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India-China cooperation to benefit Asia, world, says Modi

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 11 hailed his country's relationship with China, saying that cooperation between New Delhi and Beijing will benefit Asia and the world.

Modi made the remarks in his keynote speech at the 17th Asia Security Summit, commonly known as the Shangri-la Dialogue, which opened Friday evening and runs till Sunday.

"We're the world's two most populous countries,

and among the fastest growing major economies. Our cooperation is expanding. Trade is growing," said Modi.

He said the two countries have displayed "maturity and wisdom" in managing issues and ensuring a peaceful border.

Modi said the informal summit between leaders of the two countries in April helped both sides cement the understanding that "strong and stable" India-China relations are an important factor for global

peace and progress.

"I firmly believe that Asia and the world will have a better future, when India and China work together in trust and confidence, sensitive to each other's interests," he said.

The Shangri-La Dialogue has been held annually since 2002 in Singapore, gathering military officials, diplomats and experts to discuss regional security challenges and cooperation prospects.

(Xinhua)

Nitin and his talent agency



Nitin and his wife at a scenic area in Qingdao

Nitin Keshari comes from India and he is now a postdoctoral fellow of the microbial metabolism engineering research group at Qingdao Energy Institute. In April 2017, after completing his doctoral program in India, Nitin successfully admitted for the position and started his new life in China. Now, he is willing to be an overseas talent agent in Qingdao. He will recommend his wife, who is also engaged in research work, to study here as a postdoc. And he will also introduce more high-level talents from India to work and live in Qingdao.

Before coming to China, Nitin lived in New Delhi and studied the isolation and identification of cyanobacteria and strains. He learned that as a China's major national research institution in the field of renewable energy and green material, Qingdao Energy Institute's main research field is using genetically engineered cyanobacteria to produce biofuels and bio-based products. For the per-

fect match of research direction, Nitin grasped the opportunity immediately. He got the postdoctoral position at the microbial metabolism engineering research group. "My supervisor is Lu Xuefeng, a researcher and the Deputy Director of Qingdao Energy Institute. He is a famous scholar in this field. He has great affinity for students and can provide students with all-round support from technology to individuals." Nitin said that he was honored to work on such a great team and platform.

Nitin told the reporter that Qingdao is very different from his hometown New Delhi. The pace of work and life in New Delhi is fast and the city is bustling while Qingdao is also a big international city, but with very quiet and nice environment. "I fell in love with the life here on my first day in Qingdao."

The pleasant work and live environment enable Nitin to focus on his research. In just over a year, he has completed

two research projects.

For Nitin, besides his scientific research work, life in Qingdao is also full of variety and colorful. He likes to travel everywhere, even if he doesn't speak much of Chinese language. "People here are very friendly and they all are willing to help."

Nitin said that living in Qingdao for over a year, he often goes to a farmers' market to buy fresh fruit and vegetables. He also invites Chinese friends to his postdoctoral flat for a visit. He prepares a pure flavor of India meal for them. Food has deepened the friendship between him and his Chinese friends. "My Chinese friends are very nice to me and I want to be nice to them in return."

After gradually overcoming language obstacles, Nitin has a new plan. He plans to play a role of talent agent for Qingdao to attract more high-level talents from India to work for China's research institutions.

(Xu Jie from Bandao Dushi Newspaper)

Yunnan air golden bridge connects the world



Yunnan has made solid progress in aviation industry

Editor's note: This year is the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up. The 40 years' great practice has fully proved that reform and opening-up are the key choices that change the destiny of contemporary China. It is also the source of vitality for development and progress of contemporary China. This column will be a panoramic display of Yunnan's brilliant achievements and valuable experience accumulated from its reform and opening-up.

On an early summer morning, clouds raised in Jingmai Mountains and bursts of laughter could be heard from the hostel named "Jing Mai Ren Jia". Guests from all over the world gathered around the fireplace in the courtyard talking and laughing.

Ms. Huang from Beijing

said, "Ten years ago, I fell in love with this place when I first came to Jingmai Mountain. In the past, due to traffic inconvenience and high cost of time, I was not able to come often. Last year, as soon as I learned that flights to Jingmai Mountain were launched, I flew over that month. This is my third trip this year."

Located in the southwest border of China, the traffic inconvenience has been the shortest stave that hinders Yunnan's development. In recent years, based on its unique resource endowment and geographical advantages, Yunnan Province has made solid progress in developing civil aviation to strengthen its aviation industry. The three-kilometer airport runways become air bridges that connect Yunnan and the rest of the world.

In 2012, Kunming Changshui Airport was put into operation successfully

and that broke the long-term constraints on the development of civil aviation infrastructure in Yunnan. From 2015, Lugu Airport, Cangyuan Airport, Lincang Airport has opened to traffic one after another. Yunnan Airport Group set a new record by opening one new airport each year and created a "Yunnan miracle" in civil aviation development in China.

Tengchong Airport was opened to traffic in 2009 and it is a typical example of promoting the integrated development of aviation tourism in Yunnan Province. Since the opening of the airline, driven by the convenient traffic advantage of the airport, Tengchong tourism industry has achieved rapid growth and strongly supported the economic and social development of the city. Last year, the city's social fixed asset investment reached 20.115 billion

yuan and its fiscal revenue reached 2.398 billion yuan, increased by 7 times and 3.6 times respectively than in 2009, when the first airline route was launched. Its tourism income increased to 15.11 billion yuan in 2017 from 1.62 billion yuan back in 2009, an average annual increase of 15%.

Combined with its own advantages and characteristics, Yunnan Airport Group has actively deepened its reform, innovatively explored and formed its integrated management model under the leadership of the government.

In the course of in-depth reform and exploration, Yunnan civil aviation has achieved fruitful results in its development, and its comprehensive strength has been a leading power domestically for a long time. Yunnan province has built 15 airports and they are all under operation now.

Yunnan is a province with a large number of airports and a high level of aviation resources with integrated airport management. By the first quarter of this year, the province had opened 424 air routes, including 353 domestic, 67 international and 4 local routes. The number of flights from Kunming airport to South and Southeast Asia amounts to 235 per week with 32 destinations, which makes it the largest airport in China connecting South and Southeast Asia.

Yunnan's geographical advantages are being transferred to advantages for development by continuing to deepen the reform, build a broad aviation network, and positively integrate and serve the Belt and Road construction. The three-kilometer airport runway has connected Yunnan with the world.

(Hu Xiaorong)

China-South Asia Expo more open and international

"The China-South Asia Expo (CSA) will be more open and more international this year," Liu Qilin, director of the Yunnan International Expo Affairs Bureau, said on May 22. According to Liu, the 5th CSA Expo, the biggest ever. It will provide 19 pavilions, about 8,500 standard booths and 190,000 square metres of exhibition space. It will also include 16 international events and attract more than 3,000 exhibitors. In addition to the two image pavilions, Afghanistan, the Theme Country and Myanmar, the Country of Honour, there will be seven overseas pavilions, with foreign exhibitors accounting for more than 40 percent of the total exhibition space.

As confirmed, the 5th CSA Expo will see the participation of companies from 52 countries and regions, 31 mainland Chinese provinces, munic-

ipalities and autonomous regions, as well as China's Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. "We will do our utmost to set up bilateral and multilateral platforms for exchanges and cooperation among all parties in terms of commodities, capital, technology, information and other resources. We are going to make fresh contributions to the country by actively serving and integrating into China's Belt and Road Initiative," said Liu.

Liu said that while adhering to the entire market model that covers the trade in commodities, services and investments, this year's CSA Expo will be big, comprehensive and professional. Professional pavilions will account for more than half of the 19 pavilions, and will be arranged to further promote the flow of commodities, capital and human resources.

(Han Chengyuan)

Unique wedding custom (3) Blang people: Tea-serving reveals whom she loves

Yunnan's diverse living environment and cultural deposits have contributed to the evolution of a great variety of marriage customs. The Blang people live in Menghai County, south of Yunnan Province.

In the marriage customs of Blang people, tea is very important, from marriage proposal, engagement to wedding ceremony. In addition, tea is also inseparable after marriage.

Young people from Blang ethnic group gather and look for their loved ones on jubilant occasions such as the Tea Ancestor Festival and the Water-Sprinkling Festival. When night falls, young wooers sit around the fireplace in the house of the beloved one to sing songs. In front of every one of them, there is a cup made of bamboo or wood in which there are tea leaves. The girl



Wedding scene of Blang people

Photos by Meng Zhigang

they pursuit will fill water into the cups, which is a subtle way for her to express her feeling. For the one she loves, she will fill less water into his cup, indicating that she wishes he can stay at her home for a longer time. And if she fills up the cup, she wants the person drinks

more tea and then goes to toilet and will not come back. The young man will then tell his family about his affections and ask relatives to have a talk about the marriage.

By Wang Dan (Daguan Weekly)

World's tallest bridge awarded Gustav Lindenthal medal



Aerial photo of Beipanjiang Bridge

Beipanjiang Bridge, located at the juncture area between southwestern China's provinces of Yunnan and Guizhou, is known as the world's tallest bridge. It won the Gustav Lindenthal Medal at the 35th International Bridge Conference on May 24.

The bridge was put into operation in December 26,

2016. It is 1,341.4 meters long and 200 floors high. The vertical distance from its floor to the river surface is 565 meters. The Gustav Lindenthal Medal is dubbed the "Nobel Prize of bridges".

The construction of the bridge has explored more than 10 areas of innovations, resulting in advanced technical achievements with in-

tellectual properties. The designers and builders met with many difficulties in complex geological conditions, high mountains and crisscross of valleys and terrible weathers. They applied high-end technologies such as "smart" concrete and cloud computing to ensure a safe and efficient construction.

From cgm.com

Milk girl becomes big grower



He Hongmei is checking mushrooms she grows

He Hongmei is an intelligent Naxi woman from northwest Yunnan's Lijiang. Recently, she sold 300,000 Paris polyphylla seedlings, which she grew over many years. She sold them to more than 60 households in six villages

of Tai'an Township in Yulong Naxi Autonomous County, indicating that the former "milk girl" has become a big grower of medicinal herbs.

In 2001, upon graduating from the Food Science Department at Southwest

University for Nationalities, He Hongmei came to Lijiang Ecological Milk Company Limited and became a "milk girl". In a little more than two years, she was promoted from a laboratory technician to general manager.

The ecological milk company—the first and only milk producer in Lijiang—has helped nearly 2,000 households become rich from raising dairy cows. While doing well in her career, however, the "milk girl" thought of "job-hopping".

In 2008, He Hongmei established Lijiang Shengtai Agricultural Development Company Limited. Two years later, the company leased more than 60 hectares of mountainous land beside for planting and breeding Paris polyphylla Smith var. yunnanensis.

Paris polyphylla has a long growth cycle. Cultivating it requires a large capital investment and strict planting regimen. In the past few years, He Hongmei worked diligently at her farm more than 2,800 metres above sea level. She sought cooperation with multiple parties and over-

came many technological difficulties.

Last year, her company achieved revenue of more than two million yuan from sales of Paris polyphylla Smith var. yunnanensis. Just selling the seedlings brought in more than 1.3 million yuan.

Adopting the operation model of "company plus base plus farmers", He Hongmei helped farmers in surrounding areas to increase their incomes as well. "A dozen local villagers work at the base all year round," said He Hongmei. More people are needed at the base during the busy season. Last year, labour costs alone exceeded 300,000 yuan, and she spent more than 200,000 yuan buying manure to use as fertiliser. In addition, she provided field training for more than 60 households in Tai'an Township.

(Yunnan Daily)