Dai Zhenhua

Recently, construction on the Mohan-Bothen cargo channel kicked off, marking a substantial step in the development of the China-Laos economic cooperation zone.

The channel is an important measure dedicated to facilitate cargo clearances, in order to effectively address the congestion and low efficiency in the mixed passenger and cargo channels currently in use at the Mohan-Bothen land port.

The channel is divided into two sections, an 800-metre corridor in China and a 1,654.5-metre corridor in Laos. Total investment in the project is expected to be around 50 million yuan. The project will be completed in four months. An initial 489.52-meter corridor on the Laos side has already launched, with an investment of 13 million yuan.

After completion, this dedicated cargo channel along the Kunning-Bangkok Highway will greatly enhance bilateral cargo throughput, further enhance cargo transportation levels within the China-ASEAN FTA and lower cargo circulation costs. The economic and trade cooperation of separate markets can merge into an integrated regional market.

EIENERGY
Representative office of CSG established in Laos
Zhang Zhiwen

The representative office of China Southern Power Grid (CSG) in Laos was established recently.

Wang Qihui, Economic and Commercial Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Laos, officials from Laos Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and representatives from Chinese enterprises in Laos attended the founding ceremony.

Deng Xiaowen, a division director of International Department, CSG, said that Laos is located in the center of the Greater Mekong sub-region and is one of the key areas for the company’s international power cooperation. The establishment of the Lao office will help strengthen its ties and partnership with Laos.

In December 2009, Yunnan International Company of CSG realized 110 kV grid interconnection with the Lao national grid. In 2015, the 230 kV power grid project in northern Laos, invested by the Lao Power Generation Company and contracted by CSG, was put into operation. Currently, the two companies are working together on the construction of the 500 kV China-Laos joint grid.

As a big power in the upstream of the Mekong which has crucial role in socio-economic situation of countries in the Southeast Asia, China is showing its goodwill to join hands in dealing with water resource with neighboring countries in the downstream area, said a Vietnamese state newspaper on last Tuesday.

This is a positive move in Beijing’s“water diplomacy,”Nhan Dan (People) Newspaper assessed in its report about Mekong River cooperation, adding that countries in the Mekong basin hold responsibility for suitable use of Mekong water.

In the context that lives of millions of people in the river basin have been largely affected by climate change, a closer and more active trade cooperation mechanism among related countries is needed to exploit and effectively use the important water resource in Mekong River, reported Nhan Dan.

From March 15 to May 31, China discharged water from southwest Yunnan province’s Jinghong Hydropower Station to the lower reaches of the Mekong River. (Xinhua)

SPRING CITY
Kunning promotional film debuts in UK
Ye Pingfan

In July, the Kunning promotional film, he shot at London Piccadilly Circus and Liverpool Railway Station, two historic landmarks in the United Kingdom. The goal is to make raise international awareness for the Spring City.

The picturesque scenery of Dianchi Lake, Green Lake, the Stone Forest, as well as old streets and alleys, tell the stories of a city known for its abundance of flowers and the perfect combination of tradition and modernity. Starting June 29, the opening ceremony of Kunming Week in the UK was held at the UK’s Kunning shown at London.Photo by Ye Pingfan

The promotional film of Piccadilly Circus, cooperation and modernity. Starting June 29, the opening ceremony of Kunming Week in the UK was held at the UK’s largest open-air shopping centre, Liverpool One, bringing the British public a “gift from Kunming”.

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BELT AND ROAD
Business portal of China-ASEAN FTA upgraded
Gu Ying

Recently, the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area launched its upgraded official website (www.asean-cn.org) in Kunming.

The website, approved by the China-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Ministerial Conference, was first put online in January 2010. The upgrade will make it easier for enterprises within the region to keep track of the Free Trade Area’s latest policies, enhance their ability for economic cooperation and facilitate the development of trading, logistics and other sectors.

The upgraded website is divided into four sections, namely goods trade, services trade, investment and economic cooperation. Also, the website has now introduced a place-of-origin certificate issuing system, a tariff concession inquiry system and several other trade facilitation systems. Additionally, the portal features a cross-border electronic commerce platform.

YNAU offered agriculture training course for ASEAN countries
Wu Ping

Organized by the China-ASEAN Education and Training Center of Yunnan Agricultural University (YNAU), the international training course on comprehensive prevention and control of major crop pests in ASEAN countries was launched at YNAU.

In the 20 days to come, 23 experts and scholars from five ASEAN countries are going to receive theoretical training and hands-on practice for disease and pest control for major crops. They will also pay on-site visits to crop disease and pest control demonstration bases in Shilin and Jianhui.

YNAU, as Yunnan’s only agricultural college with undergraduate programs, has been giving full play to the geographic advantage of the province and enrolled more than 90 international students from Laos, Cambodia and other countries. Since 1994, the university has trained more than 3,500 agricultural professionals from ASEAN countries in a number of international training programs designed to meet the social development needs of these countries.

Editor: Han Chengyuan
E-mail: CNYNYDP@163.com
For more information, please visit our website: yunnanexpress.com
Editor: Han Chengyuan
E-mail: CNYNYDP@163.com