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INTERVIEW

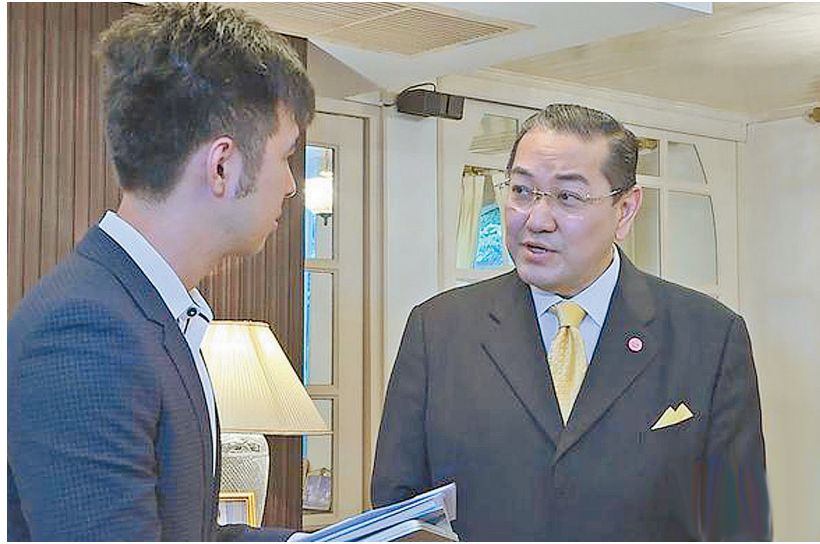
## China pushes ahead the common development of Asia

**Surakiart: The country's strong fight against corruption can be said to have been very successful and worthy of the world's praise**

BY XINHUA/ YANG ZHOU  
CHEN JIABAO

Before attending the Boao Forum annual conference, the former Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand and director of the Boao Forum for Asia, Surakiart Sathirathai gave an interview. He said that China has made tremendous achievements in the past 40 years of reform and opening up, and its development experience is worth studying by Thailand and other countries. Surakiart also said that China has played an important role in promoting the common development of Asia.

Surakiart said that China has made great progress since the beginning of its reform and opening up in 1978. The number of impoverished people has drastically decreased, and the reform of state-owned enterprises has been reasonable. The country's strong fight against corruption can be said to have been very successful and worthy of the world's praise.



The former Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand and director of the Boao Forum for Asia, Surakiart Sathirathai speaks to the reporter. (Photo by Xinhua)

Surakiart said that for economic liberalization, enterprise reform, and economic development, it does not mean that the government must abandon supervision and governance. In terms of governance, China is very successful.

Surakiart praised China's supply-side structural reforms. He believes that it will enable China's economic reforms to continue to deepen. He said that Thailand, like China in the past, relies on exports to stimulate economic development. China has

begun structural reforms on the supply side, which requires a lot of determination and perseverance. It is worth learning from by Thailand and other countries.

He said that while carrying out institutional reforms, improving government transparency, pursuing good governance, and promoting free trade, China also sets an example for other Asian developing countries and less developed countries in effectively combating cross-border crime, trafficking in people and drug trafficking. Each country can learn from China's initiatives and adjust their implementation according to their national conditions.

Surakiart said that in the process of development, China has put forward concepts such as the community with a shared future for mankind, the Belt and Road Initiative and public products. It has played an important role in promoting the common

development of Asia and is also a main promoter of globalization, which is commendable.

Surakiart said that the Belt and Road Initiative not only brings together infrastructure, but also promotes people-to-people cross-cultural communication, and digital economy connectivity to ensure a stable and open economy. He hopes that people in relevant countries can fully understand the benefits of this initiative and that China will continue to play its role in the Belt and Road Initiative.

The theme of the Boao Forum for Asia annual conference 2018 is "An open and innovative Asia for a world of greater prosperity". Speaking of key words such as the "openness" and "innovation" of the Forum, Surakiart said that he sincerely hopes that positive results will be achieved in discussing the above issues.

VOICE

### Less tariffs, more imports: China adheres further globalization

Chinese President Xi Jinping told the Boao Forum for Asia that China will significantly lower import tariffs for vehicles and reduce import tariffs for some other products this year.

**Xi's speech was highly valued by several experts, particularly his proposal to create a more attractive investment environment, reduce tariffs and expand imports.**

Professor Liu Baocheng, lecturer at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, said Xi's speech is a regeneration of China's opening-up policy, and Xi is providing the world with new perspectives.

Laurence Brahm, founding director of Himalayan Consensus, said that he felt the speech indicates that China will take on more global leadership by continuing opening-up. He pointed out that China is well prepared to take on a global leadership role because of its opening-up policy.

**China, however, is committed to maintain its goal of opening up to the world, and contributing to globalization, which is beneficial to mankind. The global community is happy to see that China has taken on global leadership in the new era.**

Wang Huiyao, president of the Center for China and Globalization, asserts that globalization is beneficial to both China and the world. China will continue opening-up and push forward globalization by reducing tariffs and expanding imports.

(Abridged from CGTN)

NEW POLICY

## Yunnan's talent attraction program launches

BY HAN CHENGYUAN

The implementing details for the talent attraction program of Yunnan Province were issued recently. Also known as the Yunnan Recruitment Program of Global Experts, the project is highly regarded by quite a few foreign experts working in Yunnan. They observed that the program provides strong financial support for bringing in talented individuals, which shows the province's high priority of opening up, as well as its determination to attract skilled foreign workers.

The high-end talent attraction program will undoubtedly provide job opportunities for international applicants while benefiting local companies and industries. This, in turn, will help the overall development of Yunnan, said Zeng Xianfang, general manager of Yuxi Zerun Biotechnology Company. Beginning his work in Yunnan in 2016, Zeng Xianfang from the United States has been listed as a high-end foreign expert.

"Agriculture is of special importance to Yunnan. The program identifies modern agriculture as a key development

area, which will help blaze new fields of study for researchers and better put into practice their research achievements." Li Dongxuan, an agricultural expert from South Korea, currently conducts rice research at Yunnan Agricultural University. He has been working in Yunnan for more than ten years and won various scientific awards given to foreign experts.

"The program reflects strong talent awareness in Yunnan Province," said Yang Hongyi, who taught at Bath Spa University in the United Kingdom for more than 20 years, and now works at Southwest Forestry University in Kunming.

Yang believes that through the pragam, a new overseas talent development system will be created.

Lately, Yunnan's first foreign talent visa (R visa) was issued to Metha Wanapat, a Thai zoologist. For more information about R visa, please visit:

[http://english.yunnan.cn/html/2018/latestnews\\_0226/13600.html](http://english.yunnan.cn/html/2018/latestnews_0226/13600.html)

IN PICS



People celebrate the water-sprinkling festival at a square in Jinghong City, Dai Autonomous Prefecture of Xishuangbanna, southwest China's Yunnan Province, April 15, 2018. People sprinkle water to each other to pray for good fortune during the traditional water-sprinkling festival, which is also the New Year festival of the Dai ethnic group.

BY XINHUA/HU CHAO

INDUSTRY

## Yunnan changes industrial drivers to promote economic growth

BY XINHUA/JI ZHE PENG

Wang Jingjun had planned to move his company from Shenzhen to his hometown of Chongqing. He never expected that he would instead choose Yanshan County in Yunnan Province's Wenshan Prefecture.

Now, Wang Jingjun feels that he made the right decision. After less than three months of preparations, the relocated company launched operations. Its first batch of products, 1,500 vehicle-mounted 4G smart large-screen navigation sets, rolled off the assembly line and headed for markets nationwide.

In recent years, Yanshan County, formerly dominated by agriculture, has become a strong location for industrial production. Some 58 companies, including Mattel, Foxconn Technology, C&C Electric Power Technology and Jingdin

Uniform, now have operations there.

In order to blaze a trail of leap-frog development, the frontier province of Yunnan has sped up the development of its industrial infrastructure. The results are new breakthroughs in the development of intelligent terminals, new energy vehicles and other technology sectors.

For a long time, the economy of Yunnan Province has been mainly based on tobacco, raw materials, energy production and other traditional industries.

Last October, industry-leading intelligent robots equipped with facial recognition technology and immediate message features rolled off production lines in Kunming. Together with vehicle-mounted navigation systems, 3D printers, smart terminals, video



Yunnan made cruzr robot has put into use in Kunming Changshui International Airport. (File Photo)

surveillance systems and other products, these robots represent breakthroughs for the province's manufacturing industry.

### ERADICATE POVERTY & ACHIEVE COMMON PROSPERITY

## Agritainment makes villagers rich

Late March, in Zhuyuan Village Committee of Tangdian town of Xundian Hui and Yi Autonomous County of Kunming City, Yunnan Province, Huadaorenjian Rural Tourism Base was in a green cluster surrounded by begonias, red peaches and roses in full bloom. Li Xingcui, who works there, was busy beckoning guests coming from afar.

Making use of its superior geographical position, 738.31 mu of land was transferred to grow rose, begonia, and red peach to make a beautiful flower base. Over 150 people from 45 poor households were hired to work for Huadaorenjian Agritainment and the Flower Base. Skills were developed for poverty alleviation so that they can work on farms and work for the Agritainment as well. Today, integrated agricultural cultivation, the development of rural tourism is in full swing and it is getting better. Among the poverty-stricken households, more than a hundred people have risen from poverty.

(YN Poverty Alleviation Hotline)

INTERCONNECTIVITY

## New Kunming-Bangkok flight operated

YUNNAN DAILY

China Eastern Yunnan Airlines (CEYA) plans to operate an additional flight between Kunming and Bangkok for transfer efficiency.

Starting from April 15, a Boeing 737-800 plane (Flight No.: MU2583/4) will take off from Kunming at 11:00 p.m. and arrive in Bangkok at 00:50 a.m.

local time, and the return flight will depart in the morning at 07:50 and arrive in Kunming at 11:40.

More flights would facilitate both national and international transfer during the rush hours, and passengers would then have more than 60 options for transfer in a round trip.