



CHINA • YUNNAN



Yunnan international students mostly South and Southeast Asian

In recent years, Yunnan Province, taking its locational advantages, has accelerated the opening up of its educational institutions to the outside world. This has helped attract a large number of students from South and Southeast Asia eager to pursue further studies.

Last year, the number of international students in Yunnan exceeded 18,000, ranking among top ten in the country. "The interna-

tional influence of Yunnan's educational system, especially its influence in South and Southeast Asia, has been further strengthened," said Zhou Rong, director of the Yunnan Provincial Department of Education. He made the comments at the recently held Provincial People's Congress and Political Consultative Conference.

Yunnan is China's pivot of opening-up to South and Southeast Asia because of

its geographical location. A clear majority of international students in the province are from South and Southeast Asian countries. In 2017 alone, more than 10,000 students came from these countries entered the province for study.

With the global craze for the Chinese language, Yunnan Province is intensifying its language promotion efforts to the international community. Up until now, the prov-

ince has held "Chinese Bridge" language proficiency competition for foreign secondary students six years in a row and has set up 15 Confucius Institutes classrooms.

Gadding, a young man from Poocho, Laos, is now studying Chinese in Yunnan. He said, "I hope to learn Chinese well and contribute to the cross-border eco-tourism industry between China and Laos."

(Xinhua/Abridged)

VOICE

The Chinese Dream's global significance and implications

Socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, as the report to the 19th CPC National Congress pointed out. It means that the path, the theory, the system and the culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics have all continued to develop. This evolution has blazed a new trail for other developing countries to trace in order to achieve modernization. It offers a new option for other nations who want to speed up their development while preserving their independence. And it offers Chinese wisdom and a Chinese approach to solving the problems facing mankind.

At present, various sides have both expectations on and worries about the prospects for peace and development for mankind. Today, they are looking to China to express its positions and attitudes. **China vows to always contribute to the creation of world peace, global development and the safeguarding of the international order. The Chinese people are willing to work together with the people of other countries in opening up a beautiful future of greater prosperity and tranquillity for mankind.**

Knowing clearly the world's expectations for China, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed the Belt and Road Initiative. Over the past five years, with the joint efforts of all parties

involved, the Belt and Road Initiative has been translated into both action and practice. It has become one of the biggest international cooperation platforms in the world, and one of the most popular international public programmes for good.

First, the Belt and Road Initiative is an all-around approach to China's opening-up in a new era. Second, it is a cooperative initiative for promoting a new type of globalization and global governance. Third, it is also a great undertaking that connects the Chinese dream and the dreams of the world while helping to build a community of shared future for mankind.

As both a world power and an ancient civilization, China must not only realize its own modernization but also help other developing countries to realize their own. China stresses its own characteristics and is ready to accept the characteristics of other countries. China also seeks its own prosperity as well as the sustainable development of all civilizations. This is the significance and implication of the Chinese Dream's globally.

By Wang Yiwei

(The author is vice president of the Institute of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, China Renmin University.)

NEIGHBOR

Yunnan to build elephant protection center in Laos

Yunnan Provincial Investment Holding Group has signed an agreement with the government of northern Lao Sayabuly Province to build the Asian Elephant Species Protection, Breeding and Rescue Center.

The agreement was signed on Feb. 18 on the sidelines of the International Elephants Festival and Visit Laos Year 2018 in Sayabuly province.

The deal aims to protect, breed, rescue and provide assistance to popularize the endangered animals particularly Asian elephants and to promote tourism in the province.

Yunnan Provincial Investment Holding Group was welcomed by the Lao President Bounnhang Vorachit to invest in the elephant protection center in Laos. He also expected more investment in Lao infrastructure and other sectors, said a press release issued by the Chinese company.

The local government will give strong support to the project, said the Lao president.

(Xinhua)



For more information, please visit our website.

Yunnan Express:
english.yunnan.cn

Editor: Wang Shixue
E-mail: 973659397@qq.com

NEWS IN PICTURE

Helicopter tours form a style in Kunming during holiday



During the just-concluded Spring Festival holiday, thousands of tourists experienced helicopter tours departing from Kunming's Haigeng Park, getting a bird's eye view of the Spring City. The special tours were organized by Kunming Fengxiang General Aviation Service, with each ten-minute flight costing 800 yuan per passenger.

(Spring City Evening News)

TRAVEL

Yunnan tourism generates 19 billion yuan

Yunnan's tourism industry generated an income of 19.293 billion yuan -- about three billion U.S. dollars -- during the week-long Spring Festival. This total represents a year-on-year increase of 42.35 percent.

According to statistics released by Yunnan tourism authority on February 22, some 28.81 million trips were made across Yunnan, up 25.47 percent from last year.

22 major scenic areas in the province received more than 1.84 million trips, down 1.6 percent compared with the

past year.

Among them, Jiulong Waterfall (230,000 tourists, up 16 percent), Fuxian Lake (199,000 tourists, up 41 percent) and the Stone Forest (196,000 tourists, up 4.9 percent), were the top three destinations which received the most tourists during the holiday.

Over 11.65 million vehicles entered or exited the province over the seven-day holiday, representing a year-on-year growth of 19.5 percent.

By Li Hengqiang
(Yunnan Gateway)

FOREIGNERS IN YUNNAN

How do expats in Yunnan spend Spring Festival?

During the just-concluded Spring Festival, we interviewed some expats in Yunnan and found that they quite enjoyed their Chinese new-year holiday.

"I enjoyed using the Chinese yuan, met many friends and ate many different types of Chinese food. I enjoyed it all in China," said Pushpa, an Indian doctor at the Second Affiliated Hospital of Kunming Medical University, on February 21 as we interviewed her and her colleague Shrawan.

Shrawan loves sports. He played basketball games and

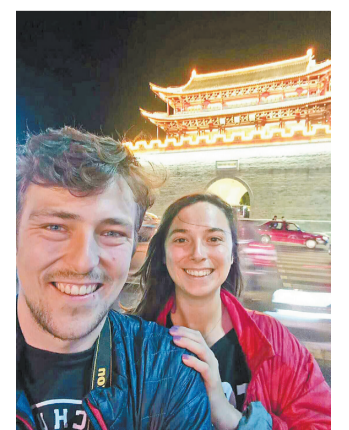
went sightseeing with friends during Spring Festival. "I went to Dianchi Lake for sightseeing and I played volleyball and basketball with my Chinese friends," said Shrawan, also an Indian.

For Wyatt and Millie, a pair of Anglo-American lovers, they travelled to Jianshui County. Jianshui falls under the jurisdiction of Honghe Hani and Yi Autonomous Prefecture in south Yunnan.

"Millie and I are visiting Jianshui for sightseeing. We came here after a few days in Kunming," Wyatt said in a telephone interview. Wyatt

and Millie were impressed by the sculptures and paintings in the Confucius Temple.

(Yunnan Gateway)



Wyatt and Millie in Jianshui