Chinese Embassy in India, ICS, FICCI, FCC and IAFAC co-hosted the seminar “Beyond Wuhan: How Far and Fast can China-India Relations Go”.

In the First Session of the Seminar, speakers talked about Strategic Communication between China and India.

In the Second Session of the Seminar, speakers talked about Practical Cooperation between China and India.

In the Third Session of the Seminar, speakers talked about Personnel & Cultural Exchanges between China and India.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation of India.

Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with Vice Admiral Srikant, Commandant of the National Defence College of India.
 SCO Qingdao Summit

XI JINPING WELCOMES FOREIGN LEADERS ATTENDING THE SCO QINGDAO SUMMIT

On June 9, 2018, President Xi Jinping hosted a banquet at the Qingdao International Conference Center to welcome the foreign leaders who attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Qingdao Summit.

Qingdao in June is exuberant with green mountains and the beautiful sea. Located on the shore of the Yellow Sea, the Qingdao International Conference Center is beautifully lit in rich colors, constituting a colorful and splendid picture matched by the city night show on the opposite of the bay.

At about 7:10 p.m., leaders from the SCO member states and observer states and heads of the international organizations attending the SCO Qingdao Summit arrived successively. The motorcade went along the Binhai Avenue in an orderly manner. The distinguished guests walked along the lit red carpet towards the banquet hall with the national flags of various countries and the flags of the international organizations projected on the main gate. Along both sides of the red carpet, ebullient Qingdao teenagers welcomed guests and friends from all over the world, waving national flags, ball-flowers and glow sticks, and dancing merrily.

Xi Jinping posed for a group photo with foreign leaders in front of the large traditional Chinese realistic painting called Flowers Blooming in the Prosperous Age.

Inside the banquet hall were bright decorations and a houseful of distinguished guests. Xi Jinping and the distinguished guests jointly entered the banquet hall in the melodious tune of welcome.

On behalf of the Chinese government and the Chinese people, Xi Jinping delivered a speech to extend his warm welcome to state leaders and heads of international organizations. Xi Jinping pointed out that Shandong is the home of Confucius and birth place of Confucianism. The Confucian concept of unity and harmony has much in common with the “Shanghai Spirit”. Under the guidance of the “Shanghai Spirit”, the SCO has not only delivered fruitful outcomes in cooperation fields including security,
Xi Jinping emphasized that Qingdao is a famous “sailing capital”. It is from here that many ships set sail in pursuit of dreams. Tomorrow, we will hold the first SCO Summit here after the membership expansion of the SCO to draw up a comprehensive blueprint for the future development of the SCO. The Qingdao Summit is a new starting point for us. Together, let us hoist the sail of the “Shanghai Spirit” and jointly launch the new journey for the development of the SCO.

The banquet proceeded in a relaxing and harmonious atmosphere. Xi Jinping had warm talks with various foreign leaders and they extended their joint wishes to the development and prosperity of the countries in this region, the happiness and well-being of the people, the better future of the SCO, and the success of the Qingdao Summit.

After the banquet, Xi Jinping, together with the distinguished guests, went to the sightseeing platform outside the banquet hall where they enjoyed the light and firework show called A Warm Welcome to Friends from Afar set on sea above the Fushan Bay.

The show consisted of several chapters including A Moonlit Night, The Charm of Shandong, Nation of Peace and Prosperity, Toward a Better Future, and the Community of a Shared Future. The evening party began with the display of the scenic photos of the capitals of the SCO member states and observer states. The melodious traditional Chinese classic music and the beautiful dance performed by young girls in clothes with luminous long sleeves created a wonderful atmosphere where “the bright moon shines over the sea, from far away we share this moment together”. Kites in various shapes led the changes of the scenes where tourist attractions and traditional culture of Shandong were displayed one after another, highlighting the long-lasting history and magnificent mountains and rivers in the land of Shandong. The video of China’s beautiful mountains and rivers and the Chinese people living and working in peace and contentment demonstrated the humanistic feelings of a prosperous China. The smiles of the Chinese people of all ethnic groups on the circular screen expounded that the Chinese people are striving to pursue happiness. In the starry sky, astronauts explored the
secrets of the outer space through space trips, showcasing humans’ beautiful wishes to build a future together through technological innovation. Accompanied by the inspiring music, colorful fireworks were let off, shining in the night sky of the city, while peace doves were flying on the circular screen. The fireworks show was themed on the four seasons. The green “spring” depicted the exuberant scene; the fiery red “summer” highlighted the splendid colors of flowers; the golden “autumn” conveyed the happiness of a good harvest; the snow-white “winter” brought the special coolness to the coast in summer. The evening party ended with the beautiful melody of the Nation of Peace and Prosperity.

Ding Xuexiang, Yang Jiechi, Wang Yi, Zhao Kezhi, He Lifeng and others attended the above activities.
On June 10, 2018, the small-scale talks of the 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) were held at the Qingdao International Conference Center. President Xi Jinping chaired the talks. Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan, President Sooronbay Jeenbekov of Kyrgyzstan, President Mamnoon Hussain of Pakistan, President Vladimir Putin of Russia, President Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan, and President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan attended the meeting.

Leaders of all the SCO member states exchanged views on the development of the SCO and major international and regional issues.

At around 9:00 a.m., leaders of the SCO member states arrived at the conference center in succession. Xi Jinping welcomed them warmly, shook hands and exchanged greetings with them. After then, all leaders took a group photo.

Xi Jinping pointed out in the speech that since its establishment 17 years ago, the SCO, in the face of international vicissitudes, has upheld the “Shanghai Spirit” and scored tremendous achievements, becoming a comprehensive regional organization with important influence in the world. Now, the SCO is standing at a new historical starting point. We should carry forward the fine tradition, actively deal with internal and external challenges, and comprehensively promote cooperation in all fields, so as to push the SCO for steady and long-term development.

Xi Jinping raised four proposals on the development of the SCO.
First, we should carry forward the “Shanghai Spirit” and strengthen solidarity and coordination. We should stick to mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diverse civilizations and pursuit of common development, and deepen solidarity and mutual trust, increase mutual support and translate the potential and opportunity brought by the membership expansion into more tangible cooperation outcomes.

Second, we should promote security cooperation and join hands to cope with all challenges. We should uphold the common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security concept, cope with traditional and non-traditional security threats in a comprehensive manner, and effectively fight against the “three forces”, in a bid to practically safeguard regional peace, security and stability.

Third, we should deepen practical cooperation and promote common development. We should make bigger moves in such aspects as industrial coordination, market integration, and exchanges of technologies. We should follow the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, strengthen exchanges and cooperation in infrastructure construction, connectivity, industrial parks, scientific and technological innovation and other fields, and share huge development opportunities in Eurasia. We should send the unanimous voice of supporting trade liberation and facilitation to maintain global multilateral trading system.

Fourth, we should play an active part and show international commitment. We should firmly safeguard the international order and international system with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as the core, promote the building of a new type of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness and justice and win-win cooperation, and stick to resolving the hotspot issues through political and diplomatic means.

Xi Jinping stressed that the SCO is a cause that conforms to the trend of the times, as well as is in line with
the common interests of all countries. China is willing to, together with all parties, remain true to the original aspiration, march forward hand in hand, promote the SCO to realize new development, and build a closer community with a shared future, so as to make new and greater contributions to safeguarding world peace and stability and promoting development and prosperity of humankind.

Leaders of the SCO member states spoke highly of China’s contributions as the presidency over the past year to promoting the cooperation among all member states as well as the development of the SCO, and agreed that the meeting this time was the first summit after the membership expansion of the SCO and it was of major realistic and historical significance. The accession of the new member states has enhanced the SCO’s capacity for cooperation in all fields. The SCO has also shoulder ed greater responsibilities in safeguarding regional security and stability and advancing development and prosperity. Under the new situation, the SCO should stick to carrying forward the “Shanghai Spirit”, continue to intensify communication and coordination, fully grasp the opportunities, properly cope with challenges, push forward all-round cooperation in economy, trade, finance, agriculture, connectivity, and people-to-people and cultural engagement, and stick to fighting against the “three forces” to ensure the sustained, healthy and stable development of the SCO.

The meeting decided that the 2019 SCO Summit will be held in Kyrgyzstan.

Wang Yi attended the above activities.

**XI CHAIRS SCO SUMMIT TO DRAW UP BLUEPRINT FOR SHARED FUTURE**

President Xi Jinping chairs the 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Qingdao, East China’s Shandong province, June 10, 2018. Xi delivered a speech during the meeting.[Photo/Xinhua]
Qingdao — President Xi Jinping chaired the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) annual Summit on June 10, aiming to bring the group to a shared future of common prosperity amid global instability and uncertainty.

The 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the SCO in East China’s port city of Qingdao marked the first gathering of leaders of all its eight member states — since India and Pakistan were admitted as full members last year.

The SCO accounts for 20 percent of the global economy and 40 percent of its population.

Joined by leaders from across Eurasia and heads of international organizations at a roundtable meeting, Xi hailed the 17-year-old organization as “a new model for regional cooperation” and shared ideas on how to tackle global challenges.

The two-day summit saw leaders sign documents in diverse fields including security, trade facilitation and people-to-people exchanges, sending out a signal of unity and collaboration, against the backdrop of global challenges such as hegemony, power politics, security threats, unilateralism and trade protectionism.

“We should, guided by the Shanghai Spirit, work closely to build an SCO community with a shared future, move toward a new type of international relations, and build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity,” Xi said.

CREATIVE VISION OF SHANGHAI SPIRIT

Xi attributed the SCO’s strength to the Shanghai Spirit, which champions mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diverse civilizations and pursuit of common development.

Now the spirit is embodied with rich content as shown in Xi’s speech at the summit.

“We should uphold innovative, coordinated, green, open and inclusive development,” he said, calling for resolving issues regarding unbalanced development.
He proposed common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security.

“We should reject the Cold War mentality and confrontation between blocs and oppose the practices of seeking absolute security of oneself at the expense of the security of other countries,” he said.

The President stressed open and inclusive cooperation for win-win outcomes.

“We should reject self-centered, short-sighted and closed-door policies,” he said. “Equality, mutual learning, dialogue and inclusiveness between cultures should be championed.”

He also called for extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits in global governance.

**A ROADMAP FOR ACTION**

The Qingdao Summit went beyond theories and concepts, outlining a roadmap for concrete action.

Strength of unity and mutual trust should be built up with states respecting each other’s choice of development paths and accommodating each other’s core interests and major concerns, according to Xi.

Xi stressed the need to cooperate on combating terrorism, separatism and extremism, and conduct a “Peace Mission.”

China would train 2,000 law enforcement officers for all parties in the next three years to enhance law enforcement, Xi said.

The SCO’s economic component has grown more prominent in recent years, and Xi proposed increasing the complementarity of development strategies and pursuing the Belt and
Road Initiative to achieve shared growth through discussion and collaboration.

China’s package for common development included setting up a 30-billion-yuan ($4.7 billion) special lending facility within the SCO Interbank Consortium.

Calling for closer ties through people-to-people and cultural exchanges, Xi said China would provide 3,000 training opportunities in human resources development for SCO member states in the next three years to enhance public understanding and support for the SCO.

The SCO will also expand partnership networks in international cooperation, contributing to resolving important issues and improving global governance.

The SCO was established in 2001 by China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India and Pakistan joined as full members last year at the Astana Summit in Kazakhstan. Its observer states are Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia.

The Qingdao Summit is one of the four international events Xi chairs in China this year, practicing “major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.”

The other three events are the Boao Forum for Asia annual conference in April, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit in September and the First China International Import Expo in November.

They are all aimed at building “a new type of international relations” and “a community with a shared future for humanity” — two ideas Xi has expounded over the past five years.
Qingdao, June 10 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a speech at the 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) here on Sunday.

The following is the full text of the speech:

Dear colleagues,

In this lovely season of June, I am delighted to welcome all of you to the picturesque city of Qingdao for the 18th meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

Over 2,500 years ago, Confucius, the great Chinese philosopher, had this to say: “What a joy to have friends coming from afar!” It is therefore of special significance that I host my distinguished guests in Shandong, the home province of Confucius, for a summit that will chart the future course for the SCO.

In five days, the SCO will celebrate its 17th birthday, an occasion for us to review our organization’s remarkable journey and important achievements.

Over the past 17 years, guided by the SCO Charter and the Treaty on Long-Term Good-Neighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation Between the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, we have forged a constructive partnership featuring non-alliance, non-confrontation and not targeting any third party. In doing so, we have achieved a major breakthrough in the theories and practices of international relations, created a new model for regional cooperation, and made new contribution to peace and development in our region.

Today, the SCO stands as a comprehensive regional cooperation organization that covers the largest area and population in the world. Its members account for about 20 percent of the global economy and 40 percent of its population. The SCO has four observer states and six dialogue partners as well as extensive cooperation linkages with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations. With its ever rising international influence, the SCO has become an important force for promoting global peace and development and upholding international justice and fairness.

The SCO enjoys strong vitality and momentum of cooperation. This, in the final analysis, is attributed to the Shanghai Spirit, a creative vision initiated and followed through by the SCO that champions mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations and pursuit of common development. The Shanghai Spirit, transcending outdated concepts such as clash of civilizations, Cold War and zero-sum mentality, has opened a new page in the history of international relations and gained increasing endorsement of the international community.

Dear colleagues,

Mencius, another ancient Chinese philosopher, aptly observed, “When Confucius looks down from the peak of the Dongshan Mountain, the local Kingdom of Lu comes into view; when he looks down from the peak of Mount Tai, the whole land comes into view.” At a time when the world is undergoing major developments, transformation and adjustment, we must aim high and
look far, and keep pace with the underlying trend of both the world and our times to push for more progress of human civilization.

While hegemony and power politics still persist in this world, the growing call for a more just and equitable international order must be heeded. Democracy in international relations has become an unstoppable trend of the times.

While various traditional and non-traditional security threats keep emerging, the force for peace will prevail, for security and stability are what people long for.

While unilateralism, trade protectionism and backlash against globalization are taking new forms, in this global village of ours where countries’ interests and future are so interconnected, the pursuit of cooperation for mutual benefit represents a surging trend.

While we keep hearing such rhetoric as the clash of civilizations or the superiority of one civilization over another, it is the diversity of civilizations that sustains human progress. Indeed, mutual learning between different cultures is a shared aspiration of all peoples.

Dear colleagues,

The world today faces both opportunities and challenges. The road ahead, bumpy as it may be, will lead to a promising future. We should stay committed to the Shanghai Spirit, surmount difficulties, defuse risks and meet challenges head on.

— We should uphold innovative, coordinated, green, open and inclusive development, achieve coordinated social and economic progress of various countries and resolve issues caused by unbalanced development. We should bridge the gap in development and promote shared prosperity.

— We should pursue common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. We should reject the Cold War mentality and confrontation between blocs and oppose the practices of seeking absolute security of oneself at the expense of others, so as to achieve security of all.

— We should promote open and inclusive cooperation for win-win outcomes. We should reject self-centered, short-sighted and closed-door policies. We should uphold WTO rules and support the multilateral trading system so as to build an open world economy.

— We should champion equality, mutual learning, dialogue and inclusiveness between civilizations. It is important that we overcome cultural misunderstanding, clash and supremacy through exchanges, mutual learning and coexistence.

— We should follow the principle of achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration in engaging in global governance. We should reform and improve the global governance system, and work with all other countries to build a community with shared future for humanity.

Dear colleagues,

The Shanghai Spirit is our shared asset, and the SCO is our shared home. We should, guided by the Shanghai Spirit, work closely to build an SCO community with a shared future, move toward a new type of international relations, and build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security, and common prosperity. To this end, I would like to propose the following:

First, we need to build up strength of unity and mutual trust. We should ensure full implementation of the Qingdao Declaration, the Outline for the Implementation of the Treaty on Long-Term Good-Neighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation, and other documents. We should respect each other’s choice of development paths and accommodate each other’s core interests and major concerns. We should enhance mutual understanding by putting ourselves in others’ positions and boost harmony and unity by seeking common ground and setting aside differences. This will enhance the cohesion and appeal of our organization.

Second, we need to strengthen the foundation for shared peace and security. We need to actively implement the 2019-2021 program of cooperation for combating “three evil forces” of terrorism, separatism and extremism, continue to conduct the “Peace Mission” and other joint counter-terrorism exercises, and enhance cooperation on defense security, law enforcement security and information security. We need to give full play to the role of the SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group to facilitate peace and reconstruction in Afghanistan. China offers to train 2,000 law enforcement officers for all parties in the next three years through China National Institute for SCO International Exchange and Judicial Cooperation and other platforms to enhance law enforcement capacity building.
Third, we need to build a powerful engine to achieve common development and prosperity. We should increase complementarity of our respective development strategies, continue to advance the Belt and Road cooperation under the principle of delivering shared benefits through extensive consultation and joint contribution, accelerate regional trade facilitation, and step up the implementation of the Agreement on International Road Transport Facilitation and other cooperation documents. China will welcome all parties to the first China International Import Expo to be held in Shanghai in November this year. The Chinese government supports building a demonstration area in Qingdao for China-SCO local economic and trade cooperation, and will set up a committee of legal services for SCO member states to provide legal support for business cooperation.

In this connection, I hereby announce that China will set up an RMB 30 billion equivalent special lending facility within the framework of the SCO Inter-bank Consortium.

Fourth, we need to forge closer ties through cultural and people-to-people exchanges. We should actively implement the outline for environmental protection cooperation and other documents, ensure the continued success of such well-recognized programs as the youth exchange camp, and secure solid progress in cooperation in education, science and technology, culture, tourism, health, disaster relief and media. In the next three years, China will provide 3,000 training opportunities of human resources development for SCO member states to enhance public understanding of and support for the SCO family. China offers to provide meteorological services to all parties using its Fengyun-2 weather satellites.

Fifth, we need to expand partnership networks of international cooperation. By intensifying exchanges and cooperation with SCO observer states, dialogue partners, and other countries in our region, by enhancing partnerships with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and by engaging in dialogue with the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other international financial institutions, we can contribute our share to resolving hotspot issues and improving global governance.

Dear colleagues,

Thanks to the support and assistance of all the other SCO member states over the past year, China has completed its SCO presidency and hosted this summit. Here I wish to express my sincere thanks to you all. China will maintain active, practical and friendly cooperation with other SCO member states to ensure the full implementation of the consensus reached at this summit and support Kyrgyzstan in its SCO presidency. Let us join hands to create an even brighter future for the SCO!

Thank you.

LEADERS OF THE SCO MEMBER STATES JOINTLY MEET THE PRESS XI JINPING DELIVERS A SPEECH AS HEAD OF THE SCO PRESIDENCY

On June 10, 2018, leaders of the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) jointly met the press. President Xi Jinping delivered a speech as head of the SCO presidency. Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan, President Sooronbay Jeenbekov of Kyrgyzstan, President Mamnoon Hussain of Pakistan, President Vladimir Putin of Russia, President Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan and President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan were present.

Xi Jinping introduced the important consensuses and achievements reached at the SCO Qingdao Summit. All parties agree to enhance solidarity and coordination and deepen partnerships featuring peace, cooperation, equality, openness, inclusiveness and mutual
benefit. All parties, guided by the vision for common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, will jointly uphold regional security and stability. All parties will uphold the authority and efficacy of the rules of the World Trade Organization, strengthen an open, inclusive, transparent, non-discriminatory and rules-based multilateral trading regime, oppose trade protectionism of any form, and enhance the Belt and Road cooperation and complementarity of our respective development strategies. All parties will continue to carry out cooperation in culture, education, science and technology, environmental protection, health, tourism, youth, media and sports, with a view to promoting mutual learning between cultures and amity between the peoples. All parties will expand international interactions and cooperation of the SCO and work with the United Nations and other international and regional organizations to jointly promote lasting peace and common prosperity of the world. All parties will actively support and cooperate with Kyrgyzstan in taking over the presidency work and ensuring the success of next year’s summit.

Xi Jinping stressed that leaders of the member and observer states of the SCO and principals of relevant international and regional organizations have agreed to abide by the goals and principles of the SCO Charter, carry forward the Shanghai Spirit, as well as jointly pursue regional peace, stability and development by promoting good-neighborliness and friendliness and deepening practical cooperation. I am confident that with our joint efforts, the SCO will enjoy an even better future.

Before meeting the press, leaders of the member states signed the Qingdao Declaration of the Council of Heads of Member States of the SCO and a series of resolutions, including issuing An Action Plan for 2018-2022 to Implement the Treaty on Long-Term Neighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation Among the SCO Member States, the Programme of Cooperation Among the SCO Member States on Counter-Terrorist, Counter-Separatist and Counter-Extremist Measures for 2019-2021, the Anti-Drug Strategy of the SCO Member States for 2018-2023 and the Program of Action for Its Implementation, and the SCO
Chinese President Xi Jinping on Sunday attended a joint press conference at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit held in the coastal city of Qingdao.

The following is the full text of his remarks:

Dear colleagues,
Friends from the press,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Good afternoon. It is my pleasure to meet with you.

Leaders of the member and observer states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and heads of international and regional organizations have gathered here at the beautiful coast of the Yellow Sea to draw up a blueprint for the SCO’s development as it enters a new phase in history. We have had an in-depth exchange of views on major international and regional issues, and reached broad consensus.

During this summit, we have fully recognized the new progress made by our organization since the accession of India and Pakistan, issued several documents including the Qingdao Declaration of the Council of Heads of Member States of the SCO and the Joint Statement of the Heads of Member States of the SCO on Promoting Trade Facilitation, and ratified an action plan for implementing the Treaty on Long-Term Good-Neighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation of the SCO Member States covering the next five years. We have agreed to abide by the goals and principles of the SCO Charter, carry forward the Shanghai Spirit of mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations and pursuit of common development, and jointly pursue regional peace, stability and development by promoting good-neighbourliness and friendship and deepening practical cooperation.

We share the view that the world is undergoing major development, transformation and adjustment. The trend toward multi-polarity and economic globalization is deepening and countries are increasingly interdependent. In the face of tortuous recovery of the world economy and various international and regional hotspot issues, countries are confronted with many common threats and challenges that no one can tackle alone. Only by enhancing solidarity and coordination and...
deepening partnerships featuring peace, cooperation, equality, openness, inclusiveness and mutual benefit will we be able to achieve lasting stability and development.

We hold that security is the foundation for sustainable development of the SCO. All parties, guided by the vision for common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, will jointly uphold regional security and stability by implementing the Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism, the Convention Against Terrorism, the Convention on Countering Extremism and other cooperation documents, promoting counter-terrorism intelligence exchanges and joint actions, strengthening legal foundation and capacity building, effectively combating terrorism, separatism, extremism, drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and cyber crime, and leveraging the role of the SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group.

We point out that economic globalization and regional integration are the compelling trend of our times. All parties will uphold the authority and efficacy of WTO rules, strengthen an open, inclusive, transparent, non-discriminatory and rules-based multilateral trading regime, and oppose trade protectionism of any form. All parties will continue to work in line with the principle of mutual benefit to improve regional economic cooperation arrangements, enhance the Belt and Road cooperation and complementarity of our respective development strategies, deepen cooperation in business, investment, finance, connectivity and agriculture, advance trade and investment facilitation, and foster new prospects for integrated development of the region to deliver benefits to our people and add fresh impetus to global growth.

We stress that the time-honored history and splendid culture of countries are the shared wealth of mankind. On the basis of respecting each other’s cultural diversity and social values, all parties will continue to carry out effective multilateral and bilateral cooperation in culture, education, science and technology, environmental protection, health, tourism, youth, media and sports, with a view to promoting mutual learning between cultures and amity between the peoples.

We believe that it is very important for the SCO to expand international interactions and cooperation. On the basis of equality and mutual benefit, all parties will work to deepen cooperation with regional countries including SCO observer states and dialogue partners, and step up dialogue and exchanges with the UN and other international and regional organizations to jointly promote lasting peace and common prosperity of the world.

We agree that the Kyrgyz Republic will take over the rotating presidency of the SCO after this summit. All parties will actively support and cooperate with Kyrgyzstan in fulfilling its responsibilities as the President and ensuring the success of next year’s summit.

Ladies and gentlemen,
Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the leaders of all countries and heads of international organizations for attending the summit. I am grateful for the vigorous support and assistance China has received during its presidency and in hosting this summit. My thanks also go to friends from the media for covering the progress of the SCO and the Qingdao Summit.

I am confident that with our joint efforts, the SCO will enjoy an even better future.

Thank you.

**SCO LEADERS VOICE EXPECTATIONS OF FUTURE COOPERATION**

Qingdao, China, June 10 (Xinhua) — Leaders of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held the annual summit of the Eurasian institution here on Sunday, with Chinese President Xi Jinping chairing the meeting.

At the 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States of the SCO, Xi called for carrying forward the Shanghai Spirit to surmount difficulties, defuse risks and meet challenges.
Other SCO leaders also voiced their expectations of future cooperation in various areas so as to give full play to the organization’s role after its expansion.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India will be very happy to cooperate with other SCO countries in the framework of the SCO in different areas such as organic farming, dairy and animal husbandry, agricultural education, food processing and pharmaceuticals.

Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev said the Shanghai Spirit is a driving force for the SCO to carry out its work effectively. He suggested expanding trade and investment cooperation from a bilateral level to a multilateral scale, promoting settlements in local currencies among member states, strengthening exchanges in digital information technology and developing infrastructure.

Kyrgyz President Sooronbay Jeenbekov said the SCO should play a better role in safeguarding regional security and stability, adding that he hopes its members would further coordinate their positions and actions to better address the threat posed by the “three evil forces” of terrorism, separatism and extremism in the region.

Pakistani President Mamnoon Hussain said that in just 17 years, the SCO has become a model organization for safeguarding regional security and promoting exchanges among member states. He suggested SCO leaders strengthen communication and jointly promote a more fair and reasonable international economic system.

Russian President Vladmir Putin said combating terrorism is one of the priorities of the SCO, and the organization should take further measures to promote regional stability.

He also called for alignment of projects within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union and the Belt and Road Initiative, thus further enhancing cooperation.

President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon said regional tensions have aggravated because of various security threats. The SCO should promote closer cooperation in law enforcement and defense, and jointly combat the “three evil forces,” drug trafficking and other transnational organized crimes.

Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev called on SCO member states to continue expanding economic and trade cooperation and promote regional integration.

The leaders of the four SCO observer states also attended the meeting.

Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani said that the problems of terrorism and narcotics must be confronted comprehensively, and that he looks forward to expanding his country’s cooperation with the SCO.

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said the SCO is capable of contributing to safeguarding international security. He called for enhancing cooperation in information and cyber security as well as nuclear security.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said countries in the region need to value their common ground, address disputes peacefully, seek long-term common interests, respect each other and abandon conflict and confrontation for a more secure, stable and prosperous region.

Mongolian President Khaltmaa Battulga said the SCO is an important platform for regional cooperation, adding that he hopes Mongolia can increase its participation in regional cooperation within the SCO framework.

SCO QINGDAO DECLARATION CALLS FOR COMMON GROUND TO FACE GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Qingdao, June 10 (Xinhua) — Leaders of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) member states issued a declaration on Sunday at the annual summit held in China’s coastal city of Qingdao.

Amid the increasingly diverse and multi-polar geopolitical situation and growing uncertainties, the international community is in urgent need of seeking common
ground and effectively coping with global challenges, said the document made public during the 18th Meeting of the Council of Heads of Member States.

SCO members have made “building a community with a shared future for humanity” a common concept, according to the document.

“The inclusion of India and Pakistan into the SCO has lifted cooperation in various areas to a new level,” it said.

Member states reiterated their commitment to the Treaty on Long-Term Good-Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation of the SCO Member States and would continue to develop good-neighbourly relations and friendship in areas of common concern, including building shared borders into permanently peaceful and friendly ones.

“Some country or bloc unilaterally develops anti-missile systems in an unrestricted manner, denting global security and damaging world stability,” said the document, stressing that ensuring one’s own security should not come at the price of endangering other countries.

Member states proposed that a comprehensive United Nations treaty on fighting international terrorism should be passed by reaching a consensus based on UN documents such as the Charter of the United Nations.

“It is forbidden to interfere in other nations’ internal affairs in the name of countering terrorism and extremism,” it said.

Member states recognized the special role of the SCO regional counter-terrorist agencies in jointly combating the “three evil forces” of terrorism, separatism and extremism, and safeguarding regional security.

It is very important to improve these institutions’ work, including development of a system to monitor and cope with potential threats in global information space, said the declaration.

“SCO members will continue to regularly hold joint anti-terrorism drills and coordinate efforts to crack down on the spreading of terrorism online,” it added.

They are concerned about the rising threats posed by increased drug production, trafficking and use as well as the financing of terrorism through the drug business. “A common balanced position should be developed in combating illegal trafficking, including online trafficking of drugs and precursor chemicals.”

SCO members support settlement of global conflicts by political and diplomatic means within the framework of basic codes and principles of international law to achieve general security and stability, said the document.

It is very important to keep implementing the comprehensive agreement on Iran nuclear issue, and the Korean Peninsula issue should be solved only through dialogue and consultation as well as political and diplomatic approaches, according to the declaration.

The SCO supported the peace initiative proposed by international society, including China and Russia, to mitigate the region’s tension, promote denuclearization of the peninsula and maintain lasting peace in Northeast Asia.

“SCO members support dialogue and contact between the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Republic of Korea, and between the DPRK and the United States, and calls on all related parties to facilitate the development of dialogue,” the declaration read.

They also support improvement of the global economic governance system and development of economic, trade and investment cooperation while opposing fragmentation of international trade relations and trade protectionism in any form.

Member states would enhance cooperation under the framework of current multilateral banks and financial institutions in the region, such as the SCO Interbank Consortium and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to help finance regional cooperation projects, it said.

Fruitful multilateral and bilateral cooperation projects would be held in culture, education, science and technology, health, tourism, folk art and other fields to promote cultural communication and people-to-people exchanges, said the document.
On June 10, 2018, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi gave an interview to the media in Qingdao, introducing the outcomes of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Qingdao Summit. The following is the full text.

Q: China hosts the SCO Summit again after six years. Meanwhile, it is also the first summit held after membership expansion of the SCO, to which the international community has paid high attention. What do you think of the features and significance of this Summit?

A: Compared with previous SCO summits, the Qingdao Summit is the largest one running at the highest level, delivering the most outcomes and creating a series of records of the SCO. This is the first summit held after membership expansion of the SCO. At present, the SCO has 8 member states, 4 observer states, and 6 dialogue partners. Its economic aggregate and total population account for more than 20 percent and 40 percent of those of the world respectively. It stands as a comprehensive regional organization that covers the largest area and population in the world today. Heads of state or government from 12 countries, and principals from 10 international organizations or institutions gathered together in Qingdao. The registered foreign guests exceeded 2,000 people, and Chinese and foreign journalists who covered the Summit surpassed 3,000 people. Under the host of President Xi Jinping, all state leaders of the big family of the SCO jointly reviewed the extraordinary journey of the SCO over the past 17 years, and made a comprehensive plan for the path and direction of the SCO in the future, as well as reached a series of important consensuses. The leaders of the member states signed and witnessed 23 cooperation documents, making the Qingdao Summit the most fruitful one compared with the previous summits. It is fair to say that under the joint efforts of China and all member states, the outcomes of the Qingdao Summit exceeded the expectation. The Qingdao Summit is a new milestone in the development process of the SCO, and of important significance in inheriting the past and ushering the future for the development of the SCO. The following three aspects are the most important ones:

First, the "Shanghai Spirit" has been highlighted. The "Shanghai Spirit" can be summarized as mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations, and pursuit of common development. President Xi Jinping stressed at the Summit that the SCO enjoys strong vitality. This, in the final analysis, is attributed to our adherence to the "Shanghai Spirit". The Qingdao Declaration also reiterated that it is by following the "Shanghai Spirit" that the SCO stands the test of international vicissitudes and becomes an extremely important and stable force for the current international situation which is full of uncertainties. The "Shanghai Spirit" highly matches with the traditional Chinese concept of "unity and harmony", which transcends such outdated concepts as clash of civilizations and Cold War and zero-sum mentality. It has become the core value of the SCO, and will continue to provide strong guarantee for the development and growth of the SCO. Meanwhile, the "Shanghai Spirit" has in fact revealed the basic norms which should be abided by in state-to-state exchanges. It completely conforms to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (UN), which will surely exert positive and far-reaching influence on the building of a new type of international relations for all countries.

Second, the awareness of a community with a shared future has been formed. The building of a community with a shared future for mankind is a major initiative put forward by President Xi Jinping who takes the front line of the times, grasps the direction of human progress and focuses on the common interests of all countries. As the SCO member states live side by side as neighbors with similar development tasks and closely interlinked destiny, they should play a leading role in building a community with a shared future. At this Summit, all parties established the common vision of a community with a shared future for mankind in the Qingdao Declaration and uttered the loudest voice of sharing weal and woe and the same destiny of our times. This will not only be conducive to deepening the mutually beneficial cooperation...
among the SCO member states and injecting inexhaustible impetus into the development of the SCO, but also promote the common development and prosperity of the region and the world at large.

Third, the SCO propositions on global governance have been put forward. President Xi Jinping pointed out that we should adhere to the outlook of global governance on the basis of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, constantly reform and improve the global governance system, and push all countries to join hands in building a community with a shared future for mankind. The Qingdao Declaration also emphasized that the SCO will promote a more equitable and balanced international order on the basis of equal, common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security. This is the political consensus reached by the member states based on common needs, contributing the SCO wisdom to the improvement of global governance. Global governance is the common cause of all countries. The SCO has the responsibility and capability to play a constructive role in this regard. I believe that as the SCO continues to develop and grow, it will surely become an important and active force in the process of global governance.

II. Q: The Qingdao Summit adopted a series of cooperation documents covering such multiple areas as politics, security, economy and people-to-people and cultural engagement. How do you evaluate the achievements of this Summit?

A: The original aspiration of the SCO is to jointly strive for stability and promote development, which is also the consistent theme of the SCO. At the Qingdao Summit, all parties agreed to strengthen cooperation in various aspects for building a community with a shared future. To sum up, there are major achievements in the following five aspects:

The first is that there has been a new plan for the development of the SCO. The scale of the big family of the SCO has become ever larger with more and more members, but solidarity and mutual trust are the fine traditions of the SCO. The Qingdao Declaration reiterated that all parties will further develop good-neighborly and friendly relations and turn mutual borders into borders of lasting peace and friendship. The Qingdao Summit adopted the implementation outline for the Treaty on Long-term Good-Neighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation of the SCO Member States in the coming five years, and put forward a series of major cooperation measures, planning a roadmap for the development of the SCO in the coming five years.

The second is that new measures have been put forward in security cooperation. The Qingdao Summit has ratified a three-year program of cooperation to combat the "three forces" and other important documents which focus on the major threats that influence regional security, and conform to the common demand of various parties. The documents are of important realistic significance in that they have clear targets and are feasible. The Qingdao Summit also adheres to a forward-looking vision, pays attention to preventing extreme thoughts from spreading, and has formulated countermeasures to this end. Through the joint message from heads of the SCO member states to young people, the Summit calls on the vast young people to set up the correct values, and consciously resist extreme thoughts, so as to contribute positive energy to regional peace and stability.

The third is that new impetus has been injected into economic cooperation. The Qingdao Summit has adopted multiple practical cooperation documents with great significance and wide coverage, involving numerous fields including trade facilitation, food security and customs cooperation, which is conducive to further promoting the in-depth and practical development of cooperation among various countries. In particular, the Summit announced the joint statement on promoting trade facilitation, which calls for the maintenance of the multilateral trade system with the rules of the World Trade Organization as its core and the building of an open world economy, thus sending out the unanimous voice of upholding multilateralism and opposing protectionism. More and more countries have realized that engaging in construction behind closed doors will not work, while coordinated development is a general trend. We are glad to see that the Belt and Road Initiative has gained more extensive support, and that new progress has constantly been made in the integration of the development strategies of various countries and regional cooperation initiatives.

The fourth is that new outcomes have been made in people-to-people and cultural cooperation. The SCO pays high attention to environmental protection problems. Leaders of the member states have jointly ratified the concept of environmental protection cooperation, setting up the strategic goal of committing to
maintaining ecological balance and realizing green and sustainable development. In addition, various parties also agreed to continue carrying out productive cooperation in culture, education, science and technology, health, tourism, youth, women, media, sports and other fields.

The fifth is that a new situation has been opened up for external exchanges. The SCO has always upheld the principle of openness, equality, inclusiveness and transparency in external exchanges. Our friend circle has been constantly expanded. This Summit was not only attended by principals sent by the UN and other long-term cooperative partners, but also by the high representatives from the Eurasian Economic Union, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank for the first time. The SCO Secretariat also signed cooperation documents with the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. These all embody that the international community highly recognizes the cooperation concepts of the SCO, and pays more and more attention to the growing influence of the SCO.

III. Q: President Xi Jinping delivered important speeches at the Qingdao Summit. We have noticed that there are many new concepts in his speeches. What kind of important influence will these new concepts and propositions of President Xi Jinping exert on the future development of the SCO?

A: At the SCO Qingdao Summit, President Xi Jinping delivered several important speeches, in which he comprehensively summarized the development progress and useful experience since the establishment of the SCO 17 years ago, systematically mapped out the development of the SCO in the future and made clear the general direction.

Xi Jinping stressed that the "Shanghai Spirit" is the soul and shared asset of the SCO, which should be adhered to and carried forward. We should, guided by the "Shanghai Spirit", continue to work together and cooperate sincerely to push the SCO, the new comprehensive organization, to be an example of regional cooperation.

President Xi Jinping put forward the outlooks on development, security, cooperation, civilization and global governance. The five outlooks summarized the basic concept of building a new type of international relations, adding new epochal connotation to the "Shanghai Spirit" and endowing the SCO with new historical missions.

President Xi Jinping called on all parties to work closely to build an SCO community with a shared future, move toward a new type of international relations, and build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security, and common prosperity. As agreed by all parties, "the formation of a common vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind" was written into the Qingdao Declaration, becoming the most important political consensus and goal that the eight SCO member states strive for.

President Xi Jinping also suggested that the SCO should, in line with the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, advance the "Belt and Road" construction, promote the alignment of the development strategies of various countries and build a new engine to achieve common development and prosperity, opening up broader space and prospects for the SCO to conduct mutually beneficial cooperation.

The above mentioned important proposals put forward by President Xi Jinping completely match with the development requirements of the SCO, the common interests of various countries in the world as well as the epochal trend of the development and progress of the world, which will not only boost vigorously the SCO’s own development, but also be conducive to promoting the peace and prosperity of the region and the world at large.

After the Qingdao Summit, the SCO will embark on a new journey. Facing the new situation and new tasks, what issues should the SCO focus on? What measures will China take to advance the development of the SCO?

A: Just as President Xi Jinping mentioned in his speeches delivered at the Qingdao Summit, the development of the world today faces both opportunities and challenges. The road ahead, bumpy as it may be, will lead to a promising future. This is the general situation and environment that the SCO faces in the future. We believe that to maintain the healthy and stable development of the SCO, we must tangibly and well implement various consensuses reached by leaders of all countries at the SCO Qingdao Summit.

First, we should stick to the
development orientation of the SCO. At the beginning of its establishment, the SCO has established the principle of "not targeting any countries and international organizations", and formed a model of cooperation featuring partnership instead of alliance, and dialogue rather than confrontation. All member states should continuously uphold the "Shanghai Spirit", hold high the banner of peace, development and cooperation, seek no exclusionary clubs, and have no geopolitical calculations. We should actively promote the building of a new type of international relations characterized by mutual respect, fairness and justice and win-win cooperation, and join force to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

Second, we should focus on deepening practical cooperation. All member states should seize the period of development and opportunity in the next 5 to 10 years to further cement the cooperation foundation of the SCO, innovate ways of cooperation, enrich the connotation of cooperation, and ensure that cooperation in three major pillar areas of security, economy, and people-to-people and cultural engagement to advance side by side, so as to let the SCO release increasingly stronger cooperation potential in safeguarding regional peace and stability, pursuing common development and prosperity as well as promoting exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations, thus bringing more tangible security and development dividends to the people of all countries in the region.

Third, we should promote the improvement of global governance. The Qingdao Declaration put forward that all member states support the improvement of the global governance system and support the UN to play a core role in this regard. The SCO, with 8 full members, 4 observer states and 6 dialogue partners, can form a synergy of 18 countries. If the SCO actively carries out communication and cooperation with the UN and other international and regional organizations, it can contribute the strength of the SCO to the enrichment and improvement of the global governance system and to advancing international order to develop towards a more just and reasonable direction.

As a founding member state of the SCO, China has always regarded the SCO as one of its diplomatic priorities. During the Qingdao Summit, President Xi Jinping announced a series of important measures China has taken to support the SCO cooperation, including offering to train 2,000 law enforcement officers for all parties and providing 3,000 training opportunities of human resources development in the next three years. China will set up an RMB 30 billion equivalent special lending facility within the framework of the SCO Inter-bank Consortium, set up a China-SCO legal service committee, and build a demonstration zone in Qingdao for China-SCO local economic and trade cooperation. These measures combine China’s advantages and are closely linked to the needs of all parties, which are conducive to the development of the SCO and win widespread popularity.

"A good harvest depends on hard work". The SCO is a new type of organization built upon advanced concepts. Today, the SCO starts again from China and sets sail again from Qingdao. China will, as always, work with all member states to comprehensively implement outcomes of the Summit, so as to make the SCO enjoy closer solidarity, more efficient cooperation, more energetic actions and brighter prospects.

QINGDAO SUMMIT USHERS IN NEW ERA FOR SCO

Beijing, June 12 (Xinhua) — The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit has injected fresh impetus to the building of an SCO community with a shared future and ushered in a new era for cooperation among member states.

In his speech at the summit, President Xi Jinping offered his insights on development, security, cooperation, civilization, and global governance, enriching the Shanghai Spirit and giving the SCO new historic missions.

Xi spoke of the need to build up strength of unity and mutual trust, strengthen the foundation for shared peace and security, build a powerful engine to achieve common development and prosperity, forge closer ties through cultural and
people-to-people exchanges, and expand partnership networks of international cooperation.

These proposals are indeed in line with the national conditions of the member states and the interests of their peoples.

The summit held in east China’s port city of Qingdao marked the first gathering of leaders of all eight member states since India and Pakistan were admitted as full members last year.

At the summit, member states stressed unity, coordination, and common development.

They made “building a community with a shared future for humanity” a common concept in the Qingdao Declaration. This move demonstrated their recognition of the Chinese philosophy and firmly upheld the building of an SCO community with a shared future.

At present, the world is faced with challenges such as hegemony, power politics, security threats, unilaterality, and trade protectionism.

The SCO is confident in addressing the problems as member states deepen partnerships, prioritize cooperation on security, follow the trend of economic globalization and regional integration, enhance people-to-people connectivity and mutual learning in culture, and expand international exchanges and cooperation.

In doing so, the SCO member states will be able to achieve lasting stability and common prosperity.

Concrete initiatives have been made at the two-day summit, with 23 cooperative documents in diverse fields signed, more than any previous SCO summit.

China announced plans to train 2,000 law enforcement officers for all parties in the next three years through China National Institute for SCO International Exchange and Judicial Cooperation and other platforms, set up a 30-billion-yuan (4.7 billion U.S. dollars) equivalent special lending facility within the framework of the SCO Inter-bank Consortium, and support building a demonstration area in Qingdao for China-SCO local economic and trade cooperation.

Today, the SCO stands as a comprehensive regional cooperation organization that covers the largest area and population in the world. Its member states, namely, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, account for about 20 percent of the global economy and 40 percent of its population.

It has also become a significant organization in promoting world peace and development, and safeguarding fairness and justice in the world.

Standing at a new historic starting point, the SCO will make greater contributions to the lofty cause of human progress.

JOURNALISTS AT SCO QINGDAO SUMMIT

Journalists interview at the media center of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, June 8, 2018. The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit is held from June 9 to 10 in Qingdao, and has attracted many journalists from home and abroad to come here to report. (Xinhua/Yin Gang)
A journalist from Uzbekistan (1st R) interacts with a robot at the media center of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, June 8, 2018. The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit is held from June 9 to 10 in Qingdao, and has attracted many journalists from home and abroad to come here to report. (Xinhua/Li Ziheng)

A journalist from Pakistan receives an interview from Xinhua at the media center of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, June 8, 2018. The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit is held from June 9 to 10 in Qingdao, and has attracted many journalists from home and abroad to come here to report. (Xinhua/Li Ziheng)
A journalist from China Media Group prepares for a live broadcast at the media center of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, June 9, 2018. The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit is held from June 9 to 10 in Qingdao, and has attracted many journalists from home and abroad to come here to report. (Xinhua/Jiang Kehong)

Smartphone photo taken on June 7, 2018 shows a journalist from India interviews a volunteer at the media center of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province. The 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit is held from June 9 to 10 in Qingdao, and has attracted many journalists from home and abroad to come here to report. (Xinhua/Li Ziheng)
A lights and fireworks show takes place in Qingdao, the host city of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, in east China’s Shandong Province, June 9, 2018. (Xinhua/Xu Yu)

A lights and fireworks show takes place in Qingdao, the host city of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, in east China’s Shandong Province, June 9, 2018. (Xinhua/Zhang Cheng)
A lights and fireworks show takes place in Qingdao, the host city of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, in east China’s Shandong Province, June 9, 2018. (Xinhua/Li Ziheng)
A lights and fireworks show takes place in Qingdao, the host city of the 18th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, in east China’s Shandong Province, June 9, 2018. (Xinhua/Yan Yan)
On June 9, 2018, President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India in Qingdao.

Xi Jinping pointed out that more than one month ago, Mr. Prime Minister and I successfully held an informal meeting in Wuhan, reaching important consensus. Both the two countries and the international community spoke positively of this meeting. The positive atmosphere of caring for and supporting the development of China-India relations is taking shape. China is willing to, together with India, take the meeting in Wuhan as a new starting point to continuously enhance political mutual trust and comprehensively carry out mutually beneficial cooperation, so as to promote China-India relations for forward-looking development in a better, faster and steadier manner.
Xi Jinping stressed that China and India have reaped quite a few early-harvest outcomes in implementing the consensus reached at the meeting in Wuhan. The two sides should make persistent efforts to speed up the implementation, maintain strategic communication, expand economic and trade cooperation, promote people-to-people and cultural exchanges and enhance coordination and cooperation on international and regional affairs.

Xi Jinping welcomed India’s attendance at the meeting of the Council of Heads of State as a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) for the first time. The Chinese side stands ready to work with India and other member states to jointly carry forward the “Shanghai Spirit” and promote the sound and stable development of the SCO.

Narendra Modi expressed that the informal meeting between President Xi Jinping and him in Wuhan not long ago was very successful and also very important, which has furthered his confidence in developing India-China relations, and will certainly be a milestone in the history of the relations between the two countries. India-China cooperation is of great significance to world peace and prosperity. The Indian side is ready to promote bilateral relations for constant and forward-looking development on the basis of the informal meeting in Wuhan. As a new member, India stands ready to play an active role in the SCO, and supports China in successfully holding the Qingdao Summit.

After the meeting, Xi Jinping and Narendra Modi jointly witnessed the signing of relevant bilateral cooperation documents.

Ding Xuexiang, Yang Jiechi, Wang Yi and He Lifeng attended the meeting.

WANG YI MEETS WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER SUSHMA SWARAJ OF INDIA

On June 4, 2018 local time, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj of India on the sidelines of the Formal Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs in South Africa.

Wang Yi expressed that the informal meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Wuhan in April was a complete success and had a far-reaching impact. The trust and friendship established between the leaders of the two countries have led all sectors of society in China and India to enhance mutual understanding and deepen exchanges and cooperation in various fields. The two countries should speed up the implementation of the consensus of the leaders’ informal meeting, well plan high-level exchanges in the next stage, push forward various institutional arrangements between the two countries, and expand practical cooperation in all fields, in a bid to bring more benefits to the two peoples.

Wang Yi said that China and India share extensive common interests, and have far more consensus than differences. The cooperation between China and India will speed up the common development of the two countries, benefit the entire world, and make contributions to the progress of human civilization. To this end, both sides should always proceed from the overall situation of bilateral relations and the fundamental interests of the two peoples, and properly handle issues and differences by putting them in an appropriate position of bilateral relations, so that the partial interests would not influence the overall interests. Both sides should, in line with the consensus reached by the leaders of both countries, earnestly safeguard the peace and tranquility in the border areas and avoid taking actions that may complicate and aggravate the situation. Facing the international situation that is full of uncertainties, China and India, together with other parties, sent a clear and consistent signal of adhering to multilateralism, opposing protectionism and unilateralism, and safeguarding the purposes and
principles of the Charter of the United Nations at the just-concluded Formal Meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs, which reflects the general aspiration of the vast developing countries. China and India should enhance coordination to play constructive roles in promoting the forward-looking development of multilateral mechanisms such as BRICS cooperation and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

Sushma Swaraj noted that the informal meeting of leaders of India and China in Wuhan enhanced mutual trust between the two countries, deepened bilateral cooperation and improved each other’s comfort level, achieving an unprecedented success. The meeting has charted the course for the development of bilateral relations in the next stage, becoming an important milestone in bilateral relations. India is ready to work with China to well implement the consensus of the meeting. Differences between India and China are unavoidable, but they can be resolved by adhering to dialogue and consultation as long as both sides have the willingness. The Indian side thanks China’s assistance in such aspects as Indian pilgrims’ trip to Xi Zang and providing hydrologic data, and is willing to, together with China, make efforts to consolidate the public opinion foundation for the development of bilateral relations. India firmly adheres to the one-China policy, and will properly handle Taiwan question, Xi Zang-related issues and other issues concerning the core interests of China. As the two largest emerging markets and developing countries, India and China share a common position in such aspects as maintaining the international political and economic order and promoting the improvement of global governance. Both sides should further strengthen coordination and cooperation within multilateral mechanisms, so as to make contributions to safeguarding the common interests of developing countries.
Singapore, June 1 (Xinhua) — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday hailed his country’s relationship with China, saying that cooperation between New Delhi and Beijing will benefit Asia and the world.

Modi made the remarks in his keynote speech at the 17th Asia Security Summit, commonly known as the Shangri-la Dialogue, which opened Friday evening and runs till Sunday.

“We’re the world’s two most populous countries, and among the fastest growing major economies. Our cooperation is expanding. Trade is growing,” said Modi.

He said the two countries have displayed “maturity and wisdom” in managing issues and ensuring a peaceful border.

Modi said the informal summit between leaders of the two countries in April helped both sides cement the understanding that “strong and stable” India-China relations are an important factor for global peace and progress.

“I firmly believe that Asia and the world will have a better future, when India and China work together in trust and confidence, sensitive to each other’s interests,” he said.

The Shangri-La Dialogue has been held annually since 2002 in Singapore, gathering military officials, diplomats and experts to discuss regional security challenges and cooperation prospects.

CHINESE ENVOY TO INDIA PROPOSES “5 CS" TO PROMOTE SINO-INDIAN TIES

A seminar entitled “Beyond Wuhan: How Far and Fast Can China-India Relations Go” is held in New Delhi, India, on June 18, 2018. The China-India relations could be promoted with the help of “Five Cs” – communication, cooperation, contacts, coordination and control, Chinese Ambassador Luo Zhaohui said on Monday. (Xinhua/Zhang Natjie)
New Delhi, June 18 (Xinhua) — The China-India relations could be promoted with the help of “Five Cs” - communication, cooperation, contacts, coordination and control, Chinese Ambassador Luo Zhaohui said on Monday.

Speaking at a seminar - “Beyond Wuhan: How Far and Fast Can China India Relations Go,” the Chinese envoy said both sides needed to strengthen exchanges between senior officials of the government, military and legislature, and give full play to the existing mechanisms to enhance strategic communication and increase mutual understanding.

The seminar was organized to discuss the present scenario of Sino-Indian ties in the aftermath of an informal meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in central Chinese city of Wuhan in late April, followed by their meeting on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in China’s eastern port city of Qingdao earlier this month.

The Chinese ambassador underlined the fact that the two leaders have had one-on-one meetings on different occasions during the past four years.

On trade front, he said that China would like to negotiate a “regional trade arrangement” with India to expand trade relations. “We may encourage economic cooperation on major projects such as new industrial parks and high-speed railway,” he said.

Proposing better people-to-people contacts between the two sides, the Chinese ambassador said, “We should give full play to the high-level people-to-people and cultural exchange mechanism to enhance exchanges in the fields of movie, sports, tourism, museum and youth.”

Advocating coordination on international and regional issues, Luo said both countries needed to enhance cooperation in platforms like SCO, BRICS, G-20 and join hands to tackle global challenges to forge global economic integration, free trade and multilateralism.

Suggesting control and management of bilateral differences, the ambassador said the two countries as neighbors could not wish away differences. “We need to narrow differences through expanding cooperation.”

The seminar was also addressed by a number of former diplomats, academicians, educationists, scholars, journalists and business leaders from both countries.

Amitabh Kant, CEO of the Indian think tank National Institution for Transforming India (NITI), said that it was high time that India and China should not only work together to address bilateral issues but strive to find solutions to the problems faced by the world as a whole.

The seminar was jointly organized by the Chinese embassy in India with the Delhi-based Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of South Asia (FCC) and Indian Association of Foreign Affairs Correspondents (IAFAC).

KEYNOTE SPEECH BY AMBASSADOR

H.E. MR. LUO ZHAOHUI AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF CHINA-INDIA RELATIONS SEMINAR

(18 June 2018, The Imperial)

Mr. Amitabh Kant, CEO of NITI Aayog,
Ambassadors, Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Namaste and very good morning!

I’m delighted to join today’s seminar co-hosted by the Chinese Embassy, Institute of Chinese Studies, FICCI, FCCSA and IAFAC. Thank you all for participating and supporting the event.

I just came back from Qingdao
where President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modiji held the bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the SCO Summit on June 9th. This is their 14th meeting in last four years. Their discussion focused on implementation of consensus reached during Wuhan informal summit 41 days before.

As new full members of SCO, India and Pakistan both made their contribution to the success of the SCO Qingdao Summit. Modi ji travelled to China twice within a very short time. We have also taken note that Prime Minister Modi ji made a speech at Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore which sent a positive message. We really appreciate that.

In Qingdao, the two leaders agreed to hold the second round of informal summit next year. This is the most significant outcome of the meeting.

The Chinese Defense Minister, Minister for Public Security will visit India respectively and the Special Representatives’ Meeting on Boundary Question will be held in Beijing this year.

The two foreign ministers will soon co-chair the first meeting of high-level people-to-people and cultural exchange mechanism this year.

China will import more sugar, non-Basmati rice and medicines from India to reduce trade imbalance. A new bilateral trade target has been set for 100 billion USD by 2022. India agreed to facilitate the establishment of Bank of China branch office in Mumbai. The two sides agreed to share hydro-logical information concerning cross-border rivers and enhance connectivity in the region including the BCIM cooperation projects.

The two sides decided to move forward ‘China India Plus’ cooperation in Afghanistan, starting from joint training program for Afghan civil servants.

During their meeting in Qingdao, President Xi once again talked about Bollywood movie
Dangal. He also mentioned two other movies, Baahubali 2 and Hindi Medium which are being screened in China. He is a super fan of the Bollywood movies.

The Qingdao meeting is essentially the continuation of the Wuhan informal summit. In Wuhan, the summit created a new model of engagement between the two leaders. It is of great significance and a milestone in the history of bilateral relations.

Wuhan Summit enhanced the chemistry and friendship between the two leaders. President Xi told the guest that he had only received foreign leader twice outside Beijing over his past five years of tenure and both were for Modi ji. The First was in Xi’an in 2015. Wuhan was the second one. Modi ji was deeply touched.

They spent 9 hours together over 7 events including 4 one-on-one meetings, besides walking and tea-tasting along the lakeside, boat ride and museum tour.

Strategic communications, meetings, heart-to-heart dialogues are important. What’s equally important is to implement the consensus, transmit leaders’ personal friendship down to the people, and take more concrete actions.

Friends,

Why China-India relations are so important that the two leaders pay such attention to?

From the bilateral perspective, we are neighbors that cannot be moved away. We are the most populous and largest developing countries. We have shared historic glory of friendly interactions. We also have pending boundary issues. Our relations are so multifaceted and complicated, calling for special care and attention.

From the perspective of domestic development, both countries are at the critical stage of economic development, deepening reform, and advancing modernization. Socialism with Chinese Characteristics has entered a new era. The Chinese people are pursuing the Chinese dream. In the meantime, India puts forward a vision of “New India”. We really need a peaceful atmosphere. We should also synergize the development strategies and share governance experiences.

From the global perspective, in recent years, the developing countries represented by China and India have emerged as a group, contributing to the ongoing “rise of the East” in the transforming world. Against the backdrop of anti-globalization and rising protectionism, China and India as major emerging market economies, are faced with the pressure of established powers. As neighboring major emerging countries, we should coordinate our positions and also explore ways to be with each other.

Friends,

Now I want to share with you the fields of priority with 5Cs to promote China-India relations, namely communication, cooperation, contacts, coordination and control.

First, Strategic Communication.

Change is the key word of our times. The World is changing, China and India are changing. In a changing world, how to coexist with each other, how to look at respective development and how to judge intentions of China and India, are key issues that urgently call for the strategic guidance from the leaders.

Besides the informal summits, the two leaders agreed to maintain strategic communication in different forms such as phone conversation, correspondence, and meetings. Certainly they will meet again during BRICS Summit in South Africa in July and probably G20 Summit in Argentina in November.

We need to strengthen exchanges between senior officials of the government, military and legislature of our two countries.

We should think about signing of Treaty of Good-Neighborliness and Friendly Cooperation. Around ten years ago, we have already provided the draft to the Indian side. Under the SCO framework, we have such a treaty.

Second, Economic Cooperation.

Former Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji once said, China has the best hardware while India has the best software. China and India working together could become world’s best. In the City of Linyi, northern part of China, there is a software industry park with more than 100 Indian engineers working there with their family members. They have their own
China is India’s largest trading partner. Last year, the bilateral trade volume reached 84.4 billion US dollars. More than 800 Chinese companies are investing and doing business in India, creating over one lakh job opportunities for India.

China does not seek the trade imbalance with India. In March this year, a trade delegation led by Chinese Commerce Minister Mr. Zhong Shan purchased goods worth of 2.4 billion US dollars in India. We encourage more Indian companies to participate in the first China International Import Expo in Shanghai this November. But surprisingly so far only four Indian companies have decided to participate in the Expo. We call for the Indian government and the business circles to be more active in participating and to take more concrete actions to solve the trade imbalance.

We would also like to negotiate a bilateral FTA with India to expand trade relations. We finished the feasibility studies around ten year ago. We may encourage economic cooperation on major projects such as new industrial parks and high-speed railways. A Chinese company has helped India finish the feasibility study of the high speed rail from Delhi to Chennai. We proposed to the Indian side to start a pilot high speed rail project from Delhi to Agra.

Connectivity cooperation is another highest priority. We are happy to speed up the cooperation among the BCIM countries. At the end of this month, the annual conference of AIIB will be held in Mumbai. India is the largest beneficiary country from AIIB.

Third, People-to-people contacts

Yunan Minzu University of China is the first University outside of India to issue MA degrees for Yoga. In Dali University of Yunnan province, there are more than 540 Indian students studying. There are more than 20000 Indian students studying in China. A 200-member Indian youth delegation will visit China early next month.

We should give full play to the high-level people-to-people and cultural exchange mechanism to enhance exchanges in the fields of movie, sports, tourism, museum and youth.

We will continue to promote religious exchanges, and arrange the pilgrims by Indian Yatris to Kailash Manasarovar in China’s Tibet.

Fourth, Coordination on international and regional issues

In Wuhan, Modiji briefed President Xi India’s Neighborhood First Policy and the concept of the World as One. That’s quite similar with President Xi’s “Neighborhood diplomacy as the highest priority”, and the idea of “building a community of shared future for mankind”.

China-India relations have gone beyond bilateral scope. We have broad converging interests and face common challenges in Asia and beyond. We need to enhance cooperation in SCO, BRICS, G20 and join hands to tackle global challenges to forge global economic integration, free trade and multilateralism. We should continue to push forward “China India Plus” cooperation.

India and Pakistan has become full member of the SCO. We hope that in the future China-India-Pakistan Leaders Meeting could be held under the SCO framework.

Fifth, Control and management of differences

India is our immediate neighbor. It’s quite natural to have differences with neighbors. We need to narrow differences through expanding cooperation. However, it does not mean that differences would be ignored. We are talking about the early harvest to give hope to ourselves and to the outside world. We are talking about the CBMs along the border areas to prevent the Doklam incident from happening again. We could not imagine what would happen to the bilateral relations if the Doklam issue escalated last year. We could not stand another Doklam incident.

The boundary question between our two countries was left over by history. We need to build on convergence to find a mutual acceptable solution through the Special Representatives’ Meeting while adopting confidence building measures to maintain the peace and tranquility along the border.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The China-India relations belong to all of us. What’s most important is to walk to the same direction and make joint efforts to allow the Dragon and Elephant Dance while making One Plus One Eleven. I wish everyone could brainstorm, share insights and suggestions in panel discussions to make today’s seminar a great success. Thank you.
AMBASSADOR LUO ZHAOHUI MEETS WITH HONORABLE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MR. SURESH PRABHU

On June 19th, Ambassador Luo Zhaohui met with the Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr. Suresh Prabhu and exchanged in-depth views on China-India relations and pushing bilateral practical cooperation in trade and commerce forward. Economic and Commercial Counsellor Li Baijun was present.

AIIB MEETING KICKS OFF WITH FOCUS ON PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Mumbai, June 25 (Xinhua) — The third annual meeting of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) kicked off in India’s financial hub Mumbai on Monday with the theme “Mobilizing Finance for Infrastructure: Innovation and Collaboration.”
Over 3,000 delegates from over 80 members as well as varied multinational organizations are attending the two-day event, which will see brainstorming sessions on how to mobilize finance for huge infrastructure needs in developing countries in Asia and beyond.

Policy-makers, officials from AIIB members, and participants from partner organizations, private sector and civil society organizations will share their insights on addressing the huge infrastructure-deficit in a sustainable, environment and society-friendly manner.

At AIIB Governors’ seminar during the event on Monday, AIIB President Jin Liqun stressed the need to increase the private-sector investment in financing the infrastructure in developing countries of Asia.

“We are trying to work with the private sector to do infrastructure projects and investments in other productive sectors so that we don’t have to put pressure on the balance-sheet of the government,” said Jin.

He called upon all the governments in Asia in particular to clear hurdles in the way of private-sector investment for building infrastructure.

He also hoped that the private sector will be more than willing to pour money into infrastructure projects if government clears practical hurdles in the way of investment.

He said that AIIB wants to work as a bridge between private sector and governments.

Jin also shared the best practices adopted by the Chinese government in clearing hurdles for building massive infrastructure across China. “We must be innovative and we must be responsive to the needs of the (local) people,” he said.

He also termed the Beijing-based bank as a problem-solver in order to forge a win-win partnership. “I believe that we are not just financiers, we are problem solver for the government, for the private sector,” he said.

At a media-briefing during the event, AIIB Vice President Danny Alexander also enumerated priorities and lending norms of the AIIB. “Lean, clean and green is the way we work. We invest in sustainability and are guided by those priorities. Our bank is apolitical and all projects have to pass our test on sustainability and environment,” he said.

He also said that AIIB would consider investing in projects outside Asia as long as they serve to benefit Asian regions too.

This year, AIIB also launched an inaugural Asian Infrastructure Forum during the Mumbai meeting, drawing investors from private companies around the globe. Speakers at the forum called upon multinational companies to follow public-private partnership model in order to build cross-country connectivity in Asia.

On the sidelines of the AIIB meeting, an “India Infrastructure Expo 2018” was also organized by the host country to highlight the tremendous scope of building infrastructure in India.

While inaugurating the expo on Sunday, India’s Finance Minister Piyush Goyal welcomed AIIB guests from around the world. “We’re extremely delighted at the progress that the Bank has made,” he said.

The Indian minister has also lauded AIIB for its achievements in a short time-span of three years.

“The Asian Infrastructure Investment bank has really matured in a short period of time, and is rapidly progressing to become one of the most important infrastructure financiers across the world,” said the minister, who is also on the board of governors at AIIB.

Various private companies and international agencies are showcasing their latest solutions, advanced technologies and other offerings in the arena of infrastructure development at the India Infrastructure Expo.

Among others, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a UN agency headquartered in Rome is also ready to join hands with AIIB in the area of rural-infrastructure in countries like India and China.

Alexander Boehm, IFAD’s representative and technical specialist at the Global Engagement Knowledge and Strategic Division, told Xinhua at the sidelines of the meeting that China and India share the responsibility to lead new international institutions.

“Given their size, given their market size and enormous potential, it only makes sense to these countries to be more active internationally,” he said, while highlighting the potential scope in building rural-infrastructure in India and China as well as other developing nations.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra
Modi is scheduled to address the gathering on Tuesday.

During the annual AIIB meeting, 22 seminars focusing on building infrastructure in Asia and beyond, gender and infrastructure and finding ways to fund infrastructure are being organized.

According to the latest AIIB annual report, the bank has financed 23 projects worth 4.2 billion U.S. dollars, a significant increase from 2016.

It was estimated that Asia’s infrastructure needs will be over 1.7 trillion U.S. dollars per year till 2030.

India has emerged as the biggest beneficiary of the multilateral bank with the country already garnering 1.2 billion U.S. dollars of funds. Another 1.9 billion U.S. dollars of fund to finance various projects in India has also been approved by the bank.

While 75 percent of the bank’s capital comes from Asia, some members from non-Asian regions like Europe, North America, and East Africa, among others, have also joined the bank.

India becomes AIIB’s largest borrower: Official

New Delhi, June 25 (Xinhua) — India is the biggest borrower from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), getting its projects financed to the extent of 4.4 billion U.S. dollars in the past three years, Subhash Chandra Garg, the country’s secretary at the Department of Economic Affairs, said in an official statement.

AIIB’s third annual meeting begins in India’s financial capital in Mumbai on Monday. The two-day annual meeting of the bank focuses on infrastructure with the theme of “innovation and collaboration”.

The annual meeting will see participation from 86 members. They will deliberate on the strategies to mobilize financing for infrastructure in the region.

AIIB’s Vice President and Corporate Secretary Sir Danny Alexander said that the bank is apolitical and all projects have to pass the bank’s test on sustainability and environment.

“Lean, clean and green is the way we work. We invest in sustainability and are guided by those priorities,” he added.

Alexander said AIIB will consider investing in projects outside Asia.

“So far, AIIB has only invested in one solar power project in Egypt,” he was quoted as saying in the statement.

While 75 percent of the capital is from Asia, several non-Asian regions like Europe, North America, some East African and Latin American countries have also joined the bank as members.

Xizang receives officially-organized Indian pilgrims

Lhasa, June 20 (Xinhua) — The Nathu La Pass in southwest China’s Xizang Autonomous Region on Wednesday welcomed the first group of officially-organized pilgrims from India this year.

In the following 12 days, the 38 pilgrims will travel to Mapam Yumco Lake and Mount Kangrinboqe, both sacred Hindu and Buddhist sites in Xizang’s Ali Prefecture.

Anuj Gupta made the journey with his 66-year-old mother. “This is her dream, and mine too. This is a holy pilgrimage. I’m here to find something,” he said.

This year, the pass is expected to see about 500 officially-organized pilgrims from India who will make the 2,874-km pilgrimage, according to Yang Zhigang, deputy director of
the office of foreign affairs and overseas Chinese affairs in Xigaze City.

“The pilgrims will be provided with room and board, as well as medicines and other help in their journey,” Yang said.

The Nathu La Pass sits over 4,000 meters above sea level and is wedged between Xizang’s Yadong County in Xigaze Prefecture, and India’s Sikkim State. It is the shortest land pass for trade between China and India, and also the highest altitude land pass for trade.

In 2015, the pass started to receive officially-organized Indian pilgrims. So far, 509 such pilgrims entered Xizang through the pass.

The pilgrims traditionally climbed over Qang La Pass, which is 5,200 meters above sea level on the China-India-Nepal border, to reach their destination. The road is steep and usually covered by snow.
Kunming, June 22 (Xinhua) — Some 300 people gathered for an event marking the third anniversary of the founding of the India-China Yoga College (ICYC) at Yunnan Minzu University in southwest China’s Yunnan Province, to celebrate the 4th International Yoga Day.

According to ICYC executive director Fang Zhen, the three-month event comprises a series of activities, including advanced yoga workshops, yoga lectures and a Yunnan province yoga competition.

At the event’s opening ceremony, Sailas Thangal, India’s Consul General in Guangzhou, awarded licences to practice yoga to five ICYC subsidiaries in Shanghai, Beijing, Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Xi’an.

The ICYC was jointly founded in June 2015 by Yunnan Minzu University and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, and is the world’s first yoga institute set up outside India.

The institution has taken the lead in formal yoga schooling for degrees in China, and is the country’s only institution to offer postgraduate programs in yoga.
On June 22-23, 2018, Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and chairman of the Central Military Commission, delivers an address at the Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs held in Beijing.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has called for efforts to break new ground in major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics, with the guidance of the thought on diplomacy of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era.

In an address at the Central Conference on Work Relating to Foreign Affairs held in Beijing on
Friday and Saturday, Xi, who is also general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and chairman of the Central Military Commission, underscored the importance of keeping in mind both internal and international imperatives, focusing on realizing China's rejuvenation and promoting human progress, and making contributions to the building of a community with a shared future for humanity.

He also urged the efforts to firmly safeguard China’s sovereignty, security and development interests, take an active part in leading the reform of the global governance system, and build a more complete network of global partnerships, so that new advances will be made in major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics to create a favorable environment for, and make due contributions to, building a moderately prosperous society and a great modern socialist country in all aspects.

The conference was presided over by Li Keqiang, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Premier of the State Council. Attending the conference were: Li Zhanshu, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress; Wang Yang, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Chairman of the Political Bureau of the National People’s Congress; Wang Huning, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau and member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee; Zhao Leji, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection of the CPC Central Committee; Han Zheng, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Vice Premier of the State Council; and Vice President Wang Qishan.

Xi said since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, facing with the vicissitudes of the international situation, China has overcome difficulties to push forward major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in a groundbreaking way under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee, having withstood various challenges, cracked hard nuts and made achievements of historic significance.

Through these practices, China has accumulated useful experience and came to the conclusion that conducting external work requires taking into account both domestic and international situations, maintaining strategic confidence and resolve, putting forward innovations in diplomatic theory and practice, promoting strategic planning, advancing diplomatic agenda globally, safeguarding China’s core and major interests, upholding win-win cooperation and justice while pursuing shared interests, and thinking about worst-case scenarios and risks.

“We have kept a firm hold of the development trend of China and the world in the new era since the 18th CPC National Congress and made a series of important innovations on external work in theories and practices, thus forming the thought on diplomacy of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era,” said Xi.

He highlighted major aspects of the thought:

- Uphold the authority of the CPC Central Committee as the overarching principle and strengthen the centralized, unified leadership of the Party on external work;

- Advance major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics to fulfill the mission of realizing national rejuvenation;

- Take preserving world peace and pursuing common development as the purpose to promote the building of a community with a shared future for humanity;

- Enhance strategic confidence with the socialism with Chinese characteristics as the support;

- Forge ahead the Belt and Road construction in the principle of achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration;

- Follow the path of peaceful development on the basis of mutual respect and win-win cooperation;

- Develop global partnerships while advancing diplomatic agenda;

- Lead the reform of the global governance system with the concept of fairness and justice;

- Take national core interests as the bottom line to safeguard China’s sovereignty, security and development interests;

- Nurture a distinctive style of Chinese diplomacy by combining the
fine tradition of external work and the characteristics of times.

“We should thoroughly implement the thought on diplomacy of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, continuously facilitate a favorable external environment for realizing the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation and promoting the building of a community with a shared future for humanity,” said Xi.

He pointed out that in order to have a correct assessment of international situation, an accurate understanding of history, the overall situation and China’s role and position in the world pattern should be formed.

Xi suggested to not only observe the current international situation, but also review the past, summarize historical laws, and look forward to the future to better understand the trend of history.

As for the accurate understanding of overall situation, Xi underlined not only the observation of phenomena and details, but also a deep appreciation of the essence and overall situation, in order not to get lost in complex and changing international situation.

He also asked to have a clear understanding of China’s status and role in the evolving world pattern, and formulate principles and policies of China’s external work in a scientific way, through cool-headed analysis of international phenomena and China’s relation with the rest of the world.

China has been in the best period of development since modern times, while the world is undergoing the most profound and unprecedented changes in a century, said Xi, adding that the two aspects are intertwined and interacted.

He stressed that China enjoys many favorable external conditions to carry out work related to foreign affairs at present and in the years to come.

Calling the period between the 19th and the 20th CPC National Congress “a historical juncture for realizing the two centenary goals of China,” Xi said the period is of great significance in the historical progress of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

Throughout the human history, the development of the world has always been the result of contradictions intertwining and interacting with each other, he continued.

Xi then called for in-depth analysis of the law of how the international situation changes when the world comes into its transitional period, and the accurate grasp of the basic characteristics of the external environment China is facing at this historical juncture, in order to better plan and facilitate the country’s work on foreign affairs.

Xi stressed that the country’s external work should be based on the overall plan of the CPC Central Committee, and should further improve its layout and highlight its priorities.

The external work should focus on the key points in time of the Party and the country’s work to break new grounds, as in the next five years, the country’s first centenary goal is expected to be realized, and the process to realize the second is expected to begin, with a series of significant moments and events in the period, he said.

The flag of a community with a shared future for humanity should be upheld to help make the global governance system fairer and more reasonable, and the construction of the Belt and Road should be solidified and deepened to elevate the country’s opening up to a new level, Xi continued.

He also highlighted furthering the country’s foreign relations, including those with major powers, neighboring countries and developing countries.

Xi noted that diplomacy represents the will of the state, and the diplomatic power must stay with the CPC Central Committee, while the external work is a systematic project.

He thus asked political parties, the government, the people’s congresses, the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, the military, local authorities and the public to improve their coordination and make their own contributions, so as to form a new situation of the external work under the overall leadership of the Party that coordinates all sides, and ensure that the foreign policies and strategies of the CPC Central Committee are implemented.

Stressing that cadres are the decisive factor after setting the political course, Xi called for a strong contingent of foreign affairs personnel that are loyal to the CPC, the country and the people and are politically solid, professionally competent and strongly disciplined in
their conduct.

He called on foreign affairs cadres to enhance ideal and belief education so as to upgrade their competency and overall quality, and he also called for improving the living conditions of personnel stationed abroad so as to iron out their concerns and worries.

Xi stressed that the reform on the institutions and mechanisms concerning foreign affairs is the internal demand of advancing modernization in the state governance system and governance capabilities.

He called for implementing the reform on the institutions and mechanisms concerning foreign affairs under the decision of the central Party leadership and enhancing the party-building in institutions abroad so as to form a management mechanism catering to the requirements of the new era.

When presiding over the conference, Li Keqiang said General Secretary Xi Jinping’s important address comprehensively summed up the historic achievements China has scored on foreign affairs since the 18th CPC National Congress and kept a firm hold on the development trend of China and the world from the overall situation of the cause of the Party and the country.

Li said Xi’s address indicated the clear direction for the work on foreign affairs in the new era and provided fundamental guidance.

He called for a thorough understanding and full implementation of the address and Xi Jinping thought on diplomacy of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era in order to promote the work on foreign affairs on all fronts.

While delivering concluding remarks at the conference, Yang Jiechi, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee, said that the most important outcome of this conference is that it established the guiding position of Xi Jinping thought on diplomacy.

Xi Jinping thought on diplomacy is an important part of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, said Yang.

It is a major theoretical achievement in the thoughts on state governance in the area of diplomacy by the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core, and a fundamental guideline for China’s external work in the new era, Yang said.

“We should integrate our thoughts and actions into General Secretary Xi Jinping’s important address and Xi Jinping thought on diplomacy, and make new advances in China’s external work,” he said.

### XI JINPING MEETS WITH FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING A SPECIAL SESSION OF ROUND-TABLE SUMMIT OF GLOBAL CEO COUNCIL

On June 21, 2018, Chinese President Xi Jinping met with executives of a number of famous multinational companies, who are in Beijing to attend a special session of the round-table summit of the Global CEO Council at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing.

Focusing on the summit’s theme of opening up, cooperation and mutual benefit, Xi and the executives exchanged views on topics ranging from the Belt and Road Initiative, innovation and smart manufacturing, to green development and global governance.

Xi said the companies had participated in, witnessed, contributed to and benefited from the reform and opening-up drive of China over the past four decades, during which the country sustained rapid economic growth and helped more than 700 million of its people
shake off poverty, according to UN standards.

Looking forward to the future, China had more confidence in reform and opening up, and more belief that opening up can be a key move for China’s development, he said.

Since 2017, the global economy had seen steady and positive development. However, Xi said world economic growth was still weak, as trade protectionism, isolationism and populism continued to rise, and the challenges to world peace and development were getting more severe.

“In the new situation, opening up should never stop and quality of the opening up should be pursued,” Xi said.

“People should carry out cooperation to help each other and face challenges together, while pursuing a win-win situation.

“The international community is a global village and should not engage in zero-sum games. The future of the world should be decided by all countries, with international rules written by all, global affairs jointly governed by all, and development progress shared by all. China is willing to work with other countries to build a community with a shared future for humanity,” said the Chinese president.

He pointed out that the Belt and Road Initiative, which has greatly tapped potentials and benefited the people since it was launched five years ago, is not exclusive, but open and inclusive.

“It is not a solo performance of China but a chorus of countries along the route,” he said. “We encourage multinational companies to cooperate with Chinese companies to achieve mutual benefits and realize more substantial results.”

He emphasized that as innovation and development had become more popular, and innovation-driven development strategies advanced, the pace of China’s technological innovation had become more steady.

“We always regard meeting the people’s aspirations for a better life as the starting point and final objective of technological innovation,” he said.

On green development, Xi said the modernization China is building is the one of harmonious coexistence
between human and nature.

He stressed that China would impose the strictest rules and laws to protect the eco-environment in order to leave a sustainable environment to future generations.

Xi said that economic globalization had made important contributions to world economic development, and had become an irreversible trend.

“China will follow the principle of achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration in engaging in global governance, continue to play a responsible role as a major country, actively participate in the reform and construction of global governance systems, and inject impetus into the reform and optimization of global governance,” he said.

Xi called on the international community to “take the road of reform, opening up, innovation and development, and not to go backward to isolation, inflexibility, protectionism and unilateralism.”

He stressed that foreign capital had played an active and important role in China’s economic development and the process of deepening reform.

“Over the past 40 years, China’s economic development has been achieved thanks to opening up. In the future, China’s high-quality economic development must be pursued with even greater opening up,” he said.

“China’s door to the outside world will open even wider, rather than being closed,” he said. “China will continue to greatly ease market access, create a more favorable environment for investors, strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights and expand imports to create a more relaxed and orderly environment for domestic and foreign entrepreneurs to invest and start businesses in China.”

The entrepreneurs attending the meeting spoke highly of China’s reform and opening-up achievements, and said they appreciated China’s contribution to world economic growth.

They stressed that multinational corporations were pleased to be part of the reform process of China over the past 40 years, as they had benefited from the long-term growth of China while making their own contribution to China’s development.

Liu He, Yang Jiechi, Wang Yi, He Lifeng attended the meeting.

**XI JINPING MEETS WITH NEPAL’S PRIME MINISTER K.P. SHARMA OLI**

On June 20, 2018, Xi Jinping meets with Nepal’s Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Xi made the remarks while meeting with Nepal’s Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli. “China and Nepal are friendly neighbors sharing weal and woe,” Xi said. “Since the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Nepal, the two countries have always carried out mutually beneficial cooperation on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.”

They said the rest of the world should increase their understanding of the Chinese culture and the governing of the Communist Party of China.

They said they appreciated China’s firm support for globalization and its opposition to trade protectionism, as economic globalization was an irreversible trend.

The executives agreed that multinational corporations enjoy a constantly expanding space for development in China.

They said China had demonstrated its leading role in building a community with a shared future for humanity with contributions such as pushing to reach the Paris agreement on climate change.

They said transnational companies were willing to participate in the Belt and Road Initiative and expand exchange and cooperation with China in many areas to achieve greater development and grow with the Chinese economy.

Liu He, Yang Jiechi, Wang Yi, He Lifeng attended the meeting.
He expressed hope that Nepal would achieve its development goals at an early date.

China-Nepal relations are facing new opportunities for development, said the president, noting that the two sides should maintain close high-level exchanges, strengthen strategic communications, continue to adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, respect and accommodate each other's core interests and concerns, and consolidate the political foundation of their relations.

China is willing to work with Nepal to build an all-round and mutually beneficial pattern for cooperation, Xi said.

He said the two sides should strengthen cultural exchanges and create new highlights in Sino-Nepalese humanities cooperation to build a solid foundation for bilateral friendship.

He also called for strengthened cooperation on law enforcement capacity-building, so that the two countries could jointly fight against transnational crimes and safeguard their common security.

“China and Nepal should strengthen communication and coordination on major international issues,” Xi said.

Oli said Nepal and China enjoyed a time-honored friendship and their relationship served as a model for relations between countries with different systems and
Nepal admires China’s development achievements and highly appraises China’s important and positive role in international affairs as well as China’s neighborhood diplomacy featuring amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness, Oli said.

He thanked China for its support to Nepal’s national transformation and development, saying that Nepal firmly adheres to the one-China policy and will never allow any forces to engage in any anti-China activities on Nepalese territory.

Nepal is willing to expand cooperation with China under the new situation, Oli said, adding the Nepalese side highly values President Xi’s proposition on building a community of shared future for mankind and is willing to actively participate in the Belt and Road construction.

Yang Jiechi, Wang Yi, He Lifeng attended the meeting.

XI JINPING, KIM JONG UN HOLD TALKS IN BEIJING

On June 19, 2018, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Chinese president, held talks with Kim Jong Un, chairman of the Workers’ Party of Korea (WPK) and chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), in Beijing on Tuesday.

The two leaders had a candid and in-depth exchange of views on the current development of China-
DPRK relations and the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

They agreed to safeguard, consolidate and develop China-DPRK relations, and jointly push forward the sound momentum of peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula to make a positive contribution to safeguarding world and regional peace, stability, prosperity and development.

Xi said that China was pleased to see the important summit between Comrade Chairman and U.S. President Donald Trump in Singapore achieve principled consensus and positive results in realizing the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and establishing a lasting peace mechanism on the Peninsula.

“China speaks highly of the summit,” Xi said.

Comrade Chairman’s visit to China showed the great importance he attaches to the strategic communication between the two parties and two countries, Xi said, expressing his appreciation to Kim.

Xi stressed that he and Kim had met three times in less than three months, which pointed out the direction for the development of the relations between the two parties and the two countries, and opened a new chapter in the development of China-DPRK relations.

“The CPC and the Chinese government attach great importance to China-DPRK friendly cooperative ties,” Xi said.

“No matter how the international and regional situations change, the firm stance of the CPC and the Chinese government on consolidating and developing the relations with the DPRK remains unchanged, the Chinese people’s friendship with the DPRK people remains unchanged, and China’s
support for the socialist DPRK remains unchanged,” he said.

Xi voiced his willingness to work with Kim to continue implementing the important consensus reached by both sides, and promoting the long-term development of China-DPRK relations in a healthy and stable way, to benefit the two countries and the two peoples.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of China’s reform and opening-up policy. Xi said that since the reform and opening-up, the Chinese people have been courageous to carry out self-reform and innovation, on the basis of the national conditions and having the whole world in view, and have explored a development path suitable for China’s national conditions.

“We are happy to see that the DPRK made a major decision to shift the focus to economic construction, and the development of the DPRK’s socialist cause has entered a new stage in history,” Xi said, adding that China supports the DPRK’s economic development, the improvement of people’s livelihood, and its development path that accords with its national conditions.

Kim said he was very happy to meet with General Secretary Xi Jinping again in a short period of
time. He stressed China is DPRK’s great friendly neighbor, and Comrade General Secretary Xi Jinping is a great leader who is greatly respected and trusted by the DPRK people.

Kim said he appreciated the sincere friendship of and valuable support from Comrade General Secretary Xi Jinping and the CPC, the Chinese government, and the Chinese people, to himself, the WPK, the DPRK government, and the DPRK people.

“I will guide all WPK members and the DPRK people to earnestly implement the important consensus reached by Comrade General Secretary and me, to lift the unbreakable DPRK-China relations to a new level,” Kim said.

Xi said for a period of time, with joint efforts of parties concerned, the Korean Peninsula issue had been put back on the right track of seeking settlement through dialogue and consultation, and the situation on the Peninsula was developing towards peace and stability.

“Comrade Chairman has made positive efforts for realizing denuclearization and maintaining peace on the Peninsula,” Xi said.

On the recent DPRK-U.S. summit, Xi said it marked an important step forward in the political settlement of the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue. He called on the two sides to implement the outcomes of the summit, and parties concerned to make concerted efforts to advance the peace process.

China will continue to play a constructive role to this end, Xi said.

Kim said the DPRK-U.S. summit had achieved positive results in line with the interests of concerned parties and the expectations of the international community.

“If the two sides can implement the consensus of the summit step by step solidly, the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula will open up a new and important prospect,” Kim said.

He said the DPRK greatly appreciated China's important role in promoting denuclearization of the Peninsula as well as in maintaining peace and stability on the Peninsula.

“The DPRK side hopes to work with China and other concerned parties to promote the establishment of a lasting and solid peace mechanism on the Korean Peninsula, and make joint efforts to achieve lasting peace on the Peninsula,” Kim said.

Before the talks, Xi held a welcome ceremony for Kim at the North Hall of the Great Hall of the People.

After the talks, Xi and his wife Peng Liyuan held a welcome banquet for Kim and his wife Ri Sol Ju, and watched an art performance together.

Related activities were also attended by Li Keqiang, Chinese premier and member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee; Wang Huning, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee; Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan; Ding Xuexiang, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee; Yang Jiechi, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee; Guo Shengkun, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the CPC Central Committee; Huang Kunming, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee; Cai Qi, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and secretary of the CPC Beijing Municipal Committee; and State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

Choe Ryong Hae, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee; Pak Yong Ju, DPRK premier; Ri Su Yong, vice-chairman ofthe WPK Central Committee and director of the International Department; Kim Yong Chol, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee and director of the United Front Department; Pak Thae Song, vice-chairman of the WPK Central Committee and Minister for Science and Education; No Kwang-chol, Minister of People’s Armed Forces; and Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho, attended related activities.
On June 9, 2018, President Xi Jinping held the fourth meeting of heads of state of China, Russia and Mongolia with President Vladimir Putin of Russia and President Khaltmaa Battulga of Mongolia in Qingdao. Xi Jinping chair the meeting. The three heads of state comprehensively summarized the progress and results of the trilateral cooperation, and jointly mapped out the priority tasks and direction for the next stage.

Xi Jinping pointed out that since the first meeting of heads of state of China, Russia and Mongolia more than three years ago, the three countries have, centering on the mainline of the integration of the “Belt and Road” construction of China, development strategies of Russia, especially the construction of the grand Eurasian passage, and Mongolia’s “Prairie Road Development” initiative, relied on the geographical advantage of being neighboring countries to each other to advance and deepen cooperation gradually, which has achieved fruitful results at the current stage. As China, Russia and Mongolia are neighboring countries and traditional strategic partners to each other, the three countries enjoy natural advantages and a sound foundation of conducting cooperation. Today, against the backdrop of economic globalization and regional economic integration, the three parties should make concerted efforts to blaze a universally beneficial trail featuring mutual benefit and win-win results and integrated development to forge an example of cooperation between...
neighboring countries.

Xi Jinping stressed that, in the next period, China, Russia and Mongolia should deepen political mutual trust and strategic coordination, enhance mutual support, respect each other's core interests, accommodate each other's major concerns, strengthen coordination and cooperation in international and regional affairs, and well grasp the general direction of the trilateral cooperation from the political perspective. The three countries should, with the promotion of key cooperation programs as the locomotive, guide comprehensive cooperation. The three countries should, centering on the implementation of the Planning Outline of the Construction of the China-Mongolia-Russia Economic Corridor, focus on promoting the economic corridor construction, and actively discuss cooperation in such areas as infrastructure connectivity, as well as promote the sub-regional cooperation in the neighboring regions of the three countries. The three countries should expand coordination and cooperation within the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and elevate the level of Mongolia's relations with the SCO. Mongolia is welcome to participate in the SCO cooperation in a more in-depth manner.

Vladimir Putin expressed that it is very important for Russia, China and Mongolia to deepen cooperation. He is very glad to see the trilateral cooperation being advanced steadily. Russia agrees to strengthen the trilateral cooperation in areas such as transportation, infrastructure, customs and tourism to facilitate trade and personnel exchanges. The three sides should conduct people-to-people and cultural exchanges in a more intensified manner.

Khaltmaa Battulga expressed that developing friendly cooperation with China and Russia, the two everlasting neighboring countries, is the top priority of Mongolia. Mongolia is willing to make joint efforts with China and Russia to implement the consensus of the trilateral cooperation, launch the construction of the Mongolia-China-Russia Economic Corridor as soon as possible, as well as propel cooperation in infrastructure, energy transportation and other areas.

Ding Xuexiang, Yang Jiechi, Wang Yi, He Lifeng and others attended the meeting.

**XI JINPING HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN OF RUSSIA**

On June 8, 2018, President Xi Jinping held talks with President Vladimir Putin of Russia at the Great Hall of the People. The two heads of state jointly agreed to uphold the concept of everlasting friendship and the spirit of strategic coordination, and expand and deepen cooperation in various fields so as to promote China-Russia relations to achieve greater development at a high level in the new era. Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Vice Premier Han Zheng attended the talks.

Xi Jinping once again congratulated Vladimir Putin on his beginning of the new presidential term and praised Vladimir Putin for choosing China as the first country to visit in his new term. Xi Jinping pointed out that China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination is mature, stable and firm. No matter how the international situation changes, China and Russia have always firmly supported each other in maintaining core interests, conducted in-depth cooperation in various fields, and jointly participated in global governance in an active manner, playing the role as the anchor in promoting the building of a new type of international relations and the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. China is willing to make joint and consistent efforts with Russia to consolidate mutual trust at a high level, expand cooperation in various fields, deepen people-to-people and cultural exchanges and mutual learning, intensify international coordination and cooperation, pass on the concept of everlasting friendship between China and Russia from generation to generation, and constantly enrich the strategic connotation of coordination between the two countries, in a bid to promote China-Russia relations to advance and renew with each passing day, and benefit the people of the two countries.
Xi Jinping stressed that under the joint efforts of both sides, China-Russia cooperation in various fields at present has maintained a strong momentum, and the integration of interests has been constantly deepened. The docking between the “Belt and Road” construction and the Eurasian Economic Union has achieved important early harvests. The two sides should earnestly study new ideas and new measures for cooperation in various fields and translate the advantages of bilateral high-level political relations into more practical cooperation achievements. Both sides should strengthen people-to-people and cultural cooperation between the two countries and enhance the friendship between the two peoples.

Xi Jinping pointed out that as permanent members of the United Nations (UN) Security Council, China and Russia firmly uphold the international order and international system with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter as the core, advocate democracy in international relations, promote the process of the political settlement of hotspot issues, and continue to play an active role in safeguarding world peace and international strategic stability. China is willing to work together with all member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), including Russia, to take the Qingdao Summit as an opportunity to further carry forward the “Shanghai Spirit” and ensure the continued, healthy and stable development of the SCO.

Vladimir Putin said that deepening Russia-China comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination is the priority of Russia’s diplomacy. Both Russia and China accommodate each other’s core interests and major concerns, actively promote dialogue and cooperation in various fields including politics, economy and people-to-people and cultural engagement, and intensify communication and coordination in international affairs. Bilateral relations have reached the best level in history and become a model of country-to-country relations in the world today, which has played an important role in safeguarding
international peace, security and stability. Russia is willing to strengthen cooperation with China in economy, trade, investment, energy and infrastructure. Russia appreciates China’s efforts as the SCO presidency in promoting cooperation among the member states, and supports China in successfully hosting the Qingdao Summit. Russia stands ready to intensify coordination and cooperation between the two sides in international and regional affairs and within the multilateral frameworks including the UN, the BRICS countries, and the G20.

The two heads of state listened to the reports of the principals of the cooperation committees in various fields between both countries and the foreign ministers of the two countries, and exchanged in-depth views on issues of common concern including the situation on the Korean Peninsula and the Iranian nuclear issue.

After the talks, the two heads of state jointly signed the Joint Statement Between the People’s Republic of China and the Russian Federation, witnessed the signing of multiple bilateral cooperation documents and jointly met with Chinese and foreign journalists.

Prior to the talks, Xi Jinping held a welcoming ceremony for Vladimir Putin at the square outside the East Gate of the Great Hall of the People. Han Zheng, Ding Xuexiang, Wang Chen, Sun Chunlan, Yang Jiechi, Hu Chunhua, Wang Yi, Liu Qibao, He Lifeng and others attended the ceremony.

LI KEQIANG HOLDS TALKS WITH NEPAL’S PRIME MINISTER K.P. SHARMA OLI
On June 21, 2018, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang held talks with Nepal’s Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Li said China and Nepal are good friends and partners linked by mountains and rivers.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries, China and Nepal have developed friendly cooperative ties on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, Li said.

China is willing to make joint efforts with Nepal to inject new impetus into bilateral ties and cooperation, he said.

The development of bilateral ties is not only beneficial to both sides, but also to regional peace, stability and prosperity, Li said.

China appreciates Nepal’s firm adherence to the one-China policy, respects Nepal’s independent choice of social system and development path, and supports Nepal in safeguarding its national independence, sovereignty and legitimate rights and interests, he said.

China is willing to work with Nepal to build an interconnectivity network across the Himalayas through the projects in ports, railways, highways, aviation and communications, he said.

Li called on the two sides to make use of their complementary advantages to cooperate more in economy and trade, production capacity, investment and agricultural products.

Both China and Nepal advocate safeguarding multilateralism and free trade, Li said, calling on the two sides to use multilateralism to maintain the stability of the international order.

China is willing to communicate and coordinate more with Nepal in the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and other multilateral organizations to safeguard common interests, Li said.

Oli said Nepal and China enjoy long-term close relations, and both countries uphold the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and respect each other’s core interests and major concerns.

Nepal firmly adheres to the one-China policy and will never allow anti-China activities on Nepalese soil, Oli said.

The Nepalese side admires China’s positive role in international political and economic affairs, and appreciates China’s neighborhood diplomacy of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness and China’s concept of building a community with a shared future for humanity, Oli said.

Nepal is willing to enhance cooperation with China in ports, roads, railways and communications, and increase communication and coordination in regional and international affairs, he said.

Prior to the talks, Li held a welcome ceremony for Oli.

After the talks, they jointly witnessed the signing of documents concerning bilateral cooperation in politics, transport, infrastructure, industrial capacity and technology.

**LI KEQIANG HOLDS TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA PETER O’NEILL**

On June 21, 2018, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang holds talks with Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea Peter O’Neill in Beijing.

Both Premier Li Keqiang and visiting Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea Peter O’Neill have expressed the willingness to cooperate more between the two countries in the future.

While holding talks with Prime Minister O’Neill in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing Thursday,
Premier Li said the relations between the two countries have maintained stable development in recent years, and become an example for relations between China and the island countries in the Pacific Ocean.

“China appreciates Papua New Guinea’s firm adherence to the one-China policy and will, as always, support Papua New Guinea’s independent choice of development path suited to its national conditions,” said Li, stressing that China is willing to link the Belt and Road Initiative with Papua New Guinea’s development strategies to make use of their complementary advantages and create more opportunities for cooperation in economy and trade, investment, energy, resources, infrastructure, and industrial capacity.

China supports Papua New Guinea’s hosting of the APEC meeting this year and is willing to cooperate and coordinate more in the multilateral mechanism such as the United Nations, APEC, and the Pacific Islands Forum and in dealing with the climate change issue to safeguard the common interests of developing countries, Li said.

O’Neill said relations between Papua New Guinea and China have continued a strong momentum of development since the two countries established diplomatic ties, and the governments of the two countries, the two peoples have maintained friendly ties.

Papua New Guinea is willing to work with China to expand bilateral trade and investment, have more cooperation in the projects in natural gas, industrial parks, community colleges, and cooperate more in fields such as tourism and have more people-to-people exchanges, said O’Neill, who also thanked China for its good support for his country’s hosting of the APEC meeting 2018.

After the talks, they jointly witnessed the signing of documents concerning bilateral cooperation.

O’Neill also laid a wreath at the Monument to the People’s Heroes at the Tian’anmen Square in Beijing Thursday.
LI KEQIANG MEETS WITH PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN OF RUSSIA

On the afternoon of June 8, 2018, Premier Li Keqiang met at the Great Hall of the People with President Vladimir Putin of Russia, who was in China for a state visit and attendance at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Qingdao Summit.

Li Keqiang expressed that China and Russia are the biggest neighboring countries to each other. The healthy and stable development of bilateral relations is of important significance to both countries and the world. President Xi Jinping met with Mr. President again, injecting new impetus into the development of China-Russia relations. The Chinese side is willing to strengthen the integration between the “Belt and Road” initiative and the Eurasian Economic Union, continue expanding the scale of bilateral trade, steadily promote oil, gas and other energy cooperation projects, discuss stretching the cooperative industrial chain, and enhance cooperation in such fields as science and technology, aviation and finance, in a bid to elevate China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination to new stages.

Vladimir Putin expressed that at present, Russia-China relations have been running at a high level, with the rapid development of economic and trade cooperation as well as constant expansion of cooperation in other new areas. The Russian side stands ready to, together with the Chinese side, strengthen the alignment of development strategies, continuously advance practical cooperation in various fields, intensify people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and better coordinate and cooperate under the SCO and other multilateral mechanisms, so as to assist bilateral relations and cooperation in achieving more outcomes.

Wang Yi and He Lifeng attended the meeting.
PEOPLE TAKE PART IN DRAGON BOAT RACES ACROSS CHINA

People take part in a dragon boat race to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival at Nanhu Park in Huaibei City, east China’s Anhui Province, June 18, 2018. Dragon boat race is a traditional event for the Dragon Boat Festival, which falls on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese lunar calendar, or June 18 this year. (Xinhua/Wan Shanchao)

People take part in a dragon boat race to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival in Nantong City, east China’s Jiangsu Province, June 18, 2018. Dragon boat race is a traditional event for the Dragon Boat Festival, which falls on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese lunar calendar, or June 18 this year. (Xinhua/Jiang Jianhua)
People take part in a dragon boat race to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival in Zaozhuang, east China’s Shandong Province, June 18, 2018. Dragon boat race is a traditional event for the Dragon Boat Festival, which falls on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese lunar calendar, or June 18 this year. (Xinhua/Gao Qimin)

LOTUS FLOWERS IN BLOOM IN HENGYANG, CHINA

A dragonfly rests on a lotus flower bud at Nanhu Park in Hengyang, central China’s Hunan Province, June 21, 2018. (Xinhua/Cao Zhengping)
A honeybee hovers over a lotus flower at Nanhu Park in Hengyang, central China’s Hunan Province, June 21, 2018. (Xinhua/Cao Zhengping)

PEOPLE MAKE ZONGZI TO GREET UPCOMING DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL ACROSS CHINA

People pick leaves to make Zongzi, a pyramid-shaped dumpling made of glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo or reed leaves, to greet the upcoming Dragon Boat Festival in forest of Zhangjiajie City, central China’s Hunan Province, June 11, 2018. (Xinhua/Wu Yongbing)
A resident makes Zongzi, a pyramid-shaped dumpling made of glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo or reed leaves, to greet the upcoming Dragon Boat Festival in Zhangjiajie City, central China’s Hunan Province, June 11, 2018. (Xinhua/Wu Yongbing)

Residents take part in a competition of making Zongzi, a pyramid-shaped dumpling made of glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo or reed leaves, to greet the upcoming Dragon Boat Festival in Chongqing, southwest China, June 11, 2018. (Xinhua/Yang Min)
The intangible cultural heritage performances and exhibition officially organized by the Culture Department of Xizang Autonomous Region is held in Xizang Buddhist College, Lhasa, Capital City of China’s Xizang on June 9th.

It is known that recently, 137 items have been officially approved on the list of fifth batch of regional-level intangible cultural heritage by the people’s government of Xizang Autonomous Region. At present, there are a total of 460 items of regional-level intangible cultural heritages on the list.

Through dancing and singing performances, display boards and publicity materials, the exhibition aims to fully present the achievements made in recent years in conserving intangible cultural heritages in the Region, helping people from all walks of life realize and understand the colorful cultural heritage of the region and improve the public awareness of protecting cultural heritages.
66-year-old Banchennu, an elderly woman from a Pema Tibetan village, was selling felt caps (traditional hats of the Pema people) for 200 yuan (30.8 US dollars) per hat at the entrance to the village, while in the stall next to hers, 23-year-old Tian Chao was helping her family sell their homemade magnolia-vine wine.

Business was good, as their village was crowded with tourists, and they are both able to use skilled Chinese to introduce their products to visitors.

Pema Tibetan is also known as the Pema people, with about 20,000 in population inhabiting in the deep mountains of Tielou Township, Wen County, Gansu Province. Some also live in Sichuan Province, and they are known as one of the oldest tribes in Asia.

Banchennu’s family lives in Rugong Mountain Village in Tielou Township. She is the fifth generation inheritor of the felt cap making handicraft in her family. She learned the craft when she was young, and in the past, she would just make a few for family and friends.

“Now we often get orders over the phone, I make them at home, and people come to pick them up,” Banchennu said.

“Times have changed. Before, young people wanted to leave the mountains, and they don’t like wearing ethnic clothes. Now, they would wish to have several sets of ethnic clothes, and the felt hats are also be in big demand,” she said.

The Pema Folk Culture and Tourism Festival was held locally from June 14 to 18. Entering Pema people’s village, the old homes on either side of the road have been turned into shops selling “chigezhou” masks (traditional Pema dance masks) or locally brewed rice wine. Many of the rooms on second floors have been converted into guesthouses for tourists. The village also has their own driving club.

Several meters away from the Pema River next to the village is the forest. During the tourism festival, villagers perform scenes of their daily life.
life by the banks of the river, such as Pema marriage customs, sowing with two cattle, stomping roofs, singing mountain songs, and collecting firewood. At night villagers and tourists join hands and dance around a bonfire, dancing until late into the night.

“Recently, the guesthouse on the second floor has been full, and the restaurant is going well. It uses all local vegetables, smoked meat, and other local flavors,” Zhou Minghui, a villager from Caoheda Village said.

He turned his family home into a guesthouse, adding tables and chairs in the courtyard to give people a rural homestay experience. His wife cooked the food, and he greeted the guests. Relatives who came to help dressed in Pema clothing singing and offering toasts to the guests while they ate, the atmosphere was very lively.

Zhou Minghui said that people’s dream here was once to go out. But, many people who work outside are gradually returning today. Opening a guesthouse can earn up to two or three hundred thousand yuan per year at most.

According to Zhang Lixin, head of Wen County, since 2018, rural tourism has brought more than 200,000 tourists, with tourism income reaching 81.45 million yuan (12.54 million US dollars), increasing by 21.8 percent and 23.6 percent respectively.

BEAUTIFUL SCENERY OF LHASA, XIZANG

The weather of Lhasa in June is fine for sightseeing. Photos taken on June 5th show a picturesque area of Lhasa, China’s Xizang.
The weather of Lhasa in June is fine for sightseeing. Photos taken on June 5th show a picturesque area of Lhasa, China’s Xizang.

TASHI DHUNDRUP:
MANAGER AND DANCER

Performance of The Spirit of the Hornbill.
In May in Douyu Village, Douyu Lhoba Township in Lhunze County, Lhoka City in the Xizang Autonomous Region, a large area of highland barley has already emerged from the ground and the peach and apple trees have already turned green. This is the only Lhoba-inhabited area in Lhoka City. There are a total of 66 households and 254 people here, of which 53 households and 215 are ethnic Lhoba. Here, the traditional culture of the Lhoba people is inherited and innovated.

A performance of Lhoba original dance called The Spirit of the Hornbill is being performed on the village’s square. Carrying a long knife and dancing with heroic spirit is Tashi Dhundrup, who became the lead dancer when the dance is choreographed in 2014. He went on to perform with the dance troupe at the Yarlong Cultural Festival in Lhoka city and at the 2015 Xizangan New Year Gala, which inspired him greatly.

Tashi Dhundrup began dancing Lhoba dance when he was 15 years old, and his love for the dance has never diminished. In the eyes of his son, he is an idol. For Tashi Dhundrup, watching his son grow up is a great care and comfort. Another interest is how his small businesses can profit. Not only is Tashi Dhundrup a dancer, he is also the owner of a family guesthouse, shop, and restaurant. In 2014, Douyu Lhoba Township invested a large amount of funds into improving infrastructure in the areas of transportation, irrigation works, and communications. The township also built the Douyu Lhonba Township Ecological Civilization Model Village, and Tashi Dhundrup’s family was assigned to a 250-square meter two-story building. With only four people in the family, Tashi Dhundrup felt that the empty space in the house was being wasted, so he opened a family guesthouse. There are now some road workers who stay at the guesthouse.

In addition to an annual income of more than 30,000 yuan (4,668 US dollars) earned from the guesthouse, Tashi Dhundrup operates a small shop that sells daily goods and is also a small restaurant, where villagers come to sit in small groups. Tashi Dhundrup is responsible for collecting cash and selling merchandise, while his wife is responsible for making food in the kitchen.

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

“Now the country’s policies are good. We don’t need to spend money to send children to school, and can get more than 30,000 yuan subsidies from the government each year. There is also a portion of income that comes from collecting cordyceps, growing highland barley, potatoes, and oilseed rape gives us enough to eat for the year. Now that our income is high, our lives are getting better, and there is nothing to worry about. My only wish is that our children will be able to study well at school and grow up to make their own contributions to the country,” Tashi Dhundrup said.

Tashi Dhundrup’s wife cook noodles for a guest in the kitchen.

BOOK REVIEW

Xi Jinping - The Governance of China-II

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

We hope you will find this book useful.

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

Editor
News From China
E-mail: newsfromchinadelhi@gmail.com
Address: 50-D, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021
Tel: 0091-11-26116683
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TEL: +86-10-68509473,68507842
FAX: +86-10-68511149
Add: No.11,Fuxing Road,Beijing,China 100859
E-mail: intl@cctv.com ; distribution@cctv.com