



CHINA • YUNNAN



NAME CARD

Coffee: A new way to see Yunnan

November is harvest time for coffee grown in Yunnan. The 26th International Conference on Coffee Science is also held in Kunming at this time.

As the world's most influential and authoritative coffee industry conference, the event attracted some 400 attendees from 60 countries and regions worldwide, and focused on coffee chemistry and the sustainable development of the coffee industry.

Statistics show that there

are more than 70 countries worldwide producing coffee. Among these, China and 20 others have individual production capacities of more than 100,000 tons. After learning of the development of Yunnan's coffee industry, many foreign scientists had the feeling that the future of China's coffee industry lies in Yunnan. As of early 2016, coffee planting areas in Yunnan totaled 1.77 million mu, with an output of 139,000 tons, accounting for more than 99 percent of

1.77 million mu
Number of the total coffee planting areas in Yunnan

139,000 tons
Number of the output of Yunnan's coffee

China's total, and one percent of the global total.

At present, Yunnan's raw coffee processing capacity exceeds 150,000 tons, and now forms a complete industrial chain.

Local coffee beans are favored and bought by well-known international coffee brands such as Nestle and Starbucks. In the first three quarters this year, Yunnan saw coffee exports of 63,000 tons, up 79.3 percent, year on year. The opening of Kunming-Rotterdam and Chongqing-Duisburg international freight services have effectively stimulated the growth of Yunnan's coffee exports.

As the industry's most influential and authoritative conference, the World

Conference on Coffee Science provides a platform for the global coffee businesses to showcase their latest achievements in science and technology. It also provides an opportunity for international cooperation.

Yunnan, known for its picturesque natural scenery and colorful ethnic cultures, is now gaining a new signature—coffee. The beans have officially become a fresh way to see Yunnan.

(Yunnan Daily)

VOICE

Alibaba shows how tech can promote inclusivity

Peter Fuhrman

Alibaba, the world's largest e-commerce company, has changed China. Its impact is perhaps the most transformational in some of China's smallest, poorest and most remote rural villages.

By getting online, farmers can shop more widely and buy more cheaply a vast range of products never before available in rural China. In addition, they can sell directly their farm products, both fresh and packaged, to tens of millions of customers living in cities across China.

I'm one of those urban dwellers in China who does some of the food shopping from tiny rural family businesses on Taobao. Recently I bought dried chili peppers from Sichuan and dried sweet potato chips from Shandong. Everything I buy from rural producers is great. But, the real enjoyment comes

from knowing that, thanks to Alibaba, my money can go directly to the people working hard to build a better life for themselves and their families in rural China.

Unlike Amazon and eBay, Alibaba takes no commission on purchases made on Taobao. This is what economists call "frictionless trade", where buyers and sellers can transact without any middlemen taking a cut. It is a dream of farmers worldwide; to sell products directly to customers and so earn more for their hard work.

Alibaba is paying for tens of thousands of "Village Taobao" centres across China. Here, farmers can get free help to buy and sell online. Nowhere else on the planet is e-commerce being as successfully introduced into the lives of small village farmers. **(The author is chairman and CEO of China First Capital)**

STORY

Vegetable planting provides a boost in Mohan

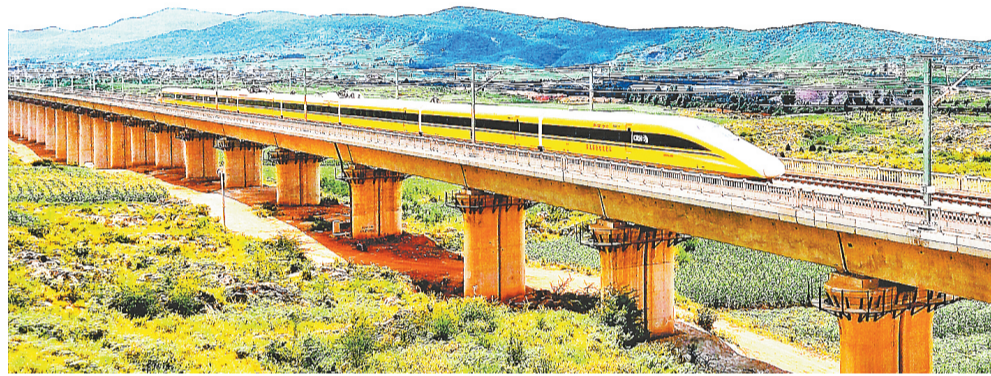
Han Huanyu

Lines of trucks loaded with vegetables can be spotted everywhere in Mohan village, Yunnan, from October to next April.

37-year-old Zhang Weiping started his career in 1997, three years after the port of Mohan was first listed as a first-class national port. In 2004, Zhang sniffed business opportunities in the country's opening-up. Zhang and his neighbours established a cooperative to grow and sell vegetables to big cities like Beijing and Harbin. "Before

2003, the vegetable planting area of my village was only 50 mu. Now our cooperative has 11,000 mu of vegetables, creating a sales of 43 million yuan."

Last year, China-Laos Economic Cooperation Zones was launched. Zhang has now also started a business in Laos. This cooperative has vegetable bases in Phongsaly and two other provinces in northern Laos with a total planting area of more than 3,000 mu, providing seeds, technical and personnel training to local Lao villagers.



HSR launches the test run

On November 13, a CRH380 high-speed train left Kunming South for Guiyang North of Guizhou Province at a speed of 300 km/hour on a test run. Two hours later, the train arrived at its destination, marking the success of the test run. After that, this section of the Shanghai-Kunming High-Speed Railway will enter the phase of trial operation, and is expected to open to traffic by the end of this year.

Photo by Hu Xiaorong

NEIGHBOURS

Lao students trained in power management

Luo Rongchan

Recently, the Greater Mekong Subregion Power Dispatching Operation and Control Workshop was held in Kunming.

Featuring experts from Yunnan Power Grid and

China Southern Grid, the two-week workshop provided lectures and on-site studies for 25 students from Laos and other countries. Students not only studied, but also conducted professional exchanges, built friendships and expanded mu-

tual understanding. The workshop expanded the scope and depth of cooperation in the power industries of Greater Mekong Subregion countries, laying a sound foundation for exchanges between these countries.



For more information, please visit our website.

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TECHNOLOGY

WIC wows audiences with cutting-edge technology

Zhu Han

During the Third World Internet Conference (WIC), an exposition named "Light of The Internet" was held in Wuzhen, Zhejiang. The exposition showcased the latest achievements of the world's internet development and technological innovation.

Technology makes life more convenient. During the WIC, unmanned vehicle developed by Baidu debuted on open city roads, realizing automatic driving under complex road conditions.

Technology is making cities smarter as well. During the expo, Hangzhou's "Brain of the city" attracted much attention. The system, using big data, is capable of easing traffic congestion, thus making the city a better place to live.

Using Aliyun ET artificial intelligence technology, the "brain", jointly developed by the Hangzhou municipal government and 13 Chinese companies, can perform real-time analysis on the entire city, and automatically allocate public resources and realize artificial intelligence in urban governance.



The robot showed at the "Light of The Internet".

Photo by Xu Yu(Xinhua Agency)

EDUCATION

Three-million scholarship set up to attract ASEAN students

A three-million yuan (USD 442,451) scholarship has been made available to students from ASEAN interested in studying in the eastern Chinese province of Jiangsu, according to an official from the local education bureau.

The scholarship is part of a wider initiative to boost educational cooperation between Jiangsu and ASEAN, and is open to students wishing to study at secondary and vocational schools in Jiangsu.

Sixty students from ASEAN member countries have already been accepted on to the program and they began their first semester in September.

Educational exchanges have increased rapidly in recent years. China welcomed 72,000 ASEAN students in 2015, while over 120,000 Chinese students studied in ASEAN the same year. "As China and ASEAN steps into a new stage of collaboration, we hope to take this opportunity to build upon our educational cooperation, and increase exchanges between Jiangsu and ASEAN," one local official said. Besides Jiangsu, the province of Guizhou and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region also have similar scholarships for ASEAN students.

(Xinhua)