



China-Myanmar livelihood project fund established

By Liu Xiangyuan

Recently, the China Soong Ching Ling Foundation and Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture Government jointly established the China-Myanmar Livelihood Project Fund.

The China-Myanmar Livelihood Project Fund aims to implement livelihood projects in the China-Myanmar border area, so as to expand non-governmental exchanges and cooperation between China and Myanmar, consolidate the China-Myanmar brotherhood and deepen the friendly bilateral relations.

Kunming Airport to launch trial operation of one-ticket seamless baggage transfer

By Cao Jie

The Chinese General Administration of Customs has recently approved China Eastern Air (CEA) to trial implement the seamless transfer flight for entry and exit passengers passing through Kunming International Airport since April 28, 2015.

It is said that passengers can enjoy the real one-ticket seamless baggage transfer at Kunming Airport with the seamless transfer implemented.

The one-ticket seamless baggage transfer will reduce the transfer time from the original 180 minutes to 120 minutes, saving the passengers the trouble of claiming and re-checking the baggage. According to CEA Yunnan, this will also allow airways to schedule connecting flights more efficiently and rationally, thus attracting more passengers to travel via Kunming.

93 Rescued Wild Animals Return to Nature in Pu'er

By Wang Shixue

A total of 93 rescued wild animals were released to nature in the Taiyanghe Nature Reserve, Pu'er city on April 24. It is a public event organized by the Wild Animal Rescue Center of Yunnan Wildlife Park.

The 93 animals fall into 11 species, including Nycticebus coucangs, Macaca mulattas and Aquila chrysaetoses. 6 of them are put under first class national protection and 8 under second class protection. It is said that most freed animals were confiscated from illegal animal smugglers, while others were rescued from injuries. Before the release, the animals had been specially trained to adjust to life in the wilderness.

According to experts, Taiyanghe Nature Reserve is an ideal habitat for released animals because it is favorable in climate, abundant in animal foods and diverse in species. And all freed animals can find their partners and kin in the reserve, which will contribute to their survival and offspring production in the future.

CHINA-SOUTH ASIA EXPO

Yunnan delegation visited Maldives and India

Staff Reporter

A Yunnan trade delegation led by Chen Hao, Governor of Yunnan Province, recently visited Maldives and India. Chen Hao met with Maldivian President Abdullah Yameen in Maldives, and the delegation held a China-India trade promotion conference in Calcutta.

Chen Hao said in his talk with Abdullah Yameen, Yunnan

and Maldives has a long history of cooperation, which is highly complementary and promises great potential. Chen suggested that both sides strengthen inter-governmental exchanges and on the basis of tourism co-operation, promote those in infrastructure construction, clean energy development, trade, education, culture and other fields. Chen cordially invited President Yameen to attend the 3rd China-

South Asia Expo to be held in Kunming from June 12 to 16.

President Yameen thanked Chen Hao for his invitation and gladly accepted it. He said that through Yunnan, Maldives had better understood China. Yameen agreed with Chen's suggestion to strength cooperation between Maldives and Yunnan, and he proposed that a special mechanism be established to promote coop-

eration between the two sides. He emphasised that Maldives attaches great importance to the 3rd China-South Asia Expo and will organize more companies to participate in the event.

Chen Hao said in his speech at the Yunnan-India Trade Promotion Conference in Calcutta, Yunnan and India are important trading partners, and the two sides' industries, products and markets are highly

complementary and have great prospects for cooperation. He believed that, with India acting as the theme country of the 3rd China-South Asia Expo and the rotating presidency of the 10th China-South Asia Business Forum, it will be exciting, colourful and beneficial for all participants.

At the Promotion Conference, Yunnan International Exhibition Bureau signed a

cooperation agreement with Federation of Indian Export Organizations and India Chamber of Commerce concerning the organization of the 3rd China-South Asia Expo; China Tobacco Yunnan Industrial Co., Ltd. and Yuntianhua Group also signed strategic trade cooperation agreements with two Indian companies respectively, involving 300 million US dollars.



A water splashing war between people and elephants was staged in the Xishuangbanna Wild Elephant Valley Scenic Area, Yunnan on April 15 during the Water-Splashing Festival, which is celebrated in mid-April every year as a traditional festive occasion in Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and other Southeast Asian countries as well as in Yunnan and Guangxi of China. People splash water on each other to exchange best wishes and express their joy. Photo by Li Yunsheng (Source: Xinhua News Agency)

Construction of Kunming south railway station picking up speed



Person in charge of the construction is giving introduction to the railway station.

By Li Hongfeng

The construction site of Yun-

Photo by Li Hongfeng
nan high-speed rail Kunming south railway station is now a bustling scene, with workers

racing against time installing steel structures, laying pile foundations and carrying out other operations. According to the person in charge, the project is expected to be completed by June, 2016. Upon its completion, it will become the largest railway station in southwest China.

The Yunnan high speed rail Kunming south railway station is located in Chenggong District of Kunming. It will be the junction of the Lanzhou-Kunming high speed rail, the Shanghai-Kunming high speed rail, the south-southwest China high speed rail and the

Trans-Asian Railway. It is a major infrastructure project in building Yunnan into a pivot of China's opening up to South and Southeast Asia, which is part of the Belt and Road initiative. Besides, it is also an important hub in Yunnan's railway network of "8 interprovincial and 4 international high speed rails". Therefore, it has a significant strategic position and geographical advantages.

It is said that after its completion, the passenger handling capacity of the station will be six times that of the Kunming south railway station currently in use.

NEIGHBOR

Yunnan and Thailand expanding tourism cooperation

By Liu Ziyu

The 2015 Self-Driving and RV Camping Thailand Tourism Promotion Conference was jointly held by Tourism Authority of Thailand and Yunnan Provincial Tourism Development Committee in Kunming to bring new opportunities for the Yunnan-Thailand cooperation.

In recent years, great progress has been made in the Yunnan-Thailand tourism cooperation, and both sides have carried out pragmatic cooperation in terms of tourism planning, development of tourist routes, promotion of tourist destinations, training of

tourism practitioners and integration of tourism resources. In particular, with the Kunming-Bangkok Highway put into use, a growing number of self-driving tourists are travelling from Kunming to Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai and Pai District in northern Thailand via the Huay Xai Bridge in Laos, and the self-driving tourists from Thailand to Yunnan via Laos are also on the rise.

So far, Thailand has become the largest source country of tourists for Yunnan, and the Chinese tourists visiting Thailand via Yunnan are also becoming the most important source of inbound tourists for Thailand.

Myanmar athletes training in Kunming

By Xie Liming

In preparation for the 28th Southeast Asian Games, more athletes of Myanmar national team have arrived in Kunming for a two-month training session.

The 28th Southeast Asian Games will be held in Singapore in June this year. In order to achieve better results than in the previous Games, the Myanmar delegation of more than 400 athletes, coaches and workers have come in batches to Beijing,

Anhui, Hunan and Yunnan for intensive training. Now a total of 198 athletes and coaches are training in Kunming, accounting for nearly half of the Myanmar delegation.

It is said that this is not the first time that Myanmar athletes have come to Kunming for intensive training. Last year, thanks to a China-Myanmar technological cooperation project, Myanmar as the host country won the second place in terms of total weight of the team, the best ever results, in the Southeast Asian Games.

PEOPLE

“Snooker king” Hendry through the lens

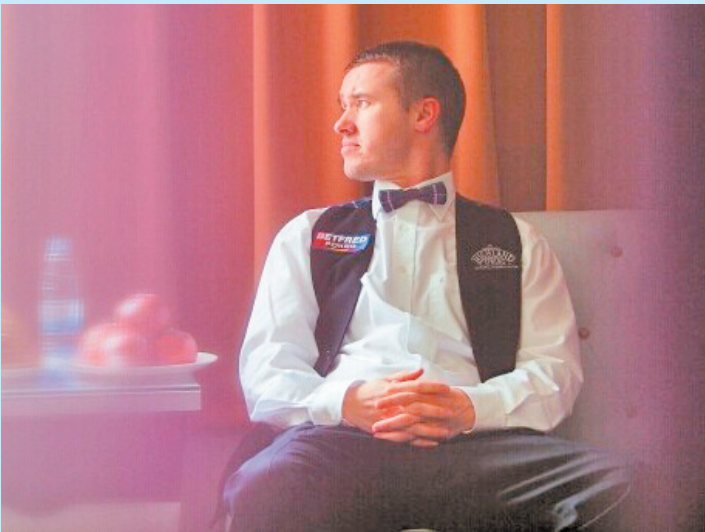
Photo by Zhou Mingjia

On April 14, the Bank of Communications OTO Fortune China Amateur Snooker Masters 2015 was declared open in Kunming. The “snooker king” Hendry attended the opening ceremony and some snooker fans were lucky enough to play a game with him.

In fact, it was the second time that Hendry had come to Kunming. On March 24, 2007, a picture on the front page of *Spring City Evening*

News showed Hendry leaning on the sofa in a snooker room in a shaft of sunshine, enjoying the warmth and absorbed in thought, as if he was full of expectations for Kunming.

Expressing his satisfaction with this picture, the photographer Zhou Mingjia said, “I am not only a photographer but also a snooker enthusiast. I am also a huge fan of Hendry. Therefore, I tried to put all my skills into taking this picture. The angle and the light are unique.”



Ah Hua's China dream

By Ma Xiao

I met Ah Hua, a restaurateur in Hanoi when I was travelling in Vietnam a few years ago. Since he spoke fluent Chinese, we had so much to talk about that we soon became friends.

Ah Hua has visited Yunnan twice and impressed by its cultural and natural landscapes and mild weather. When travelling Yunnan, Ah Hua tasted a lot of local delicacies. Then he began to have a China dream – to open a restaurant in Yunnan and introduce the unique Vietnamese food to the Chinese people. To make this dream come true, Ah Hua has been honing his Vietnamese

cooking skills while learning the Chinese culinary culture. He often invites Chinese students in Hanoi to enjoy the Vietnamese food in his restaurant and make recommendations. Right now, he has made a lot of Chinese friends and got a better understanding of the Chinese culture, especially the culinary culture.

In a recent e-mail to me, Ah Hua told me that he plans to send his two children to study in China when they are older. It may be a great step to accomplish his China dream. I sincerely hope that Ah Hua will achieve his China dream so that we can meet again in his Vietnamese restaurant in Yunnan some day.