

People's Daily, 1 August 2006

**Chinese defense minister pledges to promote peaceful development of cross-Strait ties**

Defense Minister Cao Gangchuan said Monday in Beijing that China will promote the peaceful development of the cross-Strait relations, and work for the prospect of peaceful reunification. Cao, also vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission and state councilor, made the remarks when addressing a reception in the Great Hall of the People to mark the 79th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), which falls on August 1. Cao said to safeguard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and realize the complete reunification of the country is the core interest of China and the Chinese nation...

China Daily, 2 August 2006

**China urges restraint in Iran nuke standoff (Qin Jize)**

After the UN Security Council took its toughest action yet in the Iranian nuclear standoff, China expressed hope that the latest resolution will be conducive to ongoing diplomatic efforts and a peaceful solution. "China maintains its support to the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and is opposed to any proliferation of nuclear weapons," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao in a statement yesterday. Liu said China does not want to see any new turbulence in the Middle East, urging the relevant parties to remain calm and restrained and continue to push for an early resumption of talks...

People's Daily, 4 August 2006

**How we influence the world (Ding Gang)**

China has no inclination to challenge the current world order. For China, the question perhaps lies in how to choose the right road under the current order, and how to make correct decisions when pressured by the tendency of convergence. Therefore, how we influence the world turns into a question of how we choose our path of development. Apparently, the increasing U.S. influence has made it harder for us to choose and implement our own policies. Apart from China, India and Brazil, some rising countries of medium and small sizes are facing the same question. To globalize doesn't mean Americanize, but that is easier said than done. How should we remain different under the pressure of tendency to become the same? This is a severe challenge. The Guardian once commented that Britain taught the world how to produce in the 19th century. America taught the world how to spend in the 20th century. In leading the 21st century, China must teach the world how to achieve sustainable development, where perhaps lies the key of how China could influence the world.

People's Daily, 4 August 2006

**What does it mean to be a responsible country?**

Since the breakout of Israeli and Lebanese conflict, the US, so-called 'world police' has behaved not very well according to its status. One can't help asking "Is America a responsible country?" What does it mean to be a responsible power? The US doesn't care its responsibility here, it is also irresponsible. But on the other hand, it demands other countries be responsible. Uncle Sam thinks North Korean nuclear test is irresponsible, Iranian uranium enrichment is irresponsible and Russia is irresponsible as it intervened in

the colored revolution in the eastern European countries. As an old Chinese saying goes, if you don't want it yourself, don't give it to others. It is time for Uncle Sam to ask itself, 'what does it mean to be a responsible country?' How can you be a responsible country?

People's Daily, 4 August 2006

### **US scheming for "Great Central Asia" Strategy**

... For historical reasons, Central Asia and South Asia have been isolated from each other and have belonged to different geopolitical plates for a long time. Now, the two regions both appear on the chessboard of the United States for its Central Asian strategy, referred to as the "Great Central Asia" strategy... Seeing their policy being thwarted repeatedly in Central Asia, U.S. scholars and policy makers have begun to examine themselves. In the summer of 2005, Frederick Starr, chairman of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies published an article in the US Magazine "Foreign Affairs", in which he clearly put forward the vision of the "Great Central Asia" strategy. Starr proposed in a "Great Central Asia cooperative partnership for development" which will have the US taking the lead, the five Central Asian states and Afghanistan entering as the main members, and India and Pakistan participating in. The main idea of the proposal is to take the US control of the situation in Afghanistan as an opportunity, promote optional and flexible cooperation in security, democracy, economy, transport and energy, and, make up a new region by combining Central Asia with South Asia. The United States is to shoulder the role of a midwife to promote the rebirth of the entire region."

The Indian Express, 5 August 2006

### **From sky, see how China builds model of Indian border 2400 km away (Shiv Aroor)**

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 4: The discovery of what is considered a military establishment in China's Northern plains by a Google Earth user from Germany has kicked up a storm on the Net's strategic forums. Here's why: The establishment, snapped from Google's free satellite imagery software, houses a startlingly accurate scale model of a highly sensitive stretch of the disputed Sino-Indian border. A careful study of the model, located at a large military complex in China's Huangyangtan province, likely used for training and familiarisation of troops, helicopters and infantry vehicles, shows that it is built to scale based on a stretch 2,400 km away along the Aksai Chin area bordering Ladakh, part of the stretch through which invading Chinese forces entered in the 1962 war. The facility, full with uncharacteristic and man-made snow peaks, glacial lakes and snow rifts—ironically in the middle of an arid plain—is flanked by a large military depot with buildings and at least a hundred military trucks.

The Hindu, 7 August 2006

### **China plans stricter control on energy use**

BEIJING: China is revising a law to impose harsher punishment on wasteful use of energy, the Government said on Sunday, at a time when the fast growth of the economy is putting higher demands on energy resources... It will typically target the construction sector, which now accounts for one-third of all energy use in China.

China Daily, 7 August 2006

**Chunxiao oilfield begins to function**

Gas production has begun at Chunxiao gasfield in the East China Sea, according to an online announcement by one of the nation's three largest State-owned oil companies, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC)... Japanese media have repeatedly criticized that "China's tapping of Chunxiao gas and oilfield had surpassed the middle line of maritime space between Japan and China" and "infringed Japan's interests on the sea."

People's Daily, 7 August 2006

**Japan's defense white paper not conducive to improving its relations with other Asian countries**

Japan's cabinet passed a national defense white paper on August 1. The paper is in fact a summary of Koizumi regime's defense policy and a preview for Koizumi's successor. With 50 pages long, the white paper mainly described the alliance relationship between Japan and the United States including the restructuring of the US army in Japan and the importance of the Japanese-US security system... The white paper has exaggerated so-called Chinese military threat. The paper talks about China's military budgets' increase and the improvement of Chinese military strength, in particular, China's navy development. The paper claims that it is necessary to objectively assess China's military power and should have a cautious judgment on China's military modernization and see if it has surpassed that extend... In fact, the white paper's assessment on Chinese military strength is not true. In addition to other factors, the white paper claims that Chinese military budget has increased in two digital numbers for 18 consecutive years. The fact is that in the mid 1990s, Chinese military budget was in a negative increase. The two digital number increase started only from 10 years ago. It is mainly for the compensation for the past shortage. Due to Chinese small military budget, it looks a big increase.

The Indian Express, 7 August 2006

**Dalai Lama wants successor from community in exile (Jayanth Jacob)**

Dharamsala, August 6: The Dalai Lama is seriously thinking about his successor. The spiritual and temporal leader of Tibetan Buddhists says the candidate should ideally be from the Tibetan community in exile in India, though he is quick to add that the name should be acceptable to all Tibetans. The Dalai Lama — who describes himself a “semi-retired person” — has his reasons. He believes a successor from the community in exile will be in a better position to “fulfill the objective” of getting the homeland back for the Tibetans.

People's Daily, 8 August 2006

**China increasingly attractive to others: U.S. scholar**

China increasingly attractive to others: U.S. scholar China has been increasingly attractive to other countries in recent years and the idea of China's peaceful rise is impressive, a famous U.S. scholar told Xinhua in an interview. In other words, "China's soft power has been increasing in recent years," said Joseph Nye, the creator of the political notion of "soft power" and a leading professor for international relations at Harvard University... On future trends of China- U.S. relations, Nye said he is optimistic.

"I think they have more to gain by cooperation and avoiding conflict," he said.

China Daily, 8 August 2006

### **Building trust between China and Japan (Wang Yingfan)**

The crux of bringing about a new type of Sino-Japanese relationship lies in overcoming current difficulties and getting the inter-country relationship on a healthy, steady and progressive track... During his visit to the United States in April this year, President Hu Jintao said that as economic globalization is progressing, countries are getting increasingly closer to each other and are becoming more and more interdependent, with their interests overlapping and their fortunes interconnecting. He went on to say that we must, therefore, look at everything with a "global perspective," paying closer attention to mutual benefits and common development. Both China and Japan should possess just such a global outlook as they are confronted by new situations. They should work together on Asian and global issues, always doing their best to help promote peace and development. Difficulties and problems are bound to haunt us in the course of creating a new type of Sino-Japanese relationship. We should not expect otherwise... In view of all this, I am optimistic for the future of Chinese-Japanese relations. I bear in my mind Deng Xiaoping's words: "Sino-Japanese friendship should go on forever. This overrides everything else between us."

The Indian Express, 9 August 2006

### **Chinese Official Executed As Taiwan Spy (Joe Mcdonald)**

BEIJING (AP) -- An official from China's social security fund has been executed on charges of spying for rival Taiwan, a spokesman for the agency said Tuesday, and government employees have been required to watch a video about the case. Tong Daning, director of the general office of the National Social Security Fund, was executed April 21, said Yan Caiping, the agency's chief press officer. Yan said Tong was convicted of spying for Taiwan but wouldn't give any other details.

China Daily, 9 August 2006

### **'Dalai Lama short of religious leader'**

The party chief of China's Tibet Autonomous Region on Tuesday accused the Dalai Lama of engaging in activities unrelated to religion, saying he is an unworthy religious leader. "The Dalai Lama used to be an acknowledged religious leader, which is an undoubted fact, but what he has done makes him unworthy of the title," said Zhang Qingli in an interview with the German weekly Der Spiegel... "The goal of his 'official visits' are to ally himself with 'anti-China' forces and publicize his separatist beliefs, which deviate from the practice of religion," said Zhang. Earlier, the chairman of the Tibetan government Champa Phuntsok described the Dalai Lama as "a politician in Buddhist robes and Italian shoes", quoting media tycoon Rupert Murdoch.

People's Daily, 9 August 2006

### **No double standard in nuclear issues**

Some French diplomats have spoken of the need for a new global framework for Technology Transfer and Regulations, an idea arising from the recent Iranian and DPRK crises, as well as high-tech and weapons controversies and the Airbus-Boeing dispute.

This possible framework could be conceived under the auspices of the United Nations. According to the French idea, the nuclear issue will play a central role in the global framework and help counter the perception of "double standards" among certain powerful nations, whereby developed countries can have access to peaceful nuclear technology while others, especially in the developing world, cannot... Thus the peaceful use of nuclear technology has become a development issue in countries such as Iran, Indonesia, China and India, as well as in developed countries like Britain and the United States. But there is a clear weight to the charges of "double standards," which must be resolved in a global way and in a fair manner. There is no reason why a certain country should be judged to be "safe" or "not safe" in terms of peaceful nuclear use on the basis of its political regime.

China Daily, 10 August 2006

### **China pledges to boost imports**

China will boost imports, loosen controls on outflows of capital and make the yuan more flexible to help curb a record trade surplus and slow the fastest economic growth in a decade, the central bank said. The People's Bank of China will "adjust the policy bias" that encourages exports, the central bank said in a second-quarter monetary report posted on its Web site Wednesday. It forecast the economy will slow "slightly" in the second half, after expanding 10.9 percent in the first six months.

The Hindu, 10 August 2006

### **Food security: China's success story (Pallavi Aiyar)**

Less than 50 years after some devastating famines, China has emerged as the world's third largest food donor... With 1.3 billion mouths to feed and a land mass largely unsuited to agriculture (only around 14 per cent of the territory comprises arable land), China's achievements in vanquishing hunger are all the more impressive. China reached its goal of 95 per cent self-sufficiency in food production around a decade ago, but as Huang Jikun, Director of the Centre for Chinese Agricultural Policy, points out, self-sufficiency does not automatically spell food security. On the parameter of self-sufficiency, China is, in fact, worse off today than 10 years ago. If one takes into account the country's burgeoning imports of soybean, which is officially classified as a grain in China, it is currently less than 90 per cent self-sufficient in grain production, five per cent less than in the mid-1990s. Yet household food security has never been stronger.

China Daily, 11 August 2006

### **China-India crossborder trade 'not ideal'**

China and India last month reopened crossborder trade through the Himalayan Nathu La Pass, but trade is running at a "low level" and was "not ideal," a Chinese official said Thursday. "India has unilaterally imposed restrictions on trade through Nathu La," said Hao Peng, vice chairman of the Tibet Autonomous Region, when meeting with a visiting Indian media delegation in the regional capital of Lhasa. Hao said that India authorizes the export of only 29 items from India to China, and a mere 15 items permitted to enter the Indian market from China. When China opened a trade mart at Renqinggang, some 16 kilometers from the Nathu La Pass, India opened the Changgu mart in neighbouring Sikkim. However, while Indian business people can stay at China's Renqinggang mart,

Chinese traders cannot spend the night at the Indian mart, Hao said... "Trade at the Renqinggang mart is currently less than 100,000 yuan (12,500 U.S. dollars) per week, far less than we had expected," Hao said. China does not impose any restrictions on crossborder trade except for illegal items, and hostels have been built to accommodate Indian traders, he said. "I hope the Indian government will adopt a more egalitarian approach to crossborder trade with China," he said.

China Daily, 11 August 2006

### **Jiang's works enrich Party guiding theories**

The publishing of selected works of former President Jiang Zemin will help the country and Party achieve the goal of building a better-off and modernized society, according to the People's Daily. The People's Daily, in a news article and editorial, summarized and commented on those works, the historical events attached to them, and their historical implications. Jiang's works, the editorial said, will serve as a powerful weapon for steering the study of the important thought of the Three Represents and the building of socialism in line with the country's realities; it is also a great spiritual power inspiring the Party and the Chinese people to push forward in building an overall well-off society in the coming decades... A Party that advances with the times is set to be one that is good at theoretical innovation, and a Party with bold, innovative ideas is bound to become one of vitality, the editorial said, predicting that the nation will be inspired to achieve the great national rejuvenation.

China Daily, 11 August 2006

### **'Income disparity inevitable in China'**

A report released by the State Development and Reform Commission shows that the Gini coefficient, an index for measuring the income disparity, has now reached 0.4, or the maximum point within the appropriate range in China's urban areas... Director of the National Economic Research Institute Fan Gang says the situation of the enlarging income disparity will not change within the next five to ten years at least. For individuals, he says, the absolute amount of their income is increasing. However, compared with other people in society, a person's individual income may not increase as fast as others, and the income gap between an ordinary person in society and high-income earners will become larger.

People's Daily, 12 August 2006

### **Proposals on Taiwan "representation" in UN doomed to failure: FM spokesperson**

China said Friday that proposals raised by a few countries for the so-called "Taiwan's representation in the United Nations" is doomed to failure. On Aug. 10, Burkina Faso, Gambia and a few other countries, instigated by the Taiwan authority, wrote to the UN secretary-general, requesting the 61st session of the UN General Assembly to discuss the issue and a proposal on peace across the Taiwan Straits. "The nature of the two proposals is to carry on 'Taiwan Independence' in the international community and China strongly opposes it," spokesperson Jiang Yu said in a statement. Since 1993, the General Committee of the UN General Assembly has rejected for 13 consecutive times to add the proposals for the so-called "Taiwan's representation in the UN" into the assembly's agenda.

China Daily, 12 August 2006

**Sino-US talks cement mutual trust (Qin Jize)**

A group of US senators who have been in China this week for talks with Chinese lawmakers on a range of bilateral issues will meet President Hu Jintao on Saturday. Headed by Ted Stevens, president pro tempore of the US Senate, and Senator Daniel K. Inouye from the State of Hawaii, the nine-member delegation is the highest ranking US congress delegation to make an official visit to China this year... Stevens said in a press conference on Friday that the meeting had considered China-US relations, the Taiwan question, China's peaceful development, bilateral trade and other regional and international issues. He said the US senators were pleased about the openness with which the Chinese representatives discussed their currency... The NPC and the US Senate set up a regular meeting mechanism in 2004, which made the Chinese legislative body the fifth partner of such an exchange mechanism with the US Senate... NPC statistics showed that in 2005 alone over 20 delegations with more than 100 US senators and congressmen paid official visits to China.

China Daily, 14 August 2006

**Indian, Chinese oil companies buy stake in US firm**

India's State-owned ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) and China's Sinopec jointly bought 50 percent stake in U. S. firm Omimex de Columbia, Indo-Asian News Service reported Sunday. The news agency quoted an anonymous official of OVL as saying that the three firms had exchanged papers for share transfer on Friday and OVL will have 25 percent stake while Sinopec has the rest 25 percent. The deal has implicated about 800 million U.S. dollars, the source said.

The Hindu, 14 August 2006

**Hu's stress on mutual respect in ties with U.S.**

BEIJING: Chinese President Hu Jintao has met Ted Stevens, acting president of the United States Senate, in Beijing and pledged to further China-U.S. ties. Mr. Hu hailed the relations saying the two countries' leaders made frequent visits and reached consensus on bilateral ties and other key issues.

People's Daily, 18 August 2006

**Chinese FM talks over phone with U.S. secretary of state**

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing talked over phone with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Thursday, according to a press release from China's Foreign Ministry. The press release said they exchanged views on how to further implement the consensus reached by Chinese President Hu Jintao and U.S. President George W. Bush at an outreach session of the Group of Eight (G8) summit in Russia's St. Petersburg in July. The ministry gave no further details about the phone talks.

People's Daily, 18 August 2006

**Worst drought hits China, leaving 18 mln people thirsty**

A worst drought in 50 years is hitting China's western, central and northeastern regions, causing drinking water shortage to at least 18 million people and economic loss of 11.74 billion yuan (1.24 billion US dollars) as of Thursday. About 10 million people in the

southwestern Sichuan Province, 7.65 million in Sichuan's neighbor Chongqing Municipality and 600,000 in northeastern Liaoning Province do not have adequate access to drinking water. All the 21 cities in southwestern China's Sichuan Province except Panzhihua have been hit by the drought, which has resulted in an economic loss of 8.87 billion yuan (1.11 billion dollars), the provincial disaster relief office said Thursday...

People's Daily, 18 August 2006

### **Campaign to oust Chen gathers pace**

A campaign to unseat Taiwan "president" Chen Shui-bian for alleged corruption has gained momentum after more than 600,000 people threw their support behind it in just four days. "Support from the public is far beyond our expectations. The passion among the people is gathering at an amazing pace," said Ho De-fen, spokesman for the campaign. The campaign, which was launched last weekend by Shih Ming-teh, one of Chen's former allies, has also collected almost NT\$ 66 million (US\$2.1 million) in donations to keep it moving forward, Ho said...

People's Daily, 19 August 2006

### **Japan to restart disposal of wartime chemical weapons in China's Jilin**

The Japanese Cabinet said Friday it will begin collecting and disposing of abandoned wartime chemical weapons in Dunhua, of China's Jilin Province, next week, with support from the Chinese government. The project, which will run from Aug. 22 till Sept. 26, is the third in Dunhua. During the first and second time in October to November, 2005 and in May-June, 2006 respectively, a total of 605 shells of chemical weapons have been collected from Dunhua. Chinese official statistics show that Japan abandoned at least 2 million tons of chemical weapons at about 40 sites in 15 Chinese provinces at the end of World War II, most of them in the three northeast provinces of Heilongjiang, Jilin and Liaoning. In the past nine years, China and Japan have worked together to investigate, excavate, retrieve and pack the dumped weapons. So far 37,499 chemical weapons and 200 tons of contaminated items have been collected, but none have been destroyed...

People's Daily, 19 August 2006

### **Experts say Chongqing drought not caused by Three Gorges Project**

Experts dismissed a rumor spreading on the Internet that the drought in Chongqing was related to the Three Gorges Project as a "story without any scientific basis." Sichuan's Bureau of Meteorology and Geophysics (BMG) reported on Thursday that the high temperatures and drought in Sichuan Province are the most severe since the BMG began keeping meteorological records in 1951. The Sichuan BMG believes the high temperatures and drought partially reflect global climate change, which is leading to more frequent and extreme weather, a trend exemplified by the series of coastal typhoons that have hit China. These recent coastal typhoons are a major cause of the region's heat wave. Kept down by the typhoon, the subtropical high cannot move forward. As a result, it has been controlling most parts of Sichuan for some time...

People's Daily, 20 August 2006

**Koizumi's war shrine visit seriously affects improvement of China-Japan relations, state councilor**

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's latest visit to the Yasukuni Shrine has seriously affected the improvement of China-Japan relations and hurt the international image and national interest of Japan. Chinese State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan said in Beijing Sunday when meeting with Doi Takako, honorary leader of the Social Democratic Party of Japan. Koizumi visited the Yasukuni Shrine on August 15, anniversary of Japan's surrender in World War II. Tang said the deadlock of Sino-Japanese political relations lies in that the Japanese leaders insist to visit the Shrine which honors Japanese "class A" war criminals. Koizumi's visit severely harms the feeling of the people victimized by Japanese militarist aggression and damages the political basis of Sino-Japanese relations, he said...

People's Daily, 21 August 2006

**New deal for railway investment**

Measures are being drawn up to attract investors to China's 2 trillion yuan (US\$250 billion) railway expansion. The Ministry of Railways is fast-tracking legislation to encourage foreign and domestic firms to invest in railway construction projects, said a spokesman. For the first time, the ministry plans to give investors more say in ticket and freight pricing, said Wang Yongping. Other measures include setting up a transparent system to ensure railway companies receive a fair share of ticket revenues. Meanwhile, three new regulations will be drafted to ensure foreign and domestic investors are clear about how to get into the railway construction and transportation industry, said Wang in a recent interview...

People's Daily, 21 August 2006

**Canadian Navy frigate "REGINA" concludes China visit**

The Canadian navy frigate "REGINA" left the Shanghai's Yangtze River Port on Sunday, concluding a 6-day friendly visit. The vessel with 233 people on board is commanded by Commodore Bruce Donaldson, Commander of the Canadian Pacific Fleet. Senior colonel Shen Changkang, the Chinese Navy's Shanghai base vice-chief of staff, held a ceremony at the port to send off the REGINA. During the visit, Commodore Donaldson and other Canadian naval officers met with Major General Wang Deding of the Chinese Navy's Shanghai base and vice-mayor of Shanghai Feng Guoqin...

China Daily, 22 August 2006

**Hu, Bush to boost economic, trade ties**

Chinese President Hu Jintao on Monday exchanged views with U.S. President George W. Bush on the phone on cementing economic dialogue and promoting bilateral trade ties. Bush first extended his condolences over China's losses sustained from a recent typhoon that hit several coastal provinces in southeast China. Bush said Washington hoped that the U.S.-China economic dialogue and cooperation would be enhanced, which would surely inject fresh impetus to the already robust economic and trade relations between the two countries. Hu said that with the strengthening of the economic ties between China and the United States, enhanced bilateral economic dialogue would be conducive to the

economic and trade cooperation and the development of the constructive cooperative relationship between the two countries...

People's Daily, 22 August 2006

**China, Kazakhstan team up for terror drill**

China and Kazakhstan will start their first joint anti-terrorism exercise on Thursday, aiming to strengthen co-operation between their respective law enforcement agencies, the Ministry of Public Security announced yesterday. The three-day exercise named "Tianshan I" will be conducted in Southeast Kazakhstan's Almaty Province and Yining in Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. It is the first joint anti-terrorism exercise between law-enforcement departments of the two neighbouring countries, which are both members of the Shanghai Co-operation Organization (SCO), the ministry said...

People's Daily, 22 August 2006

**Interview: China, Vietnam unceasingly foster bilateral ties**

China and Vietnam have similar political institutions, same national situations, mutual understanding and assistance, comprehensive cooperation for joint benefit and development, which are important characters of their ties in the new century, promoting the all-round cooperation between the two parties and two countries, a Chinese official told Xinhua on Monday. The bilateral relations, in recent years, have seen dramatic development, shown in four aspects, Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Hu Qianwen said on the occasion of a visit to China by General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Nong Duc Manh...

China Daily, 23 August 2006

**Chinese, Vietnamese leaders hold talks**

Chinese communist party leader and President Hu Jintao held talks with Vietnamese communist party leader Nong Duc Manh in Beijing on Tuesday. They agreed to further boost trade, properly handle border issues and enhance security cooperation. Hu and Manh agreed to inherit and carry forward traditional friendship, enhance friendship and mutual understanding, expand mutual beneficial cooperation, promote common development and lift bilateral good-neighborhood and all-round cooperation to a new height...

People's Daily, 23 August 2006

**Bhutanese FM concludes China tour**

Bhutanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Khandu Wangchuk left Chengdu, capital city of southwest China's Sichuan Province, on Wednesday afternoon, concluding his China tour. Wangchuk arrived in Beijing on Aug. 15 for the 18th talks on China-Bhutan boundary issue at the invitation of Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing.

People's Daily, 24 August 2006

**China says it will adhere to "mutual benefits and win-win" strategy in opening up**

China said it will adhere to a "mutual benefits and win-win" strategy in its exchanges with the rest of the world. According to the central meeting on foreign affairs work held in Beijing on Monday through Wednesday, China will transform the growth mode of

foreign trade, expand the ratio of service trade, take concrete steps to protect intellectual property rights, accelerate construction of free trade zones with other countries and regions, and coordinate the development of imports and exports...

People's Daily, 25 August 2006

### **China, Vietnam agree to accelerate joint oil exploration at Beibu Gulf**

China and Vietnam are to accelerate oil and gas exploration and extraction in border waters of the Beibu Gulf, says a joint statement released on Thursday evening. The joint communique states that during Vietnamese leader Nong Duc Manh's visit to China from Aug. 22 to 26, the two countries have reached a series of agreements on borders, trade, investment, loans and sub-regional economic areas. China and Vietnam have agreed to take further steps to settle disputed borders. The two countries agreed to steadily advance negotiations on settling borders in the waters outside the mouth of the Beibu Gulf and actively discuss joint development of the area...

China Daily, 25 August 2006

### **Energy deals inked with Venezuela (Qin Jize)**

China and Venezuela, the world's fifth-largest oil exporter, yesterday signed a series of agreements including two on expanded energy co-operation. The agreements, ranging from trade and energy to infrastructure and tourism, were inked after President Hu Jintao met visiting Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. In one of the energy deals, China National Petroleum Corp (CNPC) and PDVSA, the State-owned Venezuelan energy company, agreed to jointly develop Venezuela's Orinoco oil belt, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Another agreement calls for the two companies to jointly explore an oil field in Venezuela's Sumano region...

People's Daily, 25 August 2006

### **Writethru: China, Kazakhstan stage joint anti-terror drill**

China and Kazakhstan on Thursday finished the first phase of a joint anti-terror drill in Kazakhstan's eastern Almaty region. The three-day exercise, code-named "Tianshan-I (2006)," drew the participation of law enforcement bodies and special forces of the two countries. This is the first-ever joint anti-terror exercise between the two countries' law enforcement bodies and special forces within the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)...

People's Daily, 26 August 2006

### **China kicks off second phase of joint anti-terror drill**

China started the second phase of its joint anti-terror drill with its western neighbor Kazakhstan at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday in Yining, western China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The "Tianshan-I (2006)" exercise in Yining will last till Saturday noon, the Chinese police authority announced, with Chinese troops mainly composed of border police and anti-terror special force in Xinjiang. Some 700 police force are deployed on the game equipped with advanced weapons including armed helicopters and armored anti-riot vehicles, the police said. The Yining game consists of five parts, simulating a battle in which Chinese guards will gradually force the terrorists into a narrow valley and cliff caves, the source said...

People's Daily, 26 August 2006

**China willing to start FTA negotiation with Singapore, says vice premier**

China is willing to start negotiations with Singapore on a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), said Chinese Vice Premier Wu Yi on Friday. Wu made the remark when holding talks with Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Wong Kan Seng. The two also co-chaired the third meeting of the China-Singapore Joint Council for Bilateral Cooperation on Friday. Wu said China is willing to start the FTA negotiations with Singapore on the basis of the framework of the FTA between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)...

People's Daily, 27 August 2006

**Panchen Lama says railway sure to benefit Tibetans**

The Qinghai-Tibet Railway will undoubtedly bring benefits to the Tibetan people, said the 11th Panchen Lama on Saturday while visiting the Lhasa railway station. "It's apparent that the railway will promote the economic and social development of Tibet," said the 11th Panchen Lama, or Bainqen Erdini Qoigyijabu...Describing the railway as a link for national unity, the young lama said that he believes the railroad will help promote exchanges between Tibetans and other ethnic groups in China...

People's Daily, 28 August 2006

**China's legislature ratifies pact with Pakistan to fight "three evil forces"**

China's top legislature ratified an agreement to fight terrorism, separatism and extremism with Pakistan on Sunday. The Sino-Pakistan Cooperative Agreement on Combating the "Three Evil Forces", which was submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) on Aug. 22 for deliberation, defines terrorism, separatism and extremism, and outlines the scope of cooperation between the countries. The pact, which was signed in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan, in April 2005, is the second international pact signed by China and foreign countries after the agreement with Kirghizia, Kazakhstan, Tadjikistan and Uzbekistan to safeguard regional peace and stability...

People's Daily, 28 August 2006

**Tibet's new railway to extend to China-Nepal border: official**

China's newly-built railway to Tibet will be extended to the border between China and Nepal, a local official said on Sunday. Meeting with visiting Nepali Deputy Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli, Qiangba Puncog, chairman of the government of the Tibet Autonomous Region, said Tibet is a remote place that is looking forward to being connected to south Asia. The railway extension will promote business exchanges, he said...

People's Daily, 29 August 2006

**Qinghai-Tibet Railway may extend to Nepal**

China plans to extend the newly-built Qinghai-Tibet railway to neighbouring Nepal to expand trade with South Asia, Xinhua News Agency yesterday quoted a top Tibet official as saying. Qiangba Puncog, chairman of the Tibet Autonomous Region, made the remarks on Sunday to visiting Nepalese Deputy Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli in Lhasa, Tibet's capital. Oli, who arrived in Lhasa on Saturday for an eight-day formal visit

to China, said the Nepalese Government hopes the railway can connect the two countries and that the two countries will co-operate on the construction...

People's Daily, 30 August 2006

### **SCO judges to meet in Shanghai next month**

Supreme Court presidents and other senior judges from Shanghai Co-operative Organization (SCO) member states will meet next month to enhance judicial co-operation. In total about 50 senior judges from China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan will discuss extradition procedures and cross-border action to fight the "three forces" of terrorism, separatism and extremism. "Judicial procedures will be the theme of the summit," said Wan E'xiang, vice-president of the Supreme People's Court...

People's Daily, 30 August 2006

### **China-Russia cooperation deepening: Premier Wen**

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said on Tuesday that China-Russia cooperation was constantly deepening. "China-Russia ties have developed at a sound momentum and cooperation has constantly deepened," Wen told the visiting Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Dmitri Medvedev. As neighbors and important international players, China and Russia should view their relations from a long-term and global perspective. Wen said activities to celebrate the Year of Russia in China were progressing smoothly and would greatly promote exchanges and cooperation in politics, legislatures, economy, science, technology and among people...

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People's Daily, 31 August 2006

### **China voices opposition to Japan over East China Sea issue**

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang on Wednesday said the Chinese government opposed Japan "making new trouble" over the disputed East China Sea area. Qin made the remark in response to reports in some Japanese media that Japan had protested China's recent gas exploration operations in the East China Sea. He said China conducted oil and gas exploration operations on its own continental shelf of the East China Sea, which was "beyond reproach". "China and Japan do have some disagreements on the demarcation of the East China Sea," Qin said, calling for the two sides to resolve the issue through negotiations...

China Daily, 31 August 2006

**Last year's GDP growth revised upward to 10.2%**

China's economy grew 10.2 per cent last year, instead of the previously announced 9.9 per cent, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) announced yesterday with the difference in monetary terms amounting to nearly US\$10 billion. The bureau revised the 2005 gross domestic product from 18.2321 trillion yuan (US\$2.279 trillion), as announced in January, to 18.3085 trillion yuan (US\$2.289 trillion). The difference was mainly contributed by manufacturing, mining and agriculture while growth in the services, or tertiary, industry was smaller than previously thought. The service industry totalled some 7.339 trillion yuan (US\$917.37 billion) in NBS' January report, but was revised to 7.296 trillion yuan (US\$912 billion)...