



POVERTY ALLEVIATION

# International community hails China's battle against poverty

In the 40 years since China's era of reform and opening up, more than 700 million Chinese people have shaken off poverty. Since the 18<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress, the country has made decisive progress in its battle against poverty. Over 60 million people have been permanently lifted out of poverty, and the poverty headcount ratio has dropped from 10.2 percent to less than four percent. Such accomplishments are widely acclaimed across the world. The 19<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress proposed to ensure that by the year 2020, all rural residents living below China's current poverty line will have been lifted out of poverty, a measure aimed at eliminating penury in all poor counties across the country.

With 700 million people still living in extreme poverty worldwide, the international community is particularly concerned about China's poverty reduction experience. When interviewed, foreign experts and scholars said that Chi-



Yi embroidery has become a industry which plays an important role in reducing poverty in central Yunnan's Chuxiong Yi Autonomous Prefecture. **Photo by Li Qiuming**

na has achieved the world's most remarkable results in solving this issue.

"China has set an example

for other countries in terms of

poverty reduction," said Ms.

Ana Campos, Programme

Advisor for FAO's Strategic

Programme on Rural Poverty

Reduction. "China has made

tremendous achievements in

the area of poverty reduction

because the government has always placed poverty alleviation at the top of its agenda and set clear-cut goals."

Ms. Christiane Vienne, Chairwoman of the Belgium-China Friendship Group of the Belgian Federal Parliament, has paid many visits to China over the past five years. She was impressed by the many families who have escaped poverty. "Thanks to tar-

geted poverty alleviation policies, poor families have not only rid themselves quickly of poverty, but they have also embarked on a path of sustainable development. The quality and efficiency involved in China's poverty reduction efforts is worth learning about for other countries." Ms. Christiane Vienne said in an interview with our reporter.

**Mr. John Naisbitt is a best-selling American author and a well-known futurist. "From a global perspective, China's efforts to reduce poverty are of tremendous value to the world's emerging economies seeking to escape poverty," he said.**

China's poverty reduction experience was also heatedly discussed at the 2018 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, recently concluded in the Swiss town of Davos. Mr. Leonid Gusev, senior researcher at the Analytical Centre of the Moscow State Institute of International Relations, told

our reporter that other countries are benefiting from the Chinese people's improving living standards. Other nations are seizing the opportunities associated with China's idea of building a moderately prosperous society to develop their own trade and tourism sectors. "By ending poverty, China will create a bigger consumer market and instil more vitality into the world economy. China's poverty reduction experience is also suitable for sharing with a large number of developing countries," Gusev was quoted as saying.

According to a professor at an Indian university, the Chinese government's goal of winning the battle against poverty by 2020 has set an example for all the countries. This influence even touches the world's developed countries and offers Chinese wisdom and a Chinese approach to solving this enormous problem facing mankind. **(This article is originally published by People's Daily. It is abridged here for use.)**

NEWS IN BRIEF

## Tea Horse Road in Yunnan on French television

The launching ceremony of *Land of Dreams—The Ancient Tea Horse Road*, a French television programme on the history, culture and customs of Yunnan province, was held on the evening of January 23 at the Chinese Embassy in France.

Dana Astier, director of French Television Network TV3, said in his speech that the programme, focusing on the Ancient Tea Horse Road in China, will enable Franco-phone audiences to feast their eyes on the beautiful natural scenery and colourful history, culture and customs of south-west China.

The Chinese Ambassador to France, Zhai Jun, said that the Ancient Tea Horse Road was not just a road but also a huge network connecting southwest China with Southeast, South and West Asia. Like the Silk Road, the Tea Horse Road continues to provide a vital link for economic and cultural exchanges between China and its neighbouring countries. **(Xinhua)**

## Didi launches rural ride-sharing in northwest Yunnan

BY ERIC WANG

Chinese ride-hailing giant Didi Chuxing has launched its rural ride-sharing service in northwest Yunnan's Lanping County on February 5.

It is the first time that Yunnan villagers can access car-pool trips at home. Traditional shuttle buses are time-consuming, and for a ride we often wait for quite a while, said another villager, adding the Didi car-pool trips are much easier.

Didi's rural ride-sharing, which aims to provide smart transportation service for all villagers in Lanping by 2020, is supported by local authorities. We will further optimize our products, and the car-pool service will gradually cover all the 109 towns, townships and villages in Lanping, said Xu Bin, head of the Didi Yunnan branch.

FESTIVAL



EXPO

## Yunnan higher education exhibition held in Dhaka

Offers tuition exemptions and other preferential policies

BY LIU CHUNTAO

Yunnan Higher Education Exhibition and Promotion activities kicked off on January 28 in Dhaka in a bid to strengthen educational exchanges between Yunnan province and Bangladesh.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Yunnan Provincial Department of Education. Yunnan University, Kunming University of Science and Technology and 14 other colleges and universities in the province participated in the event.

Participating universities promised to introduce tuition exemptions and other preferential policies for students in Belt and Road countries and hoped that more Bangladeshi students will come to study in Yunnan.

Chinese and Bangladeshi universities also reached a series of cooperative agreements, including one between Yunnan University and Dhaka University on the establishment of a China-Bangladesh Research Centre, an educational agreement between Kunming Uni-

versity of Science and Technology and Bangladesh Southeast University, a memorandum of education cooperation between Kunming Medical University and Dhaka Medical College, and a memorandum of education cooperation between Yunnan University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Bangladesh Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

The Bangladeshi Minister of Social Welfare, Rashed Khan Menon, delivered a speech during the meeting, saying that the Bangla-

## Largest annual human migration begins

With the arrival of the Spring Festival (Chinese New Year), the largest annual human migration is now on. This year's *chunyun*, or transport during the Spring Festival holiday, began on February 1 and will last until March 12. During this period, 2.98 billion passengers are expected to be transported nationwide. The photo taken recently shows that three international students provide voluntary service to the passengers on a bullet train from Xi'an to Chengdu, in order to experience *Chunyun*. **(Xinhua)**

VOICE

## Governor of Yunnan: 'Travelling in Yunnan with a mobile phone' app is a great smart tourism experience

BY LI SHAOMING

**Editor's Note: Yunnan province is a major tourist destination in China. Last year, the province created the idea of 'Travelling in Yunnan with a mobile phone' application (app) in a bid to promote the development of smart tourism. On January 31, the Yunnan Provincial People's Government held a press conference after the conclusion of the First Session of the 13<sup>th</sup> Yunnan Provincial People's Congress. Governor Ruan Chengfa was invited to attend the press conference and answered journalists' questions about the 'Travelling in Yunnan with a mobile phone' application (app).**

Mr. Ruan Chengfa said, "How shall we achieve the transformation and upgrading of our tourism industry? In practice, we feel that we must combine tourism with the Internet to develop smart tourism. 'Travelling in Yunnan with a mobile phone' is in line with the trend of digitalization and informatization. It aims to make use of the Internet, big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence and other technologies to develop the new type of smart tourism."

"Since the introduction of 'Travelling in Yunnan with a mobile phone', tourists can make bookings, enjoy services, and lodge complaints through the official applet and WeChat public before, during and after the tours. For example, tourists can be ad-

mitted to attractions by QR-code or human facial recognition, pass through highway tollgates using remote payment methods, enjoy gender- and season-specific E-tour guides, make online settlement and receive electronic invoices to protect their legal rights and interests, book parking spaces and locate nearby restaurants, check toilets and other public facilities, pay for and deliver authentic and high quality tea products and other specialties online and receive unconditional refunds," said the governor.

"'Travelling in Yunnan with a mobile phone' is based on the concept of 'one centre and two platforms'. A tourism big data centre guarantees the centralized management and storage, in-depth analysis and safe, effective application of tourism data. Meanwhile, the service platform provides tourists with comprehensive, authoritative and convenient services and a free, pleasant travelling experience. The management platform promptly meets the needs of tourists, effectively handles tourism-related emergencies and provides comprehensive real-time tourism management information so that the travellers can reach governmental management services everywhere. The 'Travelling in Yunnan with a mobile phone' app will fully embody the concept of 'region-based tourism.' I believe that the fulfilment of this goal will be a highlight in itself and will offer a great experience for smart tourism."

COOPERATION

## Archaeological cooperation enriches Sino-Bangladesh ties

BY LIU CHUNTAO

First contact between the people of China and Bangladesh was initiated by the spread of Buddhism in ancient times via the Southern Silk Road and the Maritime Silk Road. Such exchanges, including the journeys made by the Chinese monks Fa Xian and Xuan Zang, as well as the Bangladeshi holy man Atisa, have become topics of research. Such scientific examination of the past has enriched cultural exchanges between the two countries today.

Atisa was born in Vihara more than 1,000 years ago. In 1042, Atisa was invited to Tibet to teach Buddhism and died there in 1054. In 1978, some of his ashes were sent back to Bangladesh and housed in Dhaka.

Excavations of the Vihara ruins began in 2010. Four years later, experts from the Hunan Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, China were invited to Bangladesh to help with the excavation work. They contributed to making great discoveries at Vihara.

In January 2018, Chai Huanbo, Chinese leader of the joint archaeological team, said at a news conference that 1,200 square-metres of new archaeological relics had been discovered. The ancient remains which were divided into two groupings, indicating important changes to Buddhist architectural styles had occurred. The find provides important new date for the study of Buddhist archaeology in South Asia.

According to reports, fragments of Chinese ceramics dating

back to the Tang Dynasty some 1,500 years ago were unearthed, indicating Bangladesh's long connection to the Southern Silk Road.

In addition, a large number of pottery was excavated from the site. It shows a clear chronological relationship with previously discovered relics. In response to the find, a joint archaeological team was set up to perform a pottery chronology sequence, thus filling in gaps in this field of research.

In 2017, the Atisa Memorial Hall was completed. Chen Wei, chargé d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Bangladesh, said that Atisa enjoys a high reputation in China. The discoveries made by the joint archaeological achievements of experts from both countries witnessed a long history of exchanges between the two peoples, and will become an important symbol of Belt and Road exchanges in the twenty-first century.

KEY WORDS TO UNDERSTAND CHINA

## The book being read all over the world

BY LU ZHEHUA

Peruvian President Pablo Kuczynski, Communist Party of India General Secretary Sitaram Yechury and many other political leaders keep this book at their desks. Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg considers this book a must-read. Every Tanzanian ruling party member and high-ranking government official has a copy of this book. The National Political Publishing House of Vietnam sends a copy of this book to every official down to the departmental level. The former French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin made a large number of notes on his copy of this book. A national symposium on this book was held by Cambodia, and Prime Minister Hun Sen wished that he could read the electronic version of

this book repeatedly on his mobile phone.

This book is *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China*, whose first and second volumes are selling well overseas. From politicians to academics to the general public, it has become a phenomenal source of inspiration to numerous readers across the world. At the request of these readers, the first volume was recently republished.

The first and second volumes of *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China* are an organic entity. They focus on the development process and main contents of Xi Jinping Thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics in a new era. They fully reflect the Chinese wisdom and Chinese approach that the Communist Party of China offers for building of a community of



In Warsaw, Poland, a citizen reads the *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China* in a local bookstore. **(Xinhua)**

shared future for mankind and promoting peace and development across all of humanity. It is an authoritative book for domestic and foreign readers to understand Xi

Jinping Thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics in a new era and the spirit of the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress. **(People's Daily Overseas Edition)**