



CHINA · YUNNAN



CONNECTIVITY

Yunnan accelerates railway construction

In recent years, Yunnan has been accelerating the building of its railway network. In the first half of 2018, the province invested 12.529 billion yuan in such work. This total accounts for 52.3 percent of the annual investment plan. Investment increased by 2.343 billion yuan over the same period last year, a rise of 23 percent year-on-year.

The Dali-Ruili Railway is an important part of the China-Myanmar Railway scheme. It is 330 kilometres long and starts from the city of Dali. Trains call at Yangbi, Yongping, Baoshan, Shidian, Longling and Mangshi before terminating in Ruili on the China-Myanmar border. When the line goes into op-



A bullet train from Kunming to Dali Photo by Chen Fei

eration, one can travel from Kunming to Ruili by train in six hours.

"The Dali-Ruili Railway is a long-cherished dream for people of all ethnic groups in Dehong. In the past, Dehong did not have a single inch of railway. As our country has

become stronger over the past 40 years of reform and opening up, railway construction has progressed smoothly. In the future, with the completion of the Dali-Ruili and China-Myanmar railways, Dehong will become a major international land port along the

Belt and Road. It will be a key node of the pivot of China's opening to South and South-east Asia. The region will also act as a gateway for the China-Myanmar economic corridor," said Sha Zhendong, deputy director of the Dehong Prefectural Railway Construction Office.

Railway building is in full swing all over the province. To raise the speed of trains, the province is overhauling the existing Mile-Mengzi and the Dali-Lijiang railways. Other projects, such as the Yuxi-Mohan Railway, the Dali-Lincang Railway, the Dali-Ruili Railway and the Lijiang-Shangri-La Railway, are also progressing in an orderly manner. (Hu Xiaorong)

TOURISM

Lao Ambassador to Brunei: "Yunnan fascinates me"

[Editor's note] In July of this year, the CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee and the provincial government vowed to build Yunnan into the most beautiful province in China. In this edition, Mr. Phonethavy Boudara, who worked in the province for nine years and now acts as the Lao ambassador to Brunei, shares his views on "building Yunnan into the most beautiful province in China".

"I'm very optimistic about the prospects of Yunnan building itself into the most beautiful province in China. That's because it has many potential advantages," said Mr. Boudara. He told that the news immediately brought back his memories of Yunnan. "Yunnan fascinates me," he said.

When Mr. Boudara first arrived in Yunnan, he was impressed by the fresh air. "The air is as sweet as that in Laos, so I knew Yunnan must be a beautiful place," he said. "Yunnan has diverse weather and abundant natural resources. From the tropical rainforests in Xishuangbanna to Meili Snow Mountain in Shangri-La, the natural beauty is simply enchanting."

"Yunnan should give full play to its ecological advantages. It should protect and utilize its natural resources rationally and effectively. To build itself into the most beautiful province in China, Yunnan must mobilize its people. Additionally, it should vigorously develop tourism." Mr. Boudara suggested.

(Yang Chunmei)

MEGA PROJECT

Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge opened to traffic



The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) officially opened to traffic on October 24, after almost nine years of construction. The 55km-long bridge is the longest sea-crossing bridge in the world. Its main section includes 23 kilometers of bridges, 6.7 kilometers of tunnels, and two artificial islands. (Xinhua)

EXCHANGE

2nd seminar for Mekong media professionals opens

The Second Seminar for Media Officials and Journalists from Mekong Countries opened on October 30 in Kunming, Yunnan Province.

Aiming to enhance mutual understanding and contribute to the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, the training seminar sees a participation of 15 media officials and journalists from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand.

During the coming days, the participants will attend lectures on international cooperation and communication practiced by mainstream media of China, Yunnan's role in the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation, new media de-



velopment in China, and application of new media technology.

They will also participate in exchange programs during their visits to local media groups, museums, universities, IT companies and heritage sites in Kunming, capital city of Yunnan and in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang province. The 11-day seminar is hosted by Yunnan Daily Press Group (YDPG) and will last till November 9. (Wang Shixue)

VOICE

CIIE symbol of China's concept of win-win cooperation: US expert

The China International Import Expo (CIIE), to be held in Shanghai on Nov 5-10, is a symbol of win-win cooperation which China has long championed in handling foreign relations, a leading China expert said.

"It's one of the few things in the world that has really no downside. It is all positive for everyone," Robert Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation, said in an interview with Xinhua on Tuesday.

The CIIE, the first-ever Chinese fair focusing exclusively on imported goods and services, is expected to draw more than 2,800 companies from over 130 countries and regions.

There are multiple reasons that so many companies are attending the event, Kuhn said, "the obvious reason is to generate revenues and profits. They do that for their shareholders and their careers."

More importantly, he said, it is because of "the dynamism of the Chinese market."

"China is in most areas, either the world's largest market, or will become the world's largest market and no company in this world can afford not to be in the Chinese market," said Kuhn.

China is expected to import \$10 trillion worth of goods and services in

the next five years, according to China's Ministry of Commerce.

Even companies that don't do too well in the Chinese market due to strong competition also have to be in China in order to become a "worldwide player," he said.

"There are very few industries in the future where companies can, and will be able to compete on a global basis or even in their home country, if they are not in the Chinese market, being in touch with the latest trends, or the latest problems or challenges," Kuhn added.

"So to large numbers of companies, particularly in technologies and new areas, to be in the Chinese market is not an option. It's essential for them," he said.

For US companies doing business with China, the trade tensions between the United States and China are really "a distraction," Kuhn said.

"They're unhappy with it. It's beyond their areas of expertise. They really don't want to deal with the problems of the bigger macroeconomic, political, or economic or geopolitical matter. They only want to deal with the nuts and bolts of their own business. And to be successful, they need to be in the Chinese market," he explained.

(Xinhua)

COOPERATION

CLMT launches 75th Mekong joint patrol and law enforcement operation

On October 23, China, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand launched the 75th joint patrol and law enforcement operation on the Mekong.

The four countries dispatched a total of eight boats to patrol more than 500 kilometres of the river. The joint patrol and law enforcement fleet conducted joint investigations and held anti-drug publicity activities. Law enforcement agencies from the four countries also held a meeting on the security situation

and hydrological changes along the Mekong River at the a water police Station in Myanmar. In addition, the Yunnan Frontier Defence Corps also sent an art troupe to put on performances at liaison stations to entertain the soldiers and officers.

(Yunnan.cn)



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