



An African businesswoman was making transactions during the 2<sup>nd</sup> China South Asia Expo.

Photo by Zhang Tong

## Foreign Athletes Favour Yunnan as A Training Base

By Xie Liming

Recently, the athletes of the Myanmar national team came to Chenggong Songmao Water Sports Training Base in Kunming, where they will train for more than two months.

In order to help the Myanmar national team prepare for the 28<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Games to be held in Singapore, the Chinese government and Myanmar government have jointly launched a technical cooperation project, and 400 plus Myanmar athletes will come to China for training. Thet Lwinoo, head of the Myanmar delegation, expressed thanks for China's support. He said, in the last Southeast Asian Games,

Myanmar ranked second on the gold medal table, which was largely attributable to China's assistance, and Myanmar will strive to achieve better results this time.

Kunming, located at an altitude of about 1,900 meters and blessed with pleasant weather, boasts top-notch training bases for field and track events, cycling, swimming and football and is an ideal place for athletes to strengthen physical stamina and seek basic training all the year round. Every winter and spring, many foreign sports teams come to the Haigeng Training Base, Songmao Water Sports Training Base, the Beijiaochang Shooting Range, the Hongta Sports Centre and other plateau training bases

for training. After training in Kunming, some athletes have achieved good results in various games. In 2004, for example, the female Japanese long-distance runner Mizuki Noguchi came to Kunming and trained for more than 1 month, and 3 months later, she won the women's marathon championship in the Athens Olympic Games.

In Kunming, according to reports, the outdoor training is possible for more than 300 days every year and the natural plateau training conditions are perfect and scarce in the world. The Haigeng and Chenggong training bases alone receive 150,000 visits by domestic and foreign athletes on a yearly basis.



An off-road car was passing a watercourse during the last racing.

Photo by Yu Jiangning

## Dongchuan Debris Flow International Off-road Racing Starting on May 1

By Zhang Cheng

At a press conference recently held in Kunming, it was announced that the 12<sup>th</sup> Dongchuan Debris Flow International Off-road Racing cum the 2015 China Cross-Country Championships will be staged from May 1 to 6.

In Dongchuan, a north-eastern district of Kunming, the debris flow has developed for more than 300 years, leaving 113 debris flow gullies. In 2004, Dongchuan began to introduce the Off-road Racing in an effort to turn ecological disadvantages into tourism resources.

Accordingly this year's tracks will be mainly gravel

roads, watercourses and water-covered roads. It will include nine stages. In terms of grouping arrangements, there will be a T1-1 group, a T1-2 modified vehicles group, a T3 light off-road vehicle group, a UTV group and a BUGGY-based open group, and a T4 trucks group will also be included if there are enough racers entering for it. The biggest highlight of the open group will be the collective departure ceremony. As China's first formula off-road, it will replace the somewhat monotonous two-by-two off-road racing with intense and exciting races in pairs as in F1 racing. Alongside the events for professional racers, the Organizing Committee has

set up a production group for off-road racing enthusiasts. This group will be limited to 15 teams, each of which will consist of three vehicles. The enthusiasts will compete with their own off-road vehicles to experience the charm of the Dongchuan debris flow racing.

According to reports, the Dongchuan Debris Flow International Off-road Racing, the Taklimakan Rally and the China Cross-Country Championships are collectively referred to as "China's top three brand races". To date, over 100 hundred vehicles have enrolled and it is expected that more than 160 vehicles will eventually participate in the racing.

## Yunnan through the Eyes of Indian Photographers



Local visitors were looking at photos during the exhibition.

Photo by Xiongyan

By Zhang Ruogu

Recently, the Chinese Consulate General in Calcutta and the Mara Mukherjee Photo Gallery jointly launched a photography exhibition at the Birla Academy of Art and Culture, Calcutta - "Yunnan Impression - Yunnan of China through the Eyes of Indian Photographers". The week-long exhibition

features the works taken by Mara Mukherjee and five other famous Indian photographers on their tour of Yunnan. Last November, at the invitation of the Chinese Consulate General in Calcutta, these Indian photographers came to Yunnan. In the more than 10 days, they went to The Stone Forest, the Yulong Snow Mountain, the Cangshan Mountain, the Erhai Lake and

the Weishan Yi Village, and used their cameras to record the natural beauty, the ecological environment, the ethnic cultures and the development achievements of Yunnan as well as the happy life of Yunnan people. This exhibition is designed to introduce Yunnan and China to more Indian friends and enhance the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

## Come to China-South Asia Expo for Business Opportunities

By Chu Donghua

"Hello, I want to buy a booth for this year's China-South Asia Expo to exhibit and sell wooden products and handicrafts, and I would like to learn more about the China-South Asia Expo. What is the best price for a 9 square meter booth? ..." In early March, a letter signed by Zeshan Shaikat was sent to the official e-mailbox of Yunnan Express(english.yunnan.cn), inquiring about the 3<sup>rd</sup> China-South Asia Expo.

It has been increasingly recognized by domestic and foreign business people that the China-South Asia Expo offers plenty

of business opportunities. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> China-South Asia Expo last year, they gathered in Kunming and signed contracts concerning 508 foreign investment projects, involving RMB 708.2 billion, an increase of RMB 110 billion as compared with the 1<sup>st</sup> Expo.

Business opportunities exist not only in project contracts but also in venues. Last year, Nepal, the theme country of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Expo, especially set up a theme pavilion. Yin Yin and Wu Yu, a Chinese-Nepalese couple, came to promote their tourism business and made a lot of friends. Now, with their names be-

coming widely known in the industry, they have expanded their customer base and are enjoying booming business.

As is learnt, this year's China-South Asia Expo will be attended by more businessmen, celebrities, experts and political leaders. Yunnan will fully utilise its advantages to assemble a number of Fortune 500 companies, famous brands, high-tech products, foreign dignitaries and high-ranking officials, and delegations from across China, so as to stage a high-level expo and attract high-quality investments.

On March 2, the Ministry of Commerce and the

Yunnan Provincial People's Government jointly held the promotion meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> China-South Asia Expo cum the 23<sup>rd</sup> China Kunming Import & Export Commodities Fair. The meeting saw the attendance of more than 60 diplomats from 31 countries in South Asia, Southeast Asia, Europe and Africa, principals of 21 well-known central enterprises, foreign enterprises, private enterprises and financial institutions and reporters of 36 Chinese and foreign media. It was noted that this year's expo venue will be moved to the newly-constructed Kunming Dianchi International Convention and

Exhibition Centre, which will provide about 6,000 standard booths, or twice that of last year, and higher quality services for more enterprises and businesses to showcase themselves and facilitate transactions.

In addition, Yunnan is enjoying more development opportunities this year, with its positioning as a pivot of China's opening-up to South and Southeast Asia injecting new vitality for its leap-forward development. When favourable policies are bringing plenty of business opportunities, here is a great reason for you to visit Yunnan: the China-South Asia Expo.

## The Vast and Magnificent Dahaicao Mountain



A panoramic view of Dahaicao Mountain

Photo by Liu Jianhua

By Huang Zhechun

The Dahaicao Mountain is located in the southeast of the Dahai Township of Huize County, Yunnan Province. It belongs to the main peak section of the Wumeng Mountain Range and has an elevation of 3,570-4,017 meters. It is vast and features a gentle terrain, and the sub-alpine meadow extends for 180,000 mu (12,000

hectares). The Dahaicao Mountain offers different scenes in four seasons. In spring, blooming flowers fill the valley with fragrance; in summer, the cattle and sheep graze on the grassland in flocks, and swallows sing while flying over clear and cool streams; in autumn, the clouds, driven by strong winds, form magnificent and changing prospects in the blue

sky and overlook the golden grass and crystal water; in winter, the mountains are covered with snow and ice and everything seems to be carved out of jade and silver, reminding people of the scenery in north China. Even in a single day, the sunrise and sunset will cast a magical light over the Dahaicao Mountain, presenting a magnificent picture before your eyes.

## Myanmar Watermelons Sell well in China

By Lu Xiangcai

With April around the corner, Yunnan is already in summer. Under the blazing sun, people begin to miss watermelons. Actually, even in winter, people can still enjoy watermelons - Since late October every year, the Myanmar watermelons begin to flow into Yunnan via Wanding and other ports in the Ruili National Key Development and Opening-up Experimental Zone before they are transported to other places of China. According to statistics, in winter and spring, well before the domestic harvest season, 80% of watermelons in the Chinese market might have been imported from Myanmar via Ruili, and the Wanding port has become the largest port for the imports of Myanmar fruits.

"From October to March, more than 80-90 percent of watermelons on the domestic market are imported from Myanmar via various ports in the Ruili Experimental Zone,"

a staff member surnamed Hui of Wanding Yunyang Fruit Import & Export Co., Ltd. was quoted as saying at a fruit wholesale market in Mangman, a temporary channel of the Wanding port. In this period, it is not yet the harvest season for most domestic watermelon growing areas.

Wanding Yunyang Fruit Import & Export Co., Ltd. is located in the warehousing and logistics area of the Mangman channel of the Wanding port. At the peak of year, 300-400 trucks come here from Myanmar for transactions every day, corresponding to almost as many domestic trucks. In addition to seasonal watermelon imports, other fruits such as cantaloupes, mangoes and jujubes are also imported via the Wanding port. It is learnt that the fruits from Myanmar are first inspected at the 105 Yard express inspection station by Chinese inspection and quarantine departments before they can enter the Chinese market.