

The China Daily, 1 September 2005

Sino-US textile talks fail to yield any result

BEIJING - US and Chinese negotiators failed to reach an agreement on Wednesday to stem China's surging exports of clothing to the United States but U.S. officials said the two sides were continuing to talk, Reuters reported. Negotiators had hoped to strike a deal so it could be blessed by presidents Hu Jintao and George W. Bush when they meet at the White House next Wednesday. Cass Johnson, president of the U.S. National Council of Textile Organizations, told Reuters that negotiators had not even narrowed their differences during two days of talks.

The China Daily, 1 September 2005

China issues white paper on arms control

China issued a white paper Thursday on the Chinese Government's policies and positions on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation and on China's involvement in the international arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation affairs. The white paper, issued by the Information Office of the State Council, says China pursues an independent foreign policy of peace and follows the road of peaceful development. China will never seek hegemony and never be the first to use nuclear weapons.

The People's Daily, 2 September 2005

China, US to discuss Taiwan issue: FM spokesman

Chinese President Hu Jintao will discuss the Taiwan issue with U.S. President George W. Bush during Hu's upcoming visit to the United States, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Qin Gang said in Beijing Thursday. "President Hu's meeting with president Bush will cover a wide range of topics, including the Taiwan issue, the most sensitive and important problem in China-US relations," Qin told a regular press gathering. He noted that China hopes the US will honor their promise to stick to the One-China policy, follow the three joint communique and oppose Taiwan independence. President Hu will pay a state visit to the United States Sept. 5-8. He will exchange ideas with Bush on how to develop constructive cooperation and international and regional issues of mutual concern, Qin added.

The China Daily, 2 September 2005

Sino-US textile talks stop at red light (Jiang Wei)

The unscheduled third day of textile talks between China and the United States failed to yield a long-expected agreement. "The talks failed to reach an accord because substantial differences remain on some principle issues," China's Ministry of Commerce said in a statement made after the extended fourth round of talks yesterday. "But the two sides agreed to keep the consultation channel open and will fix the date and location for the next round," the statement said. This round, which was scheduled for August 30 and 31, was restarted yesterday morning in the ministry. The Special Textile Negotiator of the US Trade Representative Office David Spooner said the two sides "were not able to reach a broader agreement" despite strong efforts.

The China Daily, 2 September 2005

Numerous pacts for EU-China summit (Qin Jize)

A wealth of agreements concerning maritime transportation, environmental protection and biological diversity will be reached at the upcoming annual EU-China Summit in Beijing next week. Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang announced the news yesterday at a regular press briefing, the first after the summer break. President Hu Jintao will meet with the European delegation to the summit next Monday before leaving for the United States for his three-nation tour. Among the dignitaries to attend the Eighth EU-China Summit in Beijing this year will be Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso. Britain currently holds the EU presidency. Qin said the summit would cover a wide range of topics in a bid to further promote the China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership.

The People's Daily, 2 September 2005

China says policy "not to use nuke weapons first" won't change

A senior Chinese official said on Thursday that China's long-standing policy of not being the first to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances will remain unchanged in the future. "Since the first day when it came into possession of nuclear weapons, the Chinese government has solemnly declared that it would

not be the first to use such weapons at any time and in any circumstance and committed unconditionally not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones," said Zhang Yan, director of the Department of Arms Control and Disarmament under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

International Herald Tribune, 3 September 2005

UN pressures Beijing on rights (Chris Buckley)

BEIJING China must accompany its economic growth with faster improvement of citizens' legal and political rights, the UN high commissioner for human rights, Louise Arbour, said in Beijing on Friday. "China has declared its commitment to human rights and has raised expectations for the country to match its growing prosperity with a firm commitment to advancing human rights," Arbour said at a press conference at the end of a five-day visit to China. Chinese officials said "change had to be gradual," she noted. "While I do not disagree, I believe the stage is set for expecting more than modest progress in the coming years." Arbour's visit underscored widespread international concerns about citizens' rights in China at a time the government is promising to strengthen the country's legal system but also cracking down on dissent, sometimes harshly.

The People's Daily, 3 September 2005

China, Sri Lanka issue joint communiqué

China and Sri Lanka issued a joint communique in Beijing Friday at the end of Sri Lankan President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga's visit to China. At the invitation of Chinese President Hu Jintao, President Kumaratunga paid a state visit to China from Aug. 30 to Sept. 2. During the visit, official talks were held between the two Presidents. The communique reviewed the talks between the two heads of state, saying that discussion on all issues were free and cordial. According to the communique, Hu expressed deep condolences on the brutal assassination of Lakshman Kadirgamar, foreign minister of Sri Lanka. The two sides expressed their strong condemnation of the terrorist act, resolved to relentlessly fight against the three evils of terrorism, separatism and extremism and to consult and coordinate on regional and international action being taken to prevent such terrorist acts.

The People's Daily, 3 September 2005

President Hu voices support for UN reform

Chinese President Hu Jintao said Saturday in Beijing that China supports rational and necessary reforms of the United Nations aimed at improving its authority and efficiency. He also said the reform should also aim at "seeking equitable representation of different countries, especially developing ones, and bringing into better play the positive role of the UN and the UN Security Council in maintain world peace and promoting common development". Hu made the remarks while addressing a grand gathering in the Great Hall of the People to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War Against Japanese Aggression and the victory of the World Anti-Fascists War.

The People's Daily, 3 September 2005

Chinese, ASEAN legal experts sign Nanning Declaration

Participants of the China-ASEAN forum on legal cooperation and development adopted the "Nanning Declaration" at Friday's session. They agreed to increase dialogue, exchanges and cooperation between Chinese and ASEAN legal circle. More than 100 Chinese and ASEAN legal experts gathered here to attend the China-ASEAN forum on legal cooperation and development which opened here Thursday. Participants agreed in the declaration to make the forum a platform for high-level dialogue between governments, legal circles and business groups in China and ASEAN. The forum will create a favorable legal environment in which commercial firms can coexist and achieve win-win result in the course of growth, boost human resources development and training of legal personnel and promote understanding of legal documents made in China and ASEAN.

The People's Daily, 3 September 2005

China, Malaysia to further ties between armed forces

The Chinese armed forces hope to bring their relationship with Malaysian armed forces to a new high," said Cao Gangchuan, Chinese minister of National Defense, at a meeting in Beijing Friday with his Malaysian counterpart Najib Tun Razak. Cao, also vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission and

state councilor, said China-Malaysia friendship has endured great international changes ever since the two established diplomatic relations 31 years ago. He said the two countries now trust and cooperate with each other and have reached wide consensus on a number of international and regional issues.

The People's Daily, 3 September 2005

British navy warship makes port call in HK

The United Kingdom's Royal Navy warship HMS York makes port call in China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region sea water Friday. According to the officer of HMS York, the ship will stay at Hong Kong for 5 days. During the period, HMS York will be open to visitors and will attend a wreath laying ceremony at Sai Wan Cemetery. In addition, York's ship's Company will be welcomed by a lion Dance on the quayside and the Commanding Officer will review up to 100 local cadets. Before the ship returns to the UK, it will re-visit Singapore to play a lead role in Exercise BERSAMA LIMA and take part in a second phase of OP CALASH, which involves working as part of a multi-national coalition force, engaged in counter smuggling operations to disrupt the movement of contraband, weaponry, people, oil and drugs.

International Herald Tribune, 3 September 2005

U.S. imposes quotas on some Chinese textiles (Keith Bradsher)

HONG KONG The United States imposed quotas on imports of bras and certain expensive fabrics from China on Thursday after American and Chinese trade negotiators failed to reach a deal in a brief meeting in Beijing on Thursday morning. But the Commerce Department in Washington softened the blow by postponing until Oct. 1 any decision on whether to impose special limits on imports of Chinese sweaters, robes, wool trousers and knit fabrics. The department had set a Wednesday deadline for imposing quotas on these categories and the bras and fabrics to put pressure on China for a deal. China, which struck a deal in June with the European Union, only to come under pressure two months later for further cuts when the quotas quickly filled, does not seem to be giving ground with either trading partner.

The China Daily, 4 September 2005

Chinese, Russian presidents hail wartime friendship

BEIJING, Sept. 3 -- Chinese President Hu Jintao held a phone conversation with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin Saturday night, a press release from China's Foreign Ministry said. Congratulating China on the 60th anniversary marking the victory of the resistance war against Japanese aggression, Putin said Russia and China have had close cooperation during the war and the post-war reconstruction, which laid down a solid foundation for the Russia-China friendship and cooperation, the press release said. Hu said both China's resistance war against Japanese aggression and Russia's war of national defense are key components of the international war against fascist. Putin hailed the development of the Russia-China strategic cooperative partnership and the effective cooperation in various fields. He said the success of the Russia-China joint military drill which was conducted recently demonstrated the level of the bilateral strategic cooperative partnership and the two countries should improve cooperation in the future.

The Indian Express, 5 September 2005

Red faces over Pranab's China war remark (Ketaki Ghoge)

MUMBAI, AUGUST 4 The role of the private sector in India's Defence preparedness was the seminar topic but at the end of it, there were many red faces all around. Because Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee's description of the 1962 Sino-Indian war as the "Chinese invasion" drew a strong reaction from China's Consul General who was present there. During his 30-minute talk, arranged by the Indian Merchant's Chamber (IMC), Mukherjee was explaining India's policies on Defence preparedness. Before elaborating on the recent Indo-US Defence pact, he touched upon the 1962 "Chinese invasion" to explain why India needs to be prepared for challenges.

The China Daily, 5 September 2005

China, EU striving for agreement on textiles (Jiang Wei and Xu Binglan)

China and the European Union (EU) early this morning were still discussing an agreement to solve the problem concerning millions of items of China-made textile products being blocked in the ports of EU countries. Minister of Commerce Bo Xilai and EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson were still talking at the time of press. Mandelson, who arrived in Beijing on Saturday for a summit of Chinese and EU

leaders scheduled for today, began the talks with Bo at about 10 am yesterday. Before leaving Brussels for Beijing, Mandelson called on EU member states to take quick actions to unblock stockpiled Chinese clothes for the interest of Europe. The impasse between China and the EU over the blocked textile products has left stores in EU countries short of seasonal clothes to sell.

The People's Daily, 5 September 2005

British PM Blair arrives in Beijing

British Prime Minister Tony Blair arrived in Beijing Monday morning to attend the eighth China-EU summit slated to open later Monday. He will kick off his visit to China as guest of Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on Tuesday. Blair and Manuel Barroso, president of the European Union (EU) Commission, will together attend the Chinese and EU leaders' meeting scheduled on Monday afternoon. The two sides will exchange views on further development of China-EU all-round strategic partnership, and on international and regional issues of common concern, according to diplomatic sources.

The China Daily, 6 September 2005

Blair: EU-China ties 'immensely important'

BEIJING - British Prime Minister Tony Blair said that strong relations between the EU and China were "immensely important" as the two sides held an annual summit boosted by the settlement of a textiles row. AFP reported. Blair was attending the one-day meeting as part of Britain's turn at the rotating presidency of the 25-nation European Union and said it was beneficial to both sides to help the relationship grow. "The strategic partnership between China and the European Union is of immense importance, not just in terms of trade and the economy, but also in terms of our cooperation in all the major political issues the world faces," he said in a meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao on Monday.

The Hindu, 6 September 2005

Patil to visit China (P. S. Suryanarayana)

SINGAPORE: : The Union Home Minister, Shivraj Patil, will pay a five-day official visit to China from Wednesday as "part of the process of continuing high-level bilateral exchanges," according to the Indian Embassy in Beijing. Mr. Patil will hold talks with the Chinese State Councillor and Minister for Public Security, Zhou Yongkang, on "areas of mutual interest."

The People's Daily, 6 September 2005

China opposes double standards for terrorism issue

There should be no double standards when handling terrorism, said a Chinese official when introducing China's basic position on the prevention and control of terrorism. "Any form of terrorism is hazardous to the international community and no country, party or individual group should take double standards based on political or other selfish intentions while dealing with terrorism," said Zhao Yongchen, deputy director-general of the Anti-Terrorism Bureau of the Ministry of Public Security, when addressing a panel of the ongoing 22nd Congress on the Law of the World on Monday.

The People's Daily, 6 September 2005

"East Turkistan", major terrorist threat to China, official

The "East Turkistan" terrorist forces remain to be the great terrorist threat to China at present and in future, a Chinese anti-terrorist official said in Beijing on September 5. "In the last decade, the terrorist threats that China confronted with were mainly terrorist activities of 'East Turkistan' terrorist forces inside and outside Chinese territory, international terrorist groups and terrorists," said Zhao Yongchen, deputy director of the Anti-Terrorism Bureau under the Ministry of Public Security. Statistics showed, the three forces - terrorists, separatists and extremists - in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region hatched more than 260 terrorist incidents over the past 10 years, killing more than 160 innocent people and injuring 440 others. "The terrorist activities carried out by the three terrorist forces have not only jeopardized China, but also posed a threat to regional security and stability," Zhao said.

Xinhuanet, 6 September 2005

Premier Wen proposes improving China-EU co-op

BEIJING, Sept. 5 (Xinhuanet) -- Premier Wen Jiabao on Monday put forward a five-point proposal on cooperation between China and the European Union (EU), hoping that the two sides would increase

cooperation in such fields as service trade, investment, and science and technology. Addressing the EU-China Business Summit, Wen said China and the EU enjoy strong economic complementarity and broad prospects in economic cooperation. To increase cooperation, Wen proposed that the two sides improve the level of service trade cooperation. Among the more than 160 service trade departments sorted out by the World Trade Organization, China has opened more than 100 departments to the outside world, close to the level of the developed countries.

International Herald Tribune, 6 September 2005

EU reaches deal with China on clothing (Chris Buckley and Graham Bowley)

BEIJING China and the European Union agreed Monday on a deal to end a dispute that has left millions of Chinese-made bras, sweaters and other clothing items stranded at European ports, and has clouded relations between the two blocs. The agreement came as both sides sought to use a high-level meeting in Beijing to emphasize broader cooperation in areas including environmental protection and energy. "China-European relations have entered a new stage of maturity and self-sufficiency," the Chinese prime minister, Wen Jiabao, said at a signing ceremony. The textile dispute was "temporary and localized," he said. "It should not have larger negative effects." The deal also marks a qualified victory for the EU's trade commissioner, Peter Mandelson, who had been accused by European retailers of missteps in setting the earlier quotas and had run into resistance from the Chinese when he initially sought to rewrite them.

The People's Daily, 7 September 2005

General Consul: China never invaded India

Song Deheng, Chinese General Consul in Bombay, India, refuted Indian Defense Minister Pranab Mukherjee's remarks, saying resolutely that China never invaded India. Indian defense minister said at a defense workshop in Bombay on September 4 that China once "invaded" India in 1962. India's major media all reported the incident, mostly in a plain and objective way. With titles like "Mukherjee's remarks provoke Chinese diplomat", the reports cited the remarks of the two officials but did not make biased comment on the thing itself.

BBC News, 7 September 2005

Yahoo 'helped jail China writer'

Internet giant Yahoo has been accused of supplying information to China which led to the jailing of a journalist for "divulging state secrets". Reporters Without Borders said Yahoo's Hong Kong arm helped China link Shi Tao's e-mail account and computer to a message containing the information. The media watchdog accused Yahoo of becoming a "police informant" in order to further its business ambitions. A Yahoo spokeswoman, Pauline Wong, said the company had no immediate comment.

The Hindu, 7 September 2005

Friends, not enemies: China (Amit Baruah)

NEW DELHI: Playing down the exchange of words between Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Chinese Consul-General Song De Heng in Mumbai, China's Ambassador to India Sun Yuxi declared on Tuesday that India and China were now partners, not rivals; friends, not enemies. Answering questions at a press conference to mark the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) in China, he said, "If you talk too much of the past, it is out of fashion." He remarked that he was "sorry to see misunderstandings among friends."

The China Daily, 8 September 2005

Siberian oil pipeline to go to China first: Putin

Russian President Vladimir Putin has confirmed that his nation's trans-Siberian oil pipeline will export oil to China, instead of Japan, first, the Wall Street Journal reports. In a meeting with Western analysts and journalists at the Kremlin late on Monday, Putin said shipments initially would go to China's oil center in Daqing, according to the US newspaper, citing participants of the meeting. "The Daqing pipeline will be built first," Putin reportedly told the group. "But we will also build to Nakhodka." The Russian government refused to comment on the report. According to the newspaper, construction of the pipeline is to begin late this year, with the first stage capable of carrying 30 million metric tons of crude oil annually from the Siberian city of Taishet to Skovorodino near the Chinese border. From there, the pipeline is expected to take two-thirds of the oil south to Daqing, while the remaining 10 million metric tons would be shipped by

rail to a new port to be built on the Pacific coast near Nakhodka. The project is expected to be completed around 2008.

The China Daily, 8 September 2005

Rumsfeld to make first China visit next month (Qin Jize)

US Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld will visit China next month, Admiral William J. Fallon, commander of US Pacific Command, said in Beijing yesterday. It would be Rumsfeld's first visit to China since assuming office in 2001, but the specific timing and schedule has not been decided yet, Fallon said. Fallon is visiting China for the first time since taking over as Pacific commander in February. He held talks with Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing yesterday afternoon before heading to Shanghai and South China's Guangdong Province. Rumsfeld's visit is expected to add momentum to the increased diplomatic exchanges between China and the United States.

The People's Daily, 9 September 2005

China, India to cooperate on law-enforcement

Chinese and Indian officials vowed on Thursday to enhance law-enforcement cooperation, especially in anti-terrorism, drug control and combat of cross-border crimes and illegal border-crossing. Zhou Yongkang, Chinese state councilor and minister of public security, told visiting Indian Home Minister Shivraj Vishwanathrao Patil that such cooperation is beneficial to both countries and the world as well. Patil said India attaches importance to the friendly and cooperative cooperation with China, noting his ministry will develop such cooperation with Chinese Ministry of Public Security.

The People's Daily, 9 September 2005

Int'l cooperation in anti-terrorism needs to be fortified: FM spokesman

The international community is still facing the challenge and threat of terrorism, and thus needs to strengthen cooperation, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said in Beijing Thursday. Terrorism is public hazard of the mankind. The international community should make concerted efforts to combat terrorism, Qin Gang told a regular press conference. Terrorist incidents have happened in succession in Turkey, the United Kingdom and Kenya, and China is also the victim of terrorism," Qin said.

The Hindu, 9 September 2005

India, China sign anti-terror MoU (P.S. Suryanarayana)

SINGAPORE: India and China on Thursday signed a memorandum of understanding to combat terrorism and drug trafficking as also gun-running along the border areas. The MoU was signed by Union Home Minister Shivraj Patil and Chinese State Councillor and Minister for Public Security Zhou Yongkang in Beijing at a meeting that lasted about two hours. Mr. Patil is now on a five-day visit to China under the ongoing process of "developing and diversifying" bilateral relations.

The People's Daily, 9 September 2005

Putin: Oil pipeline will serve China first

Russian President Vladimir Putin has confirmed that his nation's trans-Siberian oil pipeline's first exports will be to China, instead of Japan, according to a Wall Street Journal report. In a meeting with Western analysts and journalists at the Kremlin late on Monday, Putin said shipments initially would go to China's oil centre in Daqing, Heilongjiang Province, according to the US newspaper, citing participants of the meeting. The Russian Government refused to comment on the report.

The Washington Post, 9 September 2005

China Plans To Honor A Reformer (Philip P. Pan)

BEIJING, Sept. 8 -- Chinese President Hu Jintao has agreed to restore the standing of the reform-minded Communist leader whose death triggered the 1989 Tiananmen Square demonstrations, a surprising reversal of party dogma that could prompt new calls for democratic change in China, according to people informed of the decision. Hu Jintao has approved plans for a series of events honoring the late party chief Hu Yaobang on the 90th anniversary of his birth on Nov. 20, the sources said. The activities would end more than a decade of official silence about a party leader who was sacked by hard-liners in 1987 but remained a hero to the party's reformist wing. The government has not publicly recognized Hu Yaobang since students mourning his death on April 15, 1989, occupied Tiananmen Square and staged weeks of

demonstrations for democratic reforms.

The China Daily, 9 September 2005

US hopes for 'fair' China textile deal

The United States hopes for a "fair" deal with China to regulate textiles trade but will "walk away" from a bad one, US Trade Representative Rob Portman said, AFP reported. Speaking after talks in Beijing a week ago failed to find a breakthrough to the simmering row, Portman said there were still grounds for hope. "I'm optimistic about the comprehensive agreement with China because it's good for China," he told reporters. "It would add certainty to an uncertain next three years," he said. Current US safeguards against Chinese textile imports allowed by the World Trade Organisation are due to expire in 2008.

The Tribune, 10 September 2005

India, China to exchange information on terror crimes

Beijing, September 9: Stepping up efforts against terrorism, India and China have decided to exchange experiences on anti-hijacking, hostage situations and other terror-related crimes. They have also decided to coordinate positions on anti-terrorism endeavours at regional and multilateral levels as part of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on information sharing and counter-terrorism signed between them yesterday during the visit of Home Minister Shivraj Patil here. On Patil, who is in China on a five-day official visit, said that the MoU signed between the Ministry of Home Affairs and China's Ministry of Public Security entails for the first time closer cooperation between the security agencies of the two countries in "controlling" and "containing" international terrorism. The two sides have agreed to concretely implement the MoU, Mr Patil told reporters here today.

International Herald Tribune, 11 September 2005

Beijing bars 4 bishops from going to Vatican (David Lague)

BEIJING In a setback for Pope Benedict XVI's efforts to improve its official ties with China, the authorities in Beijing have rejected a Vatican invitation to four Chinese Catholic bishops to attend a church conference in Rome. The four Chinese clergymen - Anthony Li Duan of Xian, Luke Li Jingfeng of Fengxiang, Aloysius Jin Luxian of Shanghai and Joseph Wei Jingyi from Qiqihar - were included last week in a list of bishops the pope selected from around the world to attend a synod next month. A spokesman for China's official Catholic church, the Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association, and the Chinese Catholic Bishop's College said the Vatican's decision to announce the invitations "shows no respect" to Chinese Catholics and their decision-making bodies, said a report published Saturday by the Xinhua news agency.

The China Daily, 12 September 2005

India and China to reopen direct trade links

NATHU LA PASS, India - The world's two most populous countries India and China are working to set up their first direct trade link since a 1962 border war by reopening a section of the famed Silk Road, Indian officials said. The point of contact is the 15,000-foot (4,545 metre) Nathu La pass on the border between India's Sikkim and China's Tibet where hundreds of Indian workers are repairing roads and building customs facilities, Sikkim government spokesman B.B. Gurung told AFP on Sunday. "As per plans, border trading is to begin from October 2 with the reopening of the traditional Silk Road," Gurung said. "Infrastructure development and construction of roads leading to Nathu La is going on at a brisk pace and everything should be complete before the deadline."

The China Daily, 12 September 2005

EU warns of new China textile 'disaster'

European retailers are looking forward to the end of a logjam of Chinese clothing imports this week but warn that a new "disaster" could already be looming, threatening further EU-China strains, AFP reported. The European Union hopes that by the middle of the week it can start releasing millions of bras, trousers and other cheap Chinese-made clothes blocked at European ports for weeks in a row over import quotas. EU trade chief Peter Mandelson secured a deal in Beijing last week to end the huge blockage, which built up after an initial June quota accord with Beijing led to a rush of orders from European retailers. But the Foreign Trade Association, a Brussels-based group representing European retailers, warns that import

strategies for next year "have to be planned carefully to avoid a new disaster in 2006."

The Hindu, 12 September 2005

US - China Strategic Competition (S.P. Seth)

During a recent visit to Australia to attend the annual Australian-American Leadership Dialogue in Sydney, Richard Armitage, until recently deputy secretary of state, expounded at length on the theme. Even though his primary focus was on the Australia-US dialogue, it was nevertheless couched in regional terms. He highlighted how the "whole centre of gravity in the world" was shifting to Asia with the rise of China and India. The United States must be fairly worried, if it feels that it has to remind Australia to hang on with it lest China gobble it up along the way. More importantly, it shows how much the level of strategic competition with China is heating up all the time. As Armitage put it bluntly, his country was in a "very active competition" with China for influence in the Pacific, and that "we're not doing very well."

The Hindu, 12 September 2005

Tackling terrorists- India, China together can be more effective

The Memorandum of Understanding signed last week between India and China for cooperation on fighting terrorism, besides working together on many other issues, is significant. It can go a long way in handling the highly complicated problem, which has global dimensions. The agreement provides for the security agencies of the two countries to not only share information but also coordinate with each other on how to deal with terrorism effectively at regional and international levels. The MoU, finalised during Union Home Minister Shivraj Patil's three-day visit to China that ended last Friday, is important for various reasons. China has agreed with India that cooperation to eliminate the scourge has acquired urgency. It has ceased to be the problem of any one country or region. China's wholehearted involvement in the anti-terrorism drive has its own significance as it is the only country, besides the US, which can make Pakistan -- from where the monster continues to get maximum sustenance -- dismantle the terrorist infrastructure that still exists there.

The China Daily, 12 September 2005

China appoints new ambassordor to Republic of Korea

Chinese President Hu Jintao has appointed Ning Fukui Chinese new ambassador to the Republic of Korea, replacing Li Bin. The appointment was made in accordance with a decision of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress.

The People's Daily, 13 September 2005

Chinese, Pakistani army officers pledge to enhance friendly ties

Senior military officers from China and Pakistan pledged Monday in Beijing to continue to push forward friendly relations of the two armed forces. The two countries have forged an "all-weather friendship" since the founding of diplomatic relations 54 years ago, said Guo Boxiong, vice-chairman of the Chinese Central Military Commission, in a meeting with Ehsan Ul Haq, chairman of Joint Chief of Staff Committee of Pakistan. "As part of bilateral relations, relations of the two armed forces have also seen further development over the past years and made positive contributions to safeguarding each's state security and regional stability as a whole," Guo said. "China will make continuous efforts to lift such relations up to a new height," Guo said. The close and strategic tie with China constitutes a pillar of Pakistan's foreign policy, Ehsan said. "We will continue to enhance the friendship between the two armies." Ehsan started the visit as guest of Liang Guanglie, chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, from Saturday.

The People's Daily, 13 September 2005

Chinese defense minister leaves for Tajikistan, Kazakhstan

Chinese Minister of National Defense Cao Gangchuan left Beijing Tuesday morning for an official goodwill visit to Tajikistan and Kazakhstan. Cao's visit is at the invitations of his Tajik and Kazakh counterparts Sherali Khairullaev and Mukhtar Altynbayev. Cao's entourage includes Wang Chaoqun, deputy commander of the Air Force of Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) and other officers.

The China Daily, 14 September 2005

US warship arrives in China for visit

A top grade US guided missile destroyer arrived at one of China's main ports as part of efforts by the two countries to increase military-to-military exchanges, AFP reported. The USS Curtis Wilbur, an Arleigh Burke class Aegis guided missile destroyer will spend several days at Qingdao, a key port of China's North Fleet, officials said. "This is an opportunity for the US personnel to meet their counterparts in the People's Liberation Army navy," US navy officials said. "The port call will provide the crew of more than 300 sailors aboard USS Curtis Wilbur a chance for sightseeing and cultural exchanges." The USS Curtis Wilbur is deployed to the Western Pacific and operates out of Yokosuka, Japan. It is part of the Kitty Hawk aircraft carrier group. The destroyer is equipped with the Aegis Combat System which integrates the ship's sensors and weapons systems to engage anti-ship missile threats.]

The China Daily, 14 September 2005

UN refuses Taiwan's representation

The General Committee of the UN General Assembly decided Tuesday at its 60th session not to include into the draft agenda the so-called "question of the representation of 23 million people of Taiwan in the UN" and "a proactive role of the United Nations in maintaining peace in the Taiwan Straits." The General Assembly has, for the 13th consecutive time, thwarted Taiwan's attempt to join the world inter-governmental body composed of sovereign states. The decision was announced by Jan Eliasson, president of the current session of the UN General Assembly, after a short debate on the issue, raised by Chad and a few other countries. Addressing the session, Zhang Yishan, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, said the question of Taiwan is purely an internal affair of China, and should be settled jointly by the Chinese people on both sides of the Taiwan Straits.

The People's Daily, 14 September 2005

Hu Jintao, Bush discuss China-US relations

Chinese President Hu Jintao and US President George W Bush met in New York Tuesday to discuss development of the China-US relations and exchange views on major world and regional issues. The meeting is an important one for Sino-US relations, which are at "a crucial period" linking the past to the future, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang yesterday at a regular press briefing in Beijing. "We would like to work with the United States to look at and address bilateral relations from a strategic and long-term perspective so as to push forward Sino-US constructive co-operative relations." The talks between the two presidents in New York will not replace Hu's planned visit to Washington, which both sides agreed to postpone because of Hurricane Katrina.

The Hindustan Times, 15 September 2005

India, China for urgent solution to border row

India and China have agreed to seek a "reasonable solution" to the boundary question with "greater urgency" and are looking forward to the meeting of special representatives of the two countries later this year. This agreement was reached at a meeting in New York on Wednesday between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Chinese President Hu Jintao on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. The two leaders felt that guiding principles and political parameters would form the basis of solution to the long-standing dispute. Briefing reporters, External Affairs Ministry spokesman Navtej Sarna said the leaders felt that the two countries had an opportunity to look for a pragmatic solution based on the political parameters agreed between them.

Japan Today, 15 September 2005

Chinese Air Force masters midair refueling

BEIJING - A military newspaper said Wednesday the Chinese Air Force had mastered midair refueling, making China the fifth country in the world to accomplish the risky procedure. According to the People's Liberation Army Daily, after trials since the 1990s, three warplanes doing an exercise completed the procedure in mid-August. The paper calls midair refueling risky and difficult.

The People's Daily, 15 September 2005

Chinese FM signs treaty suppressing nuclear terrorism

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing on Wednesday joined world leaders in signing an international treaty under which defines as a crime the possession of radioactive material with the intention of committing a terrorist act. The Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism was the 13th

anti-terrorism international treaty and the first completed since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States. The accord, adopted by the UN General Assembly in April, will enter into force after 22 states ratify it. Under the treaty, it is illegal to possess radioactive material or a nuclear device for the purpose of causing death or substantial damage to property or environment. It is also punishable to threaten to use radioactive material or attempt to obtain such lethal material.

The China Daily, 15 September 2005

US President Bush to visit China in November (Jiang Zhuqing)

NEW YORK: US President George W. Bush has accepted President Hu Jintao's invitation to visit China in November, a senior White House official said on Tuesday. Mike Green, the US national security council director for Asian affairs, told reporters the visit would take place after the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) meeting in the Republic of Korea, but did not give specific details of Bush's schedule. The two presidents held talks on Tuesday afternoon local time, immediately after Hu arrived in New York to attend the summit on the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations. China will jointly work with the United States to ease the trade frictions and to address bilateral trade imbalance through trade co-operation, Hu said.

The People's Daily, 16 September 2005

Chinese, Indian leaders vow to step up cooperation

Chinese President Hu Jintao and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh agreed in New York Wednesday to boost bilateral ties by stepping up mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields. Hu, who is here to attend the UN summit on the 60th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, said Sino-Indian relations have been developing smoothly in the past few years, and are now faced with important opportunities for further development. He urged both sides to actively expand cooperation in various fields and continuously enrich the contents of bilateral strategic partnership. Hu said China and India have declared 2006 as a friendship year for both countries. China attaches great importance to this event and will join hands with the Indian side to push bilateral exchanges and cooperation to a higher level through holding celebration activities.

The People's Daily, 16 September 2005

Chinese president makes four-point proposal for building harmonious world

Chinese President Hu Jintao made a four-point proposal Thursday for building a harmonious world in his speech at the United Nations Summit. Firstly, he said multilateralism should be upheld to realize common security. Secondly, he said mutually beneficial cooperation should be upheld to achieve common prosperity. Thirdly, Hu said the spirit of inclusiveness must be upheld to build a world where all civilizations coexist harmoniously and accommodate each other. Fourthly, Hu said the United Nations need "rational and necessary reform" to maintain its authority, improve its efficacy and give a better scope to its role in meeting new threats and new challenges. The UN reform "may be conducted step by step", focusing on easier tasks first and more difficult ones later in order to achieve maximized benefits, he said.

The People's Daily, 16 September 2005

Tajik leaders, Chinese defense chief meet on relations

China is willing to make concerted efforts with Tajikistan to advance their military relations to a new high, visiting Chinese Defense Minister Cao Gangchuan said in the Tajik capital city of Dushanbe Wednesday. At a meeting with Makhmadsaid Ubaidullayev, speaker of Tajikistan's upper house, Cao said that since the establishment of diplomatic ties 13 years ago, China and Tajikistan have continuously strengthened their political mutual trust and carried out cooperation in various fields, according to reports from Dushanbe. The two countries have witnessed active coordination, mutual understanding, close cooperation in international and regional affairs in the past 13 years, he added. The cooperation between the armed forces of China and Tajikistan has reached new highs as bilateral relations continue to grow, Cao said.

The China Daily, 16 September 2005

New US-China talks on textiles announced

WASHINGTON - The US government said it will hold a new round of negotiations with China on an agreement to regulate textiles trade here on September 26-27. The delegations will be led by David

Spooner, the chief US negotiator on textiles trade, and by Lu Jianhua, director general at China's Department of Foreign Trade, the US Trade Representative office said. The new meeting comes after US-Chinese textile talks in Beijing ended in acrimony just over a fortnight ago. The Beijing talks were the fourth in a series since global quotas on textiles trade were scrapped on January 1.

Dawn, 17 September 2005

Pakistan, China agree to strengthen military ties

BEIJING, Sept. 16: General Liang Guanglie, member of the Central Military Commission and Chief of the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), held talks with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Gen Ehsan Ul Haq. They agreed to further strengthen military-to-military relationship between two countries. The PLA's sources told APP here Thursday that the two sides held very productive talks to push forward their long-standing partnership. Mr Guanglie said that China and Pakistan had all along exchanged fruitful cooperation in fields of politics, economy, culture and trade.

International Herald Tribune, 17 September 2005

China asks for speed in deciding Korea offer (Joseph Kahn)

BEIJING China proposed a new compromise solution to the North Korean nuclear standoff and gave participating countries one day to accept or reject the offer, but there were mixed signals Friday about whether the United States and North Korea were prepared to come to terms. Beijing drew up a new agreement - its fifth such attempt in the latest round of talks - that diplomats said promised North Korea the right to retain a peaceful nuclear energy program and to receive a new light-water reactor at some point. The agreement also reflects American demands that any such steps occur after Pyongyang dismantles its nuclear weapons, the diplomats said. The new draft prompted a flurry of excitement in Beijing after three days of stalemate in the six-nation nuclear talks, but by late Friday it appeared uncertain whether North Korea and the United States had made much progress in bridging their differences.

The People's Daily, 18 September 2005

Draft document "most realistic" scenario, says Chinese Vice FM

Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo said in Beijing Saturday the draft common document China presented is the "most realistic" scenario for the parties to reach an accord. Dai hosted a dinner in honor of chief delegates to the six-party talks at Beijing's Diaoyutai State Guesthouse Saturday evening to mark the Mid-Autumn Festival, one of the most important traditional festivals in China, the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Addressing the dinner, Dai said that, on the basis of hearing and taking fully into account the six parties' opinions and making ensuing prudent studies, China, as the host nation, had proposed a draft common document with regard to concerns and interests of all the parties. "It is the most realistic scenario for the relevant parties to reach an accord, an excellent piece of work all the parties created," Dai said, adding it is also a "balanced" and "win-win" proposal.

The People's Daily, 19 September 2005

Senior CPC official starts visit to Japan

Chen Liangyu, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, left Shanghai Sunday for a friendly visit to Japan. Chen, also secretary of the CPC Shanghai Municipal Committee, is invited by the Japan-China Economic Association and the Japan Association for the 2005 World Expo. Chen will attend the "Shanghai Week" in the Expo 2005 Aichi. Shanghai will host the 2010 World Expo.

Dawn, 19 September 2005

'Defence ties with China to be strengthened'

BEIJING, Sept. 18: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Ehsanul Haq admired China's continuous support in meeting Pakistan's defence and security requirements. "We highly value our defence partnership with China and wish to retain and further strengthen it in the years to come," he told APP on the last day of his week-long visit to China. Gen Ehsanul Haq termed his talks with the Chinese leaders and officials of the People's Liberation Army productive, and said this contributed to further

consolidating their ongoing cooperation in the defence sector and promoting understanding on various issues of common interest. He said China's support has been helpful in upgrading Pakistan's defence industry. The two countries, he said, shared experience and expertise to improve their defence capabilities. He said the two countries have taken up joint ventures of manufacturing JF-17 thunder aircraft, the Navy's F-22 B-Frigate, Al-Khalid and Al-Zarar tanks.

The China Daily, 20 September 2005

UN warned on abuse of intervention right

UNITED NATIONS - China warned the West on Monday against any attempt to abuse the right to intervene in the countries where humanitarian crisis occur. the Reuters reported.Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing insisted in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly that the authorization of the Security Council was required for any action to prevent a large-scale humanitarian crisis. "We are against any willful intervention on the ground of rash conclusion that a nation is unable or unwilling to protect its own citizens," Li said. Li also expressed opposition to any attempt to change the definition of the right to self-defense in international law to allow for pre-emptive action against new threats such as terrorism and the spread of weapons of mass destruction. "We do not support the reinterpretation or revision of the provisions in the U.N. Charter relating to the right of self-defense," he said. A United Nations summit last week approved the principle that the international community has a "responsibility to protect" civilians where governments are unable or unwilling to do so.

The China Daily, 20 September 2005

White House invites China for G-7 talks

WASHINGTON - The Bush administration, facing growing unhappiness in Congress over America's soaring trade deficit with China, will get a chance this week to present its concerns to top Chinese economic officials. AP reported. Both Finance Minister Jin Renqing and Zhou Xiaochuan, the head of China's central bank, have been invited to attend a luncheon meeting on Friday where Treasury Secretary John Snow and Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan will serve as hosts. The discussions will be part of a gathering that the world's seven richest industrial countries will be holding to get the views of China and four other major developing countries - Russia, India, Brazil and South Africa. In announcing the invitations to China and the other countries on Monday, Treasury spokesman Tony Fratto refused to go into details about what topics would be discussed.

The Washington Post, 20 September 2005

China Terse About Action on Abuses of One-Child Policy (Philip P. Pan)

BEIJING, Sept. 19 -- China said Monday that it has dismissed and detained officials in the eastern city of Linyi for abuses committed while enforcing the country's one-child policy. But the government provided no details and said nothing about the arrest this month of an activist who had campaigned against the use of forced abortion and sterilization there. The cabinet-level ministry responsible for managing population growth in China said in a statement that a preliminary investigation confirmed allegations that "some persons in a few counties and townships of Linyi" violated the law and the rights of local residents "while conducting family planning work. Currently, the responsible persons have been removed from their posts," the statement said. "Some of them are being investigated for liabilities and some have been detained." The statement did not identify the officials or their crimes. Authorities in Linyi declined to answer questions when reached by telephone.

The People's Daily, 21 September 2005

China hopes Sino-Japanese disputes on E. China Sea be solved through dialogue

China hopes the disputes with Japan over the East China Sea issue be resolved through dialogue, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang in Beijing Tuesday. China and Japan have disputes on boundary demarcation in the East China Sea. To resolve the disputes, China and Japan have made two rounds of consultations from October last year to May this year. The two sides need to further discuss on when the next round of consultation will be held, Qin told a regular press conference. He noted that China conducts exploration in the East China Sea inside China's offshore area.

The Hindu, 21 September 2005

China, Japan, and a new vision of the U.N. (P.S. Suryanarayana)

Chinese President Hu Jintao has navigated his country's participation in the United Nations summit held in New York from September 14 to 16 in a clear fashion. Outlining China's proactive role in regard to security and development issues, he neither provoked the U.S. nor sparked a divisive debate. Beijing's views, especially on the new anti-terror resolution adopted by the U.N. Security Council, acquire much importance on account of its status as the only permanent member from Asia. As was evident at the summit, the nuanced differences between China and like-minded countries, on the one side, and the U.S. as also the United Kingdom, on the other, serve as pointers to the challenges of collective action. Equally in focus was "a vision of a new U.N." that was outlined by Japan, the other major player from East Asia and a pivotal fund-provider for the U.N. Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi passionately called for a "caring, ... strong, ... and effective United Nations." Now, while China and Japan are not on the same political wavelength on their bilateral front, their independent views about the future role of the U.N. have certainly not put them on a collision course. This is a significant reality check, given the failure of the Group of Four - Japan, India, Brazil, and Germany - to win the support of China (or, for that matter, the U.S.), at the time of the U.N. summit, for permanent Security Council seats for the four.

The People's Daily, 21 September 2005

UN examines China's report on protection of children's rights

The United Nations, on Monday and Tuesday, reviewed the second periodic report of China on how China is implementing the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. As one of the 192 states parties to the Convention, China is obliged to present periodic reports to the Committee on its efforts to comply with the provisions of the treaty. China's first periodic report was presented in 1995. During the two-day review, the Chinese delegation was on hand throughout the day to present the reports and to answer questions raised by experts of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. In preliminary concluding remarks, Committee Expert Lothar Friedrich Krappman said abundant information had been received, China's report was rich in information, the written replies substantial, and the two-day explanations had been very enlightening. The Committee will release its final, written concluding observations and recommendations on the report of China towards the end of its three-week session, which will conclude on Sept. 30.

The People's Daily, 21 September 2005

China, US hail agricultural cooperation

The Chinese government highly values its agricultural technological cooperation with the United States, and encourages companies of both sides to actively participate in Sino-US agricultural cooperation, said Chinese Vice Premier Hui Liangyu Tuesday. Hui made the remarks in his meeting with Joseph Jen, under secretary of the US Department of Agriculture. He said since the two countries signed an agreement on Sino-US agricultural technological cooperation in 2002, they have conducted fruitful cooperation in such fields as agricultural biological technology, food security, processing of agricultural products, etc.

The Tribune, 22 September 2005

India, Russia, China Foreign Ministers to work together on Iran issue (Rajeev Sharma)

New Delhi, September 21: The Foreign Ministers of India, China and Russia, who held their annual trilateral meeting today at the Chinese Permanent Mission in New York, decided to work together on the issue of Iran. The Ministers reviewed the latest developments on the Iranian nuclear issue, expressed their preference for a consensus approach and agreed that their delegations at the IAEA in Vienna should remain in close touch and work together, according to the Ministry of External Affairs here. The convergence among New Delhi, Beijing and Moscow on the Iran issue is significant. It comes in the backdrop of a flurry of activities on the Iran front. In Vienna today, Russia stiffly opposed a European Union drive to haul Iran before the U N Security Council over its nuclear plans. Russia warned against escalating the standoff with Tehran as the EU circulated a draft resolution calling on the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) governing board to report Iran's secretive nuclear programme to the Security Council, which could impose sanctions on Tehran.

The China Daily, 22 September 2005

State Department: US-China relationship complex

A senior Bush administration official expressed less confidence when addressing the United States' policy towards China, a nation obviously on its ascent and winning increasing clout on the world stage. U.S.

Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick, in a speech on Wednesday delivered to the National Committee of China-U.S. Relations in New York, assembled all elements - negative and positive - of the relationship. U.S. officials say it is the most complex of any in the world. As the State Department's No. 2 official, Zoellick acknowledged that "many Americans worry that the Chinese dragon will be a fire-breather. There is a cauldron of anxiety about China." On the contrary, Chinese President Hu Jintao said in no uncertain terms last week to the United Nations General Assembly that China's rise is a blessing to its neighbors and major trade powers, is a force of peace for Asia and the world, and "will not endanger anybody". However, Zoellick said in his address that China should take concrete steps to assure the world it will use its power responsibly.

The People's Daily, 22 September 2005

Northeast Asia Economic Forum issues Shenyang Declaration

The 14th Northeast Asia Economic Forum issued Shenyang Declaration when it concluded Wednesday at Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province. The two-day forum discussed topics such as the blueprints for the future of the northeast Asia, energy markets in the region and the revitalization of northeast China and the regional cooperation in northeast Asia. In Shenyang Declaration, the participants agreed on joint activities to implement a Grand Design for Northeast Asia. It should be recognized as a guidepost to promote the sustainable development of the Northeast Asia as a whole. In the field of energy, the countries in the Northeast Asia should be encouraged to cooperate for the purpose of diversifying the region's supply sources for oil and natural gas, to enhance regional energy security, according to the declaration.

The Indian Express, 23 September 2005

Date set for Sino-Indian border talks

BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 22: China on Thursday expressed optimism that the upcoming round of special representative-level border talks with India could yield a "just" solution based on the political guiding principles established by the two countries. Announcing the date for the sixth round of boundary talks between National Security Advisor MK Narayanan and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister, Dai Bingguo, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said the two would hold talks here from September 26-27. Qin said the two sides will base their talks on political guiding principles on resolving the border issue and "proceeding from the overall interests of bilateral political relations, discuss the framework for resolving the issue between us." The guiding principles on settling the border issue were agreed on during Chinese premier Wen Jiabao's visit to India in April this year.

The People's Daily, 24 September 2005

China, Italy to promote military relations

Chinese Defense Minister Cao Gangchuan said in Beijing Friday that China values its friendly military ties with Italy and is ready to further the relations between the two armies. In a meeting with Italian Deputy Defense Minister Salvatore Cicu, Cao said that while the bilateral relations have smoothly progressed, the military ties have been enhanced with frequent high-level visits, communication between the headquarters of the general staff, and cooperation in military technology. Cicu said he hoped the two ministries would enhance mutual trust and improve exchanges to promote the bilateral military and political ties.

The People's Daily, 25 September 2005

Int'l forum on social security opens in Beijing

The 1st International Forum on Social Security convened here on Saturday. More than 200 scholars from China, Japan and Republic of Korea attended the forum. Han Qide, vice chairman of the China's National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, sent a congratulatory message to the forum, saying that China has initiated reform on social security system for more than 20 years and has achieved remarkable achievements in this field. The country is now probing a new social security model to meet the demands of social development and socialist market economy. He said the improvement of the medical security system should be taken as the work priority. Currently, the medical insurance system in urban areas only covered some citizens, while many citizens could not afford the medicine fee. To offer adequate medical services to every citizen has turned to be one of the urgent tasks for the country's economic and social

development.

The Tribune, 26 September 2005

Indo-China border talks from today (Anil K. Joseph)

Beijing, September 25: The sixth round of India-China Special Representative-level border negotiations will begin here tomorrow as part of the efforts of the two Asian giants to reach a "package" to solve the vexed boundary issue. Narayanan, the Indian Special Representative who arrived here today, will hold in-camera talks with his Chinese counterpart, Dai Bingguo, who is also Chinese Vice Foreign Minister. The Indian official is also expected to meet with Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing during his two-day stay in the Chinese capital. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said the Special Representatives will discuss the framework for resolving the border issue in line with the 'Political Guiding Principles for Solving the Border Issue between China and India', which was agreed during Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao's visit to India in April this year.

The Dawn, 26 September 2005

Pakistan, China strengthen operation in aviation sector

BEIJING, Sept 25: China has strengthened its cooperation with Pakistan in the aviation sector, including undertaking joint ventures in aircraft manufacturing. The two sides have maintained close cooperation over the years in order to promote their defence industry. In this connection, the joint-venture for producing JF-17 Thunder aircraft is a major development, official sources said here. The project is being carried out successfully. While reviewing China's progress in the aviation sector and its cooperation with foreign countries, a senior official of the China Aviation Industry Xu Zhanbin said it has successfully developed the third-generation jet trainer the L15.

The People's Daily, 26 September 2005

China, Russia initiate regular mechanism of parliamentary exchanges

China and Russia signed a chapter for cooperation between the China's National People's Congress (NPC) and Russian Federation Council here Sunday, marking the initiation of the regular mechanism of parliamentary exchanges between the two nations. Wu Bangguo, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee and visiting Speaker of Russian Federation Council Sergei Mironov held talks before the signing ceremony, and agreed to further exchanges on legislative and other fields. Wu put forward four-point proposals to further Sino-Russian parliamentary cooperation, including deepening political trust; expanding economic and trade cooperation, enhancing the personnel exchanges, and promoting cooperation in the international and regional affairs.

The Guardian, 26 September 2005

China's leaders launch smokeless war against internet and media dissent (Benjamin Joffe-Walt)

China announced a fresh crackdown yesterday on the internet amid further revelations of a plan by Hu Jintao, the president, to suppress dissent. "The state bans the spreading of any news with content that is against national security and public interest," said a statement from Xinhua, the official news agency. The announcement called for blogs and personal web pages to "be directed towards serving the people and socialism and insist on correct guidance of public opinion for maintaining national and public interests". The statement was just one of a series of initiatives by the government to root out politically sensitive news from domestic and foreign media. On Thursday a Chinese journalist and former professor was given a seven-year sentence for "inciting subversion" by writing hundreds of articles for banned overseas news websites.

The China Daily, 27 September 2005

China, India discuss border in Beijing (Qin Jize)

China and India will finish their sixth round of talks today in Beijing seeking a solution to their long-term boundary dispute. One expert on South Asian affairs said that although he is optimistic, he does not expect any remarkable breakthrough just yet. "The talks will take the resolution process forward and lay a foundation for the future," analyst Liu Jian said. Deputy Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo and Indian National Security Advisor M.K. Narayanan are taking part in the two-day special representative-level discussions. Neither the Foreign Ministry nor the Indian Embassy in Beijing provided details of developments yesterday. However, Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told reporters on Thursday that envoys would

discuss the framework for resolving the border issue in line with the Political Guidelines for the Settlement of Border Issues.

The People's Daily, 27 September 2005

China launches "North Sword 2005" military exercise

China on Tuesday launched a military exercise code-named "North Sword 2005" in a training base in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The exercise, which involves some 16,000 People's Liberation Army (PLA) officers and soldiers, is a maneuver inviting officers from the biggest number of countries since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. Forty foreign military officers from 24 countries are invited to watch the exercise at the Zhurihe training base, a tactical drill base in Inner Mongolia, north China. The exercise is an important multilateral military exchange activity with the largest number of foreign observers since the founding of New China in 1949, said sources with China's Defense Ministry. According to the sources, inviting foreign military observers to the exercise is aimed at fully demonstrating the new concept of security based on "mutual trust and benefit, equality and cooperation," as well as China's sincere hope to develop friendly and cooperative relations with the armed forces of other countries.

The People's Daily, 27 September 2005

China supports solution to Iran-EU nuclear dispute within IAEA framework

China supports a proper solution to the Iranian nuclear issue through negotiation and cooperation within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), a Chinese official said Monday at the 49th IAEA general conference in Vienna. China has always supported a solution to the Iranian nuclear issue within the framework of the IAEA, as such a solution is conducive to regional peace and stability and in line with the interests of parties concerned, said Zhang Huazhu, head of the Chinese delegation to the conference. China supports and encourages Iran and the European Union (EU) to continue talks to seek a long-term solution to their nuclear dispute and calls for maximum sincerity and concrete measures from both sides to break the stalemate and resume their nuclear talks, he said.

The People's Daily, 28 September 2005

China, India look for "fair and reasonable" solution to border issue

China and India are making efforts to find a "fair and reasonable" solution to the border issue, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said in Beijing Tuesday. The solution should be "acceptable" to both countries, Qin told a regular press conference. Qin noted that the atmosphere surrounding the border issue has been "greatly" improved with the warming up of Sino-Indian relations in recent years, Qin said, adding that leaders in both countries have once and again stated that there has been "fairly good progress" in bilateral ties. Special representatives from China and India held their sixth meeting on border issues in Beijing from Monday to Tuesday.

The China Daily, 28 September 2005

Beijing opposes US arms sale to Taiwan

China firmly opposes the selling of weapons to Taiwan by the United States, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said at a regular press conference yesterday. China has raised solemn representations to the United States many times about the issues concerning the arms sales, spokesman Qin Gang said. "It would undermine national security and the reunification of China and harm Sino-US relations," Qin said when asked about the impact on China-US relations of a proposed US\$11 billion arms sale from the United States to Taiwan. Qin pointed out that the United States would severely violate the three Sino-US joint communiques, in particular the joint communique signed between the two countries on August 17, 1982, if the United States offers the arms package to Taiwan.

The People's Daily, 29 September 2005

China, India hold special representatives' meeting on boundary question

Chinese and Indian special representatives held their six round of meeting on the boundary question of the two countries in Beijing from Monday to Wednesday. According to the Chinese Foreign Ministry, the two sides had a conscientious exploration on the framework for the settlement of the China-India boundary question in a "friendly, cooperative and constructive" atmosphere. Both sides believed that sound momentum of the growth of China-India strategic and cooperative partnership has provided more

favorable conditions for the settlement of the boundary question left over by history. Dai Bingguo, Chinese special representative for the China-India boundary question and vice foreign minister, and M. K. Narayanan, Indian special representative for the India-China boundary question and National Security Adviser of India, attended the meeting. The two sides agreed to build on the previous achievements and proceed from overall interests of the bilateral relationship and the fundamental interests of the two peoples to actively pursue a framework for the boundary settlement in a constructive manner so as to promote an early and fair and reasonable settlement of the boundary question. They also agreed to hold the next round of special representatives' meeting in India, but the date will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

BBC News, 29 September 2005

Attacks on Chinese police rising

Attacks on Chinese policemen left 23 dead and 1,800 injured in the first half of this year, a Chinese security ministry spokesman has said. The spokesman told the Beijing Youth Daily such attacks were on the rise. He said a rapid growth in people's awareness of their rights had caused them to resist the authorities. The figures come as China's leaders grapple with the mounting difficulty of maintaining public order in the face of rapid social change. Correspondents say disputes between the public and the authorities are increasing over issues such as corruption and land grabs. China's rapid economic development is widening the gap between rich and poor, and its by-products - pressure on land and the environment - is also taking its toll on China's average villager.

The China Daily, 30 September 2005

US, China clash over UN N. Korea statement

The United States and China were clashing at the UN nuclear watchdog over drafting a resolution welcoming North Korea's pledge to abandon atomic weapons, with Washington wanting to make it clear a light-water nuclear reactor is not about to be offered. "The United States now realizes that China is in the driver's seat in the six-party talks and wants to do things for North Korea," a diplomat close to the watchdog International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) told AFP. Another IAEA diplomat said: "China wants to be as loyal as possible to the six-party declaration made in Beijing," referring to the breakthrough earlier this month in negotiations joining North Korea, the United States, China, Japan, Russia and South Korea. China wanted the resolution to mention a light-water nuclear reactor and other commitments made to the North in exchange for its decision, AP quoted diplomats, who requested anonymity in exchange for discussing the confidential details of the dispute over a North Korean resolution, as saying.

The China Daily, 30 September 2005

No US-China textile deal; more talks in October

The United States and China failed to reach a comprehensive textile agreement in a third round of talks this week but will resume negotiations in October, U.S. trade officials said on Thursday. "We were able to make progress, particularly with product coverage and quota levels, but we did not reach an agreement with the Chinese," lead U.S. textile negotiator David Spooner said in a statement announcing that the talks ended Wednesday night. "We will be meeting with the Chinese again next month and will be consulting with them soon on the location and exact date of the next round of negotiations," Spooner said.

The People's Daily, 30 September 2005

FM refutes Japan PM's criticism of China

China Thursday refuted Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's remarks that China's opposition to his visit to the Yasukuni Shrine is out of political reasons, saying his visits hurt the feelings of Chinese people. "People in Asian countries oppose Japanese leaders' visits to the Yasukuni Shrine because it enshrines class-A war criminals whose hands were blotted with the blood of people who suffered Japanese invasion," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said at a briefing in Beijing Thursday. In his interview with British newspaper The Times on Tuesday, Koizumi said China opposes his visits to the Yasukuni Shrine out of political reasons. Qin said the Yasukuni Shrine issue has become the crux to the current difficulties with relations between China and Japan.