

People's Daily, 1 June 2007

China launches "SinoSat-3" communications satellite

China on early Friday morning launched "SinoSat-3", a communications satellite for radio and television broadcasting, aboard a Long March-3A carrier rocket, marking the 100th flight of its Long March series. The satellite, launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in the southwest Sichuan province at 0:08 a.m. (Beijing Time), separated from the rocket about 24 minutes after lift-off, before entering the geosynchronous orbit, data from the northwest Xi'an Satellite Control center show. SinoSat-3 and its carrier rocket, were mainly developed and manufactured by the China Academy of Space Technology and the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology, both under the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation. Its predecessor SinoSat-2, China's first direct-to-home satellite, was launched on Oct. 29 last year. It was revealed a month later that it failed to deploy its solar panels and communication antennae and was deemed inoperable, the Sino Satellite Communications Co. Ltd. (SinoSat), a Chinese satellite operator and the user of the SinoSat series, has said...

People's Daily, 1 June 2007

Wu to attend economic forum in Russia

Vice-Premier Wu Yi will leave for Russia next week to attend the 11th St Petersburg International Economic Forum and a number of other programs associated with the "Year of China" in Russia, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu said yesterday. As the chairwoman of the organizing committee of the "Year of China", Wu will attend a round-table discussion on China-Russia trade and investment cooperation and the opening ceremony of "Shanghai Week". The annual St Petersburg International Economic Forum is the largest of its kind in the Commonwealth of Independent States and central and eastern Europe...

People's Daily, 2 June 2007

China wants to be active contributor to Asia-Pacific security: military official

China would strive for a peaceful international environment to develop, and try to better contribute to world peace, a senior Chinese military official said in Singapore on Saturday. Zhang Qinsheng, Deputy Chief of General Staff of People's Liberation Army of China, made the remarks while speaking at the plenary session of an annual Asia Security Summit, also known as the Shangri-La Dialogue, after the name of the Singapore hotel at which the event takes place. China tries to be an active contributor to Asia-Pacific security and stability, he said. He noted that the fundamentals of the Chinese Asia-Pacific security policy are maintaining peace and security, facilitating dialogue and cooperation, as well as advocating harmony and common prosperity...

People's Daily, 3 June 2007

China, U.S. to open hotline: military official

China will in September finalize issues concerning a hotline with the United States for handling emergency, a senior Chinese military official told the Sixth Asia Security Summit here Saturday. Zhang Qinsheng, deputy chief of General Staff of the People's Liberation Army of China, also the highest-ranking Chinese officer to have attended the three-day security summit, known as the Shangri-La Dialogue, made the remarks at the

second plenary session titled "India and China: building international stability." He said the technical issues had been settled and he would attend a meeting in Washington in September to "finalize" the agreement. On China's defense budget for 2007 of 350.921 billion yuan (about 44.9 billion U.S. dollars), he said the figure is "true and authentic"...

People's Daily, 3 June 2007

Indian defense chief says India-China relations undergo significant improvement

India's defense Minister A.K. Antony said Saturday that India-China relations had undergone a significant improvement. "As we both expand and integrate with the global economy, new opportunities offer themselves to refashion our ties," Antony told the sixth Asia Security Summit, also known as the Shangri-La Dialogue. "On major global issues, we often have converging positions and shared interests," he said at the second plenary session of the conference titled "India and China: Building International Stability." He added that "We are committed to settling bilateral issues in a fair and transparent manner."...

The Indian Express, 3 June 2007

Antony skirts China issue at security meet

With relations with China taking a beating over the IAS officers' visit fiasco, Defence Minister AK Antony made little reference to the Asian giant during his speech at the sixth Asian Security Conference in Singapore on Saturday. In his 20 minute address at the start of a plenary session on "China and India: Building International Stability", the Defence Minister said little about China other than "our relations have undergone a significant improvement" and that the two countries were committed to settling bilateral issue in a "fair and transparent" manner...

The Hindu, 3 June 2007

India, China say their rise shouldn't alarm world

India and China on Saturday reiterated that their current status as rising powers, independent of each other, would help in stabilising the global political order. At a plenary session of the sixth Asia Security Conference, organised here by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), India and China allayed the fears about their autonomous policies of possessing nuclear weapons. The United States, which initiated the deliberations, sounded a note of "optimism" on its ties with China at this stage. U.S. Defence Secretary Robert Gates hailed the expanding U.S.-India relationship...

People's Daily, 4 June 2007

China, S.Korea, Japan agree to promote cooperation for common development

Foreign ministers of China, South Korea and Japan held a meeting in Je Ju Island, South Korea on Sunday and agreed to promote common development and safeguard regional peace and stability. At the one-day meeting among the foreign ministers of the three neighbor countries, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said all the three countries share common interests and responsibility in maintaining regional peace, boosting common development and building harmony in the region. Yang and his South Korean counterpart Song Min-soon and Japanese counterpart Aso Taro arrived here on Sunday to

join the one-day meeting. The three sides agreed that the dialogue and cooperation among the three countries is important for regional peace and stability as well as the common development in the region, said a spokesman for the Chinese delegation...

The Hindu, 4 June 2007

Peace along border with China: Antony

Defence Minister A.K. Antony on Sunday expressed satisfaction that "there is, by and large, peace and tranquillity along the India-China border, even though there is no well-defined Line of Actual Control (LAC)." Discounting the "minor aberrations" that might take place "here and there" along the LAC, Mr. Antony hailed the latest bilateral accord on the army-to-army joint exercise as "a major breakthrough." The Minister briefly met Lieutenant General Zhang Qinsheng, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army, during the sixth Asia Security Conference, which concluded here on Sunday...

People's Daily, 5 June 2007

China takes effective measures to tackle climate change: minister

China has worked hard to adjust its economic structure to improve energy saving and cut emissions, Ma Kai, minister in charge of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), said in an article published by The Financial Times Monday. The minister said from 1991 to 2005, with national energy consumption rising each year by 5.6 percent, China sustained an annual economic growth rate of 10 percent and lowered its energy consumption per unit of gross domestic product by 47 percent, saving 800 million tons of coal and cutting 1.8 billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions. According to the minister, the central government had by April 2007 approved 383 projects in wind, hydro and biofuel power generation, and the use of methane gas from coal beds, which in total will cut emissions by 1 billion tons...

People's Daily, 5 June 2007

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People's Daily, 6 June 2007

Missile defense system 'could harm stability'

Beijing yesterday reiterated its position on the US missile defense system in Northeast Asia, urging all the parties to act with discretion. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu said China has always said a missile defense system would impact global strategic stability and could give rise to a new proliferation. "It's not conducive to the mutual trust between the major powers or regional security," she said at a regular press briefing. Jiang's remarks comes after a weekend conference on Asian security held in Singapore,

during which the US and Japan discussed building a joint missile defense system. The two countries said the defense shield would be used as a protection against possible missile attacks by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)...

The Indian Express, 7 June 2007

China draws another hardline on Arunachal (Pranab Dhal Samanta)

BERLIN, JUNE 6: Signalling a gradual hardening of its position on Arunachal Pradesh, new Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi has conveyed to Indian counterpart Pranab Mukherjee in Hamburg last week that mere presence of populated areas would not affect Chinese claims on the boundary. It's learnt that Yang's remarks have surprised New Delhi. For, Article 7 in the agreement between both countries two years ago, clearly indicated the contrary. It stated: "In reaching a boundary settlement, the two sides shall safeguard due interests of their settled populations in the border areas." It's also being seen as a dampener given that India was keen on obtaining a concession on the Chinese claim when Prime Minister Manmohan Singh visits China later this year...

People's Daily, 7 June 2007

China, Kazakhstan vow to boost energy cooperation

China and Kazakhstan on Wednesday vowed to deepen the cooperation on energy and resources. "Based on the current projects, China and Kazakhstan should further boost the cooperation on energy, resources and other fields," Chinese Vice Premier Zeng Peiyan said in a meeting with Kazak Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Minister Aslan Musin in Beijing on Wednesday. Musin was invited to Beijing by China's CITIC Group, which acquired the Kazakhstan oil assets of Canada's Nations Energy Company Ltd. for 1.91 billion U.S. dollars at the end of 2006...

People's Daily, 7 June 2007

China committed to peaceful uses of outer space: envoy

China will as always continue to make its contributions to the peaceful uses of outer space, said Tang Guoqiang, head of the Chinese Delegation at the 50th Session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS), on Wednesday. It will also support and participate in the work of the committee under various items, said Tang, who is also the Chinese permanent representative to the UN and other international organizations in Vienna. Recognizing the exploration and use of outer space should serve peaceful purposes and seek benefits for mankind, Tang stressed the need to "adopt further measures to prevent an outer-space weaponization and an arms race." ...

People's Daily, 7 June 2007

China, U.S. finish technical talks on mega-port initiative

China and the United States have finished their technical talks on the mega-port initiative late May, signaling an important step for cooperation between the two countries on preventing illegal transport of radioactive materials, said sources with Chinese Foreign Ministry on Wednesday. China and the United States signed a memorandum of understanding on the mega-port plan in November, 2005 and kicked off technical talks on the 11 annexes of memorandum in February, 2006. The mega-port initiative, as an important part of China-U.S. cooperation on fighting terrorism, is aimed at preventing

illegal transport of nuclear and other radioactive materials by installing detection system in relevant ports, said a press release from the foreign ministry...

People's Daily, 7 June 2007

China, U.S. agree to deepen parliamentary exchanges

Sheng Huaren, vice-chairman of China's National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, met U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney in the White House on Wednesday and both sides agreed to further consolidate and deepen inter-parliamentary exchanges. Sheng told Cheney that the Chinese side attaches great importance to the Sino-U.S. ties and has always been treating bilateral relationship from strategic and long-term perspectives. Sheng, who led an NPC delegation to attend the fourth meeting with the U.S. Senate under a parliamentary exchange mechanism on Tuesday and Wednesday, said China is willing to continue to work with the U.S. to implement consensus reached between Chinese President Hu Jintao and U.S. President George W. Bush, and to make joint efforts to ensure a sound and steady development of constructive bilateral cooperation...

The Indian Express, 7 June 2007

Joint military exercise with China in October

To further strengthen military ties with China, the Indian Army will field a platoon for a joint exercise with the country beginning this October. To enhance inter-operability in the counter terrorism scenario, a company headquarters with around 100 troops will be stationed in China to carry out joint exercises with the Chinese Army, Chief of Army General J J Singh said on the sidelines of a defence function today. Last month, General Singh - in his capacity of Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) - the first for a COSC and third for an Army Chief, had led a tri-services delegation to China to discuss proposals for joint exercises. The details of this were being worked out by groups of both countries...

The Indian Express, 7 June 2007

China draws another hardline on Arunachal

Signalling a gradual hardening of its position on Arunachal Pradesh, new Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi has conveyed to Indian counterpart Pranab Mukherjee in Hamburg last week that "mere presence" of populated areas would not affect Chinese claims on the boundary. It's learnt that Yang's remarks have surprised New Delhi. For, Article 7 in the agreement between both countries two years ago, clearly indicated the contrary. It state:: "In reaching a boundary settlement, the two sides shall safeguard due interests of their settled populations in the border areas." It also being seen as a dampener given that India was keen on obtaining a concession on the Chinese claim when Prime Minister Manmohan Singh visits China later this year...

The Indian Express, 8 June 2007

China our greatest neighbour, says PM, downplays the chill

Moving away from any public posturing on controversial issues, including the recent hardening of Beijing's stand on Arunachal Pradesh, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today struck a conciliatory tone with Chinese President Hu Jintao calling China "our greatest neighbour" and that New Delhi would "do everything" to cement this

relationship. "Our Government, and I speak for all people regardless of their political affiliations, want the strongest relationship with China. China is our greatest neighbour and it will be and it has been a constant endeavour of my government to do everything in our power to cement our relationship," he said in a brief session open to the media...

People's Daily, 9 June 2007

Hu, Abe agree to push forward Sino-Japanese relations

Chinese President Hu Jintao said in Heiligendamm Friday that China will make concerted efforts with Japan to advance their strategic, mutually-beneficial relationship. Hu made the remarks when meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on the sidelines of the meeting between the Group of Eight major industrialized nations and five major developing countries in Germany's Baltic resort of Heiligendamm. President Hu lauded the efforts made by Abe, the Japanese government and people of all walks of life in developing China-Japan relations, saying bilateral ties are faced with an important opportunity of further development...

People's Daily, 9 June 2007

China, U.S. hold consultations on IPR protection

China and the United States have held consultations in Geneva on issues involving the protection of intellectual property rights (IPR), the Chinese Mission to the World Trade Organization (WTO) said on Saturday. The consultations were held from Thursday to Friday within the framework of the WTO's dispute settlement system. The United States had earlier complained to the WTO about copyright piracy in China. In the consultations, China reiterated that it had always attached great importance to the protection of intellectual property rights. Since its accession to the WTO, China has honored its WTO commitments and undertaken international obligations on intellectual property rights (IPR) and made great achievements on IPR legislation and enforcement which are well recognized and highly valued by the entire world, the Chinese delegation said...

People's Daily, 11 June 2007

Hu says China firmly committed to peaceful development

China is firmly committed to peaceful development and endeavors to uphold world peace and common development internationally, Chinese President Hu Jintao said Sunday in Stockholm. "China's continued and fast economic development has become a major driving force behind the stable growth of the global economy," Hu said in a speech delivered at a welcome dinner hosted by the Sweden-China Trade Council. Since the launch of the reform and opening-up program in 1978, he said, China has witnessed a rapidly-growing economy, boosted its productivity and increased the well-being of its people. Between 1978 and 2006, China's gross domestic product jumped from 216.5 billion U.S. dollars to more than 2.6 trillion dollars, growing at an average annual rate of 9.6 percent. China's fast economic development has both improved the lives of the Chinese people and offered more development opportunities to the world, he said...

People's Daily, 11 June 2007

China-ASEAN association delegation visits Myanmar

A delegation of the China-ASEAN Association, led by its president Gu Xioulian, arrived

here on Sunday for a five-day goodwill visit to Myanmar. Gu, who is also Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress, is accompanied by officials of the association and those of provincial-level people's associations for friendship with foreign countries as well as a business group made up of nearly two dozen members. Greeting Gu at the Yangon International Airport were Yangon Mayor Brigadier-General Aung Thein Lin and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Guan Mu as well as representatives of overseas Chinese in Myanmar...

People's Daily, 12 June 2007

3,500 Japanese wartime bombs found buried in northeast China

Three thousand five hundred bombs abandoned by Japanese troops during World War II have been unearthed from the base of a hill in Dunhua City in northeast China's Jilin Province, police said on Tuesday. The bombs, weighing more than 40 tons, were found buried in a rectangular pit 15 meters long and two meters wide at the foot of a small hill in Dunhua's Shaheyuan Township, which was once the site of a Japanese military airport, police said. The bombs, potentially the biggest weapon find ever in Jilin, were discovered by three local farmers from Daqiao Township on June 3 using a metal detector to find scrap iron left by Japanese troops which they hoped to sell for money, police said. The bombs were in a good state of preservation. Experts from the local bomb disposal center said that if the largest one -- weighing around 35 kg -- were to explode, people and livestock within a radius of at least five km would be in danger...

People's Daily, 12 June 2007

Ninth meeting of Nepal-China non-governmental co-operation forum inaugurated

The ninth meeting of the Nepal- China non-governmental co-operation forum is inaugurated Tuesday in capital Kathmandu. The forum, established in 1996, is co-organized by the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) and All China Federation of Industry and Commerce (ACFIC). This ninth meeting's theme is "Prosperity through investment and tourism". The meeting is inaugurated by Finance Minister of Nepal Ram Sharan Mahat by lighting panas (a kind of lamp). For the first three months, China's foreign trade with Nepal witnesses great leap with total amount reaching 71 million U.S. dollars increased by 46.99 percent, with exporting 66 million U.S. dollars increased by 41.88 percent and importing 5 million U.S. dollars increased by 176.57 percent, during his speech, Chinese delegation leader, ACFIC vice chairman Zhang Longzhi introduced...

The China Post, 12 June 2007

Taiwan candidates differ on Chinese views toward island

Taiwan's opposing presidential candidates pledged Monday to work for better relations with rival China, but differed markedly on whether Beijing would prove receptive to their overtures. Ma Ying-jeou and Frank Hsieh spoke to reporters separately, as campaigning for the island's March 2008 election swung into high gear. Ma represents the main opposition Nationalist Party, which favors eventual unification with the mainland, while Hsieh is the candidate of the independence-leaning Democratic Progressive Party, in power since current President Chen Shui-bian's election in 2000...

Taipei Times, 12 June 2007

Ma remains a walking contradiction

Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) presidential candidate Ma Ying-jeou came out with the latest in a long line of twisted policy ideas on Sunday during a visit to Taipei Port. If one is to believe Ma, then the nation can further relax cross-strait restrictions, allow most of its high-tech and manufacturing operations to relocate to China and somehow increase the amount of container ships leaving the nation's ports....

People's Daily, 13 June 2007

Big coal deposit found

A coalfield with reserves of 20.5 billion tons has been discovered in North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Located in Hunlunbuir, east Inner Mongolia, the coalfield will mainly produce brown coal, which can be used in thermal power stations and in coal-to-chemical products, according to the local geological & mineral prospecting & exploitation bureau. Analysts said the coalfield would help ease the demand for energy in Northeast China. It is expected to have a life output of more than 10 billion tons, and its annual production could be between 10 million and 20 million tons, said an official of the China National Coal Association, who declined to be named...

People's Daily, 13 June 2007

Talks with US to boost bilateral ties

The fourth round of Sino-US strategic dialogue, to be held in Washington from June 20, is expected to boost the healthy development of bilateral ties. The three-day dialogue will be co-chaired by Deputy Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo and US Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte. Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a press conference yesterday that the dialogue mechanism, based on the consensus reached by Presidents Hu Jintao and George W. Bush in 2004, has become an important platform for the two sides to discuss strategic and political issues. China and the US are stakeholders and constructional partners, Qin said, and will have an in-depth exchange of views on major bilateral issues on the basis of the three previous rounds of dialogue...

Taipei Times, 13 June 2007

Ma Ying-jeou visiting India, Singapore

Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) presidential candidate Ma Ying-jeou arrived in New Delhi yesterday for a whirlwind two-day visit at the invitation of the Indian government. During his stay, Ma will visit major Indian information technology industry associations, including the powerful National Association of Software and Service Companies. Ma, a former KMT chairman and a two-term mayor of Taipei from 1998 to last year, will also meet India's ruling Congress Party leader Karan Singh and Rajnath Singh, chairman of the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party for wide-ranging talks...

The Indian Express, 13 June 2007

Taiwan presidential candidate wants clear bilateral ties with India

Sixty five years after Chinese Nationalist Party (Kuomintang or KMT) chairman Chiang Kai Shek came to India in 1942, his political inheritor Ma Ying-jeou - KMT's presidential candidate in 2008 polls in Taiwa - is here on a two-day visit. His prescription for the

India-Taiwan relationship is clear: he is interested only in "bilateral" and not trilateral relations - through China - with India. In a first visit by a Taiwan leader to India after 60 years - the last visit took place in 1947 - Ma said, "We are old friends. I want a new beginning." His statement assumes significance as he delinked India-Taiwan relations from the shadow of China...

The Indian Express, 13 June 2007

Taiwan acts tough on visas for 2 archers from Sikkim, India calls off its tour

India has called off a tour by its junior archers to Taiwan for an international tournament there after the Taiwan Trade and Cultural office here denied visa to two archers from Sikkim, demanding additional proof of nationality, apart from their Indian passports. "The tour has been called off. The Taiwan trade and cultural office did not believe the date and place of birth that was given in the Indian passport. They wanted added proof, in the form of domicile certificates. We did not agree because the passport is a document issued by the Indian government," Paresh Nath Mukherjee, senior vice-president, Archery Association of India told The Indian Express...

People's Daily, 14 June 2007

China warns U.S. not to exert pressure on trade problem

China on Thursday urged the Congress of the United States not to press it to resolve trade-related problems. "We hope U.S. senators would not politicize economic and trade issues, and not resolve the issues by exerting pressure," Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said at a regular press conference. Qin made the remarks in response to a bill introduced on Wednesday by four U.S. senators that aims to press China to let the RMB rise more quickly. "The two sides should resolve trade problems in the principle of equal consultation," He added. He also hoped the U.S. Congress would view the importance of the healthy and stable development of China-U.S. relations from a strategic height, and properly handle trade frictions...

The China Post, 14 June 2007

Stop cross-strait war over recognition: Ma

Kuomintang presidential candidate Ma Ying-jeou has called for a "cease-fire" across the strait, saying he would not be seeking mutual recognition between Taiwan and China, but "mutual non-denial." He was cited by the United Evening News as saying in India that Taipei and Beijing should consider a "cease-fire" for their expensive war to undermine each other's diplomatic ties. He said Taiwan is no longer rich enough to fight the diplomatic war, while China probably also thinks that it is not worth spending so much money on such diplomatic wrangling, according to the paper...

Taipei Times, 14 June 2007

China's choice for Taiwan's next leader

Now that Frank Hsieh has won the Democratic Progressive Party's (DPP) nomination and Ma Ying-jeou the Chinese Nationalist Party's (KMT), one has to wonder what preference China has for one or the other. China's pick would seem obvious. The DPP is the party of independence, anathema to Beijing's leaders. Ma calls for unification - China's declared policy. Chinese officials have applauded Ma's positions on a host of issues. China has

even published a complimentary biography of Ma...

People's Daily, 15 June 2007

Africa wants close cooperation with China, India

Africa is not afraid of China and India and Africa wants close cooperation with the two Asian giants, a senior South African government official said in Cape Town on Thursday. South African Trade and Industry Minister Mandisi Mpahlwa made the statement at a plenary session on Africa and Asia at the on-going World Economic Forum on Africa. The minister noted that those concerns about China and India come from developed countries, especially those countries which had a long colonial rule over African countries...

People's Daily, 15 June 2007

Macao-based bank remits DPRK-linked 20 mln U.S. dollars

Banco Delta Asia, a Macao-based bank, has remitted a sum of over 20 million U.S. dollars out of Macao, raising hopes for solving the impasse over the denuclearization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). A government press release from the Information Bureau issued on late Thursday quoted Francis Tam Pak Yuen, Secretary for Economy and Finance, as saying that the money is from dozens of accounts and the remittance was done according to the instruction of several dozens of clients from the DPRK. "The affairs had come to an end for Macao," the official was cited...

The Indian Express, 15 June 2007

More than one China, Is India finally recognising the strategic value of engaging with Taiwan?

That it has taken 65 years for a leader of the Chinese Nationalist Party, better known as KMT, to follow the footsteps of Chiang Kaishek, says a lot about India's unimaginative China policy. New Delhi's decision to serenade Ma Yingjeou, the KMT's presidential candidate in the impending general elections in Taiwan, suggests the dawn of a new pragmatism. India's 'One China' policy had become a mantra as New Delhi bristled with greater hostility towards Taiwan than even Beijing did. Despite initiating "unofficial" ties with Taiwan in 1992, New Delhi has refused to build on the many opportunities for a deeper relationship. No one in Taiwan expects India to extend diplomatic recognition. While all major powers have pursued expansive engagement with Taiwan, within the rubric of a 'one China' policy, New Delhi was paralysed by what Beijing might think or say...

People's Daily, 16 June 2007, 16 June 2007

China voices stern objection to Australian PM meeting Dalai Lama

A Chinese spokesman voiced strong dissatisfaction and stern objections to Australia allowing the Dalai Lama to visit Australia and meet with Australian Prime Minister John Howard. "Turning a deaf ear to China's representations, the Australian side has allowed the Dalai Lama to visit Australia and to meet with Australian political leaders, including the prime minister. We consider this a rude intervention in China's internal affairs", spokesman Qin Gang said here on Friday. Qin said that the Dalai Lama was not a simple religious figure but a long-time political exile who has been engaging in secessionist

activities and is trying to destroy national unity. The Chinese government is firmly against any country allowing the Dalai Lama to visit and engage in secessionist activities, he said...

People's Daily, 17 June 2007

WTO chief embarks on four-day China visit as trade talks enter crunch time

Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Pascal Lamy arrived in Beijing on Sunday as he tries to revive the stalled Doha trade talks. In an interview prior to his departure for Beijing, Lamy said he would tell Chinese officials that developing countries should also contribute to the trade talks so they can be concluded in the next six to nine months. "Obviously, all countries are preparing for a possible compromise and I want to make sure that as we reach this crunch time, China can preserve its defenses and offences in the negotiations," Lamy said. Next week representatives of the United States, the European Union, India and Brazil will meet in Germany to discuss possible compromise solutions to the Doha talks...

The Indian Express, 17 June 2007

Pranab says can't give any part of Arunachal

Sending a clear signal against the Chinese noises over Arunachal Pradesh, Union Minister for External Affairs Pranab Mukherjee today rejected China's claim on the state and made it clear that India cannot "give up" any part of the country. Speaking to the reporters in Shillong, Mukherjee said India has been responding to the "noises" made recently and New Delhi's position had been conveyed by him to his Chinese counterpart Yang Jiechn. "It is normal for disputes to come up between countries that share common boundaries and we resolve them through discussions and dialogues," the Minister said. Mukherjee's statement came on the sidelines of his day-long visit to Shillong to participate in a discussion on "The Look-East Policy - Geography as Opportunity"...

The Indian Express, 17 June 2007

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The Hindu, 17 June 2007

India can't part with territory, Pranab tells China

External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee along with Meghalaya Governor B.L. Joshi and Meghalaya Chief Minister D.D. Lapang (left) being welcomed by traditional Khasi dancers at a meeting organised in Shillong on Saturday. Shillong: External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said on Saturday that he had made it clear to his new Chinese

counterpart that "any elected Government of India is not permitted by the provisions of the Constitution to part with any part of our land that sends representatives to the Indian Parliament." He was responding to reporters, who asked for his comments on Beijing's repeated claims that Arunachal Pradesh is "Chinese territory."...

People's Daily, 18 June 2007

China commemorates 40th anniversary of first test of hydrogen bomb

Chinese scientists Sunday commemorated the 40th anniversary of the country's first test of a hydrogen bomb, and called for greater self-confidence and self-reliance in the development of new high-technologies. China's first hydrogen bomb was tested in the desert of west China's Xinjiang Autonomous Region on June 17, 1967. The successful test startled the world as it took only two years and eight months for China to develop the hydrogen bomb after it tested its first atomic bomb in October, 1964, said Li Yingxiang, former head of the general office of the Ministry of Nuclear Industry...

People's Daily, 18 June 2007

Arab-China trade expected to reach 100 bln USD by 2015

The total volume of trade between Arab countries and China will reach 100 billion U.S. dollars by 2015, said president of the Council of the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries Adnan Kassar on Sunday. Kassar, who is now in Amman to attend the second conference of Arab-China Business Conference, said the trade volume between Arab states and China has reached 51.3 billion dollars in 2005, and the figure will reach 100 billion dollars by 2015. "The current economic relations and trade between China and the Arab world has reached high levels," Kassar told Xinhua, adding that the Arab businessmen will widen and extend their relations with China.

The Hindu, 18 June 2007

"Make northeast the centre of country's Look East policy"

The north-eastern States and civil society groups have urged the External Affairs Ministry to ensure that the region is made the centre of Look East Policy (LEP) and not kept just a corridor in the country's relations with Southeast Asia. This request was made by Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Sushma Singh, at a seminar on the Look East Policy organised by the External Affairs Ministry at Shillong on Saturday. The session was followed by a lecture by External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee on "Geography as opportunity."...

The Indian Express, 18 June 2007

To fast-track infrastructure works along LAC, key meeting today

With China going in for massive upgradation of infrastructure across the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Aksai Chin, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has decided to fast-track works on strategic infrastructure, including a new snow-free axis to Leh and power stations in Ladakh, through additional Central funding of Rs 1,000 crore. T K A Kutty Nair, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, will review infrastructure projects in Ladakh with top government officials tomorrow and is expected to fix timelines for all Centre-funded projects. The meeting has been called to discuss various measures, as

suggested by Special Envoy Shyam Saran to the Prime Minister, which need to be expedited for better integration of Ladakhis and security forces deployed in the area. Official sources said that once the suggested projects are finalised, the Union Cabinet will be approached for additional funding estimated to be around Rs 900-1000 crore...

People's Daily, 19 June 2007

Strategic dialogue 'will boost Sino-US relations'

The strategic dialogue between China and the United States this week will help increase mutual trust and narrow differences, leading to a healthy development of bilateral ties, Chinese observers have said. The fourth round of the dialogue, to be held on June 20-21 in Washington DC, will be co-chaired by Deputy Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo and US Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte. The dialogue mechanism helps high-level diplomats from the two countries have frequent contact and creates a close working relationship, which is conducive to guiding the direction of overall relations, Sun Zhe, a professor at the Center for American Studies at Shanghai-based Fudan University, said in an interview...

People's Daily, 19 June 2007

China welcome to explore Iraqi oil resources: Envoy

China is welcome to explore oil resources in Iraq as a new law is set to open its oilfields to international companies, the Iraqi ambassador to China said yesterday. "We encourage Chinese enterprises to join the multinational competition for exploration of Iraqi oilfields," said Mohammad Sabir Ismail. The oil and gas law faces a parliamentary vote next month after Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki endorsed it in February and the Cabinet approved it the following month. If ratified, it will open the country's oil resources to foreign companies; and a frozen Sino-Iraqi oil contract could be reactivated, he said. The 1997 deal to explore the Al-Ahdab field, worth \$1.2 billion, was signed by China National Petroleum Corp and Baghdad when Saddam Hussein was in power. Under the terms of the new law, all energy contracts signed by foreign producers during the Saddam era must be renegotiated...

The Hindu, 19 June 2007

"We will build roads near China border"

India has defended the building of roads and other infrastructure near China border, saying it was "not a new thing" and "no one could prevent both sides" from doing so on their respective territories. "China has been building infrastructure [near the Line of Actual Control]. We are also building infrastructure and nobody can prevent both sides. There is nothing wrong in that. They have the right [to build infrastructure] on their territory; we have the right to do that on ours. We are also trying to hasten the development of our infrastructure," Defence Minister A.K. Antony told newsmen after addressing the Unified Commanders-in-Chief conference here on Monday...

China Daily, 20 June 2007

China builds highway to Everest base camp

China has begun building a highway to Mount Everest base camp, partly to smooth the way for the carrying of the Olympic torch up to the highest peak in the world, Chinese

press reported Tuesday. The new road will begin at the base of the mountain in China's Tibet region and replace a rough 108-kilometre (67-mile) track that leads to the northern base camp, the Xinhua news agency reported. Construction of the 150-million-yuan (20-million-dollar) highway began on Monday and will take about four months to complete, according to Xinhua. The road is being built to "ease the path of those bearing the Olympic torch," Xinhua said. Organisers of next year's Beijing Olympics have said they intend to include the summit of Mount Everest in the 130-day torch relay leading up to the Games...

People's Daily, 20 June 2007

Chinese President encourages youth delegation to deepen China-Japan friendship

Chinese President Hu Jintao on Tuesday met with a Japanese youth delegation, and called for more youth understanding and exchanges between China and Japan. "Chinese and Japanese young people should deepen their friendship to ensure a bright future for China-Japan friendship in the generations to come," Hu told the delegation, which is composed of descendants and representatives of the Japanese participants of the largest-ever Japan-China youth gathering in 1984 as well as several Japanese dietmen and staff from friendship organizations...

People's Daily, 20 June 2007

Beijing to hold first nuclear terror drill next month

Beijing will conduct its first-ever drill to test its responses to a potential terrorist nuclear attack next month, the municipal government announced on Tuesday. Organized by the municipal health bureau, the drill will involve several government bureaus, including environmental protection, the center for disease control and fire brigade, said Shan Qingsheng, an official with the government's emergency response office. The drill would focus on a scenario in which a "dirty bomb" loaded with explosives and radioactive substances is set off outside an "Olympic stadium", said Shan. The bureaus involved would have to immediately react to the bomb. Using radiation detectors, the fire brigade would first find a safe route into the scene of the "bombing" before rescuers could enter to give first aid...

People's Daily, 21 June 2007

China, U.S. begin 4th strategic dialogue in Washington

China and the United States began their fourth round of strategic dialogue in Washington on Wednesday and both sides are expected to have an in-depth exchange of views on bilateral relations and major international and regional issues of mutual concern. Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte co-chaired the two-day event. This dialogue mechanism, which is built in accordance with the consensus reached in 2004 between Chinese President Hu Jintao and U.S. President George W. Bush, is an important platform for the two countries to communicate on strategic and political level. The previous dialogue was held in Beijing in November last year...

People's Daily, 21 June 2007

Iraqi president kicks off first China visit

Iraqi President Jalal Talabani arrived in Beijing Wednesday evening, starting the first China visit by a Iraqi president since the two countries forged diplomatic ties in 1958. In his weeklong stay in China, Talabani will meet with Chinese President Hu Jintao, top legislator Wu Bangguo and Premier Wen Jiabao. Besides Beijing, the Iraqi president will visit northwest China's ancient city of Xi'an and Nanjing, capital of eastern Jiangsu Province. The two sides will sign agreements on cooperation between the two foreign ministries and on cooperation in such fields as education and health, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang on June 14...

People's Daily, 22 June 2007

China hosts first visit by Iraqi president, cancels debt

China and Iraq on Thursday signed four agreements in Beijing, including one that canceled some Iraqi debt, as Iraqi President Jalal Talabani paid his first state visit to China. Chinese President Hu Jintao and Talabani attended the signing ceremony of the agreements after talking for an hour in the Great Hall of the People in downtown Beijing. No information was available about how much Iraqi debt would be set aside by China. The other three agreements involve cooperation between the two foreign ministries, economic and technical cooperation and a human resources training program. Talabani arrived in Beijing Wednesday evening, starting the first China visit by a Iraqi president since the two countries forged diplomatic ties in 1958...

People's Daily, 22 June 2007

FM to visit Pyongyang amid hopes of progress

Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi will visit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) early next month amid optimism that the Six-Party Talks on denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula will resume soon. Yang will visit Pyongyang July 2-4 as part of a three-nation trip that also takes him to Mongolia and Indonesia, Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a regular news briefing yesterday. Yang's trip will follow a rare visit to the DPRK by US Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill, who arrived in Pyongyang yesterday on a hastily arranged visit. He was to meet DPRK Vice-Foreign Minister Kim Kye-gwan, his counterpart in the six-nation talks, the US State Department said.

People's Daily, 23 June 2007

Chinese Premier proposes stronger role of UN

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Friday proposed that the United Nations play a stronger role in dealing with challenges to world peace and development. In a meeting with Sheika Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, president of the 61st session of the United Nations General Assembly, Wen said traditional and non-traditional security issues pose challenges to world peace and development. The United Nations finds itself at the heart of multilateral system and its role can not be replaced or diminished, the premier said. Wen expected the United Nations to increase input in development issues and seek a balanced and coordinated development of globalization...

People's Daily, 24 June 2007

China to have good-neighborly ties with all SCO member countries

China is expected to have good-neighborly treaties with all five other SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organization) member countries in the latest session of its top legislature opened on Sunday. The State Council, or the cabinet, has submitted the country's good-neighborly treaty with Tajikistan - the last SCO country on the waiting list - to the legislative meeting for examination and approval. The SCO, founded in Shanghai in 2001, comprises six member countries, namely China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It pledges to enhance security, trade, cultural, military and justice cooperation among member countries. The Good-neighborly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between China and Tajikistan, was signed by Chinese President Hu Jintao and Tajikistan President Emomali Rakhmon in Beijing on Jan. 15, 2007...

People's Daily, 25 June 2007

China to amend law to reduce energy consumption

Under heavy pressure to cut energy consumption, China is now turning the spotlight on to construction projects, the transportation sector and government buildings. China's top legislature on Sunday began deliberating a draft amendment to the Law on Conserving Energy, which details measures to avoid energy waste in the three areas to improve energy efficiency and cut pollution emissions. Under a five-year plan to 2010, China pledged to cut energy consumption per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) by 20 percent, or four percent each year. But, the consumption actually fell by just 1.23 percent last year....

People's Daily, 25 June 2007

Iraqi President visits northwest China

Iraqi President Jalal Talabani will leave for east China on Monday after a two-day visit to northwest China's Shaanxi Province. Talabani, the first Iraqi president to visit China since the establishment of China-Iraq diplomatic ties 49 years ago, started his China tour on June 20 and flew to Xi'an, capital city of Shaanxi, on Saturday. During his stay in Xi'an, Talabani had a meeting with executive vice governor Zhao Yongzheng. Talabani said he hopes his visit will promote mutual understanding between Iraq and China. He said Iraq, which respects the one-China policy, hopes to build a closer relationship with China as 2008 is the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties...

People's Daily, 26 June 2007

Chinese president delivers keynote speech on national development

Chinese president Hu Jintao on Monday once again stressed the importance of implementing the scientific concept of development, promoting social harmony and building an overall well-off society, ahead of the 17th national congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) later this year. "Under the current international backdrop, China faces unprecedented opportunities and challenges, which require us to have a clear view of today's China and the world, meet new demands of development and new expectations of the public, draw experience and make scientific guidelines," said Hu...

People's Daily, 26 June 2007

Iraqi President visits east China

Iraqi President Jalal Talabani on Monday visited Nanjing, capital of east China's Jiangsu Province. Nanjing was the third leg of Talabani's week-long state visit to China. In a meeting with Jiangsu Vice Governor Zhang Weiguo Monday evening, Talabani praised the great changes in the province over the past 50 years since he last set foot in Nanjing in 1955. He said Iraq and China had no obstacles in developing their cooperation. Zhang said Jiangsu and Iraq complemented each other economically and could cooperate widely on science, technology, education, health care and culture...

The China Post, 27 June 2007

China's Hu pledges cautious political reform

China's Communist Party chief Hu Jintao pledged in a speech published on Tuesday to cautiously pursue political reform and deepen inner-party democracy, setting the tone for a key meeting in the autumn. Internal policy debates have intensified in the run-up to the 17th party congress, where Hu is expected to further consolidate power through a leadership reshuffle and unveil the country's agenda for the next five years. In his speech on Monday, Hu elevated his political doctrines - harmonious society and scientific development - to the same political status as that of his predecessors in a move analysts said would pave the way for him to join the country's pantheon of socialist greats. "Reform and opening-up is an inevitable path to realise the Chinese nation's great rejuvenation and should be pushed forward unswervingly," the People's Daily, the party organ, quoted Hu as saying...

The Indian Express, 28 June 2007

China slams India, US, Japan alliance

China has asked India, the United States, Japan and Australia, who are trying to forge a quadripartite format not to go against the global trend and be "open and inclusive" while a Chinese expert believes it would "divide" Asia. "China believes that to enhance mutual trust, expand cooperation for mutual benefit and win-win, be open and inclusive is the global trend," said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang, when asked to comment on the emerging quadripartite relations among the four democratic nations. All countries should conform to the trend and do more to enhance mutual trust and strengthen cooperation, Qin stressed...

The Times Of India, 28 June 2007

Chinese deception, Nehru's naivete led to '62 war: CIA papers

In revelations that could inject new mistrust between India and China and their efforts to resolve a long standing border issue, declassified CIA documents released this week extensively detail what the US saw as Chinese perfidy and Indian naivete that led to the 1962 war between the two sides. Three sets of documents on the Sino-Indian border dispute has been declassified by the CIA as part of new transparency efforts that also involved disclosing what has been dubbed "family jewels," describing covert CIA operations at home and abroad. One set of documents called the Caesar-Polo-Esau papers deal extensively with the communist regimes in the former Soviet Union and China, and the American reading of their policies. In the three chapters dealing with the India-China border spat, CIA analysts suggest that Beijing and its then premier Zhou en Lai (the old spellings Peiping and Chou are used in the paper) consistently fooled Nehru and India

through procrastination and dissembling...

China Daily, 28 June 2007

Oil reserves to be ready in one year

The last two of the first four strategic oil reserve bases in China, the world's second-biggest oil consumer, are expected to kick off operations within a year, according to two State-owned oil giants. An official from China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation, known as Sinopec Group, told China Daily it would start to fill crude oil into a base in Huangdao of East China's Shandong Province by the end of this year. "We are losing no time building the base in line with the State's requirements," said the official, who asked not to be named. A source from China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC), parent of Hong Kong-and New York-listed PetroChina, said a base under construction in the northeastern port city of Dalian will be filled with oil as early as the first half of 2008. Both bases will be able to stockpile more than 3 million tons of crude oil...

The Tribune, 28 June 2007

Four-nation grouping not anti-China: PM

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh tonight assured China that the proposed Quadrilateral Strategic Forum involving Japan, Australia, the United States and India, was not a military alliance against anybody. "(The proposed forum) is not a military alliance. We are not ganging up against anybody," Manmohan Singh said. He disclosed that he had raised this issue with Chinese President Hu Jintao during his recent bilateral meeting on the margins of G8 Outreach summit in Germany and conveyed this thought to him. "There is enough space for everybody to coexist," the Prime Minister said about the proposed quadrilateral...

The Hindu, 29 June 2007

India-China relationship a big stabiliser, says Yechury

The process of improving the India-China relationship, now in "progress," will be a "big stabiliser" on the international scene. Portraying this prospect as a new global dynamic, Sitaram Yechury, Politburo Member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), said here on Wednesday that New Delhi "should not succumb, cannot afford to succumb to pressures" from the U.S. Mr. Yechury said India could register "a big leap" in the energy domain if its ongoing negotiations with the U.S. over a civilian nuclear deal were to succeed. For the present, though, Washington was practising "a carrot-and-stick policy" of promising this deal and asking India to "tune" itself to U.S. interests on the global stage. In this evolving context, the CPI(M) was continuing to urge New Delhi to pursue "an independent foreign policy," he said, addressing the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) here...

The Indian Express, 29 June 2007

These talks about inscrutable talks

If China's toughening stance on Arunachal Pradesh has surprised New Delhi and stalled the boundary negotiations, which began amidst great expectations in 2003, India must brace itself for another equally disconcerting development. As the representatives of the Dalai Lama head out to China today for the sixth round of consultations, the indications

are that Beijing's renewed engagement with the Dalai Lama since 2002 faces the prospect of becoming a false promise. On the eve of his departure to China, the Dalai Lama's Special Envoy, Lodi Gyaltsen Gyari, told this writer that Tibetan "sincerity and commitment alone can't resolve the issue. The Chinese leadership must convince us and the rest of the world of its sincerity" ...

The Times of India, 29 June 2007

China, Pakistan to cut tariffs under FTA

China and Pakistan will reduce tariffs on each other's imports from July 1, in line with their Free Trade Agreement (FTA), a senior Chinese trade official has said. Beginning July 1, the two countries will carry out the tariff reduction in two phases, Commerce Ministry spokesman Wang Xinpei said. In the first five years, the two sides will cut tariffs on up to 85 per cent of imports in five categories. In the following five years, China will eliminate or cut tariffs on Pakistan-originated products, ranging from farm products to textile and electronic goods, while Pakistan will remove or cut tariffs on Chinese food, electronics and machinery. After the reduction, China's average tariff on imports from Pakistan will be lowered to eight per cent, 0.67 percentage point lower than the tariff rate for most-favoured nations...

The Hindu, 30 June 2007

China rejects CIA reports on Sino-Indian war

China on Friday dismissed as "groundless" the contents of the reported declassified CIA documents on events leading up to the 1962 Sino-Indian war and went on to claim that "positive progress" was made on the vexed boundary negotiations between the countries. "The comments are groundless," Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said in a one-liner when he was asked about reports which blamed the 1962 war on China. Recent reports from the U.S. said three sets of documents on the Sino-Indian border dispute were declassified by the Central Intelligence Agency, describing covert CIA operations at home and abroad. On the India-China border war, CIA analysts suggested that Beijing and its then premier Zhou Enlai "deceived" his Indian counterpart, Jawaharlal Nehru and India through procrastination and dissembling, media reports from Washington said. At the same time, the spokesman was eloquent on the current state of bilateral ties, including the border issue. China-India Strategic Cooperative Partnership enjoyed consistent development with fruitful cooperation in various fields, he told PTI here...

The Tribune, 30 June 2007

China in an accommodating mood

Three seemingly unrelated events may not constitute a trend. But they certainly deserve attention when they shed light on the relationship between the United States and China, which is fast becoming the most important bilateral connection in the world. The first is the much-heralded breakthrough in US Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill's negotiations with North Korea. After more than a year in which the six-party talks were suspended, North Korea returned to the table and agreed to disable its main nuclear reactor under the eyes of international inspectors. This would not have happened without a change in Chinese policy toward North Korea. Two years ago, Beijing publicly criticised Washington's "lack of cooperation." But after North Korea detonated a nuclear

device October 9, Beijing started applying invisible but substantial pressure on North Korea, realising belatedly that another nuclear neighbor was not in its interest. Once China's strategic interest was aligned with America's, it still took skillful bilateral diplomacy to make progress...

People's Daily, 30 June 2007

Boeing signs with Chinese suppliers new contracts worth half billion dollars

U.S. aviation giant Boeing on Friday announced agreements with Chinese suppliers for the production of commercial aircraft parts and components, including the first firm contracts with Chinese suppliers to build parts for the Boeing 747-8 Intercontinental Passenger and Freighter aircraft. The contracts are valued at an estimated 500 million U.S. dollars and include the 747-8 inboard wing flaps with Xi'an Aircraft Industry (Group) Company Ltd. (XAC), and ailerons and spoilers with Chengdu Aircraft Industrial (Group) Co. Ltd. (CAC), both affiliated to China Aviation Industry Corporation I (AVIC I). Also signed were contracts for composite parts to be built by Hafei Aviation Industry Co., Ltd., an AVIC II-affiliated company, and composite panels for the vertical fin to be built by BHA Aero Composites Co., Ltd., an equity joint venture between Boeing, Hexcel Corp. and AVIC I...