

### **China adopts law to strengthen food safety control, vows to punish offenders**

**People's Daily, 1 March 2009**

China's top legislature approved the Food Safety Law on Saturday, providing a legal basis for the government to strengthen food safety control "from the production line to the dining table." The law, which goes into effect on June 1, 2009, will enhance monitoring and supervision, toughen safety standards, recall substandard products and severely punish offenders.

### **Ma met with protests at 228 memorial events**

**Taipei Times, 1 March 2009**

Amid tight security and waves of protests, President Ma Ying-jeou attended the central memorial ceremony of the 228 Incident in Kaohsiung yesterday, pledging to seek ethnic reconciliation by finding the truth behind the incident. Speaking in Hoklo (also known as Taiwanese) to address the ceremony held by the 228 Incident Memorial Foundation, Ma promised to listen to the voices of the 228 victims and their families with humility, unfreeze the budget for the 228 Memorial Foundation and continue to seek the truth for the sake of the families.

### **US, China to resume military exchanges**

**Taipei Times, 1 March 2009**

China and the US agreed to resume high-level military exchanges during talks in Beijing that a senior US defense official described yesterday as his best ever. The two-day defense contacts that ended yesterday were the first between the world powers in five months after China suspended military exchanges over a proposed US arms package to Taiwan — a sensitive issue in Sino-US relations. "We agreed we are going to be having high-level exchanges very soon," US Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense David Sedney told reporters.

### **Editorial: The bottom line that Taiwan faces**

**Taipei Times, 1 March 2009**

Despite recent improvements in cross-strait relations, tensions between Beijing and Taipei have jeopardized world peace and stability on numerous occasions. Many people do not understand the nature of this quarrel. As Republican Senator Fred Thompson of Tennessee observed, it is difficult for Americans to understand "why a little, small place like Taiwan would be so important to the People's Republic of China." Numerous explanations for this have been offered over time.

### **China's lunar probe lands on Moon**

**The Hindu, 2 March 2009**

Beijing: Chang'e-1, China's first lunar probe, impacted the Moon at 4:13 p.m. Beijing Time (0813 GMT) on Sunday, said sources with the State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence. The satellite ended its 16-month mission on Sunday when it hit the lunar surface at 1.50 degrees south latitude and 52.36 degrees east longitude. Chang'e-1

began to reduce its speed at 3:36 p.m. Beijing Time under control by two observation and control stations in east China's Qingdao and northwest China's Kashi.

### **Another year of the Iron Fist**

**The Indian Express, 2 March 2009**

As Tibetans around the world this week marked the advent of the new year of the Earth Ox, many did so in a spirit of mourning rather than jubilation. The festival fell just before a bloodstained anniversary season: 50 years since the Chinese suppression of an uprising that saw the Dalai Lama, their spiritual leader, flee into exile in India with some 100,000 followers; 20 years since protests that led to the imposition of martial law in the capital, Lhasa; one year since ugly and murderous anti-Chinese riots in Lhasa that brought a sharp and lasting security backlash.

### **China's grip on Tibet tight, but options limited**

**The Times of India, 2 March 2009**

Lhasa, China: Tibet is in lockdown, closed to most foreigners. Armed paramilitaries patrol the main city of Lhasa, while police line roads to other towns. Even the movement of locals is restricted. Beijing is determined that two sensitive anniversaries this month will not trigger a repeat of deadly riots and rippling unrest that destabilised China's west a year ago. But the campaign to cauterise short-term dissent is fuelling a new level of Tibetan resentment and distrust that experts warn could be a smouldering threat to China's long-term stability.

### **China's military forces told to "fully grasp" party's policies**

**People's Daily, 2 March 2009**

Xu Caihou, Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), on Sunday called for all servicemen in the country's armed forces to "fully grasp" the party's policy intentions. "All service personnel should fully grasp the policy intentions of the CPC Central Committee, the CPC Central Military Commission and Chairman Hu Jintao," said Xu, also member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, at a meeting on the study of Scientific Outlook on Development.

### **China's lunar probe Chang'e-1 impacts moon**

**People's Daily, 2 March 2009**

Chang'e-1, China's first lunar probe, impacted the moon at 4:13 p.m. Beijing Time (0813 GMT) Sunday, said sources with the State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense. The satellite ended its 16-month mission Sunday when it hit the lunar surface at 1.50 degrees south latitude and 52.36 degrees east longitude. Chang'e-1 began to reduce its speed at 3:36 p.m. Beijing Time (0736 GMT) under remote control by two observation and control stations in east China's Qingdao and northwest China's Kashi.

### **China publishes white paper to mark 50th anniversary of reform in Tibet**

**People's Daily, 2 March 2009**

China's government Monday published a white paper on the situation in Tibet before and since 1959 to mark the 50th anniversary of the region's Democratic Reform. The paper, released by the State Council Information Office, reviewed the profound changes that have taken place in the past 50 years. It also shed light on the laws governing the social development of Tibet, and attempts to rebut lies and rumors it alleges were spread by the 14th Dalai Lama and his hard-core supporters.

## **Rebrand Taiwanese manufacturing**

**Taipei Times, 2 March 2009**

Given the global economic crisis, the future will be a time of industrial restructuring and changing economic landscapes. President Ma Ying-jeou, Vice President Vincent Siew, Premier Liu Chao-shiuan, Legislative Speaker Wang Jin-pyng and Chinese Nationalist Party Chairman Wu Poh-hsiung have suggested that the Cabinet come up with a set of clear plans for Taiwan's economy within three months. In order to revive the economy, aside from short-term policies aimed at expanding domestic demand, in the long-term, we have to rethink how Taiwan's economy is connected with the rest of the world.

## **China's bilateral deeds not living up to words**

**The Yomiuri Shimbun, 2 March 2009**

To what extent can Japan and China cooperate in tackling various issues the two nations are facing? At this juncture, questions are being asked about whether the push for "strategic and mutually beneficial relations" touted by both governments is sincere. At their meeting in Beijing, Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone and his Chinese counterpart, Yang Jiechi, agreed to cooperate closely in meeting economic challenges ahead of the Group of 20 financial summit to be held in April, in which both nations will participate. They also agreed to oppose any protectionist moves.

## **Akin to U.S. slavery abolition : China**

**The Hindu, 3 March 2009**

Beijing: The emancipation of one million serfs in Tibet 50 years ago was as remarkable as the success of the anti-slavery movement in the U.S. in the American Civil War, said a white paper published on Monday by the Information Office of the State Council. The white paper said the government's decision to quell an armed rebellion by feudal serf owners on March 10, 1959, and to free the serfs was of great significance "not only in the history of China's human rights development, but also in the world's anti-slavery history".

## **Ban lifted on Chinese toys**

**The Hindu, 3 March 2009**

New Delhi: In a surprise move, India on Monday announced that it had lifted the ban on import of toys from China provided they conform to international safety norms. India had on January 23 banned the import of Chinese toys for six months on grounds of public health and safety. According to a public notice by the Commerce Ministry, imports of toys from China will be allowed if they conform to the standards prescribed in 'ASTM F963' or 'ISO 8124 (parts I-III)' or IS 9873 (parts I-III). These regulations primarily deal with safety and health hazards.

## **Chinese forces ring monastery in Sichuan**

**The Asian Age, 3 March 2009**

Beijing: Security forces have surrounded a Tibetan monastery in a tense region of southwest China after monks there demonstrated against Chinese repression, activist groups said. They said Sunday's demonstration occurred in the same area of Sichuan province's Aba prefecture where a monk set himself alight last week to protest against China's 58-year rule of the Himalayan region. Tensions are high in Tibetan-populated areas ahead of the 50th anniversary on March 10 of a failed uprising against Chinese rule that led to revered spiritual leader the Dalai Lama fleeing into exile.

## **The public's six expectations for NPC and CPPCC sessions**

### **People's Daily, 3 March 2009**

People are full of expectations for this year's National People's Congress (NPC) and Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). According to information collected from diverse sources, issues of people's livelihoods are still the focus of concern. In addition, response to the impacts of the international financial crisis, governmental reforms, the combat of corruption for the building of a clean government, and rural issues as well as the work style of the NPC and CPPCC sessions have also aroused wide concern from people from all walks of life.

### **China's food safety situation still grim: Health Ministry**

**Taipei Times, 3 March 2009**

China's food safety situation is still grim, although some improvements have been made in the wake of a scandal last year that killed at least six babies and made another 300,000 sick, the Health Ministry said yesterday. The comments from the ministry came after China's legislature enacted a tough food safety law on Saturday, promising tougher penalties for makers of tainted products. Several food scares in recent years have exposed serious flaws in monitoring of the nation's food supply.

### **Tibetan monks' Sichuan protest brings lockdown**

**Taipei Times, 3 March 2009**

Scores of Tibetan monks marched in protest in Sichuan Province over the banning of a prayer service, rights advocates said — the latest incident in an apparent increase in acts of defiance against Chinese rule ahead of sensitive anniversaries. The demonstration began on Sunday when monks at the Sey monastery in the ethnically Tibetan county of Aba gathered to celebrate Monlam or Great Prayer Festival for the Tibetan New Year, the Washington-based International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) said in an e-mail statement.

### **China official denies riots**

**The Asian Age, 4 March 2009**

Beijing: A Chinese official on Tuesday denied there had been riots in a Tibetan-populated region of southwest China, state media said, following reports that monks had staged protests there. "There were no such riots as some foreign media have reported," Xinhua news agency quoted Wu Zegang, head of Sichuan province's Aba prefecture, as saying in Beijing.

According to Tibet activist groups and residents, Aba has in recent days been the scene of protests by Tibetan Buddhist monks, including an attempted self-immolation by one of them.

### **Spokesman: China's political reform fits nation's conditions**

**People's Daily, 4 March 2009**

China's political restructuring generally fits the nation's conditions and economic and social development, said a parliament spokesman in Beijing Wednesday. "Our political reform is not the one desired by some Western politicians, but a kind of self-improvement and self-development of socialism with Chinese characteristics," Li Zhaoxing, spokesman for the annual session of the National People's Congress (NPC), told a press conference.

### **Advisory body session focuses on economic growth**

**People's Daily, 4 March 2009**

More than 2,000 men and women. Only one focus of debate: The economy. As top advisors to the government began their annual meeting in Beijing, their minds were mostly on how China can continue on the fast track of development amid the global financial crisis. The theme running through the opening speech by Jia Qinglin, chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee, was along the same lines.

### **Premier denies 'political' bias in ECFA plan**

**Taipei Times, 4 March 2009**

Premier Liu Chao-shiuan promised not to sign an "economic cooperation framework agreement" (ECFA) with China under a "political" framework yesterday amid opposition lawmakers' concerns that the nation would not have equal footing with China. During a question-and-answer session with Democratic Progressive Party legislators Chiu Yi-ying and Cheng Ting-fei, Liu said he did not agree that signing an ECFA would be a move toward unification. "It would be impossible [for the government to do that]," he said.

### **Editorial: CECA or ECFA: Who cares?**

**Taipei Times, 4 March 2009**

When the Cabinet nixed the term "comprehensive economic cooperation agreement" (CECA) last week, one thing was clear: The government is concerned that plans for an economic pact with Beijing face widespread skepticism — but is at a loss to respond. Step one, it seemed to think, was to scrap the name CECA, which had been tarnished by criticism, and roll out a new label — "economic cooperation framework agreement" (ECFA).

### **Hu for concerted efforts for economic growth**

**The Hindu, 5 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese leaders called for concerted efforts to pull through the global financial crisis in panel discussions with the political advisers on Wednesday. All parties, organisations, social strata and ethnic groups should unite under the central authorities' decisions and strategy to overcome difficulties, said President Hu Jintao in a discussion with members of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

### **Ready for peace talks with Taiwan: China**

**The Times of India, 5 March 2009**

Beijing: China is ready to talk peace with Taiwan, Premier Wen Jiabao said on Thursday in a new overture to the neighbouring self-ruled island it claims as its own. China was "ready to create conditions for ending the state of hostility" with Taiwan, Wen said in the text of his work report, given on the first day of the annual parliamentary session. China has claimed sovereignty over Taiwan since the end of the Chinese civil war in 1949, when defeated Nationalist forces fled to the island, under its "one China" policy.

### **China will carry out political reform actively yet prudently**

**People's Daily, 5 March 2009**

The development of democracy and the legal system should be strengthened in China, said Chinese Premier Wen Jiabo. "We will carry out political restructuring in an active yet prudent manner and develop socialist democratic politics," Wen said in his government report delivered to the annual session of the Chinese legislature Thursday. "We need to improve democratic

institutions, enrich the forms of democracy, expand its channels, and carry out democratic elections, decision-making, administration and oversight in accordance with the law," he said.

### **Wen's report urges unslackened efforts to promote export**

**People's Daily, 5 March 2009**

China "must not slacken efforts" to promote export amid a sharp decline in external demand and growing international trade protectionism, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said Thursday, pledging reinforced government support. He made the remarks in a government work report delivered to lawmakers at the opening of the annual session of the National People's Congress. "We will continue to diversify our export markets and compete on quality, enhance traditional export markets, and energetically open up new markets," said Wen.

### **Chinese leaders call for fresh development by overcoming difficulties**

**People's Daily, 5 March 2009**

Chinese leaders joined deputies to the National People's Congress (NPC), the country's top legislature, in deliberating the government work report by Premier Wen Jiabao Thursday, calling for concerted efforts to overcome difficulties and achieve fresh development. When joining NPC deputies from the eastern Jiangsu Province, President Hu Jintao urged them to have a clear mind of the current domestic and international situation, saying "challenges before us are really severe, but opportunities still exist".

### **Beijing's defense budget set to rise 14.9% this year**

**Taipei Times, 5 March 2009**

Beijing announced a double-digit rise in defense spending yesterday, but sought to soothe concerns in Asia and the US by insisting its expanding military posed no threat. The defense budget has been set at 480.7 billion yuan (US\$70.2 billion), up 62.5 billion yuan from the previous year, said former foreign minister Li Zhaoxing, spokesman for the National People's Congress (NPC). Although the rise was slightly smaller than last year's increase of 17.9 percent, it marked a doubling of China's stated defense spending since 2006.

### **Editorial: ECFA poses three likely outcomes for Taiwan**

**Taipei Times, 5 March 2009**

Beijing has blocked Taiwan from signing bilateral free trade agreements (FTA) with many countries, including those in ASEAN, ostensibly to marginalize the nation from regional economic integration. That being the case, why is Beijing now offering to sign a trade pact with Taiwan? If Beijing were genuinely interested in accommodating Taiwan's desire to break through this marginalization, it need only allow Taiwan to join the ASEAN FTA, which would fulfill the "open regionalism" principle of the WTO.

### **Challenges are severe but opportunities still exist, says Hu**

**The Hindu, 6 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese leaders joined deputies to the Second Session of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC), the country's top legislature, in deliberating the government work report by Premier Wen Jiabao on Thursday and called for concerted efforts to overcome difficulties and achieve fresh development. While joining NPC deputies from the eastern Jiangsu Province,

President Hu Jintao said “challenges are really severe, opportunities still exist”, describing the current domestic and international situations.

### **India, China discuss expansion of defence, economic ties**

**The Indian Express, 6 March 2009**

New Delhi: Indian and Chinese officials discussed a host of issues during a low-key visit of the Chinese Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hu Zhengyue, to New Delhi last week. The visit, not announced by either side, covered discussions on an increased engagement between the two navies, President Pratibha Patil’s visit to Beijing after the Lok Sabha polls and Beijing’s offer to build infrastructure for the Commonwealth Games in Delhi. Sources said that Beijing and Delhi are working towards a renewed thrust on the ties between the navies of the two nations with a possibility of the Indian Navy Chief visiting China later this year.

### **Op-Ed: The anniversary of exile**

**The Indian Express, 6 March 2009**

How time flies! In four days it would be fifty years since the famous Tibetan revolt that forced the Dalai Lama to flee to India where he was readily given political asylum as a result of which Tibet became a far greater strain than before on the already uneasy India-China relations. Two years later followed the traumatic war in the high Himalayas. Even today, Beijing’s paranoid complaints persist despite India’s acceptance of Tibet being an “autonomous” region of China and a complete ban on any political activity on Indian soil by the Dalai Lama or the 100,000 Tibetan refugees.

### **Tibet governor insists that his region is stable**

**The Asian Age, 6 March 2009**

Beijing: Tibet’s governor insisted on Thursday that his region is stable and will remain so ahead of a sensitive anniversary marking communist rule that in 2008 sparked anti-government protests and riots. Qiangba Puncog, the regional governor, was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua news agency that reports of recent instability in the Himalayan region were "pure rumour." He did not specify the reports he was referring to. Over February, overseas human rights groups said defiant Buddhist monks took part in marches, protests, and festival boycotts in ethnic Tibetan areas of Sichuan and Qinghai provinces bordering Tibet.

### **China unveils massive stimulus plan amid global crisis; Premier calls for confidence**

**People’s Daily, 6 March 2009**

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao Thursday called on the nation to strengthen "conviction for victory" as he unveiled an unprecedented stimulus package to shore up economic growth amid global downturn. In a work report to the National People's Congress (NPC), the country's parliament, Wen said China is facing "unprecedented difficulties and challenges" as economic growth slows, employment pressure mounts and social uncertainties increase in 2009, the most difficult year since the new millennium.

### **China's monetary policy takes effect, further moderate adjustment possible: central bank governor**

### **People's Daily, 6 March 2009**

China has acted fast amid the global financial crisis to ease its monetary policy that is beginning to take effect, said central bank governor Zhou Xiaochuan on Friday. China has shifted from a tight monetary policy implemented in early 2008 to a moderately easy one as the international financial turmoil spread in the later half of the year, Zhou told a press conference on the sidelines of the parliament's annual session.

### **China ready to talk peace: Wen**

**Taipei Times, 6 March 2009**

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said yesterday that Beijing was ready to hold talks with Taiwan on political and military issues to end hostilities between the two sides. In his opening address to the National People's Congress (NPC), Wen hailed a significant improvement in ties and a major reduction in tensions over the past year between China and Taiwan.

### **Talks require '1992 consensus,' goodwill: Taiwan**

**Taipei Times, 6 March 2009**

The Presidential Office vowed to push cross-strait relations on the basis of the so-called "1992 consensus," following Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's speech in Beijing yesterday. Residential Office Spokesman Wang Yu-chi said cross-strait relations would make peaceful progress if both sides extended goodwill. As for Wen's call for a "comprehensive economic cooperation agreement," Deputy Minister of the Mainland Affairs Council Liu Te-shun said the government knows that China's financial system has structural problems and it hoped quasi-official agencies could help resolve the problems.

### **Yes, prime minister**

**The Indian Express, 7 March 2009**

In his first state-of-the-nation speech since the global economic slump began battering China late last year, Wen Jiabao, the prime minister, painted a grim picture of the troubles ahead. With the help of massive Government spending, China was still aiming for economic growth of 8 per cent this year. But he revealed few new ideas about how this is to be managed. At the opening on March 5th of the annual session of China's parliament, the National People's Congress (NPC), Mr Wen said China was facing "unprecedented difficulties".

### **China warns world against hosting Dalai Lama**

**The Times of India, 7 March 2009**

Beijing: China's foreign minister, speaking ahead of two sensitive anniversaries next week, warned other countries on Saturday not to let the Dalai Lama use their territory to try to sever Tibet from Chinese control. Beijing abruptly cancelled a China-EU summit last year, angry over French President Nicolas Sarkozy's meeting with the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader whom Beijing condemns as a separatist. The Dalai Lama, who fled Tibet in March 1959 after a failed uprising against Chinese rule, says he only wants greater autonomy for the remote region in China's far west rather than outright independence.

### **Dalai Lama fears 'explosion of violence' in Tibet**

**The Times of India, 7 March 2009**

Berlin: Tibet's exiled spiritual leader has said he fears violence could break out at any moment

in the region, a year after protests against Chinese rule erupted into riots. The Dalai Lama's comments, published on a German newspaper's website on Friday, come days before the 50th anniversary of his flight into exile and a year since a Tibetan crowd burned shops belonging to Han Chinese and Hui Muslims in Lhasa.

### **China in dispute with Malaysia, Philippines over Island**

**The Times of India, 7 March 2009**

Beijing China, which has a long standing dispute with Japan over an island, has now entered in a tiff with Malaysia and the Philippines over another island in the South China Sea. The Chinese foreign ministry said on Friday that China has indisputable sovereignty over the Nansha Islands and adjacent waters. It was reacting to a statement from Malaysian prime minister Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi on Thursday claiming Malaysia's sovereignty over these areas.

### **China reaffirms its sovereignty over Nansha Islands**

**People's Daily, 7 March 2009**

The Chinese Foreign Ministry on Friday reiterated that China has indisputable sovereignty over the Nansha Islands and adjacent waters after Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi on Thursday claimed Malaysia's sovereignty over these areas. In response to a question on Badawi's claim, Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said China is ready to resolve related disputes properly through consultation.

### **China expects**

**People's Daily, 7 March 2009**

The G20 summit scheduled next month in London would be able to achieve "positive" results with the joint efforts of all parties, said Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi here Saturday. Leaders from 19 developed and developing countries and the European Union are expected to meet in London on April 2 to discuss stability, growth, jobs and other issues in face of the financial crisis.

### **President, Cabinet differ on ECFA talks**

**Taipei Times, 7 March 2009**

A Presidential Office official last night backpedaled on remarks made by President Ma Ying-jeou on Thursday on whether discussions on signing an economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) with China would be included in upcoming cross-strait negotiations. While attending the annual Hsieh Nien Fan hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce, Ma said he hoped Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) Chairman Chiang Pin-kung would discuss the possibility of signing an economic agreement while meeting Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS) Chairman Chen Yunlin in their forthcoming round of cross-strait talks, which are expected to take place in May or June in Beijing.

### **Johnny Neihu's News Watch: Abbreviated development, ROC on!**

**Taipei Times, 7 March 2009**

I don't know about you, but I've had just about enough of the alphabet-soup jabbering over President Ma Ying-jeou's proposed economic agreement with the Chicoms. First it was a CECA, or "Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement." The CECA had aimed to get

the two sides to the economic equivalent of “second base,” as our American friends say, further enhancing Taiwan and China’s trade relationship. In more concrete terms, it would lower tariff and other trade barriers for a range of goods in line with regional trends.

### **Can China maintain high growth, stability?**

**The Yomiuri Shimbun, 7 March 2009**

China, recognized for its high economic growth, is now facing an unusually harsh year. If the economic slowdown there continues, the employment situation will worsen, triggering social unrest so great that it could severely test the backbone of the Communist Party regime. In June, the government will have to deal with the 20th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square crackdown on pro-democracy protesters, and in October it will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the communist regime.

### **Editorial: China's economic policy**

**The Asahi Shimbun, 7 March 2009**

Despite the global economic crisis, China will strive to achieve crucial 8-percent economic growth this year, Premier Wen Jiabao declared Thursday, the first day of the second session of the 11th National People's Congress, China's legislature. It is the fifth consecutive year that China has set this economic expansion target. Even though China's growth in recent years exceeded or was close to 10 percent, the target was aimed more at trying to ensure the economy does not overheat. But things are vastly different this year.

### **Dalai has designs of Greater Tibet: China**

**The Asian Age, 8 March 2009**

Beijing: China on Saturday charged the Dalai Lama with pursuing designs of a "Greater Tibet" comprising one quarter of its land mass and claimed such a stance shows the exiled temporal leader was not a "religious figure". "The Dalai Lama and his followers insist to establish a Greater Tibet on one quarter of the Chinese territory. They want to drive away the Chinese armed forces deployed on this territory," Chinese foreign minister Yang Jiechi said.

### **China seeks increased two-way investment with India**

**The Times of India, 8 March 2009**

New Delhi: Facing a slide in economic growth due to the global financial crisis, China has favoured increased two-way investment with India to check the impact of the downturn. Chinese ambassador Zhang Yan said the two economic powers should "go hand in hand" and enhance bilateral cooperation in economic field to send out a positive message and help the world economy also to a great extent. Seeking mutual investment in key sectors like infrastructure, Yan said both India and China have huge foreign exchange reserves which need to be utilized properly.

### **Chinese leaders: Crisis also means opportunity**

**People’s Daily, 8 March 2009**

Chinese President Hu Jintao said in Beijing Saturday that the current international financial crisis, despite its severe impact on China's economy, also means an opportunity for the country. China should take the opportunity to change its development pattern and realize structural adjustment so as to maintain a steady and relatively fast economic growth, Hu said when

joining a panel discussion with deputies of the National People's Congress (NPC) from south China's Guangdong Province.

### **Foreign press focuses on signs of economic recovery in China**

**People's Daily, 8 March 2009**

International media opinions in recent days have been praising China's economic stimulus measures and paying close attention to information released on its two ongoing annual political conferences indicating "some signs of a return to stability and warmth" of the Chinese economy. The two conferences are the Second Session of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC) and the Second Session of the 11th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

### **China sends another delegation to Europe for investment**

**People's Daily, 8 March 2009**

Another Chinese delegation of businesses and industry leaders, led by the Ministry of Commerce (MOC), left for four European countries Saturday for investment and economic cooperation, the MOC said. The business delegation, following purchases totaled more than 10 billion U.S. dollars in Europe by a Chinese procurement delegation in late February, are heading for the same destinations of Germany, Switzerland, Spain and Britain.

### **China warns other countries to avoid meeting Dalai Lama**

**Taipei Times, 8 March 2009**

China accused the Dalai Lama of seeking to carve out a "Greater Tibet" yesterday and warned other countries to shun contact with him just days before a sensitive anniversary in the tense region. Beijing has made similar accusations before, but Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi's comments come amid a lockdown of Tibetan regions for Tuesday's 50th anniversary of a failed uprising against Chinese rule that sent the Dalai Lama into exile.

### **Editorial: China's long-term economic test**

**Taipei Times, 8 March 2009**

The impact of the international financial crisis has caused the Chinese economy to contract rapidly since September. This has come as a shock to both China's leadership and other countries around the world. After a series of strongly expansive monetary and fiscal policies, the economy seemed to have stopped its decline in December, at least for the moment. Whether the Chinese economy will continue its rebound will, however, be determined by the strength of the global economic revival. China's growth rate has now dropped for six consecutive quarters.

### **China 'aims to put probe on moon'**

**The Yomiuri Shimbun, 8 March 2009**

Beijing: China plans to accelerate its space development program, a government objective, including by constructing a large-scale space station by about 2020 and sending an unmanned lunar probe to the moon by 2013, according to Chinese media. Aiming to utilize its space program to locate resources on Earth and improve its military technology, China also will carry out a spaceship docking test in 2011 in its expedited program, officials responsible for space projects attending the National People's Congress and the People's Political Consultative Conference have told the media here.

### **Beijing clamps down ahead of 50th anniversary of Tibetan uprising**

**The Indian Express, 9 March 2009**

Fifty years after a failed uprising sent the Tibetan leader, the Dalai Lama, into exile, China is mounting a show of force to try to prevent a repeat of last year's sometimes violent protests against Chinese rule. Tuesday marks the 50th anniversary of the March 10, 1959, revolt. Daofu: Armoured troop carriers and tour buses packed with police roll along the winding mountain roads. Internet service is dead in some places. Military camps fortified with sandbags sit amid Tibetan communities, where strings of prayer flags flutter in the wind.

### **Clampdown in Tibet ahead of March 10 anniversary**

**The Asian Age, 9 March 2009**

Daofu, China: Armoured troop carriers and tour buses packed with the police roll along the winding mountain roads. Internet service is dead in some places. Military camps fortified with sandbags sit amid Tibetan communities, where strings of prayer flags flutter in the wind. Fifty years after a failed uprising sent the Tibetan leader, the Dalai Lama, into exile, China is mounting a show of force to try to prevent a repeat of 2008 sometimes violent protests against Chinese rule.

### **Diplomacy 'should boost economies'**

**People's Daily, 9 March 2009**

China is telling the world that boosting the economy is of utmost importance in times of a global financial turmoil, experts said yesterday, citing Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi's briefing on Saturday. During the 90-minute-long news conference on the sidelines of the National People's Congress (NPC), Yang stressed that China's over-arching objective was to "spare no effort to ensure steady and rapid economic development".

### **Somali mission fleet to be replaced, navy official says**

**People's Daily, 9 March 2009**

The Chinese naval fleet joining the international anti-piracy campaign in Somali waters is likely to be replaced by new ships late April or early May, according to the deputy chief of staff of the People's Liberation Army Navy. In an exclusive interview with China Daily, Major General Zhang Deshun disclosed for the first time that the current mission for the naval fleet lasts about four months and the fleet will be replaced near the end of its mission.

### **Commentary: China's**

**People's Daily, 9 March 2009**

China's relatively fast economic growth has caught the eye of the world at a time when most of the countries are experiencing the full wrath of a raging economic slowdown. As some Western media questions why China works, the world's economic experts and scholars are also wondering the same thing: What tools China has to keep its economy resilient and why it is well-positioned to weather the financial crisis?

### **Tensions high as China braces for Tibet protests**

**Taipei Times, 9 March 2009**

Chinese authorities have imposed a security lockdown in Tibet as the Himalayan region this

week marks the sensitive 50th anniversary of a failed uprising that sent the Dalai Lama into exile. China's leaders are desperate to prevent protests by Tibetan monks and nomads after violent unrest last year embarrassed the leadership in the lead-up to the Olympics in Beijing. The Dalai Lama has called on his Buddhist followers to remain true to his non-violent cause, while also warning that worsening Chinese repression could provoke further confrontations.

### **THE LIBERTY TIMES EDITORIAL: A key government task is to inform**

**Taipei Times, 9 March 2009**

Under the old Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) regime, securing an official position meant a lifetime career. The old rigid bureaucracy created a triad of approaches to handling government affairs — holding a meeting, drafting a memorandum and issuing an announcement. Now, in the 21st century, this seemingly cure-all approach that skipped dialogue with citizens has recently returned to a government that claims that Taiwanese democracy has passed a historic milestone. A typical example of this ruling style is the government's hasty decision on inking an economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) with China.

### **N.Korea Can't Afford to Ignore U.S. and China**

**The Chosun Ilbo, 9 March 2009**

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said in a press conference on Saturday, "We have noted that the North Korean side has announced it will launch a trial communications satellite. We express our concern about the developments... We hope that all parties will do more things that are helpful." Yang added that Beijing is aware of various countries' responses to North Korea's announcement and that it is in their best interest to maintain stability on the Korean Peninsula.

### **Hu stresses stability, unity in Tibet**

**The Hindu, 10 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese President Hu Jintao stressed the necessity to promote development and stability in Tibet when he joined a panel discussion with deputies of the National People's Congress (NPC) from the Tibet Autonomous Region on Monday. "We must reinforce the solid Great Wall for combating separatism and safeguarding national unity, so as to promote a long-term stability in the region," said Mr. Hu.

### **The anatomy of an uprising**

**The Indian Express, 10 March 2009**

Since the 1950 'Chinese invasion of Tibet' (as the Tibetans call it) or the 'Peaceful Liberation of Tibet' (as the Chinese define it), the area has been under the Communist Party of China. In 1956, growing opposition to China's socialist policies spread to the Tibetan capital of Lhasa. On March 1, 1959, the Chinese Government invited the Dalai Lama to a play at the Chinese military headquarters but insisted that he couldn't come with his escorts.

### **China deploys huge security across Tibet**

**The Times of India, 10 March 2009**

Beijing: Tibetan areas of China were sealed off for foreigners on Tuesday amid tension surrounding the anniversaries of a 1959 uprising against Chinese rule and violent protests last year. Foreign journalists and tourists were barred from almost all Tibetan areas of provinces adjoining the Tibet Autonomous Region, as the Communist party tightened border security and

stepped up a propaganda drive.

### **China shuns West's idea of democracy**

**The Asian Age, 10 March 2009**

Beijing: China will never become a Western-style democracy, the head of the country's rubber-stamp Parliament said on Monday, an apparent response to renewed calls for political reform from both inside and outside the country. In an address to the annual nine-day meeting of the National People's Congress, Wu Bangguo laid out extensive arguments seeking to justify China's one-party communist system and draw clear distinctions with multiparty political systems in the West.

### **China's Hu seeks 'wall of stability' in Tibet**

**The Asian Age, 10 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese President Hu Jintao demanded a "Great Wall" of stability in Tibet 12 months after a wave of unrest and as the Dalai Lama prepared to mark 50 years since he fled his homeland. Mr Jintao's demand came as security forces across the mountainous region dismissed the possibility of renewed protests from discontented Tibetans, but said they were on guard. Mr Jintao, who once served as Communist Party secretary of Tibet during an early wave of protest, was not so sanguine.

### **Editorial: An unkillable yearning for freedom**

**Taipei Times, 10 March 2009**

Half a century ago today, People's Liberation Army (PLA) forces were launching their final assault on Lhasa, forcing the Dalai Lama and eventually hundreds of thousands of Tibetans to flee their homeland. Fifty years ago, Tibet as a free state was disappearing, engulfed by China, which expanded its empire dramatically. During the last 50 years, the Dalai Lama has become a symbol of peace, religious wisdom and self-determination, welcomed by crowds and governments alike, praised and showered with honorifics.

### **Editorial: Looking for clues in the past to PRC ambitions**

**Taipei Times, 10 March 2009**

For 10 years, the Clinton, Bush, and now Obama administrations have lamented what their political and military leaders said was a lack of transparency in China's military strategy. Most recently, this was an underlying theme in US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's visit to Beijing last month. Now comes a US military assessment of the future with a somewhat different and refreshing view of Chinese thinking. It says that a look at Chinese history and current efforts to modernize China's forces make their objectives more apparent.

### **Dalai Lama's comments are lies: Beijing**

**The Hindu, 11 March 2009**

Beijing: China on Tuesday described the critical comments from the Dalai Lama as "lies" and said Tibet enjoyed profound democratic reforms as part of China. "I will not respond to the Dalai Lama's lies," Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu told reporters. Commenting on the Dalai Lama's statement that Chinese authorities had brought "hell on earth" to Tibetans, he added: "The Dalai Lama clique is confusing right and wrong. They are spreading rumours. The democratic reforms are the widest and most profound reforms in Tibetan history."

### **China has created 'hell on earth' in Tibet, says Dalai Lama**

**The Indian Express, 11 March 2009**

McLeodganj: In A speech marking the 50th anniversary of the failed uprising that led him into exile, the Dalai Lama delivered one of his most stinging condemnations of the Chinese regime, accusing it of creating "hell on earth" in Tibet by launching a "brutal crackdown". He said that Beijing had brought "untold suffering and destruction" to the region by unleashing repressive campaigns and added in a written statement that the Tibetans still lived in constant fear of the Chinese who continued to be suspicious of them. He, however, said that he was still hopeful of a solution to the Tibet imbroglio.

### **China confronts US warship off coast**

**The Asian Age, 11 March 2009**

Beijing: A US Navy mapping ship confronted by Chinese vessels over the weekend was operating illegally in China's exclusive economic zone, the Chinese foreign ministry said Tuesday, in Beijing's first formal comment on the latest friction between the two militaries. Ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu dismissed US accusations that Chinese boats operated recklessly, saying the claim was "totally inaccurate and confuses right and wrong and is unacceptable to China."

### **Op-Ed: Year of big anniversaries: A defining moment for China**

**The Asian Age, 11 March 2009**

Large parts of the Tibetan plateau today have been turned into militarised zones and made off-limits to foreigners. De facto martial law prevails in much of the plateau after the largest troop deployment since the March 2008 Tibetan upheaval. Yet the more ruthless China is, the more resilient (and innovative) the Tibetan resistance to Chinese rule becomes.

### **President Hu calls for "mighty" support from armed forces for national interests, social stability**

**People's Daily, 11 March 2009**

Chinese President Hu Jintao on Wednesday called on the armed forces to provide mighty support for national interests and social stability. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the armed police shall energetically speed up the modernization of defense, resolutely safeguard the country's sovereignty, security and territorial integrity, and provide a mighty support for national interests and social stability, Hu said.

### **China actively conducts external military exchanges**

**People's Daily, 11 March 2009**

Chinese naval task forces, comprising two destroyers and a supply ship, have carried out 27 escort missions for more than 80 ships in the pirate-ridden waters in the Gulf of Eden and off the Somali coast as up to March 9, and it has completed, among other tasks, the mission of rescuing and escorting a Chinese fishing vessel, the Tianyu No.8, owned by China's Tianjin Ocean Fishing Company. China had sent a total of 12,721 peacekeeping officers and men by the end of February.

### **China lodges representation as U.S. naval ship breaks int'l, Chinese laws**

### **People's Daily, 11 March 2009**

China on Wednesday reiterated that a U.S. navy vessel, which conducted activities in China's exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea, violated the international and Chinese laws. "China has lodged a solemn representation to the United States as the USNS Impeccable conducted activities in China's exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea without China's permission," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu said in a statement released on Wednesday.

### **Dalai Lama's utter distortion of Tibet history**

#### **People's Daily, 11 March 2009**

On March 10, 1959, the Dalai Lama and his supporters started an armed rebellion in a desperate attempt to preserve Tibet's feudal serfdom and split the region from China. On Tuesday, exactly 50 years later, the Dalai Lama claimed that Tibetans have been living in "hell on earth," as if the Tibet under the former feudal serfdom ruled by him were a heaven. The Dalai Lama also alleged at a gathering in India's Dharamsala to mark his 50 years in exile that "these 50 years have brought untold suffering and destruction to the land and people of Tibet."

### **Supporters of Tibet mark anniversary with march**

#### **Taipei Times, 11 March 2009**

Nearly 200 supporters, including more than 100 exiled Tibetans living in Taiwan, marched in Kaohsiung City yesterday to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Tibetan Uprising. Waving Tibetan national flags, the marchers shouted "Support Freedom in Tibet" and demanded the Chinese government stop its persecution of Tibetans.

### **Editorial: Cross-strait pact will benefit PRC, not Taiwan**

#### **Taipei Times, 11 March 2009**

When discussing the so-called economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) between Taiwan and China, local academics often cite studies that link Taiwan's absence from the ASEAN Plus groups and the decline of the nation's GDP because of falling international trade. This, however, is not the primary cause of Taiwan's GDP decline. What affects it more is the problem of "investment diversion."

### **Editorial: Tibet 50 years on**

#### **The Asahi Shimbun, 11 March 2009**

Tuesday marked the 50th anniversary of the 1959 "Tibetan uprising" that caused the 14th Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibet, to flee to India where he continues to live in exile. About this time last year, rioting erupted in Lhasa and other parts of the Tibetan Autonomous Region. Also, prior to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games last summer, violence erupted along the Olympic torch relay route because of Beijing's Tibet policy.

### **Chinese political advisors: Dalai Lama not harmony promoter but trouble maker**

#### **People's Daily, 12 March 2009**

Chinese political advisors from the religious circle Wednesday dismissed the Dalai Lama's so-called commitment to promote inter-religious harmony, saying he should not use religion as a tool for his separatist activities. "The Dalai Lama has not served the religious harmony but instead repeatedly makes troubles," said Liu Bainian, vice chairman of the Chinese Catholic

Patriotic Association.

### **NPC differs essentially with Western political system**

**People's Daily, 12 March 2009**

"The people's congress system accords with the national conditions of China and guarantees people as masters of their country, and there are essential differences between the system of China's people's congresses and Western capitalist countries' system of political powers. We must unswervingly take our own road." This statement is contained in the work report of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) delivered by NPC Chairman Bangguo at the ongoing Second Plenary Session of the 11th National People's Congress in Beijing.

### **Tibet to step up legislation, law enforcement to fight splittism**

**People's Daily, 12 March 2009**

Tibet will continue to strengthen legislation and law enforcement to fight separatism and ensure national security and regional stability, a top Tibetan legislator said Thursday. In face of the Dalai Lama clique's "incessant" sabotages, Tibet is "put onto the front line of the fight against splittism. Development and stability have always been top priorities for the region," said Legqog, director of the Standing Committee of the Tibetan Autonomous Regional People's Congress.

### **Taiwan 'driving Chinese military goals'**

**Taipei Times, 12 March 2009**

US National Intelligence Director Dennis Blair told a congressional hearing that "preparations for a Taiwan conflict" still drive the modernization goals of the Chinese military and that the recent naval incidents in the South China Sea were part of a plan by Beijing to expand its influence. Testifying before a hearing of the Senate Armed Services committee on worldwide threats, Blair said: "Taiwan, as an area of attention in US-China relations, has substantially relaxed. Leaders on both sides of the straits are cautiously optimistic about less confrontational relations."

### **Op-Ed: Off the wall thinking**

**The Indian Express, 12 March 2009**

Rapid modernisation, economic development and social change in China rightly awe foreign commentators, including critics. China is a rising global power, and the clearest evidence of a shift away from a West-dominated geopolitics. Given the scenario, why does China bother with few thousand exiled Tibetans and their supporters? All the countries in the world, including Britain since October 2008, have recognised Chinese sovereignty over Tibet.

### **Jintao urges staunch defence after US spat**

**The Asian Age, 13 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese President Hu Jintao urged the country's military to "staunchly defend" national sovereignty in comments published days after a brief confrontation with a US Navy ship. Mr Jintao's comments to People's Liberation Army officers, published in the official People's Daily on Thursday, did not mention the PLA Navy's run-in on Sunday with a US Navy survey ship off the Chinese island province of Hainan.

**China ready for another stimulus package; Wen offers sops to overcome possible unrest**  
**The Times of India, 13 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese premier Wen Jiabao on Friday said he was prepared to announce a new economy stimulus package on top of the \$585 billion plan announced last November to revive the world's third largest economy. He also announced fresh measures apparently aimed at diffusion possible unrest caused by economic slowdown and rising unemployment. "We have reserved adequate ammunition. At any time, we can introduce new stimulus." Wen said, adding that the fiscal deficit is under control and the debt level still safe.

**Wen Jiabao talks down US bonds after Obama comments on Tibet**  
**The Times of India, 13 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese premier Wen Jiabao on Friday raised questions about the safety of investments made in US Treasury bills. "To be honest, I'm a little bit worried. I request the US to honour its promises and to guarantee the safety of China's assets," the premier, who holds the purse strings over \$1.95 trillion in foreign reserves, said. "We have lent a huge amount of money to the United States," he said.

**Chinese FM lays out strategic foundations for China-U.S. ties**  
**People's Daily, 13 March 2009**

Visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi on Thursday laid out the strategic foundations for China and the United States for further bilateral relationship for the 21st century. Addressing a luncheon meeting at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), the Chinese minister first reflected the remarkable achievements made in China-U.S. relations since the two countries established diplomatic ties 30 years ago.

**China planning rail link to Taiwan**  
**Taipei Times, 13 March 2009**

Taiwanese officials responded with caution yesterday to a Chinese official's announcement of a plan to build a rail link between Beijing and Taipei. Responding to a Xinhua report yesterday in which Chinese Minister of Railways Liu Zhijun as quoted as saying that Beijing was "actively planning" the rail link, Presidential Office Spokesman Wang Yu-chi said China would have to take professional and political aspects into consideration.

**Lawmakers pan MAC for keeping mum over ECFA**  
**Taipei Times, 13 March 2009**

Lawmakers across party lines yesterday expressed frustration with the Mainland Affairs Council's (MAC) reluctance to disclose the content of an economic pact that the government plans to sign with Beijing. MAC Chairwoman Lai Shin-yuan told the legislature's Internal Administration Committee yesterday that the content of the proposed economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) had not been finalized, nor was there a draft.

**China demands that US end coastal surveillance**  
**Taipei Times, 13 March 2009**

China's defense ministry has demanded that the US Navy end surveillance missions off the

country's southern coast following a weekend confrontation between a US vessel and Chinese ships. In its first public comment on the Sunday episode, the ministry repeated earlier statements from the foreign ministry that the unarmed US ship was operating illegally inside China's exclusive economic zone when it was challenged by three Chinese government ships and two Chinese-flagged trawlers.

### **Tibet silent, shut-off on riot anniversary**

**The Times of India, 14 March 2009**

Beijing: China warned the West not to "put its fingers into" Tibet as the anniversary on Saturday of riots in Lhasa passed with heavy security to prevent any challenge to Beijing's rule. Rioting broke out in Lhasa on March 14 last year after days of protests against Chinese rule by Buddhist monks, killing 19 people and sparking waves of protests across Tibetan areas. Exile groups say more than 200 people died in the crackdown.

### **China ready with more stimulus: Wen**

**The Hindu, 14 March 2009**

Beijing: China had prepared plans to cope with even bigger difficulties amid the financial crisis and was ready to put forward a new stimulus package at any time, said Premier Wen Jiabao here on Friday. Mr. Wen, meeting the press after the annual Parliament session, said China was prepared for protracted difficult situations and had gathered sufficient "ammunition" to combat the crisis.

### **Three autograph letters by Dalai Lama reveals truth of "peaceful uprising"**

**People's Daily, 14 March 2009**

When the Dalai Lama on Tuesday lambasted the Chinese government over its policy in Tibet and labeled, as usual, the March 10 failed armed rebellion in 1959 as "a peaceful uprising," letters he wrote publicized 50 years ago may help people gain insight into the event. On Tuesday, in India's northern town of Dharamsala, the Dalai Lama said the Chinese government's "desperate developments left the Tibetan people with no alternative but to launch a peaceful uprising."

### **China to surmount hurdles with confidence**

**People's Daily, 14 March 2009**

The pace of economic growth in China is confirmed by the true impression that the country has been much more open, thrift and pragmatic, which has also enabled the entire world currently bogged down and deeply immersed in global financial crisis to witness its great confidence and strength. The coastal city of Dalian in northeastern Liaoning province has publicized new policies to weather the crisis, and its GDP growth in 2009 was adjusted or projected at 14 percent.

### **Taipei, Beijing to discuss WHA, Ma says**

**Taipei Times, 14 March 2009**

The government will conduct negotiations with China at an undisclosed location outside of Taiwan next month about the nation's bid for observer status at the World Health Assembly

(WHA), President Ma Ying-jeou said in an interview published yesterday. “We will start formal negotiations on the issue next month at an overseas location, and not through the Straits Exchange Foundation [SEF] or the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait [ARATS],” Ma said on Thursday in an interview with the Chinese-language United Daily News.

### **Ma wants to talk to Tsai about ECFA, but not in a debate**

**Taipei Times, 14 March 2009**

President Ma Ying-jeou yesterday invited Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) Chairperson Tsai Ing-wen to discuss the content of an economic pact that the government plans to sign with Beijing, but said a debate would not be the best method of discussing the deal, the Presidential Office said yesterday. The content of the proposed economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) with China has aroused public concern and the president extended the invitation to Tsai to discuss the issue as she is an expert in international trade law, the Presidential Office said.

### **Editorial: The missing link in unification**

**Taipei Times, 14 March 2009**

Whether or not an economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) between Taiwan and China is first presented to the legislature for debate, the fact remains that the Democratic Progressive Party stands to gain from any perception that the deal damages Taiwan’s political and/or economic interests. The ECFA is a prelude to wider discussions of a political deal between the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) government and the Chinese Communist Party.

### **China reaffirms opening-up policy**

**The Hindu, 15 March 2009**

Beijing: The Chinese government reiterated its policy of “sticking to reform and opening-up and grasping developing opportunities” in its just-released government work report. The reiteration showcases China’s opening strategy of mutual benefits and its determination for growth. The statement sent a positive signal to the world as the global financial crisis is biting hard and the economic downturn is sweeping from country to country.

### **China puts its money in Western dual use tech firms**

**The Indian Express, 15 March 2009**

New Delhi: Decisive moves by China in the past few months to invest in western companies dealing with dual use technology items at a time when most firms are reeling under the effects of the economic crisis have come as a warning signal to countries like India. For largely political reasons, Beijing had been finding it increasingly tough in the past to do business in these areas but now it’s taking advantage of the changing times.

### **Tibet riot anniversary passes in tense quiet**

**The Asian Age, 15 March 2009**

Chengdu, China: Paramilitary and plainclothes police blanketed Lhasa with patrols and checkpoints on Saturday, imposing what witnesses called a tense calm on the anniversary of a violent anti-Chinese riot in the Tibetan capital. Lhasa residents said the police with rifles or batons marched around the Jokhang Temple and the adjacent Barkhor Square in the old city,

where rioters ran rampant last year.

**U.S. president says China can have confidence in America's economy**

**People's Daily, 15 March 2009**

U.S. President Barack Obama assured on Saturday that China can have confidence in the American economy after meeting with his Brazilian counterpart Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva at the White House. "Not just the Chinese government, but every investor can have absolute confidence in the soundness of investments in the United States," Obama said. "There is a reason why even in the midst of this economic crisis you have seen actual increases in investment flows here in the U.S.," he said.

**World media say two sessions deliver "China's confidence"**

**People's Daily, 15 March 2009**

World media spoke highly of Premier Wen Jiabao's remarks Friday at a press conference and policies China has adopted to battle the economic crisis, saying the two just-concluded political sessions delivered "China's confidence." The two sessions are known as the Second Session of the 11th National People's Congress (NPC) and the Second Session of the 11th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

**Signed article says Dalai Lama still wants to drive Chinese troops away from Tibet**

**People's Daily, 15 March 2009**

A commentary, written by Yedor in Chinese language, says the Dalai Lama and his followers still want to remove non-Tibetans and Chinese troops from Tibet. The commentary says such demands proposed by the Dalai Lama two decades ago have never been given up, though he insisted he never said that at a news conference in India's Dharamsala on March 10 following a gathering to mark his 50 years in exile.

**China silences Tibet on riot anniversary**

**Taipei Times, 15 March 2009**

Paramilitary and plainclothes police blanketed the Tibetan capital with patrols and checkpoints yesterday, imposing what witnesses called a tense calm on the first anniversary of a violent anti-Chinese riot. Lhasa residents said police with rifles or batons marched around the Jokhang Temple and the adjacent Barkhor Square in the old city, where protesters ran rampant last year.

**Friends of Tibet march in Taipei**

**Taipei Times, 15 March 2009**

Thousands of people marched in the streets of Taipei yesterday to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1959 Tibetan Uprising and show their support for Tibetans' struggle for freedom. "We Tibetans have been in exile for 50 years. The Chinese government tries hard to make us forget who we are — but we will not," Regional Tibetan Youth Congress Taiwan chairman Tashi Tsering told the crowd before the march began.

**Editorial: Benefits of an ECFA are just pie in the sky**

**Taipei Times, 15 March 2009**

President Ma Ying-jeou says that an economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) with China would not involve political issues of sovereignty and the "one China" principle. He says

that after a free trade agreement between China and ASEAN comes into effect next year, Taiwanese products will lose their price competitiveness against products from ASEAN nations because of increased tariffs. Worse yet, Taiwan will be marginalized, domestic companies will move abroad and the nation will stand to lose 114,000 jobs. This economic discourse contains many fallacies.

### **Stimulus plan paying off: China**

**The Hindu, 16 March 2009**

Beijing: China's 4-trillion-yuan (about \$588 billions) stimulus plan is paying off, providing the country with time to wait for a revival of the world economy, said experts. Four months after China launched the two-year investment plan, which is intended to revitalise the world's third largest economy, its industrial output growth appears to be recovering and the decline in its imports has started to ease.

### **Panchen Lama promises to maintain stability in Tibet**

**People's Daily, 16 March 2009**

The 11th Panchen Lama Gyaincain Norbu on Sunday visited an exhibition displaying economic and social progress that Tibet Autonomous Region has achieved in the past five decades. The Panchen Lama, one of the religious leaders of Tibetan Buddhism, went to the Cultural Palace of Nationalities to see the exhibition titled "50th Anniversary of Democratic Reforms in Tibet" that has been in running in Beijing since Feb. 24.

### **Taiwan renews drive for advanced fighter aircraft**

**Taipei Times, 16 March 2009**

Taiwan has renewed a drive to buy advanced US-built F-16 fighter aircraft, confronting US President Barack Obama with a delicate decision. Detailing its arms shopping list for the first time since Obama took office, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) — Taiwan's representative office in Washington — said its current fighter force was inadequate to a potential threat from China across the 177km-wide Taiwan Strait.

### **Beijing dispatches patrol vessel to South China Sea**

**Taipei Times, 16 March 2009**

China has dispatched its most modern patrol ship to the South China Seas, state media said yesterday, after an incident with a US naval vessel and a fresh claim by the Philippines to disputed territory. The Beijing News newspaper said the vessel would conduct patrols of what it called China's "exclusive maritime zone" in the disputed waters surrounding the Parcel and Spratly Islands.

### **Editorial: Taiwan's status must be clarified**

**Taipei Times, 16 March 2009**

The San Francisco Peace Treaty, also known as the Treaty of Peace with Japan, which came into effect on April 28, 1952, is the most important legal document concerning Taiwan's sovereign status. Article 2(b) of the treaty states: "Japan renounces all right, title and claim to Formosa and the Pescadores [Penghu]." The treaty did not transfer sovereignty over these territories to any country. Article 23 of the treaty clearly identifies "the United States of America as the principal occupying power."

### **Editorial: Fear-based negotiation is of no use to Taiwan**

**Taipei Times, 16 March 2009**

An old maxim says that one shouldn't negotiate from a position of fear. However, the haste with which President Ma Ying-jeou's government is engaging in negotiations with China is based on fear — an intense fear. Opening direct links was always part of China's national policy. To suck Taiwan in, China agreed to allow Taiwanese flag-of-convenience ships to sail in the Taiwan Strait, and when Ma's fear that Taiwan would become marginalized forced him to enter negotiations, a direct links agreement was quickly signed.

### **Editorial: Why hurry for Chinese integration?**

**Taipei Times, 16 March 2009**

During the course of his recent speech in the National People's Congress (NPC), Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said the process of Taiwan's economic integration with China would continue, adding that if Taiwan were to behave, this might eventually become the basis for a free trade agreement. There was nothing new in Wen's remark about Taiwan regarding closer political and economic relations. It was vague and lacking in specifics.

### **China approves 'modern redesign' of Tibetan capital**

**The Times of India, 17 March 2009**

Beijing: China has approved a "modern redesign" of Tibet's remote and mountainous capital Lhasa, state media said on Tuesday, including a limit on its downtown population. Overseas rights groups have long complained that the Chinese government has failed to protect historic Lhasa and accuse Beijing of trying to flood the region with Han Chinese to dilute its ethnic makeup and assert greater control.

### **Editorial: A new role for the PLA Navy?**

**Taipei Times, 17 March 2009**

Military analysts have been slowly coming to grips with Beijing's decision in December to dispatch naval forces to the Gulf of Aden to combat piracy — China's first deployment of such forces abroad since the 15th century. China's decision was part of its goal to play a role commensurate with its status as a "great power," US National War College professor Bernard Cole said on March 4 during testimony before the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

### **Editorial: US-Chinese contacts are imperative for military**

**Taipei Times, 17 March 2009**

A touch of irony surfaced when a US destroyer patrolling the South China Sea sailed to the aid of the US ocean surveillance ship Impeccable after it was harassed by three Chinese government vessels and two trawlers. The US warship was the USS Chung-Hoon, named for a Chinese-American naval officer awarded the Navy Cross, the nation's second-highest combat decoration, for heroic action against Japanese kamikaze pilots during World War II.

### **Editorial: Pray for Tibet, struggle for Taiwan**

**Taipei Times, 18 March 2009**

March is a significant month for Taiwan in many ways. Taiwan's first presidential election, its

first handover of power from one party to another and its first nationwide referendum all happened in March. March of this year marks the 19th anniversary of the Wild Lilies student movement, the 13th anniversary of the Taiwan Strait missile crisis and the fourth anniversary of the enactment of China's "Anti-Secession" Law.

### **Editorial: A 'human right' rehash**

**Taipei Times, 18 March 2009**

When the international community criticizes Taiwan's human rights record, the government listens and occasionally even acts. This was the case under the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) and did not change with the transfer of power in May. Considering the influence that foreign pressure has had in the past - leading, for example, to an end to the practice of shackling death row prisoners - we must be grateful for the attention Taiwan has received in past months from organizations like Freedom House, the International Federation of Journalists and the International Federation for Human Rights.

### **Experts unveil 'reform package'**

**People's Daily, 18 March 2009**

A panel of economists unveiled a "reform package" yesterday, saying these measures need to be urgently implemented to ensure that China's stimulus programs would work effectively. In order of priority, price deregulation of resource products and reducing industry monopoly topped the 14-point reform package prepared by five renowned economists.

### **Respect for human rights in the mouth of Dalai Lama**

**People's Daily, 18 March 2009**

The issue of Tibet is often used as an excuse by the anti-Chinese movement in the western world. Recently the European Parliament and US House of Representatives passed similar resolutions over human rights in Tibet and the ousted spiritual leader Dalai Lama, and called on China to grant more freedom to Tibet and its people. Ridiculously enough, most of the initiators and voters of the resolutions have never been to Tibet, and know nothing about Tibet's history and present situation.

### **Tibet part of China: US official**

**People's Daily, 18 March 2009**

Washington: US deputy assistant secretary John Norris yesterday reiterated that Washington "does not support Tibet independence" and that the autonomous region was very much a part of China. Norris made the remarks during his meeting with a visiting five-member Tibetan delegation from the National People's Congress (NPC), in the US to increase the outside world's understanding of the region.

### **Op-Ed: Tibet at turning point 50 years after Dalai Lama fled to India**

**The Asian Age, 18 March 2009**

March 2009 marks the 50th anniversary of the Tibetan national uprising against Chinese rule in March 1959, and the escape of the Dalai Lama across the Himalayas into India. It also marks the first anniversary of an unprecedented wave of protests that swept across the Tibetan plateau, to be met by a brutal crackdown.

### **Bomb lobbed at police station in Tibetan area**

**The Asian Age, 18 March 2009**

Beijing: Assailants threw a bomb into a newly built police station in a Tibetan area in western China, a police official said on Tuesday, the 50th anniversary of the Dalai Lama's escape into exile in India after Chinese troops crushed a Tibetan revolt. No injuries were reported. The incident came amid heightened tensions and security during a volatile month that also included the one-year anniversary of anti-government riots on March 14 in Lhasa, Tibet's regional capital.

### **Editorial: 'Six cents' on a trade agreement with China**

**Taipei Times, 19 March 2009**

On the controversial issue of the proposed economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) with China, I would like to offer my "six cents." One, the status of signatory, not the title of the agreement. The government claims the trade pact is for business, not politics. Anybody with an undergraduate level understanding of international law can see that is not true. Whatever the title is, the most important issue is the status of the signatory.

### **Editorial: China can use strategic reassurance**

**Taipei Times, 19 March 2009**

In a recent report to the National People's Congress, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said Beijing was ready to hold talks on political and military issues in pursuit of ending hostilities across the Taiwan Strait. However, Wen failed to mention any specific confidence-building measures (CBMs), even though Beijing, Taipei and Washington have all recently expressed some interest in this proposal.

### **World Bank: China's GDP to grow 6.5% in 2009**

**People's Daily, 19 March 2009**

The World Bank has reduced China's economic growth forecast to 6.5 per cent in 2009 but said the Asian country was better positioned and resisting the global economic crisis with solid fundamentals. As the global crisis has intensified, China's exports have been hit badly, affecting investment and sentiment, notably in the manufacturing sector, the World Bank said in releasing a quarterly report on China's economy.

### **President Hu Jintao to meet DPRK PM today**

**People's Daily, 19 March 2009**

China said on Wednesday it will upgrade dialogue and cooperation with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to address major regional concerns, typically the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao made the remarks while meeting his DPRK counterpart Kim Yong-il amid mounting tensions in the area sparked by Pyongyang's alleged plan to launch a satellite.

### **Spy chiefs mull rocket-launch options**

**JoongAng Ilbo, 20 March 2009**

Washington: The new United States Director of Central Intelligence said the U.S. would consider shooting down a North Korean rocket should it be launched toward Guam, a South Korean intelligence source told the JoongAng Ilbo. The comment was reportedly made during a discussion between the C.I.A.'s Leon Panetta and Won Sei-hoon, director of Korea's National Intelligence Service, the source said. Won started a two-day visit to Washington on Tuesday to consult with top U.S. intelligence officials on how to respond to a rocket launch by North Korea.

### **Editorial: China Must Say Where It Stands on N.Korea Rocket Launch**

**The Chosun Ilbo, 20 March 2009**

South Korea, the United States and Japan are all concerned about North Korea's imminent launch of what they suspect is a ballistic missile. On Tuesday, North Korean Premier Kim Yong-il landed on Beijing Airport to attend events marking a "year of friendship" between the two allies. Oct. 6 is the 60th anniversary of diplomatic ties.

### **Editorial: The road ahead for ROC military**

**Taipei Times, 20 March 2009**

The Ministry of National Defense (MND) rolled out Taiwan's first Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) on Monday in accordance with an amendment to the National Defense Act. With relations across the Taiwan Strait warming and calls for peace growing, this forward-looking strategy document has come at the right time. The ministry had previously published its National Defense Report every two years to keep the general public informed of what was being done to support the country's defense.

### **Editorial: What is the KMT trying to prove?**

**Taipei Times, 20 March 2009**

Voters recently proved the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) wrong after the party mobilized almost two-thirds of its legislators to drum up support for its candidate in a legislative by-election in Miaoli County, a traditional KMT stronghold. The KMT still ended up losing the election, which did not come as a surprise to people who see the loss as a warning to the KMT for its inability to review its performance. This raised the question of whether something similar will happen in the upcoming legislative by-election in Taipei City's Da-an District in two weeks' time and even the three-in-one election at the end of the year.

### **China's economy shows signs of stabilization and recovery**

**People's Daily, 20 March 2009**

On March 18, Premier Wen Jiabao presided over an executive meeting of the State Council, discussing the economic situation at home and abroad. The attendees agreed that the international financial crisis is still spreading and deepening, and that China is still facing huge difficulties despite the signs that some regions and sectors in China have seen stabilization and recovery. "Signs of stabilization and recovery" have given China more confidence, while "the huge difficulties and problems" have made the country more sober-minded.

### **US-China policy group calls for mutual respect**

**People's Daily, 20 March 2009**

A leading American policy think tank has called the leaders of the United States and China to

relieve tensions, ease up on mistrust and develop more respect. The two countries could make the world a better place by working in harmony, the Center for Strategic and International Studies said in a new report. "U.S.-Chinese ties could have a greater impact on international affairs than any other relationship," the report said.

### **Dalai Lama, a secessionist in disguise**

**People's Daily, 20 March 2009**

Dalai Lama, the self-claimed "savior of Tibet" and the spokesman of all Tibetan people, once again played the opinion card to separate Tibet from China as central government set the bottom-line policy for the region. The "Tibetan Government in Exile" planned a so-called a special meeting on Tibet's future last November. Dalai Lama, showing off the so-called results this March, advocated most of the Tibetans, both home and abroad are in favor of his "Middle Way" approach.

### **India-China ties on firm footing despite border dispute: Menon**

**The Times of India, 20 March 2009**

New Delhi: Ties between India and China are now more evolved and nuanced and the boundary dispute between the two countries has failed to limit engagement in other areas. This was the message conveyed by foreign secretary Shiv Shankar Menon during a book release on India-China relations. Menon also cautioned both India and China against resorting to protectionism to deal with the world economic meltdown. He said it would hurt both economies in the long run.

### **Editorial: The myth: a professional military in five years**

**Taipei Times, 21 March 2009**

Earlier this month, the Ministry of National Defense said that, beginning in 2011, the military would replace conscripts with professional soldiers at a rate of at least 10 percent annually, with conscription to cease altogether in 2014. At present, men above the age of 20 are required to complete one year of military service. The idea of a professional Taiwanese army is not a creation of the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT), nor is it the result of supposedly reduced tensions in the Taiwan Strait.

### **Ma willing to listen, but determined that ECFA will be signed**

**Taipei Times, 21 March 2009**

President Ma Ying-jeou yesterday reiterated the government's determination to sign an economic cooperation framework agreement (ECFA) with China. Ma said that signing an ECFA with China would prevent Taiwan from being marginalized amid regional economic development, but said that his administration was willing to listen to opposing voices. "We welcome all those who feel they have something to lose from an ECFA to speak up and voice their concerns. The government will examine the situation and include any items that may cause problems later," Ma told reporters at the Presidential Office.

### **India-China ties: records to go public**

**The Indian Express, 21 March 2009**

New Delhi: The Government is ready to make public records on Sino-India relationship for the benefit of the scholars interested in the subject, Foreign Secretary Shivshanker Menon said on

Thursday. Menon was speaking at the launch of the book, *India China Relations: The Border Issue and Beyond*, at the Observer Research Foundation, a public policy thinktank. The book has been co-authored by Mohan Guruswamy and Zorawar Daulet Singh. "The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is willing to open up the 30-year-old archives which are 30 year old for bonafide scholars," Menon said.

### **Navy to be part of China exercise**

**The Asian Age, 21 March 2009**

New Delhi: Indian naval ships from its eastern fleet will participate in the international fleet review at the Chinese port-city of Qingdao in April and Indian ships will also conduct passage exercises with Chinese naval vessels, Indian naval sources have said. Indian naval ships are also likely to carry out "structured exercises" with navies of the United States, Japan and Singapore in the near future, sources indicated. Indian naval ships are also expected to dock at ports in South Korea, Malaysia and Indonesia on the way back home, sources indicated. India and China have already conducted two rounds of joint Army exercises in the past 15 months amid signs that ties between the two giants of Asia have improved considerably.

### **Japan, China must get in tune on security issues**

**The Yomiuri Shimbun, 22 March 2009**

Differing perceptions between Japan and China on key East Asia security issues were again all too obvious during talks between the defense ministers of the two nations in Beijing. It is essential for both sides to make an effort to narrow these gaps through more frequent dialogues. At their meeting Friday, Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada and his Chinese counterpart, Liang Guanglie, discussed North Korea's planned rocket launch, which many observers suspect to be a long-range missile.

### **IMF Official: China's stimulus plan a great contribution to the world**

**People's Daily, 22 March 2009**

Against backdrop of world's financial crisis, China will play a vital role in world's economic recovery, said Murilo Portugal, Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Saturday in Beijing. I think China's role is very important. Its fast growth has already made important contribution to the world economy, and it will continue playing that vital role in world's economic recovery, Portugal said on the first day of the three-day China Economic Forum 2009.

### **Panchen Lama asks Tibetans to support China's Communist rule**

**The Times of India, 22 March 2009**

Beijing: Describing himself as a "patriot", the 11th Panchen Lama, one of Tibet's most senior living Buddhas, has asked Tibetans to support China's Communist Party rule in the Himalayan region. In a signed article to be carried tomorrow by People's Daily, Panchen Lama Gyaincain Norbu said the hard-earned happy life of today's Tibetans should be greatly cherished, state-run Xinhua news agency said. People in Tibet should support the CPC leadership, contribute to the nation's unity and unification, as well as to the happiness and future of Tibetan people, he wrote in the mouthpiece of the ruling Communist party.

### **100 Tibetan monks detained after demonstration in China**

**The Times of India, 22 March 2009**

Beijing: Chinese authorities have detained near 100 monks for allegedly rioting and attacking a police station in a Tibetan minority area in northwest China. This is the biggest detention of monks in recent weeks that saw celebrations of the Tibetan New Year and the 50th anniversary of a Tibetan uprising. These monks belonging to the Ragya Monastery in the mountains of Qinghai province were participating in a demonstration against the disappearance of a monk from police custody.

**Chinese premier: World should have faith in China**

**People's Daily, 23 March 2009**

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Monday met with foreign delegates at the 10th China Development Forum, calling on international efforts to combat the financial crisis. "Only when each nation makes effective stimulus measures together can the world economy step out of difficulty and realize resuscitation," Wen said to more than fifty foreign delegates at the three-day China Development Forum that started Saturday.

**Australia PM urges greater say for China in IMF**

**People's Daily, 23 March 2009**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) must give China a greater say if it wants to accurately reflect global economic reality in the 21st century, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said in Melbourne on Sunday. Rudd said he would raise the issue at the next month's G20 meeting in London and at his first meeting with US President Barack Obama this week in Washington.

**Chinese Premier urges upgrading, innovation to tackle economic woes**

**People's Daily, 23 March 2009**

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao has called on enterprises and officials to place priority on industrial upgrading and innovation, urging them to move "early rather than late" to ride through the global financial crisis. Chinese companies should focus on adjusting product structure, improving quality and upgrading technologies in the face of economic woes, said Wen during a visit to enterprises in the northeastern Liaoning Province from Friday to Sunday. Efforts should be especially stepped up to develop new products and foster intellectual property rights, while the government must cut burdens for enterprises and provide an easy environment for their innovation, said Wen.

**EDITORIAL: Forget the PR, just explain**

**Taipei Times, 23 March 2009**

One year ago, Ma Ying-jeou was elected president with 58 percent of the vote. Two months later, his Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) took over the reins of government from the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) in Taiwan's second democratic transfer of power. At the time, Ma enjoyed approval rates of more than 70 percent. The figures today look rather different. An opinion poll conducted by Global Views magazine found that only 29 percent of respondents were satisfied with the performance of the Ma administration, while 58 percent were dissatisfied. It is high time the Ma government reviewed its policies.

**THE LIBERTY TIMES EDITORIAL: Ma's hallmark is a lack of courage**

**Taipei Times, 23 March 2009**

American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) Chairman Raymond Burghardt recently visited Taipei and met leaders of both the ruling and opposition parties. When talking to the media, Burghardt expressed concern over China's military threats to Taiwan and said Beijing posed a military threat to Taiwan as long as it has missiles aimed at Taiwan and that it should remove them. Perhaps President Ma Ying-jeou's government mistakenly believes that some of the messages Burghardt conveyed were in line with their own policies.

### **Tibet police station attacked by monks**

**Taipei Times, 23 March 2009**

Approximately 100 Tibetan monks were arrested or turned themselves in yesterday after hundreds of protesters attacked a police station in northwest China, state media reported. The protest appeared to be in retaliation for the disappearance of a Tibetan who escaped from police custody in Qinghai Province, Xinhua news agency reported. The demonstration was the latest sign of Tibetan anger in a tense month of tightened Chinese security in the region because of a number of sensitive anniversaries.

### **100 Tibetans held for attack on China cops**

**The Indian Express, 23 March 2009**

Beijing: Nearly 100 pro-Dalai Lama Tibetan monks were arrested or surrendered after they allegedly rioted and attacked a police station in a Tibetan minority area in northwest China, authorities said on Sunday. The riot in Ragya, in the mountains of remote Qinghai province, is the first reported major anti-government protest in China's Tibetan areas since the 50th anniversary of a failed uprising against Chinese rule in Tibet on March 10.

### **How China sees the world**

**The Indian Express, 23 March 2009**

It is an ill wind that blows no one any good. For many in China even the buffeting by the gale that has hit the global economy has a bracing message. The rise of China over the past three decades has been astonishing. But it has lacked the one feature it needed fully to satisfy the ultranationalist fringe: an accompanying decline of the West. Now capitalism is in a funk in its heartlands. Europe and Japan, embroiled in the deepest post-war recession, are barely worth consideration as rivals.

### **China opposed move, says Colombo**

**The Hindu, 23 March 2009**

Colombo: The Sri Lankan government on Sunday said China had opposed a motion in the United Nations Security Council for a discussion on the humanitarian crisis triggered by the war in the north. A report on the Information Ministry website said Beijing had opposed the proposal on the ground that it was an internal matter of the island nation and the military operations had no effect on international peace and security.

### **Framework doesn't help Taiwan face ASEAN deal**

**Taipei Times, 24 March 2009**

With ASEAN Plus One (China) and ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and South Korea) coming into effect next year and in 2015 respectively, highly competitive Japanese and South Korean products such as semiconductors, liquid-crystal displays, petrochemicals and

machinery will be given tax-exempt access to the ASEAN market, which accounts for 15 percent of Taiwan's exports.

### **China confirms it will build aircraft carrier: state press**

**Taipei Times, 24 March 2009**

China will develop an aircraft carrier in line with its status as a major global power, state press yesterday reported National Defense Minister Liang Guanglie as saying. The comments by Liang, which come shortly after a spike in tension when Chinese vessels confronted a US naval surveillance ship, are the latest high-level confirmation that Beijing is beefing up its military. Liang told visiting Japanese Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada on Friday of China's ambition, the reports said.

### **Aerospace becomes new growth area for China's economy**

**People's Daily, 24 March 2009**

With the launch of Shenzhou-7, China has achieved a spacewalk using Chinese-made equipment. This shows that China's technology and industry chains have extended to the world's upper end of science and technology. China has not only fulfilled the necessary conditions to earn its self a place in the high-tech market, it will earn more right to speak in a wider range of markets.

### **Chinese, Uruguayan presidents confer on ties, financial crisis**

**People's Daily, 24 March 2009**

Chinese President Hu Jintao held talks with his visiting Uruguayan counterpart Tabare Vazquez in Beijing on Monday. They agreed to promote bilateral relations to a higher level. During the meeting, Uruguay recognized the full market status of Chinese economy, according to press release from the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Hu spoke positively about Uruguay's adherence to the one-China policy and its firm support on issues concerning Taiwan and Tibet.

### **Editorial: As balance shifts**

**JoongAng Ilbo, 25 March 2009**

Liang Guanglie, the Chinese Defense Minister, has confirmed China's plans to develop an aircraft carrier. The announcement was made during his meeting last week with his Japanese counterpart, Yasukazu Hamada. We can assume it's only a matter of time before China puts a carrier into commission. It is perhaps inevitable that China, an emerging economy, would strengthen its naval power to ensure the safety of its trade and energy transport routes.

### **Editorial: What Beijing's growth plan means**

**Taipei Times, 25 March 2009**

Hope and danger collided at the recently concluded National People's Congress in Beijing. The two-week conclave meets annually and while it is unfair and inaccurate to characterize the Congress as a rubber-stamp exercise, delegates tend to jump on the bandwagon of policies constructed by the central government and the Communist Party. The hope was that the Chinese leadership would finally do something - preferably something bold - to forestall further decline in the country's major economic indicators.

### **Editorial: Preparing for an attack from China**

### **Taipei Times, 25 March 2009**

Though cross-strait tensions have diminished slightly, China has never given up the threat of using force against Taiwan, nor has it relaxed its military preparations. Since 2007, the military imbalance in the Taiwan Strait has increased. It is forecast that by 2020, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) will be able to send its forces to the area between the first and second island chains and decisively engage Taiwan in large-scale warfare with victory assured. In the past, the government invested in expensive modern weapons systems to maintain air superiority and sea control as well as command, control, communication, computer, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems and information and electronic warfare systems in the hope that the country would be able to defend itself after a first strike from China.

### **China confident of achieving 8% GDP growth**

**People's Daily, 25 March 2009**

"China definitely can achieve its targets for the national economy and social development this year," Chinese vice Premier Li Keqiang said during the China Development Forum. Just nine days ago, during a press conference for the "two sessions," Premier Wen Jiabao said that "Achieving the 8 percent target will indeed be difficult, but it is possible with hard work." From "possible" to "definitely can," China is more confident in achieving 8 percent GDP growth as the end of the first quarter of 2009 draws near.

### **China to replace Nigerian satellite**

**People's Daily, 25 March 2009**

China yesterday agreed to launch a satellite for Nigeria in 2011 to replace the African country's defunct communications satellite. China Great Wall Industry Corporation (CGWIC) president Yin Liming said the new Nigerian Communication Satellite 1R (NIGCOMSAT-1R) will be launched from a Long March 3B vehicle at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Sichuan province in the fourth quarter of 2011. China will not charge Nigeria for the replacement satellite, which is designed to remain operational for 15 years, he said.

### **China may block Dalai's world travel**

**The Times of India, 25 March 2009**

Beijing: China indicated on Wednesday it is going to build on its first major success in creating hurdles against Dalai Lama's foreign visits after the South African government refused visa to the Tibetan leader. Beijing has earlier unsuccessfully lobbied several governments including those of the United States and France to refuse him visa. Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said China is opposed to the government of any other country providing support or a platform for the Dalai Lama's secessionist activity.

### **Congress rallies in support of Taiwan**

**Taipei Times, 26 March 2009**

The US House of Representatives has reversed the work of a subcommittee and put the teeth back into a resolution offering strong support for Taiwan on the 30th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). In a series of sometimes dramatic speeches on the floor of the House, members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs voiced extraordinary praise for Taiwan and pledged to help preserve its independence. Passing the newly robust resolution unanimously,

members of the House seemed to be fired up by an attempt last week by Eni Faleomavaega, a Democrat from American Samoa, to water down the resolution.

### **China slashes U.S. Congress resolution on Taiwan**

**People's Daily, 26 March 2009**

China voiced its strong dissatisfaction Wednesday against a U.S. Congress resolution on the Taiwan Relations Act saying it is an interference in its internal affairs. "China is strongly dissatisfied and has lodged a solemn representation over the resolution adopted to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act," Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Qin Gang said in a statement. The U.S. House of Representatives voted for the resolution Tuesday.

### **Dalai Lama shouldn't engage in political activities: China to India**

**The Times of India, 26 March 2009**

New Delhi: Even as South Africa drew international ire by denying a visa to the Dalai Lama for a peace conference, China took the opportunity to ask India to keep to its "commitment" about not allowing him to engage in political activities here. Addressing a press conference here on the eve of what the Chinese call "serf emancipation day" in Tibet (March 28), Chinese envoy, Zhang Yan, said the Dalai Lama could not return to Tibet until he abides by China's "conditions".

### **China for super-sovereign reserve currency**

**The Hindu, 26 March 2009**

Beijing: Zhou Xiaochuan, Governor of China's central bank, has proposed to create a super-sovereign reserve currency as part of reform in the international monetary system. The desirable goal of the international monetary system is to "create an international reserve currency that is disconnected from individual nations and is able to remain stable in the long run, thus removing the inherent deficiencies caused by using credit-based national currencies," he said.

### **China, India must jointly work to beat downturn: Zhang**

**The Hindu, 26 March 2009**

New Delhi: Though no meeting has been finalised so far between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and the Chinese President Hu Jintao at the coming G-20 summit in London on April 2, China indicated its desire to work with India in mitigating the impact of the financial crisis. "Your [India] Prime Minister has just recovered from a serious illness and we have not received official confirmation whether he will be at the London summit. We can start the process of setting up a meeting on the sidelines of the summit once we officially get to know he will be there," the Chinese Ambassador to India Zhang Yan told journalists here on Wednesday.

### **We're waiting for Dalai Lama to fulfil conditions**

**The Hindu, 26 March 2009**

New Delhi: Maintaining that the door for negotiations with the Dalai Lama was still open, China on Wednesday called upon him to stop sponsoring violence and drop several pre-conditions that were unacceptable to Beijing. "Last year we had three meetings but the Dalai Lama never stopped sponsoring violence in Tibet and creating problems. Even with this kind of

situation, [Chinese Premier] Wen Jiabao had reiterated that the doors for negotiations were still open.