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Contact us:  
Phone: (+86)871-6416689/64191465  
Email: wanghuan8@163.com  
Address: 337 Xinwen Road, Kunming, Yunnan, PRC



english.yunnan.cn

## Energy cooperation becomes the new economic drive In B&R region

The May in 2017, the first Belt and Road International Cooperation Summit Forum was held in Beijing. The results of the Forum covered five major topics such as policy communication, facility links and removal of trade blocks with more than 270 specific achievements, many related to the energy industry. Chinese government departments issued the Vision and Action of the Belt and Road Energy Cooperation and other documents to boost cooperation in the field of energy.

**Energy infrastructure development is imbalanced in the Belt and Road area.** According to the IEA's forecast, by 2040 the annual new installed capacity in the Belt and Road area will exceed 80 million Kilowatts and will be the world's fastest growing region for electricity. In the Belt and Road Initiative, energy interconnection is an important area and an important bridge connecting Asia and Europe.

Since the Belt and Road Initiative was implemented, China's import of oil from countries along the Belt and Road has hit a record high, accounting for 65% of total oil imports. It is China's

main source of oil imports. At the same time, China continues to expand the export market of its refined oil products. In 2016, its exports of refined oil amounted to 19.3 billion U.S dollars, about 70% to the Belt and Road countries.

**From many oil and gas projects invested in the Belt and Road countries, Chinese enterprises have formed a set of exploration and development, pipeline construction and operation, engineering and technical services, refining and sales of oil and gas industry chain cooperation pattern.**

The development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has been remarkable, becoming the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative. Under the Corridor framework, the number of projects under construction and completed reached 20, with a total investment of about 18.7 billion U.S dollars.

**(This article is based on a speech given by Wang Yimin, vice president of The China Energy Research Association, at the Belt and Road International Energy Summit. Adapted from China Energy News)**

## Volume 2 of Governance striking a chord

The second volume of *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China* was displayed with editions in a variety of languages available for representatives to the CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting. The book was published and went on sale in November, 2017.

Mahfuz Ullah, a researcher, writer and environmentalist from Bangladesh, said that after reading the first volume of the book, which he got from the Chinese embassy in Dhaka, he was eager to read the second.

"The way he (Xi)

is trying to explain the world's situation, especially given Xi's responsibility to the leadership, the community and the whole political process, that is very important," he said on the sidelines of the meeting.

Marko Duric, vice-president of the Serbian Progressive Party and director of the Kosovo Affairs Office of Serbia, said reading Xi's book is a good way to learn from the CPC's experience and will help other political parties increase their own economic and social achievements. "I took a look at

this book, and I hope I will be able to find a lot of inspiring ideas and examples that we can learn from," he said.

Salvador Heresi Chicoma, general secretary of Peruvians for Change, said the CPC's newly elected leadership has significance not only for Chinese people, but also the world because the CPC is offering solutions on many global issues. "It is very important for people in South America to have a book about the experience of the political administration here in China, because it is a model whose characteristics are

innovation and openness," he said.

The book, covering 17 topics, collects 99 of Xi's speeches, conversations, instructions and letters between 2014 and 2017. The first volume was published in September 2014 and received widespread attention and praise from readers at home and abroad. The new volume depicts the practices of the CPC Central Committee with Xi at the core in uniting and leading the Chinese people to uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics in a new era.

(China Daily)

## HSR injects new impetus into Yunnan economy



local people in Yunnan famous tourism attraction, PuZhehei, experience the great changes the HSR brings to them.

(Photo by Chen Fei)

10 kilometers away from the Kunming South High-Speed Railway Station, Asia's largest market for fresh cut flowers – Kunming Chenggong District Dounan Flower Market is bustling.

"This year, our flower sales have increased by at least 30%," Mr. Zhou, who has been selling carnations for more than 10 years, believes that the operation of high-speed trains has injected new impetus into the Dounan Flower Market. More and more tourists make Dounan Flower Market the last stop of their trip to Yunnan.

**By the end of 2016, the Shanghai-Kunming high-speed railway and Yunnan-Guangxi railway Kunming section opened to traffic and Yunnan entered a high-speed rail era. By the end of November 2017, within less than one year, Kunming South Station has seen about 6.45 million passengers and 6.55 million passengers leaving and arriving, respectively.**

High-Speed rail not only benefits the Dounan Flower Market. The construction of high-speed rail and inter-city network rely on Kunming South station. Mushroom collectors in Chongxiang, Yuxi and other cities sell mushrooms to different places in China via high-speed rail trains.

Since the opening of the

high-speed railway, travel time from Yunnan to Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou have been shortened by more than two-thirds, driving a vigorous growth in Yunnan's tourism economy. PuZhehei, a scenic spot in Wenshan Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture Qiubei County of Yunnan Province stepped directly into the high-speed rail era from having previously had no railway at all. According to Qiubei County Government's statistics, PuZhehei received 1.717 million visitors in the first half of 2017 with an overall income of nearly 1.2 billion yuan, which increased 23.3% and 46.3% respectively compared with the same period last year.

Since the Shanghai-Kunming high-speed rail and Yunnan-Guangxi railway opened to traffic, China Railway Kunming Bureau Group Co. Ltd. has increased trains to Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and other cities to meet market demand. Currently 65.5 round trips run daily.

**Yunnan is committed to building a comprehensive transport system connecting South and Southeast Asia, in future it will be transformed from a National transportation network "peripheral" into a "hub portal" for China to connect with South and Southeast Asia.**

(Xinhua/Ding Yiquan)

## Facing 'Lancang-Mekong' Chinese enterprises made contributions

Zhang Ruogu  
Han Chengyuan

The Third Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Dali, Yunnan recently. The Meeting delivered a lot of information and the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Five-Year Action Plan (2018-2022) excited each participant. Looking forward to the next five years, Yunnan, a frontier province of Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, will make great contributions.

Since 2015, the Lancang-Mekong cooperation process produced a spotless report card in the field of economic and trade cooperation. Two-way trade is growing rapidly, and the degree of trade dependence is strengthening. China is now the largest trade partner of Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam and is the largest export market of Myanmar. The Mekong area as a whole is the fifth largest trade partner of China. In the period January to October in 2017, China

and Mekong countries trade was valued at 177.57 billion U.S dollars, an increase of 15.6% year-on-year, and accounts for 5.4% of China's total worldwide trade volume.

For the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, Chinese enterprises have made great contributions to the infrastructure construction in the five Mekong countries. As of October this year, Chinese companies' had signed contracts for infrastructure projects in the five countries valued at 137.99 billion U.S dollars.

## Yunnan and Laos to strengthen rapid customs clearance

Liu Ziyu

China Mengla Customs and Lao Moding Customs held 2017 work-related talks. The two sides reached consensus on strengthening multifaceted cooperation.

The two sides agreed to take further measures to strengthen rapid customs clearance for China and Laos railway materials,

equipment and transportation tools; to support the development of China and Laos Mohan-Moding Economic Cooperation Zone, and actively explore a new mode of supervision and cooperation.

According to the head of Mengla Customs, by setting up a special window and opening a "green pass" this year, Mohan

Customs optimized services to accelerate customs clearance for China Laos railway construction materials and the integration of customs clearance reform. At the same time, a Customs Clearance Cooperation Test Zone was constructed together with the Yunnan Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau.



Themed "Ecological Diqing - Paradise for Birds", the second Shangri-La Winter International Birding Festival was held in Diqing, Yunnan Province from December 13 to 17, 2017. 17 teams participated in the competition. The Birding Festival was held at the Shangri-La Napahai International wetland and Songzanlin Temple. The aim of the competition was to show the world the natural resources in Yunnan and Shangri-La, and the advantages and value of developing ecotourism for bird watching. The photo is a work of Shangri-La team called the *Lunch of White-tailed eagle*.

(Photo by Zhou Shizhong)

## Alibaba to set up data center in India

Company Alibaba Group Cloud Computing Department announced that its first data center will be set up in Bombay, India before March 31, 2018, and another one will be established in Jakarta.

Simon Hu, Alibaba Group's senior vice president, said at the Shanghai Cloud Computing International Summit, "As the only global cloud service provider from Asia, Ali Cloud has a unique cultural and contextual advantage to provide innovative data intelligence and computing capabilities to customers in the region. The establishment of data centers in India and Indonesia will further consolidate Ali's position in the region and even globally."

(Huanqiu.com)

## Yunnan vegetables become well-known to consumers

Recently, at the "Characteristic Yunnan, Charming Winter Agriculture" 2017 Yunnan Plateau Characteristics of Modern Agriculture (Beijing) Promotion, fresh vegetables from Yunnan became the focus.

Yunnan's minimum elevation is 76 meters and the highest elevation is more than 6,700 meters, covering all the climatic environments from tropical to Frigid Zone to form a unique coexistent scene of "One mountain and four seasons on different days within ten

kilometers" and "Winter Flowers and Summer Snow Mountain".

On the day of "Characteristic Yunnan, Charming Winter Agriculture" 2017 Yunnan Plateau Characteristics of Modern Agriculture (Beijing) Promotion, it was cold in Beijing with the north wind howling. At this time most of Yunnan, where the grass is lush and filled with cattle and sheep, there is nowhere to emit the fragrance of winter agriculture.

Dai Zhongjiu, executive director of the China Vegetable Circulation Association

said, "At present, with the rapid development of domestic economy and society, the consumption level of residents is increasing, people have higher expectation for quality agricultural products. Agricultural products are facing the development trend of scale, diversification and branding. Today, China's vegetable brand construction has been beginning to show results, such as the Yunnan vegetables we see today, once unknown vegetable products, now it is well-known by more consumers by

establishing various brands. The brands also enriched millions of farmers.

Through continuous optimization adjustment, Yunnan vegetable production areas gradually concentrated with a more and more reasonable layout, realizing the significant change in the scale development from sporadic production to concentrated advantage producing areas. Now, there are 457 enterprises engaged in vegetable production and processing, of which 126 are provincial-level leading agricultural enterprises with



Yunnan vegetables increasingly appear at domestic and global expos in recent years

(Photo by Yang Zheng)

more than 3.6 million vegetable growers.

(Adapted from Yunnan Daily)

### Further reading

## Efficient expansion of railway land port

Between Kunming East Railway Station and Wangjiaying West Station, four portals between the newly built line 2 and the container line were successfully completed on December 17, 2017. Since then, Yunnan Railway's largest marshalling station and cargo terminal has

increased from a single line to three lines. The railway freight car disassembly, handling and transit time has been greatly compressed. The capacity of Yunnan's largest railway land port has been successfully expanded.

(People's Railway Newspaper)

## Fuxing bullet train shortens the distance between KM & SH

On December 28, 2017, G1372 to Shanghai Hongqiao EMU slowly drove out of Kunming South Station. Unlike other trains docked there, this train was the Fuxing EMU used on September 21 to achieve 350 kilometers per hour for commercial operation.

China Railway Corporation organized domestic enterprises, universities and research institutes to research, then manufacture the Fuxing bullet train. With the speed at 350

kilometers per hour on the Beijing-Shanghai high-speed rail, China has become the world's fastest high-speed rail business.

The car has a full WiFi network coverage and non-stop 220V power outlets for passengers to use. Its air-conditioning system is fully equipped to reduce the influence of outside air pressure, and to reduce ear discomfort when passing through tunnels.

(Abridged from Yunnan Daily)