

NEWS FROM CHINA

CHINA-INDIA REVIEW

Spring Time New Hopes





*Celebrating
Lunar New Year
New Beginnings*





May the Year of Ox Become a Year of Hope

The Spring Festival has lifted our spirits and brought a refreshing whiff of change and rejuvenation in the air. The Year of the Ox symbolizes auspiciousness and blends qualities of hard work, duty and discipline, inspiring us to scale new heights in what we pursue.

I am happy to see that 2021 has begun on a positive note for China, China-India relations and the world at large. In his Spring Festival message to the nation, President Xi Jinping lauded the swiftness with which our country achieved the first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society and called for accelerating efforts to achieve the second centenary goal and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Looking back, he summarized the nation's major achievements in 2020 under the Party's leadership, including emerging as one of the first countries that brought the COVID-19 epidemic under control, taking the lead among major economies in achieving positive economic growth, and accomplishing the poverty eradication tasks on time.

Under President Xi's leadership, China launched a monumental anti-poverty campaign on a scale unseen anywhere in the world. On February 25, President Xi solemnly declared complete victory in eradicating absolute poverty. China has lifted nearly 100 million impoverished people out of poverty in the past 8 years, and met the poverty-eradication target set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule. 770 million Chinese people were lifted out of poverty since the reform and opening-up in the late 1970s, accounting for more than 70 percent of the global poverty reduction population.

While there is much to feel proud about myriad accomplishments of the Chinese people, the COVID-19 cases across the world reminds us that we must carry on this fight relentlessly against the pandemic. In his special address on January 25 at the World Economic Forum, President Xi rightly pointed out that there is only one earth and one shared future for humanity. The way to solve the problems facing the world is through upholding multilateralism and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

In February, Chinese and Indian frontline troops have completed disengagement in the Pangong Lake areas. Both sides agreed to keep the momentum of dialogue and consultation to jointly maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas. On February 25, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi had a phone conversation with India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on bilateral relations, and agreed to set up a hotline for timely communication and exchange of views.

The China-India relationship is essentially about how the world's two largest developing countries get along and pursue development and rejuvenation together. China and India are each other's friends and partners, not threats or rivals, and have broad common interests and tremendous potential for cooperation. The boundary dispute is not the whole story of the China-India relationship. Both sides need to commit to and truly deliver on the strategic consensus reached between their leaders. Together, we can bring greater benefits to the 2.7 billion people in China and India and make bigger contributions to the advent of an Asian Century.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be '孙卫东' (Sun Weidong).

Editor-in-Chief : Ji Rong

Associate Editors

Chang Peilin, Cai Xiaotian

Desk

Zu Jian

Su Chen

Han Meng

Shweta Aggarwal

Published and Printed by

Ji Rong, Press Counsellor
Embassy of the People's Republic of
China in India

50-D, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri

New Delhi- 110021

Tel: 011-26881249

Fax: 011-26882024

Website: <http://in.china-embassy.org>

Contact: newsfromchinadelhi@gmail.com

Printed at M/s Advantage Offset

B-256, Naraina Industrial Area, Phase-I,
Delhi-110028

Consultant

TGII Media Private Limited

Website of Foreign Ministry of China

www.mfa.gov.cn

www.fmprc.gov.cn

Contact: webmaster@mfa.gov.cn

Chinese Ambassador's Twitter

[@Sun_Weidong@China_Amb_India](https://twitter.com/Sun_Weidong)

RNI No.: 47440/88

E-book & PDF version
(<http://in.china-embassy.org>)

Disclaimer

All rights reserved throughout the world.
Reproduction in any manner is prohibited.

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Zhu Xiaohong, Counsellor, Embassy of
the People's Republic of China in India

Manish Chand, CEO, TGII Media Private
Limited & India Writes Network

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

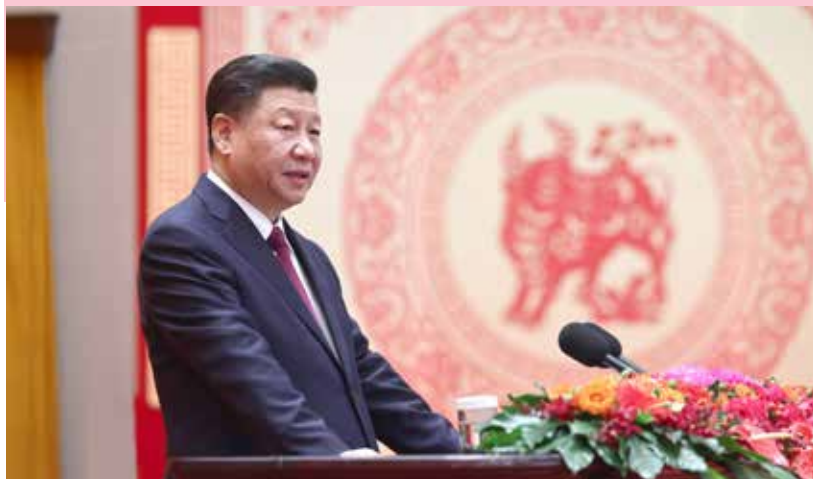
B. R. Deepak, Professor, JNU

Kaushal Goyal, CEO, GBD Books

CON

SPRING FESTIVAL

- In Spring Festival Message, Xi Calls for Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation **6**
- Xi Invokes Spirit of the Ox for Serving People **8**
- Xi's Guizhou Visit Signals Focus on Rural Revitalisation **10**
- Keeping A Great Tradition Alive **12**
- "Staying Put": A New Way of Celebrating the Spring Fest **13**
- Spring Fest Triggers Consumption Boom **15**
- Capital Market in High Gear, Embraces Reforms **16**
- **PHOTO FEATURE** Celebrating & Sharing: Chinese Lunar New Year **18**



CHINA FOCUS

- China Eradicates Absolute Poverty **24**
- Decoding the Struggle **27**
- Xi Inspects 2022 Winter Olympic Game Venues **30**
- China's Tianwen-1 Probe Enters Mars Orbit **33**
- First N-unit with Hualong One Reactor Starts Operation **34**



TENTS



CHINA AND THE WORLD

- Let the Torch of Multilateralism Light Up Humanity's Way Forward: Xi **35**
- Xi-Biden Call Sends Positive Signals **41**
- Xi Pitches for Global Efforts to Fight Pandemic **43**
- Reject Vaccine Nationalism: Wang Yi **45**
- China Tops FDI Recipients' List in 2020: UNCTAD **47**
- In 2020, China was EU's Biggest Trade Partner **49**



CHINA AND INDIA

- China, India Disengage Troops, to set up Hotline Between Foreign Ministers **50**
- Take the Right Path, March Towards a Better Future with the World: Ambassador Sun **52**
- Music Conveys Friendship, Melody Connects Hearts **57**
- Ambassador Sun Announces 'Let's Funtograph' Winners **60**



REGIONS

- Xi Stresses Patriotism in SARs **62**
- Stop Spreading Lies About Xinjiang **64**
- China Publishes Photocopies of Dunhuang's Ancient Tibetan Literature **66**





In Spring Festival Message, Xi Calls for Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation

Chinese President Xi Jinping addressed the Chinese Lunar New Year reception at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in February.

The CPC will remain invincible as long as it stands at the forefront of the times, leads the charge in overcoming challenges, and takes root among the people, President Xi Jinping said in his Spring Festival message.

President Xi Jinping, on behalf of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council, extended Spring Festival greetings to all citizens on February 10 in Beijing, reported Xinhua. Speaking at a gathering at the Great Hall of the People, Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, wished people of all ethnic groups, compatriots in Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan, and overseas Chinese. This year's Spring Festival, or the Chinese Lunar New Year, was on February 12.

Achieving the first centenary goal of finishing building a moderately prosperous society in all respects is a great feat of milestone significance, Xi noted.

Demanding the virtues of modesty and prudence, Xi called for efforts to achieve the second centenary goal and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and make new and greater contributions to the noble cause of securing peace and development for all mankind.

Party and State leaders Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan were present at the reception. Li Keqiang chaired the event.

President Xi summarized the nation's major achievements in 2020 under the Party's leadership, including emerging as one of the first countries that brought the COVID-19 epidemic under control, taking the lead among major economies in achieving positive economic

growth, making historic progress in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and accomplishing the poverty eradication tasks on time.

The country also saw the success of a number of key science and technology innovation projects, solid progress in pushing forward the Belt and Road Initiative and the successful conclusion of implementing the 13th Five-Year Plan, as well as growing global support for building a community with a shared future for humanity, Xi said.

Facts have once again proved that the system of socialism with Chinese characteristics has incomparable vitality and creativity, Xi noted.

As long as the entire Party and the Chinese people of all ethnic groups rally closely behind the CPC Central Committee, there is no difficulty that cannot be overcome, he said.

In 2021, efforts should be made to consolidate and expand the results secured in epidemic containment and social and economic development, Xi stressed, demanding a good start in boosting the country's development during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) so as to

celebrate the Party's centenary with outstanding achievements.

Having completed a glorious journey of 100 years, the CPC has grown into the world's largest Marxist ruling party that has been in power for over 70 years in the world's largest socialist country, Xi said.

The centenary sees the Party, with more than 91 million members, in its prime with the widespread support of 1.4 billion Chinese people, he added.

The Party will remain invincible as long as it stands at the forefront of the times, leads the charge in overcoming difficulties and challenges, and takes root among the people, Xi said.

Demanding the virtues of modesty and prudence, Xi called for efforts to achieve the second centenary goal and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and make new and greater contributions to the noble cause of securing peace and development for all mankind.



Party and state leaders Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan attended a Chinese Lunar New Year reception at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in February. The Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council held the reception in Beijing.



Xi Invokes Spirit of the Ox for Serving People

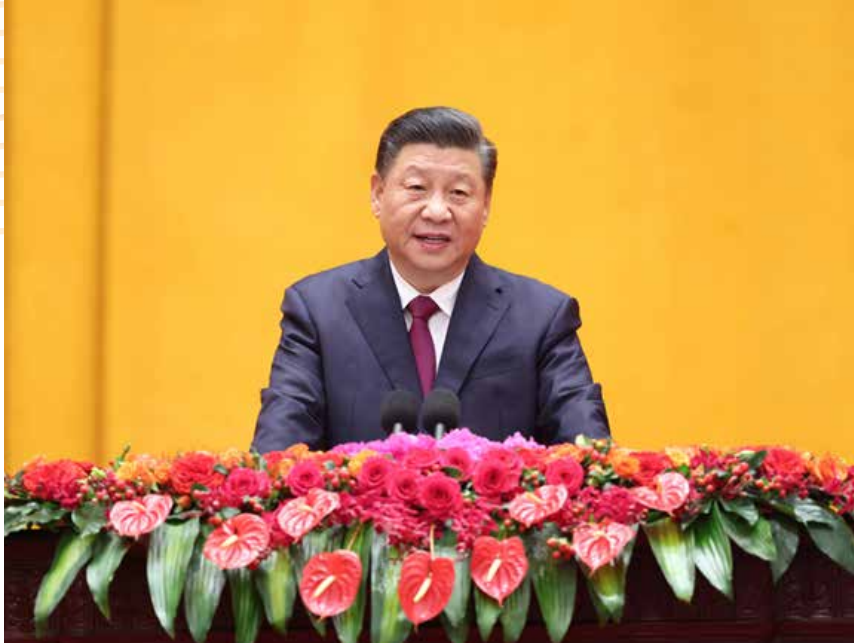
Stressing the virtues of modesty and prudence, President Xi Jinping called for accelerating efforts to achieve the second centenary goal and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and make new and greater contributions to the noble cause of securing peace and development for mankind.

As China rings in the Year of the Ox, President Xi Jinping has urged promoting “the spirit of the ox” in pursuit of fully building a modern socialist China, reported Xinhua on February 13.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, has highlighted the spirit of serving the people as willing steers, blazing new trails in development



People took photos of light decorations in Macao to celebrate Lunar New Year in January.



In China, an ancient civilization nurtured by its agriculture and fertile lands, the ox has always been considered an important animal as they help farmers cultivate the farmlands.

Chinese President Xi Jinping extended Spring Festival greetings to all Chinese at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in February.

as pioneering bulls and engaging in an arduous struggle as hardworking oxen. Xi promoted the spirit at a New Year gathering organized by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on December 31, 2020.

The country has lifted nearly 100 million rural poor out of poverty over the past eight years, securing a decisive victory in ending absolute poverty.

"We must promote the spirit of the ox in serving the people, driving innovative development and working tirelessly. We must continue to be careful, as we were in the past, guarding against arrogance and impetuosity, and continue to fear no hardship and be enterprising, marching forward bravely on the new journey of fully building a modern socialist country, and marking the centenary of the CPC with outstanding achievements," Xi said.

Xi reiterated the spirit of the ox in his Spring Festival greetings to all citizens on behalf of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council.

In China, an ancient civilization nurtured by its agriculture and fertile lands, the ox has always been considered an important animal as they help farmers cultivate the farmlands. "In Chinese culture, the ox is a symbol of diligence, dedication, endeavor and strength," Xi said.

Stressing the virtues of modesty and prudence, Xi called for efforts to achieve the second centenary goal and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and make new and greater contributions to the noble cause of securing peace and development for all mankind.

The ox is the second zodiac sign in the Chinese zodiac cycle, represented by 12 animals: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig.

The previous Year of the Ox was 2009. After an interval of 12 years, a new Year of the Ox began in February.

Gains for China

Despite complicated international and domestic situations in 2020, China has made major strategic achievements in the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic, conquered serious floods and achieved positive economic growth.

The country has lifted nearly 100 million rural poor out of poverty over the past eight years, securing a decisive victory in ending absolute poverty.

These hard-won, remarkable achievements would not have been attained without the spirit of the ox, which will play a more important role in the year 2021 as China strives to achieve rural vitalization, implement a new development paradigm and deepen reform and opening up.

Xi's Guizhou Visit Signals Focus on Rural Revitalisation

After ending absolute poverty, China's focus has now shifted to promoting rural vitalization. At Guizhou, President Xi wanted to see the living conditions of all those who had shaken off poverty, and promote steady progress in rural vitalization.

Xi Jinping was elected General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee in late 2012. Since that year, he has done more than 80 domestic inspections of less-developed regions of the country. However, this year's visit to the under-developed Guizhou Province signals a change.

As China has gained a decisive victory in ending absolute poverty, the focus of work concerning agriculture, rural areas and farmers has now shifted to promoting rural vitalization. The priority is to consolidate poverty-relief achievements, reported Xinhua on February 4.



Chinese President Xi Jinping with local residents in Jinyuan Community in Guanshanhu District, Guiyang City, Guizhou Province in February.

By choosing Guizhou, home to the last nine counties removed from the country's poverty list, Xi wanted to see in person the living conditions of all those who had shaken off poverty, and promote steady progress in rural vitalization.

He went to Huawu Village in Qianxi County that was once faced extreme poverty, but has received support to develop rural industries and tourism. Xi visited a Miao embroidery workshop there and acknowledged its role in promoting rural vitalization.

He joined the family of Zhao Yuxue in Huawu Village to make a traditional snack for festivals and wished the family "a happier and sweeter life." As Xi has pointed out on various occasions, rural vitalization involves work in the following aspects:

- Rural industries must be bolstered to turn farming into promising work;
- Favorable conditions must be created for those who choose to stay in the countryside;
- Cultural activities must be enriched;
- the environment and ecology must be good and village-level organizations should be full of vigor.

A key session of the 19th CPC Central Committee last October called for efforts in

consolidating achievements secured in poverty eradication and fully promoting the strategy of rural vitalization.

At the annual central rural work conference held in last December, Xi stressed that China should push forward rural vitalization in every way possible. This will be, the president added, "a historic shift" in the focus of its work concerning agriculture, rural areas and farmers.

The year 2021 marks the start of China's 14th five-year plan for economic and social development and its new journey toward building a modern socialist country. In that pursuit, the rural areas remain where the most formidable tasks, as well as the broadest and most profound foundations, lie.

Xi's Guizhou tour is expected to point out the future direction for promoting rural vitalization. As he said, being lifted out of poverty is not an end in itself but the starting point of a new life and a new pursuit.

A key session of the 19th CPC Central Committee last October called for efforts in consolidating achievements secured in poverty eradication and fully promoting the strategy of rural vitalization.



Chinese President Xi Jinping visited poor villages in Guizhou province in February.



Keeping A Great Tradition Alive

For nine years in a row, President Xi Jinping has made it a tradition to visit ordinary people, especially the disadvantaged groups, ahead of the festival, the most important holiday on the Chinese calendar.

The following are some of Xi's most memorable moments with these people during his pre-Spring Festival tours.

2020, Yunnan: Xi went to the home of farmer Li Fashun at Simola Wa Village, Yunnan Province, where he learned about the family's daily life, and was invited to join the family in making rice cakes. He also beat a wooden drum of the Wa ethnic group three times, a local ritual activity to bless the coming year. The year 2020 marked the deadline for China to eliminate absolute poverty. During the inspection, Xi noted that shaking off poverty is the starting point for a new and happy life, calling for vigorously promoting rural vitalization after a moderately prosperous society in all respects is achieved.

2019, Beijing: President Xi visited the hutong neighborhoods of central Beijing and stopped at an express delivery station there, stressing that priority should be given to solving employment problems and creating

2018, Sichuan: President Xi went deep into the mountains of impoverished Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture in southwest China's Sichuan Province. In two ethnic Yi villages, Xi was happy to learn that villagers have increased their incomes by raising cattle and growing potatoes, peppers and walnuts. "Not a single ethnic group or family should be left behind in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects," Xi said.

2017, Hebei: Xi went to a village in Hebei Province, a short drive from Beijing. In the house of poor villager Xu Wan, Xi asked about the family's drinking water, TV programs and activities it had planned for the Lunar New Year.

Xi even sat down with Xu and helped him with his household budget.

2016, Jiangxi: President Xi visited the house of Zuo Xiufa, grandson of a revolutionary martyr living in a poverty-stricken village in the city of Jinggangshan, Jiangxi Province. Calling Jinggangshan the cradle of the Chinese revolution, Xi called for carrying forward the Jinggangshan Spirit in the modern context.

2015, Shaanxi: President Xi met old acquaintances from Liangjiahe Village, Shaanxi Province, where he had spent seven years as an adolescent and young adult. "I will never forget the villagers here and the people in the old revolutionary base," he said. "A well-off society is incomplete if people in old revolutionary base areas cannot shake off poverty," Xi said later during a meeting with officials from Shaanxi and neighboring provincial regions in northwest China.

2014, Inner Mongolia: Braving the cold in northern Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Xi visited the home of forestry worker Guo Yongcai in a border town. He later went to a children's welfare home where he used sign language to interact with the hearing-impaired. Xi called for love for children, especially orphans and the disabled, from across the society.

2013, Gansu: Xi went to villages located in a hostile natural environment in northwestern Gansu Province, asking villagers whether they had enough food, sufficient subsistence allowances, and access to medical and educational resources. He emphasized that more efforts will be made to ensure millions in arid parts of Gansu have access to stable supply of drinking water. Xi also visited a construction site to learn about the rebuilding work of the county seat, where a landslide two years earlier had caused severe damages. He chatted with migrant workers, ordering better protection of their legitimate rights and interests.

“Staying Put”: A New Way of Celebrating The Spring Fest

Thanks to the travel restrictions imposed to restrict the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, the Spring Festival saw a surge in online purchases, payments, and green travel.

The Chinese Lunar New Year holiday has traditionally played an important role in driving consumption, especially tourism. However, the week-long holiday this year witnessed different consumption patterns as people were encouraged to “stay put” to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Here are some fresh spending trends evidenced by online payment data, indicating robust service activities during the holiday.

Digital-Savvy Elderly

The Spring Festival traditionally features exchanges of red packets of “lucky money” by people of different generations. Over the past few years, the tradition has been revamped by digital technologies, with grabbing virtual red packets on social media platforms becoming a new fashion, especially among the younger generation.

This year, the older generation jumped on the tech bandwagon as well. Red packets sent by people aged 60 and above through popular online payment platform Alipay surged 210% month-on-month during the holiday, while the red packets they received also soared some 430%, reported Xinhua on February 19.

The enthusiasm among the elderly in joining the “red packet fight” added to the network traffic. On the Lunar New Year eve, Chinese online payment clearinghouse NetsUnion processed 67,400 online payment



People queued up with the guidance of epidemic prevention personnel in January.

The enthusiasm among the elderly in joining the “red packet fight” added to the network traffic. On the Lunar New Year eve, Chinese online payment clearinghouse NetsUnion processed 67,400 online payment transactions per second at the peak time, with a 100% success rate.



Many chose to travel by public transportation or new energy cars. The search for charging piles surged 300% year-on-year while that for metro and bus services skyrocketed 630% and 388%, respectively, Alipay data showed.

Sterilization of high-speed train ahead of the Spring Festival in January.

transactions per second at the peak time, with a 100% success rate.

During the holiday, online payments through card payment giant China UnionPay hit a record high of 1.38 trillion yuan (\$214 billion), up 4.8% from last year’s holiday.

Box-Office Boom

While moviegoing is increasingly becoming an integral part of the Chinese people’s Spring Festival celebrations, many found it difficult to buy a movie ticket during this holiday as cinemas were fully booked. The “staying put” approach helped boost the box office, as around 75% of migrant workers stayed in the cities where they work during the holiday, Nomura Securities said in a research report.

China’s box office revenue during the week-long Spring Festival holiday hit a record high of 7.8 billion yuan, beating the same holiday in the previous years.

The daily average number of movie tickets sold via Alipay surged more than 560% compared with January, with people in big cities such as Beijing and Shanghai among the most avid

moviegoers, data from the payment platform showed.

Greener Travel

As inter-city travels were minimized during the holiday amid strict anti-epidemic measures to reduce the risks of infections, people savored a variety of entertainment options within their cities. The transaction value of local hotel bookings surged 190% year-on-year during the holiday, data from Alibaba’s online travel service provider showed.

Ski resorts and spa centers were among the most popular local destinations, according to search results on Alipay.

Many chose to travel by public transportation or new energy cars. The search for charging piles surged 300% year-on-year while that for metro and bus services skyrocketed 630% and 388%, respectively, Alipay data showed.

The services activity data for the Lunar New Year holiday pointed to resilience in the Chinese economy, Nomura said in the report, adding that the resilience means China’s GDP growth for the first quarter could be better than expected.

Spring Fest Triggers Consumption Boom

The combined sales of retail and catering enterprises in China rose 28.7% year-on-year to 821 billion yuan (\$127.5 billion) during the week-long festival. On the basis of this positive development, analysts expect China's economic growth to rebound to 8-9% this year.

A bumper Lunar New Year holiday week offered hope for an economic recovery, with analysts predicting a stronger Year of the Ox. Chinese cinemas were back in business, selling more tickets than before the pandemic. During the weeklong holiday, local box-office earnings surpassed 8 billion yuan (\$1.24 billion) as of February 18, reported Beijing Daily. By contrast, the total ticket sales last year in the United States,

overtook the United States to become the world's largest movie market the previous year, reported Xinhua on February 18.

China's box office is off to a "surprisingly strong start," CNN said, quoting the Citi analysts' research note, adding that the uptick showed that "demand for movies in physical theaters remains healthy, especially considering the restriction of occupancy rate at 75 per cent still persists (in some cities)."

The Spring Festival, or the Chinese Lunar New Year, is the most important holiday in the Chinese calendar — the equivalent of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Eve combined.

Typically, people travel long distances to meet their family and friends. During this year's Spring Festival, which was on February 12, authorities in many places asked residents and migrant workers to forgo their travel plans to stem the spread of COVID-19.

Many people acceded to the government's call, and couriered gifts to their families and friends. According to the State Post Bureau, the Chinese courier sector delivered 365 million parcels in the first five days of the Spring Festival holiday, up by 224% in the same period last year.

The combined sales of retail and catering enterprises in China rose 28.7% year-on-year to 821 billion yuan (\$127.5 billion) during the golden week, Ministry of Commerce data showed.

Reuters said China's economic recovery will herald a stronger 2021, and analysts expect China's economic growth to rebound to 8-9% this year.



The domestic box office recorded its best peak during Chinese New Year holidays, exceeding \$1.08 billion in revenue in less than seven days in February.

where many theaters are fighting for survival, totaled \$2.2 billion, according to the New York Times.

The increase in cinema revenues gives China yet another reason to celebrate; last year, its box-office revenue was \$3.13 billion, and the nation

Capital Market in High Gear, Embraces Reforms

The capital market is gaining international appeal as the country's financial opening-up is running at full tilt despite the changing international environment and coronavirus-induced shocks.



The big screen displayed stock prices at the listing ceremony of the first batch of IPOs of enterprises, which debuted on the ChiNext board at Shenzhen Stock Exchange.

The Chinese stock market kicked off the first trading day of the Year of the Ox with widespread gains, as the country's ongoing capital market reforms added to investor confidence. The benchmark Shanghai Composite Index opened 1.81% higher while the Shenzhen Component Index jumped 1.97% at the opening, reported Xinhua on February 18.

The ChiNext Index, tracking China's NASDAQ-style board of growth enterprises, was up 1.82% to open at 3,475.89 points on February 18. As the country steps up capital market reforms, Chinese stocks and bonds will become increasingly attractive to both domestic and international investors, analysts say.

Market Reform

The Year of the Ox by the Chinese lunar calendar is likely to see accelerated capital market reforms.

A significant change is the way that companies are listed and delisted.

Prior to 2019, initial public offerings (IPO) were run under an approval-based mechanism, in which securities regulators decided in large part the pricing and offering scale of companies prior to listings. Meanwhile, it was rare for companies to be delisted once they completed the process of going public, creating many so-called "zombie companies" that would drag down the overall quality of the capital market.

To tackle such inefficiencies, China stepped up efforts to push the registration-based IPO reform in the past few years, allowing the market to play a bigger role in deciding the pricing and value of innovative firms.

The reform was first launched at the Shanghai Stock Exchange's sci-tech innovation board in 2019 and expanded to the ChiNext board in 2020, while a registration-based issuance mechanism was also introduced in the country's corporate bond market in March last year.

Building on these efforts, the country will further improve the matching rules for the registration-based IPO mechanism and create favorable conditions for the mechanism to be implemented on all boards, the China Securities Regulatory Commission said during a work conference outlining the key tasks for 2021.

As China expands the reform to the whole A-share market, the number of IPOs will increase with greater efficiency, said Dong Dengxin, director of the Institute of Finance and Securities at Wuhan University of Science and Technology.

CITIC Securities predicted that the registration-based IPO mechanism will be

utilized in the country's main board in the first half of 2021, cutting the average approval time to from 490 days to about 60 days.

However, the streamlined procedures do not mean relaxed regulatory oversight, Dong said, citing intensified on-site inspections by regulators this year to crack down on illegal conduct.

To enhance the quality of public firms, the country also revised delisting rules in December last year, clarifying conditions that would trigger the forced exit of firms. Such reforms would further boost the investment value of the A-share market and make it more attractive to foreign investors, analysts say.

As the country steps up capital market reforms, Chinese stocks and bonds will become increasingly attractive to both domestic and international investors, analysts say.

Greater Appeal

China's capital market is gaining international appeal as the country's financial opening-up is running at full tilt despite the changing international environment and coronavirus-induced shocks. As part of the opening-up measures, the country lifted quota restrictions on two major inbound investment schemes in June last year and allowed institutional investors broader investment scope with revised rules introduced in September, which have guided more foreign investment into China's financial market.

Net inflows of funds through "northbound trading," or money invested from Hong Kong into the Chinese mainland through the stock connect programs, exceeded 200 billion yuan (around \$31 billion) last year.

China's stock market managed to secure spectacular gains while foreign investors are keen to capture a share of that growth. The benchmark Shanghai Composite Index gained 13.87% in 2020, while the ChiNext Index, tracking China's NASDAQ-style board of growth enterprises, surged nearly 65% percent.

In addition, China's bond market saw net inflows of overseas funds totaling 186.1 billion U.S. dollars in 2020, indicating overseas investors'



Guests unveiled five newly-established financial institutions at an online opening ceremony in Shanghai in March.

bullish sentiment toward China's securities market. With opening up on the fast track, China's stocks and bonds have been included in main global indexes, such as the MSCI, FTSE Russell, S&P Dow Jones and Bloomberg Barclays index, and their weights are steadily increasing.

In 2020, the country also showed its receptivity to foreign financial institutions by removing limits on foreign ownership of futures, securities and mutual fund management, which has inspired such institutions to set up wholly owned subsidiaries and better tap the Chinese market.

"One hundred percent ownership of our franchise on the mainland represents a significant commitment to and investment in China," Goldman Sachs said in a memo. It pointed to "ongoing reforms underway in China's capital markets, continued robust economic growth and the expanding needs of increasingly sophisticated clients."

While China's GDP accounts for some 16% of the world's total, Chinese assets only account for some 3% to 5% of the portfolios of overseas institutional investors, indicating great potential for global investors to step up holdings of Chinese bonds and stocks, said Zhang Yidong, an analyst with Industrial Securities.

In 2021, China's stock market is expected to see net inflows of funds through "northbound trading" exceed \$35 billion and the Hushen 300 index is estimated to gain a return of around 16%, said Liu Jinjin, chief China equity strategist at Goldman Sachs.

CELEBRATING & SHARING *Chinese Lunar New Year*



1



3



4



1. People visited the Old North Market during the Lunar New Year holiday in Shenyang, northeast China's Liaoning Province.
2. Guo Yushuo savoured dumplings made by his mother Hao Manling (R) on the platform in Wuhan Railway Station in Wuhan, central China's Hubei Province.
3. A baby born in the Year of the Ox with a health care worker at the maternity ward of Urumqi Maternal and Child Health Hospital in Urumqi, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region,
4. Villagers placed paper-cuts on the window at their new home to welcome the first Chinese New Year after they shook off poverty in Pingliang, northwest China's Gansu Province.
5. A staff brought Chinese New Year snacks to people who live at a quarantine spot in Shenyang.





1. Zhang Chunhuan and his family members pasted couplets on the eve of the Chinese Lunar New Year in Medog, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region.
2. Zheng Yingying, a staff member of Renmin Hospital of Daowai District in Harbin, talks to her son behind a glass door at a quarantine spot where she works in Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilongjiang Province.
3. A performer presented traditional clothes at a shopping mall in Shanghai.
4. Combo photo shows Si Daoyuan making a and heart gesture in Tonghua, northeast China's Jilin Province, in February and his wife Ni Lujia and their son Si Tongxun making hand heart gestures at home in Changchun, northeast China's Jilin Province.



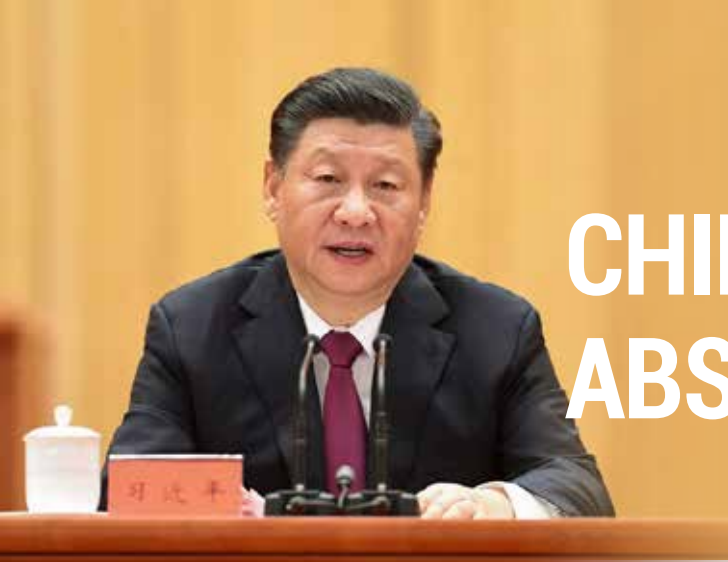






1. Workers pasted Spring Festival couplets during a break at Xilingol convertor station of the State Grid at Xilingol grassland in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.
2. Nie Huachen holding a package at his working place in Futian Village in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, and his wife receiving a package in Tongxu County, central China's Henan Province.
3. Miners pasted festive decorations at the third mining zone of the Jinchuan Group in Jinchang, northwest China's Gansu Province.
4. Delivery men and women have meal to celebrate the Chinese New Year in Shenyang.
5. Zhu Qianyue (L) and her mother Wu Jingyu extended New Year greetings to friends overseas via video link in Beijing.





CHINA ERADICATES ABSOLUTE POVERTY

Under President Xi Jinping’s leadership, China launched a monumental anti-poverty campaign on a scale unseen anywhere in the world. And today, the country has met the poverty-eradication target set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule.

Chinese President Xi Jinping announced on February 25 that China has secured a “complete victory” in its fight against poverty. Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, said absolute poverty has been eradicated in the world’s most populous country, home to over 1.4 billion people, reported Xinhua.

Xi made the announcement while addressing a grand gathering held in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing to mark the nation’s poverty alleviation accomplishments and honor model poverty fighters. With absolute poverty eliminated, China has created another “miracle” that will “go down in history,” Xi said in a televised speech.

The high-profile event was presided over by Premier Li Keqiang and attended by other senior Party leaders Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng -- all members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee -- and Vice-President Wang Qishan.

A Miracle

Under Xi’s leadership, China launched a monumental anti-poverty campaign on a scale unseen anywhere in the world.

Over the past eight years, the final 98.99 million impoverished rural residents, who were below the current poverty line, have all been lifted out of poverty. All 832 impoverished counties and 128,000 villages have also been removed from the poverty list.

The country has met the poverty eradication target set out in the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule.

Combined with poverty-reduction results since the late 1970s, China is responsible for over 70% of the global reduction in poverty over the period, World Bank statistics have shown.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres acknowledged the success of China’s anti-poverty campaign over the past few years, calling it “the most important contribution” to the global poverty reduction cause.

“No country has been able to lift hundreds of millions of people out of poverty in such a short time,” Xi said.

Recently at a gathering, Xi presented medals, certificates and plaques to role models from the country’s anti-poverty fight. He also joined other Chinese leaders in presenting awards to individuals and groups for their outstanding achievements in the fight against penury.

Over the past eight years, the final 98.99 million impoverished rural residents, who were below the current poverty line, have all been lifted out of poverty. All 832 impoverished counties and 128,000 villages have also been removed from the poverty list.

The recipients include villagers, Party members dispatched to villages to fight poverty, grassroots officials and college researchers. Some of them were honored posthumously.

Shi Jintong, a village Party chief in central China's Hunan Province, accepted an award on behalf of his village. Shi's village -- Shibadong -- is where Xi, during a visit in 2013, put forward the "targeted poverty alleviation" strategy that was instrumental in the success of China's poverty eradication campaign.

"I feel so honored to meet the general secretary again, yet I am confident at the same time as we have accomplished the task of poverty eradication," Shi said.

But not all of China's anti-poverty champions lived to see this day. Over the past eight years, more than 1,800 people died fighting poverty on the front lines. Xi acknowledged these fallen heroes at the event, saying that their sacrifice and contributions "will never be forgotten by the Party, the people and the republic."

Party, People, Pooling Resources, Precision

Summarizing China's experience in conquering poverty, Xi said the country has blazed a poverty reduction trail and formed an anti-poverty theory with Chinese characteristics. He underlined the role of Party leadership, which has provided a "political and organizational guarantee" for China's poverty-alleviation effort.

Poverty relief work has been led by the centralized and unified leadership of the CPC with its 90 million members. Party chiefs at all levels were required to assume the primary responsibility for achieving the campaign's ambitious targets. Over 3 million public sector



Xia Sen, a former researcher at Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, attended a grand gathering to mark the nation's poverty alleviation accomplishments and honor model poverty fighters at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in February.

officials were sent from cities and towns to villages to fight poverty "on the front lines."

Funds were channeled to assist the fight. Nearly 1.6 trillion yuan (\$246 billion) of fiscal funds have been invested into poverty alleviation over the past eight years.

China also leveraged the political advantage of its socialist system, which can bring together the needed resources to accomplish great tasks. This enabled massive programs, such as those

Combined with poverty-reduction results since the late 1970s, China is responsible for over 70% of the global reduction in poverty over the period, World Bank statistics have shown.

Poverty relief work has been led by the centralized and unified leadership of the CPC with its 90 million members. Party chiefs at all levels were required to assume the primary responsibility for achieving the campaign's ambitious targets.

pairing up better-off provinces with others in need to tackle poverty.

The country's strategy of targeted poverty alleviation was also highlighted.

Xi said poverty eradication is an important embodiment of the Party's fundamental purpose of "whole-heartedly serving the people." "Ending poverty, improving people's well-being and realizing common prosperity are the essential requirements of socialism," Xi said.

Rural Vitalization

Building on its victory in eradicating poverty, China is moving on to push for higher-level development in its rural areas.

Shaking off poverty is not the finish line, but the starting point of a new life and new endeavor, Xi said in the speech, demanding efforts to consolidate poverty alleviation achievements and initiate a dovetailing drive of "rural vitalization."

The rural vitalization strategy was proposed as a key move for the development of a modernized economy at the 19th CPC National Congress in 2017.

More detailed plans of the strategy were unveiled in the Party leadership's proposals for formulating an economic and social development plan for the 2021-2025 period and long-term goals through the year 2035.

China has also inaugurated a new cabinet body on promoting rural vitalization, which was transformed from the State Council Leading Group of Poverty Alleviation and Development.

In his speech, Xi said efforts must be made to prevent any large-scale relapse into poverty, and identifying solutions to problems concerning agriculture, rural areas and farmers must be the top priority of the Party's work.

"China will attach greater importance to the pursuit of common prosperity," he said.

Shaking off poverty is not the finish line, but the starting point of a new life and new endeavor, Xi said in the speech, demanding efforts to consolidate poverty alleviation achievements and initiate a dovetailing drive of "rural vitalization."



A grand gathering held to mark the country's accomplishments in poverty alleviation and honor its model poverty fighters at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in February.



Contracted family doctors from Zuolong Township Central Hospital visited a villager with chronic diseases in Zuolong Village, Zuolong Township of Langao County, northwest China's Shaanxi Province in July 2020.

DECODING THE STRUGGLE

China's history-making success in poverty alleviation has gone beyond established anti-poverty theories and can provide fresh perspectives and experiences for the global fight against poverty, says new report.

The poverty reduction miracle has given birth to a new field of study, according to the report titled Chinese Poverty Alleviation Studies: A Political Economy Perspective released by New China Research, the think tank of Xinhua News Agency.

The report, drawing on Chinese President Xi Jinping's discourses on poverty alleviation as the ideological and theoretical foundations, decodes the "winning formula" in China's anti-poverty fight, explores the rationale behind the fight and discusses its global implications.

"Based on our national conditions and following the law of poverty reduction, China has adopted a series of extraordinary policies and

measures and constructed a whole set of systems covering policy, work and institutions, blazing a poverty reduction path and forming an anti-poverty theory with Chinese characteristics," it cited Xi as saying.

The report summarized Xi's discourses on poverty alleviation as "seven upholds": Upholding the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), a people-centric approach, joint actions to tackle challenges, a strategy for precision, self-reliance, shared development, and a realistic and pragmatic approach.

The report summarized Xi's discourses on poverty alleviation as "seven upholds": Upholding the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), a people-centric approach, joint actions to tackle challenges, a strategy for precision, self-reliance, shared development, and a realistic and pragmatic approach.

The Winning Formula

Over the past eight years, China's final 98.99 million impoverished rural residents living below the current poverty line have all been lifted out of poverty. The country has met the poverty-eradication target set in the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule.



Female employees made garments in a poverty alleviation workshop at Tongxin County in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region in February.

A "winning formula" in China's poverty alleviation efforts was holding on to positive dialectical thinking and improving the pro-poor market mechanism under the guidance of the government, said the report.

In China, the "burden" of poverty has been turned into a source of potential, and human and natural resources in poor areas have become a means to achieve common development and prosperity, it said.

By capitalizing on local natural resources, many poverty-stricken areas have developed

various businesses and subsequently boosted local economic growth and created job opportunities, the report finds.

From a political economy perspective, a key approach of China's poverty reduction is to maintain the goal of national common prosperity by building a "pro-poor market" in which the government, market and society jointly work to emancipate the productivity of the poor and make them contributors to growth.

In precise poverty alleviation, the "visible hand" of a capable government is not a "restless hand" but an essential "enabling hand," the report said, noting that an effective pro-poor market is not a distortion of the market, but a reconstruction of the market.

Private enterprises, social organizations, and individual citizens are the three new forces of poverty alleviation work in China, while wealthy locals, migrant workers and businessmen, and college graduates from poor areas in China have also played significant roles, the report noted.

Powerful Cultural Drive

Throughout China's poverty fight runs the Chinese traditional culture of helping the poor and those in need, as well as a "world sentiment" that calls for the building of a community with a shared future for humanity, according to the report.

Throughout the 5,000-year history of Chinese civilization, the idea of common prosperity has been regarded as a quality of an ideal society, it said. China is not only a modern success but also an outstanding ancient civilization. China must build its future without abandoning its past, observes Amartya Sen, the Nobel laureate in economics.

The report stressed that China's poverty-alleviation experience and programs, based on practice and extensive international exchanges, have not only advanced poverty alleviation and development theories, but also reflected a "world sentiment" of building a community with a shared future for humanity.

Such a "world sentiment" has long been an important value for China to follow in promoting the cause of global poverty alleviation. China is

committed to reaching out to others and helping the world.

This “global view,” which transcends ideology, the nation-state and political parties, is a “Chinese proposal” for promoting the cause of poverty reduction in the world, it said.

Implications For The World

Calling China a “learner, beneficiary and innovator of global poverty alleviation theories,” the report summarized foreign experts’ views of Chinese inspirations for the world as “5Ds:” Determined Leadership, Detailed Blueprint, Development Oriented, Data-based Governance and Decentralized Delivery.

“There is no doubt that poverty alleviation is a vivid manifestation of the leadership of the CPC,” the report highlighted the top leader’s determined will, which creates a strong national will and drives the allocation of resources, as well as the leadership of the 91-million-member CPC.

With the common goal of eradicating absolute poverty, several generations of Chinese leaderships have drawn strategic blueprints and led the nation in successive struggles, which ensured policy continuity and spurred the entire country to work together toward a unified goal.

Meanwhile, China has long prioritized economic development in its poverty fight, which is combined with proactive, precise poverty reduction practices that directly pass on the benefits of economic development to every poor household and eliminate poverty completely.

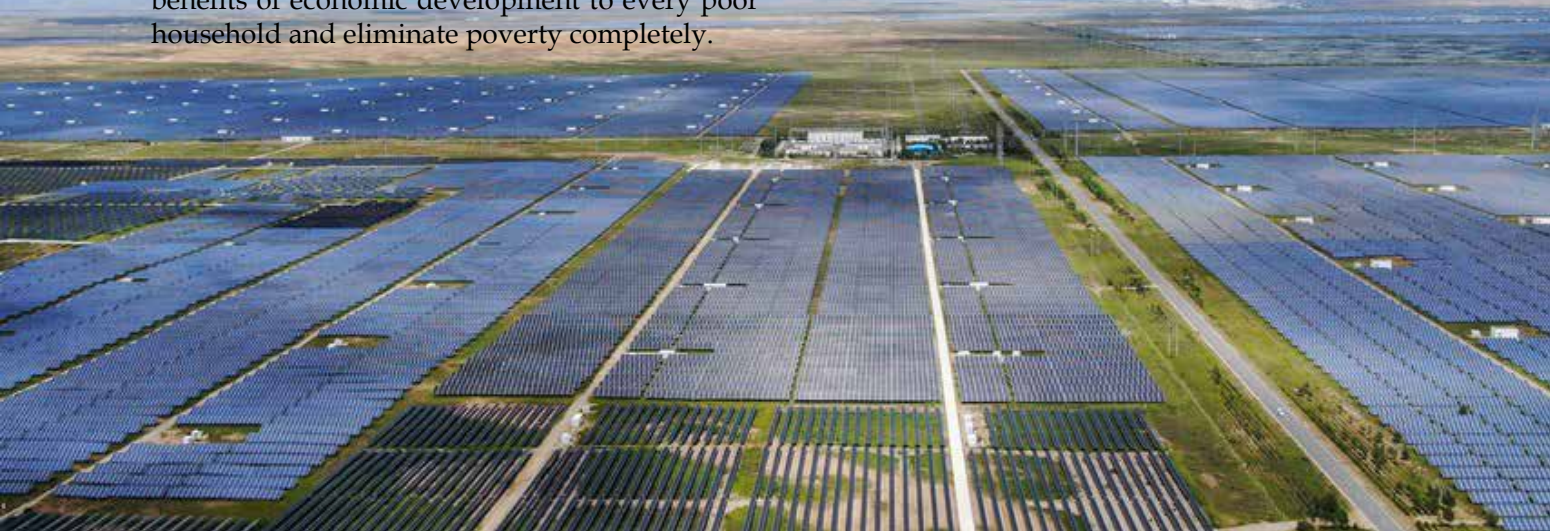
In the fight against poverty, the Chinese government has also attached particular importance to the development of big data and the digital economy and emphasized the application of advanced digital management, which made China’s poverty alleviation success possible in a relatively short period of time.

Last but not least, the report attributed the effective implementation of poverty alleviation policies to the “decentralized” nature of China’s governance structure, featuring many improvisations at subnational levels to implement national policies.

Besides experience-sharing, China has committed itself to the global combat against absolute poverty by participating in assistance programs, supporting “capacity development” projects and advocating a shared-solutions approach, according to the report.

“China, based on its own experience and theoretical ideas in poverty alleviation, is giving back to the human cause of ending poverty and providing a new reference for other countries and regions,” it said.

China is not only a modern success but also an outstanding ancient civilization. China must build its future without abandoning its past, observes Amartya Sen, the Nobel laureate in economics.



A photovoltaic power station, also a poverty-relief project, at the green industrial development park in the Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Hainan, northwest China’s Qinghai Province.

Xi Inspects 2022 Winter Olympic Game Venues

President Xi Jinping stressed on conducting the preparation work “with greater perfection,” replanning and readjusting all work in accordance with new circumstances while focusing on both pandemic prevention and control and the organization of the Games.

President Xi Jinping has called for advancing preparation work for the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games against difficulties and “with greater perfection.” Xi, also General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks on January 20 while presiding over a meeting on the Beijing 2022 preparations, following his inspection tours of Beijing and Hebei.

Xi inspected the Games’ preparation work in Haidian and Yanqing District, both of

Beijing, and the co-host city of Zhangjiakou. He extended his thanks to athletes, coaches and construction, managerial and working staff, and expressed his best wishes for the upcoming Chinese Lunar New Year, reported Xinhua on January 21.

President Xi called on conducting the preparation work “with greater perfection,” replanning and readjusting all work in accordance with new circumstances while focusing on both epidemic prevention and control and the organization of the Games.



Children learnt skiing at a ski resort on Jiangjun Mountain in Altay, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.



Chinese President Xi Jinping learnt about venues construction and athletes' preparations, and extended greetings to athletes and coaches while he visited the Capital Gymnasium in Haidian District, Beijing in January.

Xi said "simplicity, safety and excellence" should be prioritized in the Games' preparations. He also called on guarding against and comprehensively neutralizing all kinds of risks and diligently carrying out the preparation work, including competition organization and services, technological application and cultural activities.

As the Beijing 2022 preparations have entered a crucial stage, Xi urged efforts to center staging the Games as scheduled and comprehensively sort out and implement all preparation work.

He said the preparation work to be carried out with respect to six key points:

- Completing the construction of non-competition venues and complementary facilities on schedule, and increasing necessary facilities for virus-testing, quarantine and emergencies.
- Ensuring quality operation during the Games with an efficient management system in place, and improving coordination and emergency-handling capabilities between regions and sectors.
- Advancing competition services by adhering to the principle of a "unified standard for three competition zones," namely, urban Beijing,



Xi said "simplicity, safety and excellence" should be prioritized in the Games' preparations. He also called on guarding against and comprehensively neutralizing all kinds of risks and diligently carrying out the preparation work, including competition organization and services, technological application and cultural activities.

Yanqing District and Zhangjiakou in Hebei Province.

- Enhancing communication and cooperation with the International Olympic Committee and other international sports organizations and strictly implementing epidemic prevention and control measures.
- Developing winter sports and encouraging participation of more youngsters.
- Promoting coordinated development of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, striving for more achievements in transportation, environment, industry and public services, and proactively planning the post-Games utilization of the venues.

"Not only will we host a successful Winter Olympic extravaganza, but also a spectacular Games with unique characteristics," Xi said.

Hosting an excellent 2022 Games is a major task of the Party and the country, and it is a solemn commitment to the international community, Xi noted. He also stressed delivering a "fantastic, extraordinary and excellent" Olympics in 2022 with a "green, inclusive, open and clean" approach.

Xi emphasized that Beijing 2022 is an event of great significance at the outset of the 14th Five-Year Plan period from 2021 to 2025, calling for a stronger sense of responsibility, mission and urgency during the preparation work.

He noted satisfying results had been produced over the past five years, thanks to organizers' efficient work, the cooperation of all relevant parties, and close coordination with international sports organizations.

The President urged the Games' organizing committee to adhere to the regulations and institutions, adopt stringent budget management, control the Games' costs, avoid corruption and make the Games as "pure and clean as ice and snow."

While visiting the Capital Gymnasium, Xi said that the CPC Central Committee places great importance on the preparatory work for Beijing 2022, adding that both the Party and the Chinese people have given tremendous support in both material and spiritual terms.

At Taizicheng station, Xi visited the athletes' service hall and observed exhibits, including a rail network map of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, the sketch map and sand table of the Olympic competition zone and the Beijing-Zhangjiakou high-speed rail link. Thanks to the rail link, it took Xi less than 50 minutes to cover the 200 kilometers between the two cities, a trip he flew four years

ago when he last inspected the Olympic co-host.

Xi hailed the high-speed rail, which marks essential progress in the preparations for the Winter Olympics, as a successful demonstration of China's independent innovation. He pointed out that China has undergone a process from introduction, digestion, absorption and re-innovation to independent innovation, before becoming a world leader in high-speed rail technology.

In his speech, Xi said that both competitive and technical strengths are needed to raise the standard of modern sports. Athletes should have the will and determination to fight for national glory and get the best possible results, he added.

Xi, a keen fan of winter sports himself, said that he is looking forward to China's first ever Olympic Alpine skiing medal in 2022.

Since Yang Yang ended China's Winter Olympic gold drought in 2002, the world's most populous nation has triumphed in speed skating, short track speed skating, figure skating and freestyle skiing, but hasn't won a medal in the blue-riband event of Alpine skiing.

"Train as hard as possible and work harder on technological innovations, learn from advanced concepts and technology from around the world, and raise the level of training and competition," Xi said.



A high-speed train arrived at Taizicheng Station in Chongli District of Zhangjiakou, north China's Hebei Province, on December 30, 2019

While visiting the Capital Gymnasium, Xi said that the CPC Central Committee places great importance on the preparatory work for Beijing 2022, adding that both the Party and the Chinese people have given tremendous support in both material and spiritual terms.

China's Tianwen-1 Probe Enters Mars Orbit

It will now conduct multiple orbital corrections to enter a temporary Mars parking orbit, surveying potential landing sites in preparation to land in May or June.

Text: China's Tianwen-1 probe successfully entered the orbit around Mars on February 10 after a nearly seven-month voyage from Earth. A 3000N engine was ignited at 7:52 p.m. (Beijing time) to decelerate Tianwen-1, according to the China National Space Administration (CNSA), reported Xinhua.

After about 15 minutes, the spacecraft, including an orbiter, a lander and a rover, had slowed enough to be captured by Mars' gravity and entered an elliptical orbit around the red planet, with its closest distance from the Martian surface at about 400 km. It will take Tianwen-1 about 10 Earth days to complete one circle.

The development marks China's completion of a key step in its current Mars exploration program, which is designed to complete orbiting, landing and roving in one mission, said the CNSA.

After entering the Mars orbit, payloads aboard the orbiter, including cameras and various particle

analyzers, will next start working and carry out surveys of the planet.

Tianwen-1 was launched via a Long March-5 rocket, China's largest launch vehicle, from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site on the coast of southern China's island province of Hainan on July 23, 2020.

Tianwen-1 has been traveling in space for 202 days. It has carried out four orbital corrections and a deep-space maneuver. It has flown 475 million km and was 192 million km from Earth when it reached the Mars orbit.

A steerable radio telescope with a 70-meter-diameter antenna in Wuqing District of northern China's Tianjin City is a key facility receiving scientific data sent back by the Mars probe. The one-way communication delay is about 10.7 minutes.

Tianwen-1 will now conduct multiple orbital corrections to enter a temporary Mars parking orbit, surveying potential landing sites in preparation to land in May or June.



First N-unit with Hualong One Reactor Starts Operation

With Hualong One online, China is now at the forefront of third-generation nuclear technology in the world, alongside countries like the US, France and Russia.

China's first nuclear power unit using Hualong One, a domestically designed third-generation nuclear reactor, has entered commercial operation, paving the way for mass production and export. The No. 5 unit in the city of Fuqing, east China's Fujian Province, is generating electricity for sale after a seven-day trial run, said the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) on January 10.

The Hualong One reactor, with all of its core components produced domestically, has a design life of 60 years and meets the strictest safety standards in the world, according to the CNNC.

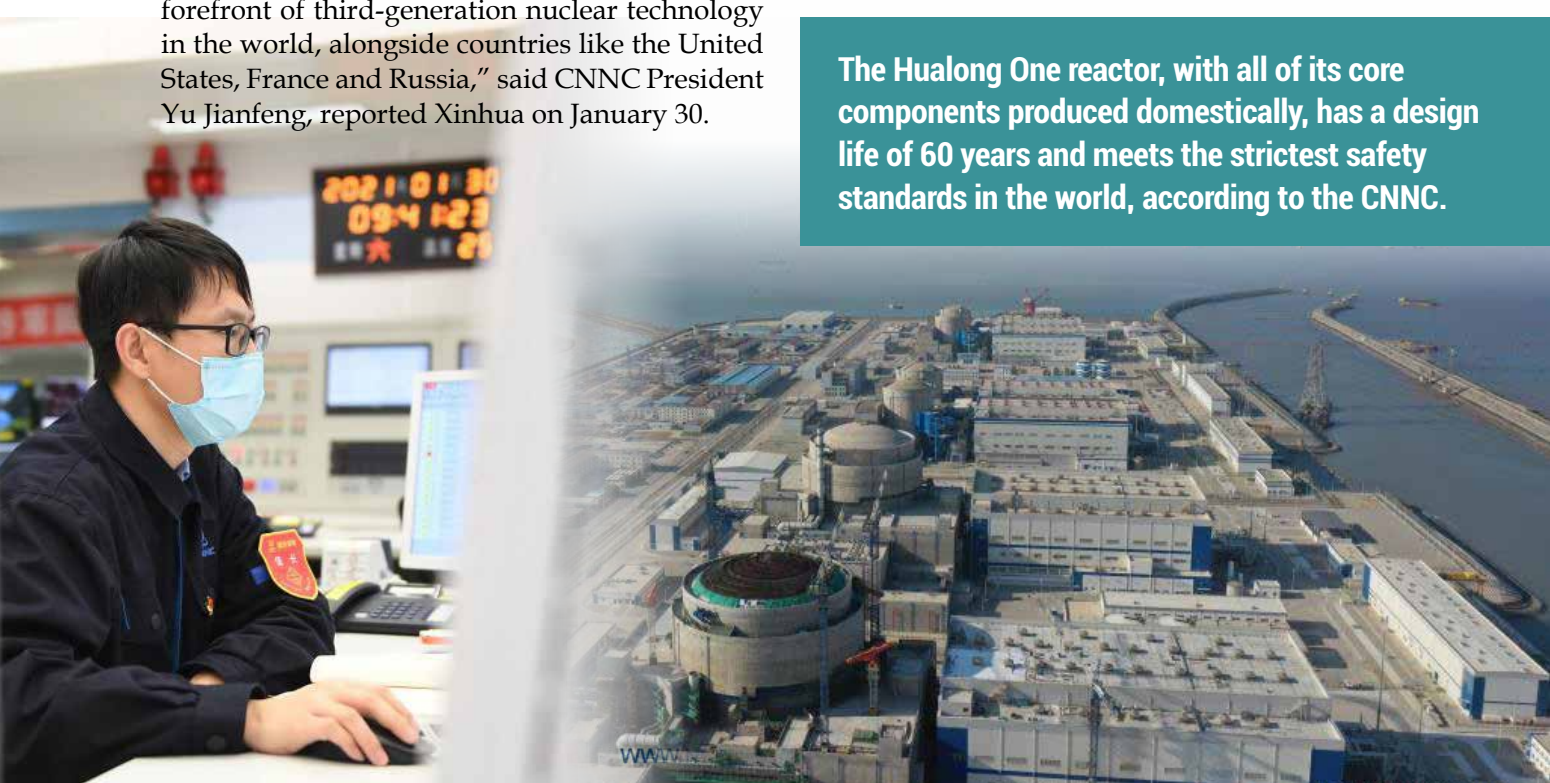
"With Hualong One online, China is now at the forefront of third-generation nuclear technology in the world, alongside countries like the United States, France and Russia," said CNNC President Yu Jianfeng, reported Xinhua on January 30.

The commercial use of Hualong One will also help meet low-carbon development goals like having CO2 emissions peak before 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality before 2060, Yu added.

The No. 5 unit is expected to generate nearly 10 billion kWh of electricity each year, potentially reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 8.16 million tonnes in annual terms, CNNC data showed.

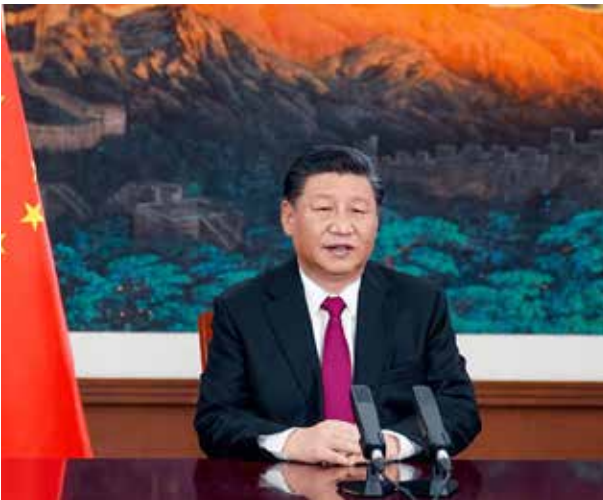
Construction of the No. 5 unit began in May 2015, and has proceeded as scheduled despite the disruptions brought by the COVID-19 epidemic, said the CNNC.

The Hualong One reactor, with all of its core components produced domestically, has a design life of 60 years and meets the strictest safety standards in the world, according to the CNNC.



Let The Torch of Multilateralism Light Up Humanity's Way Forward: Xi

China will work with other countries to build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity, said President Xi Jinping in his special address at the World Economic Forum Virtual Event of the Davos Agenda on January 25, 2021.



President Xi Jinping delivered a special speech at the virtual Davos Agenda event of the World Economic Forum in Beijing in January.

The past year was marked by the sudden onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic. Global public health faced severe threat and the world economy was mired in deep recession. Humanity encountered multiple crises rarely seen in human history.

The past year also bore witness to the enormous resolve and courage of people around the world in battling the deadly coronavirus. Guided by science, reason and a humanitarian spirit, the world has achieved initial progress in fighting COVID-19. That said, the pandemic is far from over. The recent resurgence in COVID

cases reminds us that we must carry on the fight. Yet we remain convinced that winter cannot stop the arrival of spring and darkness can never shroud the light of dawn. There is no doubt that humanity will prevail over the virus and emerge even stronger from this disaster.

History is moving forward and the world will not go back to what it was in the past. Every choice and move we make today will shape the world of the future. It is important that we properly address the four major tasks facing people of our times.

The first is to step up macroeconomic policy coordination and jointly promote strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth of the world economy. We are going through the worst recession since the end of World War II. For the first time in history, the economies of all regions have been hit hard at the same time, with global industrial and supply chains clogged and trade and investment down in the doldrums. Despite the trillions of dollars in relief packages worldwide, global recovery is rather shaky and the outlook remains uncertain. We need to focus on current priorities, and balance COVID response

The first is to step up macroeconomic policy coordination and jointly promote strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth of the world economy.

and economic development. Macroeconomic policy support should be stepped up to bring the world economy out of the woods as early as possible. More importantly, we need to look beyond the horizon and strengthen our will and resolve for change. We need to shift the driving forces and growth models of the global economy and improve its structure, so as to set the course for long-term, sound and steady development of the world economy.

The second is to abandon ideological prejudice and jointly follow a path of peaceful coexistence, mutual benefit and win-win cooperation. No two leaves in the world are identical, and no histories, cultures or social systems are the same. Each country is unique with its own history, culture and social system, and none is superior to the other. The best criteria are whether a country's history, culture and social system fit its particular situation, enjoy people's support, serve to deliver political stability, social progress and better lives, and contribute to human progress. The different histories, cultures and social systems are as old as human societies, and they are the inherent

The second is to abandon ideological prejudice and jointly follow a path of peaceful coexistence, mutual benefit and win-win cooperation.

features of human civilization. There will be no human civilization without diversity, and such diversity will continue to exist for as long as we can imagine. Difference in itself is no cause for alarm. What does ring the alarm is arrogance, prejudice and hatred; it is the attempt to impose hierarchy on human civilization or to force one's own history, culture and social system upon others. The right choice is for countries to pursue peaceful coexistence based on mutual respect and on expanding common ground while shelving differences, and to promote exchanges and mutual learning. This is the way to add impetus to the progress of human civilization.

The third is to close the divide between developed and developing countries and jointly bring about growth and prosperity for all. Today, inequality continues to grow, the North-South gap remains to be bridged, and sustainable development faces severe challenges. As countries grapple with the pandemic, their economic recoveries are following divergent trajectories, and the North-South gap risks further widening and even perpetuation. For developing countries, they are aspiring for more resources and space for development, and they are calling for stronger representation and voice in global economic governance. We should recognize that with the growth of developing countries, global prosperity and stability will be put on a more



WHO's Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus delivered a speech at the briefing on China's Experience on COVID-19 Responses in Beijing.

The third is to close the divide between developed and developing countries and jointly bring about growth and prosperity for all.

solid footing, and developed countries will stand to benefit from such growth. The international community should keep its eyes on the long run, honor its commitment, and provide necessary support to developing countries and safeguard their legitimate development interests. Equal rights, equal opportunities and equal rules should be strengthened, so that all countries will benefit from the opportunities and fruits of development.

The fourth is to come together against global challenges and jointly create a better future for humanity. In the era of economic globalization, public health emergencies like COVID-19 may very well recur, and global public health governance needs to be enhanced. The Earth is our one and only home. To scale up efforts to address climate change and promote sustainable development bears on the future of humanity. No global problem can be solved by any one country alone. There must be global action, global response and global cooperation.

The problems facing the world are intricate and complex. The way out of them is through upholding multilateralism and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Fourth, we should stay committed to keeping up with the times instead of rejecting change.

First, we should stay committed to openness and inclusiveness instead of closeness and exclusion. Multilateralism is about having international affairs addressed through consultation and the future of the world decided by everyone working together. To build small circles or start a new Cold War, to reject, threaten or intimidate others, to willfully impose decoupling, supply disruption or sanctions, and to create isolation or estrangement will only push the world into division and even confrontation. We cannot tackle common challenges in a divided world, and confrontation will lead us to a dead

end. Humanity has learned lessons the hard way, and that history is not long gone. We must not return to the path of the past.

The right approach is to act on the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind. We should uphold the common values of humanity, i.e. peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom, rise above ideological prejudice, make the mechanisms, principles and policies of our cooperation as open and inclusive as possible, and jointly safeguard world peace and stability. We should build an open world economy, uphold the multilateral trading regime, discard discriminatory and exclusionary standards, rules and systems, and take down barriers to trade, investment and technological exchanges. We should strengthen the G20 as the premier forum for global economic governance, engage in closer macroeconomic policy coordination, and keep the global industrial and supply chains stable and open. We should ensure the sound operation of the global financial system, promote structural reform and expand global aggregate demand in an effort to strive for higher quality and stronger resilience in global economic development.

Second, we should stay committed to international law and international rules instead of seeking one's own supremacy. Ancient Chinese believed that "the law is the very foundation of governance". International governance should be based on the rules and consensus reached among us, not on the order given by one or the few. The Charter of the United Nations is the basic and universally recognized norms governing state-to-state relations. Without international law and international rules that are formed and recognized by the global community, the world may fall back to the law of the jungle, and the consequence would be devastating for humanity.

We need to be resolute in championing the international rule of law, and steadfast in our resolve to safeguard the international system centered around the UN and the international order based on international law. Multilateral institutions, which provide the platforms for putting multilateralism into action and which are the basic architecture underpinning multilateralism, should have their authority and effectiveness safeguarded. State-to-state relations should be coordinated and regulated through

China will continue to take an active part in international cooperation on COVID-19.

proper institutions and rules. The strong should not bully the weak. Decision should not be made by simply showing off strong muscles or waving a big fist. Multilateralism should not be used as pretext for acts of unilateralism. Principles should be preserved and rules, once made, should be followed by all. “Selective multilateralism” should not be our option.

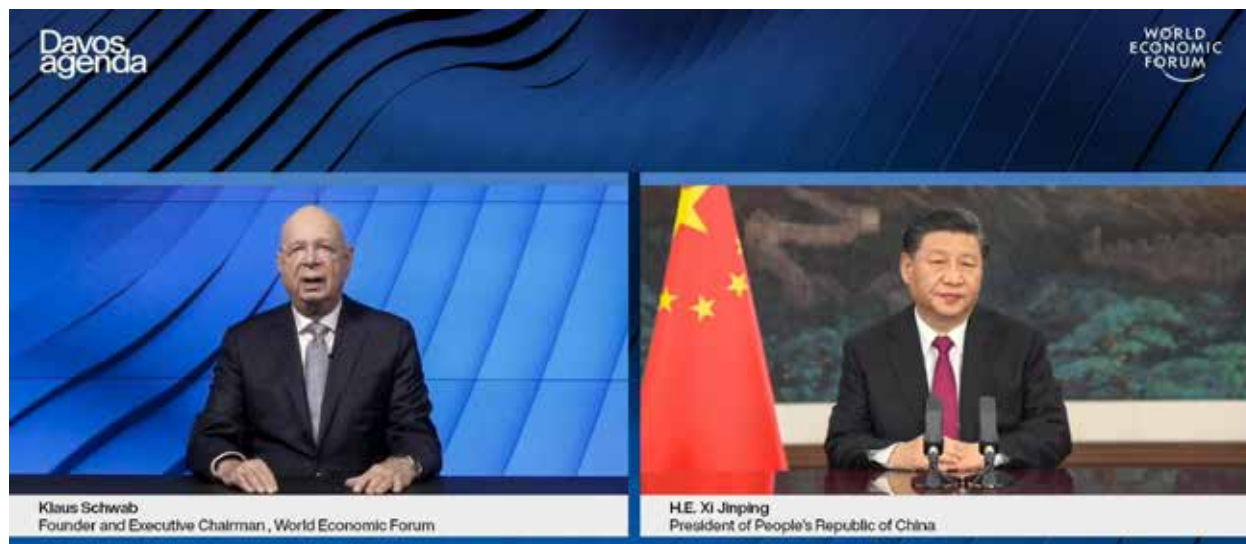
Third, we should stay committed to consultation and cooperation instead of conflict and confrontation. Differences in history, culture and social system should not be an excuse for antagonism or confrontation, but rather an incentive for cooperation. We should respect and accommodate differences, avoid meddling in other countries’ internal affairs, and resolve disagreements through consultation and dialogue. History and reality have made it clear, time and again, that the misguided approach of antagonism and confrontation, be it in the form of cold war, hot war, trade war or tech war, would eventually hurt all countries’ interests and undermine everyone’s well-being.

We should reject the outdated Cold War and zero-sum game mentality, adhere to mutual respect and accommodation, and enhance political trust through strategic communication. It is important that we stick to the cooperation concept based on mutual benefit, say no to

narrow-minded, selfish beggar-thy-neighbor policies, and stop unilateral practice of keeping advantages in development all to oneself. Equal rights to development should be guaranteed for all countries to promote common development and prosperity. We should advocate fair competition, like competing with each other for excellence in a racing field, not beating each other on a wrestling arena.

Fourth, we should stay committed to keeping up with the times instead of rejecting change. The world is undergoing changes unseen in a century, and now is the time for major development and major transformation. To uphold multilateralism in the 21st century, we should promote its fine tradition, take on new perspectives and look to the future. We need to stand by the core values and basic principles of multilateralism. We also need to adapt to the changing international landscape and respond to global challenges as they arise. We need to reform and improve the global governance system on the basis of extensive consultation and consensus-building.

We need to give full play to the role of the World Health Organization in building a global community of health for all. We need to advance reform of the World Trade Organization and the international financial and monetary system in a way that boosts global economic growth and protects the development rights, interests and opportunities of developing countries. We need to follow a people-centered and fact-based policy



Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum, with Chinese President Xi Jinping during the first virtual annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF).

orientation in exploring and formulating rules on global digital governance. We need to deliver on the Paris Agreement on climate change and promote green development. We need to give continued priority to development, implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and make sure that all countries, especially developing ones, share in the fruits of global development.

After decades of strenuous efforts by the Chinese people, China is on course to finish building a moderately prosperous society in all respects. We have made historic gains in ending extreme poverty, and have embarked on a new journey toward fully building a modern socialist country. As China enters a new development stage, we will follow a new development philosophy and foster a new development paradigm with domestic circulation as the mainstay and domestic and international circulations reinforcing each other. China will work with other countries to build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity.

China will continue to take an active part in international cooperation on COVID-19. Containing the coronavirus is the most pressing task for the international community. This is because people and their lives must always be put before anything else. It is also what it takes to stabilize and revive the economy. Closer solidarity and cooperation, more information sharing, and a stronger global response are what we need to defeat COVID-19 across the world. It is especially important to scale up cooperation on the R&D, production and distribution of vaccines and make them public goods that are truly accessible and affordable to people in all countries. By now, China has provided assistance to over 150 countries and 13 international organizations, sent 36 medical expert teams to countries in need, and stayed strongly supportive and actively engaged in international cooperation on COVID vaccines. China will continue to share its experience with other countries, do its best to assist countries and regions that are less prepared for the pandemic, and work for greater accessibility and affordability of COVID vaccines in developing countries. We hope these efforts

will contribute to an early and complete victory over the coronavirus throughout the world.

China will continue to implement a win-win strategy of opening-up. Economic globalization meets the need of growing social productivity and is a natural outcome of scientific and technological advancement. It serves no one's interest to use the pandemic as an excuse to reverse globalization and go for seclusion and decoupling. As a longstanding supporter of economic globalization, China is committed to following through on its fundamental policy of opening-up. China will continue to promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, help keep the global industrial and supply chains smooth and stable, and advance high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. China will promote institutional opening-up that covers rules, regulations, management and standards. We will foster a business environment that is based on market principles, governed by law and up to international standards, and unleash the potential of the huge China market and enormous domestic demand. We hope these efforts will bring more cooperation opportunities to other countries and give further impetus to global economic recovery and growth.

China will continue to promote sustainable development. China will fully implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It will do more on the ecological front, by transforming and improving its industrial structure and energy mix at a faster pace and promoting a green, low-carbon way of life and production. I have announced China's goal of striving to peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. Meeting these targets will require tremendous hard work from China. Yet we believe that when the interests of the entire humanity are at stake, China must step forward, take action, and get the job done. China is drawing up action plans and taking specific measures already to make sure we meet the set targets. We are doing this as a concrete action to uphold multilateralism and as a contribution to protecting our shared home and realizing sustainable development of humanity.

China will continue to advance science, technology and innovation. Science, technology

and innovation is a key engine for human progress, a powerful weapon in tackling many global challenges, and the only way for China to foster a new development paradigm and achieve high-quality development. China will invest more in science and technology, develop an enabling system for innovation as a priority, turn breakthroughs in science and technology into actual productivity at a faster pace, and enhance intellectual property protection, all for the purpose of fostering innovation-driven, higher-quality growth. Scientific and technological advances should benefit all humanity rather than be used to curb and contain other countries' development. China will think and act with more openness with regard to international exchange and cooperation on science and technology. We will work with other countries to create an open, fair, equitable and non-discriminatory environment for scientific and technological advancement that is beneficial to all and shared by all.

China will continue to promote a new type of international relations. Zero-sum game or winner-takes-all is not the guiding philosophy of the Chinese people. As a staunch follower of

an independent foreign policy of peace, China is working hard to bridge differences through dialogue and resolve disputes through negotiation and to pursue friendly and cooperative relations with other countries on the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit. As a steadfast member of developing countries, China will further deepen South-South cooperation, and contribute to the endeavor of developing countries to eradicate poverty, ease debt burden, and achieve more growth. China will get more actively engaged in global economic governance and push for an economic globalization that is more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all.

There is only one Earth and one shared future for humanity. As we cope with the current crisis and endeavor to make a better day for everyone, we need to stand united and work together. We have been shown time and again that to beggar thy neighbor, to go it alone, and to slip into arrogant isolation will always fail. Let us all join hands and let multilateralism light our way toward a community with a shared future for mankind.



Xi-Biden Call Sends Positive Signals



Going forward, China and the US should make joint efforts in the same direction, follow the spirit of no conflict, no confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation, focus on cooperation, manage their differences, and work for the sound and stable development of bilateral relations.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and his United States (US) counterpart, Joe Biden, held their first telephone conversation on February 11, 2021, after the latter entered the White House in late January, sending a series of positive signals to the world community, reported China Daily on February 12.

The first one is embedded in the exchange of Lunar New Year greetings between the two presidents. The Spring Festival is a significant holiday for the Chinese. The telephone

conversation between the two Heads of State on the eve of the Lunar New Year marks a new starting point for direct communication, symbolizes goodwill, and conforms to the expectations of the Chinese and Americans, as well as those of the wider global community.

The second positive message is a shared will to maintain communication between the two sides. In their dialogue, the two leaders agreed to maintain close contact on China-US relations and issues of mutual interest.

Biden said Washington is prepared to have a candid and constructive dialogue with China in the spirit of mutual respect and to improve mutual understanding and avoid miscommunication and miscalculation. Those agreements bear positive significance for Beijing and Washington to dispel misunderstandings and engage in a normal dialogue.

Over the past few years, the China-US relationship has encountered the most serious difficulties since the establishment of their bilateral diplomatic ties. Some Washington politicians, who remain stuck in the Cold-War mentality, saw in China as a grave threat to the United States. They rolled out a raft of policies that meddled in China's internal affairs and damaged the interests of the Chinese people. They even tried to decouple the two countries and advocate for a new Cold War.

With the Biden administration's inauguration, returning the China-US relationship to the right track has become a shared aspiration of the international community.

When viewing the relations between the world's top two economies, one should refrain from focusing on where the two countries disagree, and look instead at the bigger picture.

As the world is undergoing a transformation unseen in a century, which is compounded by a raging COVID-19 pandemic, China and the United States must shoulder their responsibilities as major countries to jointly tackle global challenges. They ought to maintain stability in the Asia-Pacific region and promote world peace and development.

It is quite normal for Beijing and Washington to disagree on issues. In the face of those disagreements, the two sides need to respect each other, treat each other as equals, and

manage their differences in a constructive fashion. One way to address those differences is by re-establishing dialogue mechanisms in order to accurately understand each other's policy intentions.

The third message lies in the recognition of the spirit of cooperation. History and reality show that China and the United States both gain from cooperation and lose from confrontation; dialogue is always better than friction.

Over the past more than four decades since the two countries established their diplomatic relations, bilateral ties have grown into one of the most deeply interwoven relationships in the world that includes broad areas of cooperation and extensive areas of common interest.

Cooperation is in line with the fundamental interests of both sides and represents a popular trend that cannot be reversed.

On the global stage, cooperation between China and the United States can accomplish a great deal. The two countries have together fought terrorism, addressed the 2008 global financial crisis, combatted the Ebola epidemic, and collaborated on the Paris climate accord.

As the world is undergoing a transformation unseen in a century, which is compounded by a raging COVID-19 pandemic, China and the United States must shoulder their responsibilities as major countries to jointly tackle global challenges. They ought to maintain stability in the Asia-Pacific region and promote world peace and development.

Currently, the world's arguably most important bilateral relationship is standing at a new and critical juncture, and Heads of State diplomacy can play an irreplaceable guiding role.

Looking to the future, the two countries should make joint efforts in the same direction, follow the spirit of no conflict, no confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation, focus on cooperation, manage their differences, and work for the sound and stable development of China-US relations.



Xi Pitches for Global Efforts To Fight Pandemic

In his discussions with several world leaders, President Xi Jinping underlined the imperative need for governments to join hands for the recovery of the recession-hit world.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has not impeded but intensified the diplomatic efforts made by Chinese President Xi Jinping to achieve a shared bright future for mankind. In recent phone calls with foreign leaders, the Chinese president has called for strengthened global cooperation to prevail over the coronavirus and share opportunities for development amid the pandemic-induced recession.

As the pandemic is continuing to wreak havoc across the world, Xi, in his talks with foreign leaders, has repeatedly stressed the need

to strengthen cooperation against the virus. In a phone conversation held recently with his Bolivian counterpart, Luis Arce, Xi said China is willing to strengthen cooperation with Bolivia on COVID-19 vaccines, reported Xinhua on January 29. Recalling that China has provided Bolivia with material and technical assistance to fight the epidemic through various channels, the Chinese president said his country will continue supporting Bolivia in the anti-epidemic fight within its capacity.

After the phone conversation, the Bolivian president tweeted his appreciation for China's

support for the Latin American country's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, saying, "We appreciate your cooperation in the fight against COVID-19 and in the development of strategic projects for Bolivia."

Since 2020, the pandemic and transformations rarely seen in a century have become interwoven with one another, and the international and regional situation has undergone profound changes, Xi noted in a telephone conversation with his South Korean counterpart, Moon Jae.

China and South Korea, Xi said, have especially put forward effective institutional arrangements and set an example of cooperation in fighting the pandemic, which fully demonstrates the high level of the China-South Korea strategic cooperative partnership.

The Chinese leader called on the two sides to continue to make good use of the cooperation mechanism of joint prevention and control as well as "fast lanes," so as to facilitate the epidemic prevention and control and economic development of the two countries, and to help boost regional and global anti-pandemic cooperation.

In a phone conversation with Dominican Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit, Xi said that China will continue supporting developing countries in their fights against COVID-19 and contribute to making vaccines public goods that are accessible and affordable to all.

Share Development Opportunities

Sharing opportunities for development and recovery, an urgent issue for mankind grappling

China and South Korea, Xi said, have especially put forward effective institutional arrangements and set an example of cooperation in fighting the pandemic, which fully demonstrates the high level of the China-South Korea strategic cooperative partnership.

with a deep recession, is another frequently mentioned topic in Xi's phone conversations with world leaders.

Recently, Xi called on China and Belarus to boost high-quality development of bilateral Belt and Road cooperation.

In his telephone conversation with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, Xi also urged the two sides to make solid progress in the construction of China-Belarus industrial park.

Noting that this year is the first year for China to implement the 14th Five-Year Plan, Xi said China's efforts to foster a new development pattern and promote reform and opening up at a higher starting point will provide more development opportunities and open up broader cooperation space for countries worldwide, including Belarus.

In his conversation with Moon, Xi said he hopes that the two sides can earnestly implement the consensus reached on speeding up the alignment of development strategies of the two countries and deepening bilateral cooperation in key areas, so as to continuously expand mutually beneficial cooperation and promote high-quality integrated cooperation.

He said that the two sides should accelerate the completion of the second-phase negotiations on the free trade agreement between the two countries, so as to put into effect the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership at an early date and speed up the construction of the China-Japan-South Korea free trade area.

On January 21, in a telephone conversation with Thongloun Sisoulith, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, Xi urged the two sides to steadily advance the construction of such large projects as the China-Laos Economic Corridor and the China-Laos Railway, and push for more achievements in bilateral Belt and Road cooperation.

China is willing to work with Laos to strengthen coordination and cooperation in international and regional affairs, and promote common development and prosperity, added the Chinese leader.



Reject Vaccine Nationalism: Wang Yi

China has decided to provide 10 million COVID-19 vaccine doses to COVAX to meet the urgent needs of developing countries and has already donated vaccines to 53 developing countries, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said at a UNSC meeting.

The world should come together to reject vaccine nationalism, promote fair and equitable distribution of vaccines, and in particular, make them accessible and affordable for developing countries, including those in conflicts, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on February 18.

Wang made his remarks at a virtual meeting of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) concerning the COVID-19 vaccine distribution, reported CGTN on February 18.

Wang proposed adhering to putting people first and enhancing global cooperation in the fight against COVID-19, fully implementing the UNSC resolutions and creating a favorable environment for fighting the pandemic, solving the vaccine deficit and increasing assistance to developing countries, and strengthening coordination and

giving full play to the role of the United Nations system.

China has taken concrete actions to promote the fair distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, he stressed, adding that the country has never sought any geopolitical goals in carrying out international cooperation on COVID-19 vaccines, never calculated any economic gains, and never attached any political conditions.

China has decided to provide 10 million COVID-19 vaccine doses to COVAX to meet the urgent needs of developing countries, said Wang. It has donated vaccines to 53 developing countries, and has exported or is in the process of exporting vaccines to 22 countries, he added.

A shipment of 200,000 doses of the Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine donated by China has reached Zimbabwe. Peru received 700,000 more doses of

安理会新冠疫苗问题部长级视频公开云

Security Council Open Briefing: Ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines in contexts affected by conflict and insecurity



the Sinopharm vaccine. “We must ensure that no country in need of the vaccines is left behind and no individuals waiting for vaccines are neglected,” Wang said. Saying nothing matters more than the people and nothing is more valuable than human lives, Wang called for putting people front and center.

The Chinese foreign minister said countries need to replace division with solidarity and keep to the right path of cooperation at this moment.

He also called for earnestly implementing UNSC resolution to create an enabling environment for epidemic response.

It’s important to ensure access to humanitarian assistance, especially for women, children, and other disadvantaged groups, Wang stressed.

China always opposes unilateralism without the UN’s mandate, Wang said, adding that under the current circumstance, “We urge developed countries to show humanitarian spirits and at least suspend their unilateral sanctions and other forceful measures with no ground in international law.”

Wang said that countries should enhance coordination and give full play to the UN system as it plays a central coordinating role in global actions against COVID-19. Countries should continue to give stronger political and financial support to the organization for it to effectively

lead the largest vaccination operation in world history.

Wang also called for the world program United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and other related agencies to use their global shipping networks to build green channels for developing countries and, in particular, solve the “last-mile” problem for vaccine delivery in Africa.

The open briefing was convened with the theme of ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines in contexts affected by conflict and insecurity. Delegates of the UNSC members and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres attended the virtual meeting.

Wang proposed adhering to putting people first and enhancing global cooperation in the fight against COVID-19, fully implementing the UNSC resolutions and creating a favorable environment for fighting the pandemic, solving the vaccine deficit and increasing assistance to developing countries, and strengthening coordination and giving full play to the role of the United Nations system.

China Tops FDI Recipients' List in 2020: UNCTAD

FDI flows to China rose by 4% to \$163 billion, making the country the world's largest recipient in 2020, followed by the United States.

Global foreign direct investment (FDI) plunged by 42% in 2020, a new report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said, while China bucked the trend becoming the world's top recipient of investment flows.

In its latest Investment Trends Monitor, the Geneva-based UN trade and development body said that FDI fell sharply to an estimated \$859 billion last year, from \$1.5 trillion in 2019, and warned of further weakness this year, putting a sustainable recovery from COVID-19 pandemic at risk.

"FDI finished 2020 more than 30 percent below the trough after the global financial crisis in 2009 and back at a level last seen in the 1990s," the report said.

The data showed that the decline was concentrated in developed countries, where FDI flows fell by 69% to an estimated \$229 billion, the lowest level in 25 years, reported Xinhua on January 25. Flows to Europe dried up completely, tumbling by two-thirds to minus \$4 billion, it noted. In Britain, FDI fell to zero, and declines were recorded in other major European recipients. A sharp decrease of 49% to \$134 billion was also recorded in the United States.

China A Bright Spot

The decline in developing economies was relatively measured at 12% to an estimated \$616 billion, the report showed, while China topped the ranking of the largest FDI recipients.



China-produced sedans at Tesla's giga factory in Shanghai.

FDI flows to China rose by 4% to \$163 billion, making the country the world's largest recipient in 2020, followed by the United States.

China's high-tech industries saw an increase of 11% in 2020, and cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&As) rose by 54%, mostly in information and communications technology (ICT) and pharmaceutical industries, the report said.

"A return to positive gross domestic product (GDP) growth and the government's targeted investment facilitation program helped stabilize investment after the early (coronavirus) lockdown," James Zhan, UNCTAD's director of investment and enterprise, said in a virtual press conference.

"The global dependence on the supply chains of multinational enterprises in China during



A visitor experienced an IOLMaster 500 device at the booth of German technology enterprise ZEISS during the third China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai in November 2020.

the pandemic also sustained the FDI growth in China," he added.

The country saw its GDP increase 2.3% year-on-year last year and is expected to be the only major economy to post growth in the pandemic-ravaged year, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

Uncertain Outlook

Looking ahead, UNCTAD warned that the global FDI trend is expected to remain weak this year.

"Risks related to the latest wave of the pandemic, the pace of the roll-out of vaccination programs and economic support packages, fragile macroeconomic situations in major emerging markets, and uncertainty about the global policy environment for investment will all continue to affect FDI in 2021," it wrote.

While sharply lower greenfield project announcements suggest that a turnaround in industrial sectors is not yet in sight, UNCTAD, however, stressed that strong deal activity in technology and pharmaceutical industries could push M&A-driven FDI flows higher.

"Overall, the global FDI is likely to follow a U-shape recovery, unlike the global trade and GDP which have been predicted to be a V-shape recovery starting already 2021. International investment projects tend to have a long gestation period and react to crises with a delay, both on the downward slope and in the recovery," Zhan estimated.

"A return to positive gross domestic product (GDP) growth and the government's targeted investment facilitation program helped stabilize investment after the early (coronavirus) lockdown," James Zhan, UNCTAD's director of investment and enterprise, said in a virtual press conference.



People shopped at a retail store of Uniqlo in Shanghai.



In 2020, China was EU's Biggest Trade Partner

The EU' imports from China in 2020 grew by 5.6% year-on-year to 383.5 billion euros (\$465 billion), and exports grew by 2.2% to 202.5 billion euros.

China became the main trade partner of the European Union (EU) in 2020, with exports and imports increasing despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Eurostat said on February 16.

According to the EU's statistical service, the bloc's imports from China throughout 2020 grew by 5.6% year-on-year to 383.5 billion euros (\$465 billion), and exports grew by 2.2% to 202.5 billion euros. At the same time, the trade in goods with the United States, which had topped the EU's trade partners list until early 2020, saw substantial decline in both ways, reported *China Daily* on February 16.

The EU also witnessed higher trade volume with the rest of the world in December 2020, up by 6.6 billion Euros from the same month in 2019, a first year-on-year increase since it was hit by the pandemic. The single market suffered a decrease of 9.4% in exports of goods and 11.6% decrease in imports in 2020. With industries largely affected by the containment measures last year, energy recorded by far the sharpest drop among all

sectors, followed by food and drink, raw materials and chemicals.

The Eurostat release coincided with China's official data published in mid-January, which showed the trade with the EU grew by 5.3% to 4495.77 billion yuan, or nearly 600 billion euros, in 2020. While China's total goods imports and exports expanded 1.9% year-on-year to 32.16 trillion yuan (about \$5 trillion) in 2020, hitting a record high, the surge in trade with the EU was more than double the average growth rate.

The result fully speaks for "the strong resilience and importance of China-EU economic and trade cooperation," said Zhang Ming, head of the Chinese Mission to the EU, at a webinar with the European think-tank, Friends of Europe.

The EU also witnessed higher trade volume with the rest of the world in December 2020, up by 6.6 billion Euros from the same month in 2019, a first year-on-year increase since it was hit by the pandemic.

China, India Disengage Troops, to set up Hotline Between Foreign Ministers



Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi with Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.

In a wide-ranging telephonic conversation on February 25, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi and India's External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar underlined the need to enhance trust and improve bilateral relations in all spheres. In an important confidence-building measure, the two ministers agreed to set up a hotline for timely communication and exchange of views.

It is imperative for the two sides to cherish the hard-won relaxation, and work together to consolidate the progress, keep up the consultation momentum, further ease the situation, and improve the border management and control mechanisms.

In a telephonic conversation with India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi noted that what had led to the situation last year at the China-India boundary was clear and that lessons from the past deserve deep contemplation. There has been some wavering and backpedaling in India's China policy, and practical cooperation between the two countries has been affected. This does not serve the interests of either side. Decades of experiences have shown repeatedly that heightening differences does not help solve problems, and that it only erodes the basis of mutual trust.

Wang Yi said that the frontline troops of the two countries have recently completed disengagement in the Pangong Lake areas. The situation on the ground has been noticeably eased. It is imperative for the two sides to cherish the hard-won relaxation, and work together to consolidate the progress, keep up the consultation momentum, further ease the situation, and improve the border management and control mechanisms. The two sides also need to advance the boundary talks to build up mutual trust and realize peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Wang Yi pointed out that both China and India are ancient civilizations and major emerging economies. While both are at a crucial, historical stage of development and rejuvenation, they should help and facilitate each other.

A negative trajectory of bilateral relations will incur unnecessary costs and losses for both sides. The two sides need to commit to the strategic consensus reached between their leaders, stay on the right path toward

mutual trust and cooperation between big neighbours, and never take the wrong path of mutual misgivings and suspicion, still less the path of retrogression. They should handle the boundary question properly to prevent the bilateral relationship from sinking into a negative cycle. While the two countries have the boundary dispute is an objective fact, which should be taken seriously, it is not the whole of China-India relations, and it should be put at a proper place in the overall bilateral relations. As two big emerging economies, China and India need to pursue development alongside each other, move forward in partnership instead of hindrance, and work together for shared progress rather than erecting walls against each other. They can begin from easier things and proceed incrementally so as to build up enabling conditions for a better relationship and greater practical cooperation between them.

Minister Jaishankar said that the recent disengagement in the Pangong Lake areas was an important follow-through action of the consensus that he and State Councilor Wang Yi reached in Moscow. India wants more dialogue and consultation with China to realize quick disengagement at the remaining points to further de-escalate the situation at the boundary and maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas. The Indian side, having in mind the long-term development and larger picture of bilateral relations, is ready to act on the important understandings between the leaders of both countries for the bilateral relationship to get back on track at an early date.

The two foreign ministers agreed to set up a hotline for timely communication and exchange of views.

Take the Right Path, March Towards a Better Future with the World: Ambassador Sun



The Chinese lunar new year of the Ox is around the corner. The ox, a sacred creature in India, is also endowed with outstanding qualities of diligence, dedication and pioneering spirit in China's traditions. In the new year, based on the overall landscape of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation and the global changes unseen in a century, we'll follow the guidance of President Xi Jinping, carry forward the spirit of the ox in serving the people, driving innovative development and working tirelessly, to chart a new course towards building a modern socialist China. We are committed to working together with all countries to build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity, and a community with a shared future for mankind.

We are committed to working together with all countries to build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity, and a community with a shared future for mankind.

China will develop a full understanding of the new development stage. In 2021, we will celebrate the centenary of the founding of the Communist Party of China and formulate and implement the 14th Five-Year Plan. The Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the CPC declared that after achieving the first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, we will embark on a new journey towards the second centenary goal of building a modern socialist country. This marks a new development stage which sees the Chinese people under the leadership of the CPC taking a historic leap from "standing up" and "getting prosperous" to "achieving great rejuvenation".

In over four decades following the reform and opening-up, China eradicated absolute poverty by lifting 800 million people out of poverty. This contributed to 70% of poverty relief around the world. China has successfully completed 13 Five-Year Plans and became the second largest economy of the world. In 2020, China's GDP exceeded 100 trillion yuan(\$15.42 trillion), and our per capita GDP rose above \$10,000. Following the founding of People's Republic of China, the



CPC announced the goal of building a modern socialist country. The next 30 years will be a new stage for us to realize this historic aspiration.

China will firmly apply a new development philosophy. Keeping to the theme of high-quality development and the main thread of supply-side structural reform, China will implement an innovative, coordinated, green, open and inclusive development philosophy in all fields of development. We will endeavor for the happiness of the people and the renewal of the nation. China will continue to take innovation as the primary force driving development, and take scientific and technological self-reliance as the strategic underpinning for national development. China will keep its focus on solving the prominent problems of uneven, uncoordinated and unsustainable development, and strive to promote coordinated development among regions, between urban and rural areas, and between material civilization and spiritual civilization.

With the belief in “green mountains and clear waters are as valuable as gold and silver mountains”, China champions green, low-carbon ways of life and production, and promotes the

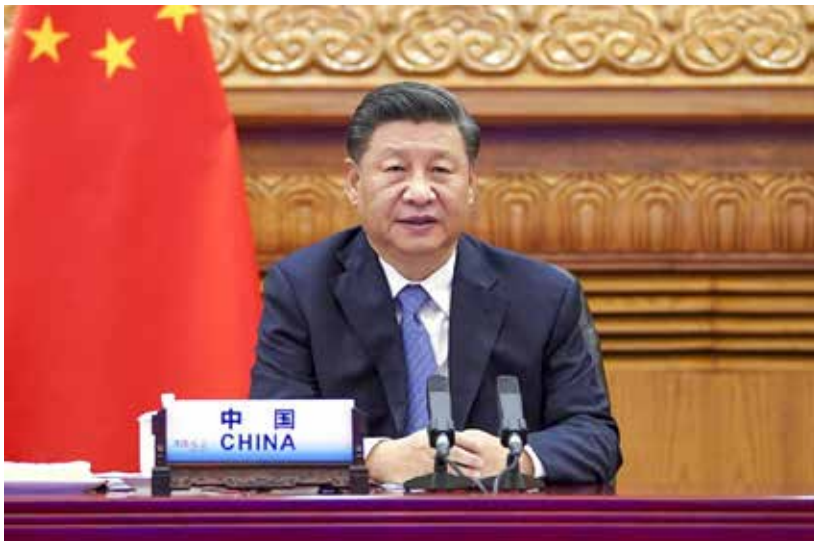
harmonious coexistence of human and nature. China will continue to forge ahead in the world economy and build new high-level institutions of the open economy. China will continue to uphold a people-centered vision of development to enhance the people’s sense of fulfillment, happiness, and security through shared development, and achieve common prosperity for all the Chinese people.

China will actively foster a new development paradigm with domestic circulation as the

China has successfully completed 13 Five-Year Plans and became the second largest economy of the world. In 2020, China's GDP exceeded 100 trillion yuan(\$15.42 trillion), and our per capita GDP rose above \$10,000. Following the founding of People's Republic of China, the CPC announced the goal of building a modern socialist country. The next 30 years will be a new stage for us to realize this historic aspiration.



Tea plants at Longjing village in the West Lake scenic spot in Hangzhou city, East China’s Zhejiang province.



President Xi Jinping attended the 12th BRICS summit via video link in Beijing in November, 2020. In his speech, President Xi advocated enhanced international cooperation to combat the coronavirus pandemic.

In 2021, China will give its own answers through decisive action. We will continue to stand on the right side of history as a contributor to world peace, a facilitator of global development and a guardian of international order. We will make unrelenting efforts for lasting peace and development of the world.

mainstay and domestic and international circulations reinforcing each other.

First, we will further expand domestic demand as a strategic priority, enhance smooth flow of domestic economic activity and strengthen resilience of economic development. At the same time, the new development paradigm is by no means a closed domestic loop, it is aimed at engaging in international circulation to better connect the domestic and international markets, in order to carry out all-round opening-up in more fields, with broader range and greater depth.

China's economy has deeply integrated into the world economy, we will not reverse course or run against historical trend by "decoupling". China signed the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), finalized the negotiation of China-EU Comprehensive Agreement on Investment, and is giving favorable consideration to joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

China has moved up to the 31st place in the global rankings of the ease of doing business. China's negative list for foreign investment has been further cut, and we became the world's largest recipient of FDI in 2020. Looking ahead, the scale of China's foreign trade, its use of foreign

capital and outbound investment will continue to rise, contributing a greater share to the world economic growth.

The COVID-19 pandemic, economic recession and governance predicament are the outstanding challenges facing humanity today. The international community has to make choices between multilateralism and unilateralism, openness and seclusion, cooperation and confrontation. Where is the way out in this uncertain world? In 2021, China will give its own answers through decisive action. We will continue to stand on the right side of history as a contributor to world peace, a facilitator of global development and a guardian of international order. We will make unrelenting efforts for lasting peace and development of the world.

China will unswervingly follow the path of peaceful development, and promote peaceful coexistence in the world. Peace and development are the theme of our times and the unstoppable trend of history. History has proven that China achieved development through the Chinese people's hard work and their commitment to peace, not as a result of military expansion or colonial plunder.

As President Xi Jinping emphasized on many occasions, no matter how strong China grows, it will never seek hegemony, expansion or sphere of

influence. China firmly pursues an independent foreign policy of peace, and endeavors to narrow differences and resolve disputes through dialogue and negotiation. We seek to establish a new model of State-to-State relations featuring dialogue and partnership, not confrontation or alliance. All countries should abandon ideological prejudice, refrain from interfering with other countries' internal affairs, pursue peaceful coexistence based on mutual respect and seeking common ground while shelving differences, promote exchanges and mutual learning, add impetus to the progress of human civilization, and jointly safeguard the world peace and stability.

China will hold high the approach of win-win cooperation, and promote common development and prosperity for all countries. We reject the outdated Cold War and zero-sum mentality, and say no to narrow-minded, selfish and beggar-thy-neighbor policies. It is important that we stick to the cooperation concept based on mutual benefit. We advocate fair competition, guarantee equal rights to development for all countries and let their peoples to benefit from the opportunities and fruits of development.

China will continue to take an active part in international cooperation to combat COVID-19, do its best to assist countries and regions that are less prepared for the pandemic, and work for greater accessibility and affordability of COVID

vaccines in developing countries, so as to make its contribution to an early and complete victory over the pandemic throughout the world.

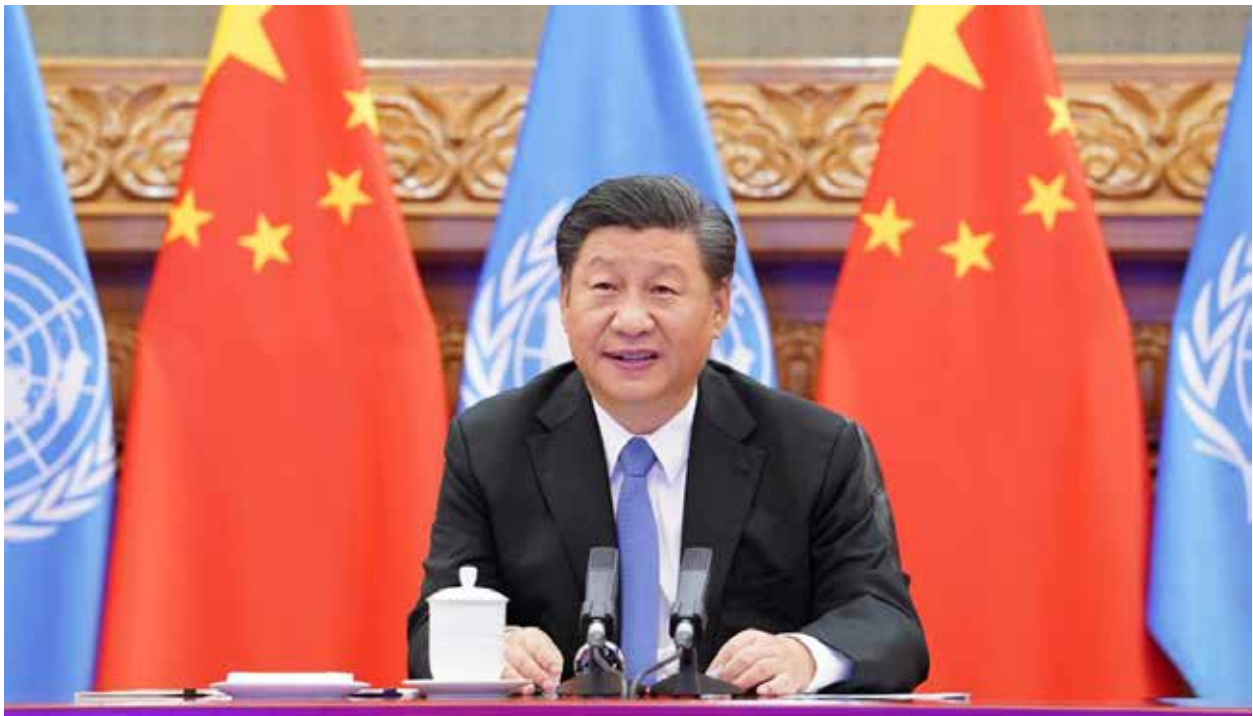
China will step up macroeconomic policy coordination with the international community, promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, help keep the global industrial and supply chains smooth and stable, and jointly promote strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth of the world economy. China will get more actively engaged in global economic governance and push for an economic globalization that is more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all.

China will continue to uphold multilateralism, and advocate for building a community of a shared future for mankind. Multilateralism in essence is about having international affairs addressed through consultation and the future of the world decided by everyone working together. 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the restoration of China's legitimate seat in the United Nations.

We stand by the core values and basic principles of multilateralism, and are steadfast in our resolve to safeguard the international system with the UN at its core and the international order based on international laws. We strive for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, reform and improve



A view of Shenzhen, the birthplace of China's economic reforms.



President Xi Jinping delivered a speech via video link at the annual General Debate of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2014 in which he stressed on upholding multilateralism and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

the global governance system on the basis of extensive consultation and consensus-building. State-to-state relations should be coordinated and regulated through proper institutions and rules. The strong should not bully the weak.

We oppose building exclusive small circles, abusing the name of multilateralism for bloc politics, ideologizing multilateralism to target certain countries or imposing rules devised by a small number of countries on the international community under the pretext of multilateralism. All countries need to stand united and work together, and let multilateralism light our way toward a community with a shared future for the mankind.

China and India are both ancient civilizations, large developing countries and major emerging economies. We are both at a critical stage of development and revitalization, and shoulder the historic mission of developing our economies and improving people's livelihood.

Our cooperation far outweighs our differences, and our common interests are far greater than our inconsistencies. On the journey toward common rejuvenation, our two countries should run the

marathon together and help each other achieve their respective dreams.

In the New Year, we must stick to the right direction of China-India relations and implement the important consensus reached between our leaders that China and India are partners and opportunities to each other, not adversaries or threats to each other. We should put the boundary issue in an appropriate place in bilateral relations, address differences in a rational and constructive manner and not allow our differences to become disputes.

It's important for China and India to respect each other, enhance mutual trust, seek common ground while shelving differences and meet each other half way. We should boost cooperation in the fields of combating COVID-19 pandemic, economic recovery, multilateralism and global governance, and bring bilateral relations back on the right track of sound and steady development, making our due contribution to maintaining world peace and promoting common development.

(This article by Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong was first published in *The Policy Chronicle*)

Music Conveys Friendship, Melody Connects Hearts



On the eve of the Chinese Lunar New Year, an online Spring Festival Concert was co-hosted by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Embassy in India. It was performed by China National Symphony Orchestra. Speaking at the event, H. E. Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong thanked all the friends who support the development of China and China-India relations, and expressed his good wishes in the Year of the Ox to friends in both countries.

The year 2020 was an extraordinary year for China, India and the whole world. The outbreak of COVID-19 brought both unprecedented challenges and profound inspiration to human society. In his special address at the World Economic Forum Davos several days ago, President Xi Jinping pointed out that there is only one Earth and one shared future for humanity. As we cope with the current crisis and endeavor to make a better day for everyone, we need to stand united and work together. The way to solve the problems facing the world is through upholding multilateralism and building a community with a shared future for mankind. As the only two major developing countries with a population of more than 1 billion in the world, China and India shoulder important

Maintaining the sound and steady development of China-India relations serves the fundamental interests of the two countries and two peoples. China and India are partners rather than rivals. We pose no threat but offer development opportunities to each other.

responsibilities in maintaining global peace and stability and promoting common development. We should fulfill our responsibilities as a major country and make due contributions to overcoming the pandemic at an early date and promoting world economic recovery.

Partners, Not Rivals

Over the past year, China-India relations have encountered difficulties and challenges and come to a critical crossroads. China's policy on China-India relations is clear and consistent. China and India are both emerging economies and major neighboring countries. Maintaining the sound and steady development of China-India relations serves the fundamental interests of the two countries and two peoples. China and India are partners rather than rivals. We pose no threat but offer development opportunities to each other. This is the fundamental judgment made by the two leaders on China-India relations. It provides strategic direction and political cornerstone for bilateral relations. We should firmly stay committed to it. We should

follow the important consensus reached by our leaders and stick to the right path of mutual trust and cooperation. We must not go down the wrong path of suspicion, still less should we turn back to negativity and retrogression. It's imperative for the two sides to take a far-sighted approach and meet each other halfway.

Taking a far-sighted approach means we should proceed from the fundamental interests of the 2.7 billion people of our two countries, look at the overall situation, think long-term and uphold autonomy, peaceful development and good-neighborly friendship. Meeting each other half way means we should respect each other and take a calm, rational and constructive approach, seek consensus through candid dialogue, and implement consensus through concrete actions. We should bring our positions closer rather than otherwise. We need to put the boundary question in an appropriate place in bilateral relations and not allow our differences to become disputes. We need to increase mutual trust through communication, properly handle differences through consultation, and actively



In the future, China will embrace the world with a more open attitude and contribute the dynamic achievements of Chinese civilization to the world. We are committed to promoting mutual understanding and friendship between China and the rest of the world to jointly create better tomorrow for human kinds.



promote practical cooperation to bring China-India relations back on the right track of sound and steady development.

People-to-People

People of our two countries are the fundamental forces driving the development of bilateral relations. Friendship between the two peoples is an important foundation for the friendship between the two countries. Culture and art serve as an important bond of friendship and mutual understanding between our peoples. By inviting the China National Symphony Orchestra to hold this online Spring Festival concert, we hope to build a new platform for friendly exchanges between our two peoples. The China National Symphony Orchestra is a national-level art troupe in China. It has performed many times around the world and won high praises worldwide for its remarkable skills and outstanding performances. This time they will perform a series of Chinese and foreign classics and especially will bring two pieces of Indian music. One is the theme song of the Indian movie “Awara”, which is familiar to

We need to put the boundary question in an appropriate place in bilateral relations and not allow our differences to become disputes.

many Chinese at the age above 50. The other is a well-known Indian popular song, the “Kuch Kuch Hota Hai”. Hope you will like it.

Cultural Connect

The Chinese culture is known for its openness and inclusiveness. We are committed to stimulating vitality through openness and fostering innovation through integration. Openness embodies confidence, brings opportunities, and paves a new path. Today’s concert presents an open and inclusive China where Eastern and Western cultures meet. We use music to convey friendship and connect our hearts. In the future, China will embrace the world with a more open attitude and contribute the dynamic achievements of Chinese civilization to the world. We are committed to promoting mutual understanding and friendship between China and the rest of the world to jointly create better tomorrow for human kinds.

In the Chinese culture, the Spring Festival represents the end of winter and coming of spring. Everything will take on a new look. The upcoming Chinese New Year is the Year of the Ox. It symbolizes auspiciousness to people of both China and India. Let me take this opportunity to thank all the friends who support the development of China and China-India relations! I wish you all health, peace and happiness in the Year of the Ox!

Ambassador Sun Announces **Let's Funtograph Winners**

Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Sun Weidong at the Award Ceremony of Let's Funtograph Online Photo Contest.





My Indian friends, Namaste!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate China Media Group on the success of this online photo contest – Impression of China –and extend my heartfelt thanks to all the Indian friends for your active participation.

I've learned that the participants of this contest include Indian students studying in China, Chinese language enthusiasts studying in India, professional photographers loving Chinese culture, travelers who once took a self-drive tour from southern India to Beijing, and Indian friends who made a special trip to Tibet for trekking. Through the wonderful photographs, you show China in your own eyes, enhance mutual understanding and friendship between our two peoples, and send good wishes for China-India relations.

Both China and India are ancient civilizations with a history of friendly exchanges for more than 2,000 years. In the new era, we should actively explore new ways and channels to enhance mutual exchanges and understanding and build bridges of trust and friendship. Hope we could hold more activities of people-to-people exchanges in the future to inject more positive energy into the development of bilateral relations.

Now, I would like to announce that the first prize winner of this contest is "Dynamic Splash of Youth" taken by Pranab Basak. It captured the joyful moment of a Chinese girl jumping on the Great Wall, which not only shows China's splendid ancient civilization, but also embodies the youthful vitality of the young generation. Congratulations!



Xi Stresses Patriotism in SARs

President Xi Jinping praises the leaders of Hong Kong and Macao SRA for harnessing patriotism as a key governance principle.



President Xi Jinping heard work reports in Beijing delivered via video link by Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Carrie Lam in January.

President Xi Jinping stressed the significance of patriotism in the governance of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SPAR), and voiced strong support for the work of the SAR government recently. He made the remark after hearing via a video link Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor's report on the SAR government's work over the past year. He also heard a report from Macao SAR Chief Executive Ho Iat-seng, reported *China Daily* on January 28.

Patriots governing Hong Kong is a fundamental principle that is key to China's national sovereignty, security and development interests as well as important to the region's long-term prosperity and stability, President Xi said.

The central government's full jurisdiction over Hong Kong can be effectively implemented only when the SAR is governed by patriots, Xi said. "Only under the governance of patriots will Hong Kong maintain order, stipulated by

the Constitution and the Basic Law, resolve its various problems effectively, achieve long-term peace and stability and make due contributions to national rejuvenation".

The outbreak of the fourth wave of COVID-19 has had multiple impacts on Hong Kong, an international city with a high degree of openness, Xi said, adding that he cares very much about the safety, health and work of the people there. The central government has taken and will continue to take all necessary measures to support Hong Kong in its fight against the pandemic, and the people should firm up their confidence and stay united in the anti-epidemic fight, Xi said.

Patriots governing Hong Kong is a fundamental principle that is key to China's national sovereignty, security and development interests as well as important to the region's long-term prosperity and stability, President Xi said.

“Only under the governance of patriots will Hong Kong maintain order, stipulated by the Constitution and the Basic Law, resolve its various problems effectively, achieve long-term peace and stability and make due contributions to national rejuvenation”.

The motherland is always the solid backing of Hong Kong and the current difficulties will definitely be overcome, President Xi said.

Xi said that in the past year, Lam and the Hong Kong SAR government have properly handled various challenges including social unrest, the pandemic and unfavorable changes in external circumstances. They have tried their best to maintain order, control disease, help the people out of difficulties and restore the economy, and they achieved some progress, he said.

On major issues such as national security, Lam has taken a firm stand and assumed responsibilities, demonstrating her love for and deep sense of responsibility to the motherland and Hong Kong, Xi said.

“What should be noted is that since the National People’s Congress Standing Committee adopted the National Security Law for the Hong Kong SAR, you have led the SAR government in resolutely enforcing it, stopping violence and chaos in accordance with the law and working to bring Hong Kong back on track,” Xi told Lam.

“The central authorities fully acknowledge your performance and the performance of the Hong Kong SAR government in fulfilling its duties,” Xi said.

Fundamental principle

Hong Kong’s transition from chaos to stability has once again demonstrated that the principle of “patriots governing Hong Kong” must always be upheld to ensure the steady and sustained implementation of “one country, two systems”, he said.

It is the fundamental principle that concerns national sovereignty, security and development interests, as well as Hong Kong’s prosperity and stability in the long run, Xi added.

President Xi also asked Ms Lam to extend his sincere sympathy to the Hong Kong SAR government officials who were bluntly sanctioned by the United States. Ms Lam expressed gratitude for the central government’s care and support for Hong Kong, saying that she will lead the SAR government to work harder and overcome difficulties to promote the progress of Hong Kong.

While hearing the report of Ho from Macao, Xi complimented his performance on disease prevention and control in Macao, where there have been no newly diagnosed local COVID-19 cases for more than 300 days.

Continued support

The central government will continue to support Macao in coordinating disease prevention and control with economic and social development, President Xi said.

The Chinese leader also highlighted support for the Macao SAR in improving its legal system for safeguarding national security and corresponding enforcement mechanisms, moving faster in promoting an appropriate level of diversity in its economy, better integrating into the country’s overall development and further advancing the successful “one country, two systems” practice with Macao characteristics.

Mr Ho expressed thanks for the care and support of the central government, saying that he will make efforts with people from all walks of life in Macao to safeguard national sovereignty, security and development interests.

Premier Li Keqiang also heard the reports from Ms Lam and Mr Ho. Premier Li told Ms Lam that the Hong Kong SAR government should continue with its efforts on disease prevention and control, proactively respond to the people’s most urgent needs and try its best to improve people’s lives.

When hearing the report from Mr Ho, Premier Li said that the Macao SAR government should continue with its measures on disease prevention and control, promote diversification of its economy and play a more effective role in integrating into the country’s development strategies.



Stop Spreading Lies About Xinjiang

By fabricating lies and building a false narrative, anti-China forces in the West, including in the US, are trying to disrupt the stability and development of Xinjiang, and stall China's development. They will not succeed.

Some anti-China forces in the West are spreading lies about China's Xinjiang, ignoring facts on the ground, and continuing their vain attempt to contain China's development.

They have invented these lies through methods including, but not limited to, data abuse, distortion of information, fabrication of cases, cherry-picking of source materials, and logical contradictions, reported Xinhua on February 24.

For example, the claim that "nearly one million Uyghurs are detained," is a rumor based on two highly dubious "studies."

The first "study" was done by the United States government-backed Network of Chinese Human Rights Defenders (CHRD), which interviewed only eight people. The CHRD applied the estimated ratio shown in this absurdly small sample to the whole of Xinjiang, drawing a crude conclusion that one million people were detained in the "re-education detention camps" and two million were "forced to attend day/evening re-education sessions."

The second "study" was authored by far-right fundamentalist Christian Adrian Zenz, who based his "just over one million" estimate on a single report by Istiqlal TV, a Uyghur exile media

organization based in Turkey that instigates separatism while playing host to an assortment of extremist figures. It is also noteworthy that Zenz is a religious fanatic who has said he is “led by God” to crusade against the Chinese government.

His many so-called sources of information, including three women who had claimed to be under “unlawful detention” and forced to undergo compulsory sterilization by the government, have been debunked.

The so-called “genocide” in Xinjiang is another lie concocted by anti-China forces. According to official figures, from 2010 to 2018, the Uygur population in Xinjiang rose from 10.17 million to 12.72 million, an increase of 25%, higher than the growth rate of 22% for all ethnic minorities in Xinjiang and much higher than that of the Han population, which is 2%.

In its latest fiasco alleging “systematic rape” in Xinjiang, the BBC sourced only dubious, one-sided claims, including from some people who have given contradictory statements, without any credible confirmation or corroborating evidence.

The so-called “genocide” in Xinjiang is another lie concocted by anti-China forces. According to official figures, from 2010 to 2018, the Uygur population in Xinjiang rose from 10.17 million to 12.72 million, an increase of 25%, higher than the growth rate of 22% for all ethnic minorities in Xinjiang and much higher than that of the Han population, which is 2%.

By fabricating lies and building a false narrative, anti-China forces in the West, including in the United States, have smeared China’s image, slandered its policies on Xinjiang, interfered in China’s internal affairs, and attempted to deceive the international community and disrupt the stability and development of Xinjiang.

Inflammatory accusations fabricated out of ignorance and prejudice are not difficult to



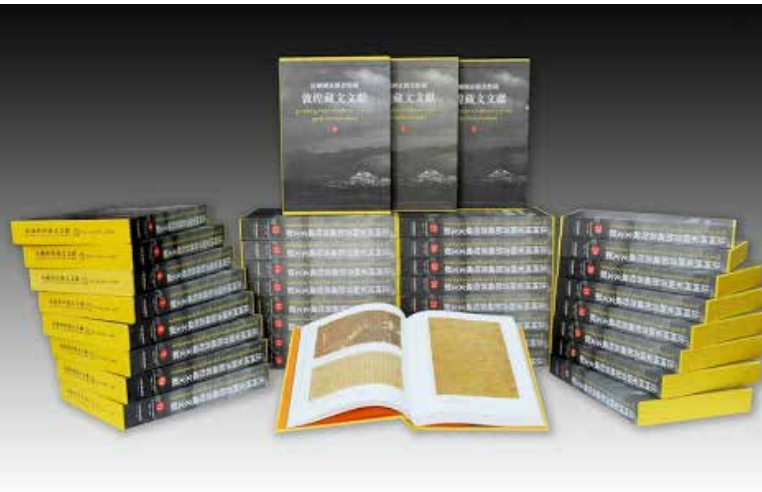
debunk, especially since China has presented a convincing case. That some Western politicians chose to ignore facts and embrace lies, if not out of misunderstanding, can only be explained by their intention to use Xinjiang as a “card” against China.

However, these efforts will be in vain, as China’s Xinjiang policy serves the best interests of Xinjiang and China, and have been proved effective by Xinjiang’s socio-economic achievements over the years, as witnessed by more than 1,200 diplomats, United Nations officials, foreign journalists and others from over 100 countries who have visited Xinjiang since 2018.

China including Xinjiang will continue to follow its proven path of development. The attempt to contain China’s development through lies over Xinjiang will not succeed.

However, these efforts will be in vain, as China's Xinjiang policy serves the best interests of Xinjiang and China, and have been proved effective by Xinjiang's socio-economic achievements over the years, as witnessed by more than 1,200 diplomats, United Nations officials, foreign journalists and others from over 100 countries who have visited Xinjiang since 2018.

China Publishes Photocopies of Dunhuang's Ancient Tibetan Literature



The Dunhuang manuscripts of the Tibetan literature, published in 35 volumes as a set, in December 15.

China has, for the first time, published photocopies of ancient Tibetan literature taken to France from the famed Mogao Grottoes a century ago.

The Dunhuang manuscripts were first discovered in 1900 in the Mogao Grottoes, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in northwest China's Gansu Province. There are more than 60,000 of them, featuring history, politics, religion and folk customs. Dating from the 4th to 11th centuries, the majority of the manuscripts are in Chinese, but some are represented in other ethnic languages including Tibetan, reported Xinhua on January 14.

In the early 20th century, a large number of Dunhuang Tibetan manuscripts were taken to countries such as France and Britain. The Tibetan literature compiled and published this time is now preserved in the National Library of France.

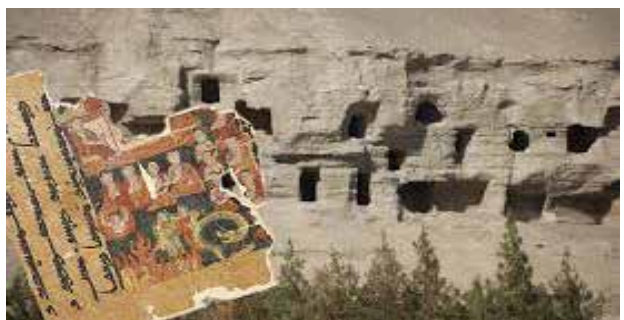
Northwest Minzu University and Shanghai Chinese Classics Publishing House, together

with editors from the National Library of France, compiled the photocopies, which have been published in 35 volumes as a set, with more than 28,000 high-definition pictures displayed in numerical sequence.

The series includes Tibetan literature in the 7th to 10th centuries covering Buddhist scriptures, historical works, contracts, legal texts and letters. The publications are expected to throw light on the socioeconomic activities and cultural exchanges between ethnic groups during the reign of Tubo in Dunhuang.

It took the editorial team about 15 years to arrange and compile the documents in Chinese and Tibetan languages. It is the first time that the entire Tibetan literature preserved in France has been published in the form of photocopies, said Tsering, editor-in-chief of the series.

In 2021, China also plans to compile and publish the ancient Tibetan manuscripts preserved in Britain. Chinese researchers are digitalizing the ancient literature amid the country's efforts to study and preserve distinctive Tibetan culture. A database built upon the Tibetan manuscripts is projected to enable full-text retrieval in the future, according to Tsering.



Tibetan manuscripts from the famed Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Gansu Province.

LEARN EVERYDAY CHINESE



xūyào
需要 (5)
NEEDS

15 我要照张相

I WANT TO TAKE A PICTURE

一 句子 Sentences

093

这是新出的明信片。
Zhè shì xīn chū de míngxìnpian.
This is a newly-issued postcard.

094

还有好看的吗?
Hái yǒu hǎokàn de ma?
Are there any other good-looking ones?

095

这几种怎么样? ① How about these few kinds?
Zhè jǐ zhǒng zěnmeyàng?

096

请你帮我挑几种。 Please help me choose some.
Qǐng nǐ bāng wǒ tiāo jǐ zhǒng.

097

一种买一套吧。 Give me a set each.
Yī zhǒng mǎi yī tào ba.

098

手机没电了。 The mobile phone is power off.
Shǒujī méi diàn le.

099

你打通电话了吗? Did you get through the phone?
Nǐ dǎ tōng diànhuà le ma?

100

她关机了。 She has turned off the mobile phone.
Tā guān jī le.

二 会话 Conversations

1 (在邮局)

和子: 有明信片吗?
Hézi: Yǒu míngxìnpian ma?

营业员: 有, 这是新出的。
Yíngyèyuán: Yǒu, zhè shì xīn chū de.

和子: 还有好看的吗?
Hézi: Hái yǒu hǎokàn de ma?

营业员: 你看看, 这几种怎么样?
Yíngyèyuán: Nǐ kànkàn, zhè jǐ zhǒng zěnmeyàng?

和子: 请你帮我挑几种。
Hézi: Qǐng nǐ bāng wǒ tiāo jǐ zhǒng.

营业员: 我看这四种都很好。
Yíngyèyuán: Wǒ kàn zhè sì zhǒng dōu hěn hǎo.

和子: 那一种买一套吧。
Hézi: Nà yī zhǒng mǎi yī tào ba.

营业员: 还买别的吗?
Yíngyèyuán: Hái mǎi bié de ma?

和子: 不买了。
Hézi: Bù mǎi le.



四 生词 New Words

1	新	xīn	形	new
2	出	chū	动	to issue, to publish
3	明信片	míngxìnpian	名	postcard
4	好看	hǎokàn	形	good-looking, nice
5	帮	bāng	动	to help
6	挑	tiāo	动	to choose
7	套	tào	量	set
8	电	diàn	名	electricity
9	打	dǎ	动	to make (a call)
10	通	tōng	动	to be through

11	关机	guān jī		to turn off a mobile phone
12	不错	búcuò	形	not bad
13	真	zhēn	形/副	real; really
14	照相	zhào xiàng		to take photos
	照	zhào	动	to take a photo
15	哎呀	āiyā	叹	lumme
16	照相机	zhàoxiàngjī	名	camera
17	交	jiāo	动	to pay
18	费	fèi	名/动	fee; to expend
19	拿	ná	动	to take
20	完	wán	动	to finish, to end
21	找	zhǎo	动	to look for

R.N.I. No. 47440/88
Bi-Monthly
January-February 2021



Suzhou, a city west of Shanghai, is famed for its canals, bridges and classical gardens. In March, Suzhou is full of beautiful flowers and green trees everywhere.