



The 4th China-South Asia Expo to be held in Kunming June 12 to 17

On March 1, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce and the Yunnan Provincial Government jointly held a promotional conference for the fourth China-South Asia Expo and the twenty-fourth China Kunming Import and Export Commodities Fair (Kunming Fair), which will be held together in Kunming from June 12 to 17.

This year's China-South Asia Expo and Kunming Fair will follow the concept of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development. Themed on

8,000 booths

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"amity, sincerity, mutual benefit, inclusiveness and win-win cooperation," they will embrace "the promotion of all-round China-South Asia cooperation and devel-

opment." The exhibitions will cover a total area of 170,000 square meters, a 38 percent increase over last year. There will be 8,000 booths, a 30 percent increase over 2015, and more than half of the booths will be provided for foreign exhibitors.

In addition to exhibitions, trade negotiations and the signing of agreements, a series of other activities will also be held during this year's China-South Asia Expo. These include the eleventh China-South Asia Business Forum, the fourth China-South Asia Think

Tank Forum, the eighth GMS Economic Corridor Week and the China-South Asia-Southeast Asia TV Art Week.

Under China's Belt and Road Initiative, Yunnan makes up a major part of the BCIM economic corridor and the China-Southeast Asia economic corridor. So far, Yunnan has become one of China's most attractive provinces. More and more foreign people are coming to Yunnan to seek business opportunities and make investments.

More than 80 diplomats

from 39 countries in South Asia, Southeast Asia, Europe, Africa and America attended the promotional conference. They said that through its first three sessions, the China-South Asia Expo has increased China's influence in neighboring countries and has promoted economic and cultural exchanges among all participating countries. They promised that their countries would participate in the event in various forms, and wished the China-South Asia Expo a better future.

(Qu Shuning)

"This is the first time I've gotten so close to my dad."

—Descendent of a Flying Tiger traces footprints of her father

"I am deeply touched. Thank you for everything you did for my father!" said Judy, the daughter of a Flying Tigers lieutenant named William Wallace. On February 22 and 23, Judy, along with her husband traced her father's footprints in Yiliang and Songming Counties, Yunnan Province.

The monument to William Wallace is about a 30-minute walk from Qingshuitang Village in Yiliang County. When the monument finally appeared, Judy, now in her seventies, burst into tears.



Judy pays tribute to her father before the monument in Yi Liang County.

Photo by Liu Ziyu

"I've never seen my father. This is the first time I've gotten so close to my father. The monument is exquisitely

carved. Thank you for everything. I grew up in the United States. I've look up to father as a hero since I was a little girl, but I did not expect that he is also regarded as a hero in China," said Judy. After a three-minute silence, she did down a bunch of flowers before the monument.

The monument to William Wallace was erected in February 2006 at the proposal of Patrick Lucas of the United States and Zhou Zuxin of Guizhou Province. Both are members of Shared Glories, a non-governmental organization studying Sino-US cooperation during World War II. When Shared Glories got in touch with Judy last September, Patrick Lucas began to make arrangements for Judy to come to China and trace her father's footprints.

According to Li Junhua, a villager who participated in the erection of the monument, Qingshuitang Village even gave William Wallace a Chinese name, Li Shuhua, so that he became a member of the Li family. Li Junhua considers Judy as an elder sister, and was happy to see this distant relative from afar. "I myself was once an armyman, so I know peace and happiness are hard-won,"

said Li Junhua. He hopes that the monument will be protected from generation to generation and Judy's family will often come to Qingshuitang Village.

Judy and her husband also visited Yangjie Airfield in Songming County, which was in use during World War II. She communicated with the still living airfield construction workers and gave them gifts. She said, "By visiting this place and communicating with the people here, I've developed a clearer and more complete understanding of my father. I'm also deeply touched by the local people's enthusiasm, hospitality and protection of history."

The Flying Tigers, or the American Volunteer Group of the Chinese Air Force, came to China and participated in the War of Chinese People's Resistance Against Japanese Aggression in July 1941. William Wallace came to China in late 1943. He was the captain of a Flying Tigers B-24 bomber. In June 1944, the bomber crashed near Qingshuitang Village in Yiliang County and William Wallace lost his life at the age of 25.

(Liu Ziyu)

Yunnan's foreign trade rallies as a whole

13.3 billion yuan

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More specifically, the province achieved exports of 8.71 billion yuan (a 6.5 percent decline year on year) and imports of 4.59 billion yuan (a 34.7 percent increase year on year). The trade surplus of 4.12 billion yuan ended the declining streak since March 2015, marking a good start for the province's foreign trade in 2016.

In January of this year, the province's general imports rallied strongly. Yunnan achieved substantial growth not only in the export of agricultural products, steel and non-ferrous metals, but also in the importation of natural gas and metal ores. Market demand has improved both internally and externally.

This year, trade maintained its strong momentum between Yunnan and ASEAN countries including Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand. In January, the imports and exports between the province and ASEAN countries totalled 7.37 billion yuan. This figure represents a year-on-year increase of 13.9 percent while accounting for 55.4 percent of the provincial total. The province also achieved a trade volume of 400 million yuan (a 1.5 times growth) with South Korea.

(Wu Ping)

Yunnan scientists to crack potato genome

Potatoes will be grown from seeds hopefully

"Through joint efforts, we hope to crack the potato genome and hopefully cultivate 'tailored' potato varieties that can be grown from seeds rather than tubers, thus increasing potato yields."

—Li Canhui

Director of the Tuber Research Institute, Yunnan Normal University

Recently, the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture issued the *Guiding Opinions on Promoting the Development of the Potato Industry* (hereinafter referred to as the *Opinions*), which proposed to develop potatoes as a staple food. Yunnan experts in relevant fields believe that the *Opinions* will facilitate the development of potato cultivation in Yunnan. They have a bold idea: to crack the potato genome so that potatoes can be grown from seeds.

By 2020, according to the *Opinions*, China expects to increase its potato acreage to 16 million acres, 30 percent of which will be devoted to varieties suitable for staple food processing, with the consumption of potatoes as a staple food accounting for 30 percent of total potato consumption.

As a traditional potato-growing province, Yunnan leads the country in terms of

acreage, yield, cultivation level and research. Last year, Yunnan was not included in the first batch of pilot provinces (autonomous regions and municipalities) for developing potatoes as a staple food. However, Yunnan experts believe that given the province's natural advantages, the *Opinions* will still facilitate the development of the potato industry in Yunnan.

Guo Huachun is Dean of the School of Agriculture and Biotechnology at Yunnan Agricultural University. He said that the industrial development of potatoes as a staple food "will promote the breeding of potato varieties, as well as the development of food processing enterprises." He also expressed the hope that Yunnan could become a potato staple food production base and win more support.

Currently, Yunnan Normal University is planning to build a special school to enhance potato-related talent training and scientific innovation. So far, a strategic cooperation framework agreement has been reached between the university and Agricultural Genome Institute at Shenzhen, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

"Through joint efforts, we hope to crack the potato genome and hopefully cultivate 'tailored' potato varieties that can be grown from seeds rather than tubers, thus increasing potato yields," said Li Canhui, director of the Tuber Research Institute, Yunnan Normal University.

(Li Sijia)



Photo News

Canoeing through rapids

The Third Red Bull Canoeing Challenge was held at Tiger-leaping Gorge in the upper stream of Yangtze River in northwestern Yunnan's Shangri-la County. Challengers from the US, Canada, France and China took part in the race. Tiger-Leaping Gorge is famous for its steep cliffs, narrowness and dangerous rapids. It is a popular tourist destination in China.

Photo by Wang Ying (Xinhua News Agency)