

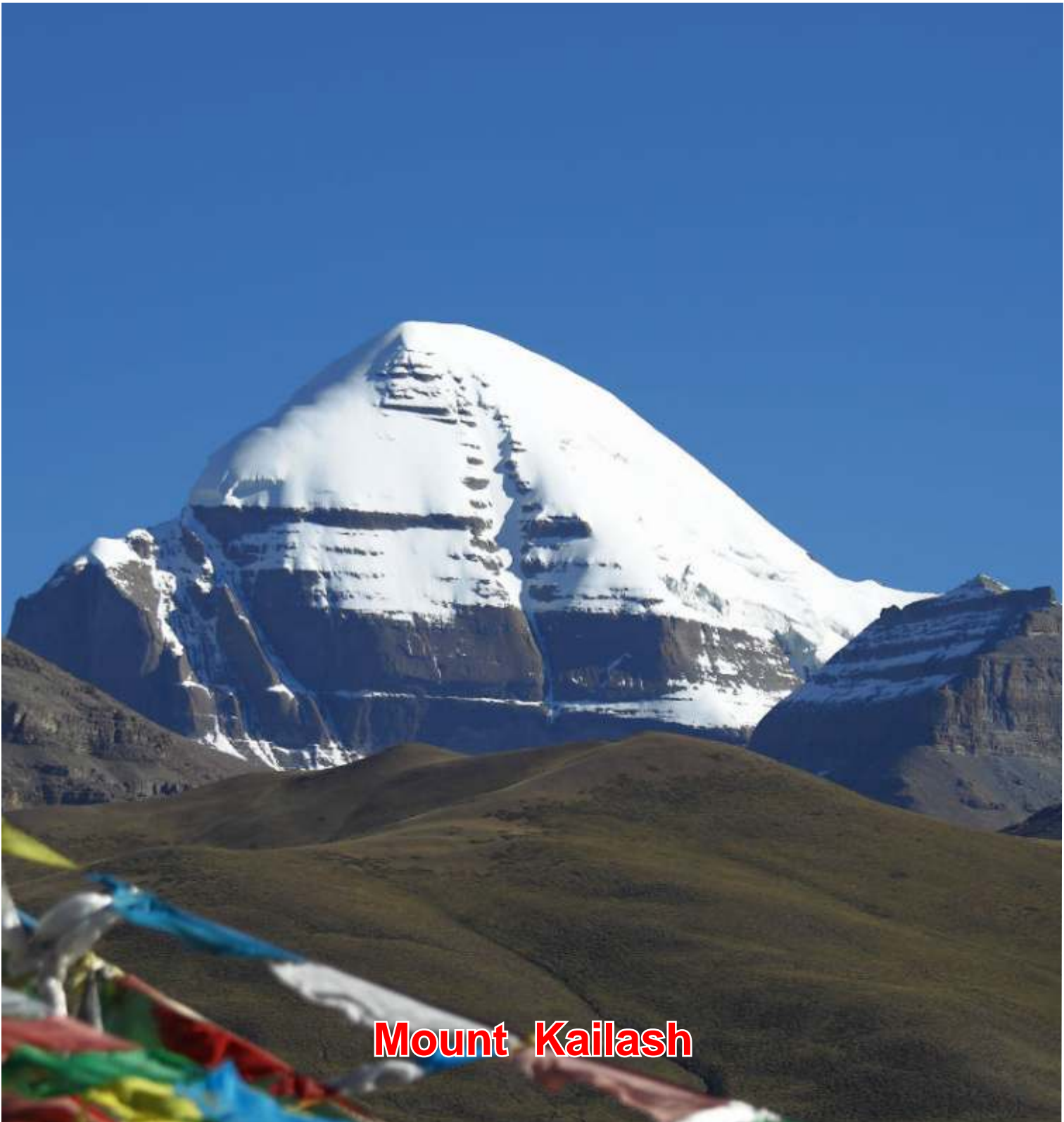
中国新闻

NEWS FROM CHINA

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Mount Kailash



Mr. Liu Jinsong, Charge d'Affaires of Chinese Embassy, held a talk with Mr. M.K. Razdan, editor in chief of PTI about Sino-India relations and media cooperation.



Mr. Liu Jinsong, Charge d'Affaires of Chinese Embassy, took part in a farewell party for Indian pilgrims who will go to Kailash and Mansarovar.



Mr. Liu Jinsong, Charge d'Affaires of Chinese Embassy, held a meeting with Mr. Vikas Swarup, spokesperson of MEA on Sino-India relations and media cooperation.



Mr. Liu Jinsong, Charge d'Affaires of Chinese Embassy, met and chatted with Chinese Tibetans living in India, who came to the Embassy for the consular service.



Mr. Liu Jinsong, Charge d'Affaires of Chinese Embassy, attended a seminar on China-India relations organized by Observer Research Foundation.



Mr. Liu Jinsong, Charge d'Affaires of Chinese Embassy, paid a visit to Goa and held a talk with Mr. R.K. Srivastava, Chief Secretary of Goa.

16th SCO Council of Heads of State Meeting

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16th SCO Council of Heads of State Meeting

XI PUTS FORWARD FIVE-POINT PROPOSAL TO CONSOLIDATE, DEEPEN SCO COOPERATION



Tashkent, June 24 (Xinhua) — Chinese President Xi Jinping has put forward a five-point proposal Friday for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to consolidate unity and mutual trust, and deepen comprehensive cooperation.

Speaking at the 16th SCO Council of Heads of State meeting

in Uzbek capital Tashkent, Xi hailed the remarkable achievements of the regional bloc since its establishment 15 years ago.

The first of the achievements is that the SCO has advocated and put into practice the pioneering Shanghai Spirit, which features mutual trust, mutual benefit,

equality, consultation, respect for diverse civilizations and pursuit of common development, said the Chinese president.

Moreover, Xi noted that members of the SCO have worked to build political mutual trust and firmly supported each other's independent choices of

development path.

The SCO countries have also deepened their cooperation greatly in trade, business, finance, energy and transportation, among other areas, Xi said.

The SCO has signed the Treaty of Long-Term Good-Nighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation, codifying into law the aspiration of enduring friendship.

In addition, the Chinese president noted, the organization has actively reached out to others with an ever-growing circle of friends. As last year's Ufa summit initiated the process to take in new members for first time in SCO history, the international influence of the organization has kept increasing with its full members and

observers accounting for nearly half of the world's population.

Proposing for future development of the SCO, Xi urged all members to firstly carry forward the Shanghai Spirit, which has been regarded as the bloc's undergirding value.

The SCO should remain open and transparent without targeting any third party, engage all like-minded international partners in wide-ranging cooperation and act as a constructive force for the healthy development of the international order, said the Chinese leader.

Secondly, the SCO should continue to prioritize security and cement this foundation of the SCO development, said Xi, adding that it needs to beef up the institutional

construction for cooperation on combating terrorism and drug trafficking.

Thirdly, Xi proposed that the SCO should expand practical cooperation and find greater space for SCO development, expressing his hope that the organization will play an active role in aligning the Belt and Road Initiative and the other members' development strategies.

Fourthly, the SCO also needs to enhance culture and people-to-people foundation as the bridge for future development, Xi said, adding that China is willing to support other member states in restoring historical sites and archaeology studies, as well as communication and cooperation in such fields as youth, health care and environmental protection.



Last but not the least, the SCO should continue to uphold openness and inclusiveness and get more parties on board for SCO cooperation, Xi said. He also proposed that the member states take the process of accepting India

and Pakistan as new members to enhance institutional building of the SCO and expand and deepen cooperation in various fields.

The annual summit, hosted by Uzbek President Islam Karimov, was

also attended by Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev, Kyrgyz President Almazbek Atambayev, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon.

SCO LEADERS VOW TO LIFT COOPERATION TO "QUALITATIVELY NEW LEVEL"

ЗАСЕДАНИЕ СОВЕТА ГЛАВ ГОСУДАРСТВ-ЧЛЕНОВ
ШАНХАЙСКОЙ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА
ТАШКЕНТ-2016



上海合作组织成员国元首理事会会议
塔什干-2016



On June 24, 2016, Leaders of the member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) vowed to raise the regional cooperation to a qualitatively new level.

The heads of state of the SCO signed the Tashkent Declaration of the 15th Anniversary of the SCO at the 16th meeting of the Council of

Heads of State of the SCO, a two-day summit in Tashkent.

The leaders noted that the SCO cooperation has produced fruitful results and that "all preconditions are in place now" to upgrade the cooperation, according to a report on the outcomes of the meeting.

The new level of cooperation will be "characterized by increasing the efficiency of cooperation in the spheres of politics, security, economy, development of cultural and humanitarian ties," said the report.

The leaders at the meeting also reaffirmed that the organization, currently grouping China,

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, is open for accession by interested states which meet the criteria and conditions.

PAIRING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

The leaders noted that the world economy is still suffering from the effects of the global financial and economic crisis.

The SCO member states should “strive for a profound transformation of the global economy through large-scale, structural reforms, diversified and improving competitiveness of economies and innovative development on a long-term basis,” they said.

The significant potential for trade and economic relations and investment cooperation within the SCO framework, accumulated over the past 15 years, provides for the expansion of the cooperation, they said.

The member states vowed to seek the pairing of their national development strategies and strengthen the cooperation in their economic and trade programs.

The leaders reaffirmed the support for the Silk Road Economic Belt, a regional development initiative proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013 that seeks to boost regional economic activities by linking China with Europe through Central and Western Asia by inland routes.

They promised to jointly

construct the Silk Road Economic Belt, which they said can be one of the tools for facilitating regional economic cooperation.

The member states also agreed to continue mutually beneficial multi-faceted cooperation in energy, transport corridors, public health, science and technology, education, environmental protection, sports, tourism and preservation of cultural and natural heritage.

SECURITY COOPERATION REMAINS ONE OF PRIORITIES

The leaders at the Tashkent summit held important consensus on security cooperation.

The SCO member states called for joint and consolidated efforts and comprehensive measures to deal with the growing threat of international terrorism and extremism and address their root causes.

It remains one of the priorities of the SCO cooperation to fight against the “three evil forces” of terrorism, separatism and extremism in all their manifestations, illicit drug production and trafficking, smuggling of arms, ammunition and explosives, as well as proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and various means of delivery.

The heads of state voiced their support for the early adoption of the United Nations Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

They also voiced support for closer cooperation in fighting terrorism, separatism and

extremism, curbing the spread of extremist ideology, especially among the youth, and preventing ethnic, racial, religious discrimination and xenophobia. The member states will continue working on the preparation of the SCO Convention on Combating Extremism, which will be an important part of the legal basis of the cooperation in this regard.

The SCO member states also pledged concerted work in combating transnational organized crime, as well as crimes that make use of modern information and communication technologies.

STEADY PROGRESS TOWARD BLOC EXPANSION

The SCO member states signed memoranda on obligations of India and Pakistan to obtain the SCO member state status, a key step in the process of the two countries’ moving towards SCO membership.

The move will enrich the potential of the SCO and contribute to the enhancement of its role in the international arena, they said.

The member states stand ready to continue improving the mechanism of regular consultations with the observer states and dialogue partners.

They reiterated that activities of the organization are not directed against other states or international organizations, and that they are willing to develop contacts and cooperation with other countries, and regional and global organizations that share the goals of the SCO Charter and other fundamental documents.

They stressed the importance of enhancing mechanisms of global governance based on the UN Charter, so as to achieve a fairer and more equitable world order.

The member states said they are committed to further strengthening the central coordinating role of the UN in international relations, and support consultations in search of a “package solution” to the reform of

the UN Security Council.

They welcomed the beginning of the practical implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to resolve the Iranian nuclear issue.

SCO SUPPORTS PEACE AND STABILITY IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

On May 24, 2016, Countries of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) expressed support for maintaining peace and stability in Asia-Pacific region, including the South China Sea.

In a statement of SCO Secretary-General Rashid Olimov on South China Sea issue, all SCO countries agreed and supported China’s efforts made to safeguard peace and stability in the South China Sea.

They also voiced support for any country in the Asia-Pacific region to promote a peaceful, friendly and harmonious environment in the South China Sea.

The SCO member states stressed the UN Charter, UN Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and other international laws should be the basic principles when addressing the South China Sea issue.

Directly concerned states should resolve disputes through negotiation and consultation in accordance with all bilateral treaties and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), the statement said.

It urged to respect the right of every sovereign state to decide by itself the dispute resolution



methods, and strongly opposed outsiders’ intervention into the South China Sea issue, as well as the attempt to internationalize the dispute.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that a press communique released after the foreign ministers’ meeting of the SCO held Tuesday here at the Uzbek capital, particularly clarifying stance on the South China Sea issue.

Foreign ministers of SCO countries stressed all disputes should be resolved through peaceful and friendly negotiations and consultations, according to the communique.

It added that SCO countries are

against the internationalization of and external interference into the South China Sea issue, while all related countries should abide by the DOC and the Guidelines for the implementation of the DOC.

Wang stressed that more and more countries support China’s stance on the South China Sea issue, which goes in line with the international laws and also protects the international rule of law.

“Any country, that ignores the basic facts, draws lines for allies or intentionally sparks political exploitation over the South China Sea issue, could get no result or support, but only destroy the reputation of itself,” Wang said.

China-India Relations

CHINA EXPECTS CLOSER COOPERATION WITH INDIA UNDER SCO FRAMEWORK: XI



Tashkent, June 23 (Xinhua) — China is looking forward to enhancing cooperation with its neighbor India under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Chinese President Xi Jinping said here Thursday.

Xi made the remarks while meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of this year's SCO summit scheduled for Thursday and Friday in Tashkent.

China-India strategic partnership is rapidly growing in the

direction set by both leaders, said Xi. He recalled the important consensus he had reached with Indian President Pranab Mukherjee on bilateral ties when the latter was paying a visit to China last month.

China will work with India to

master the general course for the development of ties, he added.

Xi said that the two countries have much more common interests than differences, and the two sides should enhance pragmatic cooperation in areas such as trade, railway, industrial parks, energy and electricity, information technology, energy conservation and environment protection.

He also extended his congratulations to Modi over India's upcoming signing of a memorandum of obligation to join

the SCO, a key step for India to obtain membership of the organization.

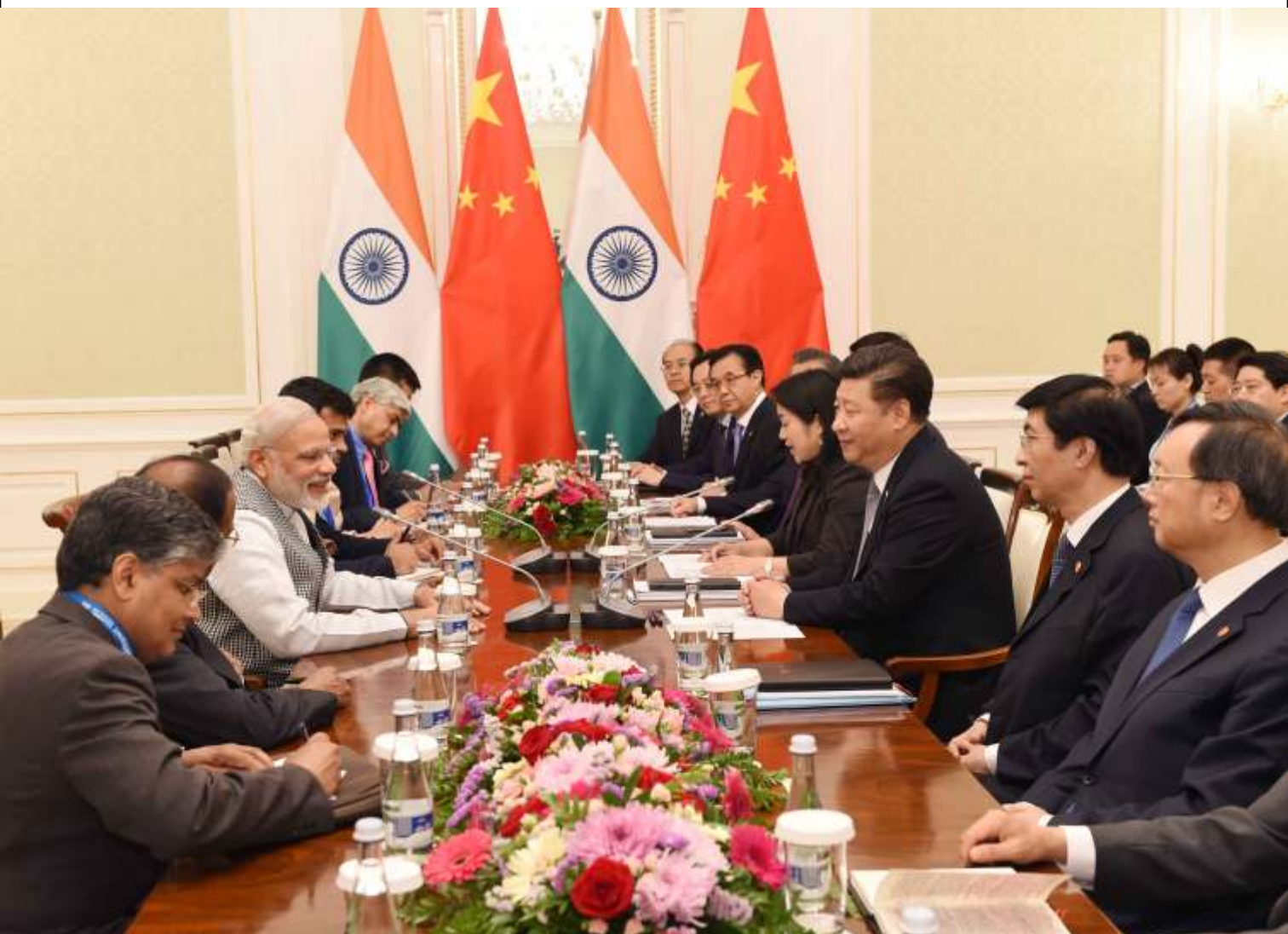
Founded in 2001, the SCO now has China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as its full members, with Afghanistan, Belarus, India, Iran, Mongolia and Pakistan as observers.

The Chinese president welcomed Modi's scheduled attendance at this year's G20 summit in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, adding that he is looking forward to participating in

this year's BRICS summit in India in October.

Modi, for his part, hailed the sound development of India-China relations over recent years based on traditional friendship.

India is ready to join hands with China to strengthen cooperation in various fields, intensify bilateral coordination and communication over regional and international issues, and properly handle existing problems between the two countries, said Modi.



WE SHARE & WE ENSURE

Liu Jinsong



On June 30, I am glad to call on the 4th batch of 47 Indian Yatris preparing to set out for the holy Kailash Mansarovar in Chinese Tibet on the new route via Nathu La Pass. Recalling the happy and exciting interaction with Yatris, I feel with eagerness deep inside to share my feelings with Indian friends and readers.

China and India are close neighbors and enjoy close connections. Geographically we share mountains and rivers. Retrospectively we share history and culture. And most importantly, we share a bright future. Acclaimed as King of Mountains and Mother of Rivers, Kailash Mansarovar bears

extraordinary significance to the two peoples of China and India. Despite differences in religion, culture and ethnicity, we share utmost respect for Kailash Mansarovar.

At present, there are three routes for Indian Yatris to Kailash Mansarovar. One is through Lipulekh Pass, the long stretch of which has to be traversed on foot. Yatris have to climb up hills and wade through waters. This route is inconvenient and unsafe. The second route is through Zhang Mu Port across the China-Nepal border, now cut off since the horrendous earthquake in 2015. Compared with these two routes, the new pilgrimage route via Nathu La Pass is much

more convenient, comfortable and safe.

In September 2014, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached an important consensus in opening the new pilgrimage route of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra via Nathu La Pass. Before the opening of the new route in June 2015, an advance team from the Chinese Embassy in India led by the then Ambassador Le Yucheng took a ground paving mission along the new route to Kailash Mansarovar, checking all the facilities prepared by the Chinese side for catering to Yatris.

Kailash Mansarovar is located on the vast and barren land of

Chinese Tibetan Plateau with an altitude of over 4000 meters. Despite adverse natural conditions, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, the Chinese Embassy in India and the local Governments in the Tibet Autonomous Region extend the warmest welcome to Indian Yatris, and have devoted much effort for opening the new route. Parts of the related preparation work are:

- building new reception centers, hotels and stay points;
- constructing facilitation infrastructures like roads and bridges;
- training professional guides, interpreters and drivers;
- preparing medical service for emergency;
- providing gratis visa and facilities for Yatris by the Chinese Embassy in India;
- sponsoring Indian cooks

with Yatris so as to preparing authentic Indian vegetarian diet, etc.

With the opening of the new route via Nathu La Pass, the trip to Kailash Mansarovar is no longer tough for Yatris. Sitting comfortably in air-conditioned buses all the way through, they could enjoy the heavenly beauty and grace of the splendid landscapes in Chinese Tibet.

After one-year's successful practice in 2015, there will be 7 batches of about 350 Yatris via Nathu La Pass in 2016. According to the preliminary agreement between Chinese and Indian foreign ministries, the year 2018 will witness 500 Yatris via Nathu La Pass, with a steady increase on yearly basis from 2015. And in the long run, even more Yatris will benefit from the new route.

The pilgrimage to Kailash

Mansarovar would accomplish Yatris' dream of life and could also be a special honeymoon for couples in the batch. The opening of the new route will definitely not be possible without the close cooperation between the Governments of China and India. Both Governments are devoted to opening the new route, with a firm belief in the great importance of 'Sharing', by which more friends be made, and more happiness rendered with between the two peoples. And the wisdom of 'Sharing' can be rightly applied to China-India relations as well.

As friendly neighbors, China and India together account for more than one third of the total population of the world. Joining hands together, we may envisage a better Asia and a better world in the foreseeable future. From this perspective, the importance of a



sound bilateral relationship between China and India is quite self-evident. We should spare no efforts to ensure the good relations with love and sincerity and strengthen bonds of amity between our two peoples. We are of the ability to fulfill this objective, and surely, we will achieve the goal.

All Indian friends traveling to Kailash Manasarovar are not just Yatris, but also folk ambassadors

shouldering the responsibility of passing friendship of the two peoples from generation to generation.

There is an old Chinese saying that 'One who fails to reach the Great Wall is not a hero'. All Yatris would be heroes after the fulfillment of Kailash Manasarovar Yatra. Sincerely, I wish that my Indian friends would enjoy a pleasant trip and share the unique experiences in

Chinese Tibet with their families members and friends when back home.

New energy needs to be continuously instilled into China-India relations and friendship through Kailash Manasarovar Yatra.

(Mr. Liu Jinsong is now Chargé d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in India and contributes this article)

ALL ROADS LEAD TO KAILASH MANASAROVAR

by Li Bijian



Visit Lipulekh Pass with officials of the Tibet Autonomous Region

Braving the light raining and heavy fog, our 4 WD jeeps were roaming up to Lipulekh Pass (elevation of 5334m or 17500ft),

rolling over the zigzag narrow cobbled road, carved out through the steep slopes. Heading a working team from the China Embassy in

India to Kailash Manasarovar, I held my breath to begin a lifetime impressive journey. "With the support by the provincial



Yatris on their way to Kailash Mansarovar

government of the Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR) of the People's Republic of China, Ali (Nagri) Prefecture has invested 40million RMB (about 6million USD) to build the relevant infrastructures including upgrading of this road to meet the needs of foreign pilgrims. After nearly one year's arduous work, 80% of this road has been completed. We have much better facilities to accommodate the pilgrims across the world including Yatris from India, compared with that of last year." Mr. Zhang Huiming, Deputy Commissioner of the Ali (Nagri) Prefecture of TAR said. "After 2 days, the first of the 18 batches (each batch consists of 60 pilgrims) of Indian Yatris organized by the Indian Government will arrive at the Pass and enter into China on June 20, 2016, starting their pilgrimage program. The Chinese local government has completed all the

preparation work to receive and welcome them." Zhang Huiming continued.

The shortest way for Yatris to make their pilgrimage is from Lipulekh Pass, which is less than 100km from Kailash Mansarovar. However, this is also the most challenging, painful and dangerous route due to high altitude, landslides, deep slopes and long distance trekking etc. Yatris take a few days to reach to the Pass from the Indian side. When they arrive at the border, they will be received by the local Tibetan officials, then walk down the mountain to the bottom of the valley and take buses to the nearby old trading town of Purang (Takilakot), go through the custom formalities and officially enter into China, checking in at one of the local hotels. Usually it may take at least one or two days for them to stay at Purang to adapt to the new climate and

environment. On the second or the third day, they will begin their pilgrimages with two days at Kailash, either by walk or ride on yarks or horses around the holy mountain for nearly 53km. There are two camp sites on the way. Some Yatris make the journey within one day but that will be very challenging and dangerous. Therefore, the local Tibetan Government encourages the Yatris to make it for at least two days. Another two days will be at Manasarovar. Yatris normally stay at the old Temple camp for one night, which is only 10 meters away from the holy lake. "Compared with a few years ago or even last year, the facilities have been much improved. Hotel rooms are newly furnished and roads and highways have been upgraded. Two most complained issues of hot water and toilet have been solved. Due to the hotel capacity limitations, right now 2 to 4 Yatris share one room. Separate

toilets have been constructed and 24 hour hot water system has been installed. All these hotel facilities are temporary. The local government is planning to construct permanent facilities to accommodate the increasing number of Yatris. Right now, the plots have been allocated and most of the fund (totally 7million USD) is ready, thanks to the valuable assistance by the TAR Government.” Mr. Awang Chering, Director, Foreign Affairs Office of the Ali (Nagri) Prefecture of TAR told the working team.

The easiest way for Yatris to make their pilgrimage is from Nathu La Pass, which is nearly 2000km away from Kailas Manasarovar. Last

June, the new route of Kailash Manasarovar Yatra through Nathu La Pass was opened to Indian Yatris. 5 batches of 240 Indian yatris used the new route to the holy places. Since then there are two Passes which are specifically designed for Yatris organized by the Indian Government. According to the new arrangement reached by two governments of China and India, 7 batches of 350 yatris will enter into China through Nathu La Pass this year. The distance is relatively long but the highways are great and the landscapes amazingly beautiful. Yatris will stay for two nights and have 3 breaks for lunch and rest on the way to the final destination—Kailash Manasarovar.

Then they will have almost the same program as other Yatris do during their stay in the holy places.

The working team of the Chinese Embassy inspected every hotel, lunch and rest site on the way and was very much satisfied with the conditions, services and facilities. “Last year when the new route was opened to Indian Yatris, due to time constraints, everything was prepared in a manner of short notice and done in a hurry. And of course there were some loopholes. The Central and TAR Governments of China attach great importance to Indian Yatris and have invested huge to improve the road and accommodations. We are confident that Yatris will be



Chatting with one of the yatris from Andhra Pradesh



One of the local hotels designated to receive Indian Government sponsored Yatris

satisfied and feel at home when they reach the holy places this year.” Mr. Wang Lunmin, Director General, Foreign Affairs Office of Rigaze City told the working team.

Compared with the number of the government-sponsored Yatris, the number of the self-sponsored Yatris is much higher. And they are heading to the holy places mainly through the following paths. The first path is through Lhasa, the capital city of TAR. Yatris pay their pilgrimage as tourists and their yatra to Kailash Manasarovar is arranged by the relevant authorized local travel agencies. The second path is via Nepal through Zhangmu or Jeelong Border Port. Unfortunately this route has been cut off after the earthquake in Nepal in 2015 and the Chinese side has been trying hard to reopen them soon. The third path,

also the newest route for Yatris is also via Nepal but very near to Lipulekh Pass—Xieerwa Border Port, Purang County, Ali (Nagri) Prefecture. In order to meet the needs of self-sponsored Yatris, the TAR Government has made special arrangements for Yatris including those from India to enter through this path. Yatris have to go to Nepal first and take long distance buses to the nearby town at the Nepal side, then take helicopters to the other side of Xieerwa, and enter into China through the suspending bridge. Xieerwa, with good highways and only 25km away from Purang, now becomes the shortest entry point to the holy places. By the estimate of the local Custom Office, as of June 10, 2016, more than 4000 Yatris entered China through Xieerwa and the number is increasing every day. “The local

government has invested millions of US Dollars to construct the custom buildings, hotels as well as shopping malls and exhibition centres, and all these facilities will go into operation in the next one or two years. Governments of China and Nepal have reached an agreement recently to construct a bridge through Mabja Zangbo (Ghaghara River), connecting our two countries. When the bridge is completed, Yatris’ trip will become more comfortable and easy.” Mr. Zhang Huiming, Deputy Commissioner of Ali Prefecture said.

The working team of the Chinese Embassy had many interactions and exchanges of views with some of those self-sponsored Yatris from India throughout the visit. They were more than satisfied with the hotel rooms, facilities and

services, and especially food. "This is my third visit to Kailash Manasanovar. I witnessed the great changes through the years. I am very much grateful of the Chinese central and local governments for all the efforts they put into the receiving and looking after Yatris like me." One of Yatris from Andhra Pradesh,

India, who is leaving China for Nepal after 6 days of Yatra told the working team at the Chinese side near the suspending bridge.

On that occasion, another helicopter with Yatris flew into the valley and made a U-turn at the mountain top, screamed to land at

the Nepal side. The officials and travel agency staff at the side of China were ready to receive the new batch of Yatris and bring them safely to their long cherished dreaming holy places—Kailash Manasanovar.

(The author is Minister Counsellor of Embassy of China in India)

External Affairs

CHINA, RUSSIA PLEDGE "UNSWERVING" PARTNERSHIP



Beijing, June 25 (Xinhua) — China and Russia vowed to unswervingly deepen their comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination during the talks between the two heads of state here

on Saturday afternoon.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin agreed to beef up mutual support and enhance the

political and strategic mutual trust.

Hailing the role of close high-level contact in advancing bilateral ties and promoting regional and global development, Xi said the



establishment of the strategic partnership of coordination 20 years ago demonstrated the strategic nature of the bilateral ties.

This year also marks the 15th anniversary of the signing of the China-Russia Good-Neighborly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, which Xi said affirmed the two countries' friendship from generation to generation.

The above two strategic decisions serve the fundamental interests of the two countries and the two peoples, and conform to the trend of times, Xi said.

He called for more political mutual support between the two countries.

China and Russia should support each other on issues concerning core interests and constantly strengthen political and strategic mutual trust, Xi said.

Noting that both nations are the world's major economies and emerging markets, he said they should deepen pragmatic cooperation and alignment of interests, and push forward the dovetailing of the Belt and Road Initiative and the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) for broader regional economic cooperation.

China and Russia have seen increasing cultural activities and people-to-people exchanges in recent years, which help promote mutual understanding and

traditional friendship between the two peoples, Xi said.

He also called on the two countries to carry out closer coordination on major international and regional hot spot issues, so as to jointly safeguard the security of the neighborhood.

China and Russia should resolutely safeguard the purposes and principles of the UN charter, the basic norms of the international relations, global strategic balance and stability, as well as international justice, Xi said.

The two countries should advocate disputes settlement through friendly consultations and peaceful negotiations and be

committed to establishing a new type of international relations featuring reciprocity and cooperation, so as to safeguard international peace and development.

As China's strategic coordination partner, Russia stands ready to extend mutual support and understanding on issues concerning each others' core interests and major concerns, Putin said.

He called for more cooperation in trade, energy, high technology, security and people-to-people exchanges, as well as synergizing the construction of the EEU and the Belt and Road Initiative.

Russia and China share similar positions in international affairs, and it is necessary for them to maintain close communication and

coordination, Putin said.

The two heads of state signed a joint statement on the bilateral relations, a joint statement on strengthening global strategic stability and another on promoting the development of information and cyber space after their talks.

Xi and Putin also witnessed the inking of 30-plus cooperation deals, covering such areas as economy and trade, foreign affairs, infrastructure, technology and innovation, agriculture, finance, energy, media, Internet and sports.

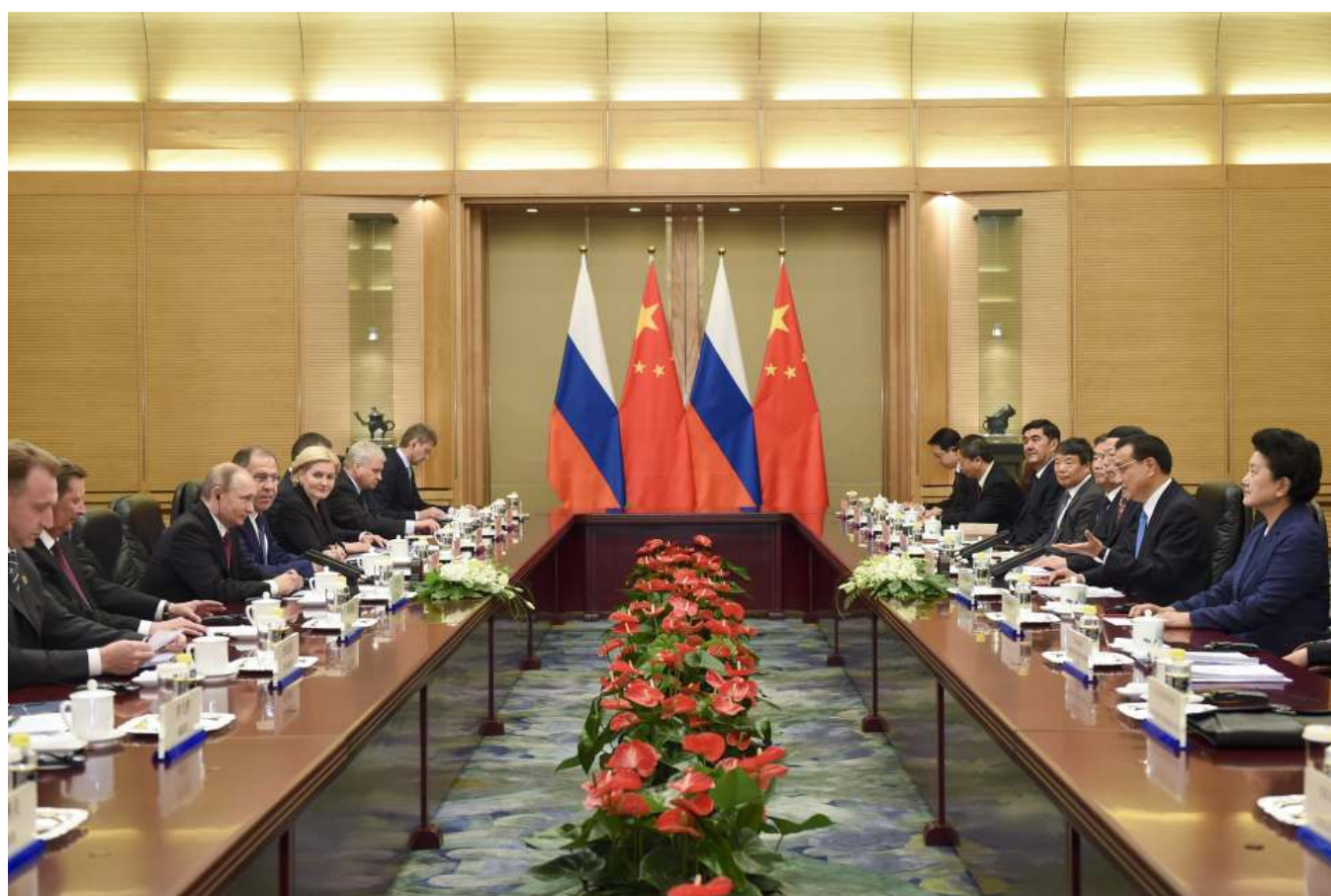
Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and top legislator Zhang Dejiang also met with Putin on Saturday.

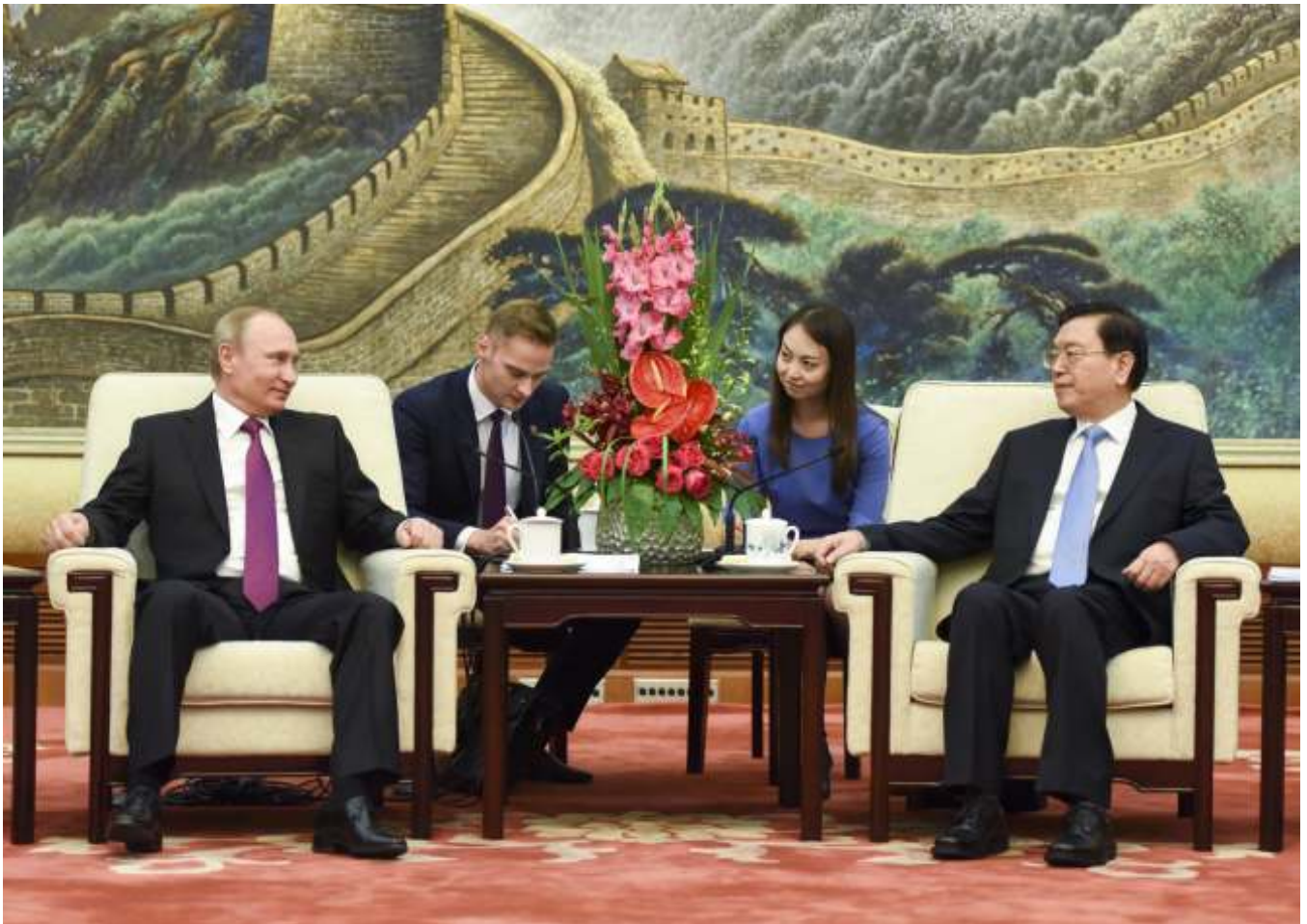
Li said during the meeting that China stands ready to align with the

EEU proposed by Russia and reach institutional arrangements on trade and investment at an early date.

He also vowed to expand the scope of energy cooperation in areas such as oil and gas, nuclear energy, coal and electricity, promote mutual investment and big-project cooperation, and conduct financial cooperation in currency swap, payment system, and within multilateral framework.

When meeting with Putin, Zhang said exchanges and cooperation between the two countries' legislative bodies have been productive, as they learned from each others' legislative experiences, helped advance economic, trade and local-level cooperation, and coordinate and cooperate with each other in





multilateral parliamentary organizations.

He called on the two countries' legislative bodies to maintain sound

communication so as to provide legal support for bilateral cooperation in various fields.

Putin is currently on a state visit

to China, and this is his fourth trip to China since Chinese President Xi Jinping took office in 2013.

CHINA, RUSSIA SIGN JOINT STATEMENT ON STRENGTHENING GLOBAL STRATEGIC STABILITY

Beijing, June 25 (Xinhua) — China and Russia vowed to strengthen global strategic stability in a joint statement signed by Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

The statement was signed after

their talks on Saturday afternoon in Beijing.

In the joint statement, the two sides voiced concern over increasing “negative factors” affecting the global strategic stability.

Some countries and military-political alliances seek decisive advantage in military and relevant technology, so as to serve their own interests through use or threat to use of force in international affairs. Such policy resulted in an out-of-control



growth of military power and shook the global strategic stability system, the joint statement said.

It expressed concern over the unilateral deployment of anti-missile systems all over the world, which it said is non-constructive and has negatively affected global and regional strategic balance, stability and security.

The statement said China and Russia are strongly opposed to the deployment of the Aegis Ashore ballistic missile defense system in Europe and the possible deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) in northeast Asia, which severely infringe upon the strategic security interests of countries in the region.

The long distance precision attack weapons developed by some countries, such as the global system for instant attack, may seriously damage the strategic balance and trigger a new round of arms race, according to the joint statement.

It said arms control is an important means to strengthen global security and stability, and that disarmament and arms control should be fair and balanced, and be conducive for every country's security.

The statement expressed concern over the rising danger of chemical and biological weapons falling into the hands of non-state entities for the conduct of terrorist and violent extremist activities,

saying a way to cope with such threat is to improve relevant international law.

“Strategic stability” has been a military concept in nuclear weapon. The statement said this conception is outdated and the international community should regard “strategic stability” from a wider angle.

In political field, the joint statement called on all countries and groups of countries to abide by the principle on use of force and coercive measures stipulated by the UN Charter and international law, respect the legitimate rights and interests of all countries and peoples while handling international and regional hot issues, and oppose interference in other countries’

political affairs.

In military field, all countries should keep its military capability at the lowest level necessary to maintain its national security, refrain from moves that may be seen by other countries as threat to their national security and force them to take counter measures such as military buildup, establishing or expanding military-political alliance, to restore damaged balance, the statement said.

All countries should solve disputes through positive and constructive dialogue and promote mutual trust and cooperation, the joint statement said.

The two countries voiced willingness to strengthen dialogue, cooperation and exchanges with the international community on the basis of the above principles, the joint statement said.

The two presidents also signed a joint statement on promoting the development of information and cyber space.

The two sides agreed that facing tough security challenges and the abuse of information technology, countries should conduct dialogue and cooperation on how to guarantee the security of cyberspace and promote the development of information network.

They both advocated for the establishment of a new cyberspace order that is peaceful, secure, open and cooperative, and the formulation of widely accepted code of conduct within the framework of the United Nations.

The two sides called for respect for countries' Internet sovereignty and voiced opposition to actions that infringe upon other countries' Internet sovereignty.

The two sides agreed to strengthen network governance and crack down on terrorist and other crimes conducted through the Internet.

The two countries agreed to hold regular meetings for consultations on cyberspace cooperation, according to the document.

Foreign Ministers of the two countries also signed a declaration on the promotion of international law.

The principles of international law are the cornerstone for just and equitable international relations featuring win-win cooperation, creating a community of shared future for mankind, and establishing common space of equal and indivisible security and economic cooperation, the declaration said.

The two countries reaffirmed the principle that states shall refrain from the threat or use of force in violation of the UN Charter and condemned unilateral military interventions.

The two countries voiced firm support to the principle of non-intervention in other countries' internal or external affairs, and condemned any interference by states in other states' internal affairs with the aim of forging change of legitimate governments.

The declaration reaffirmed the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes. It is crucial for the maintenance of international legal order that all disputes settlement means and mechanisms are based on consent and used in good faith and in the spirit of cooperation, and their purposes shall not be undermined by abusive practices, the declaration said.

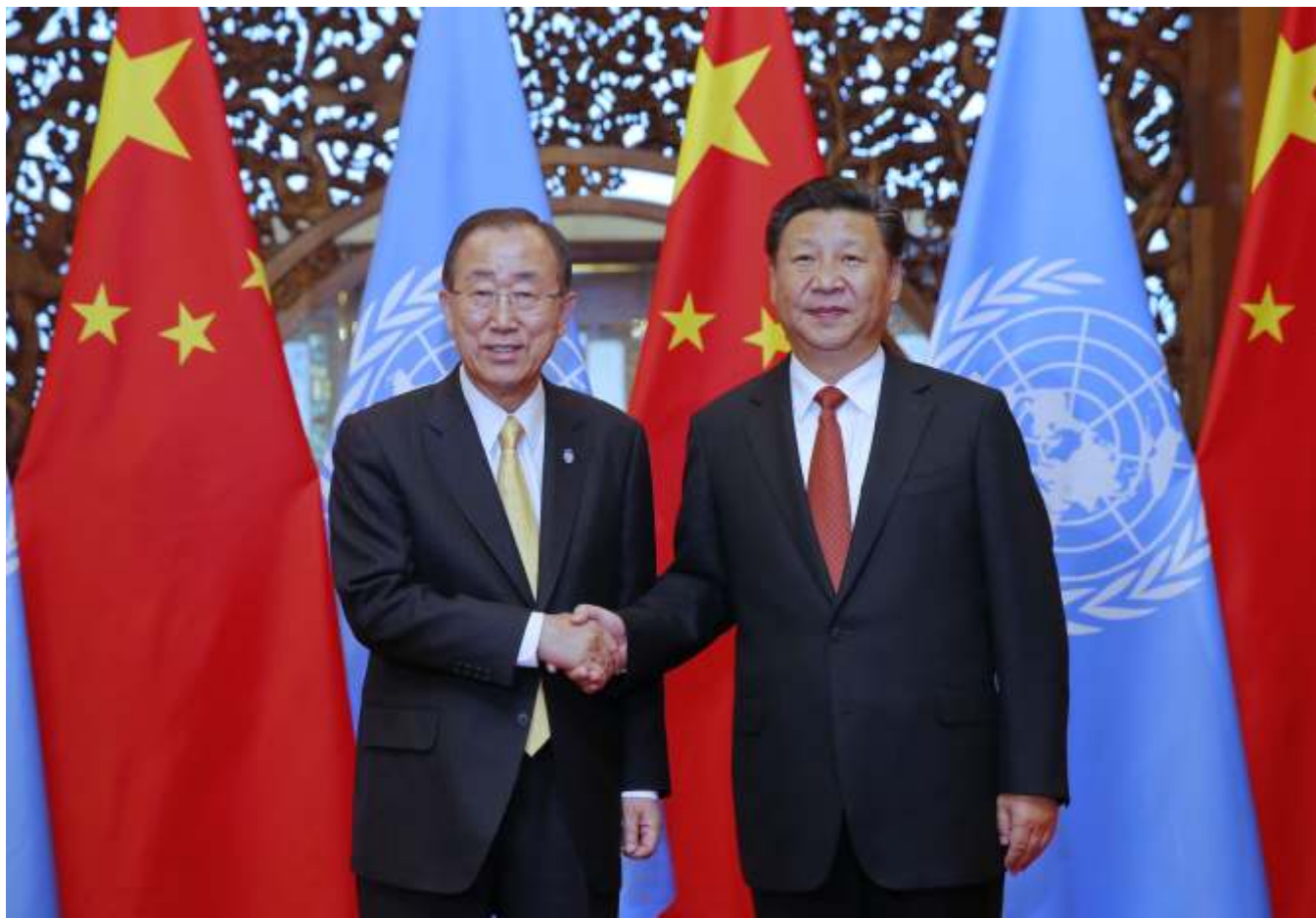
The declaration criticised the adoption of unilateral coercive measures and condemned terrorism in all forms and manifestations. It said to counter threat from terrorism requires collective action in full accordance with international law, including the UN Charter.

In the declaration, the two countries emphasized the important role of the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea in maintaining the rule of law relating to activities in the oceans.

It is of utmost importance that the provisions of this universal treaty are applied consistently, in such a manner that does not impair rights and legitimate interests of contracting parties and does not compromise the integrity of the legal regime established by the convention, the declaration said.

The declaration said the two countries are resolved to further enhance their cooperation in upholding and promoting international law and in establishing of a just and equitable international order based on international law.

CHINA, UN AGREE ON FURTHER COOPERATION DURING BAN'S VISIT



On July 7, 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for further cooperation with the United Nations when meeting with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in Beijing on his 10th visit to China.

Xi applauded Ban's efforts and contributions in safeguarding world peace, promoting sustainable development, dealing with climate change and enhancing the cooperation between the UN and China in the past decade.

He said China will continue to

be a firm UN supporter, vindicator and participant.

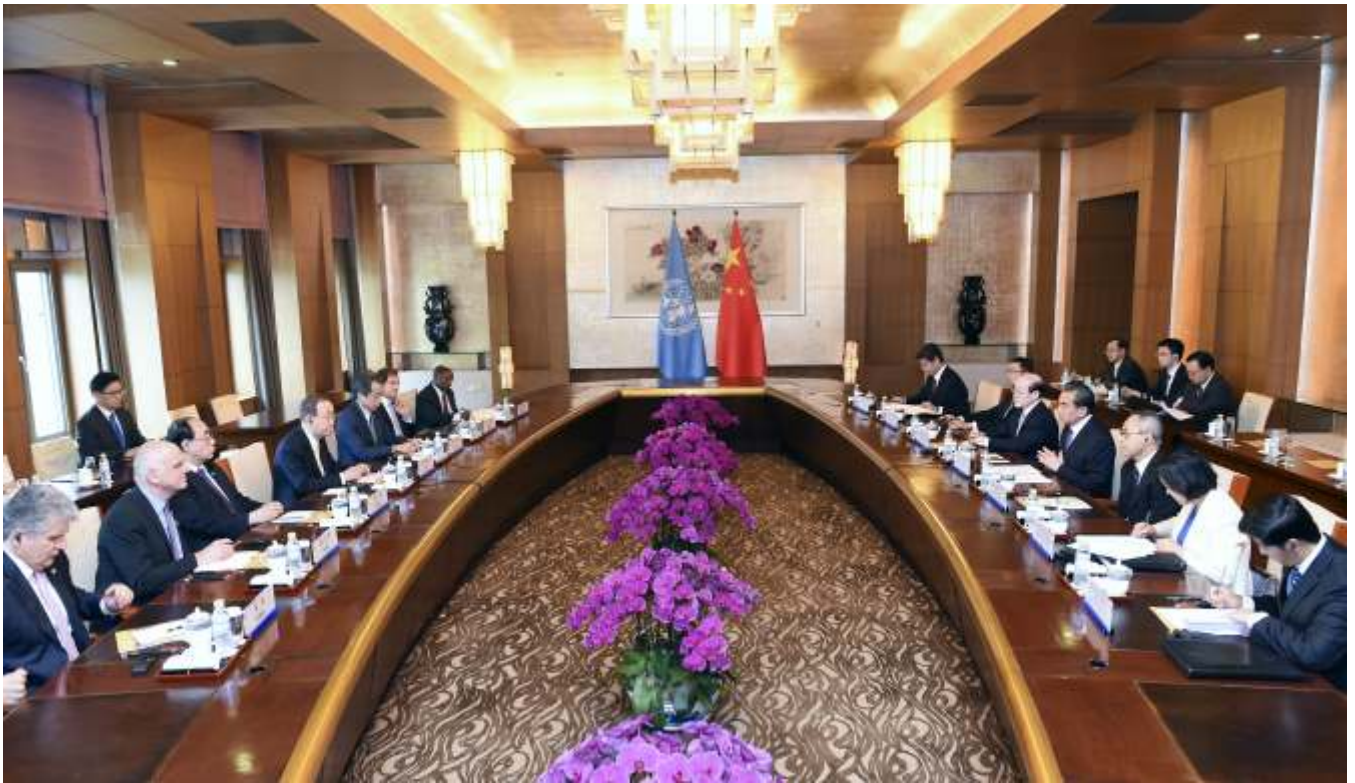
Stressing that economic globalization not only brings opportunities and prosperity, but also poses challenges and problems, Xi called for a stronger global governance and commitment to building a "community of common destiny."

He underlined the importance of adhering to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and advocated a global governance

concept featuring mutual consultation, efforts and sharing.

"We must commit to resolving hotspot issues through political means, advocate dialogue and consultation, address both the symptoms and root causes and give full play to the central role of the United Nations," said the president.

Xi invited Ban to attend the Group of Twenty (G20) Summit, scheduled for Sept. 4-5 in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province.



China will push the Hangzhou summit to prioritize development, he said, adding that China's Belt and Road Initiative will push forward the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Ban extended his sympathies for the death of a Chinese peacekeeper in an attack on the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali last month and thanked China for participation in UN peacekeeping missions.

He said Xi's initiatives on supporting UN peacekeeping missions and South-South cooperation have had significant impacts on international cooperation.

Ban also appreciated China's efforts to resolve the Korean Peninsular nuclear issue as the chair of the six-party talks.

The United Nations is willing to enhance cooperation with the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

(AIIB) to boost infrastructure construction in developing countries, he said.

Ban said he was looking forward to the Hangzhou summit.

Earlier on Thursday, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with the UN secretary-general, during which they exchanged views on China-UN cooperation, the situation on the Korean Peninsula, the Syria crisis, the Afghanistan issue and hotspot issues in Africa.

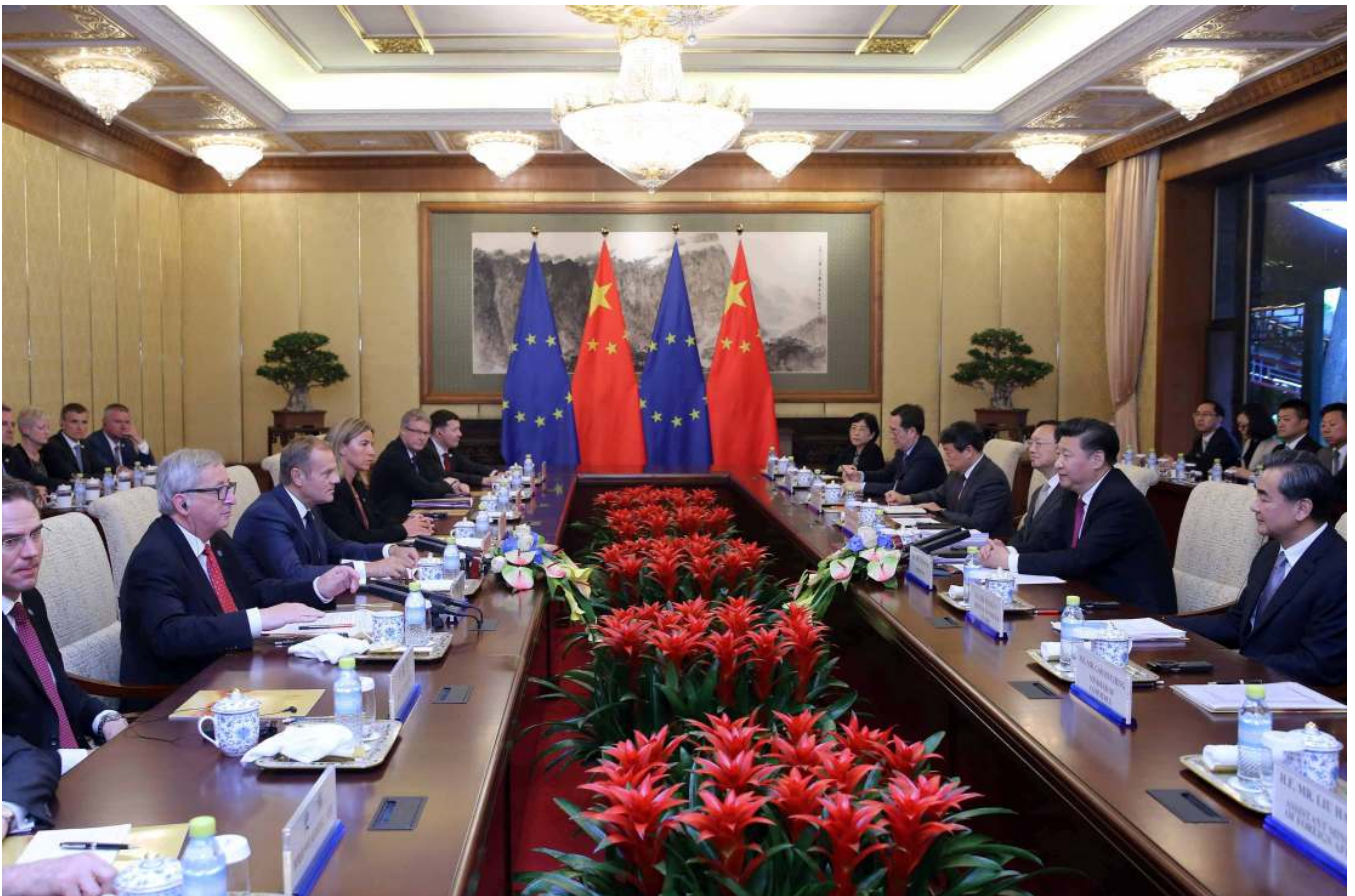
CHINA WANTS PROSPEROUS, STABLE EU, BRITAIN: XI

On July 12, 2016, President Xi Jinping said that China will not change its policy of support for European integration and is glad to see a prosperous and stable EU as

well as a prosperous and stable Britain.

Xi made the remarks when meeting with visiting European

Council President Donald Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in central Beijing.



China hopes European countries will actively participate in the Belt and Road initiative, Xi said, with better docking of development strategies and mutual learning.

Xi also called on China and the EU to enhance coordination and collaboration under the G20, IMF and other multilateral frameworks.

China hopes the EU will carry out its obligations on Article 15 of the protocol on China's accession to the WTO as scheduled, he said.

In addition, Xi urged both sides to work for the success of the 2016 G20 summit, scheduled for Sept. 4-5 in China's Hangzhou.

The EU leaders said the EU side will cooperate with China in a wide range of areas to contribute more to world peace, security and prosperity.

Britain's exit from the EU will not affect EU-China relations, they said.

The EU wants to remain China's largest trading partner, they said, and both sides can do more in innovation, the environment, digital economy, green growth and other fields.

The EU will work to fulfill its obligations to the WTO, they said.

They stressed the EU is willing to make joint efforts with China to make sure the G20 Hangzhou summit will achieve positive results.

Earlier on Tuesday, Premier Li Keqiang co-chaired the 18th China-EU summit with the two EU leaders.

Li said China wants a high-level investment agreement at an early

date and a feasibility study on a China-EU FTA.

Li called on both sides to enhance cooperation in infrastructure construction, 5G, network security, maritime sectors and people-to-people exchanges.

He also mentioned China's ties with the Central and Eastern Europe, the Southern Europe as well as China-EU cooperation in Africa and other third-party markets.

Both sides exchanged views on climate change, global development and other affairs of shared interest.

The EU leaders expressed condolences to the two Chinese UN peacekeepers killed in South Sudan.

LI KEQIANG'S SPEECH AT SUMMER DAVOS OPENING CEREMONY



On June 27, 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of the Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2016, also known as the Summer Davos Forum, in Tianjin. Following is the full text of Li's speech:

It's a great pleasure to meet you again in Tianjin. At the outset, I wish to congratulate, on behalf of the Chinese government, the opening of the Annual Meeting of the New Champions, and extend sincere welcome to all our guests coming from afar and friends from the press.

This is the tenth Annual Meeting of the New Champions, or the

Summer Davos, as it is known. There is a Chinese saying which goes, "It takes ten years to grow a tree." If we could compare the Summer Davos to a tree, after ten years of careful nurturing, it has grown into a luxuriant tree with bountiful fruits. It has showcased to the world the process and achievements of China's reform, opening up and modernization. It has also

contributed wisdom and strength to the common development and prosperity of China and the world.

When the international financial crisis broke out eight years ago, countries resorted to various policy tools to grapple with the crisis and stimulate growth. Eight years on, recovery of the world economy has fallen far short of people's



expectations: global trade and investment are lackluster; commodities and financial markets have experienced volatility from time to time; growth prospects of developed and emerging economies are diverging; and geopolitical risks and destabilizing factors are both on the rise. Just a few days ago, the UK voted to leave the EU in a referendum. This is already making an impact on the international financial markets and adding to the uncertainties in the world economy. Against such a backdrop, to promote world economic recovery and the growth of all economies, we need to make joint efforts to tackle challenges, strengthen confidence, foster a stable international environment and find solutions to address root causes of the problems we face. European countries are

important partners for China. Under the new circumstances, China will continue to maintain and grow its relations with the EU and the UK. We hope to see a united and stable EU and a stable and prosperous UK.

The theme of the forum, “the Fourth Industrial Revolution and its Transformational Impact”, offers people a new perspective and is thus forward-looking and relevant. Let me share with you a few thoughts in this connection.

First, to promote steady recovery of the world economy, we must actively carry out structural reform. To address the deep-seated problems in the world economy, we need to both strengthen demand management and advance structural reform to eliminate the root causes

that trigger problems. Countries may face different situations, yet they should all move toward addressing economic imbalance by way of promoting fiscal and financial reform, easing regulation, facilitating competition, supporting innovation and expanding opening up, and should all work together to ensure strong, sustainable and balanced growth of the world economy.

Second, to promote steady recovery of the world economy, we must speed up economic transformation and upgrading. For the world economy to walk out of the woods, the ultimate solution lies in shifting the growth model and replacing old growth drivers with new ones at a faster pace. The advent of a new round of technological and industrial revolution has provided a

historical opportunity for this. The emergence of new technologies, new tools and new materials, which are of pace-setting and transformational significance, has given a strong boost to the growth of the new economy and the upgrading of traditional industries. Countries should follow this prevailing trend by focusing their policies on supporting economic transformation and upgrading, and strengthen the new drivers of economic growth.

Third, to promote steady recovery of the world economy, we will need efficient and orderly global governance. In the face of common challenges, we need to uphold the spirit of solidarity and work for common progress. This is a sure way for us to move forward. Countries need to adopt more growth-friendly policies, strengthen macro policy coordination, steadfastly advance trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, firmly oppose protectionism and build a fairer, more just and open international economic system. The world's major economies, while making macro-economic policies, should consider not just their own growth needs but also the spillover effects of their policies. This September, the G20 Summit will be held in Hangzhou, China. The ongoing Summer Davos has a special session on "China's G20 Agenda". I find it highly relevant as it will contribute insights and recommendations to China's hosting of the G20 Hangzhou Summit.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Having experienced years of rapid growth, China's economic development has now entered a new normal. In the face of mounting

downward economic pressure, we have not resorted to indiscriminate strong stimulus. Instead, we have focused on exploring new models of macro control, vigorously advanced structural reform, and concentrated our efforts on cultivating new drivers of growth while upgrading traditional ones. As a result, we have maintained steady economic development, ranking among top of the world's major economies in terms of growth speed, and made positive progress in structural adjustment. The journey we traveled these years has been fraught with risks and challenges, and we have made painstaking efforts along the way. Nevertheless, it is encouraging to see that new drivers in the economy are rapidly growing. Although they cannot yet compare with traditional drivers in size, they do play a bigger role in sustaining development, securing employment, and promoting economic transformation. Given time, the rise of the new drivers will open up new prospects for the Chinese economy.

This year, despite continued slowdown in global growth, the Chinese economy has on the whole maintained stability while making steady progress, and has performed within the appropriate range. This is indeed not easy. China's GDP expanded by 6.7% in the first quarter of the year, and registered steady growth in the second quarter. Summer grain production is expected to be another bumper harvest. Corporate profits in the industrial sector are steadily rising. The service industry is growing rapidly, and market sales are steadily expanding. CPI is basically stable, the drop in PPI has narrowed, and energy intensity and emissions of major pollutants have continued to

fall. In particular, the employment situation is stable. In the first five months of this year, 5.77 million new urban jobs were created, completing 58% of the annual employment target. The surveyed unemployment rate of 31 major cities in May was 5.02%.

An important reason the Chinese economy has maintained steady growth in the first half of the year is that reform, innovation, adjustment and transformation have all played an important role. Reform efforts to streamline administration, delegate power and improve government services have given a strong boost to mass entrepreneurship and innovation, and further unleashed development potential. Now every day in China, some 40,000 new market entities are being created, including over 13,000 new enterprises. Such increase is bigger than the previous two years and has given a strong boost to job creation. The leading role of consumption and services is becoming more visible. New areas of consumption such as information and communication, smart phones and new energy vehicles are rapidly expanding. The five "happiness industries" of tourism, culture, sports, health and old-age care are rapidly growing. The service sector has grown into the biggest industry in the national economy, both in terms of its output and the number of jobs it created. An innovation-driven economy is brimming with vitality. High-tech industries, high-end manufacturing, e-commerce and other new business forms are booming. Enterprises, sectors and regions that have made an early start in economic transformation and upgrading and that embrace faster growth of new industries have all

taken on a sound momentum of growth. On the whole, the Chinese economy is better structured; its quality is improving and a stronger momentum is being gathered.

We are also aware that given the complex and challenging international environment and the deep-seated domestic problems accumulated over the years, the foundation underpinning stable performance of the Chinese economy is yet to be strengthened. The driving effect of external demand on growth is waning. Private and manufacturing investments are sluggish. Latent risks still exist in the financial and other sectors. In some industries with serious overcapacity and regions with monotonous economic structure, there have been relatively more problems. Downward economic pressure remains and the difficulties are not to be underestimated. However, the fact that we have recognized and stood up to challenges shows that we have the determination and ability to overcome difficulties. For the Chinese economy, there is always more hope than difficulties.

The fundamentals of the Chinese economy have remained unchanged, and our macro policies will maintain continuity and stability. In the meantime, we will continue to innovate means of macro control, implement the proactive fiscal policy with greater intensity and efficiency, and carry out the prudent monetary policy in a flexible and appropriate fashion. We will channel more resources into areas that help strengthen weak links, increase the momentum of development and take development to a higher level, as well as into areas of the new economy that serve to promote

economic transformation and upgrading. The current debt ratio for the Chinese government is around 40 percent, and is only around 16 percent for the central government, lower than many other major economies. This has given us space for a proactive fiscal policy. A high savings rate in China means huge potential for the development of multi-tiered capital markets. It also means major leeway for improving financial regulation methods and financial resource allocation. We are in a position to create conditions to gradually lower corporate leverage ratio and financing costs in a market-based and law-based manner. We not only have sufficient policy tools to keep economic performance within the reasonable range. We also have strong ability to prevent systemic or regional risks. In the stage of transition, short-term fluctuations of economic growth are hardly avoidable, but the Chinese economy will not head for a "hard landing". And we will be able to achieve the main economic and social development targets set for this year.

Looking ahead, the Chinese economy has huge potential, strong advantage, broad space and bright prospect. China has a 900 million strong workforce, among whom 170 million have received higher education or training in professional skills. Every year we produce over seven million college graduates and over five million graduates from secondary vocational schools. We are No.1 in the world in terms of the number of science professionals and No.2 in R&D input, with an input of over RMB 1 trillion made last year. China is the second biggest economy, the largest manufacturing country, a major trading nation in

goods and services, and a major destination and source of foreign investment. It is also the world's second largest consumer market. Its middle-income population is in the hundreds of millions and is still expanding. The number of the rural poor is falling year by year, while that of permanent urban residents is growing by over 10 million each year. All these make China a major emerging market with the biggest growth potential. It makes China a big stage where people from every corner could tap into their intellectual potential and start their business. We are optimistic about the current state and future prospect of the Chinese economy. Optimism is a sign of confidence, and in market economy conditions, confidence guides people's expectations. This in itself generates powerful strength.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Chinese economy is at a crucial stage of transition from old to new growth drivers and a stage of economic transformation and upgrading. We will focus on development as the top priority and promote steady progress as we pursue innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development. We will ensure that the government's macro policies are stable, industrial policies are well-targeted, micro policies are flexible, reform policies are solid and social policies meet people's basic needs. While appropriately expanding aggregate demand, we will steadfastly advance supply-side structural reform, concentrate on cutting overcapacity, reducing inventory, deleveraging, lowering costs and strengthening weak links, so that China's development could be less reliant on natural resources and be more driven by human

resources and innovation. This will enable the Chinese economy to maintain medium-high growth rates and move to medium-high development levels.

We will guide economic transformation and upgrading through innovation. Innovation is the primary driver of development and an important part of supply-side structural reform. We need to further implement the innovation-driven development strategy, and step up efforts to build an innovation-driven country and a strong country in science and technology, so as to provide robust support for economic transformation and upgrading.

We will accelerate the development of the new economy and cultivate new growth drivers. We will vigorously advance innovation in science and technology, work for breakthroughs in major, key technologies, and promote the commercialization of innovation results. We will also advocate mass entrepreneurship and innovation, further promote the "Internet+" strategy, extensively apply the new generation of information technologies such as the Internet of Things, big data and cloud computing. We will promote integrated development of different sectors and facilitate the emergence of more new industries, new forms of business and new business models. It is also necessary to roll out new products and services that better meet the needs of the market and build platforms for mass innovation, crowd sourcing, collective support and crowd funding. This way, we could pool strengths to accelerate innovation and cultivate new areas of economic

growth.

We need to transform and upgrade traditional drivers of growth at a faster pace. Innovation is not only about developing the new economy. It is also about transforming and upgrading traditional industries to give them new vitality. We will implement the Made in China 2025 initiative to make manufacturing more IT-based and smarter. We will conduct custom-tailored and flexible production to meet consumers' diverse needs. We will accelerate changes in models of production, management and marketing and create new industry chains, supply chains and value chains. This will make Chinese manufacturing more competitive.

The new vision of development that we advocate is also about developing a sharing economy. The sharing economy is one of mass participation. Greater economic globalization and the spread of the Internet have provided a big stage and broad space for entrepreneurship and innovation by the people. Through mass entrepreneurship and innovation, we will combine the innovation activities of the elites with the grassroots, the on-line with the off-line, and companies with research institutes, so that individual efforts of numerous market players will lead to greater synergy for innovation-driven development. If we could make full use of the Internet to efficiently match the massive amounts of information about supply with that about demand, we could then bring about cooperation among and sharing of R&D and professional expertise and skills. The sharing economy is something that

everyone can take part in and benefit from. It could unleash everyone's potential, facilitate reasonable income distribution, expand the middle income group, allow more people, in particular the young, to fulfill their dreams through hard work, and promote social equity and justice.

We will enhance economic transformation and upgrading by comprehensively deepening reform. We have relied on reform for the remarkable achievements we made in the past 30-plus years. And fundamentally, we must rely on reform if we are to remove the institutional obstacles hindering development and advance economic transformation and upgrading. We will firmly deepen reform to unlock market vitality and social creativity to a greater extent.

We need to advance structural reform, in particular that on the supply side. The structural problems facing the Chinese economy are about both the supply and demand sides, especially the supply side. We need to advance structural adjustment through reform, reduce inefficient and low-end supply, and expand effective and medium- to high-end supply. This is conducive to economic transformation as well as growth. A major task for us is to phase out outdated production capacity and address overcapacity, especially in steel, coal and other sectors that face difficulty in operation. Initial progress has been made in recent years, as is shown in the lowering production of raw coal and crude steel, but our efforts must well continue. We will adopt a market-based and rules-based approach and apply strict standards in environmental protection, quality

and safety. The biggest challenge is how to address possible layoffs in this process. Businesses need to take multiple measures to ensure that their employees will get reemployed. Both the central and local governments should provide necessary support to take care of the affected employees. Overcapacity is a global challenge. The fact that we have taken the initiative to cut overcapacity demonstrates that China is indeed a responsible country.

We also need to further streamline administration, delegate power, strengthen regulation and improve services. We need to transform government functions more rapidly, improve efficiency, and ensure a level-playing field for all players and a pro-innovation institutional environment. We need to give priority to “simplicity” by taking away undue government powers and delegating them directly to the market and society wherever possible. At the same time, we need to strengthen and innovate in market oversight, explore inclusive and effective prudential regulation, and guide and support the healthy development of new business forms and models. For those players that follow the right direction but have encountered problems, we need to give them prompt guidance, fix the problems and remove potential risks. We need to give them reasonable space for development instead of rejecting them outright. As for those conducting illegal operations or fraud in the name of innovation, we will punish them to the full extent of the law. We need to strictly protect intellectual property rights. We also need to promote the “Internet plus government services” model, and set up an open platform of

government public services, so that government data could be shared as much as possible. This will make it easier for individuals and companies to get things done and start up businesses, and it will enhance government efficiency.

We will promote in a coordinated way reforms in the fiscal, taxation, finance, investment and other key areas. We have put in place a nation-wide reform to replace business tax with value-added tax. This major effort to cut taxes and lower the tax burden will facilitate the innovative development of modern service industry, SMEs and micro businesses. We will deepen the reform of the financial system, accelerate the improvement of the modern financial regulatory regime and increase the efficiency of financial services in supporting the real economy. We will also intensify reforms in SOEs, rural areas, investment and financing, foster a social credit system and unleash even greater vitality for economic development. The private sector is an important force driving economic development. We will do more to remove obstacles for private businesses, lift unreasonable restrictions on market access and strive to stimulate private investment.

We will transform and upgrade the economy through opening-up. Opening-up, being one kind of reform itself, will in turn spur reform efforts. No matter how developed China will become, it will always need mutual-learning with the rest of the world, and it will open still wider to the outside. We will enhance our open economy, open wider the service sector and general manufacturing sector, provide more

investment opportunities to foreign businesses and foster a fairer, more transparent and predictable investment environment. All companies registered in China, Chinese-funded, foreign-funded, joint ventures or independently-owned, will be treated as equals. Their legitimate rights and interests will be protected, and they will have access to better public services. Facing the current complexities and fluctuations in the international financial markets, China will adhere to a managed, floating exchange rate regime based on market supply and demand with reference to a basket of currencies. The fundamentals of the Chinese economy determine that there is no basis for persistent depreciation of the RMB. We have the capacity to keep the RMB basically stable at an adaptive and equilibrium level. China is committed to peaceful development and a win-win strategy of opening-up. We stand ready to work with all other countries to promote inclusive and balanced growth as well as green and sustainable development.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tianjin is a big port in the world, where people could start a voyage to sail to the vast ocean. For a giant ship to sail far, sustained and strong driving force is needed. China will work with other countries to seize the opportunities brought by the new round of technological and industrial revolution. Together, we will build new engines of economic growth, promote steady recovery of the world economy through transformation and upgrading, and jointly usher in a better future for the development of mankind. I wish this forum a full success.

South China Sea

CHINESE LEADERS REJECT S. CHINA SEA ARBITRATION AWARD



On July 12, 2016, Chinese president and premier said China will not accept any proposition or action based on the decision by the South China Sea arbitral tribunal.

President Xi Jinping said the South China Sea Islands have been China's territory since ancient times. China's territorial sovereignty and maritime interests in South China Sea, in any circumstances, will not be affected by the award.

He made the remarks while meeting with European Council President Donald Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in Beijing.

China has always been a guardian of international rule of law and of fairness and justice, and will always adhere to the path of

peaceful development, Xi said.

China is firmly committed to peace and stability in the South China Sea, and to settling the disputes with countries directly involved, through peaceful negotiations based on the recognition of historical facts and in accordance with international law, he said.

Also on July 12, Premier Li Keqiang said that by not accepting nor recognizing the award, China is in fact safeguarding the international law.

Li's statement came as he co-chaired the 18th China-EU Summit with Tusk and Juncker at the Great Hall of the People.

As a country directly concerned, China cares most and is committed

to the peace and stability of the South China Sea region, Li said.

China will also be committed to peaceful settlement of disputes through negotiations and consultations in line with the Declaration of the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and international law, said Li.

He called on the European Union to maintain an objective stance and neutrality on the issue.

China has refused to participate in the arbitration proceedings, reiterating that the tribunal in The Hague has no jurisdiction over the case, which is in essence related to territorial sovereignty and maritime delimitation.

SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRATION AWARD HAS NO IMPACT ON CHINA'S INTERESTS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

On July 16, 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said that the South China Sea arbitration award will have no impact whatsoever on China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea.

Speaking in an informal meeting during the 11th Asian-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit in Ulan Bator, Li said the South China Sea issue should not be subject to multilateral discussions from the very beginning, and is not included in the Ulan Bator summit's agenda.

"But since certain countries commented on the issue, it is thus necessary for China to come out to clarify its stance and spell out the truth," he said.

Li said China never participated in the arbitration unilaterally initiated by the Philippines, adding that his country neither accepts nor acknowledges the so-called arbitration award.

"By doing so, we are both exercising our rights in accordance with international law, and safeguarding the dignity of

international law," he said.

"Under no circumstance will the arbitration award exert any impact on China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea," Li added.

The Chinese premier said China adheres to settlement of the South China Sea disputes via dialogue and consultation with countries directly involved on the basis of respect for historical facts and in accordance with international law, so as to safeguard peace and stability in the South China Sea.

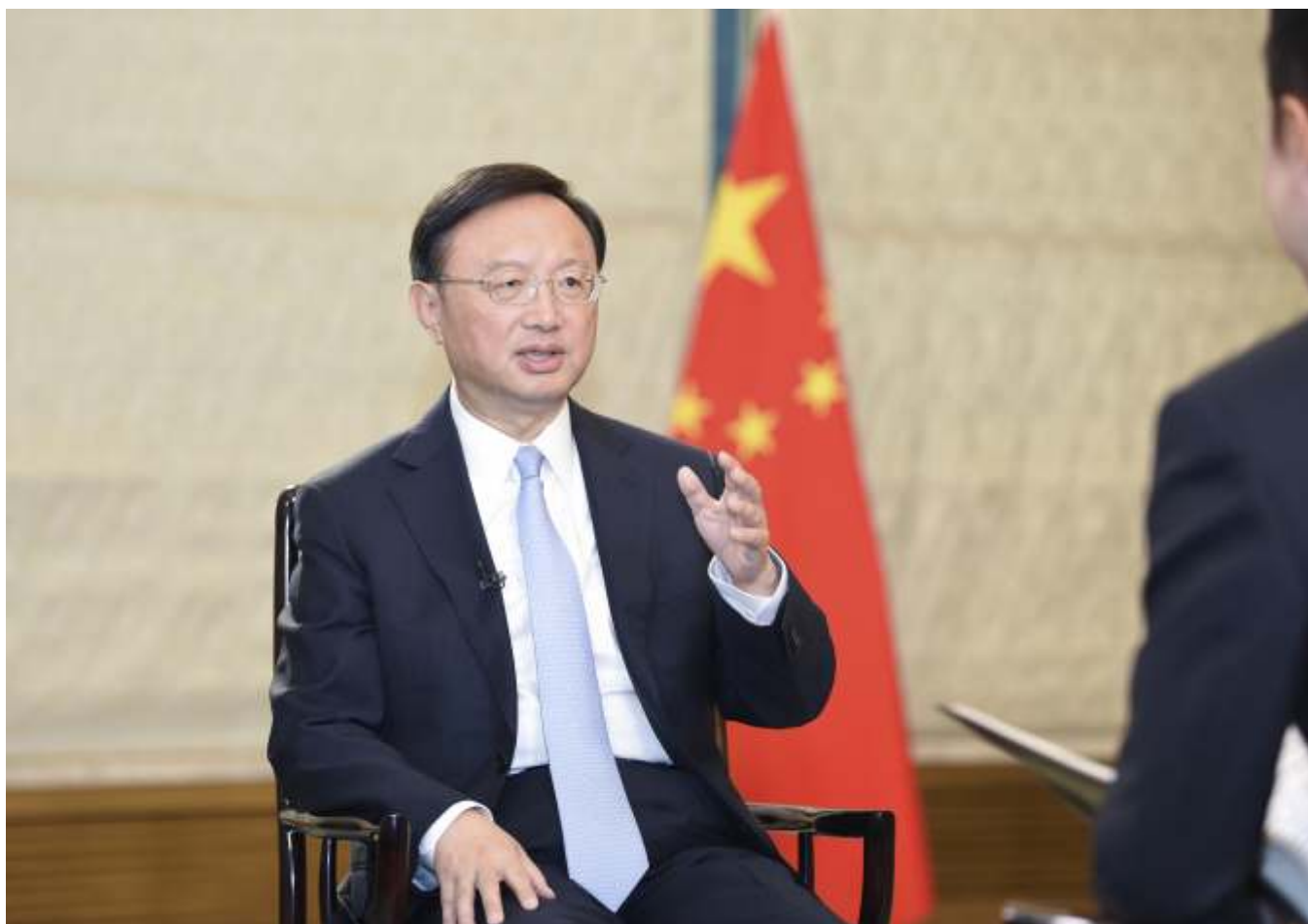
CHINESE STATE COUNCILOR'S INTERVIEW ON SO-CALLED AWARD BY ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL FOR SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRATION

On 14 July, 2016, State Councilor Yang Jiechi gave an interview to state media on the so-called award of the Arbitral Tribunal for the South China Sea arbitration during which he elaborated on China's position. The full text of the interview is as follows:

Reporter: On 12 July, the Arbitral Tribunal for the South China Sea arbitration issued its so-called award, which attempts to deny China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the

South China Sea. In response, China issued a Statement on the Award of the Arbitral Tribunal in the South China Sea Arbitration Established at the Request of the Republic of the Philippines, Statement on China's

Territorial Sovereignty and Maritime Rights and Interests in the South China Sea and a White Paper entitled China Adheres to the Position of Settling Through Negotiation the Relevant Disputes Between China



and the Philippines in the South China Sea, stating China's solemn position of non-acceptance and non-recognition of the award and reaffirming China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea. How do you view the award by the so-called Arbitral Tribunal for the South China Sea arbitration?

Yang Jiechi: The Arbitral Tribunal for the South China Sea arbitration has issued its so-called award. This award is illegal and invalid in every sense. The Chinese government has released relevant statements and a White Paper stating its solemn position of firmly opposing the arbitration and not accepting or recognizing the award. This position of the central

government has the strong support and endorsement from people of various social sectors in China. They have expressed their unequivocal attitude of opposing the illegal arbitration and safeguarding sovereign rights and interests by contributing articles and articulating views through the press, TV and SMS as well as online platforms like WeChat and Weibo.

The South China Sea arbitration has been a political farce all along, staged under the cover of law and driven by a hidden agenda. Certain countries outside the region have attempted to deny China's sovereign rights and interests in the South China Sea through the arbitration. They have even brought other countries into the scheme to isolate

and discredit China in the international community with a view to holding back China's peaceful development. But such attempts are futile, to say the least, and in so doing, they are only lifting a stone to drop it on their own feet. I must point out that the arbitration runs counter to the spirit of international rule of law, puts regional peace and stability in jeopardy, and undermines the interests of the international community. Most countries in the world see this clearly. Over 70 countries and international and regional organizations have made statements showing their understanding of and support for China's position. This speaks volumes about the attitude of the international community toward the political farce, proving the futility of

certain countries' scheme to hem in and smear China.

Sovereignty is a bottom line for China. Big as China is, we cannot afford to give away a single inch of territory that our ancestors have left to us. China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea have been formed over the course of over two thousand years. They are fully backed by historical and legal evidence. Under no circumstances can they ever be negated by a so-called award that is full of nonsense. The award can neither change historical facts nor deny China's claims of rights and interests in the South China Sea. Still less can it waver our resolve and determination to safeguard territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests. China's position of not accepting or recognizing the award will not change. At the same time, China will stay committed to following a path of peaceful development, to resolving the disputes in the South China Sea through negotiation and consultation, to developing friendly relations and win-win cooperation with its neighbors, and to working with others to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.

Reporter: Why do you believe that the Philippines' initiation of arbitration is against international law?

Yang Jiechi: A basic requirement of international rule of law is that actions must be taken in strict accordance with the law. The crux of disputes between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea are issues concerning territory and maritime delimitation.

Territorial issues are not governed by UNCLOS. On maritime delimitation, China made a declaration on optional exceptions in 2006 pursuant with UNCLOS stipulations, excluding it from the dispute settlement mechanisms of UNCLOS. By unilaterally initiating arbitration, the Philippine government under Aquino III has gone against its long-standing bilateral agreement with China that disputes in the South China Sea shall be settled through negotiation, violated the DOC signed in 2002 by China and ASEAN countries, the Philippines included, and breached international law and UNCLOS. Hence, this arbitration has been illegal since the very beginning. It cannot be seen as an application of international law.

Reporter: Why do you think that the Arbitral Tribunal lacks legitimacy and impartiality? Why is the award illegal and invalid?

Yang Jiechi: If you look at the composition of the Arbitral Tribunal, most of the arbitrators were appointed by Shunji Yanai, the then President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and a right-wing Japanese intent on ridding Japan of post-war

China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea have been formed over the course of over two thousand years. They are fully backed by historical and legal evidence.

arrangements. In the proceedings, some arbitrators and experts even backtracked from their long-held views to make the case for the Philippines. Anyone with good sense can see the tricks.

In disregard of China's staunch position, the Arbitral Tribunal willfully went beyond its authority, turned a blind eye to the history and reality of the South China Sea and misinterpreted relevant stipulations of UNCLOS. It has deviated from UNCLOS from the very beginning and overstepped and expanded its authority to render this award. Naturally, such an award can only be illegal and invalid. The Tribunal can in no way represent international law, still less equity and justice in the world.

Reporter: How will the award affect China's dotted line in the South China Sea?

Yang Jiechi: History brooks no distortion and law no abuse. China's sovereignty, rights and relevant claims in the South China Sea are gradually formed and developed by the practice of the Chinese people throughout millennia and have been upheld by successive Chinese governments. As early as in 1948, the Chinese government marked the dotted line in the South China Sea on its officially published map, which affirmed China's sovereignty over the South China Sea Islands and maritime rights and interests in their adjacent waters. This is a historical fact beyond any doubt. As a state party to UNCLOS, China is fully entitled to its rights under UNCLOS. China's claims of rights and interests in the South China Sea long predate the signing of UNCLOS. They shall

by no means be denied by UNCLOS, still less by an unwarranted and flawed award. China's sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea are protected by both international law and UNCLOS.

Reporter: Given that the award has been rendered, how will China safeguard its territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea?

Yang Jiechi: The South China Sea, important to the Chinese people since ancient times, is our heritage to which our forefathers devoted their wisdom and even lives. The Chinese government remains unwavering in its resolve to safeguard China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea. The Chinese people do not covet other countries' interests or envy their development. At the same time, we will never give up our legitimate interests. No country should expect us to trade our core interests away or swallow the bitter consequences of our sovereignty, security and development interests being undermined. The Chinese government and people will remain united and act resolutely to safeguard every inch of our land and every swath of our waters.

Reporter: Some people accuse China of defying international rules by not accepting or recognizing the award of the Tribunal, believing that China has changed its policy of peaceful development. How will you respond to that?

Yang Jiechi: The South China Sea arbitration initiated by the Philippines violated the bilateral

agreements between China and the Philippines. It breached regional rules as embodied in the DOC and international rules, including those under UNCLOS. China's position on the arbitration fully complies with international law. This basic fact has been thoroughly elaborated in a series of position papers issued by the Chinese government. The attempt to mount an all-out smear campaign against China by distorting this basic fact has once again exposed the nature of this arbitration, that is, a farce in which certain countries use international law as a cover to pursue their own hidden agenda.

China has all along been an active player in building up and enhancing the regional and international order. Over 70 years ago, China participated directly in the design and building of the post-war international order. Over the past 70 plus years, China has consistently upheld the international order and system based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter with the United Nations at the center, and steadfastly safeguarded and promoted international rule of law. China will work with other countries to maintain and build a sound international order and international system.

The arbitration will not in the slightest way shake China's resolve to pursue the path of peaceful development. To seek peaceful development is not a matter of expediency. It is a strategic choice China has made in line with the trend of the time and its own fundamental interests. China remains committed to developing friendly relations with other countries on the basis of the

Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence, and deepening win-win cooperation and connectivity with its neighbors. It adheres to negotiation and consultation as a means for addressing relevant territorial and maritime delimitation issues, and resolutely safeguards peace and stability in the region.

Reporter: What impact will the arbitration case have on China-ASEAN relations? How do you see the prospect of this relationship?

Yang Jiechi: The South China Sea issue is not an issue between China and ASEAN. In fact, ASEAN has long made clear its neutrality on this issue and its position of not intervening in specific disputes. Therefore, it should not take sides on issues related to the arbitration. China and ASEAN member states have maintained candid and friendly communication regarding the South China Sea issue. The two sides are ready to fully and effectively implement the DOC and maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea through continuous dialogue and consultation. In the meantime, we will steadily take forward consultations on the Code of Conduct to promote early conclusion of the COC based on consensus. As for specific disputes, China will maintain communication and consultation with those ASEAN member states who are directly concerned to address them in a proper way. China means what it says and follows a consistent policy.

China-ASEAN relations enjoy sound momentum of growth and broad prospects. This year marks the 25th anniversary of China-ASEAN dialogue relations. Over the past

quarter century, the China-ASEAN relationship has withstood test of time and produced fruitful outcomes. Two-way trade has grown from less than US\$10 billion 25 years ago to nearly US\$500 billion, making China and ASEAN each other's major trading partners. The growth of this relationship has brought tangible benefits to the people of all countries in the region, setting a fine example of countries, big or small, treating each other as equals and working together for common development.

In the coming September, China will be represented at the leadership level at the Summit marking the 25th anniversary of China-ASEAN dialogue relations to be held in Laos. The Chinese leader will work with leaders of ASEAN countries in drawing a blueprint for the future development of China-ASEAN relations. They will endeavor to deepen political mutual trust through enhanced strategic communication, and strengthen practical cooperation and people-to-people exchanges to achieve peaceful development for mutual benefit.

Reporter: How do you view the future of China-Philippines relations?

Yang Jiechi: China and the Philippines are close neighbors across the sea. Our friendly exchanges date back over 1,000 years. In recent years, however, bilateral relations have run into serious difficulty as a result of the previous Philippine government's hostile policy toward China on the South China Sea issue and its unilateral initiation of the

In recent years, certain countries outside the region, driven by their own agenda, have frequently intervened in the South China Sea issue under the pretext of upholding "freedom of navigation" and "maintaining regional peace", leading to an escalation of tension.

arbitration. The arbitration violates both the agreement between China and the Philippines and international law, and goes against the common interests of the two countries and peoples. It is a major political obstacle to the improvement of bilateral relations. We call on the new Philippine government to bear in mind the common interests of our two countries and the broader picture of bilateral ties and properly handle relevant issues. As long as China and the Philippines remain committed to the principles and spirit of the DOC, to properly settling differences through dialogue and consultation and growing friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation, our bilateral ties will enjoy a bright future.

Reporter: What is your comment on the frequent intervention by countries outside the region in the South China Sea issue and how will China respond to that?

Yang Jiechi: The arbitration is a case in point of how non-regional countries interfere in the South China Sea issue. It is an issue between littoral countries and

should be left to the countries concerned to resolve through peaceful negotiations. Thanks to the concerted efforts of China and the relevant ASEAN countries, the South China Sea has long remained peaceful and stable, laying ground for regional development and prosperity.

In recent years, certain countries outside the region, driven by their own agenda, have frequently intervened in the South China Sea issue under the pretext of upholding "freedom of navigation" and "maintaining regional peace", leading to an escalation of tension. Such highly irresponsible moves have become the major source of risks that affect peace and stability in the South China Sea.

We have always maintained that China and its neighboring countries in the South China Sea have the wisdom and capability to manage differences and build the area into a sea of peace, cooperation and friendship. We have never rejected the legitimate rights and interests of non-regional countries in the South China Sea. This is what we have been saying and doing. We hope relevant countries will respect the independent choice of China and its neighboring countries in the South China Sea and do more to facilitate sustained peace and stability in the South China Sea, not the contrary.

Reporter: What is China's approach to resolving the South China Sea issue?

Yang Jiechi: China firmly follows a path of peaceful development, a foreign policy of pursuing friendship and partnership

with its neighbors, and a policy of settling disputes peacefully through negotiation and consultation. Thanks to these policies, since the founding of the PRC, China has settled boundary issues left over from history with 12 of its 14 neighbors on land. The settlement has been achieved based on historical facts and basic principles of the international law and through bilateral consultation and negotiation. Borders of over 20,000 kilometers have been demarcated, accounting for over 90% of the total length of China's borders. Moreover, China and Vietnam have delimited

the maritime boundary in Beibu Bay through negotiation and consultation. China and the ROK have also launched negotiation on maritime delimitation in the Yellow Sea.

As a major country in the region, China is fully aware of the importance of upholding regional peace and stability and its responsibility in the region. China has all along been firmly opposed to the illegal occupation of some islands and reefs of Nansha Islands by certain countries and their infringement of China's rights in

relevant waters under China's jurisdiction. That said, China is ready to settle the disputes through peaceful negotiation with countries directly concerned on the basis of respecting historical facts and in compliance with international law, UNCLOS included. China is ready to discuss with countries concerned about temporary arrangements pending final settlement of the dispute, which include joint development in relevant waters in the South China Sea for mutual benefits and win-win outcomes, so that together we can maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.

REMARKS BY CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER WANG YI ON THE AWARD OF THE SO-CALLED ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRATION

Today, an Arbitral Tribunal, put together on a temporary basis, issued a so-called award on the South China Sea arbitration, which was unilaterally initiated by the former government of the Philippines, in an attempt to undermine China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea. Responding to such a move, the Chinese Foreign Ministry issued a statement, affirming China's staunch position of non-acceptance and non-recognition of the award. At the same time, the Foreign Ministry was also given authorization to issue the Statement of the Government of the People's Republic of China on China's Territorial Sovereignty

and Maritime Rights and Interests in the South China Sea to solemnly reaffirm China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea. It is on those bases that I elaborate on China's proposition as follows.

First, the South China Sea arbitration is completely a political farce staged under legal pretext. Such a nature must be exposed for everyone to see.

Plotted and manipulated by certain forces outside the region, the former government of the Philippines unilaterally initiated the arbitration with no consent of the other party. Such an act ran counter

to the agreement previously reached between the two sides to resolve disputes through bilateral negotiation and consultation. It also violated the commitment the Philippines made in the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC). Its purpose is clearly not to seek proper settlement of disputes with China, but to violate China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests and put peace and stability in the South China Sea in jeopardy. The arbitration was conducted according to unwarranted procedure and application of law, and was based on flawed evidence and facts. Such as it is, it will never be accepted by the Chinese people. Nor will it be



recognized by anyone in the world who stands on the side of justice.

Second, China's position of non-acceptance and non-participation is aimed at upholding international rule of law and rules of the region.

According to international law, each country has the right to choose on its own will the means of dispute settlement. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) gives the State Parties the right to exclude relevant disputes from the application of compulsory dispute settlement procedures. The DOC signed by China and the ten ASEAN countries manifestly stipulates that relevant disputes should be resolved by countries directly concerned through dialogue and negotiation. China's non-acceptance of and non-participation

in the arbitration is solidly based on international law, and is consistent with the norms and rules of the international law of the sea. China is acting in strict accordance with the law.

The award given by the Arbitral Tribunal violates China's lawful rights. It challenges the norms of international law, including respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity. It undermines the sanctity and integrity of the system of international law of the sea, and has a negative impact on the rules of the region established on the basis of the DOC. The establishment of the Arbitral Tribunal has no legitimacy and the Arbitral Tribunal has no jurisdiction over the case. The award is clearly out of the Arbitral Tribunal's acts of self-expansion of power and ultra vires, and has no legal effect.

I want to point out that more and more countries in the world as well as people with vision have expressed concerns and doubt about the case, especially legal experts worldwide. Over 60 countries have publicly expressed their understanding and support for China's position. These are voices of justice that the international community should well listen to.

Third, China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea are based on solid historical and legal ground. They shall not be affected by the award of the Arbitral Tribunal.

The statement issued today by the Chinese government reaffirmed once again China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea.

They include, inter alia:

China has sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao (the South China Sea Islands); China has internal waters, territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf based on its sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao; and China has historic rights in the South China Sea.

I must stress that China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea are not new claims. These, including the dotted line, have been formed in the long course of history, and have been upheld by the successive Chinese governments. Any attempt by any force to undermine or deny in any way China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests will be futile and will fail. On issues of territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests, China will not accept any means of third-party dispute settlement without China's prior consent or any imposed solution. This temporary tribunal, unjust and highly controversial, does not stand for international law, the rule of law or equity and justice in the world.

Fourth, China will remain

committed to peaceful settlement of disputes through consultation and negotiation, and will continue to work for peace and stability in this region.

China is a contributor to global order and regional peace. China will stay committed to peaceful settlement of disputes with parties directly concerned through negotiation and consultation and in accordance with international law. China is committed to upholding the freedom of navigation and overflight enjoyed by all other countries under international law. China is committed to the full and effective implementation of the DOC, and will work to advance the consultations on a Code of Conduct within the framework of the DOC.

The arbitration and the out-of-bad-faith dramatization and political manipulation that ensued have put the South China Sea issue to a dangerous situation, with growing tension and confrontation. It is detrimental to peace and stability in the region, and it does not serve the common interests of China and the Philippines, countries in the region or the wider international community. Now the farce is over. It is time that things come back to normal.

China has noted the latest statements by the new government of the Philippines, including its readiness to re-open consultation and dialogue with China on the South China Sea issue. China hopes that the goodwill of the new Philippine government for improving relations with China will be accompanied with real actions, and that the Philippine side will work with us to properly manage differences and bring China-Philippines relations back to the track of healthy development at an early date.

Finally, I wish to reiterate that it is China's long-standing commitment to grow good-neighborly and friendly relations with its neighbors. China has an international responsibility to uphold peace and stability in this region, and China will remain firm in its strategic determination to pursue peaceful development. China will continue to do what it can to safeguard the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the basic norms governing international relations, to uphold international rule of law and equity and justice in the world, and to promote peace and development of mankind.

CHINESE DEFENSE MINISTER REJECTS SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRATION AWARD

On July 13, 2016, Chinese Defense Minister Chang Wanquan said that China will not accept any proposition or action based on the decision made by the South China Sea arbitral tribunal.

Chang made the remarks when meeting with visiting European Union (EU) High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini.

China's territorial sovereignty and maritime interests in the South China Sea will not be affected by the award under any circumstances, he said.

Chang said he hopes the European Union will have an objective and fair position on the South China Sea issue.

Mogherini said China is an important strategic partner of the European Union and she hopes for stronger China-EU defense security

relations, expecting the South China Sea issue to be resolved peacefully.



FULL TEXT OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT ON CHINA'S TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY AND MARITIME RIGHTS AND INTERESTS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

Beijing, July 12 (Xinhua) — Following is the full text of a statement of the Chinese government on China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea issued on Tuesday.

Statement of the Government of the People's Republic of China

on China's Territorial Sovereignty and Maritime Rights and Interests in the South China Sea

To reaffirm China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea, enhance cooperation in the South China Sea with other countries, and uphold peace and stability in the

South China Sea, the Government of the People's Republic of China hereby states as follows:

I. China's Nanhai Zhudao (the South China Sea Islands) consist of Dongsha Qundao (the Dongsha Islands), Xisha Qundao (the Xisha Islands), Zhongsha Qundao (the Zhongsha Islands) and Nansha

Qundao (the Nansha Islands). The activities of the Chinese people in the South China Sea date back to over 2,000 years ago. China is the first to have discovered, named, and explored and exploited Nanhai Zhudao and relevant waters, and the first to have exercised sovereignty and jurisdiction over them continuously, peacefully and effectively, thus establishing territorial sovereignty and relevant rights and interests in the South China Sea.

Following the end of the Second World War, China recovered and resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao which had been illegally occupied by Japan during its war of aggression against China. To strengthen the administration over Nanhai Zhudao, the Chinese government in 1947 reviewed and updated the geographical names of Nanhai Zhudao, compiled *Nan Hai Zhu Dao Di Li Zhi Lue* (A Brief Account of the Geography of the South China Sea Islands), and drew *Nan Hai Zhu Dao Wei Zhi Tu* (Location Map of the South China Sea Islands) on which the dotted line is marked. This map was officially published and made known to the world by the Chinese government in February 1948.

II. Since its founding on 1 October 1949, the People's Republic of China has been firm in upholding China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea. A series of legal instruments, such as the 1958 Declaration of the Government of the People's Republic of China on China's Territorial Sea, the 1992 Law of the

People's Republic of China on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, the 1998 Law of the People's Republic of China on the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Continental Shelf and the 1996 Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China on the Ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, have further reaffirmed China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea.

III. Based on the practice of the Chinese People and the Chinese government in the long course of history and the position consistently upheld by successive Chinese governments, and in accordance with national law and international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, China has territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea, including, *inter alia*:

i. China has sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao, consisting of Dongsha Qundao, Xisha Qundao, Zhongsha Qundao and Nansha Qundao;

ii. China has internal waters,

Following the end of the Second World War, China recovered and resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao which had been illegally occupied by Japan during its war of aggression against China.

territorial sea and contiguous zone, based on Nanhai Zhudao;

iii. China has exclusive economic zone and continental shelf, based on Nanhai Zhudao;

iv. China has historic rights in the South China Sea.

The above positions are consistent with relevant international law and practice.

IV. China is always firmly opposed to the invasion and illegal occupation by certain states of some islands and reefs of China's Nansha Qundao, and activities infringing upon China's rights and interests in relevant maritime areas under China's jurisdiction. China stands ready to continue to resolve the relevant disputes peacefully through negotiation and consultation with the states directly concerned on the basis of respecting historical facts and in accordance with international law. Pending final settlement, China is also ready to make every effort with the states directly concerned to enter into provisional arrangements of a practical nature, including joint development in relevant maritime areas, in order to achieve win-win results and jointly maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.

V. China respects and upholds the freedom of navigation and overflight enjoyed by all states under international law in the South China Sea, and stays ready to work with other coastal states and the international community to ensure the safety of and the unimpeded access to the international shipping lanes in the South China Sea.

FULL TEXT OF STATEMENT OF CHINA'S FOREIGN MINISTRY ON AWARD OF SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRATION INITIATED BY PHILIPPINES

Beijing, July 12 (Xinhua) — Following is the full text of the Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on the Award of 12 July 2016 of the Arbitral Tribunal in the South China Sea Arbitration Established at the Request of the Republic of the Philippines issued on Tuesday.

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on the Award of 12 July 2016 of the Arbitral Tribunal in the South China Sea Arbitration Established at the Request of the Republic of the Philippines

With regard to the award rendered on 12 July 2016 by the Arbitral Tribunal in the South China Sea arbitration established at the unilateral request of the Republic of the Philippines (hereinafter referred to as the "Arbitral Tribunal"), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China solemnly declares that the award is null and void and has no binding force. China neither accepts nor recognizes it.

1. On 22 January 2013, the then government of the Republic of the Philippines unilaterally initiated arbitration on the relevant disputes in the South China Sea between

China and the Philippines. On 19 February 2013, the Chinese government solemnly declared that it neither accepts nor participates in that arbitration and has since repeatedly reiterated that position. On 7 December 2014, the Chinese government released the Position Paper of the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Matter of Jurisdiction in the South China Sea Arbitration Initiated by the Republic of the Philippines, pointing out that the Philippines' initiation of arbitration breaches the agreement between the two states, violates the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and goes against the general practice of international arbitration, and that the Arbitral Tribunal has no jurisdiction. On 29 October 2015, the Arbitral Tribunal rendered an award on jurisdiction and admissibility. The Chinese government immediately stated that the award is null and void and has no binding force. China's positions are clear and consistent.

2. The unilateral initiation of arbitration by the Philippines is out of bad faith. It aims not to resolve the relevant disputes between China and the Philippines, or to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea, but to deny China's territorial sovereignty and maritime

rights and interests in the South China Sea. The initiation of this arbitration violates international law. First, the subject-matter of the arbitration initiated by the Philippines is in essence an issue of territorial sovereignty over some islands and reefs of Nansha Qundao (the Nansha Islands), and inevitably concerns and cannot be separated from maritime delimitation between China and the Philippines. Fully aware that territorial issues are not subject to UNCLOS, and that maritime delimitation disputes have been excluded from the UNCLOS compulsory dispute settlement procedures by China's 2006 declaration, the Philippines deliberately packaged the relevant disputes as mere issues concerning the interpretation or application of UNCLOS. Second, the Philippines' unilateral initiation of arbitration infringes upon China's right as a state party to UNCLOS to choose on its own will the procedures and means for dispute settlement. As early as in 2006, pursuant to Article 298 of UNCLOS, China excluded from the compulsory dispute settlement procedures of UNCLOS disputes concerning, among others, maritime delimitation, historic bays or titles, military and law enforcement activities. Third, the Philippines' unilateral initiation of arbitration violates the bilateral

agreement reached between China and the Philippines, and repeatedly reaffirmed over the years, to resolve relevant disputes in the South China Sea through negotiations. Fourth, the Philippines' unilateral initiation of arbitration violates the commitment made by China and ASEAN Member States, including the Philippines, in the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) to resolve the relevant disputes through negotiations by states directly concerned. By unilaterally initiating the arbitration, the Philippines violates UNCLOS and its provisions on the application of dispute settlement procedures, the principle of "pacta sunt servanda" and other rules and principles of international law.

3. The Arbitral Tribunal disregards the fact that the essence of the subject-matter of the arbitration initiated by the Philippines is issues of territorial sovereignty and maritime delimitation, erroneously interprets the common choice of means of

dispute settlement already made jointly by China and the Philippines, erroneously construes the legal effect of the relevant commitment in the DOC, deliberately circumvents the optional exceptions declaration made by China under Article 298 of UNCLOS, selectively takes relevant islands and reefs out of the macro-geographical framework of Nanhai Zhudao (the South China Sea Islands), subjectively and speculatively interprets and applies UNCLOS, and obviously errs in ascertaining fact and applying the law. The conduct of the Arbitral Tribunal and its awards seriously contravene the general practice of international arbitration, completely deviate from the object and purpose of UNCLOS to promote peaceful settlement of disputes, substantially impair the integrity and authority of UNCLOS, gravely infringe upon China's legitimate rights as a sovereign state and state party to UNCLOS, and are unjust and unlawful.

4. China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in

the South China Sea shall under no circumstances be affected by those awards. China opposes and will never accept any claim or action based on those awards.

5. The Chinese government reiterates that, regarding territorial issues and maritime delimitation disputes, China does not accept any means of third party dispute settlement or any solution imposed on China. The Chinese government will continue to abide by international law and basic norms governing international relations as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles of respecting state sovereignty and territorial integrity and peaceful settlement of disputes, and continue to work with states directly concerned to resolve the relevant disputes in the South China Sea through negotiations and consultations on the basis of respecting historical facts and in accordance with international law, so as to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.

CHINA ISSUES WHITE PAPER ON SETTLING DISPUTES WITH THE PHILIPPINES

Beijing, July 13 (Xinhua) — The Chinese government on Wednesday issued a white paper to expound on its position, which calls for settling relevant disputes between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea through negotiation.

"It is the Philippines that has created and stirred up trouble," said Vice Foreign Minister Liu Zhenmin at a press conference held Wednesday to introduce the white paper.

"Violating bilateral consensus in

recent years, the Philippines has repeatedly taken moves that complicate and intensify relevant disputes between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea," he said.

The white paper, titled "China

Adheres to the Position of Settling Through Negotiation the Relevant Disputes Between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea,” was published one day after an award was issued in arbitration unilaterally initiated by the previous Philippine government.

Describing the award as “a piece of waste paper,” Liu urged other countries not to “take the opportunity to threaten China.”

China hopes other countries can work with it to protect the peace and stability of the South China Sea and “not let the South China Sea become the origin of a war,” he said.

The vice minister also said China reserves the right to declare an Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) in the South China Sea in accordance with the extent of the threat.

The white paper issued by the State Council Information Office stated that the core of the relevant disputes between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea

lies in the territorial issues caused by the Philippines’ invasion and illegal occupation of some islands and reefs of China’s Nansha Qundao (the Nansha Islands).

As the international law of the sea developed, a maritime delimitation dispute also arose between the two states regarding certain areas of the South China Sea, it added.

“The Philippines’ territorial claim over part of Nansha Qundao is groundless from the perspectives of either history or international law,” it said.

The two countries held multiple rounds of consultations on the proper management of disputes at sea and reached consensus on resolving relevant disputes through negotiation and consultation, which has been repeatedly reaffirmed in a number of bilateral documents, according to the white paper.

In 2013, the then-government of the Republic of the Philippines unilaterally initiated the South China

Sea arbitration.

By doing so, the Philippines has violated its standing agreement with China to settle relevant disputes through bilateral negotiation, violated China’s right to choose means of dispute settlement of its own will as a State Party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and abused the UNCLOS dispute settlement procedures, it said.

“The Arbitral Tribunal established at the Philippines’ unilateral request has no jurisdiction over relevant submissions, and awards rendered by it are null and void and have no binding force,” said the document.

“China’s territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea shall under no circumstances be affected by those awards. China does not accept or recognize those awards. China opposes and will never accept any claim or action based on those awards,” it added.

The white paper also explained that Nansha Zhudao (the South China Sea Islands) are China’s inherent territory, saying the activities of the Chinese people in the South China Sea date back more than 2,000 years.

China is the first to have discovered, named, explored and exploited Nansha Zhudao and relevant waters, and the first to have continuously, peacefully and effectively exercised sovereignty and jurisdiction over them.

“China’s sovereignty over



Nanhai Zhudao and relevant rights and interests in the South China Sea have been established in the long course of history, and are solidly grounded in history and law,” it said.

China abides by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and is committed to upholding and promoting international rule of law. It respects and acts in accordance with international law, the white paper said.

While firmly safeguarding its territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests, China adheres to the position of settling disputes through negotiation and consultation and managing differences through rules and mechanisms, it added.

“China endeavors to achieve win-win outcomes through mutually beneficial cooperation, and is committed to making the South China Sea a sea of peace, cooperation and friendship,” it said.

In the white paper, China urges countries outside the region to



respect the efforts by countries in the region and to play a constructive role in maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea.

During the press conference, Liu reiterated that settling relevant disputes between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea through negotiation is the theme of Wednesday’s white paper, as well as the policy of the Chinese government.

“We hope to work with countries surrounding the South

China Sea, including ASEAN members, abide by the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), and maintain peace and stability as well as the freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea,” Liu said.

Liu noted that this policy has not changed and will not change. He called on the Philippines to return to the track of negotiation, saying it is the only solution to resolve disputes.

CHARGE D AFFAIRES OF CHINESE EMBASSY GAVE INTERVIEWS TO MAINSTREAM INDIAN NEWSPAPERS ON SOUTH CHINA SEA ARBITRATION

On July 14, Mr. Liu Jinsong, Charge d’Affaires of Chinese Embassy gave interviews to “Times of India”, “Hindu”, The Indian Express” and “Dainik Jagaran” on South China Sea arbitration and comprehensively and systematically explained China’s position on the issue. Next day, the four newspapers and their websites published related articles based on the interview.

NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 15 JULY 2016

The Indian EXPRESS

JOURNALISM OF COURAGE

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JULY 14

FOR THE first time after India pointed at China — without naming it — for blocking its entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), China indicated that there is room for negotiations and a solution can be found.

Referring to "heat up" the issue again, Liu Jinsong, Beijing's envoy to New Delhi, said since India has not named China, why should it "pick up the baton" as an interview to *The Indian Express* at his residence on Thursday. Liu, who is the Acting Ambassador, also allayed concerns of impending trade tensions in the South China Sea and said:

On Masood Azhar, Liu says India must consult Pak:

China, like India, is a "peace-loving country" and Delhi has no reason to worry about its capacity to build a national defence. Beijing's Chinese ambassador also alluded to the NSG question in his bid, "Making the rules, leaving the room and space for negotiations and finding the main solution."

Continued on page 2

राष्ट्रीय संस्करण

आम वजत में मिले रेल वजत

Page 10

दैनिक जागरण

स्थापना १९००, ११ दिवसीय, १५ जुलाई 2016

www.jagran.com

भारत हमारा खयाल रखे तो हम उसका : चीन

भारत के प्रति चीन का खयाल रखें तो हम उसका खयाल रखेंगे। चीन के प्रति भारत का खयाल रखें तो हम उसका खयाल रखेंगे।

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DELHI
FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2016

THE HINDU

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India with us on verdict, says China

SUBHASINI HARIDAS

NEW DELHI: China continues to insist that it has India's support over the international tribunal verdict on Tuesday that rejected China's claims in the South China Sea challenged by the Philippines, despite India's statements to the contrary.

China's Charge d'Affaires to India, Liu Jinsong, has told *The Hindu* that India's position was "quite similar" to its own, saying India had signed a "common position" statement on the issue this April when External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraaj attended the Russia-India-China (RIC) conference in Moscow.

"There is a paragraph in the RIC statement that stated the common stand of all three countries. This was in support of China's position," Mr. Liu said in an interview.

adding that India's latest statement showed nothing "that would suggest the Indian government is supporting this award [verdict] as has been reported."

China refused to recognise the jurisdiction of The Hague tribunal, and has also refused to accept the award.

However, India has made it clear that it recognised that the tribunal had been set up within the jurisdiction of the UN's Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) that must be given the "utmost respect".

"For us, this is not an issue of being in favour or against any particular country. It is about the use of the global commons," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Vijay Swarup said on Thursday when asked to clarify if India supported the stand of China or the Philippines on the verdict.

"Utmost respect"

"We believe all parties should show utmost respect to the UNCLOS, which establishes the international legal order of the seas and oceans," he said.

Asked why the divergence in perception between the two, a senior MEA official said, "Diplomacy is the art of reading between the lines.

We have conveyed our position effectively."

Divergence in ties

"The positions of New Delhi and Beijing over the South China Sea ruling seems to have become another divergence in their relationship that has seen a growing strain recently, especially over India's membership bid for the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) as well as its push to have Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar banned.

Mr. Liu said he hoped the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the G-20 summit in Hangzhou in September, followed by the BRICS summit in Goa in October would be able to set a "strategic vision" for the future even as they tried to "manage" the issues between the two countries.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

General Nakatani, Japanese defence minister, flew in to India on a virtually last minute programme, working out cooperative approaches with defence minister Manoj Prasad. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Japan in November.

China blames Japan for adverse South China Sea ruling

China is trying hard to contain the reverberations of the South China Sea verdict. Liu Jinsong said, "The award will only make it more clear to the international community what is really going on behind this case, and what's the real purpose. We believe the real purpose of this case is to hype up the South China Sea issue and sow discord between China and its neighbours, to discredit UNCLOS and pick up certain articles and provisions to serve the purpose of a certain country." Refusing to accept the verdict, Liu said, "China did not lose, as it had refused to participate."

Responding to speculation that China could declare an ADIZ on South China Sea, he said, "It is within China's sovereign right to set up ADIZ. China is not the first country to engage in a practice of setting up ADIZ, so other countries more practised at it. Whether we set up ADIZ will depend on our evaluation of our security and threat. We hope we are not pushed to setting up the ADIZ."

China has invoked UNCLOS in its own maritime dispute with Japan, so its approach to the South China Sea dispute amounted to cherry-picking of international law, Liu said. "With Japan there are two issues, one sovereignty of Diaoyu (Senkaku) Islands, other delimitation of continental shelf. The latter issue is covered by UNCLOS but former is not. In the South China Sea arbitration case, it is actually sovereignty of the Nansha (Spratly) Islands. This issue definitely should not be covered by UNCLOS. What is most problematic about this arbitration award and this proceeding is that it tries to determine the legal status of the maritime features before their sovereignty is determined."

On the face of it, China says the 500-page award does not concern with sovereignty or delimitation. "But legal experts and political leaders say every page and every word points to sovereignty, maritime delimitation. That's very cunning. No one believes the act of the Philippines going to arbitration court for fishing or livelihood issues. At the very beginning it has been made very clear by the Philippines government that their purpose is to find more support to their claims in the South China Sea. And this was made clear by the US lawyer hired by Philippines."

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Indians in China

MY REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCE IN CHINA

Rabi SankarBosus

This is not a fairy tale; it is a true story of a long cherished dream being fulfilled by an English tuition teacher living in a small village in West Bengal, India. Yes, this is my seven days real life experience in China which I will never forget. I

along with my wife, Sudeshna, my son Udit Sankar and my radio club members Deb Sankar Chakraborty and Rupankar Chakraborty had the opportunity to pay a 7-day visit to China from 26th June to 2nd July, 2016 at the invitation of the Foreign

Affairs Department of China. I have been a longtime listener and a devoted fan of China Radio International (CRI); I have been promoting India-China friendship for over 31 years and with the help of my radio club members I have



Stone Forest

been helping CRI to reach the remotest rural people in West Bengal, India. Our efforts have been noticed and praised by the former Chinese Ambassador to India Mr. Le Yucheng and the Kolkata Consul General Mr. Ma Zhanwu. Impressed by our love and work for China and CRI, Consul General Ma sponsored us to take a free trip to China. We are grateful to him for giving us a chance to enjoy our trip on the soil of China.

China is a beautiful and big country, we were only able to spend seven days in China. It is impossible to write a conclusive writing or opinion with the help of such brief visit in China. However on the basis of our observations and brief understanding of our travel in China

I am sharing my experiences with everyone. As part of our trip to China, we first visited Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province. Kunming, with a history of more than 2,400 years, owes its importance to the fact that it was the gateway to the celebrated Silk Road that facilitated trade with India. Kunming enjoys a pleasant climate and does its best to live up to its title of "the Spring City of China ". On June 26th we visited the beautiful Shilin Stone Forest by a car which is 78-80 kilometers from the Kunming Jinjiang Hotel where we stayed for two days. An old Chinese saying says that 'If you have visited Kunming without seeing the Stone Forest, you have wasted your time.' Truly, the site is one of the most important

attractions of Kunming. The more we entered the forest, the more we were all amazed to see the beautiful limestone landscape which has an area of 12 square kilometers. The stone pillars in the park all have different shapes. Some resemble swords and knives, some look like eagles or elephants. Our tour guide Mr. Lin told us that Shilin means a forest of stones in Chinese. Nearly 2.7 million years ago Shilin was under the ocean, and today it's a forest of stones. These stone formations are actually fossils from coral from millions of years ago. Crevices and holes in the rock are really awesome. Unfortunately the sun was too harsh, exhausting us and limiting us from enjoying all the scenes. The Stone Forest Scenic

Zone was listed as a World Natural Reserve by the United Nations in 2007. Shilin Stone Forest is really a beautiful art of nature.

The next day on June 27th we went to the Western Hills Forest Park (Xishan). There is a saying - 'If you do not visit Western Hills, you haven't visited Kunming; if you do not come to Dragon Gate, you haven't been to the Western Hills.' The nature is quite beautiful in this area. Really we got lost in the tranquility and marvelous scenery of the Western Hills lying beside Dianchi Lake. Standing at Lingxu Pavilion on the Western Hills, we enjoyed spectacular panoramic views of Dianchi Lake and Kunming City. We headed through wooded mountain paths to the Dragon Gate or Longmen in Chinese. The

winding stone stairs are very narrow to move on together. Our tour guide informed us that it took 72 years for Taoist monks to cut this path into the mountain. I heard a Chinese folk story about a fish jumping the "dragon gate" bringing luck and wealth to the local people. According to legend, Chinese parents rub a small round part of the gate's archway in order to get baby. We felt great to see the Dragon Gate (Longmen) Grottoes on the cliff of Hills. I wondered how three Taoist monks built the Taoist temple up on top of the hill nearly 3 hundred years ago. The Western Hills Forest Park is very sweet "to one who has been long in city pent" and about to temporarily move to the countryside for peace and fresh air. Spending three and a half hours watching the magnificent beauty of the hills I

thought "that day so soon has glided by like the passage of an angel's tear." While returning my eyes still lingered to the receding Western Hills.

We reached the Chinese Capital Beijing close to dawn on June 28th. The heavy rains welcomed us. We stayed at the Jinglun Hotel in a very central location. The rooms were nice and clean and 5-star standard. In Beijing we had the opportunity to visit Qianmen Street, the Summer Palace, the Bird's Nest Stadium, the Water Cube, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Mutianyu section of the Great Wall, the Temple of Heaven and the Capital Museum of China. Beijing is the city that has the most number of World Heritage sites. The Chinese Capital with a history of over 3,000 years has also wholeheartedly embraced



Bird's Nest Stadium



The Temple of Heaven

modernization.

On our very first day after taking a nice breakfast we strolled on the Qianmen Street and bought some Chinese souvenirs for our family and radio club members. I enjoyed the bargaining with shopkeepers in English. But it is rather difficult to converse with Chinese vendors in English as most of them cannot speak English properly. Everything in Beijing is in Chinese. It appears to me English hasn't become a necessity to communicate within China. But Chinese people are very honest and friendly. One Chinese film director named Mr. Shao Yafeng filmed the whole of our journey in Beijing with his associate Mr. Wei Cheng Hua. These two persons

made our China trip enjoyable and memorable through their polite and jocund company.

In the afternoon of June 28th one lady named Ms. Wen Hui from China's Foreign Affairs Bureau took us to the building of China Radio International (CRI). It is this China Radio International that has become a part and parcel in my life for the last 31 years. It is China Radio International that has made China my second home. We were too much elated to see the faces of CRI presenters whose voice we hear on air or see them on CRI website. Then I had an exclusive meeting with CRI Deputy Editor-in-Chief Mr. Ma Bohui. Mr. Ma Bohui called me as a true friend of CRI and China. He

was deeply moved on seeing my love for CRI and China. He listened to my personal story with CRI. He said, "I am very much impressed to see your love and work for China Radio International and China. I appreciate you for all what you have done for the cause of China-India friendship. I cordially wish you and your club could influence more locals and play a pivotal role in bridging China-India friendship." In a cordial atmosphere he discussed with me about the spreading of CRI broadcasting to the grassroots level in India. He conveyed his greetings to the other members of our radio club. It's really a memorable moment of my life.

Then we went to CRI English Department and Hindi Department.

We were so happy to meet all the presenters of CRI Hindi Service. We presented our souvenirs and gifts to CRI members. We took so many photos with them. At the time of our departure, tears filled my eyes.

On June 29th, we visited the Summer Palace, one of the finest examples of garden architecture in China. The Summer Palace is an enormous complex surrounded by the massive Kunming Lake. Situated in the northwest of Beijing, the Summer Palace, founded by Emperor Qianlong, was a favored retreat for the Imperial family during the hot summers since the mid-18th century. More than 100 examples of traditional architecture are to be found in the park, including pavilions, terraces, temples, pagodas, waterside gazebos, covered corridors, stone bridges and the famous marble boat. The Kunming Lake was extended to imitate the famous West Lake in Hangzhou. Covering an expanse of 3 square kilometers, the Summer Palace is mainly made up of the Longevity Hill and the Kunming Lake. The central Kunming Lake covers about three quarters of the Summer Palace grounds. Kunming Lake represents the traditional Chinese garden element of the "fairy hill within the sea". The 150-meter-long the Seventeen-Arch marble bridge on Kunming Lake is one of the pretty sights in the sprawling Summer Palace complex. We took an enchanting boat ride on the Kunming Lake. In 1998, UNESCO included the Summer Palace on its World Heritage List. Our tour guide Mrs. Jane Shining told us lots of stories regarding Summer Palace which made the tour even more enjoyable. It takes a full day to enjoy

the magnificent beauties of the Summer Palace but we spent only half a day there.

In the afternoon we reached our next stop the Bird's Nest stadium and Water Cube. After seeing this great building on TV during the Olympic Games in 2008 I have always wanted to go and visit the Bird's Nest. It is bigger than I had imagined. When I saw pictures on TV, I didn't think it was so big. We climbed to the fifth floor to get a panoramic view of the stadium. It was only by standing up there that we really felt how big the stadium is. My son Udit Sankar with my friend Rupankar enjoyed running in the gallery chairs. After the Bird's Nest, we walked through the next door to the Water Cube, the Beijing National Aquatics Centre. One part of the swimming pool has turned into a popular water park, where swimmers could shoot down colorful tubes into the pools of water. It's a great place to spend some time with my family and friends.

Later we headed to the Temple of Heaven, another UNESCO Heritage site in 1998 in southeastern Beijing. The Temple of Heaven is a complex park filled with beautiful buildings set among gardens and surrounded by centuries-old pinewoods. The Temple of Heaven was built between 1406 and 1420 during the reign of the Yongle Emperor. This is where the Chinese emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties offered prayers for good harvests and also offered sacrifices to heaven for five centuries. Physically, the Temple of Heaven covers 675 acres, twice the size of the Forbidden City. We saw with wonder the circular Mound Altar,

octagonal Imperial vault of Heaven and the Echo Wall. The entire complex of the Temple of Heaven is truly beautiful and we had a very nice experience there. We saw that senior citizens spend their time in Tiantan Park doing Tai Chi or other physical exercises. Chinese teenagers go there to dance, to sing and play games and even making love.

On June 30th we visited Tiananmen Square on our way to the Forbidden City. It was here that Chairman Mao Zedong declared the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949. Built in Ming dynasty about 600 years ago, Tiananmen Square is the world's largest city-center square. The square stretches 880 meters from north to south and 500 meters from east to west. The total area is 440,000 square meters. With the towering Monument to the People's Heroes at the center, Tiananmen Square has the magnificent Tiananmen Tower in the north, the solemn Mao Zedong Memorial Hall in the south, the National Museum of China in the east and the Great Hall of the People in the west. The Great Hall of the People is the home of China's parliament. The Five-Star Red Flag flutters high above the mid-point of the square's north side. China held a grand military parade to mark the 70th anniversary of victory over Japan and the end of World War II on September 3, 2015 at Tiananmen Square. We took so many photos against the backdrop of a huge portrait of Mao Zedong.

Then we entered through the Meridian Gate to visit the Palace Museum, popularly called the Forbidden City which is located in the middle of Beijing. It was the Chinese imperial palace from the



The Tiananmen Square

Ming Dynasty to the end of the Qing Dynasty. Surrounded by a 52-meter-wide entrenchment, a 10-meter-high wall and beautiful gardens, the Forbidden City is a gigantic complex built in 1406 to 1420; the entire complex consists of 980 buildings with 8,707 bays of rooms and covers 7,800,000 sq ft. The architectural design of Meridian Gate is unique. The Forbidden City was declared a World Heritage Site in 1987, and is listed by UNESCO as the largest collection of preserved ancient wooden structures in the world. Standing on the complex of the Forbidden City I realized how much Chinese are associated with their great history and the pride they feel about it. In the imperial Garden I felt calm by the garden's languorous

ambience. I would recommend for anybody who will visit China to go to the Forbidden City to better understand the main residence of 24 emperors during the Ming and Qing dynasties.

As a part of our itinerary on 1st July we visited the main wonder of China as well as of the world—the Great Wall. The Great Wall of China is one of the world's great engineering feats and an enduring monument to the strength of an ancient civilization. It is a symbol of China's greatness and the ability of man to achieve. The Great Wall is known to the Chinese as the Long Wall of Ten Thousand Li (Wanli Changcheng) as it stretches more than 20,000 kilometers. With its

universal value, the Great Wall was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1987, and voted one of the Seven Wonders of the World in 2007.

The Mutianyu Great Wall is about 45 miles to the north of central Beijing. The Mutianyu Great Wall is well known for its beautiful architecture and forested landscape. This part of the Great Wall was first built by the Northern Qi Dynasty in (550–577) over 1,400 years ago. It was rebuilt and strengthened under the supervision of famous General Xu Da during the Ming Dynasty around 700 years ago. The Mutianyu Great Wall was renovated in 1983 and the Chinese government designated it as one of the 16 most

scenic spots in China in 1987. The main section stretches for 2.5 kilometers. There are 23 watchtowers distributed at close intervals along the wall. We found the walk on the Great Wall tiring but exciting. Just like a gigantic dragon, the Mutianyu Great Wall winds up and down across mountains. When we were going to the top of the Great Wall by cable car, I was really afraid of heights. But after arriving on the wall, I felt pretty good. Climbing upon the Great Wall my son and wife told me it's like a dream come true. It's really something amazing and unbelievable. On the Great Wall I and my friends Debsankar and Rupankar were so excited that couldn't help but dance. My son and my friends climbed

bravely to a few watchtowers. As my muscles protested, I enjoyed the wonderful landscape from the Great Wall. We came down from the Great Wall by bobsledding. Toboggan ride was opened in 1998, its total length is 1,580 meters and it looks like a snake. It's very beautiful and enjoyable. Not only my son but we also enjoyed the Toboggan ride down. My visit to the Great Wall of China was one of the greatest adventures of my life and will remain as an unforgettable experience of my life.

After having a delicious lunch in a Chinese restaurant, we visited to the Ming tombs, known as the Thirteen Tombs of the Ming Dynasty in the afternoon. The tombs of the Ming Emperors are

situated near the Tianshou Mountains, some 50 kilometers northwest of Beijing. It is well worth making the trek out to view the necropolis of some of China's great rulers of the past — monarchs who ruled from 1368 through to 1644. The 7-kilometer-long Sacred Way leads to the entrance of the Changling, the tomb of Emperor Zhu Di, often referred to as Emperor Yongle. It is also the burial site of Empress Xu, wife of Emperor Zhu Di.

On the last day of our China tour we made a quick visit to the Capital Museum and also Qianmen Street again for shopping before we caught an afternoon flight to Kunming. Beijing's Capital Museum



The Great Wall

is a five-storey modern building with traditional Chinese decorations. We witnessed so many old Chinese things, cultural treasures, traditional clothes that told us the history of ancient China. I have an interest in Chinese culture and history. Visiting the Capital Museum I felt that time has gone back to the old days of China.

We only spent seven days in Beijing and I knew we only scratched the surface on this city of the great nation of China. During our stay in Beijing we also spent our time wandering the streets of Beijing to see the beauty of Beijing and to understand Beijing people's daily life. Undoubtedly with its ancient palaces, temples and parks the

Chinese capital is a very modern, cosmopolitan city. I think everything in Beijing is colossal. Ancient historical buildings and the glitzy skyscrapers stand side by side in Beijing. One of my abiding impressions about being in Beijing was feeling completely safe and comfortable, even though we were such obvious outsiders. I am too much impressed to see the modern facilities in the tourists' spots and clean streets of Beijing. Chinese people do not smoke in restaurants and on public transport. Smokers do not drop cigarette butts on the streets. Though the traffic jam is a usual picture, most Chinese drivers respect the traffic rules. I saw most of the Chinese young girls or ladies

enjoy the life with their boyfriends while returning from work. It is widely seen that young couples and lovers have adopted the Western style of kissing openly on the streets, parks and crowded restaurants. We also saw lots of Beijingers riding electric bicycles in Beijing's street.

At the end of my writing, there are still left so many untold stories simply because it is impossible to cover all the characteristic and varied life and culture of golden China in writing. When the flight took off from Beijing International Airport to India, looking down at Beijing from the blue sky, I murmured I left my heart in China. Long Live India-China Friendship!

Culture & Life

HANGZHOU CITY – PARADISE ON EARTH

Hangzhou is located along Southeast coast of China. It is the capital of Zhejiang Province, the center of politics, economy, science, education, and culture of the province. Hangzhou is a key national tourism city, historical city and vice provincial level city as confirmed by the State Council. Hangzhou is renowned as "Paradise on Earth", "Cultural State", "Home of Silk", "Tea Capital", "Town of Fish and Rice". The total area of the city covers 16,596 Square Kilometers with a population of 6,776,400 (December, 2008).

Historical Vicissitudes

Hangzhou has enjoyed a history of over 2,200 years since the county administration was established in

Qin Dynasty. It is one of the cradles of Huaxia (China) Civilization. As early as over 5,000 years ago, there were human beings living in

Hangzhou area, creating Liangzhu Culture known as the Dawn of Civilization. The archaeological discovery of Liangzhu ancient city





ruin in 2007 pushed even earlier the recorded history of Hangzhou civilization. Hangzhou, one of the seven ancient capitals of China, was the capital of Wuyu State, of the Five-Dynasties and also the capital of the Southern Song Dynasty. In the 13th century, the Italian traveler Marco Polo admired Hangzhou as “the Most Splendid and Luxurious City in the World”. Hangzhou was called Qiantang in ancient time. In the ninth year of Kaihuang of Sui Dynasty (589), Hangzhou was founded to replace the original Qiantang County and the name of Hangzhou was recorded for the first time in history. The Wuyu State of the Five-Dynasties(907-978) founded capital in Hangzhou. In the third year of Jianyan of Southern Song Dynasty (1129), Emperor Gaozong moved southward to Hangzhou and upgraded it as the site

of the prefectural city of Lin’an. In the eighth year of Shaoxing (1138), Lin’an was officially determined as the capital, which lasted more than 140 years. In the first year of the Republic of China (1912), the original Qiantang County and Renhe County were merged into Hangzhou County. In the 16th year of the Republic of China (1927), Hangzhou County was dismantled and Hangzhou was founded as a city. It was on May 3, 1949 when Hangzhou was liberated that Hangzhou began to write its new chapter of development in history.

Natural Resources

Hangzhou has long been reputed as the Land of Fish and Rice, the Land of Silk and Paradise on the Earth with numerous rivers and densely scattered lakes.

Benefiting from the geographic features, Hangzhou is blessed for its agricultural production with rich myriad plants, forests, animals and birds. Man-cultivated plants for food and oil were grown around the city. In addition, there are over 260 breeds of economic plants such as fruit, tea, mulberry trees and flowers. Hangzhou is renowned for raising mulberry and silkworm. Also noteworthy is the national famous tea known as the dragon well tea, which is originated here. The forest covers an area of 1.08 million hectares, with a coverage rate 64.3 percent.

Historical Cultural Heritage

The profound historical cultural heritage of Hangzhou promote innovation and mutual development by piecing together the Wu and Yue

Civilization in Tang and Song Dynasty, the Religious heritage of Buddhism and Taoism in Jin, Wei, Sui and Tang Dynasty, the continental and the imperial custom in South Song dynasty, as well as the Islamic and Christian believes to fuse into an enormous cultural integrity. The rainbow of West Lake, the Liangzhu ruin, the Wuyue heritage, South Song Civilization as well as those of Ming Dynasty, Qing Dynasty, and the period during the Republic of China contribute the merits of their unique culture, coping with the natural scenic beauty, the Chinese gardens, the religion, the architecture, the celebrities, the customs, the silk, the tea, and great variety of food creation, all put together to make up the delicacy, harmony and classic taste of Hangzhou Culture. The Great Cannel provides a rose bed for

the plants, the water view, the local opera, and the Temple Fair custom to represent the openness and tolerance in the characteristic of Hangzhou so that the classic and the popular could both found their position. Especially the Qiantang River culture with rolling tide running forward mark the broad mind and heart of the Hangzhou People.

Featured Products

Hangzhou has numerous special local products. As the “Capital of Silk”, its history of silk producing could be dated back to 4,700 years ago testified by the silk cloth unearthed from Liangzhu ruins. Later in the Tang Dynasty, the silk production had reached a distinctively high level, which was described in the poem of the great

poet Bai Juyi as “Silk sleeves are decorated by flower textures which could be well compared to the real blossom. When pears flowers are bloom, it is the time to drink in the light heart under the blue flags of the bar.” Presently, the silk is differentiated into fourteen categories of Chou, Duan, Jin, Fang, Zou, Lin etc. Those categories are fractionized into more than 200 subclasses, over 2,000 designs and colors with vivid pictures printed, flowers and figures alike. The silk of Hangzhou has won immense national and international awards and was marketed into more than 100 countries and regions. Hangzhou is also renowned for the dragon-well tea which is listed as one of the top ten tea in China, the popular Dongpo Pork which is ruby in color and softly tender in taste, the fan of Wangxingji, the scissors of



Zhangxiaoquan, the lace from Xiaoshan, the Jinshan tea from Yuhang, the honey products from Tonglu, the organic fishhead from

the Thousand Island Lake, the mountain walnuts from Linan, the Yellow wine typed Wujiapi of the brand Zhizhonghe, the Tofu peel

from Fuyang. Numerable local specialties give out a rich flavor of Hangzhou local taste.



20 MILLION CHINESE MUSLIMS CELEBRATE EID AL-FITR

Urumqi, July 6 (Xinhua) — More than 20 million Muslims across China began celebrating Eid al-Fitr, which marks the end of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, on Wednesday.

Some 200,000 Muslims, most of whom are ethnic Hui, visited the Dongguan Mosque Wednesday morning in Xining, capital of northwest China's Qinghai

Province.

Ma Lu, a local barber, was one of them.

Wearing a pristine robe and white hat, Ma prayed in a queue of people that stretched as far as 5 kilometers outside the mosque, with the voices of Imams coming from loudspeakers. The Arabic prayer is first, followed by a Chinese version.

“For us Muslims, the holy month of Ramadan is the time when we are most close to Allah,” said Ma, 56, who closed his barbershop after the prayer.

“I will celebrate the festival with my family for three days,” said Ma, who served twice as many customers as usual in the past week.

In Kashgar of the neighbouring

Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, more than 30,000 Muslims gathered at the Id Kah Mosque, listening to the sermon of the Mullah.

“The Mullah told us to carry on the endurance, tolerance and calmness we experienced during the holy month into the next year,” said Alimjan Erfan, a local resident.

In Xinjiang, where more than half of the 22 million population are Muslims, business is flourishing due to the celebrations.

Tursun Ili, a 19-year-old vendor, is busy selling prayer mats outside the mosque with his brother.

Ili said he will buy gifts for his grandparents and little brother.

The crowds dispersed after the 20-minute prayer. Many went back home while some danced outside the mosque to traditional Uygur music.

“Amazing dancing and special prayer, Kashgar is hard to forget,” said Pierre Barthelet, a French



tourist.

For Eniwar, a supermarket worker in the regional capital of Urumqi, it is the first Eid al-Fitr for him and his wife in the metropolis after moving there from Kashgar last year.

“I want to spend a unique Eid al-Fitr,” said Eniwar, adding that he plans to watch a movie, visit a music bar and enjoy pizza.

For Muslims, Eid al-Fitr is also a day to commemorate their deceased loved ones and a day for charity.

Nurgul, a Muslim woman of Kirgiz ethnic minority from Akqi County, read from the Quran in front of her father's tomb together with her family, throwing cereal and rice on the ground.

The 55-year-old woman had prepared a large pan of fried cakes, fruit and nuts for the poor.

“It is a day for sharing and giving,” she said.

Ramadan, a month of prayer and fasting, lasted from June 6 to July 6 this year. With more than 20 million Muslims in China, the event is also celebrated in other regions such as Ningxia, Gansu and Beijing.

In Ningxia, where most of the Hui minority lives, a five-day holiday will begin on Wednesday. Highways will be free of charge during the holiday.



Tibet Today

TIBET DEVELOPMENT FORUM OPENS IN LHASA



Lhasa, July 7 (Xinhua) — The Forum on the Development of Tibet opened on Thursday in the regional capital Lhasa.

Liu Qibao, publicity chief of the Communist Party of China, said at the opening ceremony that Tibet's development should be guided by the principles of innovation, coordination, green development, openness and sharing.

Tibet is on the cusp of a new round of development. It will

continue to pursue economic and social improvement, augment people's livelihoods, encourage multiculturalism, and protect local culture and the environment, Liu said.

Christine Davies, vice president of the Asia Society, said forums like this play a very important role in generating understanding and respect. "I hope that many outside groups — whether scholarly, business or other communities — are invited to follow in our path this

week to see firsthand both the progress and opportunities that exist for further development of this very strategic region," she said.

French writer Sonia Bressler, who has visited Tibet three times, said, "We need to put down our ignorance, pay attention to details and listen harder when in Tibet."

More than 130 researchers, officials and correspondents from over 30 countries and regions have been invited to attend the forum,

which will last until Friday. It is hosted by the State Council Information Office and the Tibetan regional government.

The agenda is focused on discussion of entrepreneurship and industrial modernization in Tibet, preserving tradition, environmental protection, Tibet's involvement in regional infrastructure projects, and poverty relief, according to the regional government.



LHASA CONSENSUS PASSED AT THE FORUM ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TIBET

Lhasa, July 8 (Xinhua) – The following is the full text of Lhasa Consensus, passed at the Forum on the Development of Tibet, which was held from July 7 to 8

2016 Lhasa Consensus

The “2016 Forum on the Development of Tibet, China” was held from July 7 to 8, 2016, in Lhasa, Tibet.

Liu Qibao, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee and the head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, attended the opening ceremony and gave a speech.

The forum was jointly sponsored by China's State Council Information Office (SCIO) and the People's Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region, and hosted by the People's Government of Lhasa. More than 130 guests from over 30

countries and regions worldwide participated and carried out field visits and exchanges in Lhasa and Shannan. The forum is the second of its kind held in Tibet, China, since 2014.

The forum was staged with the theme “New Phase of Tibet's Development: Innovative, Coordinated, Green, Open and Shared Development.” The forum's participants provided insightful opinions and shared wisdom on the sub-topics — “Innovative Development of Tibet: Opportunities and Alternatives,” “Coordinated Development of Tibet: Integration of Traditions and Modernity,” “Green Development of Tibet: Potential and Advantages,” “Open Development of Tibet: New Vision of the Belt and Road Initiative” and “Shared

Development of Tibet: Targeted Poverty Alleviation and Livelihood Improvements.” The forum was carried out in a harmonious and friendly atmosphere. The participants conducted vigorous discussions. They have reached the following consensus.

— The new development concepts of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development are in line with the times and the norms of development. The concepts are also of great importance in guiding Tibet's future development. The concept of innovation will lead Tibet on a path of scientific and technological progress, and the concept of coordination will lead the region on a path of sustainable development. The concept of green development will help Tibet in

environmental protection, and the concept of openness will promote modern civilization in Tibet. The concept of shared development will steer Tibet toward common prosperity. The development of Tibet is standing at a new historic starting point.

— Tibet, the “Roof of the World” and the “Third Pole”, has to continue construction and seek development at such a high altitude, when there is no successful precedent in the world to emulate. Over years of experimentation and practice, Tibet has embarked on a path of development that suits its unique conditions and yielded encouraging results. Tibetans have the right to pursue a better life. To seek sound development and the full protection of Tibet, and to build a new Tibet that is more beautiful, harmonious and happier are the shared wishes among all participants.

— Tibet is home to its inhabitants with its distinctive regional culture. Effective measures have produced remarkable achievements in the protection, inheritance and promotion of its fine culture. Tibet, a place where the traditional and the modern harmoniously blend, has left an unforgettable impression on participants. In this context of rapid modernization and greater opening up to the outside world, combining cultural preservation with development is the best way to carry Tibet’s outstanding traditional culture forward.

— Protecting Tibet’s environment is of great critical significance to China, Asia and the



Miguel Alfredo Velloso of Argentine Council for International Relations reads the 2016 Lhasa Consensus during the Forum

world. Tibet’s development should give top priority to environmental protection and cultivate green models of development and living. Every tree and plant, and mountain and river, on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau should be well preserved. The implementation of environmental-protection measures - including projects to build ecological protective screens; strengthen environmental protection and improvement;

promote ecological economic growth and low-carbon development; and advance climate change mitigation - will certainly lead Tibet along a road of harmonious coexistence between humankind and nature.

— The forum, in which people from around the globe discussed ways to boost Tibetan prosperity, is a positive action to show China’s confidence and openness to the

world. The event will help the world better understand Tibet and build consensus on it, which is beneficial to Tibet's development.

Participants hope the forum will continue to improve and attract more talented people to advance

Tibet's development.

Tibet will have a bright future!



TOURISM BOOMS ON PLATEAU AFTER 10 YEARS OF QINGHAI TIBET RAILWAY

Lhasa, June 23 (Xinhua) — Tuotuohe River Station may be small but it is an important stop along the Qinghai-Tibet railway, the world's highest altitude train line, which links the Tibetan capital Lhasa in southwest China and Xining, capital of Qinghai in the northwest.

Tuotuohe is about 4,000 meters above sea level in Qinghai Province. After Tuotuohe, the trains climb even higher along Kunlun Mountain.

It is the last stop for many tourists on their way to Tibet. Medical workers are on standby at the station to treat those who fall ill.

“All kinds of people come by train and many insist on continuing with their journey if they fall with altitude sickness,” said Phurdo Tashi, 40, who sells food near the station.

Many people get off the train at Tuotuohe, to try and catch a glimpse

of the rare plateau animals like the Tibetan gazelle, and to take in the unparalleled beauty of the source of the Yangtze River.

“During the summer season, all the carriages are full to bursting. The number of people on one day is more than we saw over six months just a few years ago,” said Tashi.

The 1,956-kilometer railway, which at its highest point is 5,072



meters above sea level, turns 10 on July 1. Over the last decade, it has helped tourism boom along the rail link.

“Riding on the trains, the highest in the world, is a rare experience,” said Wang Songping, deputy director of Tibet tourism department.

“The train has made many unseen areas such as Yarlung Zangbo River Grand Canyon and Mount Qomolangma accessible to visitors,” he said.

In 2015, 20.2 million holiday makers visited Tibet, 11 times more than before the railway started service. Moreover, tourism spending last year exceeded 28 billion yuan (about 4.3 billion U.S. dollars), 15 times more than a decade ago. More than 100,000 people in Tibet were working in tourism, with per capita

earning of more than 10,000 yuan every year.

All the 329 families in Namtso Village, which is in a national park in Tibet, work in tourism. They are tour guides, restaurant owners and handicrafts sellers. Families can earn up to 500,000 yuan a year, said village chief Tashi.

Phalha Mansion, in Tibet’s Xigaze Prefecture, is one of 12 aristocrat mansions in old Tibet. Most of the people in the nearby Paljor Lonpo village are descendants of serfs who used to work for the Phalha family.

Phurbu Cering, 32, works as a guide for visitors to the mansion. “The number of visitors has grown every year, both from domestic and overseas,” he said. Cering takes home at least 4,000 yuan every

month.

Dai Jingbin, an official from Shanghai, is on the Tibet development team. His team spent more than 68 million yuan on repairing and expanding Sakya Monastery in Xigaze Prefecture. “People now stay longer at Sakya town and the monastery,” Dai said.

“Tourism is a green economy that could generate revenue for the local government, boost employment and increase people’s income, without doing much damage to the environment,” he said.

Gelsang Tashi is a teacher who lives along the railway. “I often see people holding prayer wheels and chanting as trains pass. The train has increased their connection with the world, brought opportunities, and prosperity,” he said.



CHINA FOCUS: CHINA SEES ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS IN TIBET



Lhasa, July 5 (Xinhua) — By the Yarlung Tsangpo River in Tibet, about 1000 residents are busy planting trees.

“It was very dusty and windy here a decade ago,” said 61-year-old Tseten, sweat on his forehead. “Neither people nor animals came out here.”

There are fewer bad days now, perhaps thanks to the trees, he said.

“You can see foxes and rabbits here now,” he added.

In Tibet, more trees are being planted, wild animals are better protected and polluting industries have been closed down.

In Tseten’s hometown, Xigaze, once where sandstorms frequently struck, herdsmen have planted about 1,200 hectares of forest in the past two years, with about 550 ha more to

be completed this year, according to Tsering Dondrup of the local forestry bureau.

Environmental campaigns near Tibet’s six major rivers have seen pastures returned to forests and desertification stopped in its tracks.

In the Shannan section of the Yarlung Tsangpo River, for instance, forests are increasing at an annual speed of 5.25 cubic meters per ha.

According to a 2014 national survey, Tibet ranked first in terms of forest area and forest stock.

Wildlife protection is also much improved. At Changtang National Nature Reserve in northern Tibet, hundreds of thousands of Tibetan antelope wander.

“Tibetan antelopes are usually very shy. They run away at the sight of human beings,” said Tsewang

Norbu, a ranger at the reserve. “But instead of running away, they now stop and stare at me each time I approach them on my motorcycle.”

In Tibet, 125 species have state protection, about one third of the national total. Tibetan antelope, wild ass, wild yak, and even snow leopard are increasingly sighted in Tibet.

In the past 20 years, the number of Tibetan antelopes has risen from about 40,000 to almost 200,000, while the wild ass population has risen almost three-fold in the same period.

More wildlife brings trouble for some residents. In February, a Xigaze resident claimed to have been “robbed” by 10 northern plains gray langur.

“They know that we will not hurt them, so they often come to

steal food in our village, particularly during Winters and Spring,” said Gyezang.”This year they stole my potatoes and carrots, though government subsidies helped cover my losses.”

Authorities planning to spend 15.5 billion yuan (2.3 billion U.S.

dollars) to guarantee “blue skies and clean water.”

“Environmental protection is our bottom line when it comes to economic development,” said Losang Gyaltzen, the regional Party chairman.

Tibet has also banned

expansions of industries like steel, chemicals and paper, with existing companies shut down or told to transform, according to Zhuang Hongxiang, deputy head of the regional environmental protection department.



BOOK REVIEW

Yu Minhong's Dialogue with the World

More than 70 percent of Chinese studying overseas regard Yu Minhong as their teacher. Through his set-backs and achievements, Yu has earned himself plenty of titles: “an entrepreneur who shines like a beacon”, “business hero”, “an abecedarian of life”, “richest teacher in China”, and many more. But behind such accolades, what is the real Yu like?

In reality, Yu is neither glittering nor glorious. An honest man, he plowed the fields, taught countryside students, hesitated with his first love. But he has an iron resolve: he never gives up. He failed the national college entrance exam twice; he lost a decent job, but he created his own business. Like a snail, Yu climbs on, with patience and perseverance, overcoming all obstacles along the way.

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

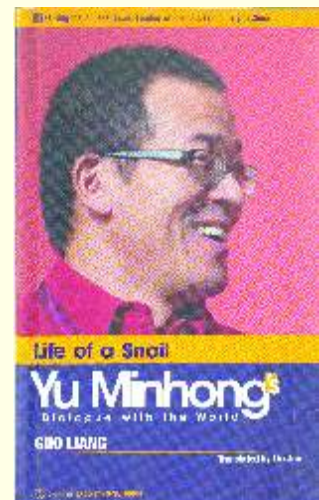
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FLIGHTS BETWEEN CHINA AND INDIA

Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights

ROUTING	FLIGHT NO.	DEPARTURE TIME	ARRIVAL TIME	FLIGHT DATES
New Delhi-Guangzhou	CZ3028	12:45	19:50	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	CZ3027	7:30	11:30	Daily
New Delhi-Guangzhou	CZ360	23:40	6:50+1	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	CZ359	18:50	22:30	Daily

Schedule of China Southern Airlines Flights (Summer Season)

ROUTING	FLIGHT NO.	DEPARTURE TIME	ARRIVAL TIME	FLIGHT DATES
New Delhi-Guangzhou	CZ3028	11:50	19:30	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	CZ3027	7:30	11:50	Daily
New Delhi-Guangzhou	CZ360	23:10	6:50+1	Daily
Guangzhou - NewDelhi	CZ359	18:50	22:10	Daily

China Eastern Time Table

Delhi-Shanghai(Pudong)	Flight Number	Dep.	Arr.	Frequency	Aircraft	Remarks
1APR,2015-31OCT, 2015	MU564	0230	1100	Daily	Airbus 330-200	Shanghai Pudong: Terminal-1 Delhi IGI: Terminal-3 Kolkata NSCBI: Terminal-2
Shanghai(Pudong)-Delhi	Flight Number	Dep	Arr	Frequency	Aircraft	
31MAR,2015-31OCT, 2015	MU563	2110	0125+1	Daily	Airbus 330-200	
Kolkata-Kunming	Flight Number	Dep	Arr	Frequency	Aircraft	
1APR,2015-31OCT, 2015	MU556	0035	0510	Daily	Boeing 737	
Kunming-Kolkata	Flight Number	Dep	Arr	Frequency	Aircraft	
1APR,2015-31OCT, 2015	MU555	2355	2345	Daily	Boeing 737	

Schedule of Air China Flights Between India and China

ROUTING	FLIGHT NO.	DEPARTURE TIME	ARRIVAL TIME	FLIGHT DATES (JUL- AUG)	FLIGHT DATES (SEP-DEC)	FLIGHT DATES (JAN-MAR)
DEL-PEK	CA948	0310	1140	TUE/THUR/SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/SUN
PEK-DEL	CA947	2040	0140+1	MON/WED/SAT	MON/WED/FRI/SAT	MON/WED/FRI/SAT
BOM-SHA	CA430	0150	1325	MON/TUE/THUR/SAT	MON/TUE/THUR/SAT(NOV –DEC MON/TUE/SAT)	MON/THUR/SAT
SHA-BOM	CA 429	1650	0050+1	MON/WED/FRI/SUN	MON/WED/FRI/SUN (NOV –DEC WED/FRI/SUN)	WED/FRI/SUN
BOM-PEK	CA 890	0230	1120	MON/WED/FRI/SUN	MON/WED/FRI/SUN	MON/WED/FRI/SUN
PEK-BOM	CA 889	1940	0100+1	TUE/THUR/SAT/SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/SUN	TUE/THUR/SAT/SUN

Address and Contact Numbers of Chinese Airlines

Airlines	Address	Contact No.
Air China	Ground Floor, E-9 Connaught House, Connaught Place, New Delhi 110001	Tel: 011-43508888 Fax: 011-43508899
	Unit No. 9/2, Queen's Road, Bangalore 560001	Tel: 080-43587900 Fax: 080-43587999
	Ground Floor, C&B Square, 127 Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (east), Mumbai 400069	Tel: 022-61175555 Fax: 022-61175566
China Eastern Airlines	Thapar House, 124, Janpath, New Delhi 110001	Tel: 011-43513166 Fax: 011-43513155
	228A, Land Mark Building, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700020	Tel: 033-40448887/88 Fax: 033-22875173
China Southern Airlines	118, New Delhi House, 27, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi 110001	Tel: 011-43596075/77/78 Fax: 011-23737453
Cathy Pacific	G123, Tolstoy House, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi	Tel: 011-23321286/3332 Fax: 011-23721550



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Gansu, a Golden Section of the Silk Road

Gansu (甘肃) is a province of the People's Republic of China, located in the northwest of the country. Its capital is Lanzhou, located in the southeast part of this province. From 19-25 June, a group of Indian travel agents and reporters visited this exotic area, and participated in the 6th Dunhuang Tour on Silk Road International Tourism Festival which was jointly



other countries have got first-hand experience of the ancient overland Silk Road.

Gansu is located in the upper reaches of the Yellow River. It is one of the cradles of Chinese cultures, occupying a total area of 450,000 square kilometers (173,700 square miles). The local ethnic minority



hosted by China National Tourism Administration and Gansu Provincial People's Government.

During the above-said Festival, a series of activities were held, such as the Opening Ceremony and cultural show of Dunhuang Dream, Silk Road International Tourism Exposition, Kick-off Ceremony of Thousands of Visitors Travelling in Gansu and the following field tour to the cities of Zhangye, Jiayuguan and Dunhuang in Gansu Province. All the invitees from India and the



groups of Kazak, Mongolian, Tibetan, Hui, Dongxiang, Yugu and Manchu, etc., mutually influence each other in the fields of economics, politics and culture, and hold close ties with the Han people. They have thus developed a unique cultural community. This province is abundantly endowed with cultural relics and natural scenery. Mogao Caves, Jiayuguan Pass (the western end of the Great Wall), Labrang Monastery, Bingling Thousand Buddha Caves are all world-famous.



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Hangzhou—host city of 2016 G-20 summit

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