of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu and China share a tradition of friendly relations, harmonious atmosphere between two peoples and frequent commercial exchanges. I sincerely hope that Tamil Nadu and Chennai would further enhance its friendly cooperation with China.

Sincerely Yours,
Luo Zhaohui
Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to India

CHINA, INDIA COULD BENEFIT FROM PHARMA TIES
by Wang Dehua

China and India are the world’s two largest manufacturers of bulk drugs, a key raw material for producing pharmaceutical drugs. Currently the two countries cooperate and compete in the field.

Now, with changes in the supply pattern of bulk drugs around the world, companies in the U.S. and Europe have also started competing with the Chinese and Indian markets. This situation raises the need for China and India to think about how they should maintain their own advantages and how to break development bottlenecks in the bulk drug industry. In terms of market size,
the combined population of China and India surpasses 2.5 billion – huge markets that no country can afford to ignore.

Today, more and more Chinese companies see India as a first step toward going global. A record for overseas acquisitions by Chinese pharmaceutical firms was broken by Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical Group when it announced the purchase of 86.08 percent of Indian drug-maker Gland Pharma for up to US$1.26 billion in July. This was also the largest acquisition of an Indian asset by a foreign firm this year.

Analysts believe that Fosun is targeting more than just the Indian market through its acquisition of Gland Pharma. India leads the world in generic drugs and its industry is quite internationally oriented. Acquiring Gland Pharma could help Fosun crack other overseas markets.

This move could allow China to learn from India and could also prompt China to open up its pharmaceutical industry. China is still in the process of transitioning from a planned economy to a market economy and excels in production cost control. However, India is an English-speaking country which has been engaged with the international pharmaceutical industry longer than China. As such, India has a range of experience and expertise in marketing and sales in global medical markets. India also slightly outperforms China in generic drugs as well as research and development capability. As for benefits to India, China offers a huge and rapidly growing market for generic drugs. The sheer volume of China's population base means that the number of drug applications is remarkable. Through massive market operations, India could turn China into a promising market, which would help raise its production capacity. Meanwhile, China could boost its capability in generic drugs and the development of original drugs by learning from and cooperating with India. India is known for its rapidly-developed specialized downstream pharmaceutical products, while China is seeing its basic upstream pharmaceutical products grow quickly. Pharmaceutical companies from both countries could take advantage of the complementary development of the two markets and prosper together.

At the same time, Fosun should take precautionary measures to avoid repeating the mistakes and failures of some Indian pharmaceutical companies in their overseas expansion. For example, Indian generic drug-maker Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd has suffered major setbacks in the US market in recent years. The US drug regulator recently discovered that Ranbaxy's Mohali manufacturing site failed standards checks and, as a result, imposed an import alert on the facility. Ranbaxy had previously pled guilty to drug safety charges and paid out US$500 million in civil and criminal fines in a settlement with the US Department of Justice in 2013.

As the global manufacturing center of pharmaceutical products shifts towards India and China, the two countries should seize the opportunity and work together to become world-class pharmaceutical giants amid Asia's rise.)
two countries should seize the opportunity and work together to become world-class pharmaceutical giants amid Asia’s rise.

This article was originally published on globaltimes.cn. The author is the director of the Institute for Southern and Central Asian Studies at the Shanghai Municipal Center for International Studies.

SELLING CHINESE SMARTPHONES IN INDIA

by Gao Yuan

Chinese smartphone makers are seeing India as their second home, after demand at home has fallen to a record low.

Chinese smartphone vendors, such as Vivo, Lenovo Group Ltd, Xiaomi Corp, Meizu Telecom Equipment Co., Ltd. and others, are aggressively expanding in India since 2015.

T.Z. Wong, a Singapore-based smartphone analyst at research company Canalys, explains why. “Chinese brands see the Indian market as the biggest gold mine after China,” Wong said. “The two markets are very similar for the vendors. The only difference being that India was a few quarters behind China in terms of demand.”

On the third day of Diwali, India’s biggest festival in mid-November, the nerve-cracking sounds of firecrackers left the city’s narrow alleys sleepless all night long. However, for Sadiq Kumar, who runs a 10-square-meter electronics
store in a 300-year-old bazaar in the densely populated Paharganj area of New Delhi, selling smartphones, power banks and memory cards from China, the “festival of brightness” spells fortune. “Business has been very good these days,” said Kumar, standing behind a counter full of mobile phones made in China. His booth is sandwiched between a store selling knock-off Adidas bags and a shop peddling 50-rupee slippers.

Inside the booth, where nothing filtered the street’s noise and firecracker fumes, Kumar, in his 40s, reached out to a glass display cabinet behind him and put a white smartphone case on the counter. “This is our star product. It is as good as the iPhone 6,” he said, pointing at a silver Vivo logo on the case.

The device Kumar was referring to was a vivo Y27L, a 4.7-inch, or 120 millimeters screen Android phone made by Guangdong-based Vivo Communication Technology Co Ltd.

The handset is selling at rupees 13,980 in Kumar's store. It is compatible with the 4G communications network, which remains a new and expensive service for many in India.

Kumar introduces Vivo smartphones every time to buyers who are looking for a 4G device. But if the buyers think twice about taking the iPhone-quality device, the store also offers made-in-China smartphones priced as low as 4,000 rupees. That's a price most people could accept.

A Huge Market

India’s emerging appetite for smartphones is spurred by the country’s gigantic population of more than one billion, second only to China. Increasing middle-class incomes have pushed online shopping to the forefront, with electronic devices being one of the best-selling items.

China accounts for nearly 30 percent of the global handset shipments today, and the country’s share may shrink roughly by a fourth by 2019 as shipments from India, Indonesia and other emerging markets grow.
This is nearly a rerun of China’s situation five years ago when the trend of getting touch-screen phones kicked off. Starting in the early 2000s, China became the epicenter of global smartphone brands. It consumed the most devices, helping Apple and Samsung take a lion’s share of the market and profits.

Wang Ying, a smartphone market researcher at Beijing-based industry advisory company Analysis International, said that a slowdown in the Chinese market is inevitable as first-time smartphone buyers are dwindling rapidly.

“With fewer new buyers, vendors have to persuade existing users to buy updated products for replacement, something that is not so easy,” Wang said.

Sluggish smartphone demand in China is bringing down year-on-year worldwide shipment growth rate to 9.8 percent this year, the first single-digit performance on record, International Data Corp (IDC) warned earlier this year.

China, the world’s largest electronics market, is responsible for nearly 30 percent of the global handset shipments today, and the country’s share may shrink roughly by a one fourth by 2019 as shipments from India, Indonesia and other emerging markets grow, IDC said.

With a population that is predicted to surpass China’s, India looks ripe for a smartphone invasion. Indeed, the latest must-have handsets can be seen on the busy streets of the country’s major cities.

Unique User Demands

But there still seems to be a place for cheap and cheerful feature mobiles, even though an entry-level smartphone can cost as low as 5,500 rupees ($82). To explain this, you only have to talk to people from the business community.

In India, some iPhone users still keep a trusty Nokia in their pockets. In Delhi, the highly decorative trucks are everywhere on the crowded roads where smells of freshly baked garlic naan are luring tourists. Also common are the charming ring tones from Nokia’s feature phones. Because of limited charging stations and erratic power supply, people switch between smartphones and feature phones to save battery time. This rather unique user demand is stunting the
development of smartphones, leaving manufacturers in a dilemma.

Should they roll out small screen smartphones, which use less power, or concentrate on pamphlet-size mobiles, which are becoming increasingly popular? Part of the solution could be portable power packs. They will play a crucial role in the years to come, while more energy-saving smartphones will no doubt be launched by the main players.

But then, the battle for supremacy in India’s mobile market is becoming distinctly competitive. Domestic brands such as Micromax Mobile and Lava International Ltd are locked in a fight with Chinese rivals Xiaomi Corp, Meizu Technology Co Ltd and Letv Holdings Co Ltd. They are slugging it out for dominance in the middle end of the sector, or mobiles that cost less than $200. Another Chinese giant in India, the Lenovo Group, is taking on global powerhouse Samsung Electronics Co Ltd in the mainstream market, where smartphones can cost up to $500. It is impossible to predict who will win the smartphone wars. Still, as long as Chinese companies continue to roll out competitive products, they will be in with a shout.

Different Strategies in Marketing

A few kilometers south of Kumar’s shop, middle-class shoppers are buying Sony cameras and Hewlett-Packard laptops at an electronics store in Connaught Place, a major commerce and financial center in New Delhi. Lenovo devices are the only handset bearing a Chinese logo waiting for buyers at the Croma outlet, an electronics chain store under the Indian multinational conglomerate Tata Group.

Amar Babu is convinced that he has the recipe for success to make Lenovo a major player in India’s rapidly expanding smartphone market. As chairman of the group’s operation in India, he feels that the Chinese company has the edge when it comes to high-quality products, technological innovation and affordable prices. The numbers certainly look good for Lenovo, the world’s No. 1 PC manufacturer. In the third quarter of 2015, Lenovo shipped a record 2.7 million smartphones to India with a market share of close to 10 percent. This made the Beijing-based giant the fourth biggest smartphone manufacturer in terms of shipment in the country behind Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, and domestic brands Micromax and Intex.

“The first milestone was crossed... we are expecting even faster growth here,” Babu, who is also vice-president and chief operating officer of Lenovo’s Asia Pacific division, said. Only hours earlier, he was poring over the latest shipment figures. Lenovo said it will expand its product roll out at Croma in 2016. The company will be directly taking on Samsung and other market leaders to become a top three smartphone vendor in the country.

Today, only Samsung Electronics Co’s Galaxy series, HTC Corp’s 60,000-rupee pamphlets and Microsoft Corp’s Windows phones with colorful cases are popular products at thousands of Croma stores in New Delhi, Mumbai, Goa, Bangalore and many smaller cities. Chinese brands are also rare in Mobiliti World, another brick-and-mortar consumer electronics store chain.

Beijing-based Xiaomi has a different strategy. It has been avoiding the brick-and-mortar route, relying instead on the online e-commerce retailer Flipkart.com. Xiaomi’s “everything goes online” strategy saves costs with the large rural population also being potential buyers. Kirthik J, senior market analyst at IDC, said online sales are impressive in India. “Online retailers such as Flipkart, Snapdeal, and Amazon are driving shipments of the Chinese vendors, who have been aggressively trying to capture the 4G smartphone market in India,” Kirthik said.

The sector is incredibly competitive with a list as long as your arm vying for market share. Included in the mix are Chinese companies such as ZTE Corporation, Xiaomi Inc, Oppo Electronics Corp and Vivo Mobile Communication Technology Co Ltd. All of them have spent heavily on marketing.
And Vivo Mobile Communication Technology Co Ltd is making the biggest waves.

The previously unknown smartphone maker created a splash by becoming a title sponsor for the high-profile Indian Premier League, a cricket tournament that is watched across the globe. Indians love cricket, so Vivo’s move looks pretty shrewd. As for how much the company spent on the deal, is difficult to say. Vivo’s predecessor, the soft drink giant PepsiCo, forked out a whopping 3.97 billion rupees back in 2013 to secure sponsorship rights. It seems Vivo is making a very expensive point.

Lenovo’s early investment in “brand building” has helped the company stay ahead of most of its rivals. “We started to do brand building on phones about two and half years ago,” Babu said. “Nobody knew Lenovo made phones back then. The next step is to increase offline sales.”

More than half of the company’s smartphone sales are generated online. But that is changing as Lenovo has about 7,000 traditional outlets. The group is also in talks with Indian electronics store chain Croma to sell a wider range of devices across the country.

Local Manufacturing - A Key

In May, Xiaomi, partnering with Taiwan-based contract manufacturer Foxconn, opened its first overseas smartphone manufacturing plant near the southern Sri City in Andhra Pradesh. Lenovo quickly followed, kicking off handset production in the port city of Chennai. In October, another red hot maker, OnePlus, also opened an assembly facility in India.

Lenovo’s Babu was sitting in an empty dining room at a Four Seasons hotel in downtown Mumbai as he talked about his team’s outstanding performance and the company’s online to offline marketing strategy. One goal was finally within reach after Chen Xudong, who heads Lenovo's global smartphone operation, made double-digit market share in India a top priority during the summer as the company goes head-to-head with Samsung.

“Getting the latest technology, such as 4G, into the products will help to grow sales even more,” Babu said. Lenovo’s K3 Note, a 4G Android smartphone which costs 9,999 rupees ($150), was the best-selling mobile in its class in India during the third quarter of 2015,
according to consultancy Counterpoint Technology Market Research. With a 5.5-inch (139 millimeters) screen, the stylish pamphlet-size device hit a sweet spot in terms of specifications and price, Counterpoint said. Part of the allure is its 4G capability after India’s major telecom carriers, such as Bharti Airtel Ltd, rolled out the service less than a year ago. Most of Lenovo’s brands target the mainstream market, which revolves around a price range between $150 and $250.

“It was a good call for Lenovo because 70 percent of India’s smartphone sales are generated by devices priced below $300,” Babu said.

Earlier this year, Lenovo opened a smartphone assembly plant near the port city of Chennai. It also makes PCs. By setting up a manufacturing base in India, the company has managed to keep costs low – a major advantage in a cutthroat business. “I am very, very positive about sales next year,” Babu said. “Even if we do not increase our market share, Lenovo will still produce 25 million phones in the next 12 months just to feed India’s growing demand. In the next three to four years, the market is expected to double from this year’s industry figure of 120 million,” he added.

In the third quarter of 2015, Lenovo reported worldwide smartphone shipments of 18.8 million units, putting the company in the global top five. “We are beating our numbers every time,” Babu said about the market in India.

Many Chinese vendors are also planning manufacturing projects in India. “All our handsets are made in China and then shipped to India. Making products locally will help reach our Indian customers faster and be more effective,” Pete Lau, chief executive of the Shenzhen-based Vivo said.

A “Make in India” campaign, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014, has also helped spur companies to take advantage of potential tax breaks and incentives. The campaign, which encourages both overseas and domestic companies to manufacture products in India, unlocking the country’s human power, opened a door for Chinese smartphone vendors to the upper streams of the Indian smartphone market.

Lau from Vivo said the company expected to sell one million smartphones in India by the end of 2015.

“Making devices in India will help the vendors lower expenses as labor costs in Chinese factories continue to rise,” Wong from Canalys said. In addition, Prime Minister Modi’s ambitious plan of lifting Indian cities from pre-colonial alleys into well-established smart cities also offer a new area for Chinese IT companies to explore.

(The author is a business reporter of China Daily)

CHINA EXPORTS EIGHT-INCH CHIPS TO INDIA

Changsha, Nov. 15 (Xinhua) — China’s leading locomotive maker, CRRC Zhuzhou Institute Co. Ltd., has made the country’s first bulk export of eight-inch chips to India.

The company, based in Zhuzhou City in central China’s Hunan Province, said on Tuesday that it exported eight-inch insulated gate bipolar transistor (IGBT) chips that will be used for upgrading the transformers of 100 locomotives in India to make the electric trains more energy-efficient.

The China-made chips are currently used on the 7,200-kilowatt electric locomotives that power China’s high-speed trains.

CRRC Zhuzhou Institute Co. Ltd. built the world’s second eight-inch chip production line in 2014, which has reached annual output of 120,000 chips and 1 million IGBT modules.

The IGBT chip is a key technology of modern electric appliances. It can be used in everything from high-speed rail to the aerospace and aviation industries.

The Chinese locomotive maker expects the chips to have huge export potential.
Nov. 17, 2016, China and Ecuador agreed on Thursday to lift bilateral ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership.

The decision was announced during Chinese President Xi Jinping’s state visit to Ecuador, the first of its kind since the two countries established diplomatic relations 36 years ago.

In his talks with Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa, Xi, who arrived in Ecuador Thursday afternoon, said Ecuador is an important country in Latin America.

Despite a long distance between them, bilateral ties between China and Ecuador have witnessed substantial development in recent years.

The two countries established a strategic partnership in Correa’s second official visit to Beijing in 2015, and Ecuador is now a major destination for Chinese investment and financing in Latin America.

In April this year, Ecuador was hit by a 7.8-magnitude earthquake, and China was one of the first countries to supply humanitarian aid.
immediately after the quake.

Xi noted that since 2015, mutually beneficial cooperation between the two sides have seen rapid development in a wide range of areas, with the scale of collaboration continuing to increase.

Bilateral ties have since been greatly enriched and have been picking up momentum towards comprehensive development, he added.

The Chinese president said China-Ecuador relations have now entered a key phase where cooperation between the two countries is of greater importance to both sides.

China will continue to support Ecuador in exploring a development path that suits its own conditions, and will actively take part in Ecuador’s post-earthquake reconstruction work, he said.

China is willing to reinforce practical cooperation with the Ecuadorian side in all areas, comprehensively step up the integration of interests of both sides, expand people-to-people exchanges, and open up brighter prospects for the development of bilateral ties, Xi said.

He went on to pledge support for Ecuador’s presidency of the Group of 77 next year, saying that China is willing to maintain close cooperation with the G77 in multilateral affairs.

China is also willing to work with Ecuador to boost overall cooperation with Latin America and push for greater development in China-Latin America relations, he added.

Ecuador is the first leg of President Xi’s three-nation Latin American tour which will also take him to Peru and Chile. This is his third visit to Latin America since he took the presidency in March 2013.

CHINA, PERU AGREE TO PROMOTE BETTER, FASTER GROWTH OF TIES

On Nov. 21, 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Peruvian counterpart, Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, agreed to promote better and faster development of the two countries’ comprehensive strategic partnership.

The consensus was reached during in-depth talks between the two heads of state after a red-carpet welcoming ceremony hosted by Kuczynski in front of the presidential palace.

Invited by Kuczynski, Xi arrived in the Peruvian capital of Lima attend the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders’ Meeting and pay his first state visit to the Latin American country.

Xi told Kuczynski that he hopes the visit will deepen the two countries’ traditional friendship, promote all-round dialogue and cooperation, and boost the China-Peru comprehensive strategic partnership, so as to bring more benefits to the two peoples.

Recalling Kuczynski’s visit to China in September, the Peruvian president’s first foreign visit since he was sworn in on July 28, Xi said they held fruitful talks and agreed to push forward bilateral relations into a new phase.

The coming five years are a significant time for national development of both countries, the Chinese president said, urging the two sides to weigh top-level design and overall planning for bilateral ties, run their cooperation mechanisms well, fully implement their joint action plan for cooperation in 2016-2021, and strengthen synergy of development strategies so as to obtain real results of their consensuses.

He stressed that both countries should treat industrial capacity cooperation as a new engine for their economic ties and strive for early harvest of major projects.

The two sides can also further reinforce cooperation in mining industry, energy and infrastructure construction, as well as explore new cooperation fields such as environmental protection, clean energy and information connectivity.
Calling on both countries to upgrade their free trade agreement signed in 2009 in a bid to inject new vitality into two-way trade, Xi said the Chinese government will continue to encourage capable enterprises to invest in the Latin American country.

In addition, Xi advised both sides to constantly expand exchanges in culture, education, science and technology, healthcare, sports, media, colleges and universities, think tank and other areas, as well as strengthen tourism cooperation.

Xi congratulated Peru on the success of the APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting, noting that the substantial results of the meeting contained Peru’s contribution and Latin America’s wisdoms at large.

He said China stands ready to
work with Peru and other APEC member economies to earnestly implement the meeting's results, constantly push forward the process of building a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), and jointly forge an open economy in the region.

Hailing the sustained growth of bilateral relations, Kuczynski said Peru is looking forward to further enhancing ties with China since both share similar historical experiences, same aspiration for national development, and huge potential for cooperation in the economic and cultural fields.

Peru is willing to upgrade its free trade agreement with China, Kuczynski said, adding that Chinese investment in mining industry, energy, hydropower, transportation and infrastructure are welcomed.

The Peruvian president also voiced hope that both countries will strengthen ties in education, culture and tourism and create more favorable conditions for people-to-people exchanges.

Peru appreciates China’s support for the country in hosting the APEC meeting, Kuczynski said, stressing that Lima is ready to work with Beijing in boosting trade and investment liberalization as well as opposing protectionism in the Asia-Pacific.

Following their talks, Xi and Kuczynski witnessed a signing ceremony of cooperation documents, including an inter-governmental joint action plan for cooperation in 2016-2021, and deals in trade and economy, mining industry, industrial parks, information connectivity, economic technology, quality inspection, environment and other fields.

Accompanied by Kuczynski and his wife, Xi and his wife Peng Liyuan paid tribute to the monument of Peru's independence heroes earlier in the day.
Santiago, Nov. 22 (Xinhua) — China and Chile agreed on Tuesday to lift bilateral ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership as Chinese President Xi Jinping paid his first state visit to the Latin American country.

In his talks with Chilean President Michelle Bachelet, Xi compared China and Chile to true friends who could touch each other’s heart from the other end of the world, and commended Chile for taking the lead amongst Latin American countries in developing ties with China.

Chile was the first country to establish diplomatic ties with China in South America, as well as the first Latin American country to sign a bilateral accord with China on the latter’s accession to the World Trade Organization, and to recognize China’s status as a market economy.

It was also the first Latin American country that signed a free trade agreement (FTA) with China.

Two-way trade amounted to 31.8 billion U.S. dollars last year, nearly five times as much as in 2005 when the FTA was signed.

China’s first RMB clearing bank in Latin America was opened in Chile in June this year, setting up a platform to upgrade financial cooperation between China, Chile and the rest of Latin America.

Citing a high level of mutual political trust between the two countries, their mutually beneficial
and win-win economies, and increasingly closer multilateral cooperation, the Chinese president said China-Chile ties have entered a new era of maturity and stability.

He said both countries are in a key phase of development, and are dedicated to seeking further development through deepening reforms.

From this new starting point of bilateral ties, Xi said, they should actively strive forward to ensure that China-Chile relations could continue to spearhead China's ties with Latin American countries.

China is willing to work with Chile to improve the top-level design for bilateral ties, improve their FTA, broaden investment cooperation, strengthen sci-tech and innovation cooperation, lay a solid foundation of public support, and lift their strategic coordination, he said, adding that the Chinese side supports its enterprises in seeking a spot in Chile's infrastructure and clean energy industries.

He also noted that tourism cooperation between China and Chile is conducive to people-to-people and cultural exchanges between the two countries, and urged the two sides to enhance communication and coordination within multilateral institutions.

For her part, Bachelet welcomed Xi's visit to Chile, saying the country will further cement friendly ties with China, and expand political dialogues as well as trade and economic links.

Chile, she said, is willing to take the elevation of bilateral ties as an opportunity to deepen cooperation with China in various areas, while breaking new grounds for cooperation.

An upgrade of the FTA between Chile and China will give trade and economic cooperation between the two countries a strong boost, she said, adding that Chile welcomes Chinese enterprises to increase their investment in the Latin American country.

The Chilean president stated that her country is willing to join the China-initiated Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank as soon as possible, and to conduct closer coordination and cooperation with China on international affairs.

A joint statement issued after the talks between the two presidents affirmed the elevation of China-Chile ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership.

The two countries also agreed to start talks on an upgrade of their FTA as soon as possible, it added.

According to the joint statement, the two heads of state spoke highly of the accomplishments achieved over the past 10 years since the FTA of the two sides went into effect, adding that they will instruct relevant departments of the two countries to commence the upgrade talks as soon as possible, so as to further deepen and strengthen bilateral economic and trade ties.

Currently, Chile is China's second largest source of wine imports, with bottled wine exports to China up 46 percent in 2015. The two countries have signed a number of quarantine agreements on cherries, blueberries and avocados.

China has become an important market for Chilean cherries, blueberries, apples, grapes and a variety of seafood such as salmon. Chinese products with good quality and competitive prices are also popular among Chilean consumers. Chinese-made cars have taken up a considerable share of the Chilean auto market.

Meanwhile, the joint statement said the two countries also agreed to intensify high-level contacts, as well as exchanges between their governments, legislative organs and political parties and at local levels.

They will firmly support each other over the choices of their respective development path and major issues concerning their interests, it said. In particular, the Chilean side reiterated its one-China policy, and pledged support for peaceful development of cross-Taiwan-Strait ties and for China's reunification.

The statement acknowledged the guiding role of a joint action plan signed by the Chinese and Chilean governments in 2015 on bilateral exchanges and cooperation.

The two sides agreed to strengthen the docking of their development strategies, expand cooperation in such fields as mining, agriculture, manufacturing, information communication, infrastructure, clean energy, and small and medium-sized enterprises, so as to boost industrial integration, increase their economic

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competitiveness, realize complementarity of their advantages, and achieve reciprocal and win-win results, it said.

China and Chile will, the statement said, deepen financial cooperation and take full advantage of their currency swap agreements, the RMB Qualified Foreign Institutional Investors (QFII) quota, and the RMB clearing arrangement in Chile, so as to drive bilateral trade and investment.

Both sides agreed to take events like the China-Latin America cultural exchange year and the Chile week as opportunities to expand cooperation in such areas as culture, education, antarctic survey, astronomy, earthquake response and disaster mitigation, facilitate an early establishment of the center for Chinese culture in Chile, and expand personnel exchanges and tourism cooperation.

The two nations also agreed to maintain close coordination in global economic governance, climate change, ocean conservancy and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, deepen the China-Latin America comprehensive cooperative partnership, and strengthen dialogues and cooperation between China and the Pacific Alliance.

Meanwhile, they agreed to jointly push forward the construction of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific, enhance regional connectivity, build up open economies, so as to make greater contributions to world stability and prosperity, according to the joint statement.

After their talks, the two presidents witnessed the signing of a number of cooperation agreements on trade and economy, agriculture, quality control, culture, education, e-commerce, information communication and finance.

Xi also laid a wreath at the Bernardo O’Higgins monument in Santiago on Tuesday afternoon.

Chile is the last stop of Xi’s three-nation Latin America tour which has already taken the Chinese president to Ecuador and Peru. He also attended the 24th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders’ Meeting in Lima, the capital of Peru.

CHINESE PREMIER CALLS TO DEEPEN HEALTHCARE REFORM WITH MORE COURAGE, WISDOM

Shanghai, Nov. 21 (Xinhua) — Premier Li Keqiang said Monday that China will deepen healthcare reform to cover both urban and rural residents with universal health care.

Li made the remarks during a speech in the eastern Chinese city of Shanghai at the opening ceremony of the Ninth Global Conference on Health Promotion (GCHP).

China began its most recent round of healthcare reform in 2009, vowing to find a Chinese way to addressing the worldwide challenge of healthcare reform, said Li.

Currently, the average life expectancy in China is 76.3 years old. The maternal mortality rate has dropped to 20.1 per 100,000, and the infant mortality rate has decreased to 8.1 per 1,000.

This means China’s averages beat many middle- and high-income countries, said the premier.

“We will forge ahead with the next stage of reform with greater courage and wisdom,” he said.

He said changes will be seen across public hospitals, with many administrative barriers broken and better cooperation among hospitals of all levels and types.

China will improve the medical insurance system to cover the whole population, reform the medicine supply system and better motivate medical staff, the premier said.
Organized by China and the World Health Organization, the conference is being held in Shanghai from Nov. 21 to 24.

Titled “Promoting health in the Sustainable Development Goals: Health for all and all for health,” some 1,200 representatives, including leading politicians, from more than 120 countries and regions participated in the conference.

**CHINA PLEDGES TO COOPERATE WITH LAOS ON DEVELOPMENT**

Beijing Nov. 28 (Xinhua) — China is willing to work on development planning and strategies with Laos to cooperate in major areas, including railways and development zones, Premier Li Keqiang said Monday.

Li made the remarks during talks with Lao Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith, who is on a four-day official visit to China, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Li called on both countries to take a leading role in major projects, such as railways as well as economic and development zones, to advance cooperation on production and investment.

Thongloun said the Laos-China railway is of great importance to Laos, and his country will spare no efforts to promote it.

The China-Laos railway, a key project of the Belt and Road initiative, has a length of 414 km, with over 60 percent as bridges and tunnels, linking the Mohan-Boten border gate in northern Laos with capital Vientiane.

Construction started in late 2015, and the project will take five
Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R) holds talks with Laos Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith in Beijing, capital of China, Nov. 28, 2016

years with a 37.4 billion yuan (5.4 billion U.S. dollars) investment.

Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Liu Zhenmin told reporters after the talks that the Chinese government is committed to forging ahead with the project.

During the talks, Li also encouraged China and Laos to enhance cooperation and share experiences in several areas, including agriculture, processing agricultural produce, poverty-reduction, finance and defense.

On the political front, Li said Laos is a good neighbor, and that China would continue its friendly policy towards Laos and firmly supports Laos in its development path, to jointly safeguard regional peace, stability and prosperity.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of dialogue between China and ASEAN.

Holding the ASEAN presidency this year, Laos successfully held the East Asia leaders’ meeting, and played a positive role in cementing China-ASEAN relations, Li said.

Next year will mark the 50th anniversary of ASEAN.

China firmly supports the construction of the ASEAN Economic Community and ASEAN’s central role in regional cooperation, Li said, adding that China will participate in ASEAN commemorative events.

China hopes Laos will continue to work for the steady and healthy development of China-ASEAN relations, the premier said.

Calling China “a sincere friend and brother of Laos,” Thongloun
WANG YI: 2016 IS AN IMPORTANT YEAR FOR CHINA'S DIPLOMACY TO TACKLE DIFFICULTIES AND GAIN FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

On December 3, 2016, Foreign Minister Wang Yi attended and addressed the opening ceremony of the Symposium on International Developments and China's Diplomacy in 2016 hosted by the China Institute of International Studies (CIIS) and the China Foundation for International Studies.

Wang Yi said that 2016 is an important year for China's diplomacy to tackle difficulties and gain further development. Facing the complicated and ever changing international situation, we tackled difficulties and gained further development under the firm leadership of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core. We have not only effectively maintained a favorable external

Hallies the sound development of Laos-China relations.

He said Laos is willing to use this year's 55th anniversary of diplomatic ties with China to better integrate development strategies with China and deepen cooperation in infrastructure, finance, agriculture and development zones.

After the talks, the two prime ministers witnessed the signing of cooperation deals on economy and trade.

Thongloun arrived in China on Monday, at Li's invitation.

hailed the sound development of Laos-China relations.

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Thongloun arrived in China on Monday, at Li's invitation.
environment for development amidst the chaotic international situation, but also comprehensively improved China's status, influence and institutional rights against the changing international system.

Wang Yi pointed out that in 2016 China's diplomacy was more proactive, more enterprising, more confident, and more mature. We have promoted the major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in an all-round manner, achieving a series of important outcomes that Chinese are proud of and all countries admire.

First, we bravely took our duty to lead the reform of global governance system. We successfully held the G20 Hangzhou Summit, leading the development direction of world economy and global governance. We promoted the APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting held in Lima to inject new impetus into the construction of the Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP). We demonstrated our willingness to take on responsibility on the climate change issue as a major country.

Second, we seized opportunities to maintain the big picture of stability and cooperation in neighboring areas. The relationship between China and the Philippines has been relived and the South China Sea issue was brought back to the right path of dialogue and negotiation. We stepped up our exchanges and cooperation with important neighbors and tried our best to maintain the stability of neighboring environment and regional situation.

Third, we made proactive efforts to maintain the steady foreign relations with major countries. In the year of US presidential election, we managed to move toward China-US relations towards a sound and steady development along the right course. China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination was upgraded to a higher level. In terms of diplomacy towards Europe, we played a concerto with Central and Eastern European countries. We strengthened the cooperation confidence of the BRICS member states.

Fourth, we expanded our diplomatic layout towards the whole world, and enlarged the friend circle of developing countries. The global partnership network focusing on developing countries has been basically shaped and continuously improved. This year we established new partnership with another 7 countries and upgraded partnerships with 11 countries, most of which are developing countries.

Fifth, we made new breakthrough in joint construction of the “Belt and Road” initiative with active alignment. Over 100 countries and international organizations have showed their willingness to actively support and participate in the initiative and China has signed cooperation agreements on co-building the “Belt and Road” with 40 countries and international organizations.

Sixth, we voiced for just grounds and firmly safeguarded the sovereignty rights and interests over the South China Sea. We resolutely responded to the so-called award over the South China Sea arbitration provoked by the former administration of the Philippines.

The righteous stance of China has received understanding and support from nearly 120 countries and over 240 political parties from different countries.

Seventh, we gave due considerations to domestic affairs and launched new measures to serve the reform and opening up. We have held four global promotions for Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Shaanxi Province and Sichuan Province successively.

Eighth, we blazed new trails and improved China's diplomatic theory system. At the G20 Hangzhou Summit, President Xi Jinping systematically stated the outlook on global economic governance and the pattern of governance, mapping out the “Chinese roadmap” in promoting the reform of global economic governance system.

Wang Yi stressed that as for China's development, 2017 will be a significant year, during which we will embrace the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the 13th Five Year Plan will be advanced in a comprehensive and in-depth manner. Under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core, we will enhance service awareness, increase strategic coordination, step up efforts in implementation, consolidate the active and favorable strategic situation and expand the international space of mutually beneficial cooperation, so as to provide strong support to the successful holding of the 19th CPC National Congress and the building of a moderately prosperous society in an all-round way, as well as make more contributions to the cause of
world peace and development.

We must serve the successful holding of the 19th CPC National Congress with all efforts, summarize General Secretary Xi Jinping’s thoughts on diplomacy and the diplomatic practices since the 18th CPC National Congress thoroughly, make political and theoretical preparations for the holding of the 19th CPC National Congress from the diplomatic perspective and create a favorable external environment. We must make meticulous preparation for the international cooperation summit forum on the “Belt and Road” initiative to inject strong impetus into in-depth alignment of development strategies of all countries and revitalization of the world economy. We must make the 9th BRICS Summit a success, clarify the direction of the BRICS mechanism and forge an important platform of the South-South cooperation with international influence. We must put efforts in consolidating a favorable external environment and deepen relations with major countries and friendly cooperation with neighboring countries. We must continue the in-depth participation in global governance and promote reform of global governance system. We must be more proactive in serving domestic development and create more beneficiary environment for local reform and development. We must continue the construction of overseas livelihood projects and make every efforts to safeguard the legitimate interests and rights of Chinese citizens and enterprises overseas.

CHINA’S ECONOMY GRADUALLY STABILIZING: ECONOMIST
Beijing, Dec. 6 (Xinhua) — Supported by supply-side structural reform and positive changes in economic dynamics, China’s economy is heading toward stabilization, a Chinese economist said Tuesday.

Despite headwinds at home and abroad, China’s economic growth has remained in a reasonable range this year, paving the way for further stabilization, said Wang Yiming, deputy director of the development research center of the State Council.

In an exclusive interview with Xinhua, Wang said the Chinese government’s supply-side structural reform has lifted market expectations and confidence, eased deflation in the domestic production system and improved industrial profits.

China’s GDP grew 6.7 percent in the first three quarters of 2016, steady with the first half and within the government’s target range of between 6.5 and 7 percent for 2016.

Wang noted that the government has been successful in turning domestic consumption and the service industry into key drivers of economic growth, while traditional sectors such as the coal and steel industries, after restructuring and transition, are witnessing new growth momentum.

However, he said next year China will still face a complicated external environment with a slow recovery in global economy and weak trade, while domestically there is still pressure for an economic slowdown.

To help the economy bottom out, China should stick to the strategy of making progress while maintaining stability and adopt a policy mix that moderately expands domestic demand, presses ahead with supply-side structural reform and stabilizes market expectations, he said.

Wang also warned that China should particularly pay attention to risks in the real estate sector and the financial industry.

He pointed out that low investment returns in the real economy and easy credit have triggered excessive growth in property prices in China’s first-tier cities and some second-tier ones and attracted too many financial resources to the real estate sector.

Meanwhile, the over-reliance on credit expansion to support growth has pushed up leverage ratios in the banking system, he added. It also has brought trouble to less profitable enterprises with high debt and higher non-performing loan ratios to commercial banks.

He said the government should move to prevent these risks from accumulating and spreading and gradually release them while pushing forward structural reform, said Wang.
Beijing, Dec. 13 (Xinhua) — A list of key economic data released Tuesday including industrial output and fixed-asset investment pointed to stabilization and restructuring progress in the Chinese economy.

China’s industrial output expanded 6.2 percent year on year in November, with the growth rate 0.1 percentage point higher than October, largely buoyed by fast-developing high-tech, electronic equipment and automobile sectors, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said Tuesday.

Industrial output, officially called industrial value added, which is used to measure activity of designated large enterprises with annual turnover of at least 20 million yuan (2.9 million U.S. dollars), grew 6 percent in the first 11 months compared with the previous year.

“The structure of China’s industrial output continues to improve,” said NBS spokesperson Mao Shengyong at a press conference, citing annual industrial output growth of the high-tech manufacturing sector reaching 10.6 percent in November and robust profit gains of large firms.

Industrial enterprises above the designated size reaped profits of 5.3 trillion yuan in the first ten months, representing an increase of 8.6 percent from the previous year, and the growth pace quickened by 0.2 percentage points from the first nine months.

Power generation, a key barometer for measuring economic activity, rose 7 percent in November from a year earlier, confirming the
growth momentum of the world’s second largest economy.

The trend was supported by a slew of other key economic data released Tuesday.

China’s fixed-asset investment rose 8.3 percent year on year to 53.9 trillion yuan in the first 11 months, with the growth rate unchanged from the January-October period, while private sector fixed-asset investment, which accounts for more than 60 percent of the total, expanded 3.1 percent in the first 11 months, accelerating from 2.9 percent in the first ten months.

Real estate investment rose 6.5 percent year on year in the first 11 months, cooling from the 6.6 percent registered during the January-October period, as measures rolled out by the government to rein in house prices began to take effect.

Moreover, China’s retail sales of consumer goods grew 10.8 percent year on year in November, accelerating from the 10 percent increase posted for October, with online sales surging 26.2 percent from January to November year on year to 4.6 trillion yuan.

China has been transitioning to a service and innovation-driven economy from an export-reliant one in recent years, with the economy expanding at a steady 6.7 percent in the first three quarters this year.

Tuesday’s data was released prior to this year’s annual Central Economic Work Conference, an important economic event that maps out economic priorities and reform plans for the upcoming year.

Despite a troublesome start, weakness in the yuan, capital outflows reaping havoc on financial markets, an overheated property market, and headwinds from home and abroad, the Chinese economy is ending 2016 on a firm footing.

“The Chinese economy continues to hold steady with more positive changes emerging,” said Mao, adding that China needs to push forward with reforms, including supply-side structural reform, and foster new growth drivers amid a world economy beset by instability.

“November activity data surprised the market on the upside, as the economic recovery gained momentum,” said Julia Wang, HSBC economist.

It is widely expected that the Chinese economy will register annual growth of around 6.7 percent, within the government’s target range of 6.5 to 7 percent set at the beginning of the year.

“With the economy having just emerged from a period of deflation, and with the recovery still looking quite uneven, policy support should remain in place until the recovery becomes more broad-based,” Wang said.
CHINA FOCUS: CHINA’S MARKET ECONOMY BENEFITS DOMESTIC, FOREIGN FIRMS

Although China’s market economy status is yet to be recognized by some of the world’s major economies, executives of multinationals and China’s domestic companies attribute their rapid growth to China’s market reform.

French cosmetics manufacturer L’Oreal has been a witness to the country’s economic transformation from a centrally-planned to a free market economy in the past 15 years as China became a WTO member.

“In the next 15 years, L’Oreal will strive to tap deeper into China’s huge market to let every Chinese woman have a lipstick,” said Stephane Rinderknech, L’Oreal China CEO.

China on DEC.11 marks the 15th anniversary of its accession to the WTO, ending its 15 year protection period to prepare the market for global competition.

Rinderknech said the company has benefitted as China’s economy opened up, and the country slashed its import tariffs.

The company acquired two Chinese cosmetic firms in 2014, a Shenzhen-based firm producing local skincare brand “Mininurse” and Magic Holdings International, a Hong Kong-listed Chinese facial care company.

Rinderknech said that since entering China in 1997, L’Oreal has witnessed rapid growth. China surpassed France to become the second largest market for the brand in 2015.

China has been a favored destination for foreign investment since entering the WTO 15 years ago.
In 2015, foreign capital in China reached 126.3 billion U.S. dollars, 2.7 times greater than 2001. During the first ten months of this year, foreign capital reached 666.3 billion yuan in China, year-on-year growth of 4.2 percent, amid a sluggish global economy.

Alongside attracting foreign money, China's WTO entry has also helped Chinese products go global.

Mei Xinyu, a researcher with the Ministry of Commerce, said that China's cargo trade export volume was 266.2 billion U.S. dollars in 2001, accounting for 4.3 percent of the global volume. While in 2015, the figure exceeded 2.27 trillion U.S. dollars, accounting for 13.8 percent of the global volume.

Mei said that China has fully stood by its WTO commitments in such terms as tariff-reduction and the opening of the service trade sector. China has lowered its tariff from 15.3 percent to 9.8 percent.

The Newland Group based in eastern China's Fuzhou, capital of Fujian Province, is an export-oriented firm founded in 1994.

Xu Han, manager of international business department of Newland's computer subsidiary, said the company started by doing processing trade for German-made chips in the 1990s. In 2001 the business earned the company 8 million U.S. dollars, making the company an important exporter in Fujian.

“As an IT exporter, Newland used to enjoy the country's support policies, including export subsidies in the form of a tax rebate. However, five years after the country entered the WTO, the government called off the protection measures to push domestic firms and confront global market competition,” Xu said.

In 2001, China granted zero tariffs to imports of IT parts such as computer chips. This has benefited both foreign producers and Chinese firms like Newland.

“About 30 percent of components in our electronic products depended on the imports of foreign products. The zero-tariff lowered our production cost,” Xu said.

He said Chinese firms today are fully aware that “no towering trees can grow in a greenhouse environment.”

“China's experience tells the world that trade protection only creates a greenhouse in which people cannot learn to adjust their clothes as the temperature changes,” Xu said.

From assembling and processing products for foreign companies to developing its own products, Newland has become China's leading exporter of POS machines, and is the third largest POS machine supplier in Europe.
Beijing Dec. 7 (Xinhua) — Less than a generation ago, rural Chinese needed to wait until market day, once or twice a week, to go shopping. Now they simply go online.

The Internet lets rural Chinese make purchases beyond the confines of their geography. On the Singles’ Day shopping spree this year, rural consumers bought 70 percent of large freezers and 50 percent of widescreen televisions and drum washers sold on JD.com, according to a report released by the company in December.

Apple was the top selling mobile brand in rural areas, followed by Huawei and Xiaomi, according to the report. For electronics, rural consumers made the same choices as those living in cities.

Cyberspace has granted rural residents the same access to bargains as people in the city, said Li Yongjian, an online economy expert at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

"China's rural areas will generate huge potential in consumption in the future," Li said.

China has 191 million rural Internet users as of June, accounting for 27 percent of all web users, according to a China Internet Network Information Center report released in August.

But e-commerce in rural areas is dependent on network penetration and whether people have spare money to spend.

Half of all online transactions made by China's rural residents in 2015 were in coastal regions such as Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Shandong and Guangdong, only 1 percent came from remote provincial regions such as Qinghai, Tibet, and Gansu.

Ministry of Commerce statistics in 2015 showed the value of China's rural online market almost doubled year-on-year to 353 billion yuan (51 billion U.S. dollars), and is expected to almost double again this year.
People in the cities joke that Singles’ Day ought to be known as the hand-chopping festival, that is that only by chopping their hands off can they prevent themselves from shopping too much. However, data suggests that rural consumers are even more impulsive with spending than urban shoppers.

Forty-nine percent of rural consumers, in contrast to the overall average of 36 percent, are willing to buy types of items online they have never bought before, and they are less susceptible to negative online reviews and more willing to try out new things, according to the report.

Huge opportunities make the rural market a new battlefield for e-commerce players. As of 2015, e-commerce giants including Taobao, JD.com and Suning have opened 250,000 online service centers in 1,000 counties across China.

Alibaba aims to further invest 1.6 billion yuan in three years to set up 100,000 Taobao village centers, while JD.com has enrolled over 300,000 extension agents to teach villagers to shop online.

Mobile devices play a vital role in motivating rural consumers to go online. The proportion of online transactions made through handsets in rural areas is 5 percentage points higher than in first-tier cities. And when any new trend appears, rural consumers follow those living in cities.

Local delicacies, for example, are in vogue among online consumers in both rural and urban areas, despite white-collar workers still being the main online consumers.

The major hurdle is delivery.

“Our farmers this year wanted to sell fresh goji berries online at 10 yuan per jin, but the delivery fee costs 80 yuan,” said Guo Jing, who is in charge of a local e-commerce service center in northwest China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. “Fresh goji berries go bad easily and must reach consumers within three days; only one company was willing to take our orders.”

China has close to 95,000 delivery stations in rural areas, covering 70 percent of its towns and counties. But there are still villages hard to reach, and the cold-chain logistics system that is essential to transport fresh food is lagging behind market demand.

“E-commerce in rural areas should concentrate on personnel training and brand building. They should also develop a comprehensive tracing system to guarantee good produce quality and delivery services,” said Mo Wenjian, who runs an online company delivering fresh food from northeast China’s Jilin Province. “Otherwise, it will be difficult to continue to promote sales and reach demanding customers.”
Officials and scholars from different parts of the world have lauded the constructive and leading role China has played in the World Trade Organization (WTO) since its accession to the global trade organization 15 years ago.

China’s accession to the world’s largest trade bloc has been a story of all-win results, which made unprecedented contributions to both domestic and global growth, experts said prior to the 15th anniversary of China’s WTO accession marked on Sunday.

**GROWTH IN DOMESTIC ECONOMY**

China’s entry into the WTO has played a significant part in its economic development, Portanskiy Aleksey Pavlovich, a professor with Russia’s National University Higher School of Economics, has said.

The accession has removed many barriers for Chinese products to enter the global market, he said.

Keith Rockwell, director of the WTO’s Information and External Relations Division, told Xinhua in an interview that the accession has considerably lifted China’s trade.

“We’ve seen China’s exports
increase eight and a half times and imports up by seven times. We’ve seen inward foreign investment into China soar over hundred billion U.S. dollars in each of the last five years. China is now actually investing more and more overseas as well,” the WTO spokesman said.

According to James Laurenceson, deputy director of Australia-China Relations Institute at University of Technology Sydney, China’s share of world trade last year reached 14.6 percent, making it by far the world’s largest trader.

“If you look at those sectors of the Chinese economy that are the most efficient, they are those that are most exposed to international trade,” Laurenceson said.

**Contributor to World Economy**

China’s inclusion into the WTO, which has facilitated trade between China and the rest of the world, has been a major contributor to invigorating the sluggish world economy and a game changer to reshape the global economic landscape, experts said.

“If you look at the figures it’s quite impressive. Obviously, China has been a big contributor to global economy,” said Paul Sheard, executive vice president and chief economist at Standard & Poor’s Global.

“For countries like Australia, getting improved access to China is crucial as the Chinese market is incredibly important. The WTO has been a starting point for Chinese-Australian relationships as well for trade agreements. We now have a free trade agreement between China and Australia,” said Lisa Toohey, associate professor of international trade law at the University of New South Wales and member of the university’s China International Business and Economic Law Initiative.

China’s 15 years’ membership in WTO not only marks the most rapid economic development phase of this ancient oriental nation, but also features the period when China shares its prosperity with the rest of the world, said Gerishon Ikiara, lecturer of international economics at the University of Nairobi.

“The world economy had been led by developed economies for many decades. The growing economy of China is gradually reshaping the global economic landscape,” Ikiara said.

**Leader in International Arena**

Before China joined the WTO, there had been fears that cases against China would be so many that the system could not cope with.
“Those fears were completely overblown and China has been very active as a third party in the WTO, which means that it comes and observes on the disputes, but it hasn’t been active particularly as a litigant,” Toohey said.

“China has been a good international citizen in terms of complying with WTO decisions,” she said.

China, since joining the WTO, has lowered its tariffs by a large margin, and has made achievements in the construction of the market economy system, observers said.

China played a very major role in the WTO, a lot of countries, companies and consumers have benefited from the increasingly opening of the Chinese market, Nicholas Lardy, senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, told Xinhua.

“Sometimes we lose track of that,” he said.

China’s economic development, particularly since it joined the WTO, has been one of the most remarkable phenomena in the 21st century, said Portanskiy, the Russian scholar.

“So far, China has been one of the most influential members of the trade bloc,” he said.

**CHINESE ECONOMY FACES OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES: ECONOMISTS**

New York, Dec. 10 (Xinhua) — The Chinese economy boasts a lot of opportunities to move forward despite concerns of a growth slowdown, economists and experts told a forum on Friday.

At the sixth Conference on the Chinese Capital Markets held by the New York University’s Centre on U.S.-China Relations, they also saw great growth potential in China.
following the expansion of the country’s middle class.

“We see the tremendous growth in middle class. We have enough sense of optimism that we will continue to invest in this economic engine in the next 10 to 20 years,” said Matthew Nimitz, advisory director with the General Atlantic LLC.

He noted that Chinese companies are becoming more competitive as time goes by, adding: “That phenomenon demonstrates their creativity.”

Paul Sheard, executive vice president and chief economist of S&P Global, noted that the fact that China has 35-year track record of near double-digit growth rate indicated the country’s potential.

However, economists taking part in the forum also pointed out that demographic changes, structural shift and reform of the state-owned-enterprises (SOEs) would pose challenges to China’s future economic growth.

Zhang Longmei, an economist in the International Monetary Fund’s Asia and Pacific Department, said China faces a downward pressure on productivity as it relocates laborers from the industrial sector to the service sector.

“In the process of reallocating labor from high productivity to low productivity sector, structurally, your aggregated productivity growth is going to slow down,” she said.

Zhang said the Chinese government has fewer obstacles in opening up the service sector compared with the industrial sector, because the service sector is expanding so fast that the pie is growing.

“If you open the service sector up to private firms, the SOEs can still gain in a growing market. But in the old sector, it might be a zero sum game between SOEs and private companies because the pie is not going to be larger,” she said.
Moscow, Dec. 7 (Xinhua) — The skillful Chinese leadership will help China deal with all risks and reach its planned targets, despite multiple economic challenges facing the country, Russian experts said.

The year of 2016 is the first year of China's 13th five-year plan with a goal of comprehensively building a moderately prosperous society by 2020.

The Chinese government targets this year's economic growth at 6.5 percent to 7 percent with an annual average growth rate of at least 6.5 percent through 2020.

The slowdown in the Chinese economy will occur, as the policy related to the new normal implies that the Chinese economy will not grow as fast as before, Andrei Ostrovsky, deputy director of the Institute of the Far East under the Russian Academy of Sciences, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

To achieve the goals, it has to change the nature of the economy, which is "painful and difficult," Maslov added.
After 15 years of rapid growth, he said, major Asian countries all slowed down and had to restructure their economies to keep them afloat, while China has been growing for an even longer time.

In fact, Ostrovsky said, the pace of China’s economic growth — 6.7-6.8 percent a year — is quite high, significantly higher than that of many other countries in the world.

But there are also more complex problems related to the current situation in China, which cannot be solved in a simple way, he said.

One of the biggest problems in China today is the environment, Ostrovsky said, adding that the damage to the environment has reached a critical state after the issue has been ignored for dozens of years due to the necessity of maintaining rapid economic growth.

Other challenges include the shortage of labor as China’s population has been rapidly aging, he added.

“The country’s decision to allow families to have a second child will only bear fruit 20 years from now when the newborns reach the working age,” Ostrovsky said.

For Maslov, he believed that there is a necessity for China to invest abroad in order to support its internal market.

The Belt and Road Initiative designed for infrastructure construction in countries of Asia, Europe and even parts of Africa is aimed at reaching this goal, he added.
China is known for its history and culture. The world famous Great Wall of China and Terracotta warriors are two of the great symbols of the ancient civilization. Although China has developed rapidly during the last three decades, but the way its cultural and historical places have been protected is an example of the country’s love and respect for them. I have been witnessing China’s progress in various fields during the past few years and have got opportunities to visit many places. Each place has its own local flavor with touch of modernity. But here I would like to specially mention about an art village I visited recently in the month of September. I visited Gu Jian shan art village (called Yi shu cun in mandarin), which is situated at the Chongqing municipality of South-West China.

It is the first art village of Chongqing, which was established in 2011. Far away from hustle and bustle of the big cities, we reached the mountainous area of Qi Jiang town, in the last week of September. Situated about one hundred kilometers away from Chongqing city, this is also a famous tourist spot in China. Now, this special area is the home of dozens of artists, belonging to different backgrounds, including painters, writers, designers, architects, musicians and others. They found this picturesque destination on the quest for their artistic and creative inspiration. These artists had for a long time dreamt of finding such a place, where they can quietly sit for hours
and gaze the beauty of nature in the search of their artistic work.

After they met with the concerned officials regarding the cause, authorities gave them the nod without taking much time and free land was provided to them.

Soon after getting the green signal, they collected money and raised fund for the construction of the buildings in the art village. Their dream finally became reality in 2011, when all the houses and galleries were built.

In all, there are twenty-one houses and fifteen halls, where the beautiful works of the artists are on display. Usually, double storey houses are divided into exhibition halls and studios. In fact, there are many art galleries including European and Asian art galleries and museums. More importantly, these are open to all the visitors for free.

The artists are not only creating their art works in this valley, but also helping the local people. Thus local farmers’ income has risen sharply since they are getting engaged with artists in many ways including cooking and cleaning. Moreover, they are being encouraged to get involved in artistic work, specially painting and designing. As an encouragement, farmers’ good works are also put up for exhibition and sale. We can say, on the one hand these people are learning artistic skills from the artists, on the other they are earning their livelihood. So these artists have been instrumental in changing the lives of common people in the nearby villages. We met a local farmer who seemed to be very happy because his income has gone up since the arrival of these artists in the village. Apart from the villagers, school children also visit here and learn creative works during the summer and winter holidays. The artists hope that these kids would get inspired by them and make their dreams a reality.

Though these artists are busy with their creative works, still they have plans to organize exhibitions related to calligraphy, arts, and other activities in the future to attract more people.

A painter, Li, who has played a
pivotal role in this project said, “I always wanted to find a unique place where one can think and create something special. Luckily I ended up at this paradise.” He took the initiative, shared the idea with his friends and got their consent for it.

Although China has many other art villages, but this place has its own characteristics, which provides the peaceful environment to the people. I would say, one must visit here to enjoy the beauty of the nature and mesmerizing works of the artists.

(Anil Azad Pandey has been working with China Radio, Beijing as a Senior Journalist since 2009, prior to China worked in New Delhi as a Senior National Correspondent.)

CHINA A TRULY TRAVEL DESTINATION

First time I got the opportunity to visit China was in 2007 when I worked as a translator in a Chinese company in Shandong Province for about a year, then studied in Shanghai for three years. And from then onwards I have been visiting China almost every year in connection with my interpretation assignments, teacher training programs or just for pure traveling purpose. So whenever I go to China I never miss the opportunity to travel and explore this wonderful country. China is such a huge country that you can imagine that in my seventeen visits, I have not been able to cover even the half of China.

Actually China is a country which one would like to visit again and again. It is not only about Great Wall in Beijing or Pearl Tower and River Front of Shanghai, but there are many more places to see in China. China is a truly travel destination which has rich culture and history, and its cuisine is exotic.
and people are friendly. China’s world class infrastructure, outstanding transportation system, its network of highways and bullet trains crisscrossing throughout the country makes it much more convenient to travel in China.

From ancient cities like Luoyang and Xian to the modern cities of Shanghai and Shenzhen and other popular travel cities like Hangzhou, Suzhou, Qingdao, Chengdu, Xiamen etc. gives unforgettable travel experience. All these cities have something unique or special, like Hangzhou is known for its West lake and Longjing tea which is the most famous variety of green tea in China, Whereas Suzhou is known for its Classical Gardens. There is a saying in China praising the beauty of these two cities ‘Just as there is paradise in heaven, there are Suzhou and Hangzhou on earth. Apart from these famous cities I also got the chance to visit ancient Chinese water towns around Shanghai. These small water towns with lovely typical traditional architecture and bridges are big tourist attractions. Some of the towns have the history of more than thousand years and local people are still living there. These towns can be called as the museum of Chinese culture and history. Most of the famous old towns are located in the south of the yangtze river in Zhejiang and Jiangsu Province such as Zhouzhuang, Tongli, Wuzhen and Xitang. Roaming around in the centuries old streets and drinking tea leisurely or having a ride in a boat is always an amazing experience. Tourists come there to enjoy the charming night view of the historic towns when all the Chinese traditional red lanterns are lighted on.

China is a land of mountains and hills, one-third of China is mountainous region. It is known for its famous mountains. There are “The Five Great Mountains” which are the most renowned mountains in Chinese history. The Sacred Mountains of China are divided into several groups like Four Sacred Mountains of Buddhism and Four Sacred Mountains of Taoism. But the most famous and beautiful mountain in China is Yellow Mountain [Huang Shan] of Anhui province which is known for its oddly shaped rocks and hot springs. It is called Yellow mountain because the area was renamed after the legendary Yellow Emperor (Huang Di) in 747 AD. I visited yellow mountain in 2009 when I was pursuing my master’s degree in Chinese from Shanghai Normal University. The trip was organized by the University. I consider myself really lucky that I got a chance to see
the sunrise over Huangshan which is a very popular and highly recommended activity.

The two provinces of China which I will never forget are Yunnan and Sichuan. Both of the provinces are located in southwest China and are known for their natural beauty and culture. Yunnan is a unique tourist destination due to its rich ethnic minority cultures. Yunnan has the most ethnic minorities in China with 26 nationalities out of a total of 56 in China, residing within the region. Yunnan province is the haven for the travelers fond of natural beauty, its places like lijiang, Dali, Xianggelila etc. are one of the most exiting places in the country to explore. Whereas Sichuan province apart from its natural scenery is more known for its lifestyle and cuisine. no matter where you are in Sichuan you will always see teahouses with unique Sichuan styles. People sitting in bamboo chairs around the wooden tables, holding special tea wares exclusively owned by the teahouse and taking a sip of fragrant tea. Sichuan cuisine is very famous all over China. The dishes of Sichuan cuisine are famous for their hot-spicy taste and the flavor of Sichuan pepper. Sichuan cuisine really suits the Indian taste, Sichuan Hotpot and Mapo Toufu [bean curd served in a chili-and-bean-based sauce] are my favorite and I am sure that most of the Indians will enjoy it.

I hope that my trips to China will continue in future as well, and I will continue to explore more new places of this great country.

(Ashish Ahuja, Guest Lecturer, Delhi University)
CHINA'S GIANT PANDAS: INTERNET SWEETHEART OF 2016

Photo taken on Jan. 17, 2016 shows a giant panda playing at Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province.

Giant pandas are seen at Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province, Oct. 19, 2016.
A giant panda is seen in Chengdu, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, May 11, 2016.

A giant panda is seen in Chengdu, southwest China’s Sichuan Province, Dec. 6, 2016.
KITE FAIR HELD IN S CHINA'S QINZHOU


2016-meter long kite is seen during a kite fair in Qinzhou, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Dec. 3, 2016. Kites-flying fans from China and abroad took part in the fair on Saturday.
CHINESE CITIES ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO COMMUTE BY BICYCLE

A citizen rides a public bicycle in Linfen, north China’s Shanxi Province, Nov. 16, 2016. To save energy and reduce carbon emission, cities of China took measures such as building public bicycle rental system or paving more bicycle lanes to encourage people to commute by bicycle.

A worker passes by a public bicycle rental stand in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, Nov. 8, 2016. To save energy and reduce carbon emission, cities of China took measures such as building public bicycle rental system or paving more bicycle lanes to encourage people to commute by bicycle.
A citizen rides a public bicycle in Linfen, north China’s Shanxi Province, Nov. 16, 2016. To save energy and reduce carbon emission, cities of China took measures such as building public bicycle rental system or paving more bicycle lanes to encourage people to commute by bicycle.

A citizen passes by a public bicycle rental stand in Zhangjiakou, north China’s Hebei Province, Nov. 2, 2016. To save energy and reduce carbon emission, cities of China took measures such as building public bicycle rental system or paving more bicycle lanes to encourage people to commute by bicycle. (Xinhua/ Wang Xiao)
BEIJING LAUNCHES SMART STREETLIGHTS OFFERING CHARGING SERVICE, FREE WIFI

Twenty “smart” street lights have been installed on Youanmen West Street in Beijing, with 18 of them offering charging service for electric vehicles and the other two enabled with multiple services including free Wi-Fi and video surveillance.

A Beijing News report said that the highlight of the smart street lights is the vehicle-charging function, amid the city's campaign on promoting the widespread use of electric vehicles. E-vehicle owners are able to book an appointment and locate the position of the charging post through a smartphone app. The charging service is currently in testing.

The street lights themselves are also different from ordinary ones. Using 160 watt LED lights, they give a gentle, warm, white glow intended to make passersby feel more comfortable.

The surveillance cameras on the street lights are able to monitor anything that is installed with a speed sensor. The camera can sound an alert if anything installed with one of those sensors is moved.

An LCD screen has been installed on one of the street lights to display real time information such as temperature, humidity, wind speed, wind direction, noise data, air pressure, and pollution levels. It also includes charging service information such as the number of the available charging posts.

The free WIFI feature is a favorite function among users of the new smart services. As long as a person remains close to the enabled street lamp, they can surf the web by logging-on to the free WIFI using Wechat.

A senior manager of the city’s lighting authority said 100 more smart street lights will be installed across the city’s six Districts.
WINTER SPORTS THRIVE AFTER BEIJING'S 2022 WINTER OLYMPIC BID
Children prepare for a unique experience. They are dressed for battle, with thick padded coats, helmets, and boots with protruding blades. They are here to conquer the ice.

Winter sports thrive after Beijing’s 2022 Winter Olympic bid

The 60 students are taking their first ice skating class. [Photo/bjd.com.cn]

They slip. They glide. They often fall down. But these 60 students are learning to skate, and they won’t let the ice get the better of them. They, like so many others in China, are taking up winter sports out of curiosity and pride after Beijing secured the 2022 Winter Olympic bid.

The students come from a local school, called the Zhenzhuquan Primary School. The natural outdoor skating rink, created on an upstream section of the Caishi River where they train and have fun, has a total area of 1,500 square meters and thick, good quality ice. It was adopted as a base for promoting ice sports, set up by the school and supported by the district education committee and the village government in Yanqing district, Beijing.

This is the first ice arena put into use this winter in Yanqing district and is available to the general public. There are 10 more projects scheduled to be completed that will offer an ice skating experience to an estimated 3,000 people annually.

Yanqing district, northwest of Beijing, 90 kilometres away from the city center, has showed more passion and received more governmental support for ice sports since it became one of the three venues for luge, bobsleigh, and alpine skiing competitions during the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics.

“Ice” opportunities like what has happened in Yanqing have come along with the Winter Olympics to Beijing and Zhangjiakou in Hebei province, the other venue for the Winter Olympics, about 220 km from downtown Beijing.

The world’s top snowboarding event “Air & Style” and a number of other high-level international events for curling, ice hockey, and figure skating will be held in Beijing, according to officials from the Beijing Municipal Sports Bureau.

As for Zhangjiakou, it will hold international skiing competitions such as the FIS Alpine Skiing Far East Cup, the FIS Freestyle Skiing World Cup, and so on, so as to gather experience and to prepare for the 2022 Winter Olympic.
CHINA FOCUS: NEW CARGO SERVICE LINKS TIBET, NEPAL TO BOOST TRADE

Lhasa, Dec. 9 (Xinhua) — Dozens of trucks carrying 19 million yuan (2.8 million U.S. dollars) worth of goods left the border port of Gyirong in Tibet after customs clearance on Friday, continuing the journey to their destination in Nepal.

The new rail and road cargo service, linking Guangdong, Tibet and Nepal, aims to boost trade with the South Asian neighbor as China pushes forward its Belt and Road Initiative.

A train carrying eight carriages and 14 boxcars full of products, including shoes, clothes, hats, furniture, appliances, electronics and building materials, covered the 5,200-km distance between Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province, and Xigaze in Tibet.

The trucks are responsible for the remaining 870 km of the journey, carrying goods to Gyirong and then to the final stop in Kathmandu, Nepal’s capital.

“The trip between Guangzhou and Gyirong takes about five to six days, much shorter than the 20 days for sea transport,” said Yao Yanfeng, general manager of the freight carrier Tibet Tianzhi Import and Export Co. Ltd. “The time could be cut further to 3.7 days in the future.”

Yao said his company is providing relatively quick delivery service and, despite higher costs, it can meet demand for time-sensitive clients.

“In the slower winter season, the train and trucks will make a round trip every one or two weeks,” said..
Yao. “In the busy season next year, there will be two to three per week and, eventually, we’re aiming for four to five trips per week.”

“Nepal needs Chinese goods,” said Liu Denghui of Adam Refrigeration Equipment Co. Ltd. in Shenzhen upon hearing about the new trade route.

**NEW TRADE PASSAGE**

In May, China opened a rail and road cargo service between Lanzhou in northwest China and Kathmandu. The new service starting from Guangzhou serves as an important trade passage between the two neighboring countries.

Guangdong and neighboring regions, known as China’s manufacturing hubs, are a major source of imports for South Asia, including Nepal.

The trade passage, in line with market demand in the medium and long term, could help boost economic cooperation between Guangdong, Tibet and South Asia, officials said.

Luomei, assistant chairwoman of Tibet autonomous regional government, said with efficient trade transportation, the freight service could help relocate more businesses along the passage, bringing growth momentum and industrial transformation to the plateau region.

Gobinda Bahadur Karki, consul general of Nepal in Lhasa, said the freight service will help boost Nepal’s economic growth as well as bilateral trade.

**MORE INFRASTRUCTURE**

To further facilitate trade, China is planning to build a railway between Xigaze and Gyirong to shorten the trip.

Yang Guoliang, an official with the Tibet Autonomous Regional Department of Commerce, said Tibet will build and reopen more border ports to expand the trade passage to South Asia.

The trade passage is a national strategy linking China’s economic heartland with South Asia, said Yang.

Apart from ports and trade passages, China will build border economic zones with South Asia, said Wang Yanqing of the transport research institute under the National Development and Reform Commission, China’s top economic planning agency.
TIBETANS OPEN THEIR DOORS TO TOURISTS
Lhasa, Nov. 28 (Xinhua) — Dressed in traditional brocade finery, a young Tibetan woman welcomes her guests with true Tibetan hospitality: barley wine, white silk hadas and her bright smile.

Her guests, a group of tourists from north China’s Inner Mongolia, will spend one night at Dekyi’s house to enjoy typical Tibetan food and spend a night under the rafters of an authentic Tibetan home.

College graduate Dekyi, 24, chose not to follow her brother and sister, who both work in Lhasa, capital of southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region. Instead, she returned to Weiba, a tiny village outside of Lhasa, and converted her family’s two-story courtyard into a homestay, which she called “Lhasa Family.”

The stone, clay and wood house features rooms painted in warm colors with Tibetan paintings and textile hangings.

She also turned one of the larger rooms into a gallery to display her family’s collection of antiques and objects d’art, such as musical instruments, agricultural tools and art.

“I love to show my guests around this room, and tell them about these objects and share stories about my family,” Dekyi explained.

Dekyi wanted to create a comfortable, welcoming space where tourists feel at home.

One guest said she was really made to feel at home. “We eat what they eat every day and do what they do. I feel no distance from their life at all,” she explained.

As the number of tourists to Tibet has increased, Lhasa Tourism Bureau responded by rolling out measures to support homestays and guesthouses, and now more and more Tibetan families are opening their doors to tourists.

It is estimated that about 600 guesthouses will open over the next five years.

While guesthouses offer tourists a chance to experience Tibetan culture firsthand, they also bring more opportunities to Tibetans.
Dekyi has hosted nearly 700 tourists since her guesthouse opened in February.

“I have made friends with people from different countries and know more about the world thanks to the stories they shared. They made this once quiet house lively and our lives more diverse,” she said.

For Dawa, 64, who also runs a guesthouse in Weiba, said his life has taken a turn for the better since he opened his doors to tourists in July.

“In the past, my family’s life solely relied on farming and in winter, there was nothing to do. We only made 20,000 yuan (2,891 U.S. dollars) a year. But now, we can make over double that thanks to the guesthouse.”

Kunga, who manages a larger resort-style guesthouse named “Kyishod Khangsang” in Lunzhub County near Lhasa, has created jobs for his neighbors.

He employs 49 people at his guesthouse, where tourists can try on traditional Tibetan costumes and learn how to make butter tea and local food.

He said he plans to open a space to display Tibetan cultural items, from pottery to thangka to wedding rituals.

“This will give tourists a more all-round experience of Tibetan life and customs,” Kunga said. And more locals will be able to find jobs close to home.

According to official statistics, about 21 million Chinese and foreign tourists visited Tibet in the first three quarters of 2016, up 20.4 percent year on year.

**LHASA CELEBRATES FESTIVAL OF WOMEN’S PROTECTOR**

Pilgrims from far away make their pilgrimage to Jokhang Temple on Tuesday.
Lhasa’s ancient Barkor Street was filled with the smoke from burning juniper branches and the sound of prayers, as thousands celebrated the annual Pal Lhamo festival on Tuesday.

The one-day event is practiced on the 15th day of the 10th month according to the Tibetan calendar.

“Tibetan women consider Palden Lhamo, one of the protective deities of the Tibetan Buddhism, as their protector, and the females regard it as an important day,” Yeshi Choedron, an English announcer at the Tibet People’s Broadcasting Station, explained.

The religious festival has become a particular favorite of women in Lhasa, as many young girls can ask for money from any men on the occasion.

Kalsang Drolma, a waitress in Lhasa, said she profited from the rare religious event.

“I woke up at 4 am and arrived at the Jokhang Temple at 5 am. I am pleased to pay my visit to the Pal Lhamo deity today,” she said.

The 26-year-old said she made about 500 yuan ($72) from her WeChat friends in the first half of the day.

According to Yeshi Choedron, Tibetan women would traditionally not ask for money from men on this day, and the event has evolved over time.

“Traditionally, while people make offerings to the deities with cash and offerings, they would donate tips for the lower class or the poor,” the 34-year-old said.

Pilgrims pay homage to the Pal Lhamo deity and the statue of the King Songtsan Gampo in Lhasa’s Jokhang Temple on Tuesday. [Photo by Palden Nyima/chinadaily.com.cn]

Yeshi said she herself did not like to participate in asking money from men on this event, however, she was not opposed to other girls doing it.

Yeshi thought it could also be considered a women’s day as Tibetans believe the Palden Lhamo deity would come down to earth and the women in Lhasa believe Palden Lhamo is their protector.

She said that in the past, the image of Palden Lhamo would be carried to the third floor outside the Jokhang Temple and then her image would be faced south where the statue of the Trizongzan was enshrined in a monastery on a small mountain in the Drub village.

It has undergone some changes today, as the image of the Palden Lhamo is now carried to the quarter yard of the temple, not the third floor.

“As far as I know, I heard from
the monks saying on this day, there are so many people offering barley wine to the Pal Lhamo image, there is so much barley that it is leaking everywhere, it becomes slippery, and it is little bit dangerous for the pilgrimages who come to pay their homage. Secondly it is not good for the preservation of the old temple, so it is carried to the quarter yard today.”

According to Tibetan history, the daughter of Palden Lhamo, the Bal Lhamo deity fell in love with Trizongzan, who is also a protective deity of Jokhang Temple.

When this was discovered by Palden Lhamo, she punished Trizongzan by making him stay on the south bank of Lhasa River, and the lovers promised to meet once a year across the river on that special day.

TIBET UNVEILS NEW TIBETAN-LANGUAGE INPUT SOFTWARE

Lhasa, Nov. 3 — New Tibetan-language input software was released in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region on Thursday.

The software was developed by a speech and language laboratory at Tibet University. With Tibetan-language speech and handwriting recognition technology, the software provides more convenient and accurate input methods for Tibetans.

The software can recognize and produce standard Tibetan instantly with an accuracy rate of 97 percent.

Losang Ganden, a teacher at Tibet University, said, “Unlike traditional spelling input software, this software has dramatically improved our efficiency in work and learning.”

In addition to the input software, the laboratory has also developed other Tibetan language-related software, including Tibetan and Chinese language translation software.

Professor Ngodrup, director of the laboratory, said they can provide Tibetan language speech technology services and hope to cooperate with entrepreneurs to boost innovation in Tibetan language-related technology.
TIBET DOCUMENTS OF LATE U.S. DIPLOMAT PUBLISHED

Beijing, Dec. 11 (Xinhua) — A senior U.S. diplomat in China in the early 1900s insisted that Tibet was an integral part of China and should obey the central government.

A bilingual edition of William W. Rockhill papers related to Tibet has been published by China Intercontinental Press, the publisher said Sunday.

The scholar-diplomat served as the minister of legation of the United States in China, the highest U.S. diplomatic representative to the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), from 1905 to 1909.

The book has many documents relating to Rockhill and Tibet. In addition to his Tibetan travels and studies, it includes important archives and documents about the 13th Dalai Lama’s requesting an audience with Emperor Guangxu, China’s penultimate emperor; and Empress Dowager Cixi, Guangxu’s aunt, in Beijing in 1908.

The book also contains diplomatic telegraphs, letters, minutes of talks, government documents, newspaper clippings, manuscripts and diaries, the publishers said.

Rockhill traveled to Tibet twice and was a renowned Tibetologist.

He explicitly expressed this view in his correspondence with U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt and declared his standpoint to the 13th Dalai Lama on behalf of the U.S. government.

The book is in Chinese and English.
Book Review

Trust in the Theory

The views expressed in the book are based not only on the 60 years and more of history of the PRC and its remarkable achievements in the past three decades, also on China’s sorrowful modern history since 1840, its 2,000-year history as a united country, and its remarkable 5,000-year civilization.

The topics of the interviews vary widely, from systems, theory, development, and reform, to quality of life, strategy and diplomacy. What they have in common is that both Maya and the interviewees apply independence of thought and of judgment. Their perspectives and the opinions expressed are notable individual. Their arguments, combining both fact and theory, make clear the grounds for China’s confidence in its path, theory and system.

– Dai Bingguo
Former State Councilor of China

We hope you will find this book useful.

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

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Amazing Beijing

The Palace Museum
Rating: AAAAA
The Forbidden City was the seat of Imperial power for 500 years, and it is now one of China's major tourist attractions.
Key Words: World Cultural Heritage Museum Very interesting relics Top Beijing museum
Description
The Palace Museum was commissioned by the third Emperor of the Ming Dynasty, Emperor Yong Le. The palace was built between 1406 and 1420, but was burnt down, rebuilt, sacked and renovated countless times, so most of the architecture you can see today dates from the 1700's and onward. The Forbidden City was the seat of Imperial power for 500 years, and is now a major tourist attraction in China.

Cultural Palace of Working People
Rating: AA
In the past, the temple was known as the Imperial Ancestral Temple and served as a repository. During the Ming and Qing Dynasties, on occasions such as an emperor's ascending the throne.
Key Words:Museum Historical building Place of cultural interest Atmospheric ancient forest
Description
The Working People's Cultural Palace lies to the east of Tian'anmen Rostrum, directly opposite Zhongshan Park. The large park stretches from Tian'anmen Rostrum in the south to the Forbidden City moat, and from the East Thousand Bu Corridor before the Imperial Palace in the west to the eastern palace walls—fully one half times the width of the Forbidden City. The park was originally built in 1420 as a large-scale temple.

Ming Tombs
Rating: AAAAA
Of the 16 emperors ruling China during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644), 13 are buried in a box canyon at the southern foot of Tianshou Shan (hence the Chinese name Shisan Ling, the 13 Tombs)
Key Words: World Cultural Heritage Ancient ruins Place of great historical interest Beautiful scenery Interesting ancient site
Description
Of the 16 emperors who ruled China during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644), 13 are buried in a box canyon at the southern foot of Tianshou Shan (hence the Chinese name Shisan Ling, the 13 Tombs). The first emperor of the Ming, Hongwu, is entombed in Xiao Ling, near Nanjing. The location of the second emperor's tomb is uncertain, while the unfilial seventh emperor, who usurped the throne after his brother was taken by the Mongols, was buried near the Summer Palace among the graves of concubines. Despite these omissions, this is the most extensive burial complex of any Chinese dynasty.
A Glimpse of Chengdu City - Sister City of Bengaluru