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The Nation

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BRICS

BRICS committed to making pie of global economy bigger

By Xinhua

this regard.

While the bloc is dedicated to strengthening South-South cooperation, it is not intended to "move the cheese of anyone," as Chinese President Xi Jinping said at a three-day summit in China's coastal city of Xiamen, but to "make the pie of the global economy bigger."

Actions speak louder than words. Xi announced at the summit that China will offer 500 million yuan (about 76 million U.S. dollars) to facilitate practical cooperation in economy and trade, and another 4 million dollars for projects of the BRICS New Development Bank, a Shanghai-headquartered body set up in 2015 as the bloc's major contribution to the world financial system.

It is worth noting that the group has decided to invite more countries to participate in the mechanism, a move that will turn it into an engine for developing countries to stimulate mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation.

As a stakeholder in shaping world order and safeguarding peace, the BRICS should further strengthen communication and coordination on major global and regional issues, and promote democracy in international relations so as to serve as a stabilizer for the world.

Under China's presidency, the BRICS mechanism has entered its second "golden decade" with global expectations that it will promote economic recovery amid deglobalization concerns.

Since the first meeting of their foreign ministers in 2006, BRICS countries have achieved 10 years of prosperity, with 42 percent of the world's population contributing 50 percent of global economic growth.

The five-member bloc has focused on promoting cooperation in such areas as trade and investment, currency and finance, connectivity, sustainable development, innovation and industrial cooperation.

Given sluggish economic growth and rising protectionism, the world needs BRICS' unremitting efforts in the next decade to bring confidence and energize common development.

After assuming the rotating presidency this year, China, together with the other four members of Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa, has formulated a series of platforms within the BRICS mechanism to deliver tangible achievements.

The BRICS mechanism is based on results-oriented cooperation, and significant progress has been made in

Xi says Belt and Road Initiative not geopolitical tool

By Xinhua

Chinese President Xi Jinping said recently the Belt and Road Initiative is not a tool to advance any geopolitical agenda, but a platform for practical cooperation.

It is not a foreign aid scheme, but an initiative for interconnected development which calls for extensive consultation,

joint contribution and shared benefits, Xi said while delivering a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the BRICS Business Forum scheduled for Sept. 3-4 in the southeastern coastal city of Xiamen.

"I am convinced that the Belt and Road Initiative will serve as a new platform for all countries to achieve win-win cooperation and that it will create new opportunities

for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," he said.

China hosted the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in May which was attended by 29 heads of state or government and more than 1,600 representatives from more than 140 countries and 80-plus international organizations.

CHINA STORY



In Shangri-La, Tibetan people are dancing and singing in front of the tourists from afar.

Photo by Zhou Can

Beijing holds hearts of Diqing People

By Xiong Yan, Chu Donghua

Editor's Note: In this issue, the column Chinese Story will focus on the change of the ordinary people's life during the past years.

In the middle of August, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, reporters went to Diqing for interviews. From towns to villages, from temples to churches, and from government officials to ordinary people, what the reporters saw and heard on the way embodies the sincerity and deep feeling of people from all walks of life in the Tibetan area. Everyone can feel Diqing's dramatic changes in the past 60 years.

In Shangri-La City, Jiantang Town, Luorong Village, village party secretary Rongbei's family has just built a new house. In their newly built living room, Rongbei said "Without the Communist Party, we Tibetan people would not have such a good life today. His wife and his daughter-in-law nodded at what he said.

Luorong Village is located in Pudacuo National Park. Before the development of the scenic spot, the main income of the entire 33 households of the village came from leading horses and picking mushrooms, with an average income

of 3,000 yuan. Now, in addition to a 20,000-yuan bonus for each household each year, they also have natural forest subsidies for returning farmland to forests. Families also engage in the livestock breeding industry. Household income has increased dozens of times.

"Without the Communist Party, Cizhong Church wouldn't be the same." At 5:00 pm on August 15, Wu Gongdi, the president of the Cizhong Catholic Church, was leading his congregants to clean up the church after the festival activity.

"Fire prevention wells are sponsored by the Standing Committee of the Prefectural People's Congress, the fire extinguishers are provided by the Prefectural Procuratorate, and the projector was given by Deqin County People's Court." 69-year-old Wu Gongdi has been a church leader for many years. He walked with reporters inside the famous church and said solemnly, "No matter whether a believer or not, we are very grateful to the Communist Party for having such a happy life today."

Yao Fei is a Catholic priest from Beijing and he said that 60 percent of Cizhong people are Catholics and 40 percent are Tibetan Buddhists. The country's religious policy has given full expression to the harmonious coexistence of all religious

believers in Cizhong.

At 6:00 pm, reporters arrived at the Benggong Temple which is hidden in the Benggong Hill after a drive of about 40 minutes on the rugged winding concrete road. Before 2012, people could only get to the temple on foot. Normally it took over 3 hours to reach, which made it very inconvenient for Tibetan people to attend Buddhist activities. When the road was built, people found it much more convenient.

35-year-old Paibaduji grew up in the temple and witnessed its dramatic changes. In the early 1980's, the Deqin County Party Committee and Government allocated funds to rebuild the main hall of the temple so that the local Tibetan believers would have a place for activity. In 2012, when the foundation of the main hall was sinking and leaking in the rain, the County allocated over 10 million yuan to help with building a new main hall on the hillside 200 meters away.

"In addition to the road, the main hall and the monks' domicile, the reception room was also funded and rebuilt by the government after the earthquake in 2013. Everything that Benggong Temple possesses today is given by the Communist Party," Paibaduji said sincerely.

CPC NATIONAL CONGRESS

CPC national congress to chart out China's future development

The 19th Communist Party of China (CPC) National Congress is expected to open on Oct. 18, where the new leadership for the next five-year term will be elected.

The congress is an important meeting to be held when China is striving towards achieving a moderately prosperous society in an all-round way, and at a critical time in the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

The 19th CPC National Congress will analyze the present international and domestic situations, and draw out guidelines and policies that respond to the call of the times.

(Abridged from Xinhua)

New measures attract high-level business talents to Yunnan

With its improved employment policy system, Yunnan Province has attracted high-level talent from around the world to establish entrepreneurship in Yunnan. By 2020, the plan is to increase the number of foreign talents introduced from 3,500 in 2015 to 7,000 people, doubling the total in Yunnan.

During the 12th five-year plan, the province employed 4,975 foreign experts from the United States, Germany, Japan, Australia, Singapore and other developed countries. Some 60 percent of the experts have a doctorate degree. The Yunnan provincial government has set up a special "Yunnan Provincial Foreign Experts Caiyun Award" and has so far awarded the prize to 150 experts. This year marks the implementation of the "Yunling Talent Plan". According to the plan, Yunnan will train, introduce and support about 100 top-level foreign experts in 5 years or so.

In addition, in 2016, Yunnan held the Yunnan International Talent Exchange event, attracting 460 overseas experts from over 40 countries and regions, along with more than 50 foreign talent introduction organizations. Nearly 140 talent introduction programs settled in Yunnan and 160 overseas high-level talents were introduced. At the same time, cooperation memos were signed with 25 foreign talent introduction and education organizations. It has opened up a new way for Yunnan to cooperate with foreign talent agencies in the fields of biomedicine, financial management, modern agriculture and information technology.

By He Qian

International friends impressed by China's "four great inventions"



Mobike enters into the UK market.

Photo by Xinhua News Agency.

In a recent survey, young people from 20 countries involved in China's Belt and Road Initiative voted high-speed railway, Alipay, shared bicycle platforms and online shopping as China's new "four great inventions."

China, which aided the world's progress with the inventions of papermaking, compasses, gunpowder and printing, is now demonstrating to the world its technological innovation prowess through the concepts of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development.

"I can go out without my wallet in China. With a mobile phone, I can buy whatever I want to buy and eat whatever I want to eat. Even a street peddler selling pancakes has an Alipay account," said Lin Jinlong, a Cambodian student studying in China. He obviously loves food, saying, "You can order food online, which is very convenient. In my hometown, we must go out to grab a bite to eat."

The "four great inventions" are all related to technology, showing that China's technological innovation has greatly improved living standards. This feeling is shared by young students who come to study in China from countries

involved in the Belt and Road Initiative.

Schwartzlander, a representative of the World Health Organization in China, is a bicycle enthusiast. He often forwards news about shared bicycles in China on his WeChat moments. He said, "Shared bicycle platforms are bringing cycling back into people's lives, because they are convenient and cheap."

In fact, a shared bike is more than just a bicycle. It integrates satellite positioning systems, mobile payment technology, big data and other 21st century innovations. Chinese entrepreneurs are taking the lead and combining these technological elements using the shared bicycle model. Recently, shared bicycles have entered Singapore, Britain and other overseas markets.

Speaking of China's "four great inventions", chief analyst of Forrester Research Inc., Dai Kun said, "All these concepts, business models and technological achievements did not originate in China. But these products and services have improved the experience of travellers, consumers and residents. They have also promoted the economic development of China and the world."

By Xinhua

CULTURE TOUR ROUTES ⑦

Introduction to the national minorities of Yunnan

Editor's Note: Twenty-six ethnic groups live in Yunnan. These groups and their colorful costumes add to the variety and richness of Yunnan's culturescape. This issue focuses on the Bulang and Buyi people.

The Bulang Nationality

The Bulang people mainly live in Manghai County of Xishuangbanna. They are largely influenced by the Dais in politics, economy, culture and customs. Their bamboo buildings resemble those of the Dai's. Both the Bulang men and women smoke or chew tobacco. They also drink a

kind of fermented tea.

The surnames of Bulangs are named after the months when they were born. "Yan" is used for the male while "Yu" for the female. Thus, their names consist of three parts: name, surname and gender. (see picture 1)



The Bulang people are celebrating their festival. Photo by Chen Fei

The Buyi Nationality

The Buyi people are living on the banks of the Duoyi River in Luoping. They have an independent language. Buyis, called "Liao" in ancient times, have lived on this land since their immigration from Guizhou and Guangxi in the Song Dynasty (960-1279).

March 3rd Festival is a grand traditional festival of the Buyis. On this occasion, they will gather together to celebrate.

Singing in an antiphonal style is one important activity. The unmarried

Buyi youth sing folk songs in an antiphonal style to express their love. (see picture 2)



The Buyi people are good at musical instrument. Photo by Li Baohua