



**BELT AND ROAD**

## Shanghai gears up for first CIIE

As the first **China International Import Expo (CIIE)** is less than one month away, the host city Shanghai has reached the final stage of its preparations, as products from all over the world have been arriving in the city.

Designed to be a world-class event on a par with the most renowned exhibitions in the world, the inaugural import expo combines country exhibitions, enterprise exhibitions and forums to promote free trade

and an open global economy. The event, which will be held at the National Exhibition and Convention Center from Nov 5 to 10 in Shanghai, was first announced in 2017 by Chinese President Xi Jinping, who called it "an important policy statement and action demonstrating China's embracing of greater openness".

According to the **China International Import Expo Bureau**, a total of **2,800 companies** from the

**G20 member states, as well as 50 countries and regions involved in the Belt and Road Initiative, will participate in the expo. Around 160,000 buyers from more than 80,000 domestic and overseas enterprises have also signed up for the event.**

In addition, **80 countries and three international organizations have confirmed their participation in the event, said the bureau.**

As the event is drawing

near, goods from foreign exhibitors have arrived at local customs. Shanghai has opened green channels for the products, significantly cutting the time needed for them to be unloaded and stored in local warehouses.

Chinese companies are eyeing the great potential of boosting imports through the event. "During the expo, we expect to import at least 1,000 kinds of products and services that have not been sold in the domestic market," said Wang Zhe, Party secretary

of China's commercial giant Suning Holdings Group. "In the next three years, we plan to import goods worth 10 billion euros (\$11.5 billion)."

"The CIIE shows China's changing trade strategy and its resolve to fulfill its responsibility as a major country and achieve mutual benefits and win-win cooperation with all nations," said Zhao Beiwen, deputy head of the World Economy Institute of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. (Xinhua)

**HSR**

## High-speed rail brings about a happy life

BY HU XIAORONG

[Editor's Note] During this year's National Day holiday, the railways of Yunnan province handled 2.233 million passengers, a 19.1 percent increase over 2017 equalling 357,000 passengers. Of those, 1.065 million people travelled by high-speed rail, a 97.6 percent increase of 526,000 passengers year on year. It was not until late 2016 that the province entered the era of high-speed rail, but now it has become a hub for China's national railway network. The improving high-speed rail system is injecting new momentum into the province's development. In this issue and next two, we will relate the great changes brought by the arrival of high-speed rail in the province.

"Since the Kunming-Chuxiong-Dali high-speed railway went into operation, I go back to Dali every weekend. I watch a movie and I'm home," a passenger named Wang explained. "Now that we can travel by high-speed rail, many of us want to try our luck in bigger cities. We're willing to act because travelling now takes less time and less money," Xiaorong said.

In Yunnan, continuously expanding and improving high-speed rail lines are bringing convenience and benefits to more and more people. With its great capacity and high speeds, these new railroads have become an important means of intercity public transport. They have also promoted such industries as education, healthcare, entertainment and tourism, as well as boosted the interaction of these industries between cities.

A train ride from Dali to Kunming used to last six to seven hours. Now, the new railway has reduced that duration to two hours, bringing people a real sense of gain and well-being.



Passengers travel from Kunming to Dali. Photo by Hu Xiaorong

## S and S.E. Asian vegetable experts train in Kunming

On October 11, the Training Course on the Utilization and Cultivation of Tropical Vegetable Resources in South and Southeast Asia, also referred to as the 2018 Training Course on Modern Agriculture for Helping Myanmar, got underway in Kunming, capital city of southwest China's Yunnan province. The programme is jointly organized by the Institute of Horticultural Crops and the International Institute of Agricultural Sciences. (Yunnan Daily)

During the 20-day training, 21 farming experts from South and Southeast Asian countries including Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam will listen to reports and carry out field investigations. They will study the utilization and breeding of major horticultural crops. Much of their attention will be focused on germplasm resources, the environmentally friendly cultivation of vegetables and the prevention and control of horticultural pests and diseases.

**CULTURE**



Bridging East and West: China's "Peacock Princess" recreates "Rite of Spring"

The dance drama "Rite of Spring", produced by famous Chinese dancer Yang Liping, made its debut in Kunming, capital city of Yunnan province on October 11. After that, the show will be staged during Shanghai International Art Festival and begin its international tour to London, Edinburgh and Melbourne.

"Rite of Spring" is a ballet and orchestral concert work by Russian composer Igor Stravinsky, which is widely considered to be one of the most influential musical works of the 20th century. Over the years, this classic is being frequently reproduced. Different creators present different adaptations. Based on the understanding of Chinese culture, Yang Liping's new version of "Rite of Spring" tries to present the western classics, the relationship between human and nature in an eastern poetic way.

Yang Liping was born in Yunnan and is the director of the famous performance art show "Dynamic Yunnan" and the dance drama "Spirit of Peacock". Many of her works enjoy great popularity both at home and abroad due to her ethereal beauty. Thus she is described by some foreign media as the "Peacock Princess of China". (Photo by Zhou Can)

**AID**

## Myanmar kids with CHD arrives in Kunming for treatment

BY CAO YUNBO

Ten Myanmar children with congenital heart diseases (CHD) arrived in Kunming, capital city of southwest China's Yunnan province with their parents on October 10 to receive treatment in the Yunnan Fuwai Cardiovascular Hospital (YFCH). They are the second batch of Myanmar children with CHD to receive free treatment aided by the "Belt and Road•Paukpa" Saving

CHD Children Action Plan.

When the children and their parents reached the Kunming Changshui International Airport, they were presented with flowers and cold-proof capes. Then the person in charge of YFCH introduced the action plan for them.

The plan is jointly sponsored by the China Charity Federation, Yunnan Provincial Federation and Yunnan Fuwai Cardiovascular Hospital. This September, the sponsors launched a screening

on children with CHD in Myanmar. Among the 58 children, they selected 15 with more severe conditions for this batch.

Besides the ten children already in Kunming, the five left will arrive in Kunming as soon as they finish the procedures. Among them, the oldest is eleven years old and the youngest only two years old. The sponsors also hired interpreters to smooth the communication between doctors and children and their parents.

**INHERITOR**

## Asang and the Guozhuang dance

BY ZHANG RUOGU

Asang, 62, together with his folks, was performing the Guozhuang Dance in Tibetan costumes in the studio of culture station on Aug. 28 in Benzilan Township, Deqin County, northwest Yunnan's Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture.

Guozhuang, an important dancing art belonging to the national-level intangible cultural heritages, boasts a history of 1,500 years.

Asang is one of the leading dancers in the Benzilan performing team.

Noting certain skills in learning of the art, Asang said he had spent four years to master the Guozhuang dance. He added that over 300 villagers from 109 families there could dance with the support of the culture station.

"Well, protection and preservation of intangible cultural heritages are highly regarded by more people nowadays. The more they know about the art



A photo of Guozhuang dance form, the stronger aspirations they have to pass it down. Photo by Li Wenjun

Guozhuang dance is also commonly performed in funerals, weddings, festivals, harvest celebration, house moving and guests receiving. Aniu, 56, is Asang's neighbor. He said that he had been participating in the art form together with Asang for several years.

Asang added they'll be busier because the First Guozhuang Dance Festival of Benzilan

**TOURISM**

## Highlights of core functions of "Travel in Yunnan" app

BY LI HENGQIANG

Travel in Yunnan" app is a digital platform integrating tourism resources of southwest China's Yunnan Province to better serve travelers to the province. On Oct. 2, the developer company released the highlights of the eight core functions of the app.

**Home page:** With the idea of promoting immersive and smart tourism, the home page of the app was divided into three levels (province, cities and scenic areas) to provide better experience before, during and after the visit.

**Facial recognition and smart guide:** To enter scenic spots more quickly, tourists just need to upload a selfie to the app, and they can enter scenic spots through facial recognition system within one second. They can also check and be navigated to scenic spots, hotels, restaurants, parking areas and through "Travel in Yunnan".

**Credit and complain system:** The app aims to give assistance to form a tourism credit system which combines evaluations from government, professional institutions and tourists. Dishonest enterprises will be kicked out from the app. Meanwhile, visitors can complain via means of online channel, voice

message and call making and will be responded within 24 hours.

**Slow TV:** Tens of thousands of cameras were installed in 90% of A-level scenic areas in 16 cities and prefectures. Travelers can view the real-time scenes before arriving.

**Routes recommendation:** The app can analyze hot destinations and interests of tourists to recommend various routes that fit the demands of different travelers.

**AI identification:** By scanning with the app, tourists can learn about 6,000 species of common flowers and scenes of 1,100 AAAA and AAAAA scenic areas across the province.

**Smart transportation:** For users who uploads their license plate numbers on the app, they can pass the toll station in a non-stopping way within 1,600 milliseconds. Besides, tourists can learn about the number of parking spots around scenic areas before arrival.

**Talents platform:** "Travel in Yunnan" app is also a platform to provide service for talents from tourism industry. The app plays a positive role in exchanging information and ideas, integrating resources, promoting tourism products and safeguarding rights and interests of individuals in tourism industry.

**EVENT**

## The 11th "Chinese Bridge" competition kicks off in Kunming



Participants learn about Yunnan tea ceremony. Photo by Liu Ziyu

BY LIU ZIYU

On October 11, the 11th "Chinese Bridge" Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign Secondary School Students kicked off in Kunming, Yunnan.

A record high 332 teachers and students from 99 countries participated in the competition. Cuba, the Cook Islands, Panama, Andorra and Iceland all sent competitors to China for the first time.

The event was organized with the theme of "Learning the Chinese Language, Making Chinese Friends" and is sponsored by the Confucius Institute

**POVERTY ALLEVIATION**

## Culture-based approach helps alleviate poverty in Yunnan village

Laodabao, a Lahu people's village, is located in south Yunnan's Pu'er City. The villagers once struggled below the poverty line. However, through improving the infrastructure and setting up a performing company, the village has become a hot tourism spot.

According to the Party Secretary of Laodabao, in 2006, the average per capita income in the village was less than 147 dollars due to the poor infrastructure and lacking of industries.

Aimed at fighting against poverty, local government invested one million dollars to renovate folk houses, build characteristic dwellings and improve

local infrastructures. As the villagers are good at singing and dancing, the locals then established a performing company.

To draw more visitors, the locals also build demonstration zones and traditional guesthouses featuring the folk custom of Lahu people. Meanwhile, delicacies of Lahu people are also offered. Tourists said that they can experience authentic Lahu culture there.

Now, the village has become a hot tourism spot especially during the Chinese National Day Holiday, the Spring Festival, creating new revenues for locals whose lives are getting better off.