



NEWS

40%

shoes made in Kunming go to Southeast Asia

By Cao Jie

Currently, of the 10 million pairs of shoes made in Kunming every year, more than 4 million pairs are exported to Vietnam, Myanmar and other Southeast Asian countries, according to Chen Yanyun, deputy chairman of Kunming Alliance Footwear Industry Association.

"Given the affordability of the local market, the average export price is 40 yuan a pair, bringing in more than 160 billion yuan," Chen said.

1ST

Yunnan Richland Hospital passes JCI certification

By Zhang Wenge

Upon the approval of JCI headquarters in Chicago, Yunnan Richland International Hospital recently passed the JCI certification and became the first JCI-certified general hospital in southwest China.

Yunnan Richland International Hospital, founded eight years ago, has established a globally interconnected healthcare platform. So far, it has assembled more than 600 noted Chinese experts and 227 international experts from 18 rescue institutions and hospitals in Europe and America. This special team of international medical personnel has developed a management mode of "medical quality control centre" for critical patients and has successfully conducted a series of major and complex surgeries.

1ST

China-ASEAN Innovation Centre established in Kunming

By Du Zhongying

The China-ASEAN Innovation Centre, the first of its kind in China, has been set up in Kunming the other day. The Centre will promote the cooperation between China and ASEAN countries in terms of scientific and technological innovation and provide integrated services for research and development, business incubation, industrialization and promotion of research results and scientific and cultural exchanges.

In the future, the Innovation Centre will introduce good projects in the incubator to South and Southeast Asia and bring in good projects from abroad, so as to reduce the intermediate links and docking difficulties in the cross-border cooperation between enterprises and projects.



The 2015 Thailand Festival in Kunming kicked off on May 8th and will last to 17th. According to Suchart Liengsaengthong, Royal Thai Consul General in Kunming, the 2015 Thailand Festival is themed on the 40th anniversary of Thailand-China diplomatic ties, the Thai culture and the Thailand-Yunnan friendship, and it is attended by four ministers of Thailand. During the Festival, Thailand holds sales of special goods, cultural performances and tourism promotions. Also, visitors can sample Thai foods and meet with Thai film and TV stars in person.

Photo by Ma Xiao

ONE BELT AND ONE ROAD INITIATIVE

Kunming: a rapid running "CPU"

By Zhang Fan

At present, the new Kunming South Railway Station, which will cover a floor area of 330,000 square metres upon completion, is getting higher and higher in Chengong District of Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan Province. By next June when this high-speed rail station is put into operation, it will take a matter of eight and four hours to travel by train from Kunming to Shanghai and Changsha respectively, thus achieving better interconnectivity of Kunming with

other Chinese cities. The new Station will also be a hub of Yunnan's 4 international high speed rails. The "One Belt and One Road" initiative aims to "make good use of the geographic advantage of Yunnan Province, advance the construction of an international transport corridor connecting China with neighboring countries, develop a new highlight of economic cooperation in the Greater Mekong Sub-region, and make the region a pivot of China's opening-up to South and Southeast Asia." In this context, Li Wenrong,

mayor of Kunming, said, "We would like to position Kunming as the central processing unit of Yunnan." The Kunming Dounan Flower Market is the largest fresh cut flower trade market in China and even in Asia. The flowers here are exported to 46 countries and regions, and the market is currently introducing electronic settlement and e-commerce. Besides, Kunming is guiding the integration and restructuring of local advantageous industries that are complementary with South and Southeast Asia, covering agricultural products, flow-

ers, minerals, hydropower and medicine. The tourism and cultural industries are forerunner industries to better connect Kunming along the Silk Road. In 2014, *Turbulence of the Mu Clan*, *Beautiful Daughter-In-Law*, *Beijing Youth* and six other domestic TV series translated by the Kunming National Advertising Cultural Industrial Park gained great popularity in Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia and other Southeast Asian countries. Kunming is actively involved in the construction of the BCIM Economic Corridor, the GMS cooper-

ation, the Yunnan-India cooperation and the cooperation between Yunnan and northern Vietnam, northern Laos and northern Myanmar. Currently, Kunming is improving its appearance in preparation for the Third China-South Asia Expo, the scale of which will double that of the previous session when the Dianchi International Convention and Exhibition Centre ushers in guests from around the world in June. Kunming, the "central processing unit" of the radiation centre for South and Southeast Asia, is running at an increasing rate.

FOREIGNERS IN YUNNAN

Pei Yifeng, an old Kunminger



Pei Yifeng is answering questions from media in Zhicun station along the Yunnan-Vietnam Railway. Photo by Zu Hongbing

By Zu Hongbing

"People in many rural areas of Yunnan also have the habit of planting flowers, always reminding me of my hometown."

High-nosed, blue-eyed, wearing a Western suit, he is every inch a gentleman but speaks fluent Chinese. Whenever anyone is amazed at his Chinese, he would say confidently, "I came to

Kunming in 1998. I am an old Kunminger." The pride is obvious in his tone. His Chinese name is Pei Yifeng. Like Fang Suya, the former Consul General of France in Yunnan, Pei Yifeng comes from Lorraine in the northeast of France. In 1998, in order to help several French companies participate in Kunming Expo '99, Pei Yifeng came to Yunnan for the first time and saw great business opportunities and potential in Kunming. Therefore, he moved his firm from Taipei to Kunming and had it registered as Kunming SinoMekong Consulting Co., Ltd. "It seems that I made a right choice," said Pei Yifeng. He went on to tell me that his firm has been expanding the business scope to cover corporate consulting, education consulting, French training and so on. Not just French companies, many companies and universities in Yunnan

also have found French partners via Pei Yifeng. Having worked and lived in Yunnan for 17 years, Pei Yifeng has made a lot of friends. He has long fallen in love with Yunnan. "I love the mild weather of Yunnan, particularly that of Kunming," said Pei Yifeng. His hometown is very much like Yunnan except that it is colder back there. In his hometown, where it is a rural area, many people plant flowers in their yards. Every year a gardening competition is held in the village, and the names of the winning gardeners and flowers are engraved on a board at the entrance to the village. Pei Yifeng said, "People in many rural areas of Yunnan also have the habit of planting flowers, always reminding me of my hometown." "Small pot rice noodles, cross-the-bridge rice noodles..." Pei Yifeng can name a long list of Kunming snacks

without hesitation when asked about his favourite Yunnan foods. In the past 17 years, Pei Yifeng has tasted almost all Yunnan delicacies. He said, "I love both Yunnan cuisine and French cuisine." He is usually too busy with work to cook, but when a year draws to an end, he would invite his employees to his home and treat them with an authentic French feast. In his spare time, Pei Yifeng would track the footprints left by the French in Yunnan in the early 20th century. "Since the first year I came to Kunming, I began to collect old photographs and data on the Yunnan-Vietnam Railway. Some of them were taken by French people, while others by Chinese people..." Pei Yifeng said, "Collecting historical data can help people better protect and develop the Yunnan-Vietnam Railway."

DIGNITARIES

Zhong Mian meets Bangladesh guests

By Zhang Yin

Zhong Mian, Deputy Secretary of the CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee, met in Kunming with a delegation of Bangladesh Awami League cadres led by Syed Ashraf Islam, General Secretary of the Awami League Central Committee and Minister of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operative. Zhong Mian extended his warm welcome to the delegation. He said, in recent years, the Yunnan-Bangladesh trade has been growing rapidly and potentials are huge for further cooperation between the two sides. Adhering to the Chinese government's diplomatic concept of "amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness", Yunnan will proactively serve and

involve itself in the "One Belt and One Road" initiative and seek mutual benefit with Bangladesh through the China-South Asia Expo. Zhong Mian also expressed his hope that the visit by General Secretary Syed Ashraf Islam will deepen the economic, cultural, tourist and personnel exchanges between the two sides. Syed Ashraf Islam said, Bangladesh attaches great importance to friendly relations with Yunnan. He hoped that with the establishment of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, implementation of the "One Belt and One Road" initiative and construction of the BCIM Economic Corridor, both sides can strengthen personnel exchanges, interconnectivity, economic and trade cooperation.

TRAVEL

A thousand pairs of twins gathers in Mojiang



An album of the twins from different countries. Photo by Lin Yiguang

By Zhang Cheng

The 11th China Yunnan Mojiang Tropic of Cancer International Twins Festival was held in early May. Over a thousand pairs of twins from around the world gathered in Mojiang Hani Autonomous County, singing, dancing and showcasing their talents. Among them, the oldest twins were 70 years old and the youngest only 1 year

old. Mojiang is located in the south of Yunnan Province, with the Tropic of Cancer passing through the county. Statistics show that over 1,200 pairs of twins live in this county, so Mojiang is also known as the "home of twins". Since 2005, the Tropic of Cancer International Twins Festival has been held in Mojiang from May 1st to 3rd every year.

Yunnan flower dishes — let flowers bloom at the tip of your tongue



Farmers are picking rose in Anning, Kunming City. Photo by Li Qiuming

By Yang Yan

In Yunnan, the kingdom of plants, there are more than 2,500 species of wild ornamental plants. Therefore, hundreds of wild flowers have found their ways onto the tables of most ethnic groups here. In addition to the flowers eaten in other places of China, the Yunnan people also eat banana flowers, pumpkin

flowers, camellias, azaleas and so on. Azaleas stand out from other flowers considered as edible by the Yunnan people. However, only the large, white and fleshy azaleas are edible. In order to make the taste of spring last longer, the Yunnan people also preserve flowers in rice wine and sauces. For example, Kunming, Yuxi and some other mid-Yunnan areas are famous for the rose sugar.