

NEWS FROM CHINA

CHINA-INDIA REVIEW



Celebrating
70 Years
of Nation-Building



National Anthem

The National Anthem was written in 1935, with lyrics by the noted poet Tian Han and music by the famous composer Nie Er. March of the Volunteers gave voice to the Chinese people's determination to sacrifice themselves for national liberation, and expressed China's admirable tradition of courage, resolution and unity in fighting foreign aggression. It was for this reason that the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) decided to adopt the song as the provisional national anthem of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on Sept 27, 1949, and the National People's Congress (NPC) officially decided to adopt the song as the National Anthem of the PRC on Dec 4, 1982.

LYRICS

March of the Volunteers

Arise, we who refuse to be slaves!

With our very flesh and blood,

Let us build our new Great Wall!

The peoples of China are at their most critical time,

Everybody must roar defiance.

Arise! Arise! Arise!

Millions of hearts with one mind,

Brave the enemy's gunfire,

March on!

Brave the enemy's gunfire,

March on! March on! March on, on!

中华人民共和国国歌

(义勇军进行曲)

田汉词
聂耳曲

进行曲速度

起来! 不愿做奴隶的人们! 把我们的
血肉, 筑成我们新的长城! 中华
民族到了最危险的时候, 每个人被
迫着发出最后的吼声。起来! 起来! 起
来! 我们万众一心, 冒着敌人的炮火前进!
冒着敌人的炮火前进! 前进! 前进! 进!

NATIONAL FLAG



On September 27, 1949, the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) approved the proposal for using the red five-star flag as the national flag of the People's Republic of China (PRC). The red color of the flag symbolizes revolution and the yellow color of the stars signifies the golden brilliant rays radiating from the vast red land. The design of four smaller stars surrounding a bigger one signifies the unity of the Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC).



NATIONAL EMBLEM

The ears of grain, stars, Tiananmen and cogwheel are gold; the field within the circle is red, as are the ribbons festooning the bottom of the circle. These two colors traditionally represent auspiciousness and happiness.

Tiananmen symbolizes the unyielding spirit of the Chinese people in their fight against imperialism and feudalism; the cogwheel and ears of grain represent the working class and the peasantry respectively; the five stars stand for the great unity of the Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC).



National Day Message



H.E. SUN WEIDONG
China's Ambassador to India

70 Years on, Working Towards Achieving the Chinese Dream

Namaste!

It's a time of enormous national pride and rejoicing. As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1st, 2019, we feel jubilant and grateful at the journey traversed so far, with many milestones in terms of shining achievements in just about every area of human endeavour. This journey of national rejuvenation has been inspiring and exhilarating, beckoning the Chinese people to translate the Chinese dream into living reality. Over the past seven decades, China has made great strides from standing up and growing wealthy to becoming strong. Guided by Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, the Chinese people are united and working tirelessly to achieve the "two centenary goals" and realize the Chinese dream of great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

China@70: New Milestones

Looking back, the story of China's economic ascent, specially after reform and opening up in 1978, is truly remarkable. The transformation of China from a poor country into the world's second largest economy and technology juggernaut underlines possibilities of what can be achieved

by blending hard work with a vision of national resurgence.

China's economy is moving towards high-quality development. China's GDP reached 13.61 trillion U.S. dollars in 2018, and its gross national income per person reached 9,732 U.S. dollars in the same year. China accounted for more than 30 percent of global economic growth, making it the most significant driving force. The economic structure continued to improve, and the third industry contributed 60.3 % of the growth. The retail sales of consumer goods in China was estimated to be around \$5.76 trillion in 2018, making it the second largest consumer market in the world.

What's more gratifying is that in this upward economic trajectory, China's leadership unflinchingly pursued the eradication of poverty, bringing us closer to the first centenary goal of creating a moderately prosperous society by 2020. The 1.3 billion Chinese are no longer threatened by food or clothing shortages, more than 850 million Chinese are out of poverty and 770 million are employed. The number of impoverished people dropped from 770 million in 1978 to 16.6 million in 2018, and the poverty rate dropped from 97.5% to 1.7%. By the end of 2020, we will have taken all

rural residents living below the current poverty line out of poverty, putting an end to absolute poverty in our country and creating a miracle in the history of development and poverty reduction.

Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind

China is opening wider to the outside world. China is now the world's largest trader in goods and largest holder of foreign exchange reserves. China has become the largest trading partner of over 130 countries and regions. Chinese government announced the establishment of six new pilot free trade zones, bringing the total number to 18. All countries in the world will benefit from China's greater opening-up.

Looking ahead, I wish to stress that what China has achieved is not a godsend. It has emanated from our people's hard work by overcoming all obstacles and difficulties. Having achieved national rejuvenation with relentless efforts, we are against any plot that seeks to subvert our hard-won success. We resolutely oppose provoking trade frictions, openly interfering in China's internal affairs and undermining our interests.

Under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, China has stayed committed to the path of peaceful development, resolutely safeguarded China's sovereignty, security and development interests, advocated multilateralism and economic globalization, promoted the building of a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind. China has contributed its wisdom and solutions for world peace, stability and development.

Aim High for China-India Relations

The 70th birthday celebrations of PRC have intersected with the unfolding national resurgence of India, opening new avenues for stronger China-India relations. This is my second time to work in India, and I am happy to see that India has not only made new progress, but also preserved its rich historical heritage, diversity, inclusiveness as well as vitality.

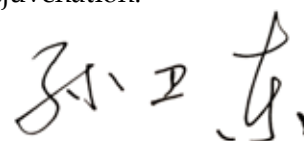
As the only two large developing countries with over one billion population, China and India have so many similarities than any other country in the world. We had splendid ancient civilizations, suffered from colonial and imperial aggression,

achieved national liberation and independence almost at the same time, and jointly advocated the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. At present, both of us face the common task of growing the economy and improving people's livelihoods. China is striving for its "two centenary goals", and India is working towards the goal of building a "new India". China and India should learn from and help each other to realize win-win cooperation and common development.

The 'closer developmental partnership' between China and India is moving forward along the track of sound and steady development. Today over 1,000 Chinese companies are doing business in India, with a cumulative investment of \$8 billion, which has created 200,000 local jobs. More than two-thirds of Indian companies investing in China are making handsome profits, 40 percent of them would like to increase their investment in China this year. China-India High-Level People-to-People and Cultural Exchanges Mechanism has promoted people-to-people cooperation. With the long history, large population and economic volume of the two countries, China-India cooperation enjoys vast potential for development.

The Chinese government attaches great importance to its relations with India, which is a basic foreign policy we have adhered to for a long time. With the guidance of the leadership of our two countries to the development of bilateral relations and cooperation, we should transmit the leaders' consensus to all levels and translate the consensus into tangible cooperation and outcomes, go beyond the mode of managing differences and accumulate positive momentum, so as to strengthen exchanges and cooperation, promote convergence of interests and achieve common development.

At the important moment of 70th anniversary of the founding of PRC, I am happy to present this special edition of our embassy magazine, which showcases China's transformation over the last seven decades through captivating photos and articles. I hope through reading this special edition, you may have a feel of how the Chinese people are working hard to achieve the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation.



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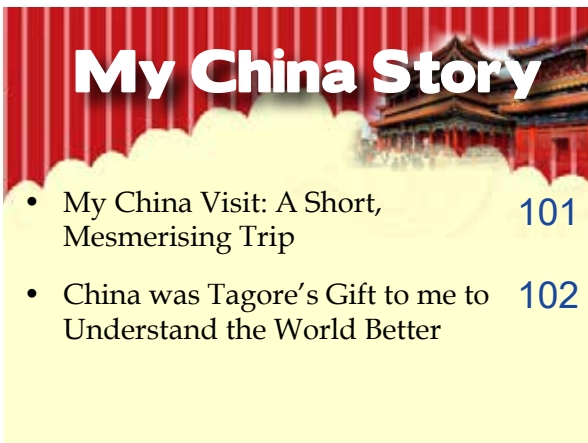
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KNOW CHINA: VITAL STATS

OFFICIAL NAME: The People's Republic of China

CAPITAL: Beijing

POPULATION: China is the world's most populous country with a population of 1.39 billion by 2017, one-fifth of the world's total. This figure includes the Chinese living in the Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions and Taiwan Province.

POPULATION DENSITY: The population density is about 145 people per sq km.

AREA: With a landmass of 9,600,000 sq km, China is the third largest country in the world.

NATIONAL FLAG: Red flag with five stars.

NATIONAL EMBLEM: The National Emblem of the PRC features Tiananmen Gate beneath the five shining stars, encircled by ears of grain and with a cogwheel at the bottom.

NATIONAL ANTHEM: The National Anthem was written in 1935, with lyrics by the noted poet Tian Han and music by the famous composer Nie Er. March of the Volunteers gave voice to the Chinese people's determination to sacrifice themselves for national liberation, and expressed China's admirable tradition of courage, resolution and unity in fighting foreign aggression.

NATIONAL DAY: Chinese celebrate October 1 as National Day in honor of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949.

CURRENCY:
Renminbi (RMB)/yuan

GDP \$13.61
TRILLION

GNI Per Capita
9732 US\$



HEAD OF STATE: President Xi Jinping

HEAD OF GOVERNMENT: Premier Li Keqiang

CONSTITUTION: The Constitution of the People's Republic of China is nominally the supreme law within the PRC. The current version (fourth) was adopted by the 5th National People's Congress on December 4, 1982, with further revisions in 1988, 1993, 1999, 2004 and 2018.

TOP LEGISLATIVE POWER: The National People's Congress (NPC) and its Standing Committee. Representing the people and all levels of people's congresses in China, the NPC supervises all state-level institutions. Its powers include electing the President of China.

TOP ADMINISTRATIVE BODY: The State Council, which is the cabinet or chief administrative body of the PRC that includes the heads of all governmental agencies. Headed by Premier Li Keqiang.

POLITICAL PARTIES: The Communist Party of China was founded in July 1921. The CPC has evolved into a party with over 90 million members. Workers and farmers make up the highest share of 36.95 %, followed by professionals and management with 25.21 %. The remaining members are officials, students and the retired people. The current General Secretary of CPC is Xi Jinping, who was elected at the 18th National Congress held in October 2012. Under China's multi-party cooperation system, there are also eight other democratic parties which participate fully in state affairs.

TOP ADVISORY BODY: The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). Representing all ethnic groups and a broad range of political and special interest groups, the CPPCC provides advice on social issues and exercises democratic supervision over the government.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS: China is made up of 23 provinces, five autonomous regions, four municipalities directly under the Central Government, and the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macao.

MILITARY: The Central Military Commission (CMC) is in charge of the administration of China's armed forces. It has 15 functional sections including seven departments (offices), three commissions and five directly affiliated bodies. Xi Jinping is the current chairman of CMC.

POPULATION ETHNICITY: China is a multi-ethnic nation. Besides Han Chinese, who make up over 90% of China's population, there are officially 55 minority ethnic groups living in China.

RELIGIONS: China implements the policy of freedom of religious belief and administers religious affairs in accordance with the law. Major religions in China are Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Catholicism and Christianity and others. China has nearly 200 million religious people and more than 380,000 clerical personnel.

LANGUAGES: Standard Chinese or Putonghua, based on the Beijing dialect, Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghainese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, and Hakka dialects, as well as minority languages.





A RAINBOW MOSAIC

1 NATION 56 ETHNIC GROUPS



After thousands of years of cultural interactions, China has become a nation of 56 official multi-ethnic groups. The Han Chinese are the largest ethnic group, accounting for 91.59 percent of the total population.

The other 55 ethnic groups are called ethnic minorities, including the Zhuang, Manchu, Korean and the Evenki people. Each ethnic group has its own exquisite features, fully displayed by its housing styles, cuisines, customs and traditional holidays.

Chinese Han People

The Han Chinese can be found in almost every part of China. However, they mainly live in the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River, Yangtze River and

the Pearl River, and also in the Northeast Plain Region (Songliao Plain). They form the largest ethnic group within China and also the largest in the world. The Han people have their own distinctive way of life.

55 Minorities in China

Although they make up only a small proportion of the overall Chinese population, the 55 minority ethnic groups are distributed extensively throughout different regions of China. The regions where they are most concentrated are Southwest China, Northwest China and Northeast China. No matter whether it is Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang, Ningxia, Guangxi, Tibet, Yunnan, Guizhou, Qinghai or Sichuan, Gansu, Hubei, Hunan or

Although they make up only a small proportion of the overall Chinese population, the 55 minority ethnic groups are distributed extensively throughout different regions of China.



Achang	Jingpo	Russ
Bai	Jino	Salar
Blang	Kazak	She
Bonan	Kirgiz	Shui
Bouyei	Lahu	Tagik
Chaoxian	Li	Tatar
Dai	Lisu	Tu
Daur	Luoba	Tujia
Deang	Man	Uygur
Dong	Maonan	Uzbek
Dongxiang	Miao	Wa
Dulong	Monba	Xibe
Ewenki	Mongol	Yao
Gaoshan	Mulam	Yi
Gelao	Naxi	Yugur
Gin	Nu	Zang
Hani	Oroqen	Zhuang
Hezhen	Primi	
Hui	Qiang	



With guidance from the Chinese government, the minorities in areas that have been given regional autonomy are entitled to deal with their own affairs.

another province, one can find Chinese minorities. From the areas listed above, the greatest number of minorities can be found in Yunnan Province (25 ethnic groups). Zhuang has the largest population (more than 16 million) of minority ethnic groups.

In order to ensure that the 56 Chinese ethnic groups live together in harmony, the government introduced a series of policies including ones to secure the equality and unity of ethnic groups, give regional autonomy to ethnic minorities and promote respect for the faith and customs of ethnic groups.

Among these the policy of regional autonomy for minorities is the most fundamental. Under this policy, five autonomous regions, including Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang, Guangxi, Ningxia and Tibet, as well as numerous autonomous prefectures, counties, nationality townships and towns have been set up. With guidance from the Chinese government, the minorities in areas that have been given regional autonomy are entitled to deal with their own affairs. Together with the Han people, the Chinese minorities are making great efforts to build a prosperous China.



Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era

On March 17, 2018, China's national legislature adopted constitutional amendments, enshrining Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era into the Constitution.

The Xi Jinping Thought represents the latest achievement in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context and encapsulates the practical experience and collective wisdom of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the people.

The CPC announced the formation of the thought for the first time at its 19th National Congress in October 2017 and wrote the thought into the Party's Constitution as a new guide to action upon conclusion of the congress.

The thought makes eight fundamental issues clear at the theoretical level, and presents the 14 fundamental principles to guide the endeavors:





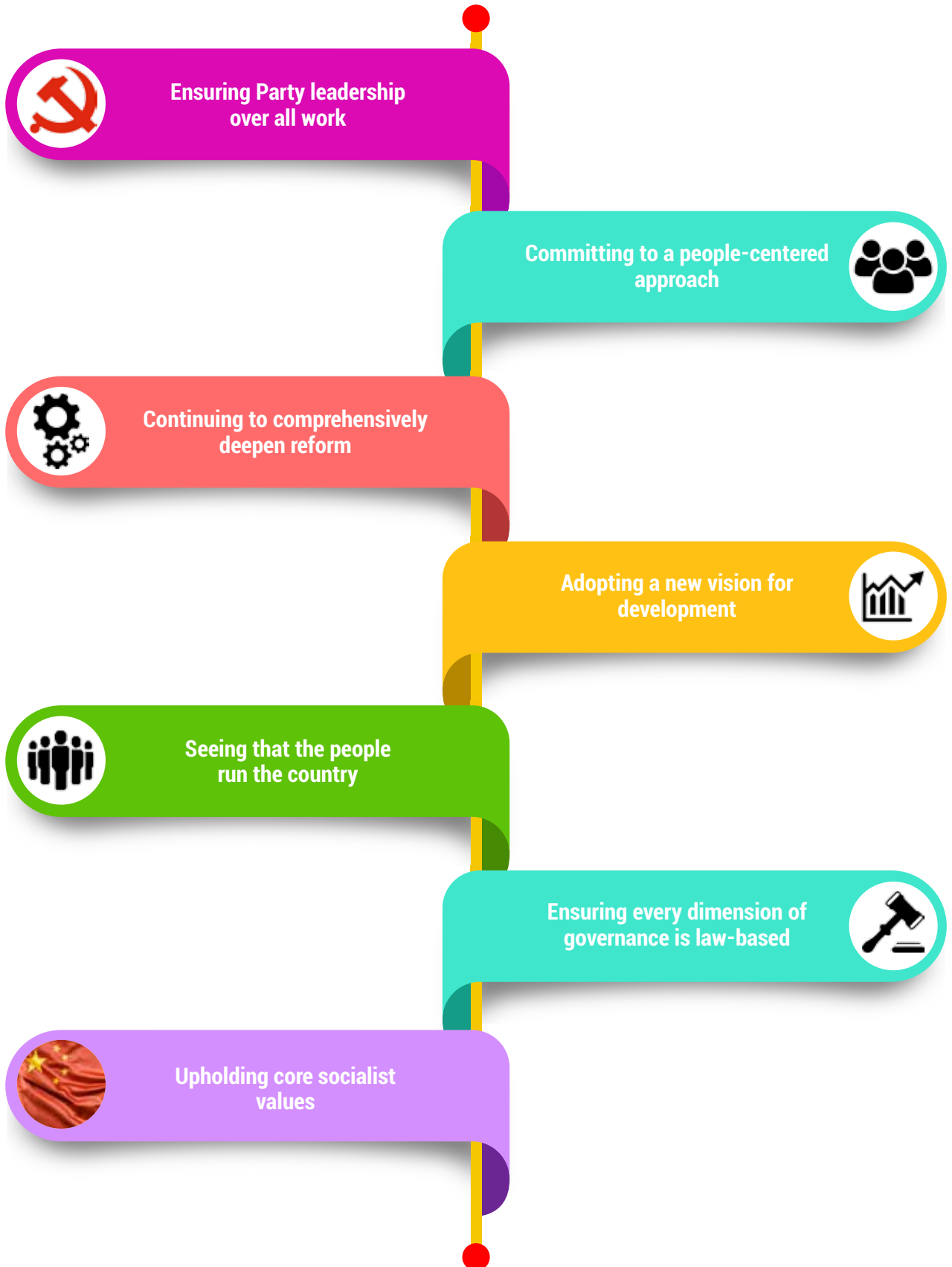
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This new era will be an era of building on past successes to further advance our cause, and of continuing in a new historical context to strive for the success of socialism with Chinese characteristics. It will be an era of securing a decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, and of moving on to all-out efforts to build a great modern socialist country. It will be an era for the Chinese people of all ethnic groups to work together and work hard to create a better life for themselves and ultimately achieve common prosperity for everyone. It will be an era for all of us, the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation, to strive with one heart to realize the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation. It will be an era that sees China moving closer to center stage and making greater contributions to mankind.”

China's President Xi Jinping



THE 14 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES



XI JINPING THOUGHT ON SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS FOR A NEW ERA





XIPLOMACY: A Blueprint for Global Peace & Prosperity



Chinese President Xi Jinping has forged his unique style of diplomacy which seeks to forge broader consensus and closer partnerships, bilateral and multilateral, for jointly building a community with a shared future for mankind.

In his 2019 New Year speech, Chinese President Xi Jinping set the tone for China's dynamic and energetic diplomacy and outlined key priorities of his foreign policy. In a world that is undergoing changes unseen in a century, China will remain confident and resolute in safeguarding its sovereignty and security, and maintain its sincerity and goodwill for safeguarding world peace and promoting common prosperity, President Xi Jinping said.

The declaration President Xi made on the last day of 2018 is a footnote to his commitment to building a better world for all with his insightful and pragmatic diplomatic endeavors, widely known as Xiplomacy.

Since the start of the year, President Xi has made five overseas visits and attended four multilateral gatherings in eight countries to forge broader consensus and closer partnerships for jointly building a community with a shared future for mankind.



Cooperation, Not Confrontation

On June 29, on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit in the Japanese city of Osaka, President Xi's meeting with his US counterpart Donald Trump spurred optimism and lifted global markets. In their face-to-face meeting, the two leaders agreed to jointly advance a China-US relationship featuring coordination, cooperation and stability, and to restart economic and trade consultations, with the US agreeing at the meeting not to impose new tariffs on Chinese imports. China and the US have highly integrated interests and extensive cooperation areas, and they should not fall into the so-called traps of conflict and confrontation, President Xi said.

"They signaled the will to cooperate. This is very important and constructive. The situation has indeed improved," said Jeffrey Sachs, a senior UN advisor and renowned economics professor at Columbia University, on the significance of the meeting.

President Xi's state visit to Russia in early June came as the two countries are embracing the 70th

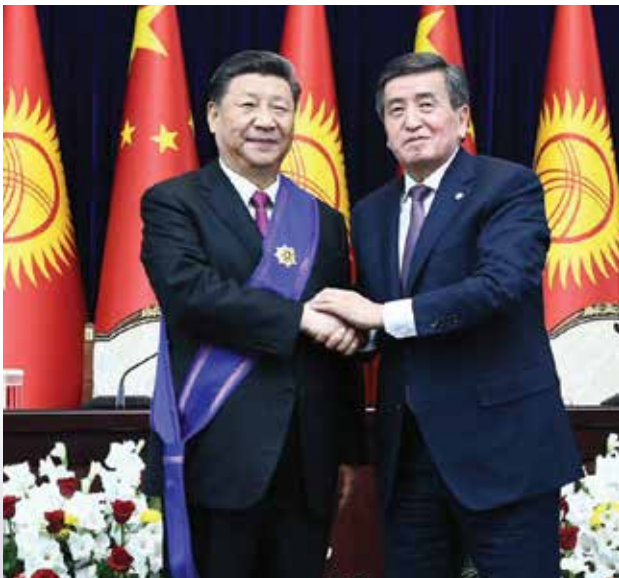
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anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties. The Chinese leader and Russian President Vladimir Putin upgraded bilateral relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for the new era.

President Xi noted that the China-Russia ties have become a major-country relationship featuring the highest degree of mutual trust, the highest level of coordination and the highest strategic value, thus making key contributions to world peace, stability and development.

Two weeks later, the Chinese president arrived in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) for a state visit, the first of its kind in 14 years. In his talks with DPRK's top leader Kim Jong Un, President Xi noted that the China-DPRK relationship has entered a new historical era. President Xi also reaffirmed China's support for



efforts to advance the political settlement of the Korean Peninsula issue and create conditions for it.

President Xi's visit contributed to lasting peace and stability on the peninsula as well as in the region, said Lee Hee-ok, director of the Sungkyun Institute of China Studies at Sungkyunkwan University in Seoul.

BRI: Bigger Cake for All

While protectionism and fierce global competition for resources have diverted the attention of some economies from making a bigger cake to wrestling for a larger slice, Diplomacy staunchly advocates common efforts to create more shared interests. "We should forge a global connectivity partnership to achieve common development and prosperity," President Xi said at the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. "As long as we work together to help each other, even if thousands of miles apart, we will certainly be able to find a mutually beneficial and win-win road."

His remarks resonated with many attendees at the event, which was held in Beijing in April and gathered participants from more than 150 countries and 90 international organizations. President Xi proposed the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013 and frequently promoted it on multiple international occasions. The endeavors have borne fruitful results – some 126 countries and 29 international organizations have signed BRI cooperation documents with China. From 2013 to 2018, trade between China and other BRI countries surpassed \$6 trillion, and China's investment in BRI countries exceeded \$90 billion. "The BRI has



transcended the challenges of geography and unequal development,” and China “has proven itself as a reliable, responsible partner in the international arena,” said Nursultan Nazarbayev, First President of Kazakhstan.

The blueprint also ignited Italy’s enthusiasm, as it clinched a deal with China to jointly advance the construction of the Belt and Road during President Xi’s state visit to the nation in March. Italian President Sergio Mattarella said that with the continuous deepening of the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries and the implementation of the deal, the Italy-China relationship is becoming increasingly active, close and inclusive. Italy is the first Group of Seven country that has signed such an agreement with China, while France and Germany also showed interest in boosting BRI-related cooperation through third-party markets to improve infrastructure in Africa.

The fact that more and more potential partners have shown interest in the joint construction of the Belt and Road corroborates Xi’s words that “the BRI will not become an exclusive club.”

Resetting Global Governance

Making multilateral efforts to address pressing global issues is another core message of Xiplomacy, as effective global governance is threatened by rising unilateralism and trade protectionism. At the G20 Osaka summit, President Xi noted that the world economy is at a crossroads, and the G20 bears the responsibility to chart the course for the world economy and global governance at the crucial time.

To tackle global challenges, President Xi put forward a four-point proposal: sticking to reform and innovation and exploring driving force for growth; keeping pace with the times and improving global governance; actively tackling challenges and removing development bottlenecks; upholding the spirit of partnership and properly addressing differences.

Xi’s “much anticipated speech provides a direction for improving global trading system” to avoid “being myopic and guided by short-term interests,” said Swaran Singh, a professor at the School of International Studies at the New Delhi-based Jawaharlal Nehru University. The Chinese leader also appealed for multilateralism on occasions such as the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, the summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia. In March, at the global governance forum co-hosted by China and France in Paris, President Xi noted “four deficits” in global affairs, namely governance deficit, trust deficit, peace deficit and development deficit, and proposed a four-pronged approach to addressing these deficits.

Dialogue facilitates understanding among countries, as was demonstrated in the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations (CDAC) held in Beijing in May. The CDAC aimed to create a new platform for advancing equal dialogue, mutual learning, and mutual inspiring among civilizations in Asia and the rest of the world, President Xi said. The intensifying global challenges humanity is facing now require concerted efforts by countries across the world, he said.





SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC TAKEOFF JOURNEY

The economic success story of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) is an unfolding phenomenon and testifies to the vigour of the policy of “one country, two systems.”



China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) has witnessed sound economic growth since its return to the motherland 22 years ago.

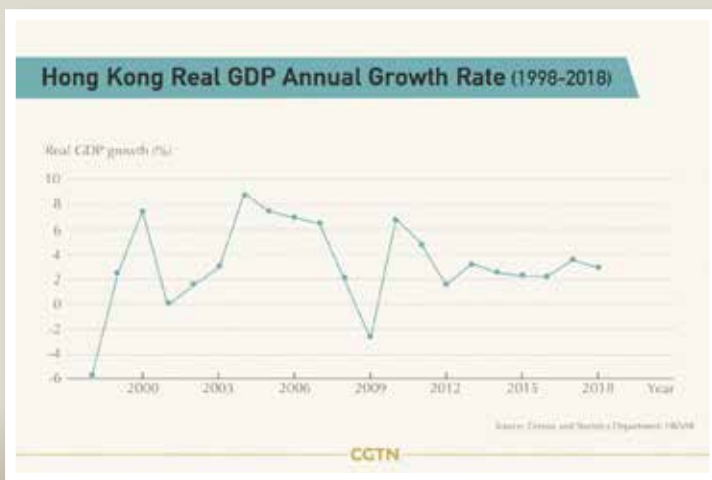
Hong Kong's overall economic size and its pillar industries such as finance, trade, tourism and logistics enjoyed robust growth over the years under the policy of “one country, two systems.”

In 1997, Hong Kong's real GDP was only 1.37 trillion HK dollars (about 176 billion U.S. dollars). In 2018, its GDP reached 2.8 trillion HK dollars (about 358 billion U.S. dollars).

As of May this year, Hong Kong's foreign exchange reserve registered 437.80 billion U.S. dollars, according to Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA). Back in the end of 1997, the number



Hong Kong's overall economic size and its pillar industries such as finance, trade, tourism and logistics all enjoyed robust growth over the years under the policy of "one country, two systems."



was only 92.8 billion U.S. dollars. As the world's seventh largest commodity trading center and an important international financial hub, Hong Kong enjoys robust trade business with the rest of the world.

Services Hub

From the rise of transit trade in the 1950s to the focus on manufacturing industries in the 1970s, Hong Kong has undergone an industrial restructuring as its economy grows stronger and its door opens wider. Hong Kong's economy nowadays is highly service-oriented, with services sector bringing impetus to other sectors and creating most of the employment. Meanwhile, the market between the Chinese mainland and the HKSAR is highly connected via the Bond Connect program launched in 2017. The program enables overseas investors to invest in the Chinese mainland's interbank bond market. In May, the trading volume of the program reached 158.6 billion yuan (about 23.1 billion U.S. dollars), with an average daily turnover approaching 7.6 billion yuan. And, 947 overseas institutional investors entered the China interbank bond market as of May. In addition, with a favorable





business environment, Hong Kong topped the world in terms of Initial Public Offerings (IPOs). Hong Kong raised 37 billion U.S. dollars through IPOs last year alone, 120 percent more than in 2017. A total of 208 businesses debuted in Hong Kong last year, including smartphone maker Xiaomi, services platform Meituan Dianping and hotpot chain Haidilao.

World's Freest Economy

Hong Kong is regarded as the world's freest economy for the 25th consecutive year, according to the 2019 Index of Economic Freedom report released by the Heritage Foundation in January. The high regard demonstrates the HKSAR government's commitment to free market principles over the years. Heritage Foundation said that Hong Kong has a highly resilient economy, a quality judicial system, a transparent government, an efficient regulatory system and an open global business environment. Meanwhile, Hong Kong is ranked the second globally in the latest World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY) 2019 published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD).



Hong Kong's economy nowadays is highly service-oriented, with the services sector bringing impetus to other sectors and creating most of the employment.

Investing in Innovation

As an important portal between the Chinese mainland and the international market, Hong Kong is playing its due role in the national science and technology development strategy, under the outline plan of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. In the past two years, the HKSAR government has invested about 100 billion HK dollars (about 14.5 billion U.S. dollars) in promoting science and technology research and development.

On May 8, the HKSAR government announced that a three-year science and technology talent admission plan will be launched, aiming to attract talents from overseas and the Chinese mainland and make up for the insufficiency of sci-tech talents. Hong Kong residents are now eyeing more opportunities in the Greater Bay Area as they can enjoy an array of preferential policies and begin startups efficiently.

Guangdong Province, for example, announced on June 22 that talented people working in the Greater Bay Area will enjoy the personal income tax reduction. The interconnected network of people, information, finance and exchanges in the area is conducive to cultivating entrepreneurs and leveraging resources.



MACAO

20 YEARS OF RAPID GROWTH

Macao's rapid development over the past 20 years has been marked by stability, prosperity and constant improvement in the quality of people's lives.

The 20th anniversary of Macao's return to the motherland is a key moment in terms of building on past successes to further advance the SAR's development. The chief executive is responsible for further promoting the "one country, two systems" practice, safeguarding national sovereignty, security and development interests and maintaining the long-term prosperity and stability of the Macao SAR.

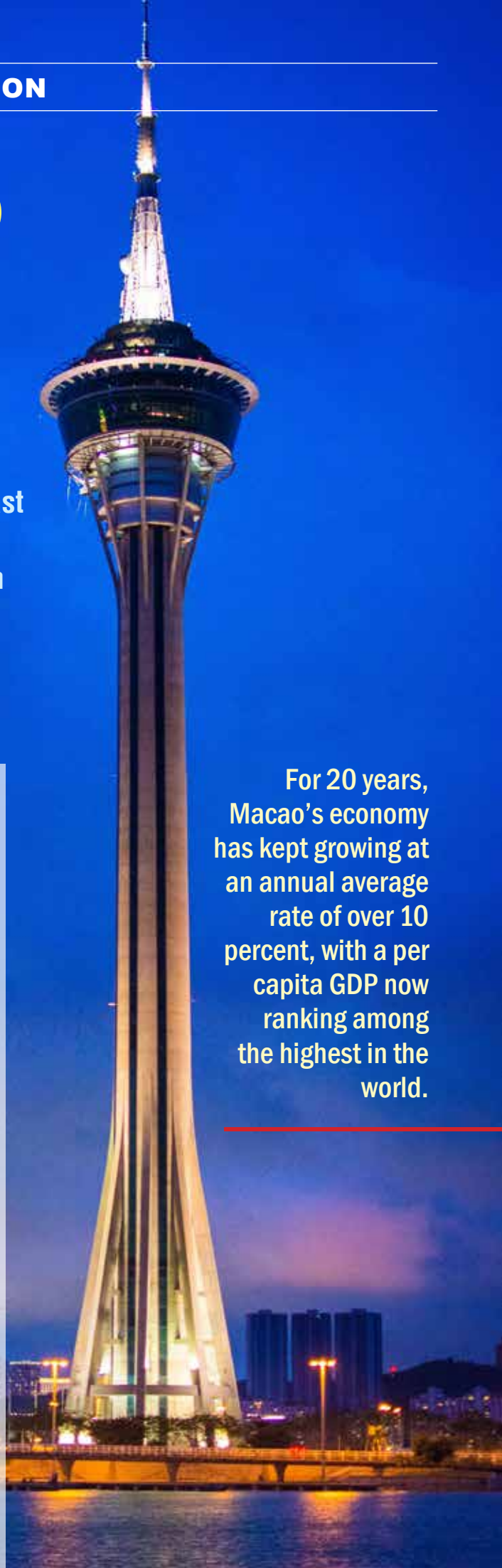
Featuring stability, prosperity and constant improvement in people's wellbeing, Macao's development over the past 20 years has demonstrated the great vitality of the "one country, two systems" policy.

For 20 years, Macao's economy has kept growing at an annual average rate of over 10 percent, with a per capita GDP now ranking among the highest in the world.

The monthly median income of the SAR's residents rose from 9,000 patacas (\$1,100) to 16,300 patacas, and the unemployment rate has remained below 2 percent in recent years.

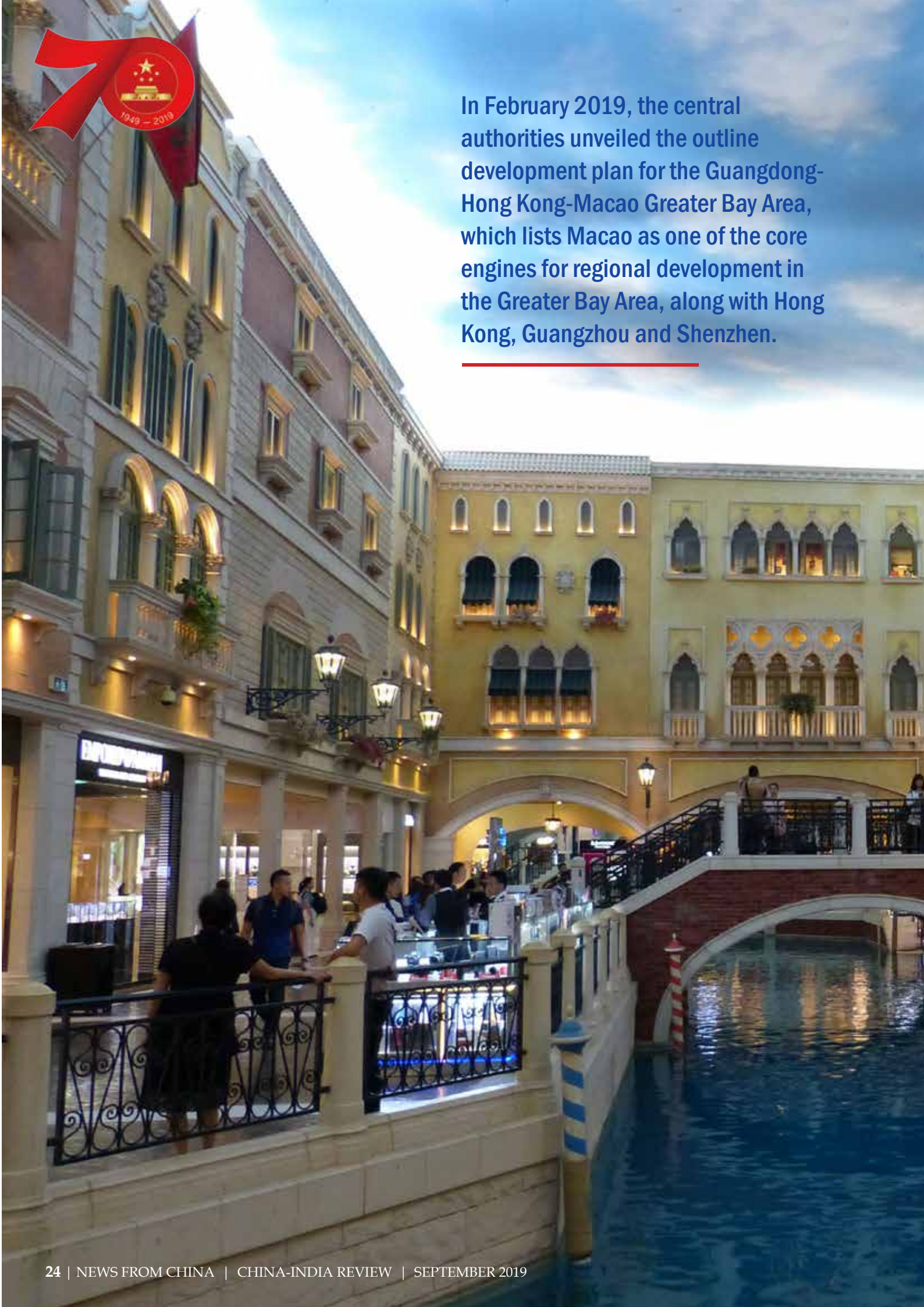
Constant growth has been observed over the years in Macao's annual number of inbound travelers, which crossed the mark of 35 million in 2018.

For 20 years, Macao's economy has kept growing at an annual average rate of over 10 percent, with a per capita GDP now ranking among the highest in the world.





In February 2019, the central authorities unveiled the outline development plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, which lists Macao as one of the core engines for regional development in the Greater Bay Area, along with Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Shenzhen.





Challenges Ahead

Recently, some social problems arose amid the rapid development of Macao's economy and the SAR is faced with certain risks and challenges from both internal and external, including economic diversification, housing, inflation, youth development and tourism capacity.

Ho Iat Seng, the new chief executive-designate of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR), has to address these challenges under his watch. All these require the new chief executive and the new SAR government to seize the SAR's role and opportunities in the national development strategy, achieve Macao's better development in the country's reform and opening up in the new era and contribute to the national rejuvenation.

New Chief Executive

After formally announcing his bid for the election, Mr Ho and his team visited communities to listen to people's opinions. He has met representatives of hundreds of social groups in Macao to discuss issues the masses are concerned about. Only when the motherland sees sound development can Macao achieve better development.

With an increasingly strong motherland as Macao's strong backing, now is the time for the SAR, with constant improvement of its competitiveness, to actively integrate itself into the overall national development.

In February 2019, the central authorities unveiled the outline development plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, which lists Macao as one of the core engines for regional development in the Greater Bay Area, along with Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

This is a move that allows Macao to stand at the tide of the Greater Bay Area development, starting a new stage for the SAR's development.

Now that the goal has been set, it is imperative to press ahead.

In his political platform, Mr Ho said he is willing to devote himself to the service of the country, Macao and its residents, work together with Macao residents to facilitate the country's opening up on all fronts, and actively integrate Macao into the overall national development.

Mr Ho, who was a member of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and president of the Legislative Assembly of the Macao SAR, has a profound understanding of national policies and the actual situation in Macao.

Mr Ho is trusted by the central government, capable of governing the SAR and supported by the people of Macao.

With an increasingly strong motherland as Macao's strong backing, now is the time for the SAR, with constant improvement of its competitiveness, to actively integrate itself into the overall national development.



TIBET

A MOSAIC OF RELIGIONS & CULTURAL SPLENDOUR

In old Tibet, a very few monks of upper class and aristocrats monopolized productive materials and cultural and educational resources, and enjoyed the exclusive access to cultural and art activities. In contrast, a large number of serfs lived in extreme poverty and were denied the right to education. Because of low productivity and lack of social fortune, cultural relics gradually withered, and there wasn't any form of modern science and technology, culture or education.

At present, with the full support of the state, the impressive traditional culture of Tibet has been well preserved, inherited and developed.

Preserving Language

The learning and using of the Tibetan language is under the protection of law. It has been developed in a comprehensive way, becoming China's first ethnic minority script with an international standard. The Tibet Autonomous Region publishes more than 100 book titles in the Tibetan language every year, and the total number of Tibetan books published in 2017 reached 586,005 copies. The state has founded education centers and research institutes, such as Tibet University, Tibetan Traditional Medical College, China Tibetology Research Center,





Tibetan Academy of Social Sciences, and Tibetan Institute of Astronomy, all of which cover extensive studies.

The Tibetan People's Broadcasting Station has 59 programs and columns in Tibetan language, including in Kham dialect, broadcasting in Tibetan 49 hours and 15 minutes per day. The Tibet Television Station has a Tibetan-language channel broadcasting 24 hours a day.

The central government set a budget of more than 40 million yuan for the revision and publication of the Tibetan-language Chinese Tripitaka (Kangyur and Tengyur), a 20-year project entailing the efforts of more

than 100 experts. It has greatly satisfied the religious needs of monks and laymen in Tibet and Tibetan-inhabited areas in other four provinces (Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Qinghai Province). In 2006, the state launched the largest survey of Pattra-leaf scriptures in Tibet, and up to now, more than 1,000 volumes with nearly 60,000 leaves have been identified and cataloged. The Tibetan-language Chinese Grand Canon, sponsored by the state, was planned to be published in 15 years, which includes more than 1,000 volumes of works of eminent monks, nuns and scholars of generations. Some of the works have already been published. Beyond that, 94 experts have spent over 10 years finishing A General History of Tibet of 8 volumes and 13 copies, which is another brilliant work of Tibetan studies.

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Cultural Relics

Since 2001, the central government has invested nearly 3 billion yuan into the conservation and restoration of more than 100 key cultural relics in Tibet, including the Potala Palace and the Jokhang Temple. A total investment of 160 million yuan in intangible cultural heritage protection ranks the highest in the country. The number of national and provincial cultural relic protection sites in Tibet has now reached 671. Epic Gesar, Tibet opera and Lum Medicinal Bathing of Sowa Rigpa are included in the List of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Besides, 89 Tibetan traditional cultural items, such as Thangka paintings and Tibetan paper, are on the national intangible cultural heritage list. There are now 1,125 inheritors of intangible cultural heritage at all levels. A batch of cultural industry programs, including the stage drama *Princess Wencheng*, has become a unique brand of Tibetan cultural tourism.



Freedom of Religion

The old Tibet was ruled by a feudal serfdom under theocracy, which enforced theocratic rule and religious autocracy upon the Tibetan people, and there was no freedom of religious belief. At that time, conflicts were constantly seen among different religious sects, from which religious believers suffered a lot.

At present, various religions including Bonism, Tibetan Buddhism, Islamism and Catholicism coexist harmoniously in Tibet and are respected and protected according to the law. Traditional festival activities in different religions are celebrated in the same way they always were, including 40 large-scale religious activities, such as circumambulation around holy mountains and lakes, the Saga Dawa Festival, the Buddha Painting Showing Festival, the Lamaist Devil Dancing Festival and Pilgrimage. Every year, approximately one million of pilgrimages to Lhasa are made. Today, there are more than 1,700 religious sites for different religious activities in Tibet, with 46,000 resident monks and nuns.

Apart from Tibetan Buddhist monasteries, there are 88 Bonist monasteries, four mosques, and one Catholic Church. The Tibetan people, along with other ethnic minorities, lead their religious lives and engage in social activities in accordance with religious traditions.

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The High-level Tibetan Buddhism College of China has been set up in Beijing and Tibet Buddhism College in Lhasa. As training bases for senior religious talents of Tibetan Buddhism, both systematically cultivate teaching personnel. Monasteries all over Tibet have been carrying



out traditional religious activities, including sutra learning, sutra debate, initiation into monkhood or nunhood, abhiseca and self-cultivation, and implementing the degree system of examination-and-promotion for monasteries' sutra learning.





In Xinjiang, All Religions Have Equal Rights

Since antiquity, Xinjiang has been a region where many religions were practiced. Therefore, the Chinese government is committed to protecting citizens' right to freedom of religious belief, while respecting and protecting all religious cultures. For example, primitive religion and Shamanism were practiced in Xinjiang much before Zoroastrianism, Buddhism and other faiths were introduced in the region in the 4th century BC.

Gradually, a network of religions developed. It further evolved with the introduction of Taoism, Manichaeism, Nestorianism, and Islam. The coexistence of multiple religions, with one or two being predominant, was the basic characteristic of Xinjiang's religious history. During their coexistence and interaction, the religious cultures learned from one another and adapted to China's social development.



The central government has allocated special funds to renovate cultural heritage protection sites at the state and autonomous-region levels, including the Kizil Thousand-Buddha Caves, Bezkilik Grottoes, and Id Kah Mosque. Xinjiang has funded the repair of 28 religious venues, including the Emin Minaret in Turpan, Shengyou Lamasery in Zhaosu, and Red Temple (Taoist) in Urumqi.

The Present Scenario

At present, Islam, Buddhism, Protestant, and Catholic Christianity, and Taoism are the major religions in Xinjiang. Certain Shamanistic and Zoroastrian elements can still be found in local customs today. The remains of Buddha niches, lotus patterns, and lotus seat sculptures at Kashgar, Hami, and Ili testify the widespread influence of Buddhism in the region.

In China, religious texts are published and distributed in accordance with the law. The State has translated, published and distributed Islamic, Buddhist, Protestant, and other religious texts to meet the demands of believers. The *Koran* and *Irshad al-Sari li Sharh Sahih al-Bukhari* have been published in Chinese, Uygur, Kazak, and Kirgiz languages.

The *New Collection of al-Wa'z Speeches* series have been compiled and published in both Chinese and Uygur languages. A website (www.xjmuslim.com), available in both Chinese and Uygur languages, was set up for Xinjiang's Muslim community. Ancient religious books, including the second volume of the Golden Light Sutra (Suvarnaprabhasa Sutra) and Maitrisimit Nom Bitig, have also been published.

Keeping Heritage Intact

Religious heritage sites are also protected. There are 109 religious sites in Xinjiang, including Id Kah Mosque in Kashgar, Shengyou Lamasery in Zhaosu, and the Kizil Thousand-Buddha Caves. These have been designated as major cultural heritage sites under the protection of the autonomous region and the state.

Among the 109 sites, 46 are key cultural heritage sites under the protection of the State and 63 are under the protection of the autonomous region. The central government has allocated special funds to renovate cultural heritage protection sites at the state and autonomous-region levels, including the Kizil Thousand-Buddha Caves, Bezkilik Grottoes, and Id Kah Mosque. Xinjiang has funded the repair of 28 religious venues, including the Emin Minaret in Turpan, Shengyou Lamasery in Zhaosu, and Red Temple (Taoist) in Urumqi.

Religions adapt to China's realities. This is essential for the survival and development of any religion. After Buddhism was introduced in Xinjiang, it has exerted a far-reaching influence on the region's history and culture by adapting to local social norms and culture. Through extended fusion with local faiths and traditions, Islam gradually became part of the Chinese culture and developed distinct regional and local ethnic features.

The Catholic Church's principles of independence and self-management of its religious





In 2010 the Regulations of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region on the Protection of Uygur Muqam Arts were promulgated and put into force. In addition, Xinjiang has introduced a number of rules for protecting its intangible cultural heritage, which provides institutional guarantees for rescuing and preserving this heritage in a coordinated and systematic manner.

affairs, and Protestantism's compliance with the principles of self-propagation, self-governance, and self-support facilitated their adaptation to conditions in China.

Xinjiang upholds the tradition of religious localization, and guides religions on adaptation to China's socialist system. Religious circles in Xinjiang are encouraged to promote social harmony and development as well as cultural progress with the aid of religious doctrines and rules, and elaborate on the doctrines and rules that contribute to China's development and conform to China's traditions.

Cultural Heritage

Xinjiang is a region rich in cultural heritage. The central government and the local government of Xinjiang have made efforts to strengthen the legal system for the protection of the region's cultural heritage. The Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics and the Law of the People's Republic of China on

Intangible Cultural Heritage provide important legal protections for the diverse cultural heritage of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang.

Xinjiang has formed a cultural heritage protection network, comprising 189 institutions. The region has completed three surveys on fixed national cultural relics and one on movable national cultural relics, forming a comprehensive database.

By the end of 2017, Xinjiang had 9,542 cultural heritage sites, of which six were World Heritage sites, 113 were key national sites, and 558 were at the autonomous-region level. Xinjiang's cultural heritage system contains 93 public museums, including two national first-grade museums – the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Museum and the Turpan Museum, with a collection of 450,000 items.

Xinjiang has made great headway in protecting its historical and cultural cities, towns, villages, and localities. The region now has five cities, three towns, four villages, and two localities that have been recognized as state-level historical and

cultural divisions, as well as 17 traditional Chinese villages and 22 ethnic-minority villages with cultural significance.

Over the years, the Chinese government has supported the repair and conservation of many cultural heritage sites, such as the Gaochang Ancient City Ruins, Beiting Ancient City Ruins, and new and old Huiyuan Ancient City, while rescuing and restoring more than 3,000 rare cultural relics.

Archeological findings attract wide attention. By the end of 2017, eight archeological programs, including the Niya Ruins in Minfeng County, Yingpan Cemetery in Yuli County, Xiaohe Cemetery in Ruoqiang County, 3rd-4th century brick graves in Kucha County, Dongheigou Ruins in Barkol County, and the Tongtiandong Cave in Jeminay County, had been listed among the National Top 10 Archeological Discoveries of the Year.

The arm protector with the inscriptions of “Five stars appear in the East, a sign of Chinese victory over the Qiang” and the silk quilt with inscriptions of “Marriages between princes and dukes bring prosperity to their posterity” unearthed from the Niya Ruins are national treasures.

Preserving Ancient Books

Xinjiang has set up a leading group and office-in-charge of the classification and publishing of the autonomous region’s ancient books, an ancient books preservation center, an ancient books restoration center, and a repository for ancient books and special collections of ethnic minorities.

In 2011, the region’s Ancient Books Preservation Center started its first survey of ancient books, registering important and rare volumes and recording their content, physical condition, and preservation requirements. This was the first of several such surveys.

By the end 2017, the center had examined 14,980 books. Ancient books in its collection are written in 19 languages and 28 scripts, and fall into three language families: the Chinese language family (Chinese, Tangut, and Khitan scripts), the Aramaic family (more than 10 scripts, including the Kharosthi, Pahlavi, Manichaean, and Huihu scripts), and the Brahmi family (Sanskrit, Tocharian, Khotanese, and Tubo scripts). These books cover a wide range of subjects, including politics, the economy, society, religions, astronomy, mathematics, medicine, and the arts. Digitization of ancient books and related work has been strengthened.



The Chinese government has supported the translation, editing and publishing into Chinese and Uygur languages of *Kutadgu Bilig (Wisdom of Fortune and Joy)* and *A Comprehensive Turki Dictionary*, two works of the Karahan Kingdom period in the 11th century. The government has also organized experts in ancient books to carry out research and provide expertise in this field and helped to arrange exchanges between Chinese and foreign professionals, researchers, and administrators engaged in the preservation of ancient books.

In 2011 the Ministry of Culture and the local government of Xinjiang co-hosted an exhibition – “*Recovered Treasures from the Western Regions: Progress in Preserving Xinjiang’s Historical Literature and Ancient Books*”. More than half of the ancient books displayed at the exhibition were the only copies extant. This achievement was acclaimed by the widest range of interested parties.

Saving Intangible Heritage

Under the guiding principle of giving priority to both preservation and restoration, and pursuing sound utilization and development, the policy and legislation for protecting intangible cultural heritage have been strengthened. In 2008 the Regulations of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region on the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage were enacted.

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heritage, which provides institutional guarantees for rescuing and preserving this heritage in a coordinated and systematic manner.

In 1951 and 1954, the central government made recordings of the music of the Twelve Muqams to rescue the Muqam arts. Since the 1960s, firm funding and manpower support from the government has enabled the publication of works of folk literature, including the Kirgiz epic *Manas* and Mongolian epic *Jangar*. The *Collection of Chinese Ethnic and Folk Dances (Xinjiang Volume)*, the *Collection of Chinese Folk Songs (Xinjiang Volume)*, and the *Collection of Chinese Folk Tales (Xinjiang Volume)* have been compiled and published to introduce the folk music, dances, drama, and other arts of the region.

The program for protecting and preserving Xinjiang's intangible cultural heritage as part of the initiative to promote Chinese cultural traditions is underway. By the end of 2017, Xinjiang had completed the recording of intangible cultural items presented by 23 state-level representative trustees in the form of written texts, images, audios, and videos. Furthermore, the region had established three state-level demonstration bases that produce Uyghur musical instruments, carpets and Etles silk for the preservation of these intangible cultural items. In addition, the region had set up 91 autonomous-region level bases for preserving and handing down its intangible cultural heritage.

Uyghur Muqam of Xinjiang and the Kirgiz epic *Manas* were registered on the "UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity", and Uyghur Meshrep on the "List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding." Xinjiang has 83 items on the national representative list of intangible cultural heritage and 294 items on the autonomous-region list, as well as 112 state-level representative trustees and 403 autonomous-region representative trustees of its intangible cultural heritage.

Respect for Folk Culture

Xinjiang embraces cultural diversity and inclusiveness and upholds mutual learning among cultures. The region fully respects and protects folk cultures, thus realizing the harmonious coexistence of different cultures and enabling the effective protection and preservation of the best traditions of all ethnic groups.

All people in Xinjiang have the right to observe their own statutory festivals such as the Spring Festival, Qingming Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, Ramadan, and Corban.

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Among the popular folk festivals are the Han people's Lantern Festival, the Uyghur's Meshrep, the Kazak's Aytes, the Kirgiz's Kobuz Ballad Singing Fair, the Mongolian Nadam Fair, and the Hui people's Hua'er Folk Song Festival. The local government has for folk forms, and encourages their custom-appropriate and healthy lifestyles, wedding and funeral practices, and rituals.

What World Can Learn From CHINA

China has provided a successful model of modernization for developing countries. No country has achieved so much in such a short span of time. The world has a lot to learn from it.

China is at the forefront of world affairs today. From a poor developing country, in 70 years China has emerged as a major global economic power. Looking at what China has accomplished, especially over the past four decades, is nothing short of a miracle.

Today, China is deeply entrenched into the contemporary international system. It is an important part of more than 400 multilateral treaties and agreements, and all the specialized agencies of the United Nations, and a vital player in major intergovernmental institutions such as the World Trade Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Group of 20.

Poverty Alleviation

The huge success in poverty alleviation on such a size, scale and speed is what has inspired and impressed the world about the “China Model”. China has experienced the fastest sustained expansion by a major economy in history – and has lifted more than 850 million people out of poverty. China is the only country worldwide to have improved its citizens’ living conditions to such an extent in such a short period of time.

China has become the role model for the world for its poverty alleviation program. The comprehensive policies towards poverty alleviation, focused on developing the economy through local industries, combating corruption

within the poverty alleviation efforts and making changes to the education and healthcare systems has become a lesson for other developing countries.

Apart from lifting most people out of poverty in the past four decades, China has contributed to more than 70% of poverty reduced globally. It has been providing financial and technical assistance for poverty alleviation programs in some 166 countries and institutions.

Development Indicators

On other development indicators, China’s achievements are astonishing. Time and again China has proved its detractors wrong about its development model and rhetoric on its future.





It ranks first in terms of economic size on a purchasing power parity (PPP) basis, value-added manufacturing, merchandise trade, and holder of foreign exchange reserves. During 1952-2018, China's Gross National Income (GNI) per person had increased from \$54 to \$9,732, marking a 180-fold increase.

Its share of global GDP rose from 1.8% to 16%. It has become the factory of the world with 27% global manufacturing value added from being prominently agricultural economy. The share of agriculture in GDP of China reduced to 7.2% from over 50%. The credit for this unprecedented achievement goes to wisdom and vision of Chinese leadership and the hard work and dedication of its people.

Manufacturing Output

The manufacturing sector has been the backbone of China's development. China leads the world in terms of manufacturing output. Over the 70 years China has transformed itself, and the world economy with it as far as manufacturing is concerned. In late 80's China's share in global manufacturing output was less than 3% of global; its share now is more than 25%. China produces about 80% of the world's air-conditioners, 70% of its mobile phones and 60% of its shoes.

China produces almost half of the world's white goods. China has also become the world's largest trading country in 70 years. The Goods trade volume stood at only \$1.13 billion in 1950, while the number surged to \$4.6 trillion in 2018. No wonder it is called factory of the world.

New Growth Model

A natural corollary, as economies mature, they need to embark on a new growth model to avoid the "middle-income trap," China is doing the same. It realised to rely less on fixed investment and exporting, and more on private consumption, services, and innovation to drive economic growth. To achieve it China has to increase competitiveness of its industries, fostering Chinese brands, boosting innovation, and reducing China's reliance on foreign technology.

Innovation has to be made a top priority in its economic planning to make China a major global manufacturer of various technologies. The Chinese government took a number of high-profile initiatives, such as "Made in China 2025," a plan to upgrade and modernize China's manufacturing in 10 key sectors. The initiative intends to transform China from a manufacturing giant into a world manufacturing power by 2049.



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Actually this initiative is the bone of contention for US-China trade war. This has raised concerns among some western countries. They accuse that China intends to use industrial policies to decrease the country’s reliance on foreign technology (including by locking out foreign firms in China) and eventually dominate global markets. The real fear is that the dominance of west in new technologies is in danger.

As an economic power, China is increasingly engaged with global economic development, and shares its prosperity and experience with the world, especially developing countries. China’s Belt and Road initiative (BRI) is one such initiative through which it finances infrastructure throughout Asia, Europe, Africa, and beyond. It will give an unprecedented help and support to countries with no means to develop their infrastructure. It will significantly expand economic activities of these countries and their economic integration globally.

The other major financial initiative of China is the creation of a \$100 billion “New Development Bank”, along with Brazil, Russia, India, and South Africa (BRICS Countries). The new bank aims to fund infrastructure projects in developing countries. In October 2014, China launched the creation of a new \$100 billion Asian Infrastructure Development Bank (AIIB), aimed at funding infrastructure projects in Asia. Fifty-seven nations joined as founding members, India as a major partner in AIIB.



Peaceful Coexistence

Sixty-five years ago, China, together with India and Myanmar, advocated the Five Principles of Peaceful

Coexistence that embody the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, and made them a norm for international relations. China advocates common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security and opposes wilful use of force, power politics and a zero-sum game approach.

However, China’s growing global economic influence has created concerns in some western countries. They see China’s development as a threat to their hegemony and dominance especially in multilateral organisations and international institutions. Rather than appreciating and applauding the Chinese achievements and contribution to the world economy, they allege that China uses unfair industrial policies and trade practices to enhance its economic prowess.

In late 80’s China’s share in global manufacturing output was less than 3% of global; its share now is more than 25%. China produces about 80% of the world’s air-conditioners, 70% of its mobile phones and 60% of its shoes.

Today China stands as a strong, proud, and a peaceful nation, willing to share its experience and achievements with the world. It has become most important economic partner for most of the world and increasingly playing its role in international affairs. It has provided a successful model of modernization for developing countries, which account for more than 80% of the world’s population. No country has achieved so much in such a short span of time. The world has a lot to learn from it.

(Mohammed Saqib is Secretary-General, India China Economic and Cultural Council)



CHINA UNBOUND

REALISING CHINESE DREAM



The 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China is an apt moment to reflect on and celebrate decades of economic reforms that transformed China from a poor, backward agrarian country into the world's second largest economy and biggest manufacturing powerhouse. China's economy has rapidly transformed since 1978 - the year its then paramount leader Deng Xiaoping initiated reform and opening up - from 11th biggest in the world to the second economic juggernaut just behind the US by 2010.

During these years, China's GDP grew by an average of 9.4% annually. The country's GDP has reached \$13.61 trillion. It's a remarkable story of economic turnaround without any parallel, which has lifted around 850 million Chinese out of poverty so far. The economic success of China is reflected in iconic infrastructure projects and landmark innovations in science and technology. Looking ahead, the focus will be on enhancing the quality of development and creating a Beautiful China in accordance with President Xi Jinping's ideals of ecological civilisation.



The 55-kilometer Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao bridge is a combination of a bridge, an island, and a tunnel, making it the longest sea-crossing bridge in the world.

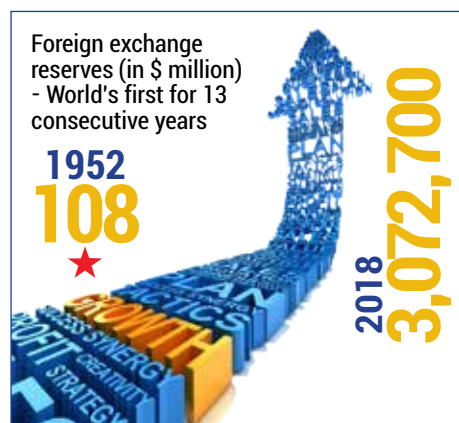
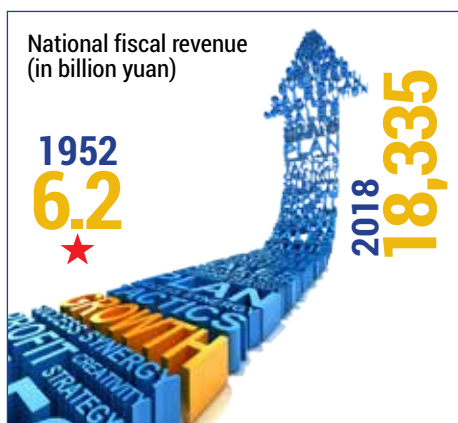
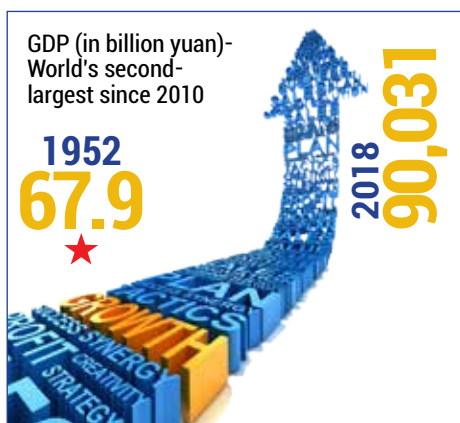


SETTING NEW BENCHMARKS

CHINA'S ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OVER 70 YEARS

From 1949 to 2019, China has made significant achievements in economic development. Here are the numbers behind the miracle.

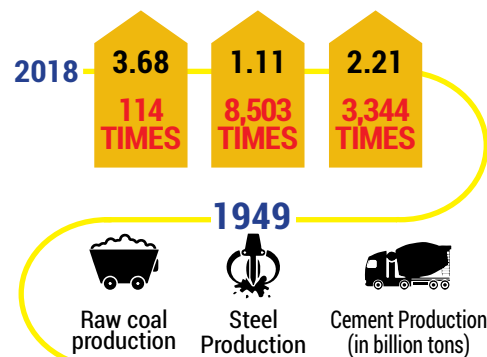
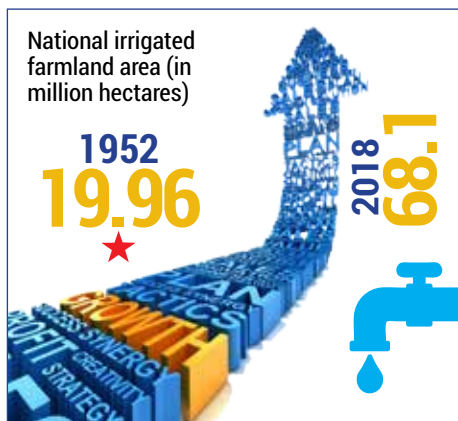
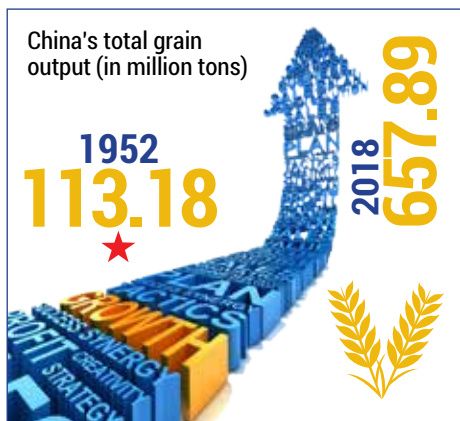
1. BECOMING WORLD'S SECOND-LARGEST ECONOMY FROM SCRATCH



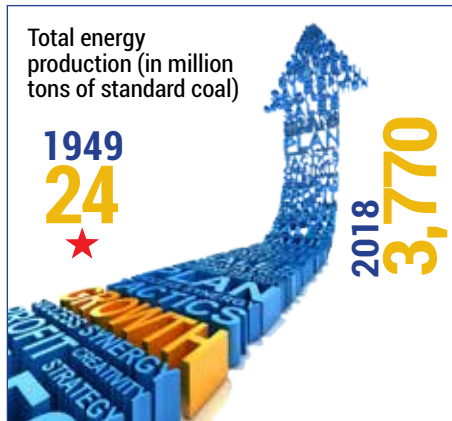
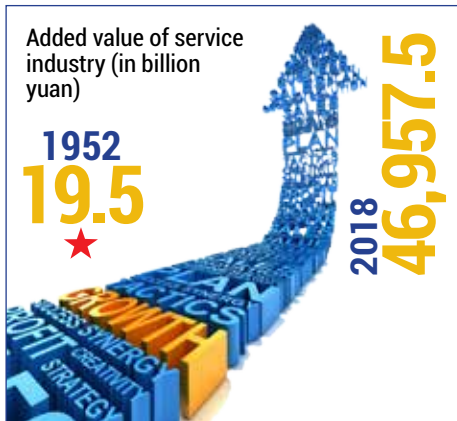
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

SINCE 2003, CHINA HAS SIGNED **17** FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH **25** COUNTRIES AND REGIONS. THE BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE HAS GAINED SUPPORT FROM **160** COUNTRIES, REGIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

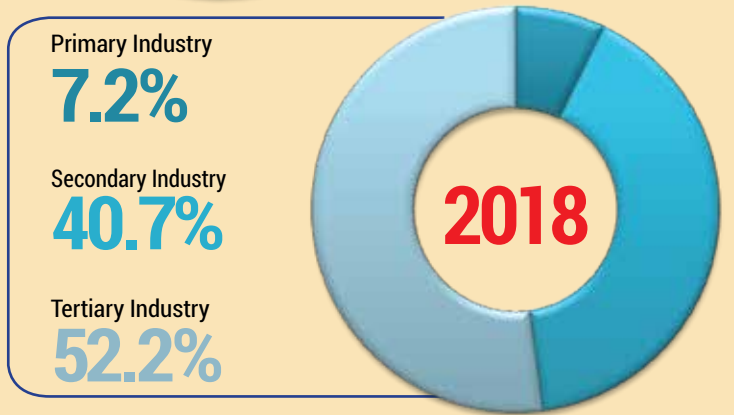
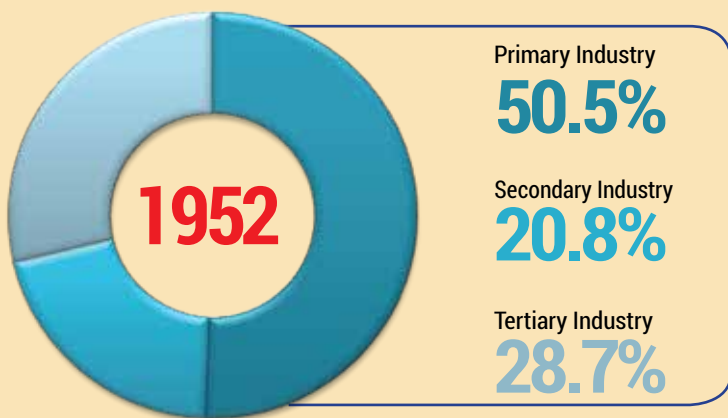
2. UPGRADING INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE



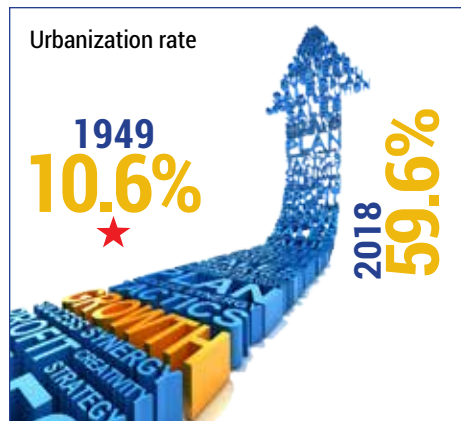
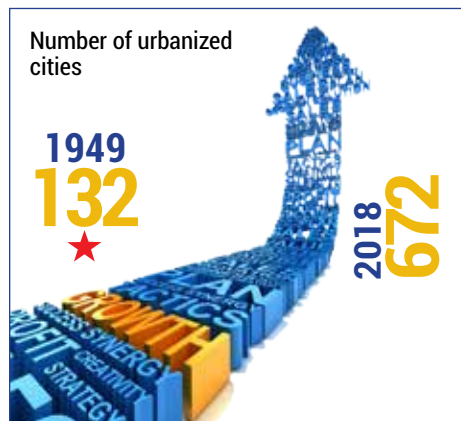
Currently, China's output of over **200** Industrial products ranks first in the **world**.



Percentage of industry added value to GDP



4. COORDINATING DEVELOPMENT OF DIFFERENT REGIONS

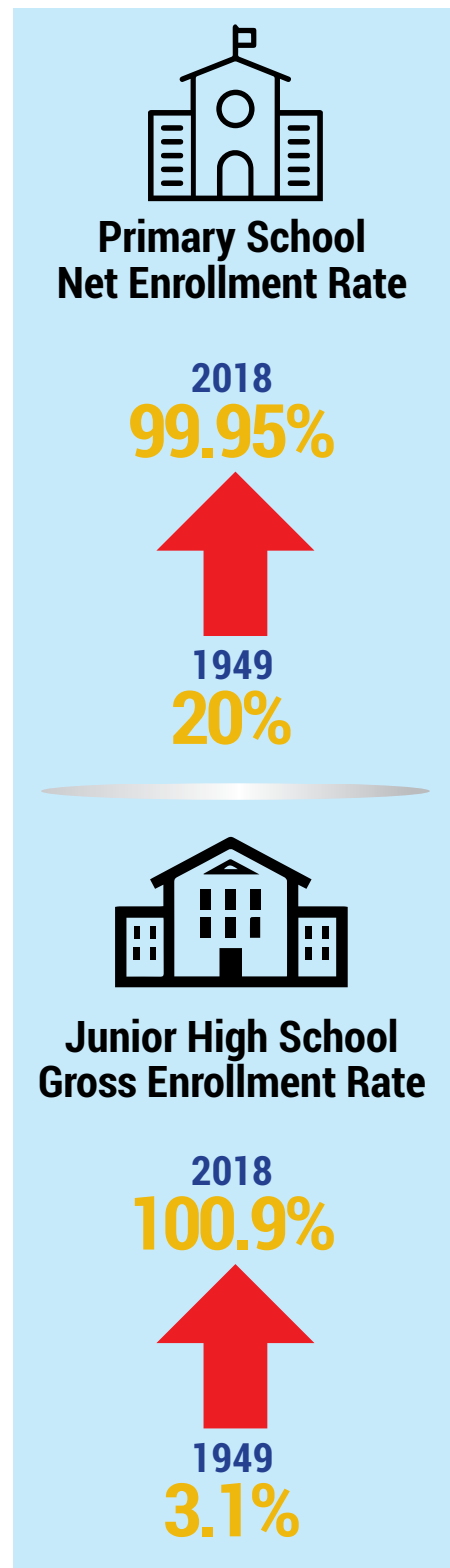
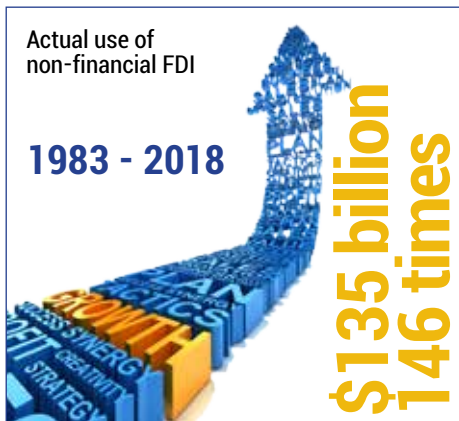
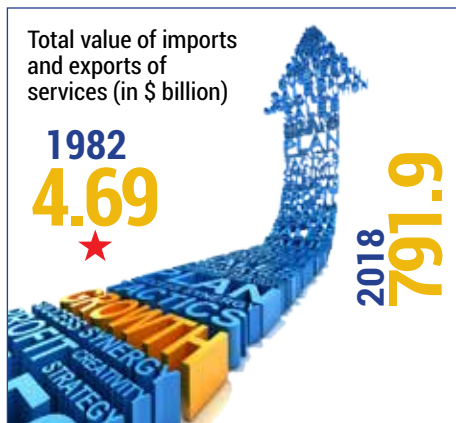
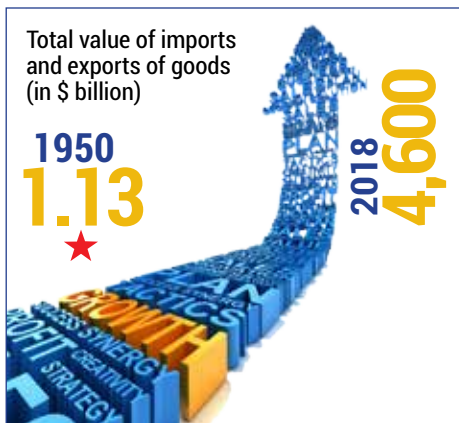


3. LEAPFROGGING IN INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

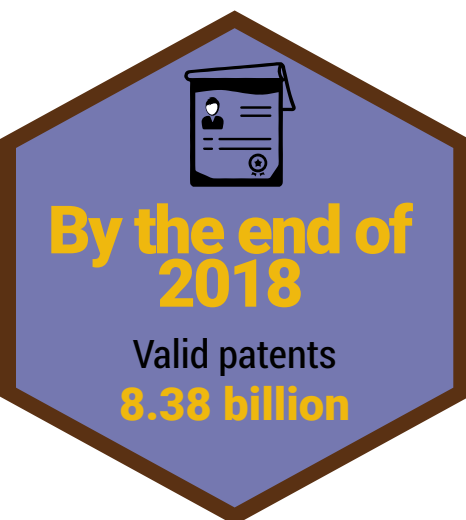
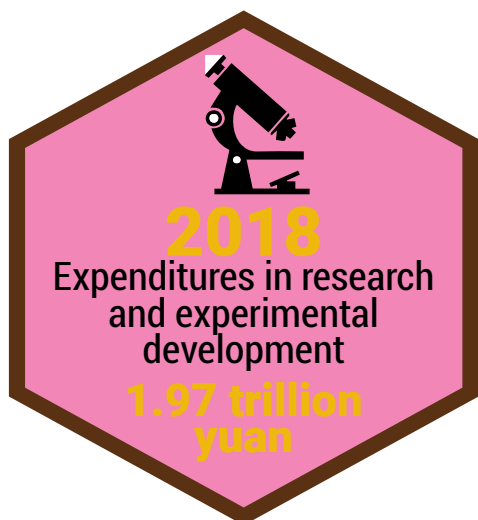




5. OPENING-UP COMPREHENSIVELY AND COLLABORATING INTERNATIONALLY

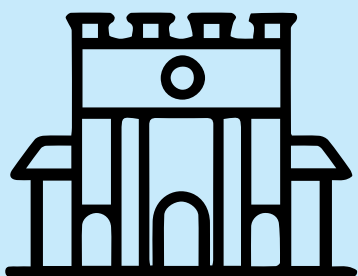


6. EMPHASIZING INNOVATION AND EDUCATION





High School Gross Enrollment Rate



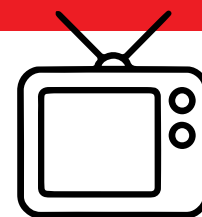
Higher Education Gross Enrollment Rate



7. FLOURISHING SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



By the end of 2018



Public libraries nationwide
3,173
56.7 times more than 1949

Television coverage
99.3% of the population



Life expectancy

1949
35



2018
77



2008

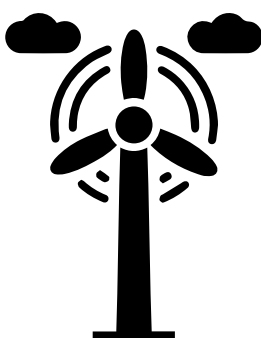
29th Beijing Olympic Games
Topped Gold medal list

Sports

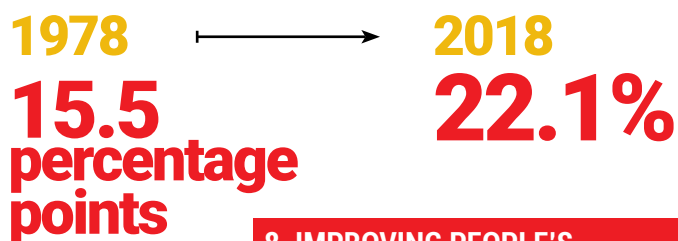


1949-2018

Won 3,458 world championships in total

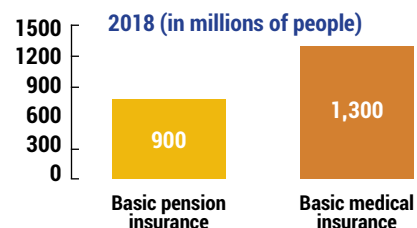
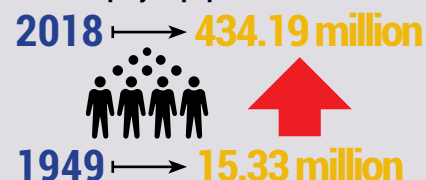


Percentage of clean energy consumption in total energy consumption

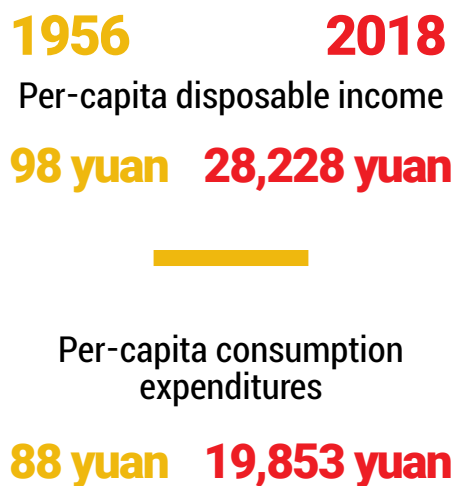


8. IMPROVING PEOPLE'S WELL-BEING

Urban employed population



By the end of 2018, China's poverty-stricken population was reduced to **16.6 million**.





CHINA IS POISED FOR GREATER GLORY

China at 70 is at the cusp of greater opportunities, and looks set to surprise the world for a long time to come.

Being a student of Chinese history and China-India relations, I have been following the developments in China with keen interest. I may not have witnessed the developments in the revolutionary and construction eras of the Chinese history, but today I am a witness to the new-era reforms and developments in the country. Nevertheless, I believe the former two periods laid a solid foundation for the latter two. The first thing that comes to mind about the very first day of the last 70 years is the line uttered by Mao Zedong from the rampart of Tiananmen: “The Chinese people, comprising one quarter of humanity, have now stood up!”

The line, on the one hand, speaks volumes about the fact that the century of humiliation, when China was weak and bullied by the major powers, and forced to cede territory and sign unequal treaties was a thing of the past. Henceforth, China was ready to take its rightful place in the comity of nations and play a constructive role in the international affairs and systems, and restore the self-esteem of the Chinese people and nation.

On the other hand, since China lost opportunities to rise and modernize in the course of this century of humiliation, the priority after the establishment of the PRC was economic construction, the abolition of illiteracy and poverty. Above all, it was an unprecedented unification of the Chinese nation never seen in the history of China.

Over the years, China achieved various milestones in the field of health and education, land reforms, science and technology, which laid a solid foundation for the ensuing economic reforms starting from 1979.

As regards its impact on the global power structure, China emerged as another pole of gravity. China emerged as an epitome of freedom struggle across the Asian and African countries. Some of the precepts of the international relations such as peaceful coexistence, equality and multipolarity were adopted by many countries.

Development Path

In 1986, when I joined the Centre for Chinese and Southeast Asian Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University, China had already initiated the revolutionary Household Contract Responsibility System that saw the abolition of over 90,000 communes, throughout the country, which revolutionized the agriculture sector and increased income of the peasants. This was also the time when reforms were gradually taken from countryside to the urban areas, and various systems of ownership such as collectively-owned enterprises, individual, private and foreign-owned enterprises were introduced and encouraged.

Three-stage Reform Process

The Southeast Coastal Priority Development Strategy saw the establishment of special economic zones, the experimental zone, the free trade zone, and the free ports that enabled some people improve their incomes. In 1991 and 1996, when I visited China for the first and second time, I could witness a total but gradual transformation of the planned economy to socialist market economy.

The policy of “reforms and opening-up” initiated during the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central



Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is paying dividends. China initiated reforms in three stages. During the first stage (between 1978 and early 1980s), rural reforms were initiated that involved the de-collectivization of agriculture, the opening up of the country to foreign investment, and allowing the entrepreneurs to establish private businesses.

During the second stage (between mid-1980s and 1990s), China initiated privatization of the State-owned and State-holding enterprises (SOE), liberalization of the prices, and the decentralization of State control.

During the third stage (between early 1990s and mid 2000), large-scale privatization got intensified, most of the State enterprises, except a few large monopolies, such as banking, oil and telecom sectors were liquidated and their assets sold to private investors. During the early years of 2000s, China further reduced various tariff barriers and regulations, initiated reforms in the banking sector, social welfare, joined the World Trade Organization, and in 2006 abolished altogether the agricultural tax and levies, which to a large extent stabilized the countryside and enhanced peasants' income.

Administrative Reforms

Between 1982 and 2008, a series of administrative reforms were introduced to create a leaner government structure, and the bureaucracy was downsized almost by 50% from a whopping 10 million people. I could witness this progress during my field investigations in rural China when I was working on a small project related to the "Three Rurals" i.e. agriculture, countryside and peasants, albeit in some of the places the excessive numbers of the cadres was still an issue.

Second, as China created new institutions and institutionalized reforms, it drew long-term strategic goals for country's development. For example, during the 13th national Congress of the CPC held in 1987, a three-stage modernization formula for the next 62 years was unrolled. The goals included doubling the 1980 GDP to end shortages of food and clothing; quadrupling the 1980 GDP by the end of 20th century and achieving the level of a moderately prosperous society; raising the per capita GDP to that of moderately developed countries. To everyone's surprise, China achieved the first stage by the end of the 1980s and the second stage in 1995 ahead of schedule.

Infrastructure Boost

During the new era, the most striking change is the dramatic enhancement of China's comprehensive national strength in terms of its \$13 trillion-plus GDP, making it the second largest economy in the world, which in turn translated into building state of the art infrastructure, including the impressive 22,000 kilometers long Hi-Speed railways (largest in the world), 123,000 kilometers of expressways non-existent in the pre reform period; China lifting over 700 million people from poverty, and

China emerged as an epitome of freedom struggle across the Asian and African countries. Some of the precepts of the international relations such as peaceful coexistence, equality, multi-polarity etc. were adopted by many countries.



the unprecedented level of urbanization it has achieved in a very short period in time. China has become the second largest consumer at \$5 trillion and is likely to surpass the US very soon.

Technology Powerhouse

China's breakthroughs in new technologies like AI and quantum computing, and the universalization of high-speed railway, online shopping, mobile payment and sharing bikes, which are also being pronounced as 'four new inventions' have become new growth drivers in China challenging the Western dominance in these technologies.

I have witnessed these with my own eyes: China of the yesteryears, when everyone wore blue clothes, has transformed into an extremely competitive global consumer market, manufacturing, consuming and exporting leading global brands from clothes to cars.

The transportation system that once was very crowded has been replaced with state-of-the-art China-manufactured low-floor air conditioned buses and high speed railways catering to a population never seen in the history of humankind. The 'four new inventions', and their universalization has made the goods and services available at your doorsteps thus putting in place a highly efficient system of governance in place.

Leadership Counts

The growth story of China was made possible by bold reforms initiated by the successive Chinese leadership.

First and foremost, I believe, the institutional changes are behind unleashing the productive forces in China.

Second, the long-term development strategies such as "Three Steps" of the 1980s and "Two Step" formula for China's development between 2020 and 2050 advocated by President Xi Jinping during the 19th Party Congress have continued and have been systematically carried out. According to the new strategy, by 2035 China will basically realize the socialist modernization, and by middle of the 21st century, "China will develop into a great modern

socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful" to quote from Xi Jinping's 19th Party Congress Report.

Third, the rapid strides in infrastructure and manufacturing led to technological breakthrough and innovations. The industrial shift in the wake of the reforms, aided by higher labor costs and energy prices, resulted in a manufacturing boom in China making it the 'factory of the world'. Manufacturing and infrastructural development was primarily driven by the whopping 300 million migrant workers, who were responsible for creating wonders across China such as Pudong in Shanghai.

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However, as the labor cost gradually went up, China took advantage of the new information technology and made huge progress in telecom, energy and finance sectors. Today, China has made huge strides in artificial intelligence and quantum computing, automated machine tools and robotics, aerospace and aeronautical equipment, maritime equipment and high-tech shipping, modern rail transport equipment, new-energy vehicles, power equipment, agricultural equipment, biopharma and advanced medical products. Enterprises such as Ali Baba, Tencent and Huawei are at the forefront of this new industrial revolution.

New Industrial Revolution

Fourthly, though the liberals may not agree with the institutionalization of ‘political meritocracy’ in China in the wake of reforms, it has proved a success albeit there remain gaps between the ideal and the practice.

In order to cater to the needs of reforms and opening up, the Communist Party of China right from the lower rungs to the higher echelons of power demonstrated merit to achieve the goals. This resulted in the regional economic decentralization and determined the political mobility of the leaders through performance. Many politicians, including Jiang Zemin, Hu Jintao and Xi Jinping, were provincial leaders of Shanghai, Guizhou/Tibet, and Fujian/Zhejiang respectively.

Fifth, since the blueprint for the future could be realized in a peaceful surrounding only, China in the last 40 years pursued the policy of good neighborliness.

Finally, China initiated the Belt and Road Initiative that increasingly intertwines China’s economy with the developing countries, especially in Asia, Africa and Latin America. These countries have found the BRI attractive irrespective of criticism about “debt traps” from many countries, as the poverty elevation and capacity building of China has been impressive which these countries wish to emulate and learn from.

Great Opportunities

Having said that China at 70 is at the cusp of greater opportunities and challenges, China should avoid falling in the middle-income trap for which deepening

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of the reforms, reasonably sustained economic growth, and adherence to the globalization is called for.

China still has a long way to go as far as assuming the leadership in offering global goods is concerned. Nonetheless, it must do whatever it could in accordance with its national comprehensive strength to share greater responsibilities in the international governance system.

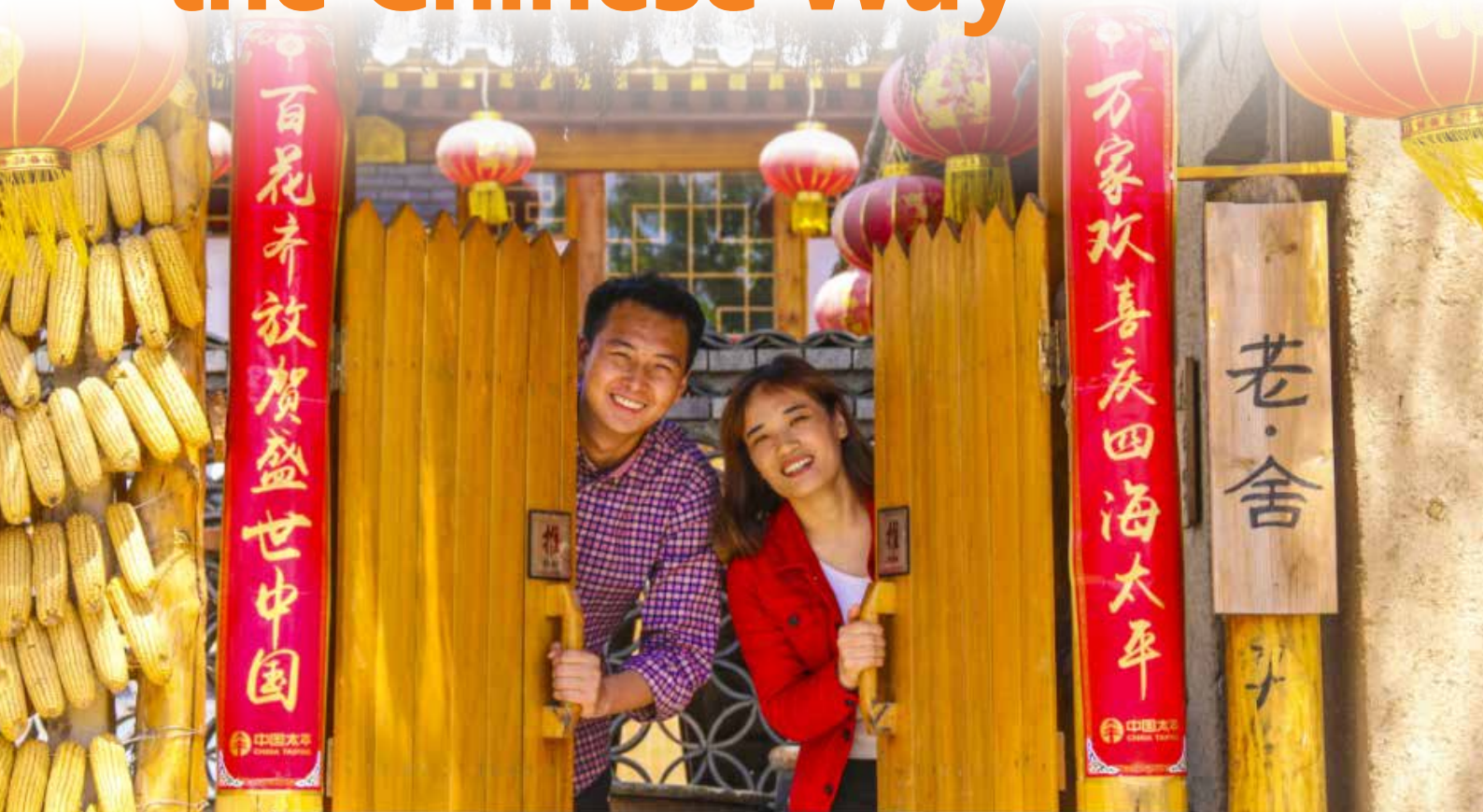


China must continue to systematically realize the two centenary goals, the economic restructuring need to go on unhindered, and I am sure China will continue to surprise the world for a long time to come!

(B.R. Deepak is Professor, Centre for Chinese and Southeast Asian Studies, JNU, Delhi).



Eradicating Poverty, the Chinese Way



**The four features of the successful China model are:
People's livelihood; a pro-active State; a mixed economy;
and a multi-pronged approach.**

In the past four decades, China has lifted over 740 million people out of abject poverty, accounting for nearly 80% of world's poverty eradication, an achievement unprecedented in human history. China completed as early as in 2003 the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goal of halving the abject poverty, well ahead of the UN deadline of 2015, and the country is well on its way to achieve the objective of completely wiping out abject poverty by 2020.

This will be a great milestone in the advancement of human civilization. After all, China's per capita GDP was lower than most Sub-Saharan African countries four decades ago, but now China is the world's largest economy in terms of purchasing

power parity, with a propertied middle class of 400 million people, larger than the whole US population, and a social safety net for all.

The Chinese experience in fighting poverty is now being examined around the world, especially by the developing countries, many of which are still struggling to eradicate poverty. The Chinese model of fighting poverty and achieving modernization since 1978 has in many ways challenged the conventional wisdom prevailing under the Western model about development and good governance. China has no intention to export its model, yet a real success story has certain lessons for all nations. Many of the Chinese ideas and practices can be inspiring to other nations.

Here are four features of the China model underpinning China's success in poverty eradication and modernization. These features are: (1) people's livelihood first; (2) a pro-active State; (3) a mixed economy; and (4) a multi-pronged approach.

People's Livelihood First

In China's long history, people's livelihood was viewed with hyper importance as something capable of determining the fate of the country, and the Chinese State was aware of the golden rule that "food is the staff of life". This tradition of valuing people's livelihood has continued to this day, as ensuring enough food and other necessities and better living standards for the vast population has always been a major concern for the State, which underpins China's determined effort to eradicate poverty.

Under the primacy of people's livelihood, China has pursued a down-to-earth strategy to wipe out poverty and improve people's living standards. In this context, any policy initiatives, economic, social or political, adopted by the State are all designed to bring about tangible benefit to the people, especially in improving people's livelihood in all its dimensions, material, cultural and beyond.

The Chinese experience since 1978 shows that a developing country should take the improvement of people's livelihood as a top priority, and take poverty eradication as a core human right, as poverty, especially abject poverty, undermines basic human dignity and many basic rights.

In contrast, a key reason for the failure of Western model in developing countries is democratization for the sake of democratization, and political reform for the sake of political reform, often on terms dictated by the West, which has, not infrequently, resulted in endless domestic political wrangling, ethnic and religious clashes and even wars, rather than better lives for the people. So many resources have been diverted by self-serving politicians who in the name of promoting "democratization" engage themselves in power rivalry, which often ends in chaos with "elephants fighting each other while grass suffering", i.e. politicians fight for their own interests while ordinary people suffer.

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A Proactive State

China has a relatively strong, disinterested and proactive State, capable of setting out clear objectives for eradicating poverty and achieving modernization and implementing strategies and policies in the long term interests of the country. China has thus successfully produced 13 five-year plans from 1953 to 2020 for modernization and poverty eradication and have them successfully executed, and this process is accompanied occasionally with social tensions and dislocations



given the size and complexity of the country, but a pro-active and diligent state has effectively reduced possible social conflicts associated with large-scale social transformation.

The proactive role of the state originates from China's Confucian tradition of a benevolent strong State established on the basis of meritocracy. China now combines "selection" derived from China's Keju tradition with "election", a Western practice, and produced an impressive system of selecting the competent leaders for good governance.

A significant portion of the Chinese State has developed its competence, expertise in shaping and implementing various initiatives in fighting poverty. For instance, a dense web of local compliance mechanism down to each and every village to help the vulnerable groups has been established to ensure the execution of poverty eradication policies.

In contrast, a major issue with developing countries that adopt the Western model is what Nobel laureate Karl Gunnar Myrdal termed "Soft State", which has weak execution power, as the State is forever hijacked by various vested interests, and by politicians' perpetual bickering and infighting (now this problem is also increasingly serious in the Western world).

A Mixed Economy

China's socialist market economy or the model of the mixed economy has paved the way for China's success in poverty eradication. This model has the efficiency of resource allocation and entrepreneurial dynamism of a market economy and macro stability and strategic planning under a socialist economy. This allowed the State and the market to play their respective and complementary functions in China's drive to end poverty. For instance, the State sector builds infrastructure from power supply to telecommunications to highway networks, while the private sector creates jobs, e-commerce, exports and internal and external tourism.

China's President Xi Jinping visited Xiangxi, Changsha and other places in central China's Hunan Province, and put forward the concept of "targeted poverty alleviation." The photo taken on November 3, 2013 shows Xi Jinping talking with villagers and cadres at Shibadong Village in Paibi Township of Huayuan County in the Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture.



The mixed economy is also exemplified by China's unique land system, which is crucial for China's poverty eradication.

China has all along rejected the call for land privatization, a tenet of orthodox market economics, as the ideal of most revolutionaries throughout the Chinese history is "land to the tiller." It is widely held in China that as a country with a large population and low per capita arable land, privatization of land easily lead to polarization, whereby land will be concentrated in the hands of a few, and many farmers will lose land and fall into the abyss of poverty.

Instead of imitating the Western model of private land ownership, China has shown ingenuity in separating the right of land ownership from that of land use, and created, to the amazement of many, the world's best record in poverty eradication, the world's largest property market, the world's largest scale of urbanization, and the world's largest and best high-speed train networks, and a housing ownership rate higher than the West.



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twined itself with Yunnan, a relatively poor Chinese province bordering Myanmar, with the former helping the latter in such areas as high-tech industries, telecommunications, modern agriculture, college education, vocational training, tourism and environmental protection. This is facilitating poverty eradication in Yunnan province.

In short, China's record in fighting poverty is a stunning success, which will forever

inspire all those who care about the poor and vulnerable, genuine human rights and dignity and about the fate of mankind.

Zhang Weiwei is the Director, China Institute, Fudan University, China

A Multi-pronged Approach

China's drive for poverty eradication has multiple engines: The central government, local governments, State and private enterprises and various social institutions. The central government is responsible for strategic planning and ensuring overall political and economic stability, local governments both compete or cooperate with each other, via taxation, land and other policies, to create an enabling environment for poverty eradication, while enterprises and other social institutions join hands in promoting the economy and fighting poverty.

Vertically, the six levels of Chinese governance structure (the State, provinces, municipalities, counties, towns and villages) are all charged with specific tasks to fight poverty. Horizontally, multiple partnerships for projects for fighting poverty are forged between Beijing and provinces, between provinces, between rich and poor regions, between State and private sectors, between NGOs and households, etc. For instance, Shanghai has

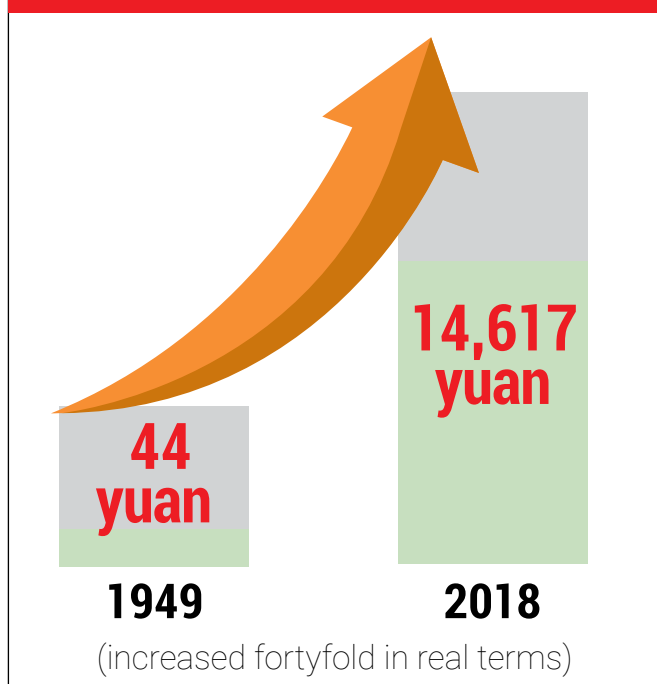




STRIDING TOWARDS Rural Revitalization

Over the 70 years since the People's Republic of China was established, rural residents have witnessed significant changes in their lives.

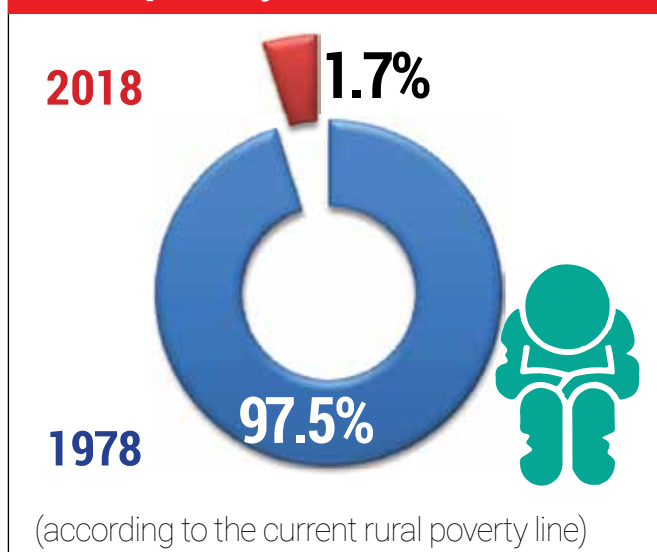
Per capita disposable income of rural residents



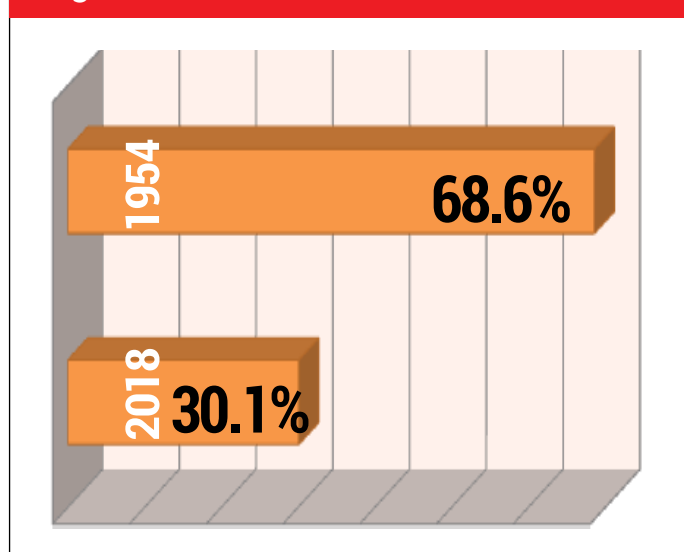
Per capita consumption expenditure of rural residents in 2018



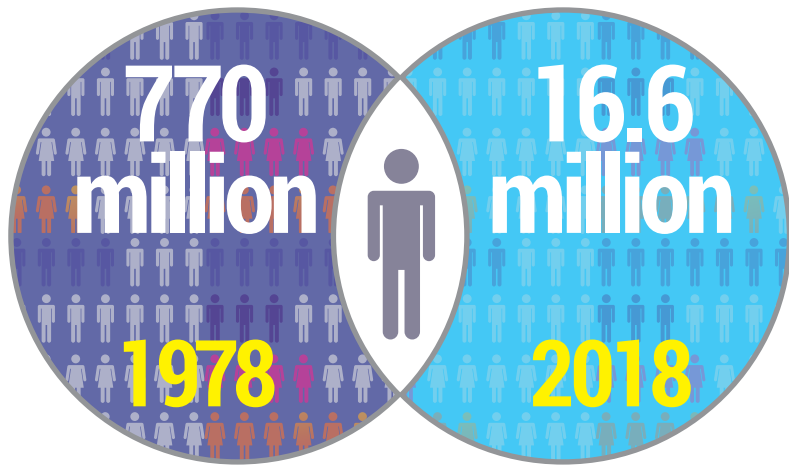
Rural poverty occurrence rate



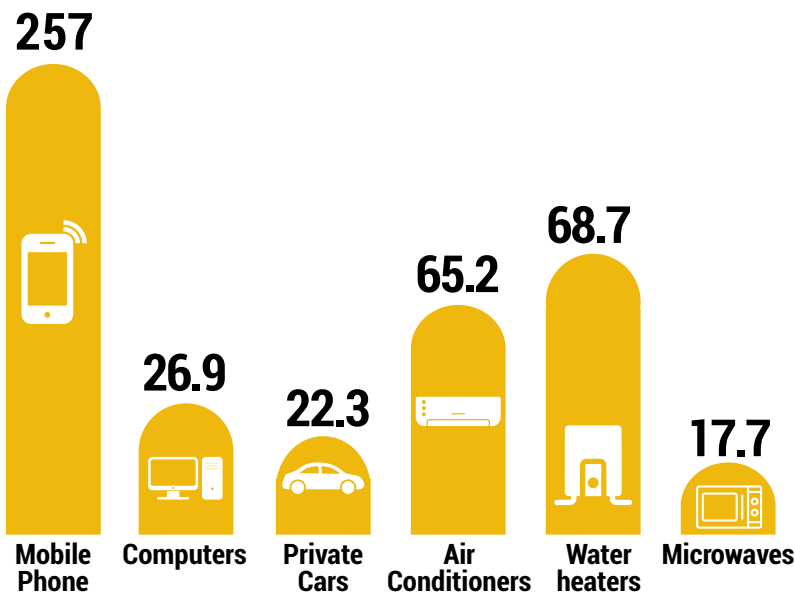
Engel's coefficient of rural residents



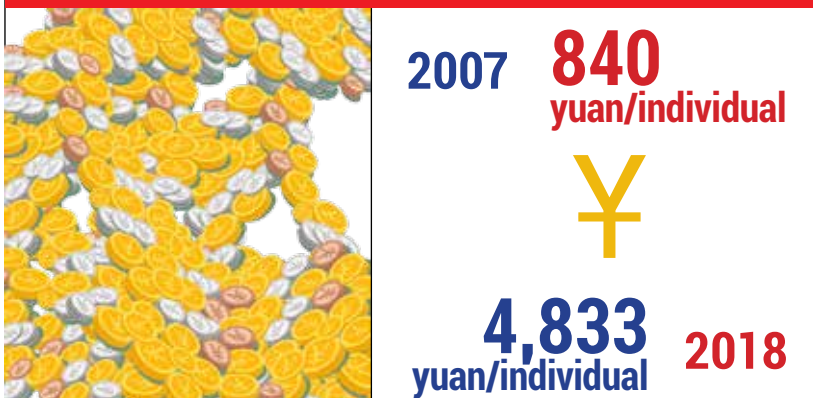
Number of poverty-stricken individuals in rural areas



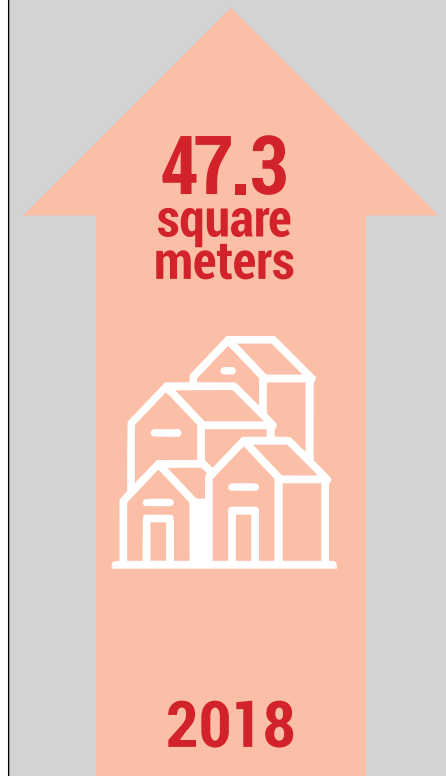
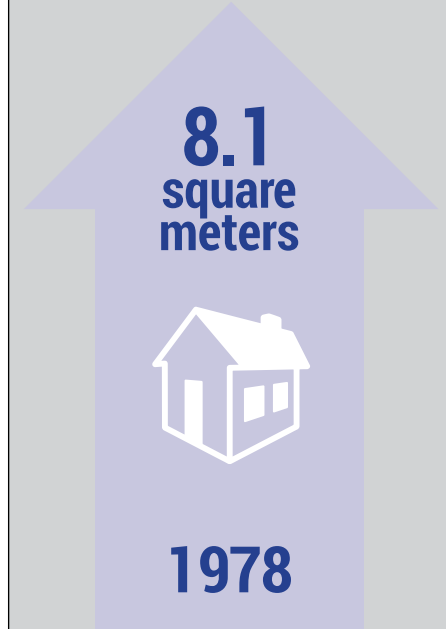
Number of household consumer goods per 100 rural households (2018)



Annual basic living allowance in rural areas (average standards)



Per capita housing construction area of rural residents



(71.2% of rural housing are made of reinforced concrete or bricks)



7 Decades of National Glory

The year 2019 marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Through 70 years of hard work, the Communist Party of China has united and led the Chinese people on a glorious journey. The Chinese nation has achieved a tremendous transformation: It has stood up, grown rich and is becoming strong. Socialism with Chinese characteristics has been established, developed and improved. The Chinese people have made a great leap from inadequate food and clothing to moderate prosperity. The Chinese nation, with an entirely new posture, now stands tall and firm in the East.

This photo feature showcases the joint endeavors and great achievements the Chinese people have made to create a beautiful life, and the arduous exploration, successful experience and worldwide significance of socialism with Chinese characteristics, in order to help people of all countries learn more about China's past, present and future.



With Mao Zedong as their main representative, the Chinese Communists led the Chinese people to secure a victory in the new democratic revolution, founded the PRC and established the basic socialist system. The photo shows Mao Zedong announcing the establishment of the PRC's central people's government during the founding ceremony at 3 p.m. on October 1, 1949.

① In June 1950, the Land Reform Law of the PRC was promulgated. Land reform was a profound social revolution under the leadership of the Communist Party of China to end the feudal exploitation system and greatly liberated rural productivity. The photo shows land reform working team members in Ruijin, east China's Jiangxi Province, introducing the law to farmers.



② In May 1950, the Marriage Law of the PRC was enacted, which ushered in a new marriage system based on freedom, monogamy, equality, and the protection of the legal rights of women and children. This photo taken in the summer of 1959 shows a wedding ceremony for a couple of young workers in Beijing.



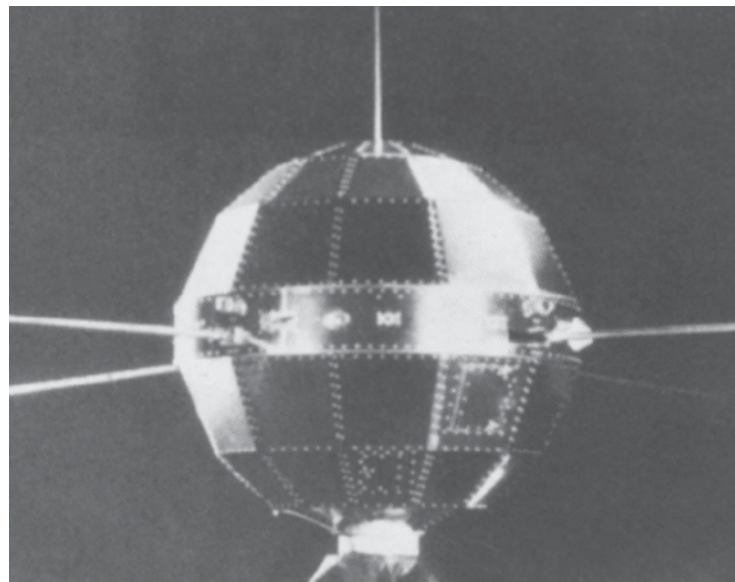
③ In March 1953, the Electoral Law of the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses at Various Levels of the PRC was issued. The photo shows people beating waist drums and performing yangko, a traditional Chinese dance, in Beijing to celebrate the general election of lawmakers in December in the same year.



④ Based on the general election, the first session of the First National People's Congress (NPC) was held in Beijing in September 1954. The session adopted the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and elected new state leaders. The photo shows Mao Zedong and other state leaders standing on the rostrum during the congress.



The Wuhan Yangtze River Bridge opened to traffic on October 15, 1957. This is a parade of traffic at the opening of the bridge – the first on the Yangtze and also the first railway-highway bridge built since the founding of New China.



China successfully developed an atomic bomb, H-bomb and man-made satellite in the 1960s and the early 1970s. This greatly strengthened China's national defense and science and technology capacity, reviving the country's spirit. This photo shows China's successful launch of its first man-made satellite Dongfanghong No. 1 in April 1970.



Diplomatic work has made progress since the founding of the PRC. This photo shows Zhou Enlai, head of the Chinese delegation, addressing the Bandung Conference in April 1955. The conference adopted ten principles on handling state-to-state relations based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.



In October 1971, the 26th session of the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 2758 by an overwhelming majority, which restored all the legitimate rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations. The photo shows the five-star red flag fluttering in the wind in front of the UN building.



In December 1978, the third plenary session of the 11th CPC Central Committee decided to shift the work focus of the Party and the state to economic construction. After the plenary session, the Chinese Communists with Deng Xiaoping as the main representative led the Chinese people to start the historical process of reform and opening-up. On January 29, 1979, U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife held a welcoming ceremony for Deng Xiaoping and his wife Zhuo Lin who visited the United States.



Beijing hosted the 29th Summer Olympic Games from August 8 to 24, 2008 and the 13th Paralympic Games from September 6 to 17. More than 60,000 athletes, coaches and officials from 204 countries and regions participated in the Games, setting 43 world records and 132 Olympic records.



On December 15, 2008, the “three direct links” were launched to enable direct air and sea shipping and postal services between the Chinese mainland and Taiwan and develop a 24-hour living circle for the people across the strait. The photo shows a maiden voyage ceremony at the Port of Fuzhou of Fujian Province on that day.



At 12:00 a.m. on July 1, 1997, the Chinese government resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong. The photo shows the national flag of the People's Republic of China and the regional flag of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region flying high at the Golden Bauhinia Square in Hong Kong on July 3, 2010.



At 12 a.m. on December 20, 1999, the Chinese government resumed the exercise of sovereignty over Macao. The photo shows Macao people celebrating Macao's return.





1. After the founding of New China, to promote trade with other countries, the biannual China Export Commodities Fair, also known as the Canton Fair, was established in April 1957. In April 2007 at its 101st session, the Canton Fair changed its name to the China Import and Export Fair.
2. In November 1990, the Shanghai Stock Exchange, the first bourse on the Chinese mainland, was established. The photo shows residents queuing outside the exchange for stock account registration.
3. On December 11, 2001, China officially joined the World Trade Organization (WTO). The photo shows a press conference of the signing ceremony on China's accession to the WTO in Doha, the capital of Qatar, in November 2001.
4. The First China International Import Expo (CIIE) was held in Shanghai from November 5 to 10, 2018, which is the world's first import-themed national-level expo. The expo attracted 172 countries, regions and international organizations and more than 3,600 enterprises.





ECONOMY

2

1



3



4





1. In 1984, Qingdao in Shandong Province, became one of China's 14 coastal port cities to further open to the outside world. After more than 30 years of opening-up, the century-old city has taken on a new look. The photo shows a view of Qingdao.
2. Hainan was established as a province in April 1988. A view of Haikou, the provincial capital of Hainan.
3. At the end of the 1970s, 18 farmers in Xiaogang Village, Fengyang County in east China's Anhui Province, left their fingerprints on a contract that set forth a nationwide reform of the rural economic system. The household contract responsibility system mobilized Chinese farmers' enthusiasm to carry out intensive farming and released unprecedented productivity. The group photo taken in 1981 shows some of the 18 villagers who first practiced the reform.
4. In December 1980, Zhang Huamei in Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province, became the first registered private business owner after China's adoption of reform and opening-up policies. The photo shows Zhang displaying her individual business license issued in 1980 and her current license.



ECONOMY





3



1. As a business capital thriving near the sea for thousands of years, Guangzhou's economic output has increased by nearly 500 times over the 40 years of reform and opening-up, with its per capita GDP close to the level of developed countries.
2. A fishing village of Shenzhen in the early 1980s.
3. After 40 years of reform and opening up, Shenzhen has taken on a completely new look.



ECONOMY

1



2



3



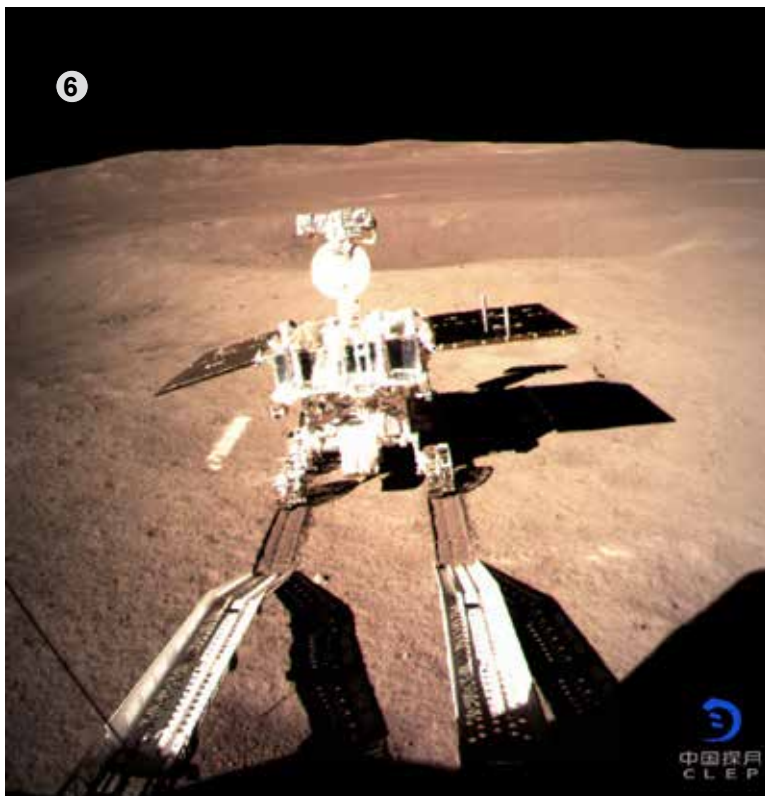


1. Pudong new area of Shanghai is China's first free trade zone and the first pilot site for comprehensive reform. Situated in the south of the mouth of the Yangtze river and on the east bank of the Huangpu river, Pudong has been at the forefront of the country's development in the process of reform and opening-up.
2. The Qinghai-Tibet railway is the first railway to the hinterland of Tibet, and also the highest and longest plateau railway in the world. The railway greatly promotes the economic and social development of Qinghai Province and the Tibet Autonomous Region, and also pays much attention to ecological protection. Special animal passages are set up according to the living and migration habits of wild animals along the route.
3. The number of China-Europe freight trains has skyrocketed since they started running in 2011. Referred to as "camel caravans of steel" along the Belt and Road, China-Europe freight trains have become a landmark achievement of the Belt and Road Initiative. The photo shows the freight train X8044 from Hamburg of Germany arriving at Wujiashan railway container center station in Wuhan, central China's Hubei Province.
4. A high-speed train passes through the sea of rapeseed flowers in Hanzhou, Shaanxi Province.





SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY





1. The Guanyinmiao community (Yuquan district, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia) holds a demonstration for children to experience 3D printing and VR equipment.
2. JD drone delivery service in Xi'an has made life easier for residents.
3. 2019 marks the beginning of the era of 5G licenses for commercial use in China. In the research center of the China Automotive Engineering Research Institute in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, a technical worker uses a 5G-based remote control system in a simulation room to operate a car on urban roads.
4. In October 2003, China's first manned spacecraft "Shenzhou V" was launched into space, realizing the millennium dream of flying in space of the Chinese nation. China became the third country in the world to master manned space technology.
5. This photo taken in May 2017 shows the successful maiden flight of China's first independently developed passenger jet C919 at Shanghai Pudong International Airport.
6. On January 3, 2019, China's Chang'e-4 probe made a soft-landing on the far side of the moon. The photo was taken by a camera on the lander of the Chang'e-4 probe, showing the lunar rover Yutu-2 traveling on the moon.



1. On September 25, 2016, the Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST), also the world's largest single-dish radio telescope, started operation in Guizhou.
2. The manned deep-sea submersible Jiaolong is the first operational manned deep-sea submersible designed and developed by China. Once reaching 7,062 meters deep in the ocean, it is also the operational manned submersible with the most advanced diving ability in the world. The photo captures the Jiaolong surfacing after its dive in June 2017.





3. In January 2017, the world's first quantum science experimental satellite "Mozi", designed and developed independently by China, was put into service after a successful four-month in-orbit test. The photo shows the ground-to-satellite quantum teleportation experiment conducted between the "Mozi" satellite and the Ngari Observatory.
4. This photo shows exhibition booths at the Light of Internet Expo of the Fifth World Internet Conference in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province. Themed "creating a digital world for mutual trust and collective governance -- toward a community with a shared future in cyberspace," the exposition focused on the world's most recent Internet development trends and cutting-edge technologies, showing the latest Internet technologies, achievements, products and applications of more than 430 enterprises and institutions from 25 countries and regions.



5. The photo shows the Beijing Electron Positron Collider, China's first high-energy accelerator, successfully colliding for the first time in the early morning of October 16, 1988. The success of the high-tech project of the collider, which was established in 1984, opened up broad prospects for application research of particle physics and synchrotron radiation in China.



AGRICULTURE



1. High technology enables traditional agriculture to further increase production. Drones are used to spray pesticides on wheat in Botou city (Hebei Province), the core area of the “Bohai Granary” project.
2. Since the 1950s, Chinese academician Yuan Longping, better known as the “father of hybrid rice,” led his students to do experiments on hybrid rice, which helped China become a pioneer in hybrid rice research. The photo shows Yuan selecting samples for his lectures at the second international training course on hybrid rice breeding technology.
3. With rich “vegetable baskets”, full “rice bags”, and colorful “fruit plates”, China’s production and sales of meat, fish, eggs, vegetables and fruits have ranked first in the world for successive years, with the per capita share exceeding the world average.
4. China attaches great importance to agricultural development and has established a new pattern of integrated urban and rural development which gives a boost to farming and the rural through industrial development in the cities. The photo shows workers of a vegetable company picking green peppers in a modern agriculture demonstration area of Feixi County, east China’s Anhui Province.







ENVIRONMENT



1. China attaches great importance to the development of ecological civilization and implements a revised Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China, which entered into force in January 2015. China firmly pursues a model of sustainable development, featuring increased production as well as healthy ecosystems, and forms a green production and consumption pattern that conserves resources and protects the environment. This is an aerial photo of the Yuanjiang Wind Farm in Xing'an, Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.
2. Swans at the Yellow River wetland in Sanmenxia City, central China's Henan Province.



3. China issued the overall planning for Sanjiangyuan National Park in January 2018 to build its first national park. This photo shows Tibetan antelopes in the pilot zone of the Sanjiangyuan National Park.
4. Dezhou city (Shandong Province) promotes solar energy application, which is now widely used in energy, transportation, construction and public buildings. This is a conservation building mainly dependent on solar energy in the Sun Valley, Dezhou city.
5. After several generations of continuous tree planting, the Saihanba forest farm in north China's Hebei Province has become the largest man-made forest in the world. In December 2017, the Saihanba afforestation community won the UN Champions of the Earth Award. This photo shows the Qiancengban forest farm at the Saihanba forest farm.



TOURISM



1. China has vigorously implemented the rural vitalization strategy, renovating rural environment and making villages take on a new look. Countryside tourism has become a new source of income. The photo shows the stunning scenery of Daimei Village of Dongyuan Township in Longhai City of Fujian Province.
2. Bird's Nest, the iconic stadium of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, has received more than 35 million visitors over the past decade.
3. The Chinese government has made great efforts to support the development of special industries in accordance with local conditions in rural areas, enabling many farmers to get rid of poverty and become rich. The photo shows tourists looking at handmade lanterns displayed at a rural antique lantern workshop in Guangling County in north China's Shanxi Province.





4. Taiwan is rich in ecological resources and scenic spots. This photo shows some tourists visiting the Yehliu Geopark in New Taipei City, southeast China's Taiwan.
5. A view of the picturesque West Lake, Hangzhou.
6. The National Centre for the Performing Arts, located to the west of the Tiananmen Square, is a landmark in Beijing and attracts hordes of tourists every day.
7. The Summer Palace, a majestic ensemble of lakes, gardens and palaces, is a must-visit place in Beijing. It was an imperial garden in the Qing Dynasty.



TOURISM



1. The Shanghai Disney Resort is the first Disney destination on the Chinese mainland and the sixth around the world.
2. Wuzhen, an ancient town in the south of Yangtze river, not only retains its traditional tranquility, but also radiates vitality by infusing the Internet gene.
3. The Great Wall of China is one of the seven wonders of the world.



4. The Mogao Grottoes, also known as the Thousand Buddha Grottoes, are situated in Dunhuang , a strategic point along the Silk Route. Mogao Grottoes are a treasure house of art, architecture, sculpture and painting with 735 grottoes, over 45,000 square meters of murals and 2,000 painted sculptures.
5. Children take part in snow sports in a resort in Chongli County of Zhangjiakou, north China's Hebei Province.
6. The Terracotta Army in Xi'an, also known as Terracotta Warriors and Horses, is a collection of life-size terracotta sculptures in battle formations, reproducing the mega imperial guard troops of Emperor Qin Shi Huang (259 - 210 BC), the first emperor of the first unified dynasty of Imperial China. The Terracotta Army is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.





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1. China's community-based elderly care mode has continuously improved, with community elderly service stations and centers developing rapidly.
The photo taken in November 2013 shows elderly people chatting at an elderly service
2. Using mobile phones to pay bus fare via different payment systems including Alipay and WeChat, are becoming increasingly popular among Chinese people.
3. China's New Rural Cooperative Medical System provides proper medical and health care for rural residents. This photo shows medical staff from a health center in a township in Kashgar, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region receiving training via a telemedicine system linked to Shanghai.



4. A couple in Huaian City (Jiangsu Province) use bike-sharing to go for their wedding.
5. In April 2017, citizens scanned QR codes in a tunnel of QR codes at a shopping mall in Nanjing, the capital of east China's Jiangsu Province. The tunnel consists of 400 codes representing brand advertisements and creative games. In China, QR codes are everywhere, and scanning QR code has become a living habit.





PEKING OPERA

Timeless Beauty & Splendour

The timeless appeal of the Peking Opera has been recognised by the UNESCO by inscribing it on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.



Peking opera is a performance art incorporating singing, reciting, acting and martial arts. Although widely practised throughout China, its performance centres on Beijing, Tianjin and Shanghai. Peking opera is sung and recited using primarily Beijing dialect, and its librettos are composed according to a strict set of rules that prize form and rhyme. They tell stories of history, politics, society and daily life and aspire to inform as well as entertain.

The music of Peking opera plays a key role in setting the pace of the show, creating a particular atmosphere, shaping the characters, and guiding the progress of the stories. 'Civilian plays' emphasize string and wind instruments such as





the thin, high-pitched jinghu and the flute dizi, while 'military plays' feature percussion instruments like the bangu or daluo. Performance is characterized by a formulaic and symbolic style with actors and actresses following established choreography for movements of hands, eyes, torsos, and feet.

Traditionally, stage settings and props are kept to a minimum. Costumes are flamboyant and the exaggerated facial make-up uses concise symbols, colours and patterns to portray characters' personalities and social identities.

Peking opera is transmitted largely through master-student training with trainees learning basic skills through oral instruction, observation and imitation. It is regarded as an expression of the aesthetic ideal of opera in traditional Chinese society and remains a widely recognized element of the country's cultural heritage.

In 2010, Peking Opera was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.





CHINESE PORCELAIN:

Exquisite Design

Chinese porcelain epitomizes creative artistry and promotes economic and cultural exchange between China and the outside world.



Porcelain is a material made from well-chosen porcelain clay or pottery stone through technological processes like proportioning, molding, drying and firing. Although porcelain developed from pottery, the two are different in raw material, glaze and firing temperature; compared with pottery, porcelain has a tougher texture, more transparent body and finer luster. It excels pottery in both pragmatic and artistic terms. That's why it gradually replaced pottery in the ceramic history. It is called china in English because it was first made in China, which fully explains that the delicate porcelain can be the representative of China.

The earliest porcelain, commonly called "primitive porcelain", appeared during the Shang Dynasty, but the first porcelain in real sense was not produced until the Eastern Han Dynasty. The techniques for making porcelain matured in the Tang Dynasty. During the Song Dynasty, famous kilns emerged in multitude, including Jun Kiln, Ge Kiln, Guan Kiln, Ru Kiln and Ding Kiln which are known as the "Five Great Kilns".

In the Yuan Dynasty, Jingdezhen, the Capital of Porcelain, produced blue and white porcelain which later became the representative of porcelain. Porcelain of the Ming Dynasty inherited and developed traditions of porcelain of the Song Dynasty. Doucai porcelain created in the Chenghua period and full color porcelain fired during the Jiajing period and the Wanli period are well-known treasures. Porcelain of the Qing Dynasty is classical, graceful, delicate and gorgeous. Plain tricolor porcelain and five color porcelain of the Kangxi period and powder doped color decorated porcelain and enamel porcelain of the Qianlong period are



choicest goods renowned both at home and abroad.

Distinguished porcelain production areas in China include Jingdezhen in Jiangxi, Liling in Hunan, Dehua in Fujian, Shiwan in Guangdong, Tangshan in Hebei and Zibo in Shandong. Blue and white porcelain, blue and white rice pattern porcelain, powder doped color decorated porcelain and colored glaze porcelain are known as the “four great porcelains”. Besides them, some others are

also characteristic, such as statuary porcelain, eggshell porcelain and five-color porcelain.

Porcelain is the creative fruit of the working people of ancient China. Since the Han and Tang Dynasties, porcelain has been exported worldwide. It promotes economic and cultural exchange between China and the outside world, and profoundly influences the traditional culture and lifestyle of people from other countries.



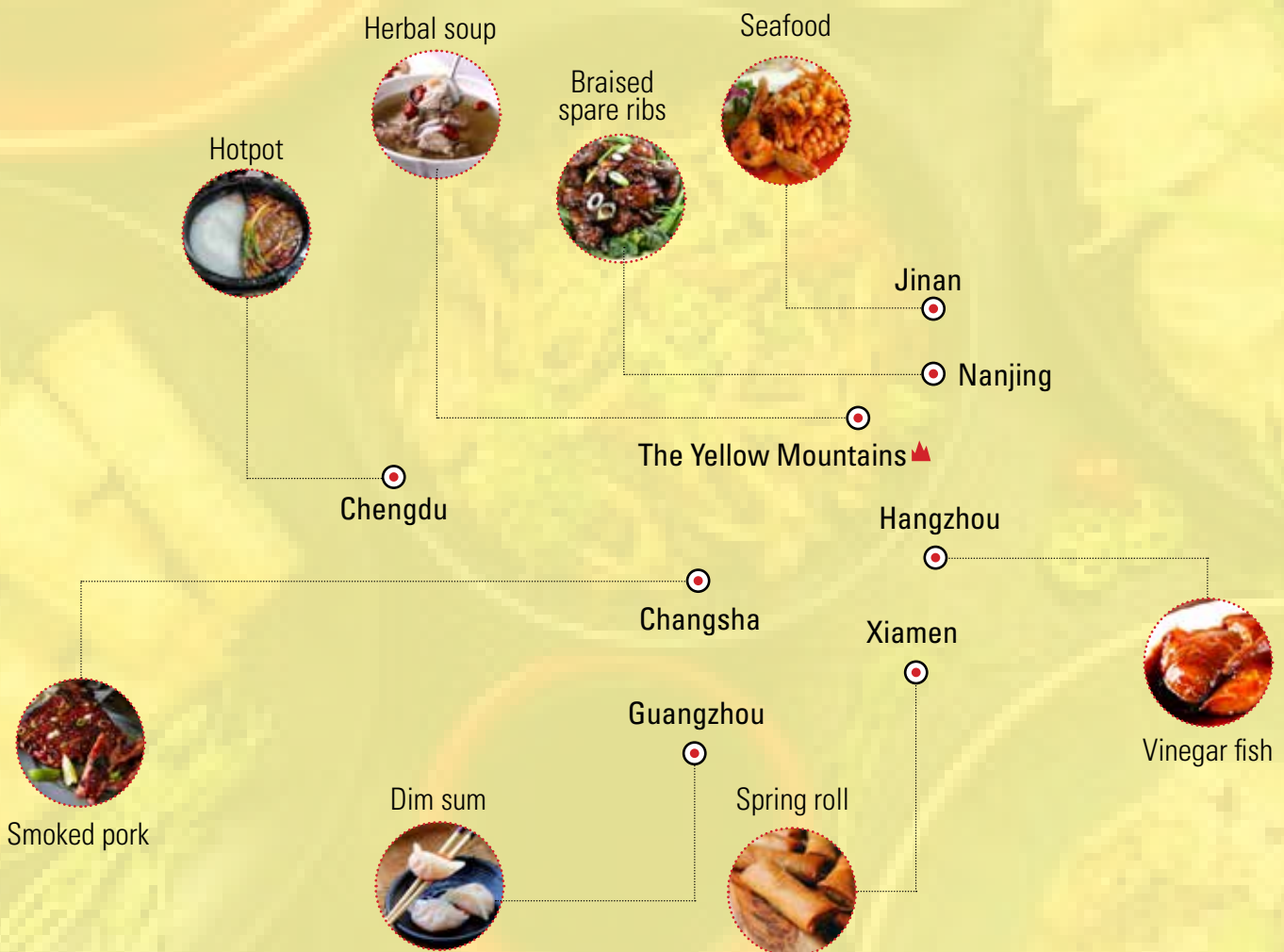
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Flavours of CHINA

China is a veritable paradise of culinary delights. There are many styles of cooking in China, but Chinese chefs have identified eight culinary traditions as the best. These have set the course of how Chinese cook food, and are looked to as models. Each of these schools has a distinct style and different strengths.



The 8 Great Cuisines of China

- Shandong Cuisine: Fresh and salty with a lot of seafood dishes.
- Sichuan and Hunan cuisines: Hot and spicy.
- Guangdong (Cantonese), Zhejiang, Jiangsu cuisines: great seafood, and generally sweet and light flavors.
- Anhui and Fujian cuisines: Inclusion of wild foods from their mountains.



JIANGSU CUISINE

- Chinese: Sūcài
 - Fresh, moderately salty and sweet, precise cooking techniques, favoring seafood, soups and artistic, colorful presentation
- Jiangsu Province and China's biggest city, Shanghai, have a very refined gourmet cuisine that is often served at government banquets. What makes it special is the exquisite cooking techniques that produce richly aromatic and visually artistic dishes. Their chefs also focus on serving meals that promote health.



ZHEJIANG CUISINE

- Chinese: Zhècài
 - Mellow, using fresh seafood, freshwater fish, and bamboo shoots, and a wide variety of cooking methods.
- Zhejiang Province is the province south of Jiangsu, and it borders on Shanghai too, so their style is similar to theirs, but it is less elaborately prepared. They focus more on serving fresh food. The food is often served raw or almost raw and is fresh and crispy and seasonal. It is more like Japanese food. Ningbo cuisine is very salty.



FUJIAN/MIN CUISINE

- Chinese: Mǐncài
 - Lighter, with a mild sweet and sour taste, using ingredients from the sea and the mountains
- Fujian Province is known for great seafood and soups and the precise use of scintillating but not tongue numbing spices. Adding much wild exotic delicacies from the sea and mountains makes their dishes have unusual flavors. It is like a culinary wild adventure.



HUNAN CUISINE

- Chinese: Xiāngcài
 - Quite spicy, with a hot and sour taste, favoring sautéing, stir-frying, steaming and smoking
- If you like Sichuan food, you'll probably like Hunan food too since it is even hotter. It is tastier and more delicious because they don't use peppercorn that numbs the mouth. It is a rich agricultural area that produces a broad range of vegetables and herbs, and these are served up.



ANHUI CUISINE

- Chinese: Huīcài
 - Uses many wild plants and animals as ingredients, favoring stewing and more oil
- Anhui cuisine is even wilder than Fujian cuisine. It is inland, and big mountains such as the Yellow Mountains are the source of lots of different wild foods and herbs. It is basically a hearty mountain peasant food. Some of the best dishes incorporate wild food for an unusual taste. Some dishes are sweet from added sugar.



SHANDONG CUISINE

- Chinese: Lǔcài
 - Salty and crispy, favoring braising and seafood
- Shandong was one of the first civilized areas, and it set the pattern for northern styles of cooking. With a long coast, seafood is its forte. They preserve the original taste of the seafood by using simple ingredients and braising, and they like vinegar and salt. Unlike southern cuisines, they serve much more wheat food, including their noodles.



A taste of Chinese tea culture

In China, tea is pronounced “chá”, and in India, it is called “chai”. China’s tea culture is as old as the country, and it played a remarkable role in uniting the world. The country is the original producer of tea and is renowned for its skills in planting and making of tea. The provinces of Sichuan and Yunnan were probably the first tea-producing regions in the world. Tea still continues to be the most popular beverage in China, and is also used in traditional medicine.

Chinese Tea Culture

Tea culture in China differs from that in European countries such as Britain and other Asian countries like Japan, Korea, Vietnam in preparation and taste. The beverage is still consumed regularly, both on casual and formal occasions.

Chinese Tea drinking customs: Tea drinking has a special resonance in Chinese culture on certain occasions.

A sign of respect and friendship: Young people show their respect to their seniors by offering them a cup of tea. In the past, people of a lower social

class served tea to the upper class. Today, all these practices are being erased, but the tradition of showing respect continues.

To apologize and show gratitude: Tea is also offered as part of a formal apology. For example, children who have misbehaved can serve tea to parents as a sign of remorse and submission.

To celebrate important occasions and weddings: In traditional Chinese marriage ceremonies, the bride and groom kneel in front of their parents and serve them tea and thank them. This process symbolizes the coming together of the two families.

Chinese Tea Ceremony

The Chinese tea ceremony reflects the idea of Taoism, Confucianism, and Buddhism. It is a combination of philosophy and lifestyle. The tea ceremony – making tea, appreciating tea, smelling the tea, and enjoying tea – is at the core of the country’s tea culture, and the spirit is represented by Taoism.

The Ancient Tea Horse Road

The Ancient Tea Horse Road (in China) was primarily a trade route mainly through Yunnan, Sichuan, and Tibet. From the 6th century to the 20th century, people in Sichuan and Yunnan provinces traveled by foot and horseback with pack horses to exchange tea for horses with people in Tibet. This is why the pathway was called the Tea Horse Road.

The road reaches the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, Nepal, India, South Asia, West Asia and Southeast Asian countries. It started during Tang and Song Dynasties, flourished in the Ming and Qing Dynasties, but diminished in the late World War II period. There are many archaeological and monumental elements, which includes trails, bridges, way stations, market towns, palaces, staging posts, shrines and temples along this route. Besides the route's importance for commercial activity, it was crucial for cultural exchange between the Indian subcontinent and Southwest China.

The "Ancient Tea-Horse Road" had two main routes. One route headed northwest from Xishuangbanna (Simao District) in Yunnan Province, and extended through Lhasa all the way to Burma, Nepal and India. The other headed west all the way from what is known as Ya'an in Sichuan Province to Lhasa as its destination.

Around 1000 years ago, the Tea Horse Road served as a trade link from Yunnan to Bengal (India) via Myanmar, and to Central China via Sichuan Province. Through this trading network of typical tea bricks, it spread across Asia from its origins in Yunnan. The Xiaguan Tuocha museum in Dali, Yunnan, goes back 1000 years and showcases the Chinese tea trade route along the ancient road. It includes several authentic letters that help corroborate and clarify the history of



Xiaguan and other older tea factories. The ancient tea horse road is divided into the Sichuan Tibet line and the Yunnan Tibet line. It extends into Bhutan, Sikkim, Nepal and India, until it reaches the Red Sea coast of West Asia and West Africa.

According to an article in the *National Geographic*, tea porters, both men and women regularly carried loads weighing 150 to 200 pounds; the strongest men could carry 300. The more you carried, the more you were paid: Every pound of tea was worth a pound of rice when you got back home. Wearing rags and straw sandals, porters used crude iron crampons for the snowy passes. Their only food was a satchel of corn bread and an occasional bowl of bean curd.

The tea road traversed through a range of distinct topographical zones, including the rainforests of Xishuangbanna, high-altitude alpine forests and meadows of modern-day Shangri-La. It also passed through many different cultural zones inhabited by a diverse range of ethnic groups.

Today the route still includes remnant paths and roads, bridges, caravanserais, market towns (large and small), staging posts, and shrines and temples



(‘tangible cultural heritage’). As for the intangible cultural heritage, it consists of the trading network that highlights the role of tea in the lives of the many ethnic groups in Yunnan.

The tea road was not only an important route for commercial activity (including the trade in tea, salt, medicinal products and luxury goods) but also for cultural exchange, especially between Tibet and Southwest China (it was another important entry point for Buddhism into China, in addition to the more well-known Silk Road).

Under the relatively new rubric of ‘cultural route heritage’, the State Administration of Cultural Heritage is now working with government agencies in Yunnan to formulate an application to the United Nations for the UNESCO World Heritage status. On March 5, 2013, the Tea Horse Road was selected as the seventh batch of national cultural relic’s protection sites by the State Council of People’s Republic of China.

(Dr Das Bikash Kali is Secretary General, Pondicherry India China Friendship Association)

Tea Legends: The Story of Bodhidharma

Bodhidharma, a Buddhist monk who lived in the 5th or 6th century, is traditionally credited as the transmitter of Chan Buddhism to China. According to the Chinese legend, he also began physical training of monks of Shaolin Monastery, leading to the creation of Shaolin kungfu.

The story goes that one day he fell asleep during meditation. When he got up, he was angry at his lack of focus so much that he cut his eyelids off, and threw them in the garden. It is said that a tea plant began to grow where his eyelids fell on the ground.

Bodhidharma gave the art of drinking tea to the world as a gift to be used along with one’s meditation practice to help a person focus better. Though this is a legend and a myth, the monastic use of tea as an aid to meditation was celebrated by linking the plant and its origins to Bodhidharma, the first Patriarch of Chan Buddhism.





CHINA INDIA

RELATIONS

The China-India relations have acquired a new energy, dynamism and direction under the leadership of Chinese President Xi Jinping and India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the last few years. Building on the Wuhan consensus, this crucial partnership is set to scale new frontiers in years to come.





CHINA-INDIA TIES SHALL BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED

The two nations must invest heavily in building better political as well as people-to-people ties.

As China and India mark 70 years of establishment of diplomatic relations in 2020, preparations are afoot to hold many events in both countries to celebrate the event. This will give a big boost to people-to-people relations. A meeting between China's Foreign Minister and State Councillor Wang Yi and India's Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar in Beijing on August 12 set the ball rolling for the high-profile events in the two nations.

Earlier, both countries had celebrated "Year of China in India" and "Year of India in China". The latest round of celebrations will also coincide with the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The events are likely to bring together artists, musicians, athletes, acrobats, media personnel, students, historians, academia, linguists and intellectuals on a common platform to exchange ideas and create more avenues for enhancing the Sino-Indian friendship. This is happening, despite the differences between the countries on various political issues. The positive aspect is that neither China nor India has allowed differences to overshadow the efforts of finding a common ground for reducing the trust deficit between the two nations. Language still poses a major hurdle. While the Chinese are catching up with English fast, Indians need to learn Mandarin.

P2P Contacts

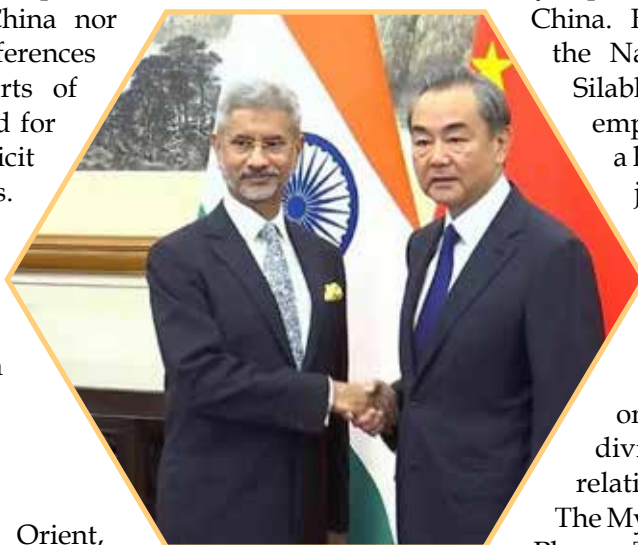
Since we belong to the Orient,

China and India have the advantage of understanding each other much better and faster. But, as far as the two nations are concerned, the people-to-people connectivity is yet to achieve its full potential. The common bond of Buddhism has created a spirit of neighborliness between China and India. According to well-known Chinese historian Tan Chung: "The finest encounters between the two countries of gigantic proportions, were not prompted by any king, nor accompanied by an army, nor marked by any trail of bloody devastation. Beginning in 217 BC, the influence of Buddhism on the Chinese life and culture has been tremendous and unmitigated."

He added: "Many centuries of exchange of scholars between India and China, apart from trade and commerce, have included such well-known Chinese traveler-scholars as Fa-Hsein (in the fifth century), Hsuan Tsang, and Yijing (both in the seventh century).

While Fa Hsein carried back many Buddha images and scriptures, the other two enjoyed high royal patronage both in India and China. Hsuan Tsang studied at the Nalanda University under Silabhadra and was helped by emperor Harshavardhan with a horse retinue on the return journey. He aided the two emperors Taizong and Harsh to exchange several ambassadors till 648-49."

Mr Tan, an authority on Chinese history, has divided the China-India relationship into six phases: The Mystic Phase; The Adoration Phase; The Nihilist Phase; The



Sympathetic Phase; The Friendship Phase; and the Indifferent Phase.

In *Across the Himalayan Gap - A Chinese Quest for Understanding India*, Mr Tan devotes a chapter to explain in detail the six phases. As I was reading it, I felt that India and China should return to the “Friendship Phase” from the “Indifferent Phase” that we experienced in the 1960s. We have to move forward to combine the energies of the two great nations to reclaim our place in the comity of the nations.

With rapid development in the last 30 years, China has achieved a lot in infrastructure and technological innovations. With India’s expertise in the soft power sector, pharmaceuticals and the service industry, cooperation between both the countries can do miracles.



Bollywood Connect

Bollywood films such as *Dangal*, *Padman*, and *Bajrangi Bhaijan* have done very well in China. *Dangal* earned nearly \$190 million in ticket sales. During a recent visit to Beijing and Shanghai, I found that people still remember old Bollywood movies such as *Awaara*.

While yoga is popular in China, martial arts and Chinese food are a big rage in India. Chinese high-tech products have replaced Japanese products long ago. The Chinese mobile brands, Xiaomi, Oppo and Vivo, are among the top five brands in India. As far as movie stars go, Jackie Chan is a hot favorite, and his *Kung Fu Yoga* (2017) did well in India.

Different Polity, Similar Goals

Even though India and China follow different models of governance, their objectives – progress through peaceful means and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries – are the same.

The non-resolution of the boundary issue has not deterred either of them from enhancing bilateral trade, which is worth \$95 billion. Both countries have cooperated in different multilateral forums such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, BRICS, Russia-India-China trilateral, and the World Trade Organization to challenge the dominance of the Bretton Woods Institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Enhancing Media Ties

In the last few years, China has become open to the visits of Indian journalists to its provinces, including the autonomous regions of Tibet and Xinjiang. The Diplomatic Association of China and the All-China Journalist Association have started training courses for Indian journalists and have been inviting delegations to visit China, giving them a chance to familiarise with the country.

India and China have instituted the “Editors Forum,” and a “High-Level Media Forum” to discuss information and cooperation. The new media is playing an important role in this respect. With a dozen of Chinese correspondents stationed in New Delhi and Mumbai, and about half a dozen correspondents of India’s national dailies, along with the premier news agency Press Trust of India, stationed in Beijing, there is a far greater understanding of each other.

We have to move forward to combine the energies of the two great nations to reclaim our place in the comity of the nations.

Xinhua’s recent agreement with United News of India is a positive development. The *China Daily* proposes to open a news bureau in Delhi. Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong recently said, “China is striving for its two ‘centenary goals’, and India is working towards the goal of building a ‘New India’. China and India should learn from and help each other to realize win-win cooperation and common development.”

Meanwhile, the Wuhan consensus has re-energised top-level ties, and that is likely to continue with two-way high-level visits. This will give a further boost to bilateral ties.

Vijay Naik is convener, Indian Association of Foreign Affairs Correspondents



Linking Chinese and Indian pharma companies

Sinopharm is willing to invest capital and technology into the Indian pharmaceutical market to help Indian companies achieve rapid growth.

The China National Pharmaceutical Group Co., Ltd. (Sinopharm) is a large health care group managed by the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC) of the State Council. After more than 30 years of growth, Sinopharm has become the largest pharmaceutical industry group in China, with R&D, manufacturing, logistics distribution, retail chain, health care, engineering services, professional exhibition, international operations, and financial services. It has more than 1,100 subsidiaries and six listed companies with a total of 110,000 employees.

In 2018, Sinopharm witnessed steady development. It is now ranked 169th in Fortune Global 500 and the 2018 revenue was nearly

400 billion yuan. It leads in the domestic pharmaceutical industry in terms of scale, efficiency and comprehensive strength. Sinopharm has broadened its international cooperation by establishing 26 joint ventures with world-renowned pharmaceutical companies (Otsuka, BMS, and Janssen), and trading with more than 120 countries and regions, including 60 Belt and Road countries.

Sinopharm and India

As a pharmaceutical giant, India provides 20% of generic medicine to the world with its excellent price and reliable quality. The Sinopharm group has extensive and long-term cooperation with



As the largest vaccine manufacturer in China, the Sinopharm Group has been working with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, for the last 10 years.

many Indian enterprises. As the largest vaccine manufacturer in China, the Sinopharm Group has been working with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, for the last 10 years. In 2018, Sinopharm donated 2.1 million doses of Japanese Encephalitis (JE) vaccine for bridging the shortfall in India's immunization program.

To date, Sinopharm has supplied nearly 400 million doses of JE vaccine to the Indian market, protecting the health of hundreds of millions of children. More than two million doses of varicella vaccine were also provided, benefiting many children. The upcoming Hepatitis A vaccine will also contribute to the well being of Indian children. Sinopharm has also helped Indian pharmaceutical companies to expand their sales.

In South America, Sinopharm registered clotrimazole ointment in Ecuador and bought 2.4 million tubes from India; In Mongolia, Sinopharm registered Ledifos, an anti-HCV drug produced in India, through a green channel, and purchased nearly 20,000 bottles. The purchase amount of pharmaceutical products from India exceeds \$20 million. As the demand in China's market grows, Sinopharm would like to introduce more products rapidly, and welcome Indian pharmaceutical companies to cooperate with Sinopharm.

Sinopharm has been importing menthol from India for many years and is the largest Chinese importer. It has purchased more than 15,000 tons, worth nearly \$300 million. Sinopharm is also the main buyer of Indian peanut oil and castor oil; the total purchase amount is nearly \$200 million, promoting the development of related industries in India, and increasing the income of Indian farmers.

A Bridge in the Pharma World

In 2013, Sinopharm set up a branch in New Delhi: Sinopharm Indian Pvt Ltd to work as a bridge between the Chinese and Indian pharmaceutical

companies. On the one hand, it promotes the supply of Chinese API and intermediate to India, and ensures the stable supply of raw materials for Indian pharmaceutical companies. On the other hand, Sinopharm actively and effectively assists Indian pharmaceutical associations and companies to understand the Chinese market, familiarize them with Chinese registration regulations, and promote economic and trade exchanges between the two countries.

The Way Ahead

The Chinese and Indian pharmaceutical industries complement each other. Indian medicine has a brilliant future in China. The Chinese pharmacy market will be more open in the future, and flexible and efficient policies will be brought in to help India's high-quality medical resources enter the Chinese market. Sinopharm is willing to deepen the cooperation with Indian pharmaceutical companies in many ways, including giving out

In 2013, Sinopharm set up a branch in New Delhi: Sinopharm Indian Pvt Ltd to work as a bridge between the Chinese and Indian pharmaceutical companies.



production license, joint ventures and shareholding in many fields such as drug R&D, production and sales. Sinopharm is also willing to invest capital and technology to the Indian pharmaceutical market to help Indian companies achieve rapid growth.

(Shi Hongwei is Managing Director, Sinopharm India Private Limited)



SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS SHOULD FOCUS ON PEOPLE'S WELFARE

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 2019. China will hold a grand celebration in Beijing. Next year, we will celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and India. As the first non-socialist country to establish diplomatic relations with the PRC, India and China have forged a profound friendship in the past 70 years. Long before the founding of the PRC, the two countries began to support each other's struggle for independence and formed a profound friendship for anti-imperialist and anti-colonial undertaking. Although there had been a short dispute, peace and friendship have always been the mainstream of relations between the two countries compared with its thousands of years of exchanges. The normalization of Sino-Indian relations in 1988 and the end of the Cold War have brought about tremendous development in Sino-Indian relations.

Boundary Peace

On the boundary issue, a series of achievements have been made through bilateral negotiation. The two sides have not only reduced the deployment

of troops along the border areas, but also increased their military transparency. They have also established various long-term conflict resolution mechanisms and communication with border personnel. These mechanisms have maintained peace and tranquility in the border areas and formed a more effective border control mechanism. Although there are still some difficulties in the final settlement of the boundary issue, the two sides have gradually formed some basic consensus for the final resolution. Eventually, the two sides will have the ability and wisdom to finally resolve it.

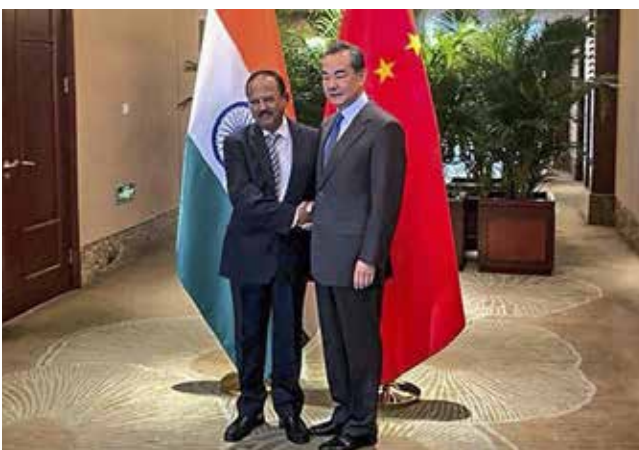
Burgeoning Economic Ties

Another major development is cooperation in the economic and trade field. In 1990, the trade volume between China and India was only \$170 million. It then grew rapidly from \$2.9 billion in 2000 to \$95.5 billion in 2018. More importantly, the China-India economic and trade cooperation has moved away from simple commodity trade. More and more Chinese companies have come to India to invest and build factories. Chinese companies have built a large number of infrastructure projects in India, which would provide strong growth for India's long-term development.

Global Ties

Along with the rise of China and India after the Cold War, the China-India relations acquired a global character. As President Xi Jinping said famously, "If China and India speak in one voice, the whole world will listen."

The two countries have more overlapping and cooperative interests at the global level. China and India maintain close communication in multilateral groupings such as the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, the BRICS, the G20 and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. There is a common interest and space for cooperation in the areas of climate change, energy and food security,



India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval with China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

international financial institution reform and global governance. However, as the gap between China and India is widening, India's current strategic worries about China are deepening, and there are major concerns about China's economic cooperation with South Asian and Indian Ocean countries. India needs to understand China's peaceful and autonomous diplomacy since its reform and opening up in 1980s.

Deng Xiaoping, the chief architect of China's reform and opening up policy, once said that the objective of reform and opening up is to "encourage some people in some areas to get rich first, to help the rich first, and finally to achieve common prosperity."

At present, China has achieved the goal of getting rich in some regions and some people, but it will take some time before we reach the goal of common prosperity. In terms of per capita GDP, China is still ranked outside the top 60 in the world. Since the 18th National Congress of CCP, President Xi Jinping has proposed the two centenary goals, to double the 2010 GDP and per capita income of the Chinese and complete the building of a moderately prosperous society by 2020. He has also pledged to build a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced and harmonious modern socialist country and realize the great renewal of the Chinese nation by the middle of the century.

Common Challenges

People's livelihood and economic development are China's biggest priorities. The same is true for India. China and India are the two largest developing countries in the world and face similar arduous tasks of governing the country such as disease prevention, food hygiene and environmental pollution. Only by expanding the space for cooperation in the areas of people's livelihood and development can we grasp the mainstream of bilateral relations and build the strategic mutual trust between the two largest developing countries.



India's then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee with the legendary Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping.

China's historical experience of forty years of economic development is an example for many countries in the world. For India, in addition to China's measures to develop the economy, China's diplomacy during the period of reform and opening up is undoubtedly also useful. China adopts the diplomacy of "keeping a low profile and making a difference" and concentrate on domestic economic development, rather than getting embroiled in geopolitical competition among big powers.

The current trend of reverse globalization and protectionism has, however, deprived India of a conducive external environment in which China's economy took off. This also cast a shadow over the "Asian Century." As the two most populous countries in Asia, only the two major markets of China and India can work together to create opportunities for mutual benefit and realize the goal of an "Asian Century" to benefit people of the two countries.

(Lin Minwang is Deputy Director, Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University)





AN ASIAN CENTURY

CENTURIAL CHANGES AND SINO-INDIA COOPERATION



China's President Xi Jinping welcomed India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a banquet dinner during the BRICS summit in Xiamen in September 2017.

Both China and India shall continue to strengthen their strategic and economic cooperation for realization of their own potential as well the dream of an Asian century.

This world is undergoing unprecedented changes we never experienced, which have now been labeled as the centurial changes. And such centurial changes, being full of challenges and opportunities, have enabled Sino-India cooperation to be of more global and strategic importance than ever before.

Such centurial changes are mainly demonstrated in three aspects, which should also be the driving force for China and India to carry forward their cooperation presently and in the coming years.

Firstly, the international multilateralism established since the World War II is experiencing an unprecedented crisis. The international political order and system, under the guidance of the UN Charter and with the United Nations as its core, is under unprecedented strain. Similarly,

the multilateral economic and trading system, guided by the WTO rules and with WTO as its core, is experiencing an unprecedented crisis. The globalization process, too, is under attack.

Against this backdrop, there has been an aggressive surge of populism and nationalism, which has been validated electorally in many places around the world. The Trump administration's "American First" policy is the sharpest manifestation of this trend. The Trump administration believes that the current international system can no longer serve the supremacy and hegemony of the US in this world. It strongly believes that the current international system has made its competitors, like China and India, increasingly powerful. Therefore, Trump and his caucus have successively managed to get

the US and even its allies and strategic partners to withdraw from multilateral mechanisms, in order to reshape and rebuild new ones where the US-led west can enjoy dominance again. The world is quickly plunging into disorder and chaos.

Secondly, the strategic pivot of the US is returning to the era of competition among major powers. The way of coexistence and win-win cooperation, formulated among the major powers since the end of the Cold War, is drifting quickly toward the intensified zero-sum competition among major powers. The latest *US National Security Strategy Report*, *US National Defense Report*, *Nuclear Posture Review Report* and *Indo-Pacific Strategy Report* have announced that the US strategic focus is the return to “great power competition”. In particular, the Trump administration has even made repeated endeavors to undermine the “strategic stability”, established painfully during the Cold War period, such as the US’ withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal and from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. The Trump administration’s destructive policies have intensified the global arms race, aggravating risks of nuclear confrontation and nuclear conflicts.

Economic Cold War

Thirdly, a new Cold War scenario is emerging on the horizon and giving birth to “One Interconnected World, Two Parallel Systems”. Globalisation is under visible stress. At least the trade wars launched repeatedly by the Trump administration and various de-coupling efforts attempted vigorously by the Trump administration are leading to a new kind of economic cold war. The developing economies represented by China and India are experiencing increasingly tough challenges from the developed ones led by the US. Will this world again be disrupted by “two separate and parallel systems” scenario in the coming years? This is a big question in front of the international community. Now we can see that there have been two separate political cultures and military security systems developed by China and the US. If China has been forced by the US ‘de-coupling’ efforts to develop its own set of approaches, rules and standards in science and technology, in economic and social development, in regional and global trade, the international community would inevitably have to pay a stiff price in choosing sides between the two clusters or two parallel institutions, respectively led by the US and China.

Closer China-India Cooperation

These major changes have led to dysfunction in some of the existent rules, regimes and mechanisms. As the two major beneficiaries of the current international order and system, China and India should work together to cope with such an unprecedented centurial crisis.

It is now time for India and China to take the lead in safeguarding the globalization progress, thereby contributing to the global long-term prosperity and in ushering the world into an “Asian Century.”

We all know that the Doklam standoff in mid-2017 finally made it imperative for the top leaders of China and India to re-calibrate their bilateral relations. This shows that the Sino-India relationship has become so mature that any crisis, no matter how severe, can be managed properly by these two countries. Hence, the crises encountered by the current international systems require China and India to rise to the challenge and handle responsibilities to deal with it.

Generally speaking, the major crises and changes in the international system have made Sino-Indian cooperation much more relevant in the coming years, to this region and to this world at large. In view of this, the Sino-Indian relationship can also be qualified as a New Type of Major Power Relations.

Counter-Terror Cooperation

The more threatening development of regional non-traditional security situation requires substantial cooperation between China and India. The Trump administration is likely to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan in order to cope with visible power-shifts in the international order, triggered by the rise of China and India. However, in the foreseeable future, the withdrawal of the US troops from Afghanistan, the dismantling of the Islamic State in the Syrian-Iraq battlefield, and the new emergence of the Kashmir-related crisis may lead to the regrouping of international and regional terrorists and extremists in the adjacent areas to China and India, including in South Asia, Central Asia and Southeast Asia. There are still scores of regional and global terrorist groups active in this region, bordering both China and India. At



the same time, the geopolitical and geostrategic competitions among major regional and global powers have disturbed and even blocked anti-terrorism cooperation in this region. In this regard, it is more and more imperative for both China and India to show leadership in carrying forward fruitful anti-terror cooperation.

Safeguarding Globalization Process

The sluggish progress of regional integration has already slowed the pace of the “Asian Century” and requires enhanced Sino-Indian cooperation. The process of globalization has gradually led to the clustering of industries in some selected regions based upon market rules, and to the accelerated globalization of financial capitals reaping profits globally. The globalization dividend has thus not



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Yang Jiechi, a Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

been equally shared among countries and regions, which has contributed to the anti-globalization waves in many countries. However, the surging wave of protectionism and anti-globalization in the US and many European countries is impacting prospects of global economic development, posing a threat to multilateralism. It is now time for India and China to take the lead in safeguarding the globalization progress, thereby contributing to the global long-term prosperity and in ushering the world into an “Asian Century”. This should be regarded as the historic and sacred mission of both China and India. It is, therefore, worthwhile for both China and India to explore more adaptable and practical approaches and models in development, not only for their own peoples but also for the rest of the world, and specially with the developing countries.

In addition, the deterioration of the US-Iranian relations and the US's rigid sanctions against Iran have made both India and China, who have been relying heavily on oil and gas in the Persian Gulf, vulnerable to an energy crisis, and some new risks to their energy SLOCs around the Gulf. As a result, it is more crucial for both China and India to address this crisis jointly to ensure the continued economic and social development of these two densely populated countries.

An Asian Century

Being two emerging countries in a new era marked by centurial changes, both China and India have to undertake sincere and substantial cooperation in diverse areas. These include cooperation in countering terrorism, seeking cooperative and win-win development, exploring new developmental path, promoting regional interconnection and intercommunication, providing regional and global public goods, joining forces against unilateralism and protectionism, promoting the globalization process and global governance, maintaining regional “strategic stability” and working together to prevent a repeat of the Cold War scenario in the region. It is safe to say that the much-expected Sino-Indian cooperation will, to a larger extent, remap the regional and global landscape as both China and India have the capacity and potential not only to change the world order, but also this planet.

Being two emerging countries in a new era marked by centurial changes, both China and India have to undertake sincere and substantial cooperation in diverse areas.

Deng Xiaoping, the chief architect of China's reform and opening up, once said that only with the development of China and India, the Asian Century can be achieved. Today, the rise of China and India has not only ushered in an Asian Century, but also triggered unprecedented centurial changes in this world. It's important for China and India to continue strengthening their strategic cooperation for realization of the full potential of an Asian century.

(Hu Shiseng is Director, Institute of South Asian Study, China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations)

My China Story



My China Visit: A Short, Mesmerising Trip

I have been a long-time listener of China Radio International (CRI), and a promoter of China-India friendship for more than 33 years. Impressed by my love and work for China and CRI, I, along with my wife and son, and two radio club members, was invited for a seven-day trip to China in 2016.

On June 26, we landed at Beijing's huge international airport. It was early morning, and a heavy downpour welcomed us. With ancient palaces, temples and parks, Beijing is a modern and cosmopolitan city. Whether it's the Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, or the Great Wall, everything is massive in the capital city.

In Beijing, I enjoyed bargaining with shopkeepers even though it was difficult to converse with vendors in English. I found Chinese people honest and friendly. On June 28, we visited CRI, and the staff of the English and Hindi services greeted us with great warmth, making us feel at home. I had an exclusive meeting with CRI Editor-in-Chief Ma Bohui, in presence of other CRI dignitaries. He was moved by my love for CRI and China, appreciated my long association with the organization, and praised our blood donation campaigns for CRI. We exchanged our views about expanding CRI's broadcasting services in India.

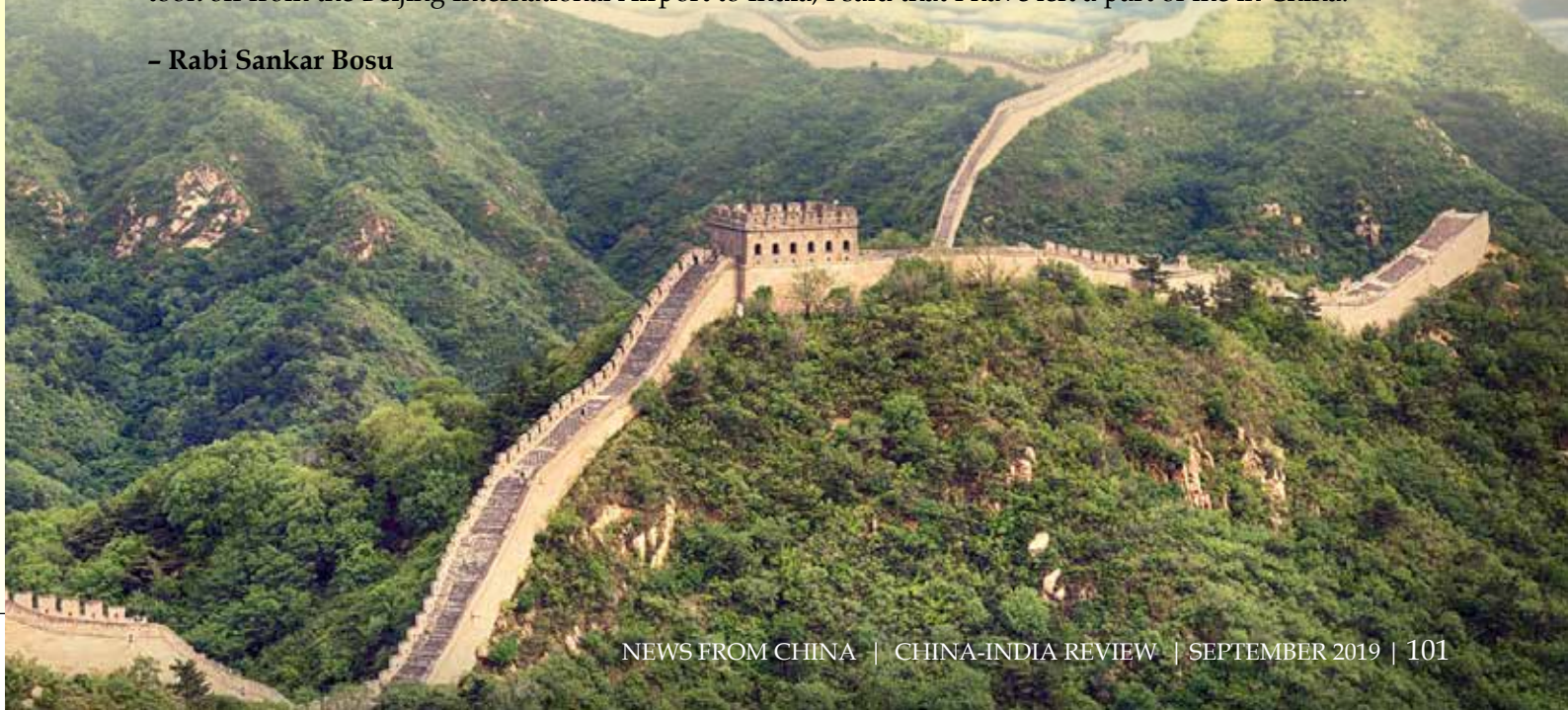
During our stay, we also visited the Summer Palace, Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, and enjoyed an enchanting boat ride on the massive Kunming Lake. At Forbidden City, I realized how much the Chinese value their history. We also visited the Bird's Nest stadium and Water Cube. I had seen the opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games on TV at home. However, I had never imagined that one day I will see the stadium.

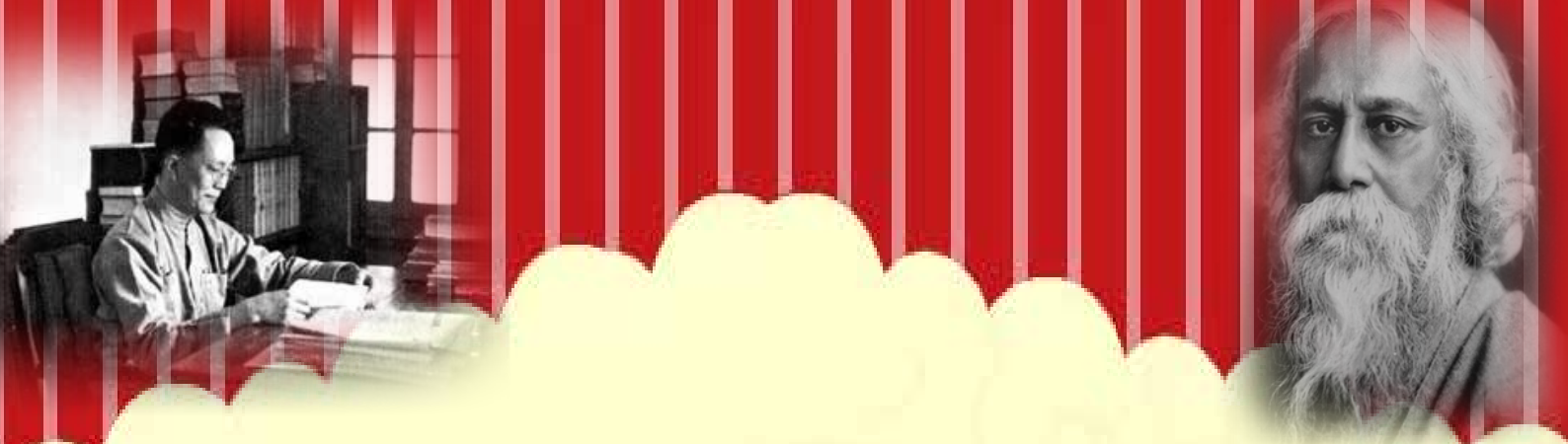
On July 1, we went to see the Mutianyu Great Wall of China. We reached the Great Wall by a cable car, and then climbed bravely to a few watchtowers. The views were worth all our physical effort.

We only spent five days in Beijing, and I knew we had only scratched the surface on this great city. We were impressed to see the facilities that are available for tourists. The roads too were also clean, and the traffic well managed. We saw lots of residents ride electric bicycles.

My visit to China was a short trip, but has sweet memories. When the China Eastern Airlines flight took off from the Beijing International Airport to India, I said that I have left a part of me in China.

- Rabi Sankar Bosu





China was Tagore's Gift to me to Understand the World Better

Born in Rabindranath Tagore's Santiniketan in the eastern state of West Bengal, China was never an unfamiliar entity for me. During my school days, I would cross the Cheena Bhavana several times a day. The Bhavan, the Chinese language and culture learning institute, was set up by Tagore in 1937. Tagore understood China and India, two ancient civilisations, need to interact with each other, and also with the world. During his visit to China in 1924, Tagore met several Chinese leaders and poets; many followed him to India.

One such personality was Tan Yunshan, who came to India with Tagore. Later, several Chinese and Indian scholars came together to study both countries. The walls of the Bhavana were painted by the famous Bengali painter, Nandalal Basu, and Chinese painters. The murals depict Chinese and Indian mythological stories. As a child, I was intrigued by these paintings, and as luck would have it, after school, I joined the Bhavana as a student, majoring in Chinese language and Literature.

At the Bhavana, I got to know Chinese teacher or Teacher Ma, who inspired me to study and apply for a scholarship to study in China. In 2008, I joined Anhui University, Ma's native place. For the first time, the beauty of Huang Shan and China enchanted me. I made several friends in China, and enjoyed the Chinese cuisine, especially mutton sticks. I would walk out of the campus every night to enjoy barbecue snacks on the streets, and talk to students from across the world. I got another chance to visit the country when I received a scholarship to pursue Masters' Degree in Zhejiang Normal University.

Today, I work as a chief Chinese Language Resource in Qualcomm Industries, based in Hyderabad, and my journey with China and the Chinese language continues. China has shaped life, and helped me reach where I am today. I feel China was Tagore's gift to me to understand the world better, and realise his dream to bring the world under one roof at Santiniketan. Hopefully, one day, I too can realise his dream.

- Debottam Banerjee





“Achieving the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation has been the greatest dream of the Chinese people since the advent of modern times. This dream embodies the long-cherished hope of several generations of the Chinese people...”

China's President and General Secretary of the Communist Party of China Xi Jinping

