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TECHNOLOGY

Yunnan leads the world in control of iron and steel dust

By Wu Jie

Yunnan Provincial Science and Technology Department held a scientific and technological achievements conference recently to exhibit and release a number of breakthroughs that the province has made in the research and development of industrial waste recycling and energy-saving equipment during the “Twelfth Five-Year Plan” period.

Many of these achievements already lead the world. Dust treatment technology used by Honghe GreenNovo Technology

Company is one of them. The highlight is the company’s combined process of iron and steel dust treatment has overtaken German and American technologies. Through this process, harmful dust containing heavy metals can be reclaimed without generating emissions or waste water.

In short, this technology is a combination of hydro and pyro-metallurgical processes that are currently used in iron and steel dust treatment at home and abroad.

Mr. Ma Liyang, Chairman of Honghe GreenNovo introduced

the development status of these processes. According to him, Horsehead Holding Corp, the largest EAF dust treater in North America, operates eight pyro-metallurgical plants in the United States and Europe. It began to develop hydro-metallurgical process in 2012. The German company Befesa is the world’s third largest zinc-containing dust treater. It operates six pyro-metallurgical plants, but has not yet begun to develop its own hydro-metallurgical process.

Horsehead and Befesa are currently seeking cooperation

with GreenNovo. Ma Liyang disclosed that a cooperative project will be launched in Europe this year.

In addition, the world’s most advanced motor energy-saving devices—developed by Yunnan Sun-Arex Energy Technology Inc—were also released. This technology has been patented in Japan, the United States and South Korea.

As part of the national Programme, the lead-acid battery production technology was introduced to Yunnan from Tsinghua University. Compared

with traditional technology at home and abroad, this technology can shorten the production cycle by more than 30 percent, and extend battery life by more than 20 percent. On top of these advantages, lead powder does not leak to cause pollution during the production.

Mr. Cao Jianguo of Tsinghua University is responsible for industrialising this technological achievement at Yunnan Jingzheng Energy Technology Company. He said that this project is constructed as a national demonstration project.

PHOTO NEWS



China to launch full preservation of plant species

China is to launch a preservation program to cover all the country’s plant species, a botanist announced Tuesday. According to Chen Jin, director of Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden under the Chinese

Academy of Sciences. China currently has over 200 botanical gardens but only around 66 percent of the country’s indigenous plants are covered by preservation work. Only 34 percent of China’s rare

or endangered plant species are under proper preservation, Chen said, warning of poor diversity protection and a lack of balanced protection of plants from different provinces. Photo by Sun Xiaoyun

SCIENCE

Robotic telescope jointly built by China and Thailand put into use

By Yao Bing

A 70-centimeter robotic telescope jointly built by the CAS Yunnan Observatory and the National Astronomical Research Institute of Thailand (NARIT) was recently completed and put into use.

According to Qian Shengbang, a research fellow with the observatory, the telescope was installed at the Lijiang Gaomeigu observation station at the Yunnan Observatory. It can be used for observation through remote control.

“With the low latitudes and high atmospheric transparency at the Lijiang observation station, the telescope can help us conduct long-term monitoring of the southern sky to see the movements and evolution, and search

for special celestial bodies in stellar systems such as black holes or brown dwarfs,” said Qian Shengbang.

The Yunnan Observatory has collaborated with Thailand for more than two decades. The completion of the telescope marks a step forward in the Sino-Thai construction of space observation platforms. The two sides will strengthen cooperation during a follow-up period of observation and research, personnel training and scientific research team-building. Moreover, the telescope will also promote scientific and cultural exchanges as well as long-standing friendship between the two countries.

Xinhua News Agency

ECONOMY

Construction of Saysettha development zone speeding up

By Zhang Ruogu

Reporters learned from the Yunnan Provincial Department of Commerce that construction and investment interest in the Saysettha Development Zone in Vientiane, Laos, have both seen major breakthroughs recently.

The Saysettha Development Zone is situated in Saysettha and Saythanycounties in northeast Vientiane, Laos. Construction was implemented by Yunnan Overseas Development Company and undertaken by Laos-China Investment Company(LCC), which was jointly established by Yunnan Overseas Development Company and the Vientiane Municipal Government. It takes a comprehensive development approach of "building an industrial park and a new city proper". This project includes the building of dedicated divisions of processing bases of agricultural and light industrial products for export, as well as a services and logistics center, a bonded zone, a modern business district and a leisure and tourism area.

Currently, Entrance Road

1, a zone entrance and office buildings have been completed with water, electricity supplies, communications and other facilities in place. Chinese and Lao management staff officially moved in November 2013. The 10,000 square-meter standardized plant has been basically completed.

Twelve companies, in the fields of energy and chemical industry, machinery leasing and warehousing, logistics and transportation, have signed agreements to join the zone with an estimated total investment of about 260 million USD. Chinese agricultural enterprise New Hope Group's Lao subsidiary also joined. Its new feed factory with a 200,000-ton annual capacity has been completed and put into operation.

Yunnan Construction Engineering Group has signed an agreement with Kunming High-Tech Development Zone on the joint development of Saysettha Development Zone, attracting investment from industries such as garment manufacturing, machinery processing, trade-based logistics, bio-pharmaceuticals and e-commerce.

RAILWAY

Main structure of Yunnan HSR command center roofed

By Hu Xiaorong

Major construction-works of dispatch and command center of Yunnan high-speed railway came to an end on January 15 in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan province, laying a foundation for safe and sound operation of high-speed trains in the province later this year.

Located near Tangzixiang in downtown Kunming, the 13-floor building covers a construction area of 20,000 square meters, with

total investment one billion yuan. Set for eight degree seismic fortification intensity, the center is scheduled to conduct joint debugging and commissioning in June with high-speed railway systems in Guangxi and Shanghai.

As an essential part of the Yunnan high-speed rail network, the dispatch and command center plays a key role in transportation safety and efficiency, and it helps turn Yunnan into an transport hub connecting the trans-Asian railway networks.

CUSTOMS

Kunming customs providing convenience to airport economy



By Wu Ping

Kunming Customs conducted fast customs clearance formalities for 4 aviation flight simulators imported from Canada Boeing that have consecutively arrived at Kunming Export Processing Zone.

These simulators value at RMB360.00 million, and are purchased by Yunnan Orient Training company in establishing Yunnan Orient Flight Training Base, one of the major projects of Yunnan "Powerful Aviation Province" scheme. The related material

shows that Kunming Customs specially set a "Green Channel" to preferentially provide customs declaration, customs inspection and dispatch release for large-scale imported facilities of major projects in Yunnan Province.

TRADE

Kunming ETDZ's cross-border trade O2O platform launched

By Zhang Yanqun

Kunming ETDZ's cross-border trade O2O platform was recently launched. Consumers can buy genuine European, Japanese and South Korean products at physical stores or online, and products that are unique to the Yunnan plateau can be exported through the platform.

The system relies mainly on Kunming Export Processing Zone's export

tax rebate and importation under bond functions, while integrating resources in trade, e-commerce, finance, logistics, real estate, education and customer networks of all participating parties. With "helping the plateau's famous brands go global and gathering commodities in the world in Yunnan" as its mission, built on cross-border trade O2O e-commerce and combined with cross-border trade,

finance, business incubation, logistics, real estate and other services, the platform effectively promotes the development of cross-border trade in Yunnan.

It is said that Kunming ETDZ's cross-border trade O2O platform will take in up to 1,000 manufacturing companies and 2,000 trading companies, and is expected to achieve an annual output value of over 20 billion yuan over three years.

BELT AND ROAD

Yunnan established 21 offices of commercial representative abroad

By Han Chengyuan

It is reported that during the period of "12th Five-Year Plan", Yunnan has established 21 Offices of Commercial Representative abroad, among which 11 were established in 2015, covering all the South Asian and Southeast Asian countries.

At the end of 2010, Yunnan Provincial Government approved to establish and authorized Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province, Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of Yunnan Province and Yunnan Provincial Department of Finance to administrate Aboard Offices of Commercial Representative, which are the regular institutions of Yunnan in opening up to the outside world and providing foreign trade and economics services. The Offices of Commercial Representative adapted the pattern by relying on

“

Yunnan has 21 commercial representatives in South and Southeast Asia countries to serve 624 enterprises invested by Yunnan province”

Bao Wentao

Director of outbound investment of Department of Commercial of Yunnan Province

major investment cooperation enterprises in Yunnan, and have currently been established in Laos, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Bangladesh.....serving as "messenger, liaison man, propagandist and server" of Yunnan in communicating and cooperating with overseas countries and regions. Among which, Yunnan Office of Commercial (Enterprises) Representative in Rangoon compiled Myanmar Investment Manual, improving the trade and economics cooperation

between Yunnan and Myanmar; Yunnan Office of Commercial (Enterprises) Representative in Vientiane proactively act in helping Yunnan financial institutions to establish branches in Laos and enhance mutual communication; and every year, Yunnan Office of Commercial (Enterprises) Representative in Hong Kong would invite experts and leaders in Hong Kong financial sector, industry & commerce sector and law firms to interact with Yunnan enterprises and actualize win-win of both districts.

According to Department of Commerce of Yunnan Province, as a response to the initiative of Yunnan in accelerating its economic cooperation with South Asia and Southeast Asia, the coverage of abroad Offices of Commercial Representative would be further expanded, along with an improvement of administrative and service quality.

HEALTHCARE

Bayer (Kunming) Pharmaceutical Factory Officially Launched

By Ouyang Xiaoshu

On January 8 2016, the Chinese and western pharmaceutical factory of Bayer in Majinpu Zone, Science & Technology Industry Park of Kunming was officially launched, which is the second largest OTC factory of Bayer in Asia-Pacific region. This factory would substantially improve the OTC capacity of Bayer, provide more and high-quality healthcare solutions for customers, bring new opportunities to the industrial upgrading and Chinese medicine production standard of Yunnan healthcare industry, and become a new benchmark for

the strategy of Yunnan in developing Chinese herbal medicine.

Majinpu factory covers an area of 111,534 m², follows global production and operation standard of Bayer, and adapts cutting-edge safety & quality control system and advanced production facilities in the world. Currently, partial Stage I Chinese herbal medicine production lines in Phase I have acquired the qualify GMP authentication, and further upgrading is on-going. Next step the factory would focus on producing Dan'e Fukang, a Chinese herbal product of Bayer.

BAZAAR

Bazaar held in Myanmar-China border town

By XinHua

A bazaar was launched in Myanmar's Muse town Tuesday, the main border gateway that links Myanmar and China's Yunnan Province, aimed at enhancing border trade between the two countries, according to official sources.

The international-standard walking bazaar, which is part of the Muse Central Economic Zone Project being implemented by Shan state government and the private-run New Star Light construction Company,

will display various products of China and Myanmar.

Muse, a small town on the banks of the Shweli river, is a bustling trading center.

Annually, a Myanmar-China border trade fair is launched on alternate basis in Muse 105th Mile Border Trade Zone of Myanmar or in Ruili, southwest China's Yunnan Province linking Myanmar's Muse.

According to official statistics, Myanmar-China bilateral trade hit 3.764 billion U.S.dollars in the first five months (Jan-May) of 2015.

INDUSTRY

Yunnan coffee trade center starts on-line trading

By Huang Xinghong

On January 12, 2016, multiple coffee related events were occurred in Pu'er, "City of Coffee in China": the construction of Yunnan Choice Coffee Processing Park was commenced, Yunnan Coffee Trade Center was launched on-line and "China Pu'er Coffee Cup" World Syhpon Competition was held, which have jointly opened a new chapter for the development of Yunnan choice coffee.

In the morning of January 12, commencement ceremony of Yunnan Choice Coffee Processing Park was held in



Yunnan coffee trade center was launched online trading in Pu'er.

Yixiang Town, Simao District, Pu'er City. According to the introduction, this processing

park is a key component of Yunnan Coffee Trade Center, as well as a major service

support for Yunnan coffee industry. The park is planned to cover 61,600m², and predicted to be completed and put into operation by 2018. The finished processing park would contain warehouse area, customs supervising warehouse, processing area, trade center, commercial center, product exhibition & experience center, international communication center, financial service center, quality inspection center, E-commerce incubation center, logistics distribution center, information center, etc., and serve as the first professional supporting service center of coffee trade in Asia.

Yunnan Coffee Trade Center was launched on the same day. The trade center would adapt modern electronic information technology, gather available-for-trade coffee resources in the world, and provide "one-stop" trade supporting service integrated with information, exhibition, auction, settlement, warehouse, logistics, financing, etc.

As introduced by people in charge of Pu'er Coffee Association, currently, the total planting area of coffee in Pu'er is 50,466,666m², productivity is 49,500 tons, both of which account for half of the national amount.

CULTURE

Angelic voices in a farmers' choir



The member of the choir is taking rehearsal. Photo by Li Junmin

By Ouyang Xiaoshu

Xiaoshuijing Village is located at an altitude of 2,350 meters in Yunnan Province's Fumin County. All of its 470 plus villagers belong to the Miao ethnic group. In the 1930s, foreign missionaries set up a church here and formed a choir.

In Xiaoshuijing Village, many

farmers are also singers, and although there are material shortages, there is also spiritual abundance. The most ordinary things become radiant with the singing of the simple villagers. The singing style has been passed down from generation to generation. The lyrics are in the Miao language and the elements of Miao folk songs are integrated, making this farmers' choir

unique and non-replicable.

Over the past century, Western choral art has constantly evolved, but in Xiaoshuijing Village, it has retained the traditional skills and methods of older Western church choirs. Today, many domestic and foreign musicologists come here to study the choral art. The villagers' amazing voices make many people think they must have accepted professional training, but here, any villager who loves music and has a good voice can join the choir.

The Xiaoshuijing Ethnic Farmers' Choir has maintained about 60 members since its establishment. Currently, the youngest member is 13 years-old and the oldest member is over 40. Professionally, it is a four-part mixed choir, and the singing method is neither bel canto singing nor folk singing.

None of its members have received professional training, and their skills have been passed down from generation to generation by

word of mouth. In particular, the four-part a cappella singing has reached a high level and is referred to as a "living fossil of Baroque choral music" by international vocal music experts.

Every evening, when the village becomes quiet, beautiful songs float over the square outside the church. Inside, the choir's four separate parts are arranged in lines, with the pianist and the accordionist at side. As the conductor in the middle of the podium raises his hands, the melodious four-part singing begins to rise.

"The choir practices for one or two hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings," said Li De, deputy head of the Xiaoshuijing Ethnic Farmers' Choir. The present choir can sing in eight-part harmony as well. Without professional training, it is an unspoken understanding that has glued members into one.

Long Guangyuan is 44 years-old. In 2006, he was designated by the

Kunming Municipal Government as a municipal-level inheritor of intangible cultural heritage. He joined the village choir when he was 17 and was elected conductor the next year. "No one taught me. I just learned from primary school music textbooks and audio-visual materials," he says. In the past decade since he became the choir's vocal teacher and conductor in 1995, Long Guangyuan developed effective training methods so that the choir's singing level has improved year by year. Now, its multi-part mixed choral singing is especially distinctive.

In recent years, the Xiaoshuijing Ethnic Farmers' Choir has become increasingly well-known. It has performed in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Chongqing, Macau, Hong Kong and other places and has attracted many tourists from Singapore, South Korea, the UK, France, the USA and other countries.

LOCALIZATION

GoKunming's effort in localization

By Wang Jing, Wang Shixue

At an awarding ceremony on January 9, a total of 19 Kunming-based business entities were entitled as the best ones by GoKunming.com, an influential English website in Kunming, capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province.

The awarded businesses fall into ten categories. For nine years, GoKunming has given its users the chance to vote on their

favorite restaurants, cafes, bars and other venues.

Among the awards list are Camel Bar, O'Reilly's Irish Pub, Green Lake Park, Western Hills, Green Lake Hotel, Tusheng Shiguan, Dali Old Town, Puzhehei Scenic Area, Lighthouse International English, and Kunming College of Eastern Language and Culture.

This is already the third annual awarding gathering organized by GoKunming. However, this

year's ceremony features more local elements though it is a business promotion event hosted by foreigners in Kunming.

Besides the awarded, GoKunming has also established contacts with other business entities in Yunnan, such as exotic hotels in Dali, a would-be entertaining spot called 871 West in Kunming, and the cultural company owned by Yang Liping. Through lucky draws at the ceremony, coupon winners at the ceremony can enjoy free services at the above mentioned entertaining spots, which will bring Kunming citizens closer to GoKunming.

"It is a long way to go local, we are always trying to bring locals and foreigners together in fun and mutually beneficial ways. Tonight was our chance to give back to all of the people who use our website, both local and unlocal, as well as to reward the city's top businesses for their creativity and ongoing effort to make Kunming a more international city," said Jansen

GREEN WEDDING

A low-carbon wedding

By Zhou Mingjia

On the afternoon of January 12, a "grand" electric bicycle wedding was held in the winter sunlight of the Spring City. A total of 100 electric bicycles followed a festively decorated electric bicycle, on which the bride and groom headed happily towards a happy marriage.

The groom, Ye Jingxian, is from Wenzhou and is a salesperson of an electric bicycle brand. The bride, Liu Linglin, lives in Kunming and once bought an electric bicycle from the groom before they fell in love with each other. To commemorate the electric bicycle's role in their



love and most importantly to call on more people to protect the environment, they held a simple yet stylish low-carbon wedding.



EDUCATION

Yunnan University steps up internationalization

By **Chu Donghua**

To be more active in cultural exchanges at the international level, Yunnan University, one of the key higher institutions in southwest China, issued a series of measures and regulations last Friday.

In the coming five years, the university will call for all-member participation in its internationalization drive, and the international students will be provided with better teaching

resources and more opportunities. The Confucius institutes established by the university will be upgraded to international study centers, which can also serve Chinese companies overseas.

Up to now, Yunnan university has set up three Confucius institutes in Bangladesh, Iran and Myanmar, and another Confucius institute will soon be build up at Dhaka University in Bangladesh. Cooperative ties by the university have been forged with key higher institutions in more than 100

countries, including the US, the UK, France, Canada, Australia, and Israel.

Currently, the University witnesses an increasing number of international students, 33.26 percent of whom come to pursue a degree. More than 300 Chinese students are sent abroad each year to participate in around 40 exchange programs.

By 2020, Yunnan University is expected to enroll 3,000 international students, and at least a quarter of them will pursue academic education.

COURSE

Spud studies to be offered in Yunnan

By **Yunnan Daily**

Yunnan Normal University in southwest China's Yunnan Province confirmed on Wednesday that it would establish a department dedicated to potato studies. It was raising heated debate among netizens. Some are so curious about it that they left online questions like this: Will there be a major studying how to fry potato chips? Some of the questions are kind of ironic because they think the potato is so ordinary in their life.

Actually, the potato makes the staple of food among Yunnan natives, so it is closely related to the health of the general public. Yunnan Normal University begun potato research in the 1970s and has since led the field within the province and fruitful results in reseach have been yield.

The university held a meeting on a potato college in November.

In December, the university signed a strategic framework agreement with an institute for genome research under the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, deciding to set up two majors -- potato genome studies and genetic breeding.

A university employee said the college is not yet open for enrollment.

China is the world's largest potato producer, with a planting area of 5.6 million hectares. The country is increasing potato production to make it a staple food, better ensuring food security as it faces tight supplies of farmland, water and labour.

SCHOLARSHIP

26 Myanmar students studying in Yunnan awarded scholarship

By **Yang Zhihui**

On January 5, Yunnan Minzu University held a students Symposium, inviting different national students to communicate and talk. 26 Myanmar students were awarded with scholarships at the Symposium.

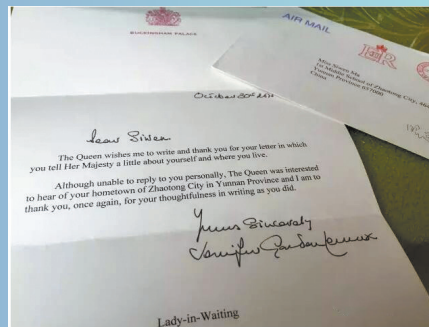
Yunnan Minzu University always attaches importance to overseas communication and cooperation, and is one of the earliest colleges and universities in Yunnan in accepting international students.

So far, it has attracted students from over 10 countries and regions including the U.S.A., Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, South Korea, Japan, Sri Lanka, the Kingdom of Bhutan, Nepal, etc. To award students who are hard working, the university set special scholarship in 2014, and 26 Myanmar students got the 2015 International Students Sodality Scholarship amounting to RMB 2,000 per student per year.

A Yunnan Zhaotong girl receives letter from Buckingham Palace

On January 3, 2016, an English letter addressed to Ma Siwen arrived at the school mailroom, autographed by Buckingham Palace. Ma Siwen is 18-year-old girl studying at No. 1 High School in Zhaotong City, Yunnan Province. She wrote a letter to her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II, In her letter, she recommended Zhaotong and invited Her Majesty to come as a guest. Her Majesty the Queen was impressed with the girl's sincerity

and enthusiasm. Her lady-in-waiting wrote back, saying the Queen was interested to hear the introduction of Zhaotong, Yunnan province.



EXCHANGE

Delegation of Yunnan University of TCM visited Institute Ilmu Kesehatan

By **Wu Fei**

On January 9, 2016, International Cooperation and Communication Department of Yunnan University of TCM visited institute ilmu kesehatan.

Delegation of Yunnan University of TCM called on institut ilmu kesehatan in Kediri, and visited the campus, teaching buildings, laboratory building, affiliated stomatological hospital, Women's and Children's Hospital, Chinese medicine clinic, etc. During the visit, the two parties signed a Cooperation Agreement at the campus of institut ilmu kesehatan.

Dr. R.P. Bambang Noerjanto, Dean of institute ilmu kesehatan, David R. Suhartono, general manager of institute ilmu kesehatan, and Mr. Zhou Qing, representative of Yunnan University of TCM made speeches at the signing ceremony, addressing expectations to the communication of traditional medicines of both countries and mutual cooperation of both universities in the future.

The two universities signed Yunnan University of TCM • Institut Ilmu Kesehatan Cooperation Agreement, stipulating mutual agreement on the scheme and

implementation methods in jointly setting undergraduate education and non-academic education in traditional Chinese medicine major. Representatives of both sides also made further negotiation in terms of the research of traditional Chinese medicine resources, clinical diagnosis & treatment of traditional Chinese medicine, and deepening cooperation of both sides, along with remarkable suggestions and opinions regarding the mutual cooperation & communication of the two universities under the Cooperation Agreement framework.

KUNMING--BANGKOK EXPRESSWAY

Driving to Laos and Thailand increasingly popular from China

By Wang Shixue

With the development of Kunming-Bangkok Highway, China-Laos-Thailand trilateral ties and the implementation of the "Belt and Road" initiative, driving to Laos and Thailand for vacations is becoming more and more popular among Chinese tourists. Statistics show that 735,722 outbound tourists and 257,217 private vehicles entered Laos via the Mohan land port between 2011 and 2015, up 131% and 430.2%, respectively, compared with the previous five-year period.

In early December 2015, the inspection hall at Mohan land port

had already been filled with outbound tourists. "It's the low season with far less self-driving tourists, compared with the Chinese New Year holiday, during which we had handled 678 vehicles on the first day alone." An official from Mohan Office of Mengla Transport Authorities says that tourists can get permits to drive abroad by producing their passports, vehicle registration documents and drivers licenses.

Ai Wenhan, who is applying for a permit says, "I'm driving with a couple of friends. We are heading for Chiang Khongin Thailand via the Houeisay Bridge. It's easy to complete the clearance now. The Kun-

ming-Bangkok Highway is quite scenic. We would drive to neighbouring countries every year to experience exotic lifestyles." Ai Handan, waiting nearby, says that he is going to visit relatives abroad and he would drive to drop by every now and then as the journey is so convenient.

An official from the Mengla Transport Administration told the reporter that more and more Chinese choose to drive into Laos and Thailand, and they can get overseas driving permits within just one minute if all their documents are ready. During high seasons, such as over Chinese New Year and Songkran holidays, there are additional

staff to help out at more service windows. The port also contacts travel agencies so as to collect information about tourists and their vehicles in advance, so as to further reduce waiting times. Vehicles of teams can apply for travel permits by making appointments in advance. Chinese cars can travel throughout Laos after getting such permit and buying third-party liability insurance. In addition, office hours at the port also extend from 8:30-17:30 to 8:30-21:30. Annual and quarterly meetings are held by transport authorities of both countries under a working mechanism to further coordinate and facilitate customs clearance.

PHOTO NEWS



As the fast promotion of Ruili National Key Development and Opening Experimental Zone, inter-flow of commodities at the border of China & Myanmar became increasingly popular. By December 30, 2015, the exit and entry person-time at Ruili Port exceeded 15 million, and exit and entry vehicle-time 2.5 million, respectively increased by 6.4% and 3.4% on a year-on-year basis, making new high records.

By Li Qiuming

MOVIE

Yunnan movie shined at Hollywood

By Ma Junyan

Road to the Sky, a movie talks about the world-known road building legend of Yunnan people was honored with two prizes on (L.A. time) December 15 at the first Hollywood International Film Festival, namely the "Best New Actress Prize" and "Best Film Editing Prize". Liu Xiaoxiao, post-1990s Chinese actress who received the "Best New Actress Prize" was also nominated as "Best Movie Queen". She said, "This prize is an excellent start for a young

post-1990s actress like me".

Hollywood International Film Festival aims at discovering excellent small & middle cost films and artsy films and giving aid to potential new directors, actors actresses and film practitioners in the world. 12 authoritative judges from all over the world were invited to form the Judging Committee, who worked diligently for 3 months to appraise and elect the prizes. Over 200 films from 24 countries and regions including the U.S.A., Canada, France, the U.K., Romania, Thailand,

South Korea, Indonesia, etc. participated in the Film Festival, and 6 films from Chinese mainland were elected. Chinese delegation was composed of 15 people including director, producer and other relevant person, and Liu Xiaoxiao was the only invited actress/actor in Chinese mainland.

Road to the Sky participated in the intense competition and shined at the Film Festival. As a result, Liu Xiaoxiao went up twice on the stage and received prizes on behalf of Director Wang Yi and herself. She said,



"Thank Yunnan provincial government for your support to our film, thank the world for your attention to Chinese films. I hope that more Chinese films can be shown on global stage."

TOURISM

"Barrier-free Tourism" has been carried out in Yunnan

By Dai Jikai

From this year, Yunnan province is going to carry out "barrier-free tourism" within the whole province.

It is reported that barrier-free tourism regulates 16 aspects such as travel agency business, tourist guide service and tourist bus running, and the main aspects are as follows: branch travel agencies established in Yunnan province are not limited; the number of service network station in the entire province for travel agencies registered in Yunnan prov-

ince is not limited; tour guides without signing labor contract cannot be employed; travel agencies are able to provide trans-regional travel services; the behavior of blocking passage of passenger vehicles between original place of the car and the travel destination will be punished according to laws. These regulations are aimed at creating flexible and convenient travel environment in Yunnan province with mutual benefits and satisfying services and promoting sustainable development of regional tourism.

Yunnan opens seven self-drive tourism routes

By Zhu Hai

Recently, the "China Self-Drive Tourism Routes 2015" selection panel announced a total of 36 high-quality routes, of which seven are in Yunnan. They include Yuanjiang, Xishuangbanna, Xundian, Dongchuan Red Land, Anning Tangchuan, the Lugu Lake and the Three Parallel Rivers self-drive routes.

The selection is designed to identify 36 high-quality routes for Chinese self-drive enthusiasts. The routes are first recommended by 36 self-drive tourism experts and are then voted on by millions of users.

This year, the Yuanjiang route was a top-three self-drive route under the delicious food category; the Xishuangbanna and Xundian routes were voted top-three self-drive routes under the parent-child category; the Dongchuan Red Land route was a top-three self-drive route under the photography category; the Anning-Tangchuan route was a top-three self-drive route under the meditation category; the Lugu Lake route was a top-three self-drive route under the leisure category; and the Three Parallel Rivers route was a top-three self-drive route under the geography category.

Yunnan to launch two HSR lines in late 2016

Yunnan is expecting to launch the Kunming-Shanghai HSR line and the Kunming-Nanning HSR line in late 2016. By then, HSR rides from Kunming to Nanning and Shanghai will take five hours and ten hours, respectively.

On January 6, the Kunming Railway Bureau disclosed that the Yunnan section of the Shanghai-Kunming HSR line will include four stations: Kunming South Station, Songming Station, Qujing North Station and Fuyuan North Station. This means that with Shanghai-Kunming HSR line going into operation by the end of this year, the HSR line will

also link up Kunming, Songming, Qujing and Fuyuan.

Integrated commissioning and testing will be conducted before goes into operation in late 2016. This section is 184.7 kilometres in length, and its design speed is 250-350 kilometres per hour.

Kunming South Station is currently under construction and will be put into use in the second half of this year. The station is designed with a yearly throughput of 46.93 million passengers (or a daily throughput of 128,000 passengers) and a peak throughput of 12,000 passengers. It will become the largest railway station in Southwest China.

DISCOVER YUNNAN

Prehistoric site found under Fuxian Lake

By Yang Zhigao

Fuxian Lake is located in Yuxi City, Yunnan. It not only features clear water and beautiful scenery, but is home to many unsolved mysteries as well. In recent years, the Yunnan Chinese Civilization Research Society (YCCRS) conducted a series of underwater scientific surveys in Fuxian Lake, and found stone cultural structures once carved with metal tools. YCCRS scholars believe that these discoveries forms a prehistoric site under the lake.

The underwater site consists of 30 stone structures, covering an area of 2.4 square kilometres.

One of the structures is a pyramid-like building that is more than 20 metres tall, equivalent to the height of a ten-storey building. Another huge structure sits on a 63-metre-wide foundation and stands 21 metres high, resembling the Roman Colosseum. Some buildings could have served for sacrificial purposes. A 300-metre-long and seven-metre-wide paved section runs through the complex, and the flagstones are carved with exquisite patterns.

According to Huang Yilu, vice president of the Yunnan Chinese Civilization Research Society, the remnants of these stone

cultural structures are mostly on the fourth layer, and many triangular patterns carved with "sun god faces" are seen on these structures. Some patterns could be labeled "seat of sacrificial priest or tribal chief" and "heaven-reaching tree."

The scientific survey crew also cleared a path leading to the fifth layer, where the water is 6-6.5 metres deep. The n-shaped path includes two sections, the north section and the south section. Both sections directly lead to the top of tower. The south section is 51 metres long, seven metres wide and sits under six metres of water. The red sandstone surface

is covered with relief carvings. The north section is 46 metres long, 7.1 metres wide and sits 6.5 metres under water, while its surface is evenly paved with flat blocks. There are also human-built stone walls arranged in an orderly manner.

YCCRS also found a group of patterns carved with metal tools on one of the stone cultural structures, including depictions of the sun and the moon, male and female genitalia, odd and even numbers, triangles. YCCRS scholars believe that the then social and cultural community worshipped these symbols.

The underwater site consists

of 30 stone structures, covering an area of 2.4 square kilometres.



Human-built wall

ECOLOGY

Cormorants return to Dianchi Lake after 30 years



By Pu Meiling

Wild cormorants that have disappeared for more than 30 years came into the public sight at Dianchi Lake due to ecological improvement at the surrounding areas of lake, according to local environmental authority in Kunming, capital of Southwest China's Yunnan Province.

"As the largest marsh on Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau, the Dianchi Lake has rich diversity in bird species, and it was listed as a key bird habitat by the International Bird Alliance. In recent discovery, three cormorants have been observed three in wetland around the lake" said Zhao Xuebin, general secretary of the Kunming Birds Association.

Large areas of waters and marshes at the Dianchi region disappeared in the past 50 years. As a result, waterfowls lost their habitat, and some of them have become extinct. However, the ecological condition in the area has been improved due to local effort in environmental protection in recent years.

Compared with 2006, the current green coverage rate in the Dianchi region has reached 80 percent, a six-time increase. The number of species has increased from 232 in 2006 to 290 at present, up by 25 percent.

The cormorant is scarce in China currently, and the species has been listed as an extinct one since 2013 by the World Alliance of Nature protection.

FEATURE

Yu Kunyao: combining ethnic embroidery with international brands

By Ouyang Xiaoshu

During the 2015 New Balance Anglo-American production series tour in Kunming, a pair of track shoes featuring traditional Yi embroidery attracted considerable attention.

The shoes were embroidered by Yu Kunyao, a post-90s Yi ethnic minority girl living in Yunnan's Yongren County. Yu Kunyao has a simple and ambitious dream: to rejuvenate and hand down the declining tradition of Yi embroidery while introducing it to the outside world.

The Yi ethnic minority is China's sixth largest, mainly inhabiting the country's southwest provinces of Yunnan, Sichuan and Guizhou. Over thousands of years, Yi embroidery has been handed down from generation to generation. Yu Kunyao's mother, Li Ruxiu, is a legendary embroiderer. She began to collect Yi people's embroidered articles when she was only sixteen years old, and has been spending the bulk of her income on this hobby for the past two decades.

"Following in my mother's footsteps, I knew it would be a difficult road, but I am not going to give up," said YuKunyao. Yi embroidery has been passed down for thousands of years, and Li Ruxiu has embroidered from childhood to old age. However, Yi women's clothes are embroidered in different patterns and colours and are never the same. If a piece of clothing is lost or cremated with a deceased woman, the style or pattern can no longer be reproduced. In order to preserve these unique embroidery works, Li Ruxiu goes door-door to buy and collect them.

"My mother began to collect embroidered articles before I was born. She has spent a lot of money on them," YuKunyao says. "Now our house is filled with her collection." Her twenty years' perseverance has finally been rewarded. Li Ruxiu's collection of over 3,000 Yi costumes and embroidery works are now exhibited at the Yongren County Cultural Centre, attracting many researchers and designers.

Li Ruxiu's peers used to find her weird, and now the same thing is happening to her daughter. Yu

Kunyao says with a smile, "I think I am luckier than my mother, because people around me give me support, while my mother was on her own."

There are many types of Yi embroidery stitches. Yongren Yi embroidery alone has seven types of stitches, including tucking, serging, patching and running stitches. "The Yi people have their own understanding of everything. Unlike Suzhou embroidery, Yi embroidery is not restricted by any fixed frame and has more freedom. Today, however, affected by market demand, patterns are basically stereotyped, and creativity and imagination are constantly weakening," says Yu Kunyao.

When New Balance placed an order, Yu Kunyao spent more than a week trying to break through the limitations of traditional thinking. "To interpret ethnic style from a new perspective, you need to fully understand traditional artistic expressions and transform and refine traditional elements. Only then can you integrate them into concepts of modern life to achieve local design with modern characteristics."

FOREIGNERS IN YUNNAN

Jansen: A Dutchman running a website in Kunming



Jansen is taking interview by a local TV.

Photo by Wangjing

By Liu Yanqin

Speaking both Mandarin and Kunming dialect, adept with chopsticks, this foreigner is from the Netherlands and his name is Yereth Jansen.

Jansen has been living in Kunming for more than six years and knows this city very well. He likes collecting intriguing information and tasting various foods. He runs the English website GoKunming.com, hoping that more foreigners can learn about Kunming through his eyes. Today, GoKunming.com has become an important guide for foreigners touring Kunming. At present, the site registers 300,000 page views per month,

34% of which are from overseas.

According to Jansen, GoKunming.com is run by a team of five people from different countries: an editor who updates the website content on a daily basis; a forum administrator in charge of the forum's daily maintenance; an event promoter who collects and posts information about various events in Kunming; and a micro-blog and WeChat administrator. As CEO, Jansen is mainly responsible for the website design and operational management. Every day, GoKunming.com publishes information collected from Mainland media, micro-blogs and WeChat on all sorts of events in Yunnan. It also provides a free platform on which us-

ers can publish their own ideas. Today, many foreigners in Kunming regard the site as their "online home."

Jansen already had a plan for the future development of GoKunming.com "We will 'encircle cities from rural areas'. The Art of War tells me that a website also needs a strategy." He hopes to expand from small and medium cities to big cities and set up similar sites in Nanjing, Hangzhou and other places.

Jansen is concerning with Kunming's development, including the progress of metro construction. Jansen is already an "Old Kunminger", but he still likes walking around the city. He hopes to learn more about Kunming and better understand its people and culture.

An Indonesian girl's love of Lijiang

By He Qian

"At first, I simply saw Lijiang as a place of work, hardly expected that I would receive so many friendship from Lijiang people, not to mention becoming a new Lijiang people", said Huang Lingling, an Indonesia girl, with smile.

After graduated from college, Huang Lingling got an internship at Banyan Tree Indonesia Resort. Due to her excellent work performance and ability in speaking Chinese, she was recommended by her supervisor to work at Banyan Tree Lijiang Resort. In March, 2006, Huang Lingling flied alone to Lijiang. At the first sight of Lijiang, she was deeply disappointed: the airport was so small, with

clay houses and farms all over the place, and local people talked loudly... She felt that Lijiang was very out-dated and nothing but a big village, rather than a tourism city tantalizingly attracting international visitors as described by her supervisor.

She asked the taxi driver as soon as seating herself on the backseat, "Does Lijiang have nothing but these old houses and farms?" The driver smiled and said nothing. She thought to herself: Lijiang was only a workplace that I cannot choose. I would work here for several years and then apply to go back.

In the following months, she visited the ancient Lijiang town, enjoyed snow mountain, and sight-saw Dongba Valley, etc. Days passed, she gradually exerted

the feelings that such ancient architecture was nearly disappeared in Indonesia, and the mysterious Dongba culture was so unique among numerous world cultures, not to mention the hospitable Nakhi people, who had brought many moving moments to her.

"Feel free to come and visit again" are the frequently said words of Lijiang people. The more people visit, the happier the hosts would be", said Huang Lingling. Every time she visits a Nakhi family, the hosts would take out the best food to entertain her. Once, an old driver of Banyan Tree Lijiang invited the entire Front Office Department to visit his family and enjoyed the "Whole Pig Meal". Huang Lingling was very curious about

this "Whole Pig Meal" and felt more than willing to go. Unfortunately, some friends happened to call on her, and she had to cancel the plan. But the hospitable driver insisted that she can bring her friends along with her.

"The hospitality and kindness of Lijiang people often touch the deep heart of me", said Huang Lingling. In June, 2015, at her six months' pregnancy, she had serious pregnancy vomit and asked her mother to come and look after her. However, local government required Certificate of Kindred in conducting visa formalities. Huang Lingling didn't have such a certificate. The only thing she can prove her relationship with her mother was the Single Status Certificate she ac-

quired when conducting Marriage Certificate. To make it worse, to go through the makeup formalities she needed to come to Beijing or back to Indonesia. She was desperate and thought about buying a air ticket for her mother. Surprisingly, an officer of Lijiang Pubic Security Administration called her the next day, saying that they could make an exception for her and conducted visa formalities for her mother.

"I was extremely surprised and thrilled. Thinking back my life in Lijiang during the past years, friends who had taken care of me when I was sick and colleagues who help me when I'm in trouble. I think Lijiang people has become a part of my life and now I can't live without them", said Huang Lingling.

How Tudou, a British guy fell in love with Kunming

By Wang Shixue

Mr Tudou runs an English training school called Lighthouse in Kunming. Though it is our first meeting, I feel he is like a bosom friend because of his name "Tudou". After all, most people in Yunnan love eating Tudou or potato in English, and there is no exception for me.

Indeed, Mr Tudou has been closely related to Yunnan. In 2004, he encountered a girl from Yunnan's Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture who was studying at his hometown Liverpool in the UK. They fell in love with each other and got married two years later. When the couple paid a visit back to Yunnan in 2006, it occurred to Tudou that he wants to live here because of the beautiful sceneries. In 2011, Tudou settled in Kunming, beginning a brand new life style. Now, he is the owner of an English training school called Lighthouse.

Tudou got his MBA from Lancaster

University, and he once tried to open a company in Kunming. However, he had some trouble in management due to cultural difference. For example, he didn't quite understand why Chinese employees always ask for a leave to go home. Having learned some Chinese cultural, he knows Chinese culture traditionally attaches much importance to affection among family members. Now, if his students ask for a leave to go sightseeing with the family on weekends, Tudou can stand it.

Tudou looks at teaching as an ideal job. "To be a teacher is rewarding because we can change our students. And it is meaningful to help them adapt to life in English-speaking countries because people-to-people communication between the west and the east can be facilitated by our teaching. "Tudou is trying to make a difference in teaching. At his school, there is a garden-like classroom and original course wares. "We mainly change the linguistic mindset of our students,

giving them more exposure to western culture and making them fall in love with English. These are our students. As you can see, the smiles on their face spell our success in teaching," said Tudou in the classroom.

Currently, the economic downturn and the heated competition may impose some challenges upon businesses, but Tudou is still optimistic. "Well, I am not afraid of competition from which progress can be made. Competition makes us stronger. So long as we can really help the students, serving them wholeheartedly, I think we can still enjoy a thriving business in the future," Tudou said.

"But one thing is definite: I will stay in Kunming, Tudou continues. "The weather in Britain is unpredictable, while Kunming is full of sunshine even in winter. Over 30 plus years living in Britain, I used to drive a car wherever I went. In Kunming, however, I can simple ride a bike, which is green and healthy. Even compared with



Tudou is talking with his students in the office.

Photo by Wang Shixue

other Chinese cities such as Beijing and Chongqing, Kunming is more favorable in living. Kunming is just perfect. "

On weekends, Tudou often goes to the countryside to get close to the nature.

Kunyang, Haikou and West Hills are among his favourite spots, where friendly folks, rice noodles and other local flavors make him far away from the downtown crowd. How relaxed he is!